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Jadwiga Linde-Usiekniewicz  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7083-0486>

*University of Warsaw, Faculty of Polish Studies*

## *Wh+To* Non-Restrictive Clauses in Polish and Related Phenomena. Part Two: Establishing the Role of *to* in Appositive Clauses, Adverbials and Interrogatives

### Abstract

This paper presents a comparison between *to*-bearing relative clauses, adverbials and interrogatives on the one hand, vs. their *to*-less variants on the other, and discusses the functions associated with the presence of *to*. It is argued that at least three different instances of *to* should be distinguished. One converts relative clauses into appositive ones, which are necessarily semantically connected to the matrix clause and it makes the semantic connection override even apparent lack of appropriate syntactic connection. It attaches to relativizers, including *gdzie* ‘where’ and *kiedy* ‘when’ relative clauses. It is argued that the same segment is present in adverbials, triggering a factitive presupposition, as is the case of appositive relatives generally. The second *to* links the content of a kind relative, an adverbial or a *wh*-interrogative to previous contexts, possibly triggering a pragmatic presupposition. The third converts standard *wh*-interrogatives into either rhetorical orthetic questions. It is argued that while in the third instance we are dealing with a separate word and in the second with a clitic, the first *to*, hitherto unidentified or possibly falsely identified in relevant literature, appears to have both some characteristics of a clitic and of an affix.

### Keywords

Polish relative clauses, appositive clauses, the segment *to*, presupposition triggers, thetic questions, rhetorical questions, clitics

### Streszczenie

W artykule omawia się funkcje segmentu *to* w zdaniach względnych, zdaniach okolicznikowych i pytaniach uzupełnienia. Wykazuje się, że segment ten w wymienionych typach zdań odpowiada co najmniej trzem różnym jednostkom. Pierwsza z nich wskazuje, że mamy do czynienia ze zdaniem względnym niedefiniującym, ale koniecznie powiązanym semantycznie z treścią zdania głównego; co więcej, powoduje, iż zdania takie są akceptowalne, mimo niepoprawnej budowy składniowej. Najprawdopodobniej ten sam element może być dołączony – jako wyzwalacz presupozycji – do spójnika wprowadzającego zdanie okolicznikowe miejsca i czasu. Druga jednostka to wykładnik nawiązania, być może

związany z presupozycją pragmatyczną, obecna w pytaniach uzupełnienia i w zdaniach względnych utożsamiająco-uogólniających. Trzecia jednostka natomiast, pojawiająca się w pytaniach, przekształca je w pytania retoryczne lub tetyczne. O ile ta ostatnia jednostka ma status wyrazu, o tyle wykładnik nawiązania wykazuje wszelkie własności związane z klitykami. Status pierwszej jednostki jest problematyczny, jako że wykazuje zarówno cechy klityki, jak i afiksu.

### Słowa kluczowe

zdania względne w języku polskim, zdania niedefiniujące, segment *to*, wyzwalacze presupozycji, pytania tetyczne, pytania retoryczne, klityki

## Introduction

In Part One of the paper, I have presented an overview of Polish relative clauses with and without *to*. I have argued that Polish possesses not only restrictive and appositive relative clauses, but also two types of relative clauses of the ‘third kind’, i.e. degree relatives and kind relatives (cf. Grosu and Landman 1998 for theoretical approaches; Buttler et al. 1971 and Przepiórkowski et al. 2002 for kind relatives in Polish). I have also shown that among non-restrictive relative clauses one can find two types of pseudo-relative clauses: one that describes a simultaneous event (cf. Cinque 1996) and one that describes a consecutive event. I have also argued that when *to* is introduced after the relativizer *który* in a non-restrictive clause, it converts the clause into an appositive one.

In this part, a fine-grained distinction between *to*-bearing and *to*-less appositive clauses is discussed (Section 4). Section 5 broadens the scope of inquiry and discusses the role of *to* in clauses with relativizers *kiedy* ‘when’ and *gdzie* ‘where’. Section 6 presents an overview of the impact of *to* on relative clauses and presents a preliminary conclusion. In Section 7, the discussion is extended to cover the role of *to* in *wh*-adverbials and *wh*-interrogatives. Part Two ends with a Conclusions section, in which the possibility of linking the observed effects to a single element *to* is discussed. The numbering of sections and examples is continuous for both parts.

### 4. *Który* and *który to* in appositive relative clauses: a closer look

Given the fact that the presence of the segment *to* after *który* mainly disables a non-appositive reading of relative clauses, it is not surprising that it does not negatively affect the acceptability of true appositive clauses (with one exception, discussed below). Interestingly, it almost does not alter their behavior in diagnostic contexts for unintegrated appositives, as can be seen by comparing

Citko's (2016) examples with their modified *to*-bearing counterparts, though it enhances acceptability in less straightforward situations.

## 1. Heavy pied-piping

Some pied-piped constructions are not affected by *to*:

(59) *Zaprosiliśmy naszego byłego prezydenta, popularność wykładów **którego (to)** była imponująca.*

'We invited our former president, the popularity of whose lectures was quite impressive.'

(adapted from Citko 2016: 89)

Yet, when heavy pied piping is associated with a morphological mismatch between the head and the relativizer, which can be seen in the approximate Polish renderings of Cinque's original example, repeated here as (60), given in (61) and (62), the presence of *to* improves acceptability:

(60) *Giorgio non era certo un romanziere, la prima virtù dei quali è quella di catturare l'interesse del lettore.*

'G. was no novelist (sing.), the first virtue of whom (pl.) is that of catching the reader's interest.'

(61) *?Jerzy z pewnością nie był powieściopisarzem, największą zaletą **których** ma być zafascynowanie czytelnika.*

(62) *Jerzy z pewnością nie był powieściopisarzem, największą zaletą **których to** ma być umiejętność zainteresowania czytelnika.*

## 2. Non adjacency to the head

Also the non-adjacent appositive relative clause is slightly improved with *to*, though – given some constraints, possibly of semantic nature yet to be understood (cf. Cinque 2008: 103) – some examples of non-adjacent relative clauses may appear doubtful. Such is the case of Citko's (2016, (7)) example, which in her paper serves as evidence for the presence of non-adjacent appositive clauses in Polish.

(63) *Odkąd Kowalscy wyjechali, **których** nikt nie zaprosił, mamy święty spokój.*

'Since the Kowalskis left, who no one invited, all is quiet.'

