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## VARIOUS WAYS OF RUNNING AS THE REFLECTIONS OF MENTAL PROCESSES AND EMOTIONS OF THE AGENT

The aim of this article is to conduct a contrastive semantic analysis of a group of English and Polish verbs and verbal expressions that belong to the lexical field of MOVEMENT and prove that they can reflect the mental processes and emotions of the agent. The focus of the study is on the sub-field of verbs and verbal expressions that denote various ways of running (VWOR). The analysis consists of two steps. Firstly, the lexical items in question undergo componential analysis, whose results are displayed in a specially designed grid. Several kinds of specialised semantic components are applied for the sake of the analysis, in order to consider not only the physical aspect of movement, but also intentions and emotions that accompany movement on the side of the agent. Breaking down the meanings of lexical items in question into components results in a differentiation of several sub-fields within the field of VWOR. Those sub-fields are duly discussed in the course of the article. The next stage of the analysis consists in identifying prepositions and adverbs of direction and location that can modify meaning of lexical items analysed. The final conclusion of the article is that a considerable number of verbs and verbal expression gathered in the field of VWOR in both English and Polish are capable of reflecting various mental processes and emotions of the agent.

The subject of this paper is a contrastive analysis of Polish and English verbs and verbal expressions describing various ways of running. Only such verbs and verbal phrases are considered, which can describe the way in which human beings move. However, it may sometimes happen that verbs which usually describe movement of people can also refer to motor vehicles or animals. Such verbs have been taken into account while completing data for the purpose of the study, and their meaning with reference to agents other than human has been discussed accordingly.

A thorough analysis of how various ways of moving are reflected in language cannot limit itself to the study of the strictly physical aspect of moving, i.e. the fact that in the process of changing location human body changes its position towards other objects in space. Apart from specifying the nature of strictly spatial relations,

Grid A. Semantic components of English and Polish verbs

	Manner of movement							Intentions underlying movement					Emotions underlying movement			Agent(s) performing movement								
	headlong*	suddenly	very fast	so fast one is hardly seen	fairly slowly	with quick steps	with short steps	with long high jumps	for a short distance	always in a specified direction	to do sth urgent	to avoid being late	to get away from sb / sth	to leave somewhere quickly	to find shelter	fright	excitement	playfulness	a group	child	horse	large animal	small animal	
bound								+																
charge off													+											
dart		+							+															
dash			+							(+)														
dash off			+										+											
flee												+			(+)									
fly			+																					
gallop			+																		+			
hasten										+	(+)													
hurry										(+)	+													
race			+									+												
run away																								
rush			+							(+)	+													

rush off			+											+					
scamper								+	+						+			+	+
scurry										+					+			+	
scuttle								+	+									+	+
shoot			+										+						
sprint				+							+								
stampede	(+)		+	+														+	+
streak			+	+															+
surge			+	+									+						
tear			+																
tear off				+										+					
trot										+									
cwałować				+															+
czmychać											+							+	+
galopować				+															+
gnać**	(+)		+											+					
gonić dokądś																			(+)
kłusować				+															+
lecieć**	(+)		+																+
mknąć				+															
pędzić**	(+)		+																

	Manner of movement									Intentions underlying movement				Emotions underlying movement			Agent(s) performing movement						
	headlong*	suddenly	very fast	so fast one is hardly seen	fairly slowly	with quick steps	with short steps	with long high jumps	for a short distance	always in a specified direction	to do sth urgent	to avoid being late	to get away from sb / sth	to leave somewhere quickly	to find shelter	fright	excitement	playfulness	a group	child	horse	large animal	small animal
pędzić tabunem	(+)	+	+															+				+	
pierzchać		+										+				+							+
sadzić							+																
śpieszyć (się)										+	+												
truchtać					+																		
uciekać												+				(+)							
umykać												+				(+)							
zwiewać												+				(+)							

\* Here: without looking where one is going

\*\* When the verb appears with one of the phrases *na oślepie*, *na złamanie karku* or *na łeb*, *na szyję* "headlong" is part of its meaning

ways of moving can indirectly reveal much more information. They can reflect the physical condition of the agent, their present frame of mind and emotions they are being subject to, as well as their intentions. Thus, just as facial expression and gesticulation, ways of moving can influence the subconscious judgements we make about other people.

