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# **On the projection of FOODSTUFFS on the macrocategory BODY PARTS**

Aleksandra Zofia Kowalczyk

*The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin*

## ABSTRACT

In recent literature scholars have worked out a number of new categories of meaning development, such as zoosemy, plantosemy and foodsemy. In this paper we shall focus on the mechanism of foodsemy, a new semantic category proposed by Kleparski (2008), and in particular the cases of food metaphor that are targeted at human beings. Most frequently, the process discussed here involves projection of attributive features and values, sometimes positive, yet most frequently negative, associated with members of the macrocategory **FOODSTUFFS** onto the macrocategory **HUMAN BEING**. The purpose here is to present a limited set of metaphorical transfers involved in the conceptual macrocategory **FOODSTUFFS**. Mechanisms of metaphorical extension to the conceptual categories **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS** and **MALE PRIVY PARTS** from the lexical macrocategory **FOODSTUFFS** shall be illustrated and discussed here. In other words, the analysis will investigate the metaphorical use of food-related terms, such as *candy, cookie, apple pie, meat, beef, mutton, sausage, cauliflower* as they are applied in reference to female or male privy parts.

## **1. Introduction**

The aim of this paper is to illustrate and discuss a number of well-defined metaphorical transfers which are related primarily to the macrocategory **FOODSTUFFS** and which represent cases of historical shift to the human-related conceptual macrocategory that will be referred to here as **BODY PARTS**. It must be pointed out at the outset that the great majority of transfers that will be analyzed below may be said to fit within the schema <FOODSTUFF AS FEMALE/MALE PRIVY PART>. However, closer scrutiny will also reveal individual examples of foodsemic transfers that affect other names for parts of

the human body. For example, English *noodle* is employed in the sense 'head' and *bacon* is figuratively used with reference to the buttocks. Similarly, Polish *dynia* 'pumpkin' developed at one stage of its evolution a secondary meaning, that of 'head', and *kartofel* 'potato' is metaphorically used in the sense 'big nose'. In German *der Kurbis* 'pumpkin' is used either in the sense 'big head' or 'bald head', *die Tomate* 'tomato' serves to convey the sense 'head', and *das Brotchen* 'bun' means 'breast' in German slang. Additionally, *Apfel* 'apple' is a component of *der Apfelpopo*, meaning 'round bottom'.

The analysis of foodsemy has become the focus of academic discussion for a number of linguists. In Poland the discussion was started by, among others, Kleparski (1997); more recently, the problems of foodsemy were discussed by such linguists as Cymbalista (2009), Kleparski (2012), Kowalczyk – Kleparski (2015) and Kudła (2016). The analytical apparatus used in this analysis follows the methodological path developed in Kleparski (1997) and Kiełtyka (2008). We shall make use of the notion of conceptual domains, such as for example the DOMAIN OF TASTE [...], the DOMAIN OF SHAPE [...], and the DOMAIN OF FUNCTION [...], which are helpful in formulating the rhythm of metaphorical extensions, foodsemic transfers among others. Within the model adopted here lexical meanings are accountable by means of mechanisms of highlighting various attributive values that may be specified for conceptual domains. For instance, for the DOMAIN OF TASTE [...] one may specify such attributive values as <BITTER>, <SWEET>, <SOUR>, while the DOMAIN OF CONSISTENCY presupposes such attributive values as <JUICY>, <SPONGEY>, <DRY>, <STICKY>, <SMOOTH>, <EVEN>, <UNEVEN>, <LOOSE>, <LUMPY>. Finally, we shall employ the notion of conceptual categories such as, for example, **FOODSTUFFS**, **FEMALE HUMAN BEING**, **MALE HUMAN BEING** or **BODY PARTS**.

