The Semantics of *still* and the Modification of Polish Adnominal Participles

Abstract

Polish adnominal participles accept a wide range of event modifiers except when they are additionally modified by focus or phase particles corresponding to *still*. The paper argues that the semantic contribution of *still* is incompatible with the change-of-state component of the meaning of participles. While *still* presupposes that the property denoted by the participle holds over the initial proper subinterval during which the focalized state holds, the measure-of-change function found in resultative participles entails that the relevant subinterval corresponds to the change of state over which the relevant property does not hold yet. The participles modifiable by *still* are argued to lack the change-of-state component.

Keywords

participles, passives, degree achievements, focus particles, adverbials

1. Introduction

As visible in (1a–b) Polish adnominal adjectival participles also referred to as resultative adjectives (Cetnarowska 2000) can be modified by the equivalents of the focus particle *still* or by temporal completion and locative adverbials as well as agentive *by*-phrases. What is not possible is the combination of the two classes of modifiers within a single phrase (1c).

(1) a. ciągle–wciąż/jeszcze prze-mocz-on-e ubrani-e

still1/still2 through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N1 clothing-NOM.SG

‘clothes that are still soaked’

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1 The grammatical information has been omitted in the glosses except where it is crucial. The paper uses the following set of abbreviations: F = feminine, M = masculine, N = neuter, NOM = nominative, NVIR = non-virile, PL = plural, PTCP = participle, SG = singular, TH = thematic element.
b. **prze-mocz-on-e** _celowo_ **przez** Tomka
through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N purposefully **by** Tomek
_**w**_ 5 _**minut, w ogrodzie ubrani-e**_
in 5 minutes in garden clothing-NOM.SG
‘clothes that have been soaked on purpose, by Tomek in 5 minutes in the garden’

c. * ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze **prze-mocz-on-e** _celowo,_
still1/still2 through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N purposefully
**przez** Tomka, _**w**_ 5 _**minut, w ogrodzie ubrani-e**_
by Tomek in 5 minutes in garden clothing-NOM.SG
Intended: ‘clothes that have been soaked on purpose, by Tomek in 5 minutes in the garden and are still soaked’

Anagnostopoulou (2003, 2017), Alexiadou et al. (2015) and Bondaruk and Rozwadowska (2018) among others treat the incompatibility of participles modified by _still_ with event modification as the property of the entire class of target state passives. Since the participles modified by _still_ are unambiguously target state passives and _still_-modified constructions are incompatible with event modifiers, target state passives are incompatible with event modifiers.

In what follows I will show that this view is not necessarily correct in the case of Polish adnominal participles and I will argue that the unacceptability of examples such as (1c) is the consequence of the incompatibility of the Polish equivalents of _still_ with telic degree achievement predicates and the incompatibility of event modifiers with predicates that lack the relevant aspectual specification.

In section 2 I argue that a very common analysis according to which adnominal participles are reduced relative clauses is extremely difficult to maintain in Polish. Section 3.1. discusses the details of the patterns of modification attested with adnominal participles and focuses on their (in)compatibility with the focus particles _ciągłe~wciąż_ ‘still1’ and _jeszcze_ ‘still2’, while section 3.2 focuses on the modification of adnominal participles by means of _still_ in combination with temporal adverbials, locative phrases, durative result state-oriented adverbials as well as external argument-oriented adverbials, instrumentalss and _by_-phrases. Sections 4.1 and 4.2 investigate the semantics of the Polish equivalents of _still_ as well as the relevant event and result state-oriented adverbials, while section 4.3 concentrates on the syntax and semantics of the change-of-state predicates and argues that the incompatibility of the modification of resultative adjectives by _still_ and most types of event modifiers stems from the incompatibility of the presupposition triggered by _still_ with the semantics of the measure-of-change function which returns the difference between the degrees to which the property holds at the end and at the beginning.

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2 The difference between _ciągłe_ and _wciąż_ is a matter of register. Whereas the former is colloquial, the latter is a feature of the cultivated and literary language. In section 4.1., I argue that the difference between _ciągłe~wciąż_ and _jeszcze_ is in the nature of the implicature they trigger.
of an event. In section 4.4 it is argued that participles that are compatible with still lack the inner aspectual specification and, therefore, constitute an extreme case of spatio-temporally uninstantiated event kinds. Section 5 offers some concluding remarks.