The large amount and variety of lexical data that belongs to the semantic field *Various ways of running (VWOR)* shows that while describing ways of moving very subtle distinctions of meaning are readily made by native speakers of both languages. Those distinctions often provide no additional information about the configuration of objects in space, but rather reflect the intentions and emotions of the agent. This kind of information conveyed by verbs of running is the focus of this paper. Such factors as the continuous or non-continuous nature of contact with the surface or the order of moving the feet are barely mentioned here, even though some researchers consider them to be of primary importance while analysing meaning of the verbs of movement (Nida, 1975).

The meanings of the verbs analysed in the course of the paper have been broken down into semantic components and shown in a specially designed grid, i.e. Grid A. This grid does not provide complete information about the meaning of the verbs included, but just shows semantic similarities and differences in a convenient way. It is not unusual, since "in arriving at an ultimate description of any meaning, one cannot assume that the features of a matrix will add up automatically to a satisfactory definition" (Nida, 1975: 76). Thus, the semantic grid is followed by an exhaustive commentary, which provides further and more detailed information about the meaning of the verbs. On the basis of the information provided by the grid itself several sub-fields within the lexical field of *VWOR* have been identified. Monolingual English and Polish dictionaries of various kinds have been helpful in establishing semantic components of the verbs and, what follows, also the boundaries of the sub-fields.

The semantic components established for the purpose of the paper are, roughly speaking, twofold. Some of them reveal information communicated by the verb itself, for example about the manner of movement or physical condition and frame of mind of the agent. Others provide information about the meanings that a given verb can acquire by appearing in certain contexts, i.e. inform about external circumstances in which the movement is carried out. For instance, intentions underlying various ways of running depend on such external circumstances. In this way the following paper combines the views on verbs of movement represented by two Polish researchers, namely Bojar (1997) and Grochowski (1973a, 1973b). In her work Bojar is interested only in the meaning communicated directly by the verb itself, while Grochowski is also concerned with the meaning acquired by a given verb depending on the context. In practice, this means that he acknowledges the existence of polysemy in the case of some verbs of movement, which is also done in the present work.

The verbs collected here have been analysed with reference to the direction of movement as well. A wide range of prepositions and adverbs of location and direction modifying the meaning of English verbs are presented in the course of the study.

They have been identified with the help of the multimedia version of LDOCE and other monolingual English dictionaries, which are listed at the end.

Finally, it is to be understood that the way of arranging lexical data presented in the study can be modified in order to serve other objectives apart from those of the present study. Thus, it should by no means be considered as the only possible or proper way.

As the first step of the analysis, the meanings of the verbs indicating various ways of running have been broken down into components, as shown in Grid A.

The components established for the sake of the analysis have been divided into several groups, each of which is concerned with a different aspect of meaning of the verbs. Those groups of semantic components became the basis for establishing a number of sub-fields within the general field of *VWOR*. As *VWOR* is a comparatively large field in both English and Polish, differentiating sub-fields facilitates the further analysis. It is not hard to notice that a far larger number of semantic components is required to analyse the meaning of the English verbs than the Polish ones. For this reason some of the sub-fields are empty for Polish data.

No sub-field has been established on the basis of the range of agents whose movement the verbs can describe. This is due to the fact that few of the verbs are associated with a specific agent or agents.

