# THE SYNTAX OF DISTANCE DISTRIBUTIVITY IN POLISH: WEAK HEADS IN LFG VIA RESTRICTION

Adam Przepiórkowski and Agnieszka Patejuk Institute of Computer Science, Polish Academy of Sciences

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#### **Abstract**

In this paper we describe the syntax of distance distributivity in Polish, where the challenge is to uniformly analyse a number of function lexemes Po 'each' which share their form and semantic contribution, but differ in their syntactic behaviour. To this end we employ the LFG mechanisms of *templates* and *restriction*, as well as the HPSG notion of *weak heads*.

# 1 Introduction

The empirical aim of this paper is to discuss a phenomenon in Polish which is somewhat similar to the behaviour of English EACH, as in: *I gave the boys two apples each.*<sup>1</sup> The phenomenon where the so-called binominal EACH (Safir and Stowell, 1988) attaches to the noun phrase (NP) denoting the distributed quantity (*two apples*) and looks elsewhere in the sentence for the set to distribute over (*the boys*) is called *distance distributivity* (Zimmermann, 2002). As we will see below, distance distributivity in Polish involves not one but a number of simultaneously homophonous and homosemous<sup>2</sup> elements which differ in their syntactic behaviour.

The theoretical goal is to provide an LFG analysis of Polish distance distributivity that does not miss generalisations, i.e., one that relates the form PO to the distributive semantics only once in the grammar, even though there are a few distinct lexical items sharing this form and meaning. To this end we – rather trivially – employ the LFG mechanism of *templates* (Dalrymple et al., 2004; Asudeh et al., 2013) and – perhaps less trivially – build on the HPSG idea of *weak heads* (Tseng, 2002; Abeillé, 2003, 2006), formalised here with the use of the *restriction* mechanism (Kaplan and Wedekind, 1993).

There are two main sections corresponding to the two aims mentioned above: section 2 introduces the phenomenon in gory detail and section 3 proposes an LFG analysis. This paper is strongly coupled with Przepiórkowski 2013b, which presents an HPSG account of the same facts; correspondingly, the empirical section 2 is shared between these two papers (with apologies to readers). Moreover, Przepiórkowski 2013a provides the semantic half of the complete syntactico-semantic LFG analysis of distributivity in Polish, couched in Glue Semantics (Dalrymple, 1999, 2001).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>We thank both the internal reviewer – Tracy Holloway King – and the anonymous external reviewer for their valuable comments on this paper. Unfortunately, due to the page limit some of these comments could not be taken into consideration here, but will be addressed in the planned book-length treatment of distributivity in Polish.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A note on some conventions used in this paper: in the running text, lexemes are typeset in SMALL CAPITALS and word forms and example sentences – in *italics*. Numbered examples, as in (1)–(2) below, are typeset in ordinary upright font, with grammatical information in SMALL CAPITALS. Grammatical abbreviations mostly adhere to those recommended in Leipzig Glossing Rules (http://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua/resources/glossing-rules.php).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>We use the term *homosemous* as in Harley 2006, pp. 146ff., i.e., as referring to function (as opposed to content) morphemes or words which are not necessarily interchangeable in a given context but have the same meaning.

# 2 Distance distributivity in Polish

# 2.1 Preliminaries

The most basic use of the distributive po is illustrated below:

- (1) Dałem im po jabłku. gave-I them.dat distr apple.loc 'I gave them an apple each.'
- (2) Dałem im po dwa jabłka. gave-I them.dat distr two.acc apples.acc 'I gave them two apples each.'

These examples already illustrate one curious fact about PO: it may combine with the locative case (cf. (1)), reserved to arguments of prepositions in Polish, or with the accusative (cf. (2)). So at least some uses of PO must be treated as prepositional, as otherwise the overwhelming generalistion that in Polish locative only occurs on arguments of prepositions would be violated.

The first article-length treatment of the distributive Po in Polish linguistics is Łojasiewicz 1979.<sup>3</sup> That paper suggests that the case of the phrase coocurring with Po depends on the type of this phrase (NP in (1) and numeral phrase, or NumP, in (2); cf. Łojasiewicz 1979, p. 155), rather than on its grammatical number (singular in (1), plural in (2)). The matter should be easy to decide by considering plural noun phrases or singular numeral phrases. Unfortunately, the latter arguably do not exist in Polish; Przepiórkowski 2006b claims that all Polish numerals are plural, even those meaning 'a half' (Pol. Pół) or 'a quarter' (Pol. ĆWIERĆ). Moreover, there seems to be a semantic restriction at work (cf. Łojasiewicz 1979; Przepiórkowski 2008; Bogusławski 2012) which prohibits the locative NP argument of Po from denoting aggregate entities of unspecified cardinality, as in:

(3) \*Dałem im po jabłkach.
gave-I them.dat distr apples.loc
'I gave them some apples each.'

(intended)

Nevertheless, the issue may be resolved by considering plural NPs denoting non-aggregate entities, i.e., *plurale tantum* nouns such as spodnie 'trousers', perfumy 'perfumes', etc. As shown in Przepiórkowski 2006a, and contra Łojasiewicz 1979, such NPs may co-occur with po and, when they do, they bear the locative case. This shows that the locative is indeed conditioned by the categorial status of the noun phrase and not by its singular grammatical number. Hence, from now on, we will refer to po in (1) (and similar contexts) as *adnominal*, po<sub>N</sub>, and to po in (2) (and such) as *adnumeral*, po<sub>NUM</sub>.

Łojasiewicz 1979, p. 154, also notes that the distribution of the distributive Po is limited to the accusative (as in (1)–(2) above), nominative and "secondary genitive"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>See also Franks 1995, §5.2.1, for a generative account and comparison with the distributive PO in other Slavic languages.

positions. What is meant by a "secondary genitive" position is a genitive dependent of a negated  $(cf. (5))^4$  or nominalised (cf. (6)) verb corresponding to the accusative dependent of the affirmative verb form (cf. (4)):

- (4) Dałem im jabłko. gave-I them.dat apple.acc 'I gave them an apple.'
- (5) Nie dałem im jabłka / \*jabłko.