2. Polish resultative adjectives are not reduced relative clauses

Participial modifiers have traditionally been analyzed as relative clauses containing verbal (eventive) passives (see Kayne 1994; Rapp 2001; Laskova 2007; Cinque 2010; Sleeman 2011). Although it is not possible to address the said class of analyses in detail within the confines of this article, in what follows I present main reasons why Polish participial modifiers are not good candidates for reduced relative clauses.

In Polish, nouns may be pre- and post-modified by participles. (2) and (3) are semantically equivalent free variants with (3) being preferred by some speakers for stylistic reasons.

(2) **prze-czyt-a-n-a w sobotę przez Tomka**

czytka-NOM.SG through-read-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.F in Saturaday by Tomek

'a book that has been read by Tomek on Saturday'

(3) **książka przeczytana w sobotę przez Tomek**

book-NOM.SG przeczytana-NOM.SG.F in Saturaday by Tomek

'tr. equivalent'

Under the radical version of the relative clause hypothesis (2) and (3) are born as (4), with the relative pronoun (która) and the auxiliary (została) unrealized and with a possible movement of the object noun and the participial predicate to a higher position.

(4) **książka, która została przeczytana w sobotę przez Tomek**

book-NOM.SG która-NOM.SG.F got-through-read-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.F in Saturaday by Tomek

'a book that has been read by Tomek on Saturday'

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3 For different approaches analyzing participial modifiers as reduced relative clauses see Kayne (1994), Sleeman (2011), Laskova (2007) and Cinque (2010), among others.
However, unlike English, Polish does not allow for the non-realization of the relative pronoun outside the context of ellipsis. Accordingly, relative clauses such as (4) and (5) must contain the relative pronoun.

(5) książk-a, *(którą) Tomek przeczyt-a-l
    book-NOM.SG which Tomek through-read-TH-PTCP
    a book (that) Tomek read

Additionally, Polish does not have a phonologically unrealized version of the auxiliary verb zostać ‘get’ which normally introduces verbal or eventive passives (Bondaruk and Rozwadowska 2018). Although verbless participial constructions such as (6a) are grammatical in Polish, the dropped element is the copula być ‘be’ that introduces resultative/adjectival passives. The verbless constructions do not license event modifiers such as temporal adverbials and by-phrases as visible in (6b).

(6) a. walizk-i (są) już s-pak-owa-n-e!
    suitcase-NOM.PL are already with-pack-TH-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR
    ‘The suitcases have already been packed!’

b. ?*Walizk-i (są) już s-pak-ow-an-e
    suitcase-NOM.PL (are) already with-pack-TH-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR
    wczoraj przez Romka!
    yesterday by Romek
    Int.: ‘The suitcases were already packed yesterday by Romek!’

Moreover, Polish allows participial modifiers which cannot be found in predicative position.

(7) a. przy-by-ł-y gość
    next-be-PTCP-NOM.SG.M guest-NOM.SG
    ‘a guest that arrived’

b. *gość, który jest/był przy-by-ł-y
    guest-NOM.SG who is/was next-be-PTCP-NOM.SG.M
    Intended: ‘a guest who arrived’

Finally, Polish allows participial modification whose meaning is different from the (seemingly) corresponding relative clause. For example, the most natural reading of the unprefixed participles pisany and krojone found in (8a–b) is the same as the reading of their perfective prefixed counterparts na-pisany ‘written’ and s-krojone (w kostkę) ‘diced’. By contrast, the relative clauses found in (9) allow the present or past progressive reading or a habitual meaning where a particular

4 Admittedly, the absence of the relative pronoun in putative reduced relatives may be due to the non-projection of the specifier of a defective C rather than its non-realization. If that were the case, reduced relative clauses containing participles would be the only kind of relative clauses in Polish in which C does not project a specifier.
kind of letter is or was customarily written with red ink and where a particular sort of vegetables is or was diced in accordance with a recipe. The key point is that the perfective resultative reading found in (8) is inconceivable for the relative clauses in (9). This is problematic for the analysis which claims that the clauses in (9) are the derivational source of (8).

