Martin Adam (Brno)
A Comparison of Different English Translations of Identical Passages Based on FSP Analysis

Apart from the classical understanding of functional sentence perspective (FSP) in the sense of organising principle in information processing, there are other, more or less additional roles played by FSP, such as functional analysis of a distributional macrofield or the functional pressure of the rhematic track. The present paper discusses yet another special use of an FSP analysis: the functional comparison of different translations of the same original passage, based exclusively on FSP analysis. Three biblical extracts in four English versions of translation are analysed, discussed and compared from the point of view of functional sentence perspective.

Jan Chovanec (Brno)
News Stories: Cohesion and their Structural Make-up

The presentation deals with patterns of cohesion in hard news items. Focusing on the issue of chaining, it analyses cohesive chains and syringe in a sample article from the point of view of cohesive harmony analysis. The character of cohesive links in a news article is explained with reference to the structural make-up of a news story and the processes of encoding and decoding. The aim of the talk is to raise awareness of some strategies of textual construction of a genre with which most readers are intuitively quite familiar, while pointing out the special character of cohesive patterns in comparison to ordinary narrative texts.

Olga Dontcheva-Navratilova (Brno)
Text Colonies Revisited: Matching Relations in the Discourse of Resolutions

Written discourse may be seen as an interaction between writers and readers in which the writer is in control of most of the interaction (Hoey 2001). The roles of the participants in interpreting discourse, however, vary according to register, text-type and genre, thus motivating a choice of specific cohesive signals and strategies. This paper explores interaction in colony texts in which the reader chooses the selection and order of elements to be accessed. The analysis focuses on matching clause relations in a resolutions colony text and their contribution to the perception of coherence and cohesion in discourse.

Milan Ferenčík (Prešov)
Discursive Power, Argumentation and Politeness

As a specific type of institutional interaction, radio phone-ins can be characterized by unequal distribution of discursive resources among co-participants. While hosts systematically avail themselves of strategically advantageous resources, such as 2nd position in arguments or redirecting the agenda, the callers are left with the task of setting the agenda and providing a defence for their position. This asymmetry is a source of imbalance in
discursive power which, however, is often contested and/or resisted. The paper seeks to demonstrate how power asymmetry is essentially a product of sequential organization of talk and how it is built into its structure. The paper also discusses politeness implications of the main activity in which participants engage, viz. argumentation, which is understood as an adversative procedure whereby participants seek to undermine their co-participants’ positions.

Christoph Haase (Chemnitz)
Some Principles of Licensing Resultativity

This study looks into some parameters and relationships in the analysis of resultative constructions in English. The approach will focus on semantic markers and their grammaticalized types in monoclausal and biclausal resultatives of the type John amused the audience. The study recognizes results from acceptability tests of clause types like John amused the audience away and investigates speaker triggers of resultativity. This is then related to lexical-aspectual relationships. In a decompositional analysis, resultativity will be reduced to its causative semantic roots and classified according to lexical aspect. The question of productivity of these constructions will be raised as in John wiped the dish clean vs. John wiped the dish dirty. It will be hypothesized that learner judgment on this type of causative productivity is determined by several morphosyntactic cues. Discussion will involve data from elicitation tests of German students. The added layer of result-specified causation of so-called hammer-flat verbs is then integrated into a larger class of cues as proposed in Haase (2006). Assuming that these cues can be specified under disregard of hierarchical structure, the classification enables prediction of grammaticality from a learner perspective. It further speculates that the linguistically significant syntactic properties (i.e. properties that enable linguistic subcategorization) are semantically determined and have therefore a cognitive-conceptual core.

Jana Hejtmanková (Karvina)
On the Compositional Approach to the Category of Aspect: Pragmatic Perspective

The article deals with some issues of the verbal category of aspect in English in comparison with Czech. It approaches aspect from the compositional perspective inspired by Dowty (1972, 1979), Partee (1999), Filip (1999), and Sasse (2002), i.e. in English aspect is manifested as a compositum of the verbal form, tense, situation types and context. The approach to aspect as applied in the article presupposes the existence of a pragmatic dimension (Tárnýiková 1985), accordingly, the theory of pragmatic conventions of use elaborated by Smith (1997) is adopted in the paper, and modified for Czech usage.

Gunther Kaltenböck (Vienna)
Some Comments on Comment Clauses: A Semantic Classification

This paper investigates the use and semantic properties of spoken comment clauses such as I think, I suppose in the British component of the International Corpus of English. Comment clauses are defined narrowly as reduced parenthetical clauses, i.e. asyndetic structures, and delimited from related categories such as discourse markers, matrix clauses and reporting clauses. The 830 instances of comment clauses provided by the corpus are analysed with regard to their occurrence in different text types and type of predicate. It is shown that
comment clauses prefer interactive and personal text types and do not represent a monolithic semantic category. An analysis of the actual use of their predicates allows the identification of the semantic functions of ‘expressing tentativeness’, ‘expressing certainty’, ‘expressing emotional attitude’ and ‘claiming hearer attention’.

