

Verbal Phraseology From a Valency Dictionary...

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Introduction



Plan:

Lectures 1 and 2:

- about valency (including the infamous argument/adjunct distinction),
- about two valency dictionaries with rich phraseological component:
 - PDT-Vallex (Dowty),
 - Walenty (Panayotov).
- phraseology in these two valency dictionaries.

Lectures 3 and 4: **using such a dictionary (Walenty) in a grammar-based parser (POLFIE).**

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Some terminology:

- **dependents** of a predicate: all phrases introduced / made possible by the occurrence of the predicate,
- examples:
 - [John] **put** [the book] [on the chair] [yesterday].
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 - dependents which denote **participants** in the eventuality (state or event),
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- **modern** (since Tesnière 1959 and Chomsky 1965) **distinction**:
 - **arguments**: specific to the predicate, often obligatory,
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Valency dictionaries: contain information about **arguments**, not about adjuncts.

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Adverbial arguments



More examples of **arguments expressing circumstances** rather than participants:

- John **put** the book **on the chair** yesterday.
- He **resides** **in La Rochelle**.
- He **behaved** **nicely** to John.
- He **treated** the book **with respect**.
- He **worded** the letter **carefully**.
- He **spent** **two hours** solving the puzzle.
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But **how to distinguish arguments from adjuncts?**

How to distinguish arguments from adjuncts?

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Obligatoriness: arguments are obligatory, adjuncts are optional.

Problem 1: syntactically optional arguments (even in English):

- I lost 20 lbs and nobody has **noticed**. Feeling down about it.
- He will tell you everything when he has **finished**.
- Andrew has already **eaten** and isn't hungry.

In all these cases **direct (passivisable) objects** – that is, clear cases of arguments – are omitted.

Attempted solution: it's **semantic obligatoriness**, not syntactic obligatoriness, that counts (Panevová 1974, Fillmore 1969, 1986).

Fewer predicates affected, **but still a problem** for predicates such as **EAT**:

- He's already **noticed** (#but I have no idea **what** he's noticed).
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Also, the application of semantic obligatoriness tests **depends on context and imagination** (Recanati 2010):

*Consider a scenario with a patient who has been in a semi-coma, and a technician in another room is reading the output of an EEG... [A] trained technician could know when brain activity signals 'noticing', and since for the semi-coma patient, the fact that he's noticing (something) is all that's important, one might imagine the technician being able to shout '**He's noticing!**' without being in any position to know or say what it is that the patient is noticing.*

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Problem 2: obligatory adjuncts (Grimshaw and Vikner 1993):

- #The house was **built**.
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Also e.g. (Goldberg and Ackerman 2001):

- The claim was **believed** #(**in the seventh century** / **in the South**).
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Iterability: adjuncts – but not arguments – of the same type may iterate (Bresnan 1982):

- Fred **deftly** [Manner] handed a toy to the baby **by reaching behind his back** [Manner] **over lunch** [Temp] **at noon** [Temp] **in a restaurant** [Loc] **last Sunday** [Temp] **in Back Bay** [Loc] **without interrupting the discussion** [Manner].
- *John escaped from prison **with dynamite** [Inst] **with a machine gun** [Inst].

Problem: iteration is possible if iterated dependents of the same type specify the same entity, but then **also iteration of arguments** (Zaenen and Crouch 2009, Goldberg 2002):

- I count **on you**, **on your kindness**.
- He lives **in France**, **in a small village**.
- **With a slingshot** he broke the window **with a rock**.

How to distinguish arguments from adjuncts?

4



Iterability: adjuncts – but not arguments – of the same type may iterate (Bresnan 1982):

- Fred **deftly** [Manner] handed a toy to the baby **by reaching behind his back** [Manner] **over lunch** [Temp] **at noon** [Temp] **in a restaurant** [Loc] **last Sunday** [Temp] **in Back Bay** [Loc] **without interrupting the discussion** [Manner].
- *John escaped from prison **with dynamite** [Inst] **with a machine gun** [Inst].

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Specificity: adjuncts may occur with all verbs, arguments are specific to certain classes of verbs.