(8) a. *list pis-a-n-y czerwonym atramentem*
letter-NOM.SG write-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.M red ink
‘a letter written in red ink’

b. *kroj-on-e w kostkę warzyw-a*
slice-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR in dice vegetable-NOM.PL
‘diced vegetables’

(9) a. *list, który jest/był pis-a-n-y czerwonym atramentem*
letter-NOM.SG which is/was write-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.PL red ink
‘a letter that is/was (being) written in red ink’

b. *warzyw-a, które są/były kroj-on-e w kostkę*
vegetable-NOM.PL which are/were carve-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR in dice
‘vegetables that are/were (being) diced’

The arguments above suggest that relative clauses are not the source of the pre- and post-modifying uses of passives in Polish.

3. Constraints on the modification of adnominal participles

3.1. The modification by *still*

Most Polish resultative adjectives are ambiguous between target and resultant states and have a reading in which an event gives rise to a transitory target state and a reading in which the resultant state is an irreversible consequence of the event having taken place.

As noted on multiple occasions (Kratzer 2000; Anagnostopoulou 2003, 2017; Alexiadou et al. 2015; Irmer and Mueller-Reichau 2018 and Bondaruk and Rozwadowska 2018 for Polish, among many others) only target state passives (but not the resultant state passives) accept the modification by the focus particle *still*. Moreover, Irmer and Mueller-Reichault (2018) claim that only target state passives may be modified by definite-time result state-oriented for-adverbials. (10)–(12) present a selection of Polish resultative adjectives which do not accept the relevant modifiers.
(10) a. ??ciągle-wciąż/jeszcze przeczytana książka
    still1/still2 through-read-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.F book-NOM.SG
    Intended: ‘a book that is still read’

    b. ??przez-czytana na rok książka
    through-read-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.F for year book-NOM.SG
    Intended: ‘a book that was read for a year’

(11) a. ??ciągle-wciąż/jeszcze przekupiony polityk
    still1/still2 through-buy-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.M politician-NOM.SG
    Intended: ‘a politician that is still bribed’

    b. ??przekupiony na 2 lata polityk
    through-buy-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.M for 2 years politician-NOM.SG
    Intended: ‘a politician that is bribed for two years’

The participles found in (10) and (11) do not give rise to target states. In fact the entities involved do not undergo any change of state. The participles such as przeczytana ‘read’ or przekupiony ‘bribed’ are abstract perfect states arising as a consequence of the culmination of relevant events (see Parsons 1990).

However, as has already been noted by Kratzer (2000), the fact that a given participle is incompatible with still and for-adverbials does not mean that it is not a target state passive. The data in (12) illustrate the cases of participles that denote irreversible target states. The unacceptable status of such participles with still and for-adverbials is the consequence of the incompatibility of the latter with irreversible states. While durative for/na-adverbials quite explicitly contain the terminating point of the state in their denotation, the German equivalent of still, i.e. immer noch, has been argued by Irmer and Mueller-Reichau (2018) to trigger an implicature whereby the time interval at which a property denoted by a participle holds is followed by a time interval at which the relevant property does not hold.5

(12) a. ??ciągle-wciąż/jeszcze zmarły/zastrzycony prezydent
    still1/still2 with-die-PTCP-NOM.SG.M/for-murder-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.M president-NOM.SG
    Intended: ‘a president who is still dead/murdered’

    b. ??zmarły/zastrzycony na godzinę prezydent
    with-die-PTCP-NOM.SG.M for-murder-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.M na godzinę prezydent
    Intended: ‘the president that was dead/murdered for an hour’

In what follows I focus on more complex patterns of modification.

5 For the discussion of further conditions on the modification of participles by still, e.g. the incompatibility with script-final frames, I refer the reader to Irmer and Mueller-Reichau (2018).
3.2. Still in combination with state and event modifiers

Most adjectival participles that introduce target states allow the modification by *still* and by means of manner adverbials, temporal (completion) adverbials as well as locative adverbials. This is true both about the resultative adjectives based on unaccusative verbs (13) and those based on transitive verbs (14). In addition, the latter allow for the modification by means of agent oriented adverbials such as *specjalnie* or *celowo* ‘on purpose, intentionally’, instrumental as well as Polish equivalents of *by*-phrases that introduce the external argument of the participle (see 15).

