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CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS : COMPONENTIAL ANALYSIS

Михайленко В.В. Концептуальний аналіз : Компонентний аналіз.

Стаття присвячена кореляції концептуального та компонентного аналізів та встановленню точок перетину. На матеріалі змодельованої концептосфери «law» та сконструйованої компонентної мережі «law» доведено спільну мовну базу обох конструктів.

Ключові слова: концепт «law», компонент, семантичний аналіз, картина світу, моделювання, когнітивна лінгвістика.

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Данная статья посвящена корреляции концептуального и компонентного анализов для определения точек пересечения. На материале смоделированной концептосферы «law» и сконструированной компонентной сети «law» выделено общую языковую основу обоих конструктов.

Ключевые слова: концепт «law», компонент, семантический анализ, картина мира, моделирование, когнитивная лингвистика.

The present paper is focused on the correlation of two types of analysis – conceptual and componential to define the points of their overlapping. The conceptual system modeled and the componential network constructed lay the basis for revealing the mutual language basis of the both constructs.

Key words: concept of law, component, semantic analysis, worldview, modeling, cognitive linguistics.

Introduction

Semantics, a subdiscipline of linguistics, a language level, a science, is the study of the language meaning. It is closely related with pragmatics: semantics is a science investigating its object in isolation and pragmatics is an applicative research of its object in use, when we include speakers' and listeners' interpretation of meaning. Cf.: Semantics deals with the relationship between representations and the

world (Michael R.W. Dawson, David A. Medler, Glossary On-line). The semantic study requires all kinds of visualizations to illustrate its theoretical grounding and relationships, for instance, semantic networking. Its history comes from an introduction to semantic networks by J.F. Sowa [12] and F. Lehmann [8, p.1-50] who developed a tool for representing knowledge. Their semantic networks have three main features: (1) they originate in the conceptual analysis of language; (2) they can have an expressiveness equivalent to first-order logic; (3) they can support inference through an interpreter that manipulates internal representations. [5, p.169-175]. Verbalized relationships in language mirror the relationships of the speakers and objects in the world view. The two approaches to network their independence and overlapping are under investigation in the present paper. A cognitive map is a mental representation of an agent's spatial world, and of the agent's location within this mapped world [14, p.189-208].

Discussion

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy Online gives the following definition: *“Weltanschauung is a German word that often is translated as “worldview” or “world outlook” but just as frequently is treated as a calque or left untranslated. A Weltanschauung is a comprehensive conception or theory of the world and the place of humanity within it. It is an intellectual construct that provides both a unified method of analysis for and a set of solutions to the problems of existence.”*

A societal world view is a mental model of reality, a framework of ideas and attitudes about the world, and life, a comprehensive system of beliefs of the nation.

The Oxford English Dictionary (2010) specifies worldview as a *“contemplation of the world, a view of life”* or *“a particular philosophy of life or conception of the world held by an individual or a group.”* C.f.: Merriam-Webster Learner's Dictionary (2001) *“world view is the way someone thinks about the world, for instance, a scientific/religious/cultural worldview.”* David K. Daugle Jr. (2002) suggests his interpretation of worldview as a theory of the world, used for living in the world. A world view is a mental model of reality – a framework of ideas and attitudes about the world, ourselves, and life, a comprehensive system of beliefs.

A person's worldview is affected by many factors – by their inherited characteristics, background experiences and life situations, the values, attitudes, and habits they have developed, and more – and these vary from one person to another. Therefore, even though some parts of a worldview are shared by many people in a community, other parts differ for individuals.

We can consider the entire universal worldview to be a macrocosm containing individual microcosms, smaller worldview systems. However, an individual one taken separately can be also a macrocosm in her/himself.

These definitions, though essentially in accord with one another and seemingly not at all inconsistent with current usage, are somewhat superficial.

One's worldview is also referred to as one's philosophy, philosophy of life, mindset, outlook on life, formula for life, ideology, faith, or even religion. Barre Toelken [13, p.1-38] underlines that "worldview" refers to the manner in which a culture sees and expresses its relation to the world around it. Earlier the scholars of culture believed that similar conditions would generate the same worldview. Reality varies widely likewise the viewer's cultural and linguistic factors imprinted in their minds. Evidently, these factors form the matrix of their cognition and perceiving including a logical system and a set of evaluative assumptions.

Thus, our worldview is the set of beliefs about fundamental aspects of reality that ground and influence all our perceiving, thinking, knowing, and doing. Each of various subsets of our worldview (each of these views) is highly interrelated with and affects virtually all others.