  NEG gave-I them.dat apple.gen/\*acc
  'I didn't give them an apple.'
- (6) Myśleliśmy o daniu im jabłka / \*jabłko. thought-we about giving them.dat apple.gen/\*acc 'We were thinking about giving them an apple.'

For the adnominal  $po_N$ , Lojasiewicz 1979 gives the following example of its occurrence in the otherwise nominative (subject) position:

(7) Z drzew spadło po jabłku. from trees fell.3.N.SG DISTR apple.LOC 'An apple fell from each tree.'

To this, the following examples of  $PO_N$  in "secondary genitive" positions could be adduced, parallel to (5)–(6) above:

- (8) Nie dałem im po jabłku.

  NEG gave-I them. DAT DISTR apple. LOC

  'I didn't give them an apple each.'
- (9) Myśleliśmy o daniu im po jabłku. thought-we about giving them.DAT DISTR apple.LOC 'We were thinking about giving them an apple each.'

On the other hand,  $po_N$  cannot occur in other case positions, including dative, instrumental and "primary genitive". This is illustrated in (10a)–(12a), involving verbs subcategorising for dative, instrumental and genitive complements, contrasted with (10b)–(12b) involving roughly synonymous verbs subcategorising for accusative complements: $^{5,6,7}$ 

(10) a. \*Każdy z nich przyglądał się po (jednym) obrazie. (dative) each. Nом of them watched RM DISTR one.Loc painting.Loc

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Genitive of negation in Polish, while more regular than in Russian, is more complex than would transpire from the remarks in this paper; see Przepiórkowski 2000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>RM stands here for *reflexive marker*, a part of the inherently reflexive verbs PRZYGLĄDAĆ SIĘ 'observe' and CHWYCIĆ SIĘ 'grab'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Note that the forms of JEDEN 'one' in these examples are not numerals, but rather adjectives, pace Saloni 1974 and Gruszczyński and Saloni 1978; see also Przepiórkowski 2006a for the reaffirmation of this position based on the cooccurrence of PO and JEDEN.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>(11a) sounds acceptable to one of the authors.

- 'Each of them watched a/one painting.' (intended)
- b. Każdy z nich oglądał po (jednym) obrazie. each.Nom of them watched DISTR one.Loc painting.Loc 'Each of them watched a/one painting.'
- (11) a. \*Każdy z nich kierował po (jednej) firmie. (instrumental) each.Nom of them ran DISTR one.Loc company.Loc 'Each of them directed a/one company.' (intended)
  - Każdy z nich nadzorował po (jednej) firmie.
     each.Nom of them supervised DISTR one.Loc company.Loc
     'Each of them supervised a/one company.'
- (12) a. \*Każdy z nich chwycił się po (jednej) linie. (genitive)
  each.NOM of them grabbed RM DISTR one.LOC rope.LOC
  'Each of them grabbed a/one rope.' (intended)
  - b. Każdy z nich chwycił po (jednej) linie. each.NOM of them grabbed DISTR one.LOC rope.LOC 'Each of them grabbed a/one rope.'

At first glance facts seem to be similar for the adnumeral  $po_{NUM}$ . Its occurrence in an accusative position is illustrated in (2) above, and the following examples, all from Łojasiewicz 1979, illustrate a (normally, see below) nominative position (cf. (13)), a genitive of negation position (cf. (14)) and an ad-gerundial genitive position (cf. (15)):

- (13) Na moich drzewach dojrzewa dziennie po kilka owoców. on my trees ripen.3.sg daily DISTR several.ACC fruit.GEN 'Several pieces of fruit ripen every day on each of my trees.'
- (14) Dzieci nie dostały po dwa pączki. children.NOM NEG received.3.PL DISTR two.ACC donuts.ACC 'The children did not get two donuts each.'
- (15) Myśleliśmy o daniu dzieciom po trzy pączki. thought-we about giving children. DAT DISTR three. ACC donuts. ACC 'We thought about giving the children three donuts each.'

It should be noted that, while the accusative case of  $dwa\ jabka$  'two apples' in (2) could in principle reflect the fact that the  $PO_{NUM}$ -phrase occupies an accusative position ( $PO_{NUM}$  would be transparent to case assignment), examples (14)–(15), where such  $PO_{NUM}$ -phrases occur in genitive positions, show that  $PO_{NUM}$  does (or may, see below) assign the accusative case, i.e., that it does (or may) behave like a preposition.

All these considerations lead to the conclusion that there must be (at least) two different distributive elements PO: one assigning the locative to NPs, and another assigning the accusative to NumPs. In fact, Łojasiewicz 1979, p. 158, discusses the possibility of a single distributive PO assigning a separate case, *distributivus*, which

would always be syncretic with locative or accusative, depending on the grammatical class.<sup>8</sup> She rejects this idea, though, on the basis of the apparent impossibility of such NP and NumP *distributivus* phrases to be coordinated into a single argument of PO and claims that the following example should only mean *You'll get one apple each, as well as two pears and five plums*, and not – as intended – *Each of you will get one apple, two pears and five plums*:

(16) Dostaniecie po jednym jabłku, dwie gruszki i pięć receive-you.Fut distr one.Loc apple.Loc two.Acc pears.Acc and five.Acc śliwek.

plums.gen

'Each of you will get one apple, two pears and five plums.' (intended)

'You will get one apple each, as well as two pears and five plums.' (actual)

While remaining agnostic about such examples, we concur with Lojasiewicz 1979 that  $PO_N$  and  $PO_{NUM}$  should not be conflated into a single lexeme. In the remainder of this empirical section we will have nothing more to say about the adnominal  $PO_N$  and will concentrate on  $PO_{NUM}$ .

