

Dear colleagues of *Revista Signos*,

With the present letter we wish to send the manuscript entitled *Polysemy in Italian Prepositions: From data to theory* for consideration of publication on *Revista Signos*. The manuscript investigates the polysemy of Italian prepositions, and connects this phenomenon to other lexical/semantic relations. The manuscript also offers evidence that Italian prepositions' polysemy (i.e. ability to cover multiple related senses) is related to their morphological complexity, and that some prepositions are monosemous, a fact that appears unexpected in most works on this topic. By shedding light on these data, the paper argues that certain lexical/semantic relations can be attested and studied across this category: hyponymy, colexification and partial synonymy ("overlap"). The paper presents experimental evidence based on a corpus study followed by an experimental (elicitation) task with native speakers. From these experimental results, we discuss a possible theoretical account based on the "Semantic Maps" framework, and show that the framework can partially predict the attested results. We conclude discussing the contribution of this work to ongoing research on polysemy, and sketching possible extensions of the study and theoretical proposal to other languages and related problems.

We confirm that the paper has been formatted as per instructions of the journal's stylesheet and all references have been checked for consistency, and that previous of the authors' work have been anonymised. With the submission, we have indicated three possible reviewers that could review the manuscript. This cover letter contains personal information of the authors, but along with the manuscript we are also submitting an authors' page and a .jpg including the (only) figure used in the manuscript. For further corrections, changes and other editorial necessities, we are at the complete availability of the journal. Below this e-mail, we also paste the relevant contact details of the article's authors.

All the best,

Main author: Francesco-Alessio Ursini  
School of Foreign Languages, Sun Yat-Sen University (South Campus)  
135, Xingang Xi Road, Guangzhou, 510275, China  
e-mail: [ursini@sysu.edu.cn](mailto:ursini@sysu.edu.cn); [ursini@mail.sysu.edu.cn](mailto:ursini@mail.sysu.edu.cn);  
Tel: +86 20 84111667

OrcID, Ursini: 0000-0001-7042-3576

Corresponding author: HaiPing Long  
School of Foreign Languages, Sun Yat-Sen University (South Campus)  
135, Xingang Xi Road, Guangzhou, 510275, China  
e-mail [lhpszpt@126.com](mailto:lhpszpt@126.com);  
Tel: +86 20 84111667

Co-Author: Yue (Sara) Zhang  
School of Foreign Languages, Sun Yat-Sen University (South Campus)  
135, Xingang Xi Road, Guangzhou, 510275, China  
[yingzhimeng8866@163.com](mailto:yingzhimeng8866@163.com)