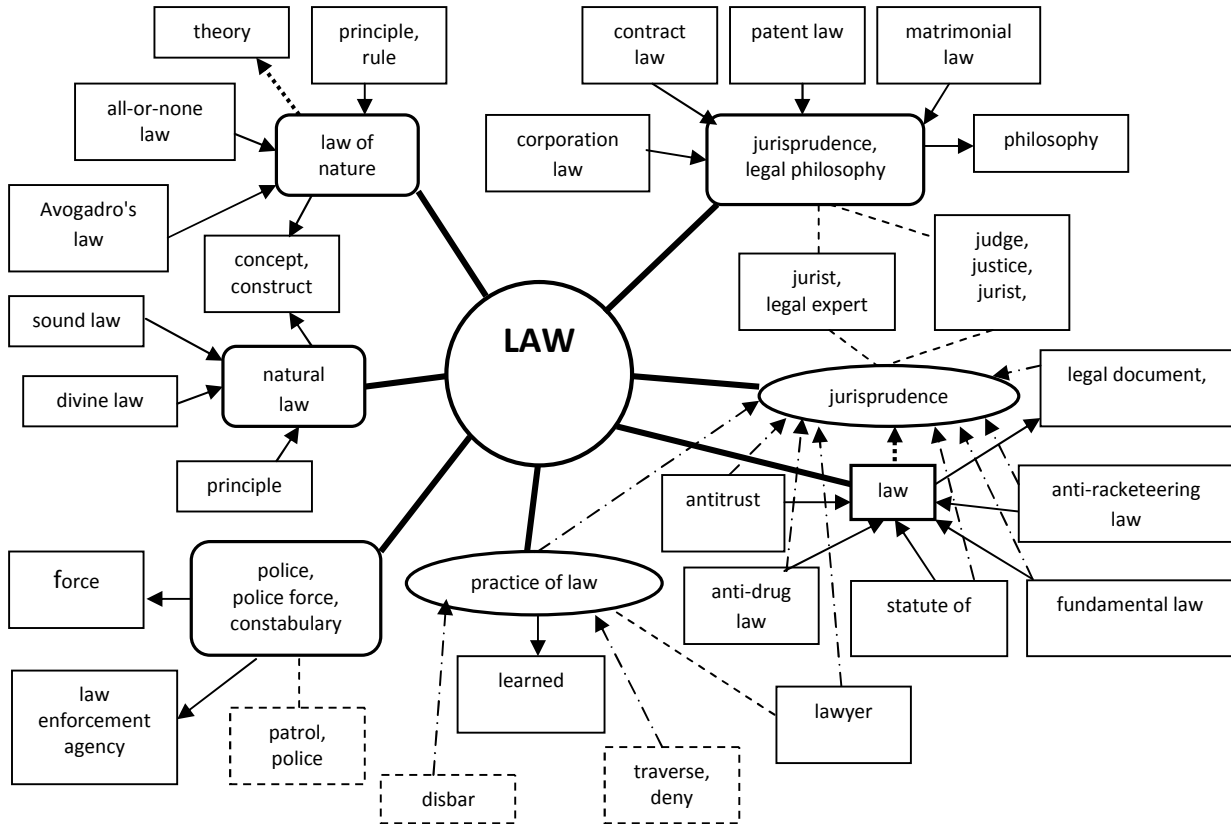
A human-being in the process of his/her cognition of the world may draw a map, where the points are the concepts which must be further verbalized. This process becomes the object of cognitive linguistics which interprets language in terms of the concepts, sometimes universal, sometimes specific to a particular language, which underlie its forms. Gilbert Ryle (1954) gives his understanding of the "concept" and "conceptual analysis": "The concepts are not things, as words are, but rather the functionings of words" [10, p.1-38]. So the functioning of a word is interdependent with other words functioning in the sentence pattern or in discourse. The contents of concepts are properties, objectively given structures of reality. We understand that one word

may be used in several functions; but functions are not interchangeable [10, p.1-38]. The actualization of the definite meaning component depends upon the word distribution, i.e. its context discourse register and the author's intention. Therefore, G. Ryle believes that one and the same word can represent different concepts, for instance, the concept designated by the word "law" would be quite different in the Juridical Discourse from the same word used, say, in the Science Discourse.