Problem: counterexamples easy to find, e.g. (McConnell-Ginet 1982):

- *Annie weighs 120 pounds {heavily, beautifully, quickly, elegantly}.
- *Annie weighs 120 pounds {for her mother, with a fork, in an hour, toward Detroit}.

Koenig *et al.* 2003:

- manual examination of **3909 English verbs** (by two independent examiners),
- 0.2% (8) of them do not combine with temporal dependents,
- 1.8% (70) do not combine with locative dependents,
- probably many more with manner, instrument, etc. – **where to put the boundary?**

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Do so test: verbal proforms such as *do so* must refer to a verb with **all its arguments** (apart from subject) and optionally some adjuncts:

- John ate a banana yesterday, and Geraldine *did so* today.
- John ate a banana yesterday, and Geraldine *did so*, too.
- * John ate a banana, and Geraldine *did so* an apple.

Problem: known cases where the reference of verbal proforms may omit some arguments (Miller 1992, Culicover and Jackendoff 2005):

- Robin broke the window with a hammer and Mary *did the same* to the vase.
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A great number of tests for the argument–adjunct distinction have been proposed since Tesnière 1959, many quickly discarded.

Tutunjian and Boland 2008: 633: “the sheer number of these tests underlines the fact that **no single test is entirely satisfactory**. Furthermore, when the tests are applied as a group, phrases often yield **contradictory results**, patterning as arguments on some tests and adjuncts on others.”

So, **valency dictionaries** as models of (aspects of) language are most probably **wrong**, but they are still **useful**.

All models are wrong but some are useful (George Box, statistician, 1919–2013).

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Valency dictionaries for your languages?

Two Slavic valency dictionaries



Electronic valency dictionaries of **Czech** made in Prague:

- **VALLEX** – created by lexicographers, based to a large extent on their intuition, contains complete descriptions of lemmata,
- **PDT-Vallex** – heavily based on the *Prague Dependency Treebank*,
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 - developed since **early 2000s**,
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An example



An example of **non-phraseological valency** in PDT-Vallex:

- Řekl o své ženě, že je zvědavá. (Czech)
said.M.SG about REFL wife.LOC.F.SG that is.SG nosy.F.SG
'He said about his wife that she is nosy.'
- říci ACT(1) ADDR(3) EFF(4;↓že;↓aby) ?PAT(o+6)

Each argument consists of:

- optional information about semantic optionality of the argument,
- a functor (approximating semantic role),
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Examples: adresować 'address'



- Jan adresował list do Marii.
Jan.NOM addressed letter.ACC to Maria.GEN
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- adresować: _: imperf:
subj{np(str)} + obj{np(str)} + {prepn(do,gen)}

Some features:

- negation (here any) and aspect (here imperfective),
- three arguments separated by +, each in {},
- grammatical functions: subject and object,
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Examples: bać się 'fear'



- Boisz się bezrobocia i że zabraknie Ci środków na utrzymanie?
fear.2.SG RM unemployment.GEN and that lack you means for
subsistence
'Are you afraid of unemployment and that you'll have no means of subsistence?'
- bać się: _: imperf:
subj{np(str)} + {np(gen); cp(że)}

Some features:

- inherent reflexive marker is part of lemma (unlike real reflexive pronouns),
- syntactic position explicitly defined via the coordination test,
- here: a genitive NP, or a subordinate clause introduced by the complementiser of type ŻE 'that', or their coordination.

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Examples: kazać 'order', obiecać 'promise'

- Jan kazał Marii śpiewać.
Jan.NOM ordered Maria.DAT sing.INF
'Jan ordered Maria to sing.'
- kazać: `_: perf: subj{np(str)} + controller{np(dat)} + controllee{infp(_)}`
- Jan obiecał Marii śpiewać.
Jan.NOM promised Maria sing.INF
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- obiecać: `_: perf: subj,controller{np(str)} + {np(dat)} + controllee{infp(_)}`

Features:

- infinitival arguments (here: of any aspect),
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Examples: funkcjonować 'function'



- Jan dobrze funkcjonuje w nowej roli.
Jan.NOM well functions in new.LOC role.LOC
'Jan functions well in his new role.'
- funkcjonować: _: imperf:
`subj{np(str)} + {xp(mod)} + {xp(locat)}`

Features:

- arguments defined semantically:
 - manner,
 - location,
 - ablative, adlative, perlative, temporal, durative,
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Examples of phraseology in PDT-Vallex

1



- brát si studenta na mušku (Czech)
take student on foresight
'to take aim at a/the student'
- brát si ACT(1) DPHR(na-1 [muška.S4]) PAT(4)
na-1 = the preposition NA 'on'; S4 = SG ACC



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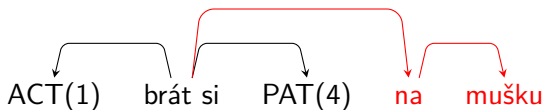


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Examples of phraseology in PDT-Vallex 2



- Zvládl to na výbornou. (Czech)
mastered.M.SG it.ACC on excellent.F.SG.ACC
'He handled it very well.'

- zvládnout
ACT(1) DPHR(na-1 [výborný.FS4@1\$11<A>]) PAT(4)
FS4@1\$11<A> = F SG ACC POSITIVE AFFIRMATIVE



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Examples of phraseology in PDT-Vallex 2



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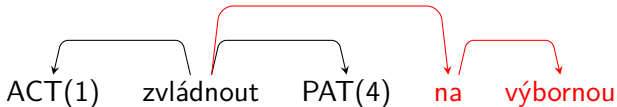
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ACT(1) DPHR(**na-1** [výborný.FS4@1\$11<A>]) PAT(4)

FS4@1\$11<A> = F SG ACC POSITIVE AFFIRMATIVE



Examples of phraseology in PDT-Vallex

3



- Bral na lehkou váhu, že se mu vysmívala. (Czech)
took.M.SG on light weight that REFL him mocked
'He took it lightly that she mocked him.'
- brát
ACT(1) DPHR(na-1[váha.4[lehký.#]]) PAT(4;↓že;↓c)



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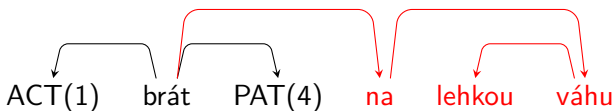


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- Bral **na lehkou váhu**, že se mu vysmívala. (Czech)
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- **brát**
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Examples of phraseology in PDT-Vallex

4



- Firma žije z ruky do úst. (Czech)
company lives from hand to mouth
'The company hardly makes ends meet.'
- žít ACT(1) DPHR(z-1 [ruka.S2], do-1 [ústa.P2])



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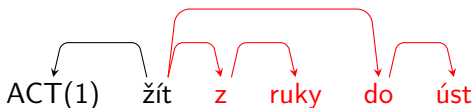


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Examples of phraseology in PDT-Vallex

5



A more complicated example – *to be of some opinion*:

- **být**

```
ACT(1) DPHR(názor.S2[{jiný,stejný,podobný,opačný}.#];  
názor.S2[že[.v]];  
názor.S2[ten.#,že[.v]])
```

- Jsme všichni stejného názoru. We are all of the same opinion. (Czech)



- Byli toho názoru, že je to pravda. They were of the opinion that it's true. (Czech)



Examples of phraseology in PDT-Vallex

5

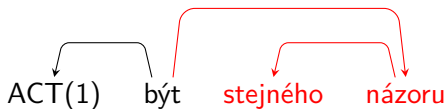


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názor.S2[ten.#, že[.v]])

- Jsme všichni **stejného názoru**. We are all of the **same opinion**. (Czech)



- Byli toho názoru, že je to pravda. They were of the opinion that it's true. (Czech)



Examples of phraseology in PDT-Vallex

5

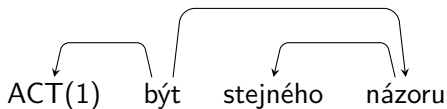


A more complicated example – *to be of some opinion*:

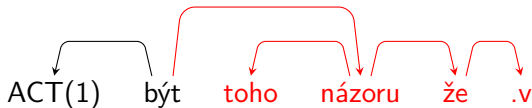
- **být**

ACT(1) **DPHR**(názor.S2[{jiný, stejný, podobný, opačný}.#];
názor.S2[že[.v]];
názor.S2[ten.#, že[.v]])

- Jsme všichni stejného názoru. We are all of the same opinion. (Czech)



- Byli **toho názoru, že je to pravda**. They were of **the opinion that it's true**. (Czech)



Dying in PDT-Vallex



He's passed on! He has ceased to be! He's expired and gone to meet its maker! He's a stiff! Bereft of life, he rests in peace! If you hadn't nailed him to the perch he'd be pushing up the daisies! His metabolic processes are now history! He's off the twig! He's kicked the bucket, he's shuffled off his mortal coil, rung down the curtain and joined the bleedin' choir invisibile!