(Citko 2016: (7))

However, I find both her original version, quoted above, and a *to*-appended version (64) rather awkward, unless the relative is introduced as a sort of par-enthetical afterthought in a spontaneous spoken discourse (cf. Guz 2017).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to Ewa Willim for that observation.

(64) ?*Odkąd Kowalscy wyjechali, **których to** nikt nie zaprosił, mamy święty spokój.*

Much more telling effects are obtained with Polish rendering of Cinque's (2008: 103) original example in (65):

(65) *Da quando i russi se ne sono andati, i quali non si erano mai veramente integrati con la popolazione, la pace è finite.*  
 'Since the Russians left, who had never really mixed with the population, there is no more peace.'

The direct rendering of (65) in Polish, is awkward, as shown in (66), and it is not much improved by appearance of *to*, as (67) demonstrates:

(66) ?*Odkąd Rosjanie wyjechali, **którzy** nigdy naprawdę nie integrowali się z ludnością, nie ma już spokoju.*

(67) ?*Odkąd Rosjanie wyjechali, **którzy to** nigdy naprawdę nie integrowali się z ludnością, nie ma już spokoju.*

However, if the matrix clause is modified to say that peace has finally reigned after the Russians left, there is a notable rise in acceptability when *to* is added.

(68) ?*Odkąd Rosjanie wyjechali, **którzy** nigdy naprawdę nie integrowali się z ludnością, zapanował spokój.*  
 'Since the Russians left, who had never really mixed with the population, peace has reigned.' (transl. JL-U)

(69) *Odkąd Rosjanie wyjechali, **którzy to** nigdy naprawdę nie integrowali się z ludnością, zapanował spokój.*

The difference in acceptability between (68) and (69) is crucial to my proposed analysis of the function of the segment *to*, and will be elaborated upon later.

### 3. Split antecedents

Sentences with split antecedents are awkward, and subject to some restrictions. Citko (2016: (8)) gives the example adapted from English, about people eating different kind of cakes.

(70) *Jan lubi pączki<sub>p</sub>, a Maria woli rogaliki<sub>p</sub>, **które**<sub>i+j</sub> jedzą z masłem.*  
 'Jan likes doughnuts, but Maria prefers croissants, which they eat with butter.' (Citko 2016: (8))

Interestingly, there is no difference in acceptability between the *to*-less (70) and the *to*-bearing (71):

(71) *Jan lubi pączki<sub>p</sub>, a Maria woli rogaliki<sub>p</sub>, **które**<sub>i+j</sub> **to** jedzą z masłem.*

However, I would argue that the reading upon which *który* refers both to doughnuts and croissants is coerced<sup>2</sup> here by the plural verb in the matrix clause, which enhances an *ad sensu* interpretation, according to which each of the protagonists eats their favorite cake. I will show below that when the semantically coercive element is removed, the situation changes dramatically. In addition, adjacency of plural *które* to grammatically plural noun *rogaliki*, ‘croissants’ makes (70) and (71) grammatically correct, though the normatively construed sense would have both Jan and Maria eat croissants with butter, despite Jan’s culinary preference. The importance of apparent grammaticality in acceptability judgments may explain why such split antecedent constructions are possible in Polish, and others are not. For example, Cinque’s Italian example (39), repeated here for convenience, cannot be rendered in Polish, either with or without *to*:

- (39) *Se Carlo<sub>i</sub> non amava più Anna<sub>j</sub>, i quali<sub>i+j</sub> d'altra parte non si erano mai voluti veramente bene, una ragione c'era.*  
 ‘If Carlo was no longer in love with A., who at any rate never really loved each other, there was a motive.’ (Cinque 2008: 104)

- (72) *\*Jeżeli Karol nie kochał już Anny, którzy (to) skądinąd nigdy się nie kochali, był to motyw.*

Yet within the doughnut vs. croissant scenario it is possible to come up with a pair of examples in which the presence of *to* does improve acceptability:

- (73) *\*Jan kupił pączka, a Maria rogalika, które przybrano lukrem.*  
 ‘Jan bought a doughnut and Maria a croissant, [both of] which had been decorated with icing.’

- (74) *Jan kupił pączka, a Maria rogalika, które to przybrano lukrem.*

Here again the difference in acceptability between (73) and (74) is crucial to my proposed analysis of the function of the segment *to*, and will be elaborated upon later.

#### 4. Mismatches in illocutionary force

In such cases the addition of *to* renders the sentence more natural (compare (75) with (76)):

- (75) *To jest nowy prezydent, dla którego natychmiast znajdź miejsce!*  
 ‘This is the new president, for whom find a place immediately.’  
 (Citko 2016: (6a))

- (76) *To jest nowy prezydent, dla którego to natychmiast znajdź miejsce!*

<sup>2</sup> The term coercion is used here accordingly to Lauwers and Willems (2011).

## 5. Temporal heads

Citko (2016: 92) rightly notes that *który* appositive relatives “are degraded with temporal heads”, providing the following example as evidence:

- (77) ?\* *W zeszłym roku, w którym Jan się urodził, było bardzo ciepło.*  
 in last year in which Jan REFL was born was very warm  
 ‘Last year, when Jan was born, was very warm.’ (Citko 2016: (17))

Adding *to* improves (77)’s acceptability only slightly, if at all, as can be seen in (78):

- (78) ?? *W zeszłym roku, w którym to Jan się urodził, było bardzo ciepło.*

What seems to partly salvage both (77) and (78) is the syntactic parallelism between the adverbial within the matrix clause and the relativizer, since both are parallel prepositional phrases, thus having the relativizer apparently match the noun within the adverbial. Without a prepositional phrase in the adverbial the sentence is degraded, as can be seen in (79):

- (79) \* *Zeszłego lata, w którym (to) Jan się urodził, było bardzo ciepło.*  
 LastGEN summerGEN in which Jan REFL was born was very warm  
 ‘Last summer, when Jan was born, (it) was very warm.’ (transl.JL-U)

In addition, syntactic parallelism in case alone between adverbial and relativizer does not prevent the sentence from being degraded, as can be seen in (80):

- (80) \* *Zeszłego lata, którego (to) Jan się urodził, było bardzo ciepło.*  
 lastGEN summerGEN whichGEN Jan refl was born was very warm