The body of foodsemic transfers that is subject to our analysis falls into two major categories, that is transfers that target **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS** and those that target **MALE PRIVY PARTS**, both of which may ultimately be viewed as being embedded in the conceptual macrocategory **BODY PARTS**. In the discussion which follows, we shall be dealing with metaphorical transfers that provide a clear indication that the process of foodsemy is not restricted to a single word class, but rather has affected members of various grammatical categories. One may trace examples of foodsemy among English verbs such as *fork*, *spoon*, *juice*, *milk*, *bun*, *nut*, *make pancakes*, *make cheese* or *have a cup of tea*, all of which are euphemisms for 'have sexual intercourse'. Examples may also be found among nouns such as *food*, *bun*, *toast*, *breakfast*, *sandwich*, *candy*, *salt*, *cheese*, *cheesecake*, *salad* or *spoon* (all of these signifying the sexual act). Let

us start our analysis with the set of cases of metaphorical transfers in which various names of foodstuffs and food related objects have come to stand for female privy parts. The majority of data and data supporting quotations have been taken from *The Oxford English Dictionary*, *The Routledge Dictionary of Modern American Slang and Unconventional English*, *The Probert Encyclopedia of Slang*, *Online Slang Dictionary* and *Urban Dictionary*. Reference materials used to corroborate data include the *Concise New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English*, *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* and *Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology*.

## 2. Foodsemic Transfers Targeting the FEMALE PRIVY PARTS and FEMALE BREASTS Categories

### 2.1 FEMALE PRIVY PARTS viewed foodsemically

Let us start our discussion of the subject of foodsemy with the examples of transfers involving the microcategory **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS**. The following table contains lexical items, their metaphorical senses and selected examples of usage contexts. Due to limitations of space not all lexical items are backed up with illustrative quotations. However, the given examples are, hopefully, sufficient to illustrate the mechanisms of foodsemy. The data given in Table 1 attempts to encircle the scope of foodsemic shifts in the category **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS**. All the lexical items are grouped into six subcategories on the basis of the metaphorical senses they have developed, such as 'female privy parts', 'vagina', 'the labia', 'vulva', 'red-haired woman's pubic hair and vulva' and 'hymen'.

Table 1. FOODSTUFFS for FEMALE PRIVY PARTS

Metaphorical sense	Lexical items	Examples of usage contexts
1. 'female privy parts'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>bun</i></li> <li>• <i>cookie</i></li> <li>• <i>mutton</i></li> <li>• <i>meat</i></li> </ul> See also other cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>candy</i></li> <li>• <i>beaver pie</i></li> </ul>	You Turtle, did you see her <i>bun</i> last night? Her <i>cookie</i> was so nicely shaven. He can't quite believe she hawks her <i>mutton</i> in hexagonal horn-rimmed spectacles. It would be unbearable, but less so, if it were only the vagina that was belittled by terms like <i>meat</i> .

2. 'vagina'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>bread</i></li> <li>• <i>muffin</i></li> <li>• <i>honey box</i></li> <li>• <i>jelly roll</i></li> <li>• <i>fur burger</i></li> <li>• <i>cauliflower</i></li> <li>• <i>oyster</i></li> <li>• <i>bacon sandwich</i></li> <li>• <i>lunchbox</i></li> <li>• <i>juice box</i></li> </ul> <p>Other cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>cake</i></li> <li>• <i>cake hole</i></li> <li>• <i>golden doughnut</i></li> <li>• <i>apple</i></li> <li>• <i>apricot</i></li> <li>• <i>peach</i></li> <li>• <i>honey pot</i></li> <li>• <i>sugar dish</i></li> <li>• <i>jelly</i></li> <li>• <i>bacon rashers</i></li> <li>• <i>beef</i></li> <li>• <i>a bit of meat</i></li> <li>• <i>meat</i></li> <li>• <i>meat seat</i></li> <li>• <i>mutton</i></li> <li>• <i>bean</i></li> <li>• <i>cabbage</i></li> <li>• <i>fish</i></li> <li>• <i>cup of tea</i></li> </ul>	<p>Yo, her <i>bread</i> is tight!</p> <p>Hey baby, can I butter your <i>muffin</i>?</p> <p>I believe Leila's running hot in the <i>honey box</i>, said Sadie.</p> <p>Come and eat my <i>jelly roll</i>!</p> <p><i>Fur burger</i> is my favourite snack.</p> <p>I ain't gonna give you my <i>cauliflower</i> any more!</p> <p>Wow, did you see the <i>oyster</i> on that chick in the movie?</p> <p>Her pussy looks like a flapping <i>bacon sandwich</i>.</p> <p>She's still a virgin. I bet she's got a totally unopened <i>lunchbox</i>.</p> <p>Man, I want to eat her <i>juice box</i> tonight!</p>
3. 'the labia'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>beef curtains</i></li> </ul> <p>See also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>meat curtains</i></li> </ul>	<p>...the former rock star went out partying at the Bellagio in Vegas and showed the world her hairless <i>beef curtains</i>, cuz she knows we just can't get enough of that.</p>
4. 'vulva'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>pie</i></li> </ul>	<p>Dude, let's go and get some <i>pie</i>.</p>
5. 'a red-haired woman's pubic hair and vulva'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>fire pie</i></li> </ul>	<p>Don't be shy... show us your <i>fire pie</i>!</p>

