# Four reasons for a revision
# of the Transitivity Hypothesis

*Radek Čech, Ostrava*

**Abstract.** Since the Transitivity Hypothesis was introduced thirty four years ago, it has become one of the most influential approaches to the functioning of transitivity in natural language. Despite the huge impact of the approach, at least within functional linguistics, some fundamental theoretical and methodological problems still remain unsolved; this seriously undermines the entire approach. The aim of this study is to analyze the four most crucial shortcomings of the approach and to propose solutions. Specifically, the study focuses on (1) the consequences of the absence of a sound theoretical foundation, (2) the ambiguity of the Hypothesis, (3) methodological deficiencies, and (4) the dubious validity of the Transitivity Hypothesis with regard to its universality. This study also takes into account later modifications of the Transitivity Hypothesis, particularly the frequency-based approach which has been advanced by the authors of the Transitivity Hypothesis.

*Keywords: Transitivity, probability, definitions*

# Hebraismen im Deutschen

*Karl-Heinz Best*

**Abstract.** The present paper presents the development of Hebraic borrowings in German and demonstrates that this process abides by the logistic law which in linguistics is known as Piotrowski Law.

*Keywords: Borrowing, Hebrew, Piotrowski Law.*

# Some aspects of Slavic phonemics and graphemics

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*Ioan-Iovitz Popescu, Bucharest*
*Gabriel Altmann, Lüdenscheid*

**Abstract.** For the lowest linguistic level (phonemes, graphemes) some indicators of the given systems are presented and compared in 12 Slavic languages. In some cases, the divergence of the family can be shown.

**Keywords:** *lambda, repeat rate, entropy, ranking, Ord's criteria, Gini's coefficient, Pearson's excess, stratification, comparisons, control cycle.*

# The lambda structure of language levels

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**Abstract.** The aim of the article is to present a survey of the computation of the indicator lambda for units of different levels and study the dependence on the inventory size and on the abstractness of the given level. Hence two hypotheses are tested.

*Keywords: lambda, language levels, phonemics, graphemics, lexicon, text, hreb, cases, dependence, affixes*

# Bibliography

# Motifs by *Reinhard Köhler*

# Announcement

# Quantitative Index Text Analyser (QUITA)

*Miroslav Kubát, Vladimír Maltach, Radek Čech*
(Palacký University, Olomouc)

# Books received