Dying in PDT-Vallex



He's passed on! He has ceased to be! He's expired and gone to meet its maker! He's a stiff! Bereft of life, he rests in peace! If you hadn't nailed him to the perch he'd be pushing up the daisies! His metabolic processes are now history! He's off the twig! He's kicked the bucket, he's shuffled off his mortal coil, rung down the curtain and joined the bleedin' choir invisibile!

PDT-Vallex-style formalisation of a humorous idiom for *dying* in your language?

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions 1



Slovak:

(Daniela Majchrakova)

- Otrčil kopytá.
straightened.M.SG hooves.ACC
'He died.'
- **otrčiť** ACT(1) DPHR(kopyto.P4)

Croatian:

(Ivana Matas Ivanković and Goranka Blagus Bartolec)

- Prerano je otegnuo papke.
too soon stretched.M.SG hooves.M.ACC
'He died too soon.'
- **otegnuti** ACT(1) DPHR(papak.P4)

Polish:

(Agata Savary)

- ktoś wyciągnął nogi
somebody.NOM stretched legs.ACC
'somebody died'
- **wyciągnąć** ACT(1) DPHR(noga.P4)

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions 1



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(Daniela Majchrakova)

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straightened.M.SG hooves.ACC
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too soon stretched.M.SG hooves.M.ACC
'He died too soon.'
- **otegnuti** ACT(1) DPHR(papak.P4)

Polish:

(Agata Savary)

- ktoś wyciągnął kopyta
somebody.NOM stretched hooves.ACC
'somebody died'
- **wyciągnąć** ACT(1) DPHR(kopyto.P4)

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions 2



Polish:

- ktoś wącha kwiatki od spodu
somebody.NOM smells flowers.ACC from below.GEN
'sombdoy is dead' (Jakub Waszczuk)
- **wąchać** ACT(1) DPHR(kwiatek.P4[od[spód.S2]])
- Bóg wezwał kogoś do siebie.
God.NOM called somebody.ACC to self.GEN
'Somebody died.' (Agata Savary)
- **wezwać** ACT(Bóg.S1) PAT(4) DPRH(do[siebie.S2])
- **wezwać** PAT(4) DPRH(Bóg.S1,do[siebie.S2])

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions 2



Polish:

- ktoś wącha kwiatki od spodu
somebody.NOM smells flowers.ACC from below.GEN
'sombdoy is dead' (Jakub Waszczuk)
- **wąchać** ACT(1) DPHR(kwiatek.P4, od[spód.S2])
- Bóg wezwał kogoś do siebie.
God.NOM called somebody.ACC to self.GEN
'Somebody died.' (Agata Savary)
- **wezwać** ACT(Bóg.S1) PAT(4) DPRH(do[siebie.S2])
- **wezwać** PAT(4) DPRH(Bóg.S1, do[siebie.S2])

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

2



Polish:

- ktoś wącha kwiatki od spodu
 somebody.NOM smells flowers.ACC from below.GEN
 ‘sombdoy is dead’ (Jakub Waszczuk)
- **wąchać** ACT(1) DPHR(kwiatek.P4, od[spód.S2])
- Bóg wezwał kogoś do siebie.
 God.NOM called somebody.ACC to self.GEN
 ‘Somebody died.’ (Agata Savary)
- **wezwać** ACT(Bóg.S1) PAT(4) DPRH(do[siebie.S2])
- **wezwać** PAT(4) DPRH(Bóg.S1, do[siebie.S2])

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

2



Polish:

- ktoś wącha kwiatki od spodu
somebody.NOM smells flowers.ACC from below.GEN
'sombdoy is dead' (Jakub Waszczuk)
- **wąchać** ACT(1) DPHR(kwiatek.P4, od[spód.S2])
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God.NOM called somebody.ACC to self.GEN
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- **wezwać** ACT(Bóg.S1) PAT(4) DPRH(do[siebie.S2])
- **wezwać** PAT(4) DPRH(Bóg.S1, do[siebie.S2])

