

## THE SCOPE AND SPECIFICS OF TAXIS RELATIONS

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### **Absrtact**

Foundations and overall conceptions pertinent to the Category of Taxis elaborated by Petersburg lingvo-functionalists have been analyzed and considered in the paper. Moreover, the sphere of taxis relations and the terms of taxis semantics' actualization in the utterance have been expatiated on. The existing approaches towards the taxis phenomenon within general linguistics are taken into account.

**Keywords:** taxis, category, conception, relation, functional-semantic, morphological, content-plan, expression-plan.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Linguistics of the second half of the 20th century is usually characterized as anthropocentric, integral, text-centric and explanatory. Text analysis has allowed linguistics to take a fresh look at traditional grammatical objects. The grammar system began to be considered as a tool for generating text. The sphere of grammar includes concepts that connect the semantics of a word form, the syntax of a sentence, and the syntax of a text. One of these concepts was taxis [Vyalsova, 2008. - 28 p.].

Taxis was initially identified by R.O. Jakobson as a non-shifter category, i.e. a category focused on the semantics of an utterance [Jakobson, 1972]. Since semantics and a pragmatic frame are distinguished in a statement, all grammatical categories are divided into statements expressing semantics or pragmatics. The categories assigned to the semantics of the utterance do not reflect dependence on the moment of speech and the situation of communication, while the categories assigned to pragmatics reflect such dependence. The categories assigned to semantics are considered non-shifter, i.e. not subject to "shift" when the communication situation changes. The categories assigned to pragmatics, on the contrary, are subject to "shift", and therefore are considered shifter [Dedova, Ovchinnikova, 2009].

Taxis, as a non-shifter semantic category, allows one to express the correlation of the actions indicated in the utterance without establishing the relationship of each action to the moment of speech. The category of time, unlike taxis, correlates the content of the utterance with the moment of speech and, therefore, is pragmatic and shifter. The introduction of the category of taxis into the grammatical description of the language makes it possible to characterize the time of the events reflected in the utterance, taking into account not only the proper finite verb forms, but also various non-finite forms of the verb and verbal names.

### **THEORETICAL BASIS**

In modern linguistics, taxis is usually considered from two positions: firstly, as a grammatical (morphological) category of the verb; secondly, as a functional-semantic field (FSF).

The functional-semantic field of taxis has not yet been analyzed and described for all languages. In particular, the FSF of taxis in many Germanic and Turkic languages has not yet been studied.

In our work, we rely on the interpretation of taxis within the framework of the St. Petersburg School of Functional Grammar. The representation of taxis as a FSF makes it possible to bring together into a single system (based on the functional principle) the linguistic phenomena described in various sections of grammar (type, tense, non-finite verb forms, complex sentence syntax, constructions with homogeneous predicates, etc.).

The text-syntactic view (grammar school "Communicative Grammar of the Russian Language" under the guidance of G.A. Zolotova) on the category of taxis showed that the temporal component is one of the three components of taxis (along with modality and personality) [Zolotova, Onipenko, Sidorova, 1998]. Taxis in communicative grammar is understood as a grammatical technique of interpredicative relations. Such an understanding expands the range of objects interpreted in connection with the category of taxis: this includes not only complex sentences, homogeneous members and gerunds, but also participles in a full set of forms, infinitive, names of propositional semantics [Bondarko, 1984. - 136 p.].

The categorical signs of taxis appear in the form of: a) temporal conjugation of actions, their reference to a single time period, the integrity of which is determined by the perceptual activity of the subject; b) polypropositivity and c) homogeneous modus-dictum characteristic of propositions.

Currently, there are two main concepts that differ principally from the existing taxis concepts that recognize it as an independent category:

1. The priority relationship between action(fact)s as the main component of the taxis content-plan, and the morphological concept of “perfect / non-perfect” as a key component of the expression-plan. However, it is not difficult to notice that taxis is included in this interpretation as another distinct term for the grammatical category of tense relativity (reference or phase).

2. As a key component of the taxis-plan, all three types of chronological relationships (priority, simultaneity, and posteriority), and as a key component of the expression-plan, combine different levels (lexical, grammatical, lexical-grammatical and syntactic). A functional-semantic concept consisting of a large inventory of different polypredicative structures with a specific relationship. This approach is the cornerstone of our research [Isarov, 2020].

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The FSF of taxis is formed by various means (morphological, syntactic, lexical), united by the function of expressing temporal relations between actions within the framework of a holistic (single) time period, covering the complex of actions expressed in the utterance.

The semantic dominant of the taxis field is formed by the relations of simultaneity / non-simultaneity (precedence, succession) in combination with one or another aspect characteristic of this relationship.

However, according to Bondarko, not every temporal relationship of predicates is connected by taxis relations. Taxis relations are formed only in the presence of a number of certain mandatory conditions.

In accordance with the concept of the St. Petersburg School of Functional Grammar, the sphere of taxis relations is limited [Theory of Functional Grammar: Introduction. Aspectuality. Temporal localization. Taxis. 2001. - P. 234-295]:

1. The integrity of the time period. A holistic (single) period of time is understood as “a microsystem within which one or another structure of taxis relations is revealed”.

The integrity of the time period is revealed in its unifying function in relation to actions correlated in time, to the belonging of actions to the same time plan (within the past, present or future), even in a situation where verbs have different tense forms.

Taxis relations are seen only in such a temporal relation, which is distinguished by a sign of the integrity of the temporal period covering a given set of actions, the component actions of which are most often expressed in the forms of the same time: The door wide opened, and the carpenter himself turned up at the threshold. In the integrity of the time period, a homogeneous relation of all components of the complex of actions under consideration to the moment of speech as to the starting point of reference is obligatory, therefore all actions of this complex must be attributed to one “denotative” time from the point of view of the moment of speech: to the plan of the past, present or future. A.V. Bondarko shows the integrity of the time period on the example of constructions with gerunds, where the integrity of the time period is manifested in the “conjugation of the main and accompanying actions”, explaining this by the fact that “the very concept of the accompanying action implies the integrity of the time period covering this set of actions”, even in the presence of a significant time interval between them: *Having acquired those special skills in his childhood, he didn't lose them even in the declining years.*

2. Homogeneity of actions in terms of their specificity or generalization (usuality, commonness, typicality).

The second necessary feature of taxis relations is that actions must be homogeneous in terms of their specificity/generalization (usuality, commonness, typicality). All actions associated with a taxis relationship should be, according to Bondarko, either specific or ordinary, typical. At the same time, complex sentences with subordinate explanatory clauses by A.V. Bondarko brings the fields of independent taxis to the periphery.

3. The framework of a statement equal to a sentence or a super-phrasal unity (SPU), i.e. polypredicative complex.

A polypredicative complex in functional grammar is considered to be: a) a combination of main and secondary (secondary) predication in constructions with gerunds (as well as with participles; we are talking about all constructions that include main and secondary predication); b) different types of polypredication in complex sentences and sentences with homogeneous predicates; the concept of polypredication also extends to statements that are super-phrasal units [Theory of functional grammar: Introduction. Aspectuality. Temporal localization. Taxis. 2001. - P. 234-295].

### CONCLUSION

Thus, taxis relations characterize not one form, but a combination of forms, i.e., the taxis expression is associated with syntactic constructions (including morphological as well as lexical means). The taxis function has not only paradigmatic, but also pronounced syntagmatic features, and in its formal expression is basically syntactic. This category characterizes the entire proposition as a whole, so the possibility of its realization does not depend on the semantics of its constituent elements. This is the category of the sentence as a whole, and not just of the predicate verb.

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