Actually, Cinque’s original example in (81) structurally resembles (80), since both (80) and (81) bear no apparent prepositional phrase the syntax of which can be mirrored in the relative:

- (81) \* *La settimana prossima, la quale sono in ferie, ti vengo a trovare.*  
 ‘Next week, which I am on holidays, I will come and visit you.’  
 (Cinque 2008: 108)

Yet, curiously, it is the presence of the preposition in the temporal head that plays an important role in acceptability of examples (77)–(80). While (79) and (80), which have the temporal head in the genitive, are unacceptable, with (77) and (78) the judgment is less straightforward. In addition, if the prepositional phrase within the adverbial, matched by the prepositional phrase in the relative, contains an expression that is not a frozen or semi-frozen structure (as is the case in (77) and (78)), the insertion of *to* seems to prevent the degradation. If a calendar year is substituted as for *zeszły* ‘last’ and follows the noun *rok* ‘year’, the *to*-less version (82) becomes marginally acceptable, and the *to*-bearing version – fully acceptable:

(82) ?*W roku 1985, w którym Marta się urodziła, mleko w proszku było na kartki.*  
 'In the year 1985, when Marta was born, powdered milk could be only bought with coupons.'<sup>3</sup>

(83) *W roku 1985, w którym to Marta się urodziła, mleko w proszku było na kartki.*

Interestingly, this is the case of expressions in which the numeral follows the noun. In reverse order both versions are far less felicitous, but the *to*-bearing relative is marginally better:

(84) \**W 1985 roku, w którym Marta się urodziła, mleko w proszku było na kartki.*

(85) ?*W 1985 roku, w którym to Marta się urodziła, mleko w proszku było na kartki.*

There are several tentative explanations for the differences observed between (82) and (83) on the one hand and (84) and (85) on the other. The simplest one is that numeral-first unmarked pattern is closer to semi-frozen structures, while the reversed pattern, being marked, is not. That would account for the parallel behavior of (77)–(78) and (84)–(85) respectively. However, the difference between numeral-first pattern and noun-first pattern may be related to the overall differences between preposed and postposed attributes in Polish. When the attribute is post-posed it acquires either a 'class-establishing' meaning (traditionally called 'classificatory' (as opposed to 'property-denoting' meaning, traditionally called 'qualitative') (Linde-Usiekniewicz 2016b), or – with an appropriate intonation pattern – a contrastive character (Linde-Usiekniewicz 2008: 260). If that were the case, it could be argued that the improvement in acceptability is due to marking the relative clause as unequivocally appositive, thus avoiding a possible mismatch between specific antecedents and a possibly restrictive reading of the relative.

The observations presented so far in this section focused on the positive impact of the segment *to* in appositive relative clauses. However, there are instances in which the segment in question degrades the acceptability. Such is the case of semantically unrelated, i.e. parenthetical, appositive relative clauses. Thus while (46), repeated here for convenience is quite acceptable, its *to*-bearing variants are not unless we envisage a situation in which the feature of being born on a Friday, or dressing in pink, or running in marathons is pragmatically related to one's academic choices:

(46) *Janek, który urodził się w piątek//ubiera się na różowo//biega w maratonach//...//, studiuje matematykę.*

'John, who was born on a Friday//dresses in pink//runs in marathons//..., studies mathematics.' (transl. JL-U)

<sup>3</sup> In Poland at that time, baby formulas were made from powdered milk, rather than bought ready-made.

- (86) \**Janek, który to urodził się w piątek, studiuje matematykę.*  
 ‘John, who was born on a Friday, studies mathematics.’ (transl. JL-U)
- (87) \**Janek, który to ubiera się na różowo, studiuje matematykę.*  
 ‘John, who dresses in pink, studies mathematics.’ (transl. JL-U)
- (88) \**Janek, który to biega w maratonach, studiuje matematykę.*  
 John, who runs in marathons, studies mathematics.’ (transl. JL-U)

To sum it up: the addition of *to* to appositive relative clauses is not neutral, as it affects their acceptability either positively or negatively. The acceptability can be improved when the syntactic pattern associated with unintegrated appositive relative clauses goes against standard morphosyntax of relative clauses, i.e. in the case of split antecedents (cf. (74)), heavy pied piping together with morphological mismatch between the antecedent and the relativizer (cf. (62)), non-adjacency to the head (cf. (69)) and temporal heads (cf. (83)).

In addition, with non-adjacent head it is necessary for the purport of the relative to be such that it can be partly causally related to the purport of the matrix clause. This is clear in the Polish version of the ‘Russians scenario’ in (69).<sup>4</sup> If the Russians remained unintegrated with the population, it is quite easy to imagine how their leaving could have contributed to the restoration of peace, but quite difficult to imagine how their leaving could have fomented the unrest.

On the other hand, a semantic relation between the purport of the appositive relative clause and the matrix is necessary for *który to* clauses. It can be quite vague, as in the place for the new president scenario in (76). Nevertheless, the addition of a *to* segment to an appositive relative clause unrelated to the matter at hand either degrades it or imposes the reading under which the purport of the relative is relevant to the discourse, i.e. is at-issue.

## 5. Other *wh* and *who to* relativizers

As already mentioned in Introduction in Part One, relative clauses can also be introduced by *kiedy* ‘when’ and *gdzie* ‘where’. When *to* is added to *kiedy*, the only reading available is appositive, e.g. in (89), which is a *to*-modified version of (12) from Part One.

- (89) *Tęsknię za czasami, kiedy to z wakacji przywoziło się rolkę filmu ORWO 36x24.*  
 (NKJP)  
 ‘I miss the times when one used to bring back a roll of ORWO film 36x24 from one’s holidays.’ (transl. JL-U)

<sup>4</sup> The analysis presented here may be not appropriate for the original Italian sentence (65).



Moreover, temporal relativizer *kiedy*, both with and without *to*, is acceptable in appositive relative clauses with temporal heads, e.g.:

(90) *W zeszłym roku, kiedy (to) Jan się urodził, było bardzo ciepło.*  
 ‘Last year, when Jan was born, was very warm.’ (transl. JL-U)

(91) *Zeszłego lata, kiedy (to) Jan się urodził, było bardzo ciepło.*  
 ‘Last summer, when Jan was born, (it) was very warm.’

In (90) and (91) the presence of *to* enhances the appositive reading (the restrictive reading is blocked by determined character of the temporal adverb in the matrix clause).