#### Grid B. Sub-fields of the lexical field of *VWOR*

INTENTIONS UNDERLYING MOVEMENT	
TO LEAVE A PLACE QUICKLY	
<i>charge off, dash off, tear off, rush</i> in the phrase <i>I must rush</i>	<i>lecieć, pędzić</i> in the phrases <i>Muszę lecieć,</i> <i>Muszę pędzić</i>
TO AVOID BEING LATE	
<i>hasten, hurry</i>	<i>śpieszyć się</i>
TO DO SOMETHING URGENT	
<i>dash, hasten, hurry, rush</i>	<i>gonić dokądś, śpieszyć się</i>
TO GET AWAY FROM SOMEBODY / SOMETHING	
<i>flee, run away, scurry, scuttle</i>	<i>czmychać, pierzchać, uciekać, umykać,</i> <i>zwiewać</i>
TO FIND SHELTER	
<i>scurry, scuttle</i>	–
EMOTIONS UNDERLYING MOVEMENT	
FRIGHT	
<i>flee, run away, scurry, scuttle, stampede</i>	<i>czmychać, pierzchać, uciekać, umykać,</i> <i>zwiewać</i>
EXCITEMENT	
<i>stampede</i>	–

PLAYFULNESS	
<i>scamper, scuttle</i>	–
MANNER OF MOVEMENT	
WITH LONG, HIGH JUMPS	
<i>bound</i>	<i>sadzić</i>
WITH SHORT, QUICK STEPS	
<i>scamper, scurry, scuttle</i>	–
SUDDENLY	
<i>dart, shoot, stampede, surge</i>	<i>czmychać, pędzić tabunem, pierzchać</i>
VERY QUICKLY	
<i>charge off, dash off, fly, gallop, race, rush, rush off, streak, tear</i>	<i>cwałować, galopować, gnać, kłusować, umykać</i>
FAIRLY SLOWLY	
<i>trot</i>	<i>truchtać</i>
FOR A SHORT DISTANCE	
<i>dash, sprint</i>	–
ALWAYS IN A SPECIFIED DIRECTION	
<i>dart, shoot, surge</i>	<i>gnąć dokądś, gonić dokądś</i>
PAYING NO ATTENTION TO THE DIRECTION	
<i>stampede</i>	<i>gnąć, lecieć, pędzić, pędzić tabunem</i>

There are five English verbs that can indicate leaving somewhere quickly. Four of them are phrasal verbs and as such combine with *off*, an adverb of direction, which indicates moving away from a place.

- (1.a) We only have a few moments, because Heidi's got to dash off. (LDOCE)  
 (1.b) Mary tore off downstairs, determined to see the visitors for herself. (LDOCE)  
 (1.c) Don't charge off, I want a word with you. (LDOCE)  
 (1.d) Don't rush off – I haven't finished. (OALDOCE)

The meanings of the verbs *charge*, *dash* and *tear* are quite different when they are not modified by the adverb *off*. For instance, *tear* indicates a manner of running very fast, often without paying much attention to the direction.

- (2.a) Children tore out of the school gates. (°OALDOCE)

The verb *charge*, unless its meaning is modified by the adverb *off* does not even belong to VWOR, as it refers to a way of moving impetuously and violently, sometimes in order to attack.

- (4.a) Riot police charged at the demonstrators. (LLA)

*Dash* and *rush* may imply having some urgent matter to attend to.

- (3.a) People dashed out into the street to see what was happening. (BBCED)  
 (3.b) I rushed outside and hailed a taxi. (TNODOE)

Apart from that, the verb *rush* also indicates leaving somewhere in a hurry when it appears in the colloquial phrase *I must rush*. In this case its meaning corresponds to the meaning of such Polish verbs as *lecieć* and *pędzić*, which can appear in the colloquial phrases *Muszę lecieć / Muszę pędzić*, equivalent to *I must rush*.

Having something urgent to do can be implied by such English verbs as *hurry* and *hasten*. In such contexts as are relevant to the purposes of the present paper, the verb *hasten* is a formal counterpart of *hurry* and as such is rarely used in spoken English.

- (4.a) She hurried after me with a letter. (OALDOCE)  
 (4.b) There a servant hastened to them with water in a golden ewer which she poured over their hands ... (LDOCE)

However, the verbs *hurry* and *hasten* are also frequently used to indicate that the agent has little time and is afraid of being late.

