

Verbal polysemy across languages: comparing pattern-based resources for Italian and Croatian

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It is well known that different languages tend to partition the same conceptual content differently. By comparing data from two resources of verbal patterns, T-PAS for Italian (Ježek et al., 2014) and CROATPAS for Croatian (Marini & Ježek, 2019), we examine the linguistic, cognitive and cultural aspects of this phenomenon, focusing on verbal polysemy. T-PAS and CROATPAS are inventories of corpus-derived predicate-argument structures which bear a specification of the semantic class associated with each of their argument positions; they are inspired by the Corpus Pattern Analysis methodology (Hanks 2013) and by the semantic theory proposed in Pustejovsky (1995). Both resources are primarily tailored for investigating verbal polysemy, since each of their patterns corresponds to a different verb sense. Focusing on a sample of Italian verbs and their Croatian translational equivalents, we will present the results of a comparative analysis of the pattern inventories of the two languages.