# 2.2 Three distributive elements PO

# 2.2.1 Adnumeral PO in subject positions

As in other Indo-European languages, finite verbs agree with nominative subjects in Polish, and otherwise occur in the default third person singular neuter form (Dziwirek, 1990). This generalisation is upheld in (7) and (13) above, where the subjects headed by  $PO_N$  and  $PO_{NUM}$ , respectively, are prepositional phrases and, hence, caseless. From this perspective, the following examples from Łojasiewicz 1979, p. 154, are surprising:

- (17) W pokojach będą po dwa fotele.
  in rooms be.fut.pl distr two.nom.pl armchair.nom.pl
  'There will be two armchairs in each room.'
- (18) Na ławkach leżały po trzy arkusze papieru. on benches lay.PL po three.NOM.PL sheet.NOM.PL paper.GEN.SG 'There lay three sheets of paper on each bench.'

Here, the verb clearly agrees with the numeral phrase following  $PO_{NUM}$ . Łojasiewicz 1979 does not draw the obvious conclusion from these examples, but if the overwhelming generalisation concerning subject–verb agreement in Polish is to be maintained, (17)–(18) must be analysed as involving nominative subjects. In particular, such subjects cannot be run-of-the-mill prepositional phrases.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>She also considers the two fossilised expressions *po czemu* 'how much each' and *po złotemu* 'one zloty each', where *czemu* and *złotemu* are dative forms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Case values indicated in glosses reflect the received wisdom. In the analysis presented below we will claim that the numeral (*dwa*, *trzy*) and the noun heading the following NP (*fotele*, *arkusze*) are in the accusative, and that PO is the sole bearer of the nominative case; see §2.3.

The issue is somewhat obfuscated by the fact that numeral phrases following  $PO_{NUM}$  in all examples above are syncretic between nominative and accusative, at least in the sense that they may occur in subject positions and in (accusative) direct object positions. So perhaps all numeral phrases occurring after  $PO_{NUM}$  should be analysed as nominative, rather than accusative?

Fortunately, there exist non-syncretic nominative forms of the paucal numerals DWA 'two', TRZY 'three' and CZTERY 'four', namely, the human-masculine forms *dwaj*, *trzej* and *czterej*, as in the following example:

(19) Radę tworzyli dwaj przedstawiciele regionu. council.ACC constituted.PL two.NOM representatives.NOM region.GEN 'Two region representatives constituted the council.'

Crucially, such nominative forms cannot occur after  $po_{NUM}$  in accusative or "secondary genitive" positions, which confirms the analysis of  $po_{NUM}$  as governing the accusative – not nominative – case there:

- (20) (Nie) przydzieliłem im po dwóch przedstawicieli.

  NEG assigned-I them.DAT DISTR two.ACC representatives.ACC/GEN

  'I (did not) assign(ed) them two representatives each.'
- (21)\*(Nie) przydzieliłem im po dwaj przedstawiciele.

  NEG assigned-I them.DAT DISTR two.NOM representatives.NOM

On the other hand, phrases headed by such unambiguously nominative paucal numerals may co-occur with PO<sub>NUM</sub> in the subject position, duly resulting in subject–verb agreement; although in some publications they are regarded marginal (Łojasiewicz, 1979, p. 158), doubtful or even downright unacceptable (Derwojedowa, 2011, pp. 144–145), they do occur in texts, as in the following attested examples:<sup>11</sup>

(22) Prezydent proponuje, aby Radę Federacji tworzyli po president proposes that council.ACC federation.GEN constitute.PL DISTR dwaj przedstawiciele każdego regionu... two.NOM representatives.NOM each.GEN region.GEN

'The President proposes that two representatives of each region constitute the Federation Council.' (NKJP)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>See Przepiórkowski 1999 for arguments that non-paucal numerals (as well as some human-masculine paucal numerals) in the subject position are in fact accusative; e.g., (13) without the *po* would still be grammatical and the subject *kilka owoców* would be analysed as accusative. On the other hand, (non-human-masculine) paucal numeral forms like *dwa* 'two' and *trzy* 'three' in (17)–(18), would be analysed as nominative. The observation that some numeral phrases in the subject position occur in the accusative has a long history, dating back at least to Małecki 1863 and Krasnowolski 1897, and – more recently – Franks 1995, but it is also very controversial in Polish linguistics; see, e.g., Saloni 2005 and Miechowicz-Mathiasen and Witkoś 2007 for discussion, and Przepiórkowski and Patejuk 2012a,b for an LFG analysis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>The first example comes from the National Corpus of Polish (NKJP; Przepiórkowski et al. 2012; http://nkjp.pl), the second – from the Internet (found via Google; http://historia.pgi.pl/demokracja.php, last accessed on 30 September 2013).

- (23) Do Senatu wybierani są po dwaj senatorzy z każdego stanu. to Senate elected.pl are.pl distr two.nom senators.nom from each state 'Two senators from each state are elected to the Senate.' (Google)
- (24) ... awans uzyskali po trzej najlepsi z każdej kategorii.

  promotion obtained.PL DISTR three.Nom best.Nom.PL from each category

  'Three best ones from each category qualified.' (Google)

Also Łojasiewicz 1979, p. 158, admits forms such as *dwaj* "in some constructions", citing as grammatical the following example:

(25) Stańcie tu, po dwaj z każdej strony. stand.IMP.PL here DISTR two.NOM from each side 'Stand here, two on each side!'

In summary, the data discussed in this subsection calls for distinguishing (at least) two adnumeral elements  $PO_{NUM}$ : one, which we will call  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$ , assigns the accusative case, even in the "secondary genitive" positions, and another one,  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , which may occur with nominative numeral phrases. The relative distribution of these two distributive adnumeral elements will be discussed in §2.3, but first we provide additional arguments for the existence of a separate  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  and some justification for the superscript MOD (for *modifier*).