- (5.a) They came hurrying to catch their train. (LDOCE)  
 (5.b) He hastened to the station. (OALDOCE)

In bilingual dictionaries the Polish verbs *śpieszyć się* and *śpieszyć* are usually featured as the counterparts of the English verbs *hurry* and *hasten*, respectively. Just like the English verb *hasten*, the Polish verb *śpieszyć* is rather formal. However, it can be used in such phrases as shown in 6.a., which suggest a necessity to attend to an urgent matter rather than a desire to get somewhere on time, and which do not necessarily indicate movement. On the other hand, as shown in 6.b., the verb *śpieszyć* can refer to a manner of moving as well.

- (6.a) ... śpieszyć na ratunek / z pomocą ... (SJP)  
 (6.b) ... śpieszyć do pociągu / do szkoły ... (SJP)

The verb *śpieszyć się*, which seemingly differs from *śpieszyć* only by virtue of its reflexivity can also refer to a situation when the agent is afraid of being late.

- (7.a) ... śpieszyć się na pociąg / do biura ... (SJP)

It seems that both the lack of time and the necessity of getting somewhere quickly are pretty popular reasons underlying various ways of running. Such Polish verb as *gonić* (*dokądś*) can certainly be suggestive of both, as shown in 8.a. However, the verb *gonić* does not always appear in such a meaning as in 8.a. If used metaphorically it implies travelling rather than being in a hurry, as in 8.b.

- (8.a) ... gonić do autobusu / do pracy ... (SJP)  
 (8.b) ... gonić po świecie ... (SJP)

In both English and Polish various ways of running are often connected with the necessity of getting away from a place or a situation. Then the feeling of fright



can often be the emotion accompanying movement. It may happen so in the case of such English verbs as *flee*, *run away*, *scurry* and *scuttle*, and such Polish ones as *czmychać*, *pierzchać*, *uciekać*, *umykać* and *zwiewać*. However, the latter verb acquires a new meaning in certain contexts. Let us compare:

- (9.a) *Zwiewali co sił w nogach.* (SJP)  
 (9.b) *Uczeń zwiął z lekcji.* (SJP)

In 9.a. the meaning of *zwiewać* corresponds to the meaning of the English verb *run away*, of course apart from the fact that *zwiewać* is rather colloquial. However, in 9.b. the meaning of the Polish verb is more specific, as it describes running away under very special circumstances, when the agent leaves the place where s/he is supposed to remain. Also, in 9.b. the meaning of *zwiewać* is to some extent metaphorical, as it does not necessarily imply that the agent is actually running. What is more probable, it rather implies that the intention of the subject is to pass unnoticed.

Another sub-field within the field of VWOR is that including verbs which indicate the way of moving with small, quick steps. There are three English verbs in this sub-field, namely *scamper*, *scurry* and *scuttle*. They typically refer to small animals, as shown in 10.a.–10.c., although they can also refer to human beings, as shown in 11.a.–11.c. *Scuttle* and *scamper* are also used with reference to a playful way in which children move.

- (10.a) *The rabbit scampered away in fright.* (OALDOCE)  
 (10.b) *A mouse scurried across the floor.* (BBCED)  
 (10.c) *A loud bang sent all the crabs scuttling across the sand.* (LLA)  
 (11.a) *The children scampered up the hill after me.* (LDOCE)  
 (11.b) *The nurses were scurrying about the ward ...* (LLA)  
 (11.c) *Two very small children scuttled away in front of them.* (CCEDFAL)

Apart from that, *scuttle* and *scurry* can also refer to adult human beings, especially in the situation when for some reason they are looking for a shelter. There are actually no Polish verbs that would be typically used in a situation when the agent is looking for a shelter.

