

## **Benefaction in Polish: An analysis of the interplay with related functions**

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### **Abstract:**

The present dissertation is dedicated to benefaction in Polish, that is, how users of Polish can describe a situation in which someone is positively affected. The aim of the project is to provide an empirical account of the variation in the expression of benefaction, and an analysis of its interplay with other functions. The dissertation focuses on three problems:

i). The Polish dative and *dla* ‘for’ prepositional phrases in the contexts where they can be used near-interchangeably. The dissertation includes a description of an identification procedure for these contexts, an interpretation of them as clearly benefactive, and an analysis of the variation in the transfer scenarios that they convey.

ii). Benefactive uses of the Polish dative reflexive pronoun *sobie/se* in spoken, conversational registers of Polish. In the dissertation, they are analysed as integrating a benefactive interpretation with the expression of volitionality and axionormative functions.

iii). Impersonal constructions with the *-ne/-te* forms of the Polish passive/resultative participle and their benefactive uses in social media registers. (e.g. *pojedzone* ‘eating:done’, *pochodzone* ‘walking:done’, *będzie grane* ‘there’s gonna be gaming’). In the context of those uses, the problem of the benefactive potential of “impersonal constructions with personal reference” is considered.

The dissertation demonstrates the diversity in the expression of benefaction in Polish, taking into account data from different registers (including conversational registers and computer-mediated communication). The analyses encompass qualitative and quantitative corpus approaches, as well as the use of large-scale language resources.