6. 'hymen'	• <i>cherry</i>	Associated with the growing heterosexual awareness of high-school students are such words as <i>cherry</i> , which in appropriate contexts takes on the familiar slang meaning 'hymen', while a <i>cherry-buster</i> , logically, is 'a professional deflowerer'.
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As regards the morphological structure of the lexical items that represent food products and food related objects but have undergone foodsemic transfers so that they may denote 'female privy parts', we find here simple lexical items, complex nouns and *of*-phrases. We observe that complex nouns are as numerous as simple nouns as well as that the body of morphologically complex items is represented by such complex nominal formations as *bacon rashers*, *beef curtains*, (*vertical*) *bacon sandwich*, *beaver pie*, *cake hole*, *cup of tea*, *jelly box*, *jelly roll*, *juice box*, *fire pie*, *golden doughnut*, *honey box*, *honey pot*, *lunch-box*, *meat curtains*, *meat seat*, *sugar dish*. The remaining lexical items employed foodsemically are simple nouns, such as *apple*, *apricot*, *bean*, *beef*, *bun*, *cabbage*, *cake*, *cauliflower*, *cherry*, *cookie*, *jelly*, *fish*, *meat*, *muffin*, *oyster*, *pie*.

The language data included in the table above contain a variety of names of foodstuffs such as the bakery products *bun*, *cake*, *cake hole*, *cookie*, *golden doughnut*, *jelly roll*, *muffin*, *pie* as well as the fruits *apple*, *apricot*, *cherry* and the vegetables *bean*, *cabbage*, *cauliflower*, but also types of meat, meat products, or products containing meat, such as *beef*, *beef curtains*, *meat*, *bacon rasher*, *bacon sandwich*. Finally, there is a group of miscellaneous terms for foodstuffs and food-related containers such as *fish*, *oyster*, *jelly*, *cup of tea*, *juice box*, *lunch-box*.

The body of examples of foodsemic transfer provides evidence that certain values presupposed for the attributive path of DOMAIN OF TASTE [...] and DOMAIN OF CONSISTENCY [...] in the senses of Kleparski (1997) are most frequently responsible for the foodsemic transfers between the source domain **FOODSTUFFS** and the target macrocategory **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS**. Within the two domains one can distinguish various attributive values. Evidently, the two values that may actually be said to be projected are the values <SWEET> and <JUICY>, and these two are thought by Kleparski (1997) to be responsible for the foodsemic transfer of food-related lexical items such as *cake*, *cake hole*, *bun*, *beaver pie*, *cookie*, *fire pie*, *golden doughnut*, *honey box*, *honey pot*, *muffin*, *sugar dish* (attributive value <SWEET>) and *apple*, *apricot*, *jelly*, *jelly box*, *jelly roll*, *juice box* (attributive value <JUICY>).