- (12.a) *The women gathered their children and scuttled indoors to hide from the soldiers.* (LLA)  
 (12.b) *... pedestrians scurried for cover ...* (TNODOE)

There are no verbs among the Polish ones indicating a way of running with short, quick steps. Moreover, there are no Polish verbs within the field of VWOR that would refer to such a variety of beings as the English ones discussed above. Actually, the verbs *umykać* and *pierzchać* are usually used with reference to small animals, but no Polish verb refers specifically to little children.

- (13.a) *Zające pierzchają przed nagonką.* (SJP)  
 (13.b) *Kuropatwy pierzchnęły spłoszone przez psa.* (SJP)

Among the English verbs *bound* is the only one marked for the manner of moving with long, high jumps, in which it is similar to the Polish verb *sadzić*. The verb *sadzić* is often the centre of such verbal phrases as *sadzić długimi krokami* or *sadzić długimi susami*. As for *bound*, it often appears in the phrase *come bounding*, especially with reference to the dog. Both verbs, *bound* and *sadzić*, can appear in similar contexts. They can describe the manner of moving up or down the stairs, as in 14.a.–14.d., as well as the manner in which the dog runs, as in 15.a.–15.d.

- (14.a) ... *sadzić* w górę po schodach ... (SJP)  
 (14.b) Louis came bounding down the stairs. (TNODOE)  
 (14.c) He bounded up the steps and pushed the bell of the door. (CCEDFAL)  
 (14.d) He burst through the front door and bounded up the stairs. (LLA)  
 (15.a) ... pies *sadził* długimi susami ... (SJP)  
 (15.b) Suddenly a huge dog came bounding towards me. (LDOCE)  
 (15.c) The dog came bounding back with a stick for Richard to throw again.  
 (CCEDFAL)  
 (15.d) The dog came bounding up to us, wagging its tail. (OALDOCE)

An interesting thing to notice is that several verbs gathered in the lexical field of *VWOR* had initially been used only with reference to the horse or the horse rider, but with time they acquired a metaphorical extension and began to be used with reference to human beings as well. Those verbs are *gallop* in English and *cwałować*, *galopować* and *klusować* in Polish. At present they are still more popular with reference to the horse or the horse rider, and when they are used to refer to people, it may sometimes be to produce a humorous effect.

- (16.a) He rode off at a gallop. (OALDOCE) (→ a rider)  
 (16.b) A neighbour's horse came galloping down the road, riderless. (LDOCE)  
 (→ a horse)  
 (16.c) They are galloping around the garden playing football. (CCEDFAL)  
 (→ a human being)  
 (17.a) ... *cwałował* oddział żołnierzy ... (SJP) (→ a rider)  
 (17.b) ... *tętent* *cwałujących* koni ... (SJP) (→ a horse)  
 (17.c) ... *cwałował* w kierunku przystanku autobusowego ... (SJP) (→ a human being)

In 16.a. and 16.b. the horse is not actually mentioned in the sentence, yet we know by what means of transportation the agent is moving. It is also worth noticing that three Polish verbs referring to various paces of the horse have been adopted to refer to the way a human being moves, i.e. *cwałować*, *klusować* and *galopować*, while in English only *gallop* and *trot* can refer to both human beings and horses. The verb *canter* is never used with reference to people. As for *trot*, it indicates a way of running with short steps at a comparatively slow pace and can refer to both children and adults.

(18.a) She came trotting down the steps from the library. (LDOCE)

(18.b) The child was trotting beside its parents. (OALDOCE)

The above mentioned verbs are not the only ones in the lexical field of *VWOR* that can refer to animals. Another one capable of describing the way in which both human beings and animals move is *stampede*, which typically refers to large animals, often untamed, as shown in 19.a.

(19.a) The cattle stampeded towards the river. (OALDOCE)

There is no Polish verb with such a capability. However, the verbal phrase *pędzić tabunem* can be used with reference to horses, as the word *tabun* typically refers to these animals (SJP: 471) The important difference between the verb *stampede* and the verbal phrase *pędzić tabunem* lies in the fact that the latter is not typically used with reference to people.