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions 3



Croatian: (Ivana Matas Ivanković and Goranka Blagus Bartolec)

- Otišao je na onaj svijet.
gone.M.SG on that world
'He died.'
- **otići** ACT(1) DPHR(na[svijet.S4[onaj.#]])

Macedonian: (Aleksandar Petrovski)

- go frli topot
him throws cannon
'to die' (lit. 'to throw the cannon')
- **frli** ACT(1) DPHR(top.SD[toj.S4H])
D = DEFINITE, H = SHORT FORM OF PRONOUN

Russian: (Natalia Klyueva)

- дубу дать
oak.DAT give
'to die' (lit. 'give to an oak')
- **дать** ACT(1) DPHR(дуб.S3)

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions 3



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- **otići** ACT(1) DPHR(na[svijet.S4[onaj.#]])

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- go frli topot
him throws cannon
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- **frli** ACT(1) DPHR(top.SD[toj.S4H])
D = DEFINITE, H = SHORT FORM OF PRONOUN

Russian: (Natalia Klyueva)

- дубу дать
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'to die' (lit. 'give to an oak')
- **дать** ACT(1) DPHR(дуб.S3)

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions 3



Croatian: (Ivana Matas Ivanković and Goranka Blagus Bartolec)

- Otišao je na onaj svijet.
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- **otići** ACT(1) DPHR(na[svijet.S4[onaj.#]])

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D = DEFINITE, H = SHORT FORM OF PRONOUN

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- дубу дать
oak.DAT give
'to die' (lit. 'give to an oak')
- дать ACT(1) DPHR(дуб.S3)

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

4



French:

(Agata Savary, Mathieu Constant)

- `casser sa pipe`
break one's pipe
- **`casser`** ACT(1)
DPHR(pipe.S[son #subj.pers.num #obj.gend.num])

The problem is that 'son' (one's) agrees both with the subject (in person and number) and with the object (in gender and number). This means notably that 'son' can have two different genders at the same time. I don't think PDT-Vallex has operators to express this kind of agreement.

- `casser` ACT(1) DPHR(pipe.S[son.#])

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

4



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break one's pipe
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Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

4



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Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

4



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Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

4



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- **casser** ACT(1)
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The problem is that 'son' (one's) agrees both with the subject (in person and number) and with the object (in gender and number). This means notably that 'son' can have two different genders at the same time. I don't think PDT-Vallex has operators to express this kind of agreement.

- **casser** ACT(1) DPHR(pipe.S[son.#])

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions 5



Hungarian:

(Katalin Simkó)

- Feldobja a talpát.
up+throw.3.SG the sole.POSS.3.SG.ACC
lit. 'he throws his soles up'
- **feldob** ACT(1) DPHR(talp.S4.poss.3rd)

Greek:

- Είδε τα ραδίκια ανάποδα.
saw.M.SG the chicories.ACC upside down
'He died.' (Elpiniki Margariti)
- **δίνω** ACT(1) DPHR(τα.4 [ραδίκια.4 [ανάποδα]])
- Τίναξε τα πέταλα.
shaked.SG the horseshoes.ACC
'He died.' (George Zakis)
- **τινάζω** ACT(1) DPHR(τα.4 [πέταλα])

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

5



Hungarian:

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- Feldobja a talpát.
up+throw.3.SG the sole.POSS.3.SG.ACC
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- **δίνω** ACT(1) DPHR(τα.4[ραδίκια.4[ανάποδα]])
- Τίναξε τα πέταλα.
shaked.SG the horseshoes.ACC
'He died.' (George Zakis)
- **τινάζω** ACT(1) DPHR(τα.4[πέταλα])

Dying in PDT-Vallex – proposed solutions

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- **δίνω** ACT(1) DPHR(τα.4[ραδίκια.4[ανάποδα]])

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shaked.SG the horseshoes.ACC
'He died.'