Let us turn now to those foodsemic transfers tabulated above, particularly the ones that involve names for meat and meat-based products. These data exhibit various historically conditioned associations between meats or meat products and sexuality, variously understood. The relatively large number of transfers adduced here indicates that meat-based foodsemy is a highly productive mechanism of metaphorical transfer in English. Note the instances of *meat*, *a bit of meat*, *mutton*, *bacon rashers*, *beef*, *beef curtains*, *meat curtains*, *meat seat* and *bacon sandwich*. It is evident from the body of documented cases discussed above that one may speak of a sexually-oriented conceptualization of meat products. Metaphorical transfers of these meat-related words evidently follow the path of development that may be rendered <SEXUAL USE OF A PERSON AS CONSUMPTION OF MEAT>.

However, while talking about **FOODSTUFFS** in the context of sexuality it is worth mentioning that meat-based metaphorical extensions are by no means restricted to the female type. English data has recently been discussed in detail by Kleparski (2012: 43-49), who notes that the meaning of *meat* enables us to conclude that the noun *meat* in English slang can be used in the sense 'sexual partner', and this may have provided the basis for the rise of various metaphorical formations. Thus, the human-specific sense of *meat* is echoed, for example, in the semantics of such complex nouns as *meat markets* or *meat racks*, which are used in current English in reference to bars for singles where one can find someone for sexual consumption, so to speak. Additionally, the *of*-phrase *a bit of meat* stands in modern English for sexual intercourse or a prostitute. Finally, such complex nouns as *fresh meat*, *hot meat* and *raw meat* may be used in the sense of 'prostitute' or 'vagina'<sup>1</sup>.

Let us now focus our attention on the miscellaneous cases of foodsemic transfers where the DOMAIN OF FUNCTION [...] seems to play a crucial role. Here, it seems that the basis for the semantic transfer of complex names such as *cup of tea*, *lunch box*, *cake hole* and (*vertical*) *bacon sandwich* may have been provided by a container metaphor. Additionally, the metaphorical development of several complex nouns presumes either a <SWEET> or a <JUICY> conceptual element, or both. This may also, in some way, be linked to the DOMAIN OF FUNCTION [...] (cf. *jelly box*, *juice box*, *honey box*, *honey pot*). The semantics of these complex expressions as well as the immediately preceding ones may be seen to presuppose the element <CONTAINER>, as reflected in the terms *box*, *hole*, *cup* and *pot*. These terms represent a concept whose primary feature is the ability to hold or contain something. Understood

<sup>1</sup> It may be noted that, like other languages, Polish exhibits a number of diminutive forms for meat denoting lexical items that are used in reference to female sexual partners, e.g. *mięsko* (diminutive of *mięso* 'meat'), *cielęcinka* 'veal', *wolowinka* 'beef', all of which may denote 'an attractive and sexually available woman'.

in this way, the holding/containing function aligns on a sexual plane with the containing function of an abstracted vagina involved in a sexual act.

Ideally, one would hope to provide explanations for all the metaphorical transfers adduced above. However, certain metaphorical processes pertaining to them defy explanation. The cases of *bean*, *cabbage* and *cauliflower* cited here are extremely difficult to account for. In such cases, isolating the basis of metaphorical shift is distinctly problematic as it is not conceptually linked to either of the proposed schema <SWEET PERCEIVED AS POSITIVE> or <SEXUAL USE OF A PERSON AS CONSUMPTION OF MEAT>. Additionally, the basis cannot be linked to either of the attributive qualities <SWEET> or <JUICY>. When we take foodstuffs such as *cabbage* or *cauliflower*, we see no obvious triggering or conditioning conceptual element that may be said to have been responsible for the rise of the sense ‘vagina’, nor the DOMAIN OF TASTE [...], the DOMAIN OF CONSISTENCY [...] or the DOMAIN OF FUNCTION [...]<sup>2</sup>.