# 2.2.2 Adnumeral Po in other positions

As apparently first noted in Przepiórkowski 2010, PO<sub>NUM</sub> sometimes occurs also in dative positions. When it does, the numeral phrase must also bear the dative case. The following attested examples illustrate this:

- (26) ... nagroda należy się po trzem osobom z każdej klasy... reward is due to DISTR three.DAT person.DAT.PL from each class 'Three people from each class deserve a reward.' (NKJP)
- (27) Broń... została przekazana po dwóm osobom z każdego weapon AUX transferred.PASS DISTR two.DAT person.DAT.PL from each ugrupowania.

  group

'The weapon was handed in to two people from each group.' (Google)

(28) ...cyklicznie dawał odpoczywać po dwóm zawodnikom...
cyclically let.sg rest distr two.dat players.dat
'He cyclically let two players take rest.' (Google)

While perhaps less frequent, analogous examples may be found involving instrumental positions, <sup>12</sup> cf. (29)–(31), and even an occasional genitive or locative position, cf. (32) and (33), respectively.

(29) Obie strony dysponują w końcu po czterema armiami. both sides have at their disposal in the end DISTR four.INST armies.INST

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>We are grateful to Anna Kibort for pointing this out.

- 'Both sides have at their disposal four armies each in the end.' (Google)
- (30) Każde z nich w białym kitlu, dużych okularach, z po dwiema each of them in white lab coat big glasses with DISTR two.INST teczkami w jednej są narzędzia, w drugiej dokumentacja. briefcases.INST in one are tools in second documentation 'Each of them in a white lab coat, big glasses, with two briefcases each tools are in the first one, documentation in the other.' (Google)
- (31) Jego... uszy są... ozdobione po trzema złotymi kolczykami u his ears are ornamented distr three.inst gold.inst earrings.inst at dołu małżowiny.

  bottom auricle

  'His ears are ornamented with three gold earrings each at the bottom of the auricle.' (Google)
- (32) Komisja pracuje zespołach złożonych dwóch W po Commission DISTR works in teams consisting of two.gen przedstawicieli strony kościelnej i strony rządowej oraz po representatives.gen side church and side governmental and DISTR jednym przedstawicielu organów nadrzędnych nad uczestnikami one.Loc representative.Loc authorities participants superior to postępowania. proceedings
  - '(Church Property) Commission works in teams consisting of two representatives each of the church side and the government side and of one representative each of authorities superior to the participants of the proceedings.' (NKJP)
- (33) Prawie wszyscy zawodnicy występowali w po dwóch formacjach. almost all players played in DISTR two.Loc formations.Loc 'Almost all players played in two formations each.' (Google)

Similarly to (22)–(25), such examples are often judged marginal or even unacceptable by many native speakers, and as fully acceptable by others. It seems reasonable, then, to assume that the same lexical item is responsible for all these occurrences and that it is internalised in the grammars of different native speakers to various extents. The most conspicuous feature of this  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  is that it is transparent to case assignment and simply transmits the case assigned to its position: nominative in (22)–(25) (and, perhaps, in the earlier (17)–(18), but see below), dative in (26)–(28), instrumental in (29)–(31), genitive in (32) and locative in (33). We conclude that  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  cannot be analysed as a case-assigning preposition, but should rather be treated as an element transparent to case assignment, perhaps an "adnumeral operator" in the sense of Grochowski 1997, §2.4.10. Below, in §3.2, we provide an LFG analysis which – while preserving this intuition – still treats  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  as a syntactic head, on a par with  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  and  $PO_{NUM}$ .

#### 2.3 The distribution of the three elements PO

It is easy to recognise  $PO_N$  – it occurs with nominal, not numeral phrases. On the other hand, it is not always clear which of the two adnumeral elements,  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  or  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , surfaces in a given context. Consider the basic example (2). In the previous subsection we established that  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  is transparent to case assignment, so it could be claimed that  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  in this example is a form of  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  and that the accusative case on  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  and that the accusative case on  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  and that the accusative case on the other hand, we also saw that at least in some adnumeral positions, namely (14)–(15), a different PO is needed,  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$ , which assigns the accusative case, and this  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  could also be claimed to occur in (2). So now we have three ways of analysing (2): as involving  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$ , as involving  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , or as ambiguous between the two analyses.

Similarly, (13) could be analysed as involving  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$ , which assigns the accusative to *kilka owoców* 'several fruit', or as involving  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , transparent to the assignment of the accusative case to such numeral phrases in the subject position (cf. fn. 10), or as ambiguous between the two.

When deciding such cases, we take as crucial the observation of the previous subsection, namely, that occurrences of  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  are rare, often judged as marginal or unacceptable. That is, since both (2) and (13) are fully acceptable, we assume that they involve  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$ . Note that this in principle does not exclude the possibility of the ambiguity between  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  and  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , but the latter analysis will be more marginal than the former, perhaps altogether inaccessible to some speakers.<sup>13</sup>

On the basis of these considerations we assume that the three elements po surface in the following examples:

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\mathbf{PO_N} - (1), (7)-(9), (10b)-(12b);

\mathbf{PO_{NUM}^{ACC}} - (2), (13)-(15), (20);

\mathbf{PO_{NUM}^{MOD}} - (22)-(33).
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The only two examples involving PO not classified here are (17)–(18), with paucal non-human-masculine numeral phrases following PO in the subject position. Such examples, while exhibiting subject–verb agreement and, hence, a nominative subject, are judged as acceptable by Łojasiewicz (1979, p. 154) and as significantly more acceptable than the clear cases of  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  in (23) and (27) by Derwojedowa (2011, p. 145). As such, they seem to contradict the generalisation just proposed: since they occur in the nominative position and apparently contain a nominative NumP they should involve  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , but since they are acceptable, or at least clearly more acceptable than uncontroversial uses of  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , they should involve  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$ .

The following section presents an analysis which eliminates this contradiction. According to this analysis, the acceptable (17)–(18) involve the accusative-assigning  $PO_{NIM}^{ACC}$ , so the numeral phrases *dwa fotele* 'two armchairs' and *trzy arkusze* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>However, if PONUM surfaced in (2), we would expect – contrary to facts – the numeral phrase to be able to occur in the genitive when the verb is negated or nominalised; see the discussion in §3.4 below, esp., under (47).