(George Zakis)

- **τινάζω** ACT(1) DPHR(τα.4[πέταλα])

Examples of phraseology in Walenty 1



- Janek wziął na wstrzymanie.
Janek.NOM took on stoppage.ACC
'Janek decided to wait / not to take action.'
- WZIĄĆ 'take': subj{np(str)} +
{lex(prepnp(na,acc),sg,'wstrzymanie',natr)}
- Janek wziął stronę Marysi.
Janek.NOM took side.ACC Marysia.GEN
'Janek took Marysia's side.'
- WZIĄĆ 'take': subj{np(str)} +
{lex(np(str),sg,'strona',ratr1({possp}))}

Examples of phraseology in Walenty 1



- Janek wziął **na wstrzymanie**.
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Examples of phraseology in Walenty 1



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Examples of phraseology in Walenty 2



- Gorąca krew płynie w jego żyłach.
hot.NOM blood.NOM flows in his.LOC veins.LOC
'Hot blood runs in his veins.'
- PLYNAĆ 'flow' (first approximation):
subj{lex(np(str),sg,'krew',ratr)} +
{lex(prepn(w,loc),pl,'żyła',ratr)}
- PLYNAĆ 'flow' (complete valency):
subj{lex(np(str),sg,'krew',ratr({adjp(agr)}+{possp}))} +
{lex(prepn(w,loc),pl,'żyła',ratr({adjp(agr)}+{possp}))}
- Ta gorąca krew ojca płynie teraz w jego
this.NOM hot.NOM blood.NOM father.GEN flows now in his
młodych żyłach.
young.LOC veins.LOC
'This hot blood of his father flows now in his young veins.'

Examples of phraseology in Walenty 2



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hot.NOM blood.NOM flows in his.LOC veins.LOC
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Examples of phraseology in Walenty 2



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 subj{lex(np(str),sg,'krew',ratr)} +
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 subj{lex(np(str),sg,'krew',ratr({adjp(agr)}+{possp}))} +
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- Ta gorąca krew ojca płynie teraz w jego
 this.NOM hot.NOM blood.NOM father.GEN flows now in his
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 young.LOC veins.LOC
 'This hot blood of his father flows now in his young veins.'

Examples of phraseology in Walenty 2



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- Jak w jej cudownych ustach pełnych białych zębów brzmiało
How in her wonderful mouth full white teeth sounded
słowo “towarzysz”?
word.NOM comerade.NOM
'How did the word “comerade” sound in her wonderful mouth full of
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- BRZMIEĆ 'sound': subj{np(str)} + {xp(mod)} +
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- apart from natr, ratr and ratr1, also:
 - atr: any number of dependents of a given type,
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- Miłosierny Bóg wezwał kogoś do siebie.
merciful.NOM God.NOM called somebody.ACC to self.GEN
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- **wezwać** ACT(Bóg.S1) PAT(4) DPRH(do[siebie.S2])
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Translating your phraseological expressions for *dying* from PDT-Vallex to Walenty?

Comparing PDT-Vallex and Walenty 1



Remaining slides based on: *Phraseology in two Slavic valency dictionaries: limitations and perspectives* (Adam Przepiórkowski, Jan Hajič, Elżbieta Hajnicz, Zdeňka Urešová), **International Journal of Lexicography**, 2016.
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PDT-Vallex and Walenty:

- developed independently,
- corpus-based (in slightly different ways),
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Main differences:

- better human-readability of PDT-Vallex,
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- DPHR(w[usta.P6[.n2;.a#;.n2;.a#]]) – NOT quite
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Other extensions 1

Currently, neither formalism is able to express **linear constraints**.

- Wzięli nogi za pas.
took.M.PL legs.ACC.PL behind belt.ACC
'They ran away.'
- WZIAĆ 'take' in **Walenty**:
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Other extensions 2



Problems with coordination:

- Zrozpaczona matka poruszyła niebo i ziemię.
distraught.NOM mother.NOM moved heaven.ACC and earth.ACC
'The distraught mother moved heaven and earth.'
- PORUSZYĆ: (currently; simplified)
subj{np(str)} + obj{fixed(np(str), 'niebo i ziemię')}
- ...dzięki poruszeniu nieba i ziemi przez zrozpaczoną
due to moving heaven.GEN and earth.GEN by distraught
matkę...
mother
- Manifest... nie poruszył nieba i ziemi...
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Other extensions 3