## 2.2 FEMALE BREASTS viewed foodsemically

The data in Table 2 attempt to encircle the scope of transfers of lexical items linked to the category **FEMALE BREASTS**. The body of lexical items involved here comprises four meaning groups, where metaphorical senses, such as ‘female breasts’, ‘large female breasts’, ‘small female breasts’ and ‘female nipple’ are backed up with selected examples of usage.

Table 2. **FOODSTUFFS** for **FEMALE BREASTS**

Metaphorical sense	Lexical items	Examples of usage contexts
1. ‘female breasts’	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>brownies</i></li> <li>• <i>cakes</i></li> <li>• <i>coconuts</i></li> </ul> Other cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>apples</i></li> <li>• <i>grapes</i></li> <li>• <i>lemons</i></li> <li>• <i>mangoes</i></li> <li>• <i>cupcakes</i></li> <li>• <i>bacon bits</i></li> </ul>	<p>Wow, look at her <i>brownies</i>. They look so delicious.</p> <p>What they want is shows where one guy kicks another guy in the belly while a dame leans over them with her <i>cakes</i> falling out of her negligee.</p> <p>Man, I saw Rachel’s <i>coconuts</i> last night!</p>

<sup>2</sup> Broadening the scope to consider such domains as the DOMAIN OF SHAPE [...] or the DOMAIN OF COLOUR [...] one can still see hardly any point of conceptual contact.



2. 'large female breasts'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>melons</i></li> <li>Other cases:</li> <li>• <i>grapefruits</i></li> <li>• <i>watermelons</i></li> <li>• <i>pumpkins</i></li> <li>• <i>heavy cream</i></li> </ul>	I wanna squeeze those <i>melons</i> ! Keira has nice <i>melons</i> !
3. 'small female breasts'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>chestnuts</i></li> <li>See also:</li> <li>• <i>fried eggs</i></li> </ul>	Yeah, well, rather disappointing <i>chestnuts</i> he said, eyes locked onto the woman's breasts.
4. 'a female nipple'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>strawberry</i></li> <li>• See also:</li> <li>• <i>cherry</i></li> </ul>	I played with my girl's <i>strawberries</i> last night.

As far as the morphological status of lexical items linked to the conceptual macrocategory **FEMALE BREASTS** is concerned, it is notable that the majority of them are simple words (cf. *apples, brownies, cakes, coconuts, chestnuts, cupcakes, grapefruits, grapes, lemons, mangoes, melons, pumpkins, watermelons, cherry, strawberry*). Three of them, however, are complex nouns (*bacon bits, heavy cream, fried eggs*).

When analyzing the cases of foodsemic transfers regarding the category **FEMALE BREASTS** (see Table 2), it is striking that the examples which preponderate here are chiefly terms for fruits (*apples, grapefruits, grapes, lemons, mangoes, melons, watermelons, cherry, strawberry*). Still, there are a few words for sweet food items (*brownies, cakes, cupcakes*), and one instance of a term for a type of meat (*bacon bits*). Earlier, it was stated that terms for meat products occupy a special role in the mechanism of metaphorical transfers and that they constitute a relatively numerous group of cases of foodsemic developments. However, the majority of cases of transfer related to the category **FEMALE BREASTS** are connected with the attributive value <SWEET>. Consequently, the transfers tabulated may be said to be conditioned by the presence of the attributive value <SWEET> which is presupposed by the conceptual dimension of (TASTE). Extralinguistically, fruits are generally sweet and evoke positive connotations. Hence, we may conceive of the schema <SWEETNESS PERCEIVED AS POSITIVE>. However, one may also argue that in a number of cases the DOMAIN OF SHAPE may be proved to play a vital role in the rise of foodsemic transfers such as *grapefruits, mangoes, melons, watermelons* used in a sense 'female breasts'. We observe that transfers in this category are conditioned by conceptual dimensions, such as the DOMAIN OF SHAPE [...] and the DOMAIN OF