*papieru* 'three sheets of paper' are taken to be accusative here. However, PONUM is not treated as an ordinary preposition here, but rather an element which may receive its own case – here nominative – and agree with the verb in number and gender.

# 3 LFG Analysis

#### 3.1 Grammatical classes of the three elements Po

What are the grammatical classes – or parts of speech – of the three elements established above? They are all clearly function – rather than content – words, so we employ here the comprehensive classification of Polish function expressions of Grochowski 1997.

First of all,  $PO_N$  must be classified as a preposition (P), as it governs the – strictly prepositional – locative case.

Secondly, PONUM rather easily falls into the class of "adnumeral operators" (abbreviated to Adnum here). Grochowski 1997, §2.4.10, defines adnumeral operators as noninflecting lexemes which cannot function independently as utterances, which cannot relate constituents (in the sense in which conjunctions and prepositions do relate constituents), which have a fixed linear position and which do not combine with a verb but do combine with a numeral. Prototypical examples include blisko 'nearly' (as in *blisko trzy miesiące* 'nearly three months'), około 'around' (e.g., *około dwa tygodnie* 'around two weeks') and PRZESZŁO 'over' (e.g., *przeszło sto osób* 'over a hundred people'). While it is not a defining characteristic of adnumeral operators, they are usually taken to have an approximative meaning (Grochowski 1997, Duszkin 2010, Doboszyńska-Markiewicz 2012). The distributional elements Po do not share this approximative feature with prototypical adnumeral operators, but otherwise PONUM satisfies all strictly defining properties of adnumeral operators.

Finally,  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  is a little harder to fit into Grochowski's (1997) classification: it occurs strictly adnumerally, like adnumeral operators, but it also governs a specific case (accusative), like prepositions. This situation is somewhat similar to that of około 'around' which may govern the genitive case or may be transparent to case assignment. For this reason, Grochowski 1997, pp. 73–74, distinguishes two lexemes około, even though both occur adnumerally: a preposition and an adnumeral operator. Following this example, one should classify  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  as a preposition. However, in LFG, grammatical class labels such as N, P or – here – AdNum are used mainly in syntactic (c-structure) rules. In the syntactic analysis proposed in §3.3 below,  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  and  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , but not  $PO_{NUM}$ , are handled by the same syntactic rule, namely, the rule for numeral phrases involving adnumeral operators. Hence, we decide to include  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  in the class of adnumeral operators, together with  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ .

#### 3.2 Lexical entries of the three elements po

The immediate problem when constructing lexical entries for the three elements po is how not to miss obvious generalisations. In particular, the three entries share at least the form (po), the distributive semantics, and the part of the PRED value specifying that the predicate is PO, regardless of its arity (i.e., that  $(\uparrow PRED FN) = PO$ , cf. Asudeh et al. 2013, p. 23).<sup>14</sup>

The standard LFG way to handle such potential redundancies is to employ the mechanism of templates (Dalrymple et al., 2004; Asudeh et al., 2013). The first version of the common template for the three lexical entries is given in (34), and the general schema of the entries is presented in (35).

(34) 
$$PODIST = (\uparrow PRED FN) = PO$$
 (provisional) DISTRIBUTIVE-SEMANTICS

Note that the form *po* is specified once in the lexical entries (35), and the predicate and the semantic constructor – in the shared podist template in (34). We do not have anything to say about the semantics of distance distributivity here (distributive-semantics is just a placeholder in (34)), but see Przepiórkowski 2013a for an account compatible with the current syntactic analysis.

As a preposition,  $PO_N$  is a head which takes an object and assigns (or checks) the locative case:  $(\uparrow OBJ CASE) = LOC$ . The PRED value of  $PO_N$  will thus be 'PO(OBJ)'.

Also  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  must be analysed as the head of the " $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  + NumP[ACC]" construction; otherwise, if NumP[ACC] were the head, the construction would be expected to occur only in accusative positions. Hence, the lexical entry of  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  will contain the equations ( $\uparrow$  OBJ CASE) = ACC and PRED = ' $PO\langle OBJ \rangle$ '.

Finally, since we would like  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  to be handled by the same c-structure rule as  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  (cf. §3.3 below), they should ideally both have the same headedness status with respect to the following numeral phrase, so we should have  $PRED = 'PO\langle OBJ\rangle'$  again. Hence, since the complete PRED value of the three elements PO is the same, we can make it part of the template:

(36) poDist = 
$$(\uparrow pred) = 'po\langle obj\rangle'$$
 (final) distributive-semantics

(37) PO P @PODIST (all not final) 
$$(\uparrow \text{ obj case}) = \text{loc } \dots$$
 AdNum @PoDist 
$$(\uparrow \text{ obj case}) = \text{acc } \dots$$
 AdNum @PoDist ...

However, if  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  is the head of the " $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  + NumP" construction, how can we explain the subject–verb agreement in (22)–(24)? Evidently,  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  in such environments must bear the nominative case (a precondition for the subject–verb agreement in Polish) and, moreover, must "inherit" number and gender features from its NumP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>We assume here that the distributive PO, which – unlike "case-marking prepositions" arbitrarily governed by verbs – contributes to the semantics of the sentence, has its own PRED value.

овј. To this end, we treat  $po_{NUM}^{MOD}$  roughly as a weak head in the sense in which this term is used in Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar.

Tseng 2002, p. 273, defines a weak head as an element which inherits from its complement all morphosyntactic featues (the HEAD value), as well as semantics and any unsatisfied valence properties, and adds a specific marking. Such weak heads are to be used *in lieu* of the standard HPSG markers, e.g., in the analysis of complementisers such as THAT. Such a weak head complementiser takes a clause as its argument, inherits the HEAD value of this clause, i.e., all morphosyntactic properties of the verb heading the clause, and introduces the MARKING attribute with the value *that*. Tseng 2002, p. 279, advocates the use of this mechanism in the analysis of German non-predicative prepositions, to some extent similar to the distributive po discussed here. Further, Abeillé 2003, 2006, building on this idea, proposes to treat French coordinate conjunctions as weak heads, *sans* the requirement of sharing the semantics. In this paper, we will call such elements – inheriting morphosyntactic properties of their complements, but not their semantics – *weakish heads*.