(19.b) Bydło pędziło tabunem w kierunku rzeki.

Apart from referring to a sudden, uncontrolled movement of a group of people or animals, *stampede* can also be suggestive of such feelings as fright or excitement. Excitement seems to be part of the meaning of the verb *stampede* especially while we take into consideration its metaphorical extension, as in 20.a. and 20.b.

(20.a) Children came stampeding out of the school doors. (LDOCE)

(20.b) ... prospectors who stampeded into Klondike ... (WTNIDOTEL)

(20.c) As the blaze spread, people stampeded through the narrow streets to escape. (BBCED)

(20.d) ... the alarmed herd stampeded through the field ... (WTNIDOTEL)

Not much additional information can be provided about the verbs indicating running very fast apart from what has already been stated in Grid A. The meaning of the Polish verbs *lecieć* and *gnać* shall be briefly analysed while discussing direction of movement.

As for the verbs that always communicate moving in a specified direction there are at least three verbs of this kind in English, namely *dart*, *shoot* and *surge*. All of them refer to a sudden movement. As for Polish, running in a specified direction can be conveyed by the verbal phrase *gonić do + N*, where *N* is the noun indicating a particular destination, as in *gonić do pociągu* or *gonić do pracy* (SJP). However, the suddenness of movement is not implied by this phrase.

(21.a) She darted into the doorway to hide. (OALDOCE)

(21.b) She shot past me and ran into the house. (LDOCE)

(21.c) When the doors were flung open the crowd surged in. (BBCED)

After so many verbs have been considered in great detail, it may seem surprising that the English verb *run* and its Polish counterparts *biec*, *biegnąć* and *biegać* have not been analysed yet, and are not even included in Grid.A. There are several reasons to it. Firstly, their meaning is simply not specific enough to be analysed in

Grid C. Prepositions and adverbs of direction and location

	ABOUT	ACROSS	AFTER	AHEAD	ALONG	AROUND	AT	AWAY	BACK	DOWN	FORWARD	FROM	IN	INTO	OUT OF	OFF	OUT	OVER	PAST	THROUGH	TO	TOWARD	UP	UP TO
bound		+												+								+		+
dart		+					+		+			+		+						+	+			
dash		+												+		+								
escape												+						+		+	+			
flee												+		+							+			
fly					+														+				+	
gallop														+						+	+			
hasten																					+	+		
hurry		+	+		+			+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		
race				+					+	+				+		+								
run	+	+	+			+		+				+		+	+	+	+	+	+			+		
rush	+					+				+				+	+	+	+	+	+				+	
scamper	+				+	+		+	+	+						+								
scurry	+				+	+		+								+								
scuttle	+	+				+		+			+					+	+		+					
shoot		+																	+					
sprint		+								+					+		+						+	
stampede														+	+							+		
streak		+	+																					+
stride		+			+					+				+	+				+			+		
surge											+									+				
tear		+			+										+	+			+	+			+	+

terms of semantic components. All of them are general terms for moving faster than while walking. They suggest no particular emotions or intentions in the absence of context. Secondly, the differences between the Polish verbs *biec*, *biegnąć* and *biegać* could not be accounted for by means of semantic components that Grid A contains. The difference is such that *biec* and *biegnąć* always imply moving in a specified direction, as shown in 22.a. and 22.b., while *biegać* implies moving in no particular direction, as in 22.c. (Grochowski, 1973b)

(22.a) ... *biec* do mety ...

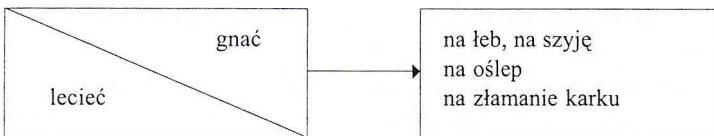
(22.b) ... *biegnąć* do mety

(22.c) ... *biegać* po pokoju ...