SIZE [...], due to evident visual resemblances. Such resemblances are evident in metaphorical transfers of food-related nouns such as *apples*, *coconuts*, *chestnuts*, *grapefruits*, *grapes*, *mangoes*, *melons*, *pumpkins*, *watermelons* where the attributive value <ROUNDISH> is projected onto the qualities of female breasts. Similarly, various attributive values presupposed by the DOMAIN OF SIZE [...], such as <LARGE>, <AVERAGE>, <BIG> or <SMALL>, are transferred onto the size of female breasts, and thus terms like *grapefruits*, *melons*, *watermelons* and *pumpkins* stand for 'large breasts', those for average size fruits, like *apples*, *coconuts*, *grapes*, *lemons* and *mangoes* stand metaphorically for average-size breasts, and those like *chestnuts* serve to encode the sense 'small breasts', whereas *fried eggs*, for example, stands for small breasts and a flat female chest.

### 3. Foodsemic Transfers Targeting the MALE PRIVY PARTS Category

Let us now pass on to the last, yet apparently the most numerous category. The data collected in Table 3 include a set of lexical items linked to the category **MALE PRIVY PARTS** and all the foodsemic shifts may be grouped into four meaning categories, where metaphorical senses such as 'penis', 'small penis', 'penis and testicles' and 'testicles' are the result of figurative extensions.

Table 3. **FOODSTUFFS** for **MALE PRIVY PARTS**

Metaphorical sense	Lexical items	Examples of usage contexts
1. 'penis'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>beef</i></li> <li>• <i>meat</i></li> <li>• <i>meat whistle</i></li> </ul> Other cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>beef torpedo</i></li> <li>• <i>beef bayonet</i></li> <li>• <i>beef bugle</i></li> <li>• <i>hot dog</i></li> <li>• <i>love steak</i></li> <li>• <i>meat puppet</i></li> <li>• <i>pork sword</i></li> <li>• <i>salami</i></li> <li>• <i>(love) sausage</i></li> <li>• <i>tube steak</i></li> </ul>	<p>I laid her down on the sofa and placed my <i>beef</i> directly into her.</p> <p>I think a man has gotta be a bit large in the <i>meat</i> department to get that wash board effect.</p> <p>What're you going to do on the variety show? Red wanted to know. Perform on the <i>meat whistle</i>?</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>bacon assegai</i></li> <li>• <i>banana</i></li> <li>• <i>pear</i></li> <li>• <i>cucumber</i></li> <li>• <i>gherkin</i></li> <li>• <i>breakfast burrito</i></li> <li>• <i>cheese and crackers</i></li> <li>• <i>cod and hake</i></li> <li>• <i>candy stick</i></li> <li>• <i>sugar stick</i></li> <li>• <i>lollipop</i></li> </ul>	
2. 'small penis'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>peanut</i></li> </ul>	Hey Holly, have you seen the new boy and his <i>peanut</i> ? He's so cute, I want him.
3. 'penis and testicles'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>fruit basket</i></li> </ul> <p>Other cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>bacon assegai</i></li> <li>• <i>meat and two vegetables</i></li> </ul>	Tried to kick him in the <i>fruit basket</i> , at least. No sure if I connected.
4. 'testicles'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>nuts</i></li> <li>• <i>beans</i></li> <li>• <i>eggs</i></li> </ul> <p>Other cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>apricots</i></li> <li>• <i>grapes</i></li> <li>• <i>plums</i></li> <li>• <i>chestnuts</i></li> <li>• <i>nuts</i></li> <li>• <i>beans</i></li> <li>• <i>delicacies</i></li> <li>• <i>eggs</i></li> </ul>	<p>Listen, if you don't let us in to see this movie, I'm gonna kick you square in the <i>nuts</i>.</p> <p>I was playing football and got kicked in the <i>beans</i>.</p> <p>I mean, even if I whacked off your <i>eggs</i>, I don't think I'd really get to you.</p>

As regards the morphological structures and qualities of the terms identified, the number of simple nouns (*banana, bean, beef, cucumber, gherkin, lollipop, noodle, meat, mutton, peanut, pear, salami, sausage, apricots, chestnuts, delicacies, eggs, grapes, nuts, plums*) equals the total of complex nouns (*breakfast burrito, beef torpedo, beef bayonet, beef bugle, candy stick, cod and hake, fruit basket, hot dog, love steak, meat puppet, meat whistle, pork sword, love sausage, sugar stick, tube steak, bacon assegai, cheese and crackers*).