In LFG, a natural way to encode the HPSG idea of weak(ish) heads is to use the mechanism of restriction, as defined in Kaplan and Wedekind 1993. Since we do not want to equate the 'PO(OBJ)' PRED value of PO<sub>NUM</sub> with the PRED value of its numeral object, nor do we want to say that the OBJ of PO<sub>NUM</sub> (i.e., the NumP argument) is the same as the OBJ of the following numeral (i.e., the NP argument of the numeral), the relevant equation to add to the lexical entry of PO<sub>NUM</sub> is: ↑\PRED\OBJ = (↑ OBJ)\PRED\OBJ. As the values of all other features are shared between PO<sub>NUM</sub> and its numeral object, the whole "PO<sub>NUM</sub> + NumP" construction will have the same case (nominative in (22)–(25), but, e.g., instrumental in (29)–(31), etc.), number and gender as the object NumP.

This brings us back to the promise made at the end of §2.3 concerning (17)–(18). As noted above, these examples exhibit subject–verb agreement, implying that the whole subject Po-phrase is in the nominative case, but – unlike, e.g., (22)–(24) – they are fully acceptable, suggesting that these examples involve  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  rather than the marginal  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ . The analysis we would like to propose here is to treat  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  as a weakish head, on a par with  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ . But, since  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  assigns the accusative case and may itself occur also in non-accusative positions (nominative and "secondary genitive"), we assume that  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  does not inherit CASE value from its OBJ. The next version of the lexical entries of the distributive Po summarises these considerations:

```
(38) PO P @PODIST (all not final)

(↑ OBJ CASE) = LOC ...

ADNUM @PODIST
(↑ OBJ CASE) = ACC
↑\PRED\OBJ\CASE = (↑ OBJ)\PRED\OBJ\CASE ...

ADNUM @PODIST
↑\PRED\OBJ = (↑ OBJ)\PRED\OBJ ...
```

The final issue to be formalised in such lexical entries is the limited distribution of various elements PO. As repeatedly noted, PO<sub>N</sub> and PO<sup>ACC</sup><sub>NUM</sub> may only occur in nominative, accusative and "secondary genitive" positions. Przepiórkowski 1999,  $\S 5.1.4.3$ , notes that these positions seem to be exactly the structural case positions in Polish – in the sense of the structural vs. lexical (or inherent) case dichotomy long discussed in the generative literature – and we will assume here that this observation is essentially correct. Hence, the first two lexical entries must include equations encoding this restriction.

Technically, we follow Przepiórkowski and Patejuk 2012a,b in assuming the presence of an attribute like sc on cased phrases, whose value is + if and only if this phrase bears a structural case. Separate principles of the grammar will have the effect of constraining structural case positions to nominative, accusative and "secondary genitive", and lexical case positions to "primary genitive", dative, instrumental and locative; see Przepiórkowski 1999 for a more comprehensive HPSG formalisation of the structural/lexical case dichotomy.

As to  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , (22)–(33) show that it may occur at least in nominative, dative and instrumental positions, with some examples found also for the genitive and locative. Hence, it is reasonable to adopt as the first approximation the hypothesis that  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  may, in principle, marginally occur in any case position, perhaps with stronger dispreferences for some positions than for other.<sup>16</sup>

The relevant parts of the final (but see (41) below) lexical entries for the three distributive elements po are given below: 17

(39) PO P @podist (almost final) 
$$(\uparrow sc) = + \\ (\uparrow obj case) = loc$$
 AdNum @podist (final) 
$$(\uparrow sc) = + \\ (\uparrow obj case) = acc \\ \uparrow \pred \obj \case = (\uparrow obj) \pred \obj \case$$
 AdNum @podist (final) 
$$\uparrow \pred \obj = (\uparrow obj) \pred \obj$$

#### 3.3 po at c-structure

We do not assume any special syntactic rules involving  $po_N$ . Categorially, it is a preposition, and it combines with the following NP via the usual rules forming prepositional phrases. In particular, we claim that any restrictions on the argument

 $<sup>^{15}\</sup>text{We}$  do not consider the seventh case in Polish, vocative, which is never assigned in the lexicon.  $^{16}\text{In}$  particular, we have not found any examples of  $\text{Po}_{\text{NUM}}^{\text{MOD}}$  in structural (or "secondary") genitive positions, and it seems impossible to decide whether such  $\text{Po}_{\text{NUM}}^{\text{MOD}}$  may occur in accusative positions, as it is indistinguishable from  $\text{Po}_{\text{NUM}}^{\text{ACC}}$  in such environments; see §3.4 below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>It is possible to factor out the equation  $(\uparrow sc) = +$  into a subtemplate of the PoDist template, to further reduce redundancy in these lexical entries.

of  $PO_N$  are best formulated at levels different than c-structure. One such restriction, concerning cardinality, was mentioned in §2.1 and it is clearly a semantic constraint (Przepiórkowski, 2008; Bogusławski, 2012). Another, however, looks like a c-structure constraint:  $PO_N$  may apparently only combine with NPs, not with NumPs. This could be naturally encoded via a special c-structure rule to the effect that the phrase following  $PO_N$  must be an NP, or – perhaps less naturally – by an f-structure rule saying the OBJ of  $PO_N$  cannot be numeral. We choose here the latter option, also because the object of  $PO_N$  – just as nominal objects of other prepositions – may actually also be realised as an adjective phrase such as *najlepsza z ofert* '(the) best of offers' in the following example:

(40) Komisja... wybrała... po najlepszej... ze złożonych ofert commission.nom chose distr best.loc.sg of submitted.gen offers.gen każdego wykonawcy.

every.gen contractor.gen

'The commission selected the best offer each from those submitted by every contractor.' (Google)