*Gdzie* relative clauses can in fact be either appositive or restrictive. With *to* added to a relative clause, the reading becomes uniquely appositive, as in (92), which is a *to*-modified version of (13) from Part One:

(92) *Na zakończenie sezonu mamy jakieś lampki wina, są kraje, gdzie to wino podaje się do kolacji, nawet wśród sportowców.* (NKJP)  
 ‘To end the season glasses of wine are served, there are countries, where wine is served with dinner, even among the athletes.’ (transl. JL-U)

Interestingly, *gdzie* can substitute for *który* in consecutive pseudo-relatives, maintaining the same ambiguity, given an appropriate sentential context:

(93) *Weszli do pokoju, gdzie rozpoczęto rozmowę.*  
 ‘They entered a/the room, where the conversation began.’ (transl. JL-U)  
 Consecutive reading: they<sub>1</sub> entered the room where they<sub>1</sub> started the conversation  
 ‘They entered a/the room where the conversation had begun.’ (transl. JL-U)  
 Restrictive reading: they<sub>1</sub> entered the room where they<sub>1</sub> had started the conversation  
 ‘They entered the room, where the conversation had begun.’ (transl. JL-U)  
 Appositive reading: they<sub>1</sub> entered the room, where they<sub>1</sub> had started the conversation

When the matrix clause is negated, only appositive and restrictive interpretations are available, i.e.:

(94) *Nie przeszli do pokoju, gdzie rozpoczęto rozmowę.*  
 ‘They did not enter the room where the conversation had begun.’ (transl. JL-U)  
 Restrictive reading: they<sub>1</sub> did not enter the room where they<sub>2</sub> had begun the conversation  
 ‘They did not enter the room, where the conversation had begun.’ (transl. JL-U)  
 Appositive reading: they<sub>1</sub> did not enter the room, where they<sub>2</sub> had begun the conversation

When *to* is added, the restrictive meaning is blocked, as in the *który to* version, and the consecutive pseudo-relative reading seems doubtful unless

both the appositive and the consecutive readings seem conflated into one, i.e. (95) is interpreted as ‘they<sub>i</sub> entered the room, where they<sub>i</sub> began the conversation.’<sup>5</sup>

(95) *Weszli do pokoju, gdzie to rozpoczęto rozmowę.*

Appositive reading: they<sub>i</sub> entered the room, where they<sub>j</sub> had begun the conversation

??Consecutive reading: they<sub>i</sub> entered a/the room where they<sub>i</sub> began the conversation

## 6. The role of *to* in relative clauses: interim conclusion

The observations presented in the two previous subsections of this section show that *to* can appear in appositive relative clauses, either introduced by *który*, including relatives with internal heads, and in appositive relative clauses introduced by *gdzie*, *kiedy*, but not in corresponding non-appositive ones. In all these instances the presence of *to* signals that the purport of the relative clause is at-issue, and not parenthetical to the matter at hand.

In *jaki* kind relatives the presence of *to* is subject to very specific semantic constraints: the antecedent noun needs to be used predicatively. In such contexts the presence of *to* indicates that the qualities to which the kind relative refers have already been introduced, possibly indirectly, in the universe of the discourse.

Thus the observations presented in Sections 4 and 5 may preliminarily serve as evidence for two alternative proposals. If the claim is made that *który to* is a separate lexeme different from *który*, in line with Mendoza (2010: 7), it is necessary to postulate the existence of at least two, if not more lexemes that function as relativizers: *kiedy to*, *gdzie to* and possibly *jaki to* as well as *co to*. On the other hand, the presence of both *to*-bearing and *to*-less variants can be seen as evidence in favor of postulating the existence of a morpheme, or possibly a lexeme *to* that can attach to relativizers.

However, to further evaluate both proposals, it is necessary to pay attention to the appearance of *to* outside relative contexts. Since the main topic of this paper is relativizers bearing *to*, the analysis of non-relative contexts will be restricted to those in which elements homonymous with relativizers appear.

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<sup>5</sup> In fact, they are not conflated, but *to* enforces the reading of the content of the consecutive as presupposed. See Section 7 below for more detailed treatment of presupposition triggering by *to*.

## 7. Wh-to in non-relative contexts

### 7.1. The segment *to* with conjunctions introducing adverbial clauses

Temporal adverbial clauses introduced by *kiedy* and *gdy* ‘when’ are relatively well represented in the National Corpus. Adverbials of place with *gdzie* are quite rare and most *gdzie* subordinate clauses are in fact relative, correlative or pseudo-relative.

The apparent lack of naturalistic data containing adverbials with *kiedy to*, *gdy to* and *kiedy to* does not mean that they are impossible. Some NKJP examples can be *to*-modified, though most likely they would not be possible in the original contexts. In order to identify the role of *to* in such clauses, it is necessary to contrast *to*-less and *to*-bearing variants.

In the case of (96) the original text suggests that going to bed mentioned in the adverbial clause was not a straightforward matter and there must have been something, possibly the anxiety, preventing the protagonist from doing it. This suggestion is encoded by the presence of the adverb *już*, rendered as ‘finally’ in the gloss.

- (96) *Niepokoilo go to zagadnienie i dlugo nie mógł zasnąc, kiedy się już położył do łóżka.*  
(NKJP)

‘This question made him anxious and he could not fall asleep when he finally had gone to bed.’ (transl. JL-U)

This suggestion disappears if *już* is removed, as is done in (97):

- (97) *Niepokoilo go to zagadnienie i dlugo nie mógł zasnąc, kiedy położył się do łóżka.*<sup>6</sup>

‘This question made him anxious and he could not fall asleep for a long time when he had gone to bed.’ (transl. JL-U)

However, if *kiedy to*, instead of *kiedy*, is introduced into a clause without *już*, as in (98), the fact that going to bed has not been straightforward is again suggested.

- (98) *Niepokoilo go to zagadnienie i dlugo nie mógł zasnąc, kiedy to położył się do łóżka.*

A similar case can be made for (99) and (100):

- (99) [A *Mumia lubił niezmiennosc[.]* sytuacje bez niespodzianek.] Dlatego zdziwil się nieprzyjemnie, **kiedy** drzwi od dobudowki, którą Rugby nazywał „zapleczem”, otworzył nie sam właściciel, lecz jakiś duży blondyn z rumieńcami na twarzy i rzadkimi kręconymi włosami. (NKJP)

<sup>6</sup> For euphonic reasons *się* is transposed in (97) and (98).