While analyzing cases of metaphorical transfers related to the macrocategory **FEMALE HUMAN BEING** and **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS**,

we observed that meat-based foodsemy is the most productive. However, meat-based metaphorical extensions are not restricted to the female type. What is more, the data tabulated for the third category **MALE PRIVY PARTS** show that the terms for meat products are the most numerous (*beef, beef torpedo, beef bayonet, beef bugle, hot dog, meat, meat puppet, meat whistle, mutton, pork sword, salami, sausage, tube steak, bacon assegai*) and greatly outnumber terms reflecting fruit-based transfers (*banana, pear, apricots, grapes, plums*), vegetable-based transfers (*bean, cucumber, gherkin*), and sweet products transfers (*candy stick, lollipop, sugar stick*). Hence, the data collected for this category of metaphorical transfers indicate that the values presupposed for the DOMAIN OF TASTE [...], the DOMAIN OF CONSISTENCY [...], and the DOMAIN OF FUNCTION [...] are not the ones responsible for the foodsemic transfers between the source domain **FOODSTUFFS** and the target category **MALE PRIVY PARTS**, as was true in the case of the category **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS**. Here, the metaphors are based on the DOMAIN OF MEAT PRODUCTS [...] and the transfer schema that seems to be at work is <SEXUAL USE OF A PERSON AS CONSUMPTION OF MEAT>. As can be seen, a sexually-oriented conceptualization of meat products is not restricted only to vocabulary items used in reference to women, but also to men.

Another representative group of metaphorical transfers is formed by the set of lexical items involving fruit-related words (*banana, fruit basket, pear, apricots, grapes, plums*). It seems that the basis for the metaphorical transfer involved here stems from the nature of the attributive values presupposed for the DOMAIN OF SIZE [...] and the DOMAIN OF SHAPE [...]. It is noticeable in transfers such as those regarding *banana, pear, peanut, sausage, cucumber, gherkin* or *candy stick*, where visual resemblance between the male organ and some food items is clearly manifest. At the same time, there are good grounds to argue that figurative senses of such lexical items as *candy stick, lollipop* are conditioned by the activation of the DOMAIN OF FUNCTION as both *lollipop* and the body part denoted may be licked: the former as a rule, the latter on intimate occasions.

#### 4. Conclusions

The lexico-semantic system of any language is constantly in a state of flux, and here we have attempted to shed some light on the mechanism of metaphorical extension by identifying metaphorical transfers of vocabulary

items related to the macrocategory **FOODSTUFFS**. Although establishing pertinent rules is problematic at best, the mechanisms operating here are far from random. Firstly, figurative extensions of words connected with food and eating relate metaphorically, in the majority of cases, to the conceptual macrocategory **HUMAN BEING**, both **MALE HUMAN BEING** and **FEMALE HUMAN BEING** (here **MALE/FEMALE PRIVY PARTS**). Secondly, the material scrutinized shows a substantial number of euphemistic developments that serve to encode taboo terms connected with sexuality. Thirdly, evidence adduced indicates that numerous metaphorical transfers are closely connected with extralinguistic conditions; the productivity of a given foodsemic type of metaphorical transfer is frequently triggered by extralinguistic knowledge, and – in particular – familiarity with a certain type of food.