In Polish, numerals may be identified at f-structure via the attribute ACM ("accommodability"), whose exact meaning is explained in Przepiórkowski and Patejuk 2012a,b, so the exclusion of numeral phrases may be encoded via  $\neg(\uparrow \text{ OBJ ACM})$ :

(41) PO P @PODIST (final)  

$$(\uparrow sc) = +$$

$$(\uparrow obj case) = loc$$

$$\neg(\uparrow obj acm)$$

On the other hand, a special c-structure rule is needed for introducing an adnumeral operator, such as  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  and  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , into a numeral phrase: <sup>18</sup>

(42) NumP 
$$\rightarrow$$
 AdNum Num NP  $\downarrow = \uparrow$   $(\uparrow obj) = \downarrow$   $(\uparrow obj obj) = \downarrow$ 

One thing to note about this rule is that, while it is a rule for a numeral phrase, the actual head (in the sense of the  $\downarrow = \uparrow$  equation) is the adnumeral operator. This is possible due to the weakish head status of AdNum elements, which inherit all relevant feature values from the numeral argument.

Note also that, according to this rule, the numeral is adjacent to the preceding adnumeral operator. This reflects the following judgements from Przepiórkowski 2010 (attributed to Jadwiga Linde-Usiekniewicz and Paweł Rutkowski, p.c.):

- (43) a. Posłał go po 2 smaczne jabłka. sent-he him for 2.ACC tasty.ACC apples.ACC 'He sent him to fetch 2 tasty apples.'
  - b. Posłał go po smaczne 2 jabłka. sent-he him for tasty.Acc 2.Acc apples.Acc

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>As is standard in Polish and Slavic linguistics, we assume that the NP following a numeral is its argument, i.e., that numeral phrases are normally headed by the numeral.

- (44) a. Dał każdemu po 2 smaczne jabłka. gave-he everyone DISTR 2.ACC tasty.ACC apples.ACC 'He gave each of them 2 tasty apples.'
  - b. \*Dał każdemu po smaczne 2 jabłka. gave-he everyone DISTR tasty.ACC 2.ACC apples.ACC

While (44b) perhaps does not really deserve the asterisk (Derwojedowa, 2011, pp. 145–146), there is a palpable acceptability contrast between the fully acceptable (43b), involving the run-of-the-mill preposition po homophonous with the distributive elements considered in this paper, and the adnumeral PO<sup>ACC</sup><sub>NUM</sub> in (44b). When the adnumeral operator is present, the adjective may only occur NP-internally, as in (44a), in concordance with rule (42). On the other hand, in case of the usual (AdNum-less) numeral phrase, adjectives may occur either NP-internally, as in (43a), or they may immediately precede the numeral, as in (43b), in concordance with the main rule for numeral phrases, given in (45):<sup>19</sup>

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{(45)} & \text{NumP} & \rightarrow & \text{AdjP*} & \text{Num} & \text{NP} \\ & \downarrow \in \left(\uparrow \left(\text{Obj}\right) \text{Adj}\right) & \downarrow = \uparrow & \left(\uparrow \text{Obj}\right) = \downarrow \end{array}$$

As also noted in Przepiórkowski 2010, other adnumeral operators, such as z 'some, about', seem to follow the pattern of (44), supporting the analysis just sketched:<sup>20</sup>

- (46) a. Dałem każdemu z 5 moich książek. gave-I everyone. DAT about 5.ACC my. GEN books. GEN 'I gave each of them around 5 books of mine.'
  - b. \*Dałem każdemu z moich 5 książek. gave-I everyone.dat about my.gen 5.acc books.gen

# 3.4 Analysis at work

Let us illustrate the analysis of this section with a few examples, starting with the most basic (1)–(2).

In (1), the usual c-structure rule for prepositional phrases (not given in this paper) may be used to form the PP  $po\ jabtku$  'distrapple' headed by the preposition  $po_N$ : the locative case of jabtku is consistent with case requirements in (41), the lexical entry of  $po_N$ . On the other hand, this c-structure rule cannot be used to form an analogous PP  $po\ dwa\ jabtka$  'distrative apples' in (2), as  $dwa\ jabtka$  is a numeral phrase bearing the ACM attribute and (41) contains the constraint  $\neg(\uparrow)$  obj ACM) (and another, specifying the locative case). Moreover, none of the adnumerative operators po may form a constituent with jabtku, as the relevant c-structure rule (42) requires the presence of a numeral (and, additionally,  $po_{NUM}^{ACC}$  requires its object to be in the accusative). Hence, the only distributive analysis of  $po\ jabtku$  must involve  $po_N$ . While categorially  $po\ jabtku$  is a PP, it bears the  $po\ jabtku$  introduced

 $<sup>^{19}</sup>$ The ов is optional on AdjP\* because such adjectival phrases may modify either the numeral directly or its NP argument.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>A related contrast is reported in Doboszyńska-Markiewicz 2012, p. 132.

in (41), so – unlike typical prepositional phrases – it may occur in structural case positions, including the accusative in (1).

On the other hand, in (2), involving the apparent numeral phrase dwa jabłka, the c-structure rule (42) may form the actual numeral phrase consisting of an adnumeral operator po, the numeral dwa and the NP jabłka. Note that either  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  or  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  may be employed here and that either may combine with the accusative numeral dwa.  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  forms a NumP whose case is constrained by the equation SC = +, and  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  forms a NumP specified as accusative (as it shares case with its object). Thus, either NumP may occur in the structural accusative position in (2), rendering the sentence spuriously ambiguous. We stipulate that the reading involving the marginal  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  is blocked by the fully acceptable structure with  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$ , but we may also extend the lexical entry of  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  by a constraint to the effect that  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  cannot bear the structural accusative or the structural genitive case (see fn. 21 below).

Considering the negated version of (1) in (8), the analysis proceeds in a way fully analogous to that of (1); the PP *po jabłku* now occurs in the genitive of negation position, which is also a structural case (sc = +) position.

