

Dissertation Defense

Lexical polycategoriality: A quantitative corpus-based approach

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I. Introduction

1. Definition: Lexical polyfunctionality
2. Motivation: Previous research
3. Overview of this study

II. Background

1. Traditional approaches
2. Flexible approaches
 - i. Explanation
 - ii. Criticisms
3. Typological markedness theory
4. Lexical polyfunctionality
 - i. Lexical polyfunctionality
 - ii. Functional expansion

III. Data & Methods

1. English
2. Nuuchahnulth

IV. Results

1. Degree of lexical polyfunctionality
 - i. Measuring functional diversity
 - ii. Ternary plots
 - iii. Results
2. Lexical polyfunctionality and corpus size
3. Lexical polyfunctionality and frequency / dispersion
 - i. Frequency vs. dispersion
4. The semantics of lexical polyfunctionality
 - i. Semantic expansion
 - ii. English
 - iii. Nuuchahnulth

V. Conclusion

1. Theoretical
2. Methodological
3. Empirical
4. Limitations
5. Future research