[And the Mummy liked immutability, no-surprise situations.] That is why he was unpleasantly surprised when the door to the extension, which Rugby called “the back”, was opened not by the owner himself, but by a big blond man with a ruddy face and thin curly hair.’ (transl. JL-U)

- (100) *Dlatego zdziwił się nieprzyjemnie, **kiedy to** drzwi od dobudówki, którą Rugby nazywał „zapleczem”, otworzył nie sam właściciel, lecz jakiś duży blondyn z rumieńcami na twarzy i rzadkimi kręconymi włosami.*

Here the *to*-modified variant suggests that opening of the door is somehow linked to previous discourse or otherwise present in the discourse’s universe.

A similar phenomenon can be observed in sentences with adverbials of place. In the original version (101), separated from its context, the adverb *przedtem* ‘earlier’, though it informs the audience about the protagonist having gone back to the seat he occupied previously, does not necessarily link the sentence to previous discourse:

- (101) *Siada z powrotem, **gdzie** siedział przedtem, z daleka od niej.*  
 ‘(He) sits back where he was sitting earlier, away from her.’  
 (NKJP)

By contrast, in the modified version in (102), there is a strong suggestion that the former place occupied by the protagonist has been mentioned in the previous discourse, or is otherwise known to the audience, and is somehow relevant to the development of the story arc:

- (102) *Siada z powrotem, **gdzie to** siedział przedtem, z daleka od niej.*

More importantly, besides linking to previous discourse and signaling that the speaker assumes some previous knowledge on the part of their audience, temporal conjunctions with *to* act as presupposition triggers (cf. Levinson 1983: 181).<sup>7</sup> This can be seen when (97) is modified to refer to the future. While (103) does not presuppose the protagonist finally going to bed, (104) does.

- (103) *Zaniepokoi go to zagadnienie i długo będzie mógł zasnąć, **kiedy** położy się do łóżka.*  
 ‘This question will make him anxious and he will not be able to fall asleep when he goes to bed.’ (transl. JL-U)
- (104) *Zaniepokoi go to zagadnienie i długo będzie mógł zasnąć, **kiedy to** położy się do łóżka.*

<sup>7</sup> The clearest case for presupposition triggering value of *to* with temporal conjunctions can be made by adapting Polish renderings of Levinson’s (1983: 181) examples, taken from Levinson (2010: 218-219). *To* is acceptable in presupposition triggering *Kasia płakała zanim (to) ukończyła dysertację*. ‘Kasia cried before she finished her thesis’ and unacceptable in presupposition cancelling context: *Kasia umarła zanim (\*to) ukończyła dysertację*. ‘Kasia died before she finished her thesis.’ (transl. JL-U)

Interestingly, in the case of *gdzie to* adverbials, as opposed to simple *gdzie* adverbials, it is also possible to come by evidence that *gdzie to* is involved in presupposition triggering. The issue is complicated and involves a counterfactive predicate in the matrix clause. Thus in:

- (105) *Jan wyobrażał sobie, że śpi, gdzie Paweł się schował.*  
 ‘Jan imagined that he was sleeping where Paweł had hidden himself.’ (transl. JL-U)

the presence of the counterfactive predicate *wyobrażać sobie* ‘imagine’ in the matrix clause presupposes that Jan did not really sleep but does not affect the true-value of Paweł having hidden himself somewhere. Thus it is possible to understand the sentence in two ways: on one reading Paweł’s hiding place and possibly his hiding as well are figments of Jan’s imagination, as is Jan’s sleeping, and on the other, while Jan’s sleeping remains counterfactive, Paweł’s hiding is not, and the hiding space becomes specific.<sup>8</sup> By contrast, if *gdzie to* is substituted for *gdzie*, the counterfactuality no longer spreads to the adverbial, and only the second reading available in *gdzie* alone version is possible:

- (106) *Jan wyobrażał sobie, że śpi, gdzie to schował się Paweł.*<sup>9</sup>

Thus, the presence of *to* after conjunctions in *wh*-adverbials works along similar lines to those observed for relative clauses: it links the adverbial to previous discourse or audience’s previous knowledge, thus suggesting the existence of pragmatic presupposition, and importantly, triggers the presupposition the way appositive relative clauses do.

## 7.2. *Wh-to* and *wh to-less* interrogatives

Even a cursory corpus query reveals that interrogative sentences can bear *to* after an interrogative pronoun. Some of the corpus examples represent rhetorical questions, e.g.:<sup>10</sup>

- (107) *Kiedy to wreszcie Państwowa Inspekcja Pracy i Sanepid skontrolują kolej?*  
 ‘When will the Chief Labor Inspectorate and the Sanitation and Health Department finally inspect the railway?’
- (108) *Od kiedy to akt wykonawczy wchodzi w życie przed ustawodawczym – zauważa.*  
 ‘“Since when does the executive legislation come into force before the [respective] legislative act [does]?”’, he observes.’ (transl. JL-U)

<sup>8</sup> The counterfactive reading of Paweł’s hiding is voided in a parallel correlative structure: *Jan wyobrażał sobie, że śpi tam, gdzie Paweł się schował.* ‘lit. Jan imagined that he was sleeping there where Paweł had hidden himself’ (transl. JL-U). I am indebted to Ewa Willim for that observation.

<sup>9</sup> The word order is transposed to make it clear that the *to* here is not a ‘rhetic’ to (cf. Wiśniewski 1990, Huszcza 1986, and Linde-Usiekiewicz 2016a among others).

<sup>10</sup> See Han (2002) for *wh*-questions as rhetorical questions.