Turning to the negated version of (2), given below (see (14) for an analogous example), we note that it does not exhibit the ambiguity seen in (2).

(47) Nie dałem im po dwa jabłka.

NEG gave-I them. DAT DISTR two. ACC apples. ACC

'I didn't give them two apples each.'

Only the numeral phrase formed with  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  may occur here, bearing the SC = + CONSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION CONTROL OF THE POOR OF THE CONSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION CONTROL OF THE CONSTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION CONTROL OF THE CONSTRUCTURE CONTROL OF THE CONSTRUCTURE CONTROL OF THE C

Let us move to the subject position. In (7), involving the  $PO_N$ , the PP po jabtku bears again the  $PO_N$  bears again the  $PO_N$  bears again the sc = + specification, so it may occur in the structural subject position, possibly receiving the nominative case. This calls for an explanation of the subject—verb non-agreement observed in (7) – the verb occurs in the default third person singular neuter form, apparently contrary to the generalisation that in Polish (as in other Indo-European languages) verbs agree with nominative subjects. The simplest stipulation would be that, while possibly bearing the CASE feature, such a PP headed by  $PO_N$  still does not bear number and gender (recall that  $PO_N$  is not a weakish head), so the verb cannot agree with it, reverting to the "default" form.

Also the Po-phrase po kilka owoców 'DISTR several fruits' does not agree with the verb in (13), but the reason for this lack of agreement is different here. The numeral kilka 'several' is a non-paucal numeral governing a genitive NP (owoców

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>However, the unacceptable \*Nie dałem im po dwóch jabłek, with the genitive dwóch jabłek 'two apples', should be grammatical with  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$ , unless we introduce the abovementioned constraint implying that  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  cannot bear the structural genitive case.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>Another stipulation, more consistent with the current XLE implementation (Patejuk and Przepiórkowski, 2012), would be to say that verbs only agree with broadly nominal subjects, excluding clausal subjects, infnitival subjects and – crucially – PPs regardless of case.

here) and, as such, it would receive the accusative case in the subject position (Przepiórkowski, 1999; Przepiórkowski and Patejuk, 2012a,b). Both adnumeral operators PO\_NUM and PO\_NUM are weakish heads inheriting, among other features, the ACM feature of numerals, crucial for the case assignment principles of Przepiórkowski and Patejuk 2012a,b. On the basis of the REC ("governing") value of this feature, the whole Po-phrase *po kilka owoców* in the subject position receives the accusative case, just as the NumP *kilka owoców* would. So now the subject is broadly nominal (specifically, numeral), but it is in the accusative, hence, it does not agree with the verb, which again occurs in the default third person singular form (the neuter gender is not visible on present tense forms). Note that the same spurious ambiguity may be observed here as in the case of the object position in (2), and that it could be dealt with by the same constraint prohibiting PO\_NUM from occurring in structural accusative positions.

This constraint cannot be extended to just any structural positions, as PONDM must be allowed to occur in nominative positions, to account for the marginal (22)–(24), which involve uncontroversially nominative paucal numerals agreeing with the verb. As PONDM assigns the accusative to its object, only PONDM is possible in here. This PO is a weakish head sharing all morphosyntactic features with its object. In particular, it bears the ACM feature *not* equal to REC (*dwaj* and *trzej* are agreeing paucal numerals, unlike the governing *kilka* and non-paucal numerals) and, hence, receives the nominative case via principles presented in Przepiórkowski and Patejuk 2012a,b and shares this case value with the nominative numeral and further with the NP object of the numeral. Moreover, as adnumeral operators PO also share number and gender with the numeral, they may participate in the subject—verb agreement, resulting in the grammatical (22)–(24).

Finally, let us consider the acceptable examples (17)–(18) involving numerals and NPs syncretic between nominative and accusative. The end of §2.3 promised an analysis of such sentences with  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  and it should be clear now how such an analysis should proceed. Concentrating on (17), we note that  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  assigns the accusative to *dwa fotele* 'two armchairs', itself bearing the specification SC = +; all other morphosyntactic features are shared between *po* and the numeral *dwa*. Since *dwa* is a paucal agreeing numeral and the whole Po-phrase occurs in the subject position, the phrase receives the nominative case. Hence, contrary to the initial grammatical glosses in (17), case values of particular words in the subject phrase are as indicated below:

(17') W pokojach będą po dwa fotele.
in rooms be.Fut.pl distr.nom.pl two.acc.pl armchair.acc.pl
'There will be two armchairs in each room.'

Again, an analysis involving  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  is in principle also possible here, but we assume that it is either blocked by the more acceptable analysis involving  $PO_{NUM}^{ACC}$  or that a relevant constraint is added to the lexical entry of  $PO_{NUM}^{MOD}$  blocking its occurrence with non-human-masculine nominative numerals.

# 4 Conclusion

This paper deals with a very infrequent but intriguing phenomenon of distance distributivity in Polish involving function lexemes PO. We demonstrated that (at least) three distinct lexemes are need to handle the variety of distributive constructions, but we also showed how these homophonoous and at the same time homosemous lexemes may be encoded in a way that – via the use of templates – minimises redundancy in the lexicon and in the grammar. In particular, although the case assignment properties of the three elements differ widely, with one of them actually being transparent to such case assignment, all three are analysed as heads of PO-phrases – the two adnumeral elements as so-called weak(ish) heads, in the HPSG sense of the term, encoded in LFG with the use of the restriction mechanism.

Although the analysis presented here interacts closely with the analysis of numeral phrases given in Przepiórkowski and Patejuk 2012a,b, we strived to make the current paper self-contained, with only occasional references to those analyses, perhaps at the cost of oversimplifying slightly at places. We also had nothing to say here about the semantics of such distance distributivity in Polish, instead referring the reader to Przepiórkowski 2013a. While the topic of this paper is empirically negligible in the sense that the proposed analysis of the facts considered here will certainly not improve the results of any wide scope parser of Polish significantly, the complexity of the phenomenon is fascinating and deserves a book-length treatment.

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