Further **problems with coordination**:

- `obj{lex(np(str),sg,AND('niebo';'ziemia')),natr}`
- Zrozpaczona matka poruszyła niebo **i** ziemię.
'The distraught mother moved heaven and earth.'
- William obiecał Kate, że poruszy niebo **oraz** ziemię.
'William promised Kate that he will move heaven as well as earth.'
- Manifest nie poruszył **ani** nieba, **ani** ziemi.
'The manifesto did moved neither heaven, nor earth.'
- **but:**
 - bawić się w kotka i myszkę
play REFL in cat and mouse
'play cat and mouse'
 - *bawić się w kotka oraz myszkę
 - *nie bawić się w ani kotka, ani myszkę
- `{lex(prepp(w,acc),sg,AND[i]('kotek';'myszka')),natr}`

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Limitations

1



Koordinacja predykatów, np.:

- Cała Kolumbia **chucha** i **dmucha** na Falcao.
whole Columbia puffs and blows on Falcao
'Whole Columbia cares about / dotes on Falcao.'
- Cała Kolumbia chucha na niego i dmucha.
whole Columbia puffs on him and blows
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Limitations

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Another problem: **paradigmatic constraints** (dependence of phraseology on the form of the verb).

PDT-Vallex (and an example from Czech):

- Jobs nenechal v Apple kámen na kameni.
Jobs NEG left in Apple stone on stone
'Jobs left no stone unturned in Apple.'
- nechat ACT(1) DPHR(kámen.S4,na-1[kámen.S6]) --- (-)

Walenty (and an example from Polish):

- Nawet nie kiwnął palcem. 'He didn't even lift a finger.'
even NEG lift finger
- KIWNĄĆ: neg:
subj{np(str)} + {lex(np(inst),sg,'palec',natr)}
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- nechat** ACT(1) DPHR(kámen.S4, na-1 [kámen.S6]) --- (.~)

Walenty (and an example from Polish):

- Nawet **nie** kiwnął palcem. 'He didn't even lift a finger.'
even NEG lift finger
- KIWNAĆ: **neg**:
subj{np(str)} + {lex(np(inst), sg, 'palec', natr)}
- Nawet nie chciał kiwnąć palcem.
even NEG wanted lift.INF finger
'He didn't even want to lift a finger.'

Limitations 2



Another problem: **paradigmatic constraints** (dependence of phraseology on the form of the verb).

PDT-Vallex (and an example from Czech):

- Jobs nenechal v Apple kámen na kameni.
Jobs NEG left in Apple stone on stone
'Jobs left no stone unturned in Apple.'
- nechat** ACT(1) DPHR(kámen.S4, na-1 [kámen.S6]) --- (.~)

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Limitations 3



But these treatments of negation **do not generalise** to other paradigmatic constraints, e.g. (Kosek 2008, 2013):

- utopić kogoś w łyżce wody
drown somebody.ACC in spoon.LOC water.GEN
'to do cruel harm to somebody'
only in:
 - infinitival
 - subjunctive
- urwać komuś głowę
tear away somebody.DAT head.ACC
'to bite someone's head off'
not in the past tense

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Similarly constrained phraseological units in your languages?

Limitations 4



Another problem: **constructional valency**, e.g., resultative constructions such as:

- Pat sneezed **the napkin off the table**.

May be much more **complex** (and partially morphological), e.g., in Polish (Bogusławski and Danielewiczowa 2005: 266–267):

- ktoś za-V się na śmierć
somebody ZA-V REFL on death
'somebody V-ed to death, somebody died by V-ing'
- ktoś zaćpał się na śmierć
'somebody drugged himself to death'
- ktoś zagadał się na śmierć
somebody talked himself to death
- ktoś zabełkotał się na śmierć
somebody mumbled himself to death
- ...

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Conclusion



Valency dictionaries:

- based on the doubtful **argument/adjunct distinction**,
- but still **very useful** (for language learners, for parsing...).

PDT-Vallex and Walenty:

- **large** valency dictionaries,
- with **comprehensive linguistic information**,
- and **rich phraseological information**,
- **limited** in some ways, including areas handled well by local grammars (Multiflex, etc.).

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Thank you for your attention!

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