Here the rhetoric character of the question is additionally marked by the direct speech framing verb *zauważa*. Yet, if the direct speech framing verb is removed, it is the presence of *to* alone that imposes the rhetorical reading:<sup>11</sup>

- (109) *Od kiedy to akt wykonawczy wchodzi w życie przed ustawodawczym?*  
 ‘Since when does the executive legislation come into force before the legislative act [does]?’ (transl. JL-U)

However, the original Mendoza’s example in (5a) is not a rhetoric question:

- (5a) *A dokąd to idziesz?* (Mendoza 2010: 8)  
 ‘And where are you going?’ (transl. JL-U)

In addition, if a procedure similar to the one applied to (96) is carried out, i.e. items that may contribute to the observed meaning besides *to* are removed, several pertinent observations can be made. First of all, at first glance the difference at the ‘speaker’s setting level’ identified by Mendoza’s informant may be attributed both to the presence of *to* and to the initial particle *a* ‘and’ (since both are absent in the contrasted straightforward question). Yet it is not the case, since the same effect (which will be specified in detail below) is maintained with *to* alone, and not with initial *a* ‘and’ alone:

- (110) *Dokąd to idziesz?*

Secondly, the speaker’s setting in question translates to their surprise at seeing the addressee being on the move. For such a reading to be available the question has to be asked when actually encountering the addressee going someplace. This becomes obvious when the goal interrogative is changed into the temporal one, e.g.:

- (111) *#Kiedy to idziesz?*  
 lit. ‘When are you going?’

Since the temporal interrogative blocks the observational setting, the question is pragmatically incongruous.

Thirdly, the ‘surprise’ element associated with *to* actually invalidates the straightforward interrogative reading, similarly to what it does when it converts a straightforward question into a rhetorical one.

Upon closer examination the intuitively observed ‘surprise’ element turns out to be a result of converting an ordinary *wh*-question to subtype ofthetic

<sup>11</sup> In fact, when (109) is produced in actual speech, it can represent yet another structure. If *to* is produced stressed and with a falling pitch (cf. Huszcza 1986, 2000, Wiśniewski 1990, Linde-Usiekiewicz 2016a), the reading would be ‘And since when it is the executive legislation that comes into force before the legislative act?’ (and not: ‘Since when it is that the executive legislation comes into force before the legislative act’).

question: the standard division of a *wh*-question between what is presupposed in the question or constitutes its topic (i.e. *datum quaestionis*) and the interrogative word, bearing focus, is neutralized by the presence of *to*. As the result the question is not so much about the goal of the movement, but about the event of going anywhere at all, hence the ‘surprise’ effect.<sup>12</sup>

The two types of *to*-featuring apparent *wh*-questions, discussed above, share at least one feature: the presence of *to* disables the reading ordinarily associated with the interrogative *wh*-structures. However, there are instances in which the presence of *to* does not invalidate the standard interrogative reading, but rather explicitly links the question, or more precisely its *datum quaestionis* either to previous discourse (113) or to the extralinguistic context of its utterance (114).

- (113) [*Biorę dzidę i idę. – Proszę pana, a gdzie pan ma dzidę? – Nie mam dzidy jako takiej. Tylko tak mówię: biorę dzidę i idę.*] – *Proszę pana, a gdzie to pan tak sobie idzie?* (NKJP)

‘[“I take a spear and go”. “But sir, where is your spear?”. “I don’t have a spear as such. It is just a saying<sup>13</sup> (lit. I am just saying): I take a spear and go.”] “Sir, and where are you going?”’ (transl. JL-U)

The setting in (114) is Warsaw during WWII, and the narrator first hears gun fire and then observes people running off the streets to hide in buildings’ inner courtyards (obviously to avoid being caught by the Nazis in a street roundup). He approaches a group of such people and utters (114):

- (114) *Gdzie to łapią, proszę państwa? - zapytałem.* (NKJP)  
 ‘“And where is the roundup?”, I asked.’ (transl. JL-U)

More examples of that kind can be constructed by adding *to* to existing examples, while others can be constructed, e.g.:

- (115) *Kiedy to pan, panie Leszku, znów wyjedzie do Polski?* (adapted from NKJP)  
 ‘And when will you, Mr Leszek, go to Poland again?’ (transl. JL-U)

<sup>12</sup> Mathieu (2004: 330) uses the term ‘thetic question’ in a similar way. For him the difference between French ordinary *combien* ‘how many’ questions, e.g.

- (i) *Combien de livres as-tu relus l’été dernier ?*  
 how-many of books have-you reread the-summer last  
 ‘How many books have you re-read last summer?’

and split questions, e.g.

- (ii) *Combien as-tu relu de livres l’été dernier ?*  
 how-many have-you reread of books the-summer last

consists in (i) being “clearly about a set of books under the focus of attention”, while in (ii) “the focus of attention is not a set of books. Rather, the sentence is asking about the event of re-reading books.”

<sup>13</sup> The playful saying in question is based on the rhyme between *dzidę* ‘spearACCUSATIVE and *idę* ‘I go/am going’.

For such question to be felicitous, previous trips to Poland, or future travel plans in general have to be mentioned in the previous conversation, either by the speaker or by their audience/interlocutor.

In more general terms, since the content of *datum quaestionis* is presupposed in its own right, the impact of *to* in *wh-to* questions would convert them into questions explicitly indicating pragmatic presupposition as well.<sup>14</sup>

Among *który to* interrogatives the ones that are pertinent here are those featuring a full lexical verb.<sup>15</sup> Similarly to what has been observed for *kiedy to* questions, the presence of *to* indicates that the question, or more specifically the *datum questionis* part is linked to previous context or suggests that the speaker assumes some knowledge about it, e.g.:

(116) *Która to z pani córek robi karierę śpiewaczą, bo chyba nie ta wiecznie kaszłąca Urszula?* (NKJP)

'Which of your daughters makes her career as a singer, because it cannot be the permanently coughing Ursula?' (transl. JL-U)

(117) *O których to obiektach mówił pan prezydent?* (NKJP)

'Which were the facilities the president was talking about?' (transl. JL-U)

If *to* is removed, the pragmatic presupposition is no longer in evidence, as shown in (118) and (119) compared with (116) and (117) respectively:

(118) *Która z pani córek robi karierę śpiewaczą, bo chyba nie ta wiecznie kaszłąca Urszula?*

'Which of your daughters makes her career as a singer, because it cannot be the permanently coughing Ursula?' (transl. JL-U)

(119) *O których obiektach mówił pan prezydent?*

'Which facilities was the president talking about?'

Like *kiedy to*, *który to* can head rhetorical questions, e.g.:

(120) *Która to matka nie czyni wszystkiego dla swego dziecka?* (NKJP)

'Which mother would not do everything for her child?' (transl. JL-U)

The data provided in this subsection demonstrate that the presence of the segment *to* in *wh*-questions has at least two different functions: one is invalidating the ordinary interrogative reading (by converting a question into a rhetorical one, and in some instances to athetic one) and the other is linking the *wh*-question to the context, while maintaining the character of

<sup>14</sup> I am using the term pragmatic presupposition rather roughly here, being well aware of some difficulties associated with the term. For the purpose of this paper it is understood as the assumption on the part of the speaker about their audience's state of mind (Levinson 1983: 204).

