1. Introduction

This paper aims:

- To review previous accounts on construal of proverbs with regard to conceptual metaphor theory,
- To show that the presence of some ambiguous proverbs might challenge the Invariance Principle (Lakoff 1993) constrained by event structure,
- To argue that in cases of some proverbs, process of accommodating each situation type via the generic schema abstraction is in need of specification by means of a more detailed method than event structure, and
- To propose that Property Selection Process (Ibarretxe Antuñano 1997) can be a device to monitor the specification with.

2. Metaphor and Proverbs (Cnt’d)

2.1 Previous Accounts

Lakoff and Turner (1989): GENERIC IS SPECIFIC metaphor

‘Blind blames the ditch.’

Proverbs can be understood without particular situation.

‘...[In the absence of any particular specific-level target schema, the generic level schema of the source domain counts as an acceptable target.’ (Lakoff and Turner 1989: 165).

Event structure and Invariance Principle (IP; Lakoff 1993), constrain the mapping and yield relevant construal.
2. Metaphor and Proverbs (Cnt’d)

2.2 Event Structure and IP are Not Enough

- Some proverbs, which do not seem to convey prototypical scenario inherently, do not have rich event structures.

  *Blind blames the ditch*
  
  vs. *An arm bends inward.*

2.2 Event Structure and IP are Not Enough (Cnt’d)

- Construing some proverbs of ambiguity cannot be fully accounted for by means of the GENERIC IS SPECIFIC metaphor and event structure.

  *'A rolling stone gathers no moss.'*

2.3 Selection Process in Need (Cnt’d)

- Turner (1996: 69): projecting inferences during metaphorical mappings often involves selecting or translating them to fit the input space.

*Linguistic Expressions*  
*Generic Level*  
*Sense Type 1*  
*Sense Type 2*  
*Sense Type 3*

*Property 1*  
*Property 2*  
*Property 3*  
*Property 4*  
*Property 5*

<Figure 2: Picture of the Previous Mapping of Proverbs>

*Property 1’*  
*Property 2’*  
*Property 3’*  
*Property 4’*  
*Property 5’*

<Figure 3: Selection Processes in Mapping of Proverbs>
3. Property Selection Process

3.1 Introduction
- Designed to account for metaphorical semantic extension of polysemy
- First proposed by Ibarretxe-Antuñano (1997) to explain polysemous senses of the verb smell

3.2 PSP in the Polysemous Verb Smell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prototypical</th>
<th>Property Selected</th>
<th>Physical Meaning</th>
<th>Metaphoric Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;internal&gt;</td>
<td>&lt;voluntary yes&gt;</td>
<td>&lt;voluntary yes&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;voluntary yes&gt;</td>
<td>&lt;detection&gt;</td>
<td>&lt;detection&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;detection&gt;</td>
<td>&lt;identification&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;subjective&gt;</td>
<td>&lt;voluntary no&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td>'Investigation'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;emotional&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Ibarretxe-Antuñano 1997: 40)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. PSP in the Proverb An Arm Bends Inward

4.1 Construal of the Proverb

(1) phal-un an-u-lo kwup-nun-ta
    arm-Top in-Direc bend-Pres-Dec
    'Literal: An arm bends (sway) inward'

(2) 'Charity begins at home.'

4. PSP in the Proverb An Arm Bends Inward (Cnt’d)

An Arm bends inward. It turns out that a policeman in active duty who is disclosed to be involved in illegal gambling is not to be punished by his colleagues (Apr 19, 2006. No-Cut News).

4. PSP in the Proverb An Arm Bends Inward (Cnt’d)

“An Arm bends inward. It is natural that the referee couldn’t whistle at Swiss player’s several fouls, since the chairman of FIFA is from the country. That’s the way it is.”

(http://cafe.naver.com/redsgotogether.cafe/?frame_url=//ArticleRead.nhn%3FArticleId=7574)
4. PSP in the Proverb An Arm Bends Inward (Cnt’d)

4.1 Construal of the Proverb (Cnt’d)

- Naturalness & Favoritism
- Undesirability & Favoritism

4.2 ‘An arm,’ ‘Bend,’ and “Inward”

In the frame of human concerns, these are mapped via abstraction to:

- AN EVENT
- CONTROL ≠ FAIRNESS = ASYMMETRY
- PROPENSITY ≠ FAVOR

4.2.1 Supporting Evidence for the Abstraction

- <volition ≠> and CONTROL ≠ <straightness ≠> and FAIRNESS ≠
- BEING STRAIGHT IS TO BE DESIRABLE (STRAIGHTNESS metaphor; Cienki 1998)
- to bend, i.e. released state or bent state, loosened state or uncontrolled state, unfair situation can be related to crookedness.

Figure 4. Embracing

People’s face-to-face situations are for canonical convenience or preference (Clark 1991: 35).

 Figures

- Proto-
- typical
- Physical
- Meaning

- Metaphoric
- Meaning

- <physical motion>
- <volition ≠>
- <straightness ≠>
- <physiological constraint>
- <interiority>

- ASYMMETRY
- CONTROL ≠
- PROPENSITY ≠ FAVOR

“Naturalness & Favoritism”

Property Selection Processes (PSP) Metaphor
5. Concluding Remarks

- PSP can provide more motivated accounts for the qualified interpretation of proverbs than event structure and the invariance principle can, monitoring which properties are grouped and yield salient meaning.

References

References (Cnt’d)