Traditionally, conceptual analysis was understood as explicating covert, hidden or tacit knowledge about concepts. The knowledge to be explicated was considered to be propositional. Conceptual atomism claims that most concepts cannot be decomposed into features, so the conjunction of the features is equivalent to the concept in question [1, p.62]. Andrei Marmor [9, p.1-27] admits that Ronald M. Dworkin (1986) treats conceptual analysis as a linguistic inquiry [2]. At least it has been so conceived by the ordinary language analysis school of L. Wittgenstein, G. Ryle and J.L. Austin: the idea of a concept stands for the "functionings of words in their settings", we would specify distribution and discourse register, and their relationships in the discourse where all the words and the concepts they represent are interconnected.

The concept of law is defined as an expression of legislative will. It orders and permits and forbids. It announces rewards and punishments. Its provisions generally relate not to solitary or singular cases, but to what passes in the ordinary course of affairs. 2. "Law," without an article, properly implies a science or system of principles or rules of human conduct, answering to the Latin "jus;" as when it is spoken of as a subject of study or practice. In this sense, it includes the decisions of courts of justice, as well as acts of the legislature. Indeed, it may happen that a statute may be passed in violation of law, that is, of the fundamental law or constitution of a state; that it is the prerogative of courts in such cases to declare it void, or, in other words, to declare it not to be law. 3. A rule of civil conduct prescribed by the supreme power in a state (Legal Information and Definitions from Black's Law Dictionary, 2010).

The law nominations in the texts under study can be a sample of a certain "law" taxonomy which we may model into a conceptual system:



LAW

law of nature

jurisprudence, legal philosophy

natural law

jurisprudence

practice of law

law

learned

lawyer

principle

concept, construct

jurist, legal expert

judge, justice, jurist,

force

police, police force, constabulary

legal document,

antitrust

anti-racketeering law

anti-drug law

statute of

fundamental law

law enforcement agency

patrol, police

disbar

traverse, deny

theory

principle, rule

all-or-none law

Avogadro's law

sound law

divine law

corporation law

contract law

patent law

matrimonial law

philosophy

force

fundamental law

James W. Sire [11] defines worldview as a set of presuppositions which we hold about the makeup of our world. Carol A. Hill (2010) considers “worldview” a basic way of interpreting things and events filling a culture so thoroughly that it becomes a culture’s concept of reality. The beliefs, values, and behaviors of a culture stem directly from its worldview. Hans-Georg Gadamer [3] emphasizes that no final interpretation of reality is possible because new life-worlds or world pictures will cause future interpreters to see and experience the world differently.

Semantic structure depends upon the part of speech to which the word belongs and all that possible meanings connect with a definite group of grammatical meanings, and the latter influences the semantic structure of the word so much that every part of speech possesses its own semantic peculiarities. Componential analysis is a method of describing the subject matter of a language. A method in both semantic and cultural description, componential analysis is perhaps best characterized as a method of ideography (International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences, 1968).

B. Malinowski in his *Coral Gardens and Their Magic* (1935), demonstrated the immediate relevance of descriptive semantics for ethnography. Indeed, the term “componential analysis” is taken from linguistics, where it is used to refer to the criteria by which distinctive categories in a language are distinguished and, subsequently, to refer to the analysis of semantic distinctions encountered in grammatical paradigms [see.: 4, p.195-216; c.f.: Randy Allen Harris, 1948]. However, the clearest expositions of the method, of the theoretical issues it raises, and of its limitations by comparison with other methods were suggested for the analysis of kinship terminologies (see: Floyd Lounsbury, 1964). Componential analysis tests the idea that linguistic categories influence or determine how people view the world; this idea is called the Whorf hypothesis after the American anthropological linguist Benjamin Lee Whorf (1956). Such componential analysis points out, for example, that in the “Law” domain in English, the lexemes “rule,” ”principle,” ”jurisprudence,” and “profession” can be distinguished from one another according to their functions in contexts. At the same time all

these lexemes share the common component, or feature, of meaning “a set of rules or principles.” The analysis has shown that the several expressions within a domain can be sorted into sets so that all the expressions in a set have mutually exclusive denotata at a given hierarchical level and differ from one another with respect to one or several dimensions of discrimination (such as the several dimensions used to discriminate “*theory*” from “*profession of a jurist*”, “*police force*,” “*practice of law*” etc). Such sets of expressions constitute a terminological system. The method of componential analysis has been applied almost entirely to delimiting and depicting the ideational structure of terminological systems. Linguists have devised a number of ways to represent these components [see: 5] “It used to be thought that any word could be described in terms of semantic primitives. For instance, M. Bierwisch (1970), said that semantic features do not differ from language to language, but are rather part of the general human capacity for language, forming a universal inventory used in particular ways in individual languages [see the opposite: 6, p.114].

