From theoretical modelling to quantitative testing in aspectual distinctions of English and Polish mental predicates

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The term 'aspect' can be defined as a semantic category referring to an internal constituency of an event (Comrie 1976: 3). Primarily, it is associated with grammatical or lexical means that are used to reflect the concept. Grammatical aspect constitutes a grammaticalized way of providing information about the structure of an event, whereas lexical aspect, also known as Aktionsart, supplies such information through verb semantics and derivational morphology. Both Polish and English belong to languages which possess grammatical means to express aspectuality. However, they differ considerably in this realm, as the former identifies the perfective vs. imperfective dichotomy, whereas the latter the progressive vs. nonprogressive contrast. These distinctions have been hard to compare, despite certain attempts (e.g. Sharewood-Smith 1974). as no *tertium comparationis* has been provided to make the comparison possible.

The aim of this paper is not only to present a *tertium comparationis*, in the form of the Integrated Model of Aspect, but also to apply a corpus-driven statistical analysis in order to test whether the predictions made in the model provide a consistent basis for replicability of findings. The Integrated Model of Aspect adheres to classical typological distinctions made by Comrie (1976), but is extended with the cognitively-based typology proposed by Croft (2012), Janda (2015), Langacker (1987, 1991a, 1991b, 1999, 2008) and Talmy (2000). It can be operationalised, as it provides an number of 'usage features' (Glynn 2009, 2010, 2014a, 2014b, 2016), such as (a)telicity, (un)boundedness, hetero-/homogeneity, replicability vs. expandability, in terms of which corpus data can be annotated. For English, the data have been extracted from the Corpus of Contemporary American (COCA), and for Polish they have been taken from the National Corpus of the Polish Language (NKJP), searched through the PELCRA search engine (Pęzik 2012). The analysed constructions include all English *think* and Polish *myśleć* verb patterns in their inflected and derivational forms. A number of statistical tests, such as Multiple Correspondence Analysis, Cluster Analysis and Classification Trees, are used in order to identify areas in which the two languages aspectually overlap and diverge in construing the THINK concept.

Word count: 343

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