Markéta Malá (Prague)
Contrastive Conjunctions, Difference and Dialogicality

Not integrated in sentence structure, conjunctions represent a means whereby the speaker enters the text, indicating the way its organisation is to be understood. Therefore they function not only as cohesive devices but also as discourse markers. Contrastive conjunctions, moreover, may mark the place where other ‘voices’ enter a monological text, serving as dialogicality markers. Exploring written and spoken monologue, we focus on the scope of contrastive conjunctions, paying special attention to their function as intertextuality indicators.

Gabriela Mišíšková (Nitra)
Co-operative versus Politeness Principle in a Talk-show

One of the major beliefs in pragmatics is that any linguistic interaction is necessarily a social interaction. In a talk-show participants usually interact in the way determined by their social background. The host of a talk-show functions as a director and more or less influences the ways of developing an interaction between the participants and audience of the show. An independent pragmatic principle which functions alongside the co-operative principle is called the politeness principle (Leech 1983). It accounts for one class of implicatures which receive no account under the co-operative principle. In my presentation I concentrate on the exploration of implicatures of politeness, the politeness principle and the formulation, orientation and the purpose of individual maxims as analysed in the discourse of the Oprah Winfrey show.

Renata Pišalová (Prague)
Unfolding a Paragraph Theme

This paper follows mainly the Czech linguistic tradition, elaborating on the treatments of paragraphs pioneered by Mathesius (1942) and Daneš (1994, 1995). It focuses on a particular group of paradigmatically arranged paragraphs, namely on paragraphs where the P-theme is unfolded. It discusses their constitutive features, and proposes their typology. Further, it compares central and peripheral instances. A corpus-based study, it also explores the incidence of this paragraph type in the researched subcorpora.

Renata Povolná (Brno)
Interaction in spoken discourse

The present paper endeavours to discover how some interactive D-items that are typically used in spoken discourse can indicate to the current hearer that some of Grice’s conversational maxims are being flouted, and, moreover, how these items, owing to their different pragmatic functions, organize discourse and enhance spoken interaction.
Based on the comparison of three different genres of spoken English the author takes into consideration and illustrates the degree to which the individual interactive D-items facilitate the current hearer’s understanding and interpretation of what is being communicated, thus contributing to the smooth flow of interaction and the establishment of coherent discourse.

Josef Schmied (Chemnitz)
Specialist vs. Non-Specialist Academic Discourse: Measuring Complexity in Lexicon and Syntax

This contribution introduces a broad tableau of research options on Academic Discourse before concentrating on a case study to illustrate possible hypotheses and research paradigms using a corpus-linguistic approach to complexity. For this case-study, texts with a similar content from three stages have been selected: academic online-databases like arxiv.org and peer-reviewed original publications in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (pnas.org), popular-academic adaptations in journals like The New Scientist, popular-general adaptations in national newspapers like The Times, The Independent, etc. First, the three text categories will be analysed automatically using own new complexity analyser (CompAna) to compare syntactic and lexical complexity in specialist and non-specialist academic discourse. The general hypotheses tested include:
Non-specialist texts are syntactically less complex, i.e. they contain fewer words per sentence and fewer commas.
Non-specialist texts include fewer unknown nouns (i.e. those not included in WordNet) and more general nouns (i.e. those higher in the WordNet hierarchy).
Then, author commitment will be analysed as a decisive feature of academic texts, which is lexicalized and grammaticalized in a variety of features (from adverbs to auxiliaries, from nouns to determiners) and in different strengths (from no commitment in no to complete commitment in all). Again, hypotheses about hedging could be:
Non-specialist, esp. journalistic, writing prefers more extreme hedging (to create more effect in the reader).
Non-specialist writing uses different syntactic types of hedges.
The analysis will show that individual texts often deviate greatly from overall trends and that different disciplines and research cultures have to be distinguished.