The Oxford Dictionary (2010) defines the following components in the lexical meaning of that law: (1) A system of rules which a particular country or community recognizes as regulating the actions of its members and which it may enforce by the imposition of penalties; (2) All the rules of conduct established and enforced by the authority, legislation, or custom of a given community, state, or other group; (3) Any one of such rules; (4) The condition existing when obedience to such rules is general: to establish *law* and order; (5) The branch of knowledge dealing with such rules; jurisprudence; (6) The system of courts in which such rules are referred to in defending one’s rights, securing justice, etc.: to resort to law to settle a matter; (7) All such rules having to do with a particular sphere of human activity: business law common law, as distinguished from equity; (8) The profession of lawyers, judges, etc.: often with “The”; (9) A sequence of events in nature or in human activities that has been observed to occur with unvarying uniformity under the same conditions often law of nature;

(10) The formulation in words of such a sequence: the law of gravitation, the law of diminishing returns; (11) Any rule or principle expected to be observed: the laws of health, a law of grammar; (12) Inherent tendency; instinct: the law of self-preservation; (13) *Eccles.* a divine commandment, all divine commandments collectively (14) *Math., Logic, etc.* a general principle to which all applicable cases must conform: the laws of exponents (The Oxford Dictionary, 2010).

Cf.: Merriam-Webster Dictionary (2001) entry: (1) A binding custom or practice of a community : a rule of conduct or action prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority; (2) The whole body of such customs, practices, or rules; (3) Common law; (4) The control brought about by the existence or enforcement of such law; (5) The action of laws considered as a means of redressing wrongs; also: litigation; (6) The agency of or an agent of established law; (7) A rule or order that it is advisable or obligatory to observe; (8) Something compatible with or enforceable by established law; (9) A control, authority; (10) (Often capitalized) The revelation of the will of God set forth in the Old Testament; (11) (Capitalized) The first part of the Jewish scriptures: Pentateuch, Torah; (12) A rule of construction or procedure (the laws of poetry); (13) The whole body of laws relating to one subject; (14) The legal profession; (15) Law as a department of knowledge: jurisprudence; (16) Legal knowledge; (17) A statement of an order or relation of phenomena that so far as is known is invariable under the given conditions; (18) A general relation proved or assumed to hold between mathematical or logical expressions. The components: the whole system or set of rules made by the government of a town, state, country; a particular kind of law; a rule made by the government of a town, state, country can constitute the nucleus of the word semantic structure.

Now we shall concentrate on the “Jurisdiction” subsystem singled out from law and legal dictionaries and glossaries. From the encyclopedic entry of “law” we have extracted the following nominations: system, custom, conduct, code, statute, ordinance, regulation, among which the lexeme code takes the upper position in the semantic taxonomy. Then we shall verify the semantic components of the lexeme law, cf. Law Dictionary: (1) The complete body of statutes, rules, enforced customs and norms, and court decisions governing the

relations of individuals and corporate entities to one another and to the state; (2) The subset of such statutes and other rules and materials dealing with a particular subject matter; (3) The system by which such statutes and rules are administered; (4) The profession of interpreting such statutes and rules; (5) The bill that becomes effective after enactment by the legislature and signature (or failure to veto) by the executive (Law Dictionary). As legal nomination the lexeme law is defined as: (1) A traditional, recognized causal link or principle resulting in failure, injury, loss, or pain when violated; (2) Legal statement of government's and society's sense of right and wrong. Binding statement of conduct supporting justice and obligation; (3) cause and effect described from experiments and/or observations directly leading to a phenomenon. The meanings of lexemes are analyzed into components, which can then be compared across lexemes or groups of lexemes. Components serve to distinguish the meaning of a lexeme from that of other related lexemes: "Semantic components may be combined in various ways in different languages yet they would be identifiable as the 'same' component in the vocabularies of all languages" [J.J. Katz and J.A. Fodor, 1962].

Conclusions. The conceptual analysis reveals knowledge of the societal linguistic practices because all the constituents of the conceptual system are verbally represented. Consequently conceptual and componential types of analysis overlap in this respect. Our wording the concepts reveals the way of our thinking. We can come to the conclusion that "conceptual connections are transparent because they are constituted by our language, and language is public and knowable to every competent user. The advantages of componential analysis to meaning study are obvious. First, it is a breakthrough in the formal representation of meaning. Once formally represented, meaning components can be seen. Second, it reveals the impreciseness of the terminology in the traditional approach to meaning analysis. The limitations of componential analysis are also apparent. It cannot be applied to the analysis of all lexicon, but merely to words within the same semantic domain. It is controversial whether semantic features are universal primes of word meanings in all languages.

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