<sup>15</sup> As opposed to copular ones, e.g. *Która to działka?* 'Which plot is it?' (cf. Linde-Usiekiewicz 2007, among others).



a *wh*-question.<sup>16</sup> In the latter function it resembles the impact of *to* added to the kind relative with *jaki* (see Section 3).

### 7.3. The role of *to* after conjunctions and interrogatives pronouns: interim conclusion

The observations and analyses presented in the two subsections above show that the presence of *to* after conjunctions introducing adverbial clauses affects them somehow similarly to relative clauses. Firstly, *to* acts as a presupposition trigger and, secondly, it links the content of the clause to some elements of previous discourse or audience's previous knowledge, thus indicating a pragmatic presupposition.

Only one of these phenomena is replicated in interrogatives, where *to* can only indicate a pragmatic presupposition. Yet in some of the interrogatives the presence of *to* acts in a way hitherto not found among *wh*-to bearing clauses. It converts them into either rhetorical questions or to a subtype ofthetic questions.

## Conclusion: *To* in relatives, adverbials and interrogatives: function and form

The comparison between *to* bearing relative clauses, adverbials and interrogatives on the one hand, vs. their *to*-less variants on the other, has led us to identify several functions associated with the presence of the segment *to*.

First of all, there is a cluster of functions associated with the presence of *to* in relative and pseudo-relative clauses. This cluster consists of: (a) converting all *który* clauses into appositive ones; (b) marking them as *at-issue* and not parenthetical; and (c) enhancing the grammatical acceptability of otherwise doubtful examples, by virtue of making the semantic connection between the head and the relative overriding the apparent absence of a syntactic connection (referred hitherto as *ad sensu* connection).

Overriding syntax in favor of semantics should be seen as yet another instance of resolving the conflict between semantics and syntax built into natural languages (Linde-Usiekiewicz 2012, 2016b, 2017). *To* is therefore seen as an element of semantic structure of Polish (Linde-Usiekiewicz 2012: 81–82) which encodes an *ad sensu* reading.

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<sup>16</sup> As an anonymous reviewer rightly points out, this is also true of embedded questions, as in (i):

(i) *Jestem ciekaw, który (to) koń wygrał.*

'I wonder which of the horses has won.' (transl. JL-U)

While the function of allowing for overriding standard syntactic patterns and enhancing acceptability in appositive relative clauses, discussed in Section 4, is hardly controversial, it is not obvious that appositive relative clauses with internal heads:

- (121) *Za zasługi został nawet burmistrzem Cognac, **który to** urząd piastował przez ponad 20 lat.* (Mendoza 2010: 1)  
 ‘In acknowledgment of his services, he was even made the mayor of Cognac, which office he held for over 20 years.’ (transl. JL-U)
- (122) *Widziałem wczoraj moją dawną nauczycielkę, **która to** nauczycielka obecnie pracuje w teatrze.* (Topolińska 1984: 346, cited in Mendoza 2010)  
 ‘Yesterday I saw my former schoolmistress, which schoolmistress works now in a theater.’ (transl. JL-U)

are in fact a special case of the same phenomenon. The picture is clouded by the fact that there is a tendency to see the double headed relatives as prototypical, and specifically, there is a tendency to see clauses with identical external and internal heads as the standard version, and the instances of non-identity as a special case. Thus Topolińska (1984: 346) mentions the repetition of the internal head and illustrates it with identical heads; Citko (2016: 87) introduces them with the identical heads first (possibly following Cinque 2008), though she chooses non-identical heads for her example; Dobaczewski (2018: 229) only mentions internally headed relative clauses with identical heads.<sup>17</sup> By contrast, Bańko (2013) and Mendoza (2010) focus on non-identical heads.

Yet in Linde-Usiekniewicz (in print) I argued that identical heads are mostly acceptable only when they are separated by some dependents of the external head, Topolińska’s (1984: 346) example notwithstanding. Thus the standard version of double headed appositive relative clauses in Polish seems to invoke a semantic relation between the external and internal head, as can be seen in (1).<sup>18</sup> Moreover, there are instances where in the matrix clause there is no nominal external head, and the internal one is only semantically (or in some cases derivationally as well) connected to its antecedent in the matrix clause (cf. Linde-Usiekniewicz (in print)):

- (123) *Najmłodzi uczestnicy fragment prozy **mogli** zastąpić wierszem, z **której to** możliwości wielu uczniów skorzystało.* (NKJP)  
 ‘The youngest participants were allowed to substitute a verse for a piece of prose, which [was the] option many students took.’ (transl. JL-U)
- (124) *Konstytucja RP stanowi: **Rodzice mają prawo do wychowania dzieci zgodnie z własnymi przekonaniemami, a którą to** myśl dokładniej jeszcze formułuje zapis Powszechnej Deklaracji Praw Człowieka.* (NKJP)

<sup>17</sup> This is understandable, since his book deals with repetitions.

<sup>18</sup> In Linde-Usiekniewicz (in print), I presented a typology of such semantic relations.

'The Constitution of the R[epublic of] P[oland] states: Parents [shall] have a the right to rear their children in accordance with their own convictions, which idea is even more precisely formulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' (transl. JL-U)<sup>19</sup>

The preeminence of semantics over syntax is also a feature of relative clauses introduced by *kiedy* and *gdzie*. The choice of the appropriate relativizer is semantically conditioned. Given the presence of the semantic connection between the matrix clause in internal head appositive relatives and *gdzie* and *kiedy* relatives, the purport of the relative is obligatorily at-issue, and not parenthetical to the matter at hand.

Secondly, another function of *to*, seen most clearly not in relative clauses but in adverbials, is that of triggering a factitive presupposition, as discussed in Subsection 7.1. This function, however, can be seen as not completely unrelated to the one associated with relative clauses. Converting a relative clause into an appositive one involves triggering a presupposition (Levinson 1983: 181). In addition, *to* can trigger a presupposition in a consecutive relative, without converting it into an appositive one, as seen in (95).