Jarmila Tárnyiková (Olomouc)
Clause Complexing in Text (processing strategies)

From text perspective, a sentence complex is not primarily construed as a grammatical unit but rather as a logico-semantic unit, sensitive to the on-line process of negotiation of meaning, in which both the macro- and micro-structures affect the final shape, with the grammatical structure being rather emergent. Since the systemic options in clause complexing (cf. parataxis, hypotaxis or a mixed type of logical relationship; loose vs. compressed connection of clauses; authentic projection of ideas vs. reported projection, recursion of clausal patterns, etc.) are not “equally likely to be instantiated in text”, the aim of our data-based analysis is to increase our awareness of this domain of language use, since even the irregular and less predictable configurations are subject to probabilistic patterning.
Miklós Telbisz (Pécs)
Implicatures and Mitigated Utterances

Since Grice (1975) implicatures have played a concentric role in the interpretation of meaning making on both sides, those of production and understanding. There have been many attempts to fine-tune the Gricean Co-operative Principle and the corresponding Maxims of conversation. One of the most powerful challenges came in Levinson (2000) where the author argues for three underlying heuristics (Q, I and M) and adjacent implicature types (generalized conversational in their nature), which guide interpretation processes. In this present talk I will concentrate on some mitigated utterances where there is an obvious clash between what is said and implicated and I’ll attempt to apply the Levinsonian heuristics in explaining understanding. I’ll try to get an insight to what role/if any conventional and/or particularized conversational implicatures play in the understanding of mitigated utterances.

Ludmila Urbanová (Brno)
Spoken vs. Written Language

The author of the contribution will make observations about the changing dichotomy of spoken vs. written, as postulated by Vachek (see his treatise Two Chapters on Written English in Selected Writings in English and General Linguistics). In recent years, new modes of communication have developed in which the linguistic and sociolinguistic criteria for their classification are much less transparent (e.g. e-mail, internet relay chat etc.). Traditional styles, which have been in existence for quite a long time, also witness a noticeable transition, such as newspaper reporting and advertising.

Jitka Vlčková and Štěpánka Dubínová (Brno)
Stereotypes Reinforced? - Attributes Referring to Males and Females in British and Czech Magazines

In our everyday experience we are exposed to numerous texts which create, reflect and reinforce the images of men and women in contemporary society. The images may retain their traditional forms or they may take on new features, very often under the influence of other cultures (American/British in this country) which are given space in the media. In either case, societal values are embedded in the language used. The paper will deal with attributes connected with expressions denoting males and females in Britain and the Czech Republic as they appear in magazines specially designed for either men or women of different social backgrounds and lifestyles. Some attention will also be given to collocations found in these attributes.

Radek Vogel (Brno)
Terminological Vagueness and Achieving Referential Accuracy

Although systematic terminologies are assumed to consist of unambiguous terms with precisely defined denotation, synonyms as well as semantically broad and polysemous expressions can be found frequently. Even the relatively exact field of activity, finance and accounting, which was used as the source of linguistic material for this research, relies on a terminological system where synonyms and naming units with several meanings are not rare. Despite this drawback, reference in the practical application of financial and accounting
terms is achieved quite successfully. The paper analyses the reasons for terminological plurality and vagueness, and looks into the ways in which users of such terminologies make their meaning clear. The concepts of a term and vagueness are revisited in this connection.

_Jana Vokačová (Plzen)_

**Animal Idioms in English and Czech – Where Do They Come From?**

Apart from human body, animals are the most frequent and a very motivating source of idioms, in other words animals prove to be an immense source of idioms. The reason is that they are very closely connected with people.

As Mrhačová (1999: 159) points out, the rich range of lexicalized comparisons of human and animal qualities, activities and states, which developed on the basis of zoo-sphere, has resulted from the long-life experience of humans. Generations of people have carefully observed and compared animal behavior and habits. People searched and found a similarity between animals and various human qualities and habits, they personified them, i.e. people attributed human qualities to animals. Later on, these similarities helped people to characterize other members of the mankind. The comparison of human and animal qualities, activities or states helped to enliven speech, make it more expressive, plastic and “spicy”.

The role of indirectness is an issue which might play a role in the use of animal idioms, the idea behind numerous animal idioms is that because of social conventions animal idioms are used. Instead of expressing explicitly that a person has a characteristic feature, it is common to say whom this person resembles in the animal kingdom.

One of the aims of the present paper is thus to present animal idioms in English and Czech, analyze whether and to what extent the two languages share identical animals to express the same quality and what animals these languages associate with what qualities. The paper also attempts to bring etymological background of the English idioms discussed.

_Sirma Wilamová (Ostrava)_

**On Motivations and Impact of Context-Sensitive Politeness Strategies**

Drawing on two influential politeness theories (Brown and Levinson, 1987 and mainly Leech’s Politeness Principle, 1983), the paper discusses selected behavioural politeness strategies as they occur in the corpus data with a focus on their motivations and impact they have on conversation both from the view of the speaker and the addressee. Whilst linguistic politeness strategies operate on an utterance level, behavioural strategies involving the wider verbal and situational context are employed on hierarchically higher discourse level. As they go beyond the language they become tactical and strategic moves that are intentionally chosen by the speaker to contribute to a higher degree of politeness and at the same time to help him reach his goals.