The analysis here suggests the general conclusion that the majority of foodsemic figurative extensions are based on attributive features and sensory experiences related to the **DOMAIN OF TASTE** [...], as evidenced in *bun, cake, cupcake, cookie, brownie, pie, golden doughnut, muffin, candy, apple* and *apricot* which reveal that sweet foodstuffs are often equated with **MALE/FEMALE PRIVY PARTS**. Furthermore, it is indicated that the schema <SWEETNESS PERCEIVED AS POSITIVE> is the basis of numerous transfers of vocabulary items referring to **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS** and that the schema <SEXUAL USE OF A PERSON AS CONSUMPTION OF MEAT> is the same in most transfers of items referring to **MALE PRIVY PARTS**. Additionally, it seems that in both categories affecting vocabulary metaphorically employed with reference to **MALE/FEMALE PRIVY PARTS**, metaphorical transfers tend to be based on a set of attributive characteristics and values of sensory experience, including (TASTE: <...>, <...>), (SHAPE: <...>, <...>), (SIZE: <...>, <...>) and (CONSISTENCY: <...>, <...>). As regards **MALE PRIVY PARTS**, the semantics of *cucumber, gherkin, sausage, hot dog, pork sword, salami* and *banana* plainly reference a visual resemblance. On the other hand, some cases of vocabulary items used with respect to **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS** are linked to the attributive values presupposed by the **DOMAIN OF FUNCTION** [...]. Thus, a container metaphor is responsible for the development of such compounds as *jelly box, juice box, honey box, honey pot, lunch box* and *cup of tea*. Unfortunately, all categories include metaphorical transfers that cannot be accounted for as easily as these, and the mechanisms operating in those instances are indeterminable. For example, transfers regarding *fish, oyster, bean, cabbage, cauliflower* and *heavy cream* seem thus far to defy any explanation.

Interestingly, the mechanisms that have operated in the three categories discussed in the foregoing are similar. Still, the number of items upon which they operate differs substantially. Table 4, with the numbers of cases involving the names of sweet foods, fruits or meats and meat products, clearly shows which possible schemata of metaphorical development discussed in the previous part of the paper are responsible for the transfers of lexical items that come to be used in reference to female and male privy parts.

Table 4. Number of foodsemic transfers involving specific food items in various categories

FEMALE PRIVY PARTS	FEMALE BREASTS	MALE PRIVY PARTS
Sweet food items: 14 Meat/meat products: 10 Fruit: 4	Fruit: 11 Sweet food items: 4 Meat/meat products: 1	Meat/meat products: 16 Fruit: 9 Sweet food items: 3

It is also worth mentioning that several of the cases of semantic shift tabulated here are used in reference to both **MALE PRIVY PARTS** and **FEMALE PRIVY PARTS** (*meat, beef, mutton, bean, apricot, grapes*) indicating that, generally speaking, sexuality is associated with consumption. However, the human female tends to be associated more with sweetness as well as consumption. Also, in some cases, lexical items may develop two metaphorical meanings, as in *peach*, the first sense of which serves to encode the sense 'attractive female', and the second a body part with the emerging sense of 'vagina'. It should be noted that lexical items such as *apple pie, cake, bun, cookie, cupcake, candy, muffin, peach, cherry, fish* and *cabbage* have undergone a similar development from 'a female person' to 'a female privy part'.

A final general observation pertains to the registers in which such lexical items deriving from foodsemic transference are employed. A substantial number of senses transferred foodsemically are restricted to informal contexts, in fact to colloquial and slang usage. When psychological considerations or social attitudes are taken into account, it is possible to implement euphemistic expressions in order to avoid taboo words connected with sexuality and to find substitutes that are more acceptable. This is evidenced in the uses of *bun, cake, cookie, muffin, apple, peach, apricot, honey box* and *sugar dish*, all of which serve to convey the sense 'vagina' as well as *hot dog, sausage, banana, pear, cucumber* and *lollipop*, which all mean 'penis'.

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Address: ALEKSANDRA ZOFIA KOWALCZYK, Katolicki Uniwersytet Lubelski Jana Pawła II, Al. Raclawickie 14, 20-950 Lublin, Poland.