

**Title:** Time and Space in Russian Prepositional Semantics: *pod* “under”  
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The aim of this paper is to check the well-known claim of Lakoff & Johnson (1980/2003) TIME IS SPACE, which views temporal meanings as deriving metaphorically from spatial ones. For this purpose we studied the Russian preposition *pod* and examined in detail all three groups of temporal constructions involving *pod*, namely, those expressing

SIMULTANEITY (*son pod šum doždja* ‘sleep to-the-accompaniment-of the patter of rain’),

IMMEDIATE PRECEDENCE (*zasnul pod utro* ‘fell asleep towards morning’, as well as [*emu*] *pod sorok* ‘[he is] close-to-but-under forty’), and

PROSPECTIVITY (*pristrojka pod bassejn* ‘extension intended-for a swimming pool’; these contexts also allow a retrospective counterpart of the type *den’gi pod zalog* ‘money advanced-on collateral’).

Our analysis has been backed up by a corpus study of all the spatial uses of *pod*. Now it can be argued with certainty that the temporal uses of *pod* are found in constructions which are basically different from the spatial ones. They are related to the spatial prototype of *pod* not directly, but rather through the inheritance of certain semantically more general features manifested in specific occurrences of the spatial construction.

Thus it can be said that the spatial and temporal values of *pod* are clearly opposed on all levels, rather than being closely connected. Morphologically, only the spatial values select the instrumental case. Syntactically, temporal constructions can display several specific patterns (as in predicative sentences of the type *ej pod 80* ‘she’s close to eighty’) and/or allow for idiosyncratic lexical and taxonomic classes (like numerals or extension nouns in the landmark position). Finally, NPs in the landmark positions appear as obligatory arguments in the first case, and as obvious adjuncts in the second case.

Therefore, what *pod* constructions seem to feature is not the coherence or convergence of spatial and temporal domains, but, on the contrary, their clear differentiation, supported by a wide range of formal means: TIME IS NOT SPACE.