Thirdly, in instances of sentences that bear a semantic presupposition without *to*, the presence of *to* seems to suggest the existence of a pragmatic presupposition. That is the case of *jaki* kind relatives and of *wh*-questions. However, while the content and type of the semantic presupposition is easily identifiable, the content of the pragmatic presupposition suggested there is vague and may be unrelated to the content of the semantic presupposition.<sup>20</sup>

Finally, the presence of *to* marks some apparently *wh*-questions as eitherthetic, as in (110) presented in Subsection 7.1 or as rhetorical ones (as in (108) in the same subsection).

My claim is that although the three first cases presented above, i.e. the cluster of functions associated with converting relative clauses into appositive ones, triggering a semantic presupposition in adverbials and consecutive pseudo-relatives, and encoding the existence of a pragmatic presupposition associated with a semantic one may not seem unrelated, at present I am not able to suggest what such a relation between all of them could be. In addition, there is some evidence that the pragmatic presupposition effect is unrelated to the content of the corresponding semantic presupposition and therefore I cannot argue for the presence of pragmatic presupposition in the case of appositive relative clauses. In Linde-Usiekniewicz (2017), I argued that the content of the

<sup>19</sup> The English translation of the respective wording of the Constitution is based on the official English version of the Act, available at <https://www.sejm.gov.pl/prawo/konst/angielski/kon1.htm>.

<sup>20</sup> That is why I first identified the impact of *to* in such instances as suggesting a previous mention, and not a pragmatic presupposition.

appositive relative clauses cannot be present in the cognitive environment of the addressee, so there is no possibility of there being any pragmatic presupposition corresponding to it. While it can still be argued, in line with Linde-Usiekiewicz (2017) that the pragmatic presupposition could concern the truth-value of the content of the relative, no such suggestion could be found in *który to* appositive relatives.

Yet, it could be argued, albeit tentatively, that what has been presented above as the first two cases, i.e. the appositive relatives on the one hand and the adverbials and consecutive pseudo-relatives on the other, are in fact specific instances of the same *to*. One way to do it is to follow the idea, presented above, that conversion of relative and pseudo-relative clauses into appositive relatives results from simply triggering a semantic presupposition and to claim that in the case of adverbials and consecutive pseudo-relatives the features presented as (b) and (c) above, i.e. semantic connectivity and at-issue-ness are present (possibly by default) in their *to*-less versions, and that is why there is no observable contrast in that aspect between *to*-bearing and *to*-less variants.

This reasoning reduces the first two instances, i.e. at issue appositive relative clauses, with encoded semantic connection to the matrix clause, even in the absence of a straightforward syntactic connection on the one hand, and presupposition triggering in adverbials to a single one. By the same token, *to* in such sentences cannot be considered a mere segment, with no other function than distinguishing *to*-bearing items from *to*-less ones. In addition, it is no longer necessary to treat the sequence *który to* in double headed relative clauses, e.g. (121) and (122), differently from some other *to*-bearing relativizers, as Mendoza (2010: 7) suggests.

In the third instance, i.e. linking with previous discourse or with some elements of the universe of the discourse, and in some cases suggesting the presence of a pragmatic presupposition, we are faced with another *to*: an actual linking marker (Polish: *wykładnik nawiązania*, rightly identified by Topolińska (1984: 346), though not in the context it appears in her example.

What remains is the *to* converting *wh*-interrogatives into eitherthetic questions or explicit rhetorical questions. My claim here is that it is none of the two *to*'s identified so far in *wh*-contexts. Most likely it is the thematic *to*, identified by Huszcza (1991, 2000) and discussed in Derwojedowa and Kopcińska (2015) and in Linde-Usiekiewicz (2006, 2016a). In *to*-bearing declarative sentences the presence of *to* separates the theme or topic from focus (thus introducing the prominent theme-rheme division) and marks the theme as prominent, i.e. contrast it with all other possible themes.<sup>21</sup> In contrast to rhematic *to*, mentioned in the note to example (109), which bears a contrastive falling stress,

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<sup>21</sup> English translations of Huszcza's (1991, 2000) Polish terminology are taken from Linde-Usiekiewicz (2012: 97).

the thematic *to* bears a contrastive rising pitch. A straightforward example of *to* bearing declarative sentence is provided in (125):

- (125) *Charty to[ ] szybko biegną.*  
 ‘Greyhounds *do* run fast.’<sup>22</sup>  
 (adapted from Linde-Usiekniewicz 2016a)

For the present, I can only offer formal and phonetic identity of *to* in rhetorical and thetic questions and *to* as a marker of prominent theme as an argument towards treating them as the same phenomenon. It is yet unclear how its presence helps to override the standard division between the rhematic *wh*-word and thematic *datum quaestionis* part.

While the element *to* in thetic and rhetorical questions is a separate phonetic, stress-bearing word, it is not the case of appositive-presupposition triggering *to* and linking *to*, which both cliticize on the preceding relativizer, conjunction or interrogative word. The linking *to* can be considered a simple clitic (Halpern 2017), since it attaches to different kinds of words and most likely affects neither their syntactic nor their semantic properties.<sup>23</sup> By contrast, appositive *to* displays some of the features associated with affixes (Anderson 2005): their semantics is idiosyncratic and so is their distribution; for example they cannot be attached to *jaki* degree relatives to convert them into appositives and/or trigger the factitive presupposition, yet the derivational affix vs. clitic issue remains open. However, even if they are affixes (or actually post-fixes), there is no reason to postulate just the two different lexemes *który* and *który to*, but rather a series of *to*-less and *to*-bearing relativizers and conjunctions.

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<sup>22</sup> The English translation is an approximation. In Linde-Usiekniewicz (2006) I argued that these sentences do not correspond to so called pseudo-cleft sentences.

<sup>23</sup> Not all of them have been discussed in the present paper. The term *clitic* here is used in a more general sense than it is done with reference to Polish, where the term is restricted to pronominal clitics and to person and number markers, which, as an anonymous reviewer rightly points out, following Witkoś (1998), do not have a fixed position in a sentence.

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Jadwiga Linde-Usiekniewicz  
Katedra Językoznawstwa Ogólnego, Wschodnioazjatyckiego Porównawczego  
i Bałtystyki  
Wydział Polonistyki  
Uniwersytet Warszawski  
Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28  
00-927 Warszawa  
jlinde(at)uw.edu.pl