As far as the English verb *run* is concerned, no indication of the direction of movement is inbuilt in the meaning of the verb itself. It can be acquired by the verb only if it is followed by a preposition or an adverb.

As shown in Grid C, there is a wide range of prepositions and adverbs that modify the meaning of English verbs indicating various ways of running. There is not a single English verb that could not be modified in such a way as to indicate movement in a specified direction.

As for the Polish verbs, none of them refers to the situation when the agent is moving aimlessly about, although there are at least two that can suggest moving so fast that little heed is taken of the direction of movement. Those verbs, *gnać* and *lecieć*, often appear in the phrases indicating lack of control over the direction of movement on the part of the agent.



Apart from that, the English verb *stampede*, as well as its Polish counterpart, the phrase *pędzić tabunem*, also suggest uncontrolled movement without paying much attention to the direction. It is more obvious as the way of moving indicated by both *stampede* and *pędzić tabunem* is often connected with the feeling of a sudden fright, which certainly is not conducive to careful consideration.

Another English verb, which suggests moving in a careless way at a great speed is *tear*, which has already been mentioned in the course of this study. We can only add that *tear* often refers to a situation when the agent is moving with the help of some means of transport, for example a car or a bicycle.

(23.a) ... automobiles in which the rich tear noisily along ... (WTNIDOTEL)

(23.b) She tore along the footpath on her bike. (TNODOE)

## Conclusions

The credibility of ascribing particular intentions or emotions to particular verbs within the field of *VWOR* might be questioned, unless it were made clear in what way such information can be acquired. In this paper it has been done on the basis of careful comparison of entries in monolingual dictionaries. A given intention or emotion was ascribed to a given verb only on the condition that it was mentioned in more than one entry. Thus, every piece of linguistic evidence adduced in the present study has been confirmed by written sources.

For the sake of facilitating the analysis lexical data in the field of *VWOR* have been divided into three sub-fields according to three factors, namely intentions underlying movement, emotions accompanying movement, and finally the manner of movement. Those sub-fields have been divided into yet more specialised ones. As we look at Grid B, it is not hard to discover that one verb can belong to more than one of the sub-fields. This fact proves that the boundaries of lexical fields cannot be firmly established. The fields are overlapping, creating a complicated network of semantic interdependencies.

A glance at Grid A proves that the field of *VWOR* is richer in the English language than in Polish. Not only does it contain a larger amount of data than the corresponding Polish field, but also some of the lexical items included convey more detailed information about the manner of movement.

As for similarities, there is a group of verbs in both languages that were initially used only with reference to the paces of the horse, but presently can also be used with reference to the ways of running of human beings. Therefore, not only basic semantic meanings of some verbs gathered within the field of *VWOR* in both languages are similar, but also their metaphorical extensions are similar.

The major disparity between the English and the Polish verbs lies in the way they convey information about the direction of movement. The meanings of the English verbs are modified by prepositions and adverbs that indicate the direction. In the case of the Polish verbs the situation is different. Each of the verbs can indicate movement in a specified direction, but only if the context of their appearance informs that this is the case. No information about the direction of movement is in-built in the verbs themselves. On the other hand, in both English and Polish there is a group of verbs, which indicate moving away from somebody or something. Such English verbs as *flee*, *run away* and in specific contexts also *scurry* and *scuttle*, and such Polish ones as *czmychać*, *pierzchać*, *uciekać*, *umykać* and *zwiewać* belong to this sub-field. Those verbs do not actually indicate the direction of movement either, but at least they inform that the distance between the agent and another object in space is increasing. Of course, it happens so only in the cases when the basic meanings of the verbs, and not their metaphorical extensions are taken into consideration.

A considerable number of similarities and differences between the structure of the field of *VWOR* in English and in Polish have been discussed in the course of the paper. It has also been proved beyond doubt that in both the languages a num-

ber of verbs within the lexical field of *VWOR* are capable of reflecting various mental processes and emotions of the agent. In this way the thesis set up in the introduction to the paper has been confirmed.

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