(13) a. ciągle/wciąż/jeszcze za-kwit-ł-e wiśni-e
    still1/still2 for-flower-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR cherry-NOM.PL
    ‘cherry trees that are still in bloom’

b. za-kwit-ł-e wczoraj wiśni-e
    for-flower-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR yesterday cherry-NOM.PL
    ‘cherry trees that came into bloom yesterday’

c. szybko za-kwit-ł-e wiśni-e
    quickly for-flower-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR cherry-NOM.PL
    ‘cherry trees that quickly came into bloom’

d. wiśni-e za-kwit-ł-e w ogrodzie
    cherry-NOM.PL for-flower-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR in garden
    ‘cherry trees that came into bloom in the garden’

(14) a. ciągle/wciąż/jeszcze prze-mocz-on-e ubrani-e
    still1/still2 through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N clothing-NOM.SG
    ‘clothes that are still soaked’

b. prze-mocz-on-e w 5 minut ubrani-e
    through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N in 5 minutes clothing-NOM.SG
    ‘clothes that have been soaked in five minutes’

c. błyskawiczejnie prze-mocz-on-e ubrani-e
    in a flash through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N clothing-NOM.SG
    ‘clothes that have been soaked in a flash’

d. ubrani-e prze-mocz-on-e w basenie
    clothing-NOM.SG through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N in swimming pool
    ‘clothes that have been soaked in the swimming pool’

(15) a. prze-mocz-on-e celowo wodą ubrani-e
    through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N purposefully water clothing-NOM.SG
    ‘clothes that have been soaked on purpose with water’

b. prze-mocz-on-e przez Tomka ubrani-e
    through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N by Tomek clothing-NOM.SG
    ‘clothes that have been soaked by Tomek’
The key observation that this paper is meant to account for is that the joint modification by means of the Polish equivalents of still and manner/temporal/locative/agent-oriented phrases is ruled out in Polish resultative adjectives (see 16–17).

(16) *ciągłe–wciąż/jeszcze za-kwit-ł-e wczoraj/szybko
still1/still2 for-flower-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR yesterday/quickly/
w ogrodzie wiśni-e
in garden cherry-NOM.PL
Intended: ‘cherry trees that are still in bloom and came into bloom yesterday/quickly/in the garden’

(17) a. *ciągłe–wciąż/jeszcze prze-mocz-on-e
still1/still2 through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N
w 5 minut/ błyskawicznie/ w basenie ubrani-e
in 5 minutes in a flash in pool clothing-NOM.SG
Intended: ‘clothes that are still soaked and have been soaked in 5 minutes/in a flash/in the swimming pool’

b. *ciągłe–wciąż prze-mocz-on-e przez Tomka
still1/still2 through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N by Tomek
/celowo ubrani-e
purposefully clothing-NOM.SG
Intended: ‘clothes that are still soaked by Tomek/on purpose’

At the same time the participles modified by still accept certain types of modification which are not found with underived root adjectives (18–19).

(18) a. ciągłe–wciąż/jeszcze obficie wy-pełni-on-e
still1/still2 lavishly out-full-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR
puchar-y
cup-NOM.PL
‘cups that are still lavishly filled’

b. ciągłe–wciąż/jeszcze u-brudz-on-e na brunatno
still1/still2 at-dirt-PTCP-NOM.SG.N on grey
ubrani-e
clothing-NOM.SG
‘clothes that are still made grey from dirt’

(19) a. *obficie peln-e puchar-y
lavishly full-NOM.SG.NVIR cup-NOM.PL
Intended: ‘cups that are lavishly full’

b. *brudn-e na brunatno ubrani-e
dirty-NOM.SG.N on grey clothing-NOM.SG
Intended: ‘clothes that are grey from dirt’

Adverbials such as obficie ‘lavishly’ and na brunatno ‘grey (lit. on grey)’ modify the target state brought about by the event denoted by the participle. Building
on this observation one could be tempted to formulate a generalization whereby the participles modified by *still* may be freely modified only by result state modifiers. Such a generalization would be largely correct, but at the same time too weak in that there are state modifiers which are incompatible with *still*-modification. An example of such a class of modifiers is the class of durative result state-oriented adverbials introduced by *na*.

\[(20)\]

\[a.\] *ciągłe-wciąż/jeszcze za-kwit-ł-e na 2 tygodnie*

\[still1/still2 \text{ for-flower-PTCP-NOM.PL.M for 2 weeks}\]

\[wiśni-e\]

\[cherry-NOM.PL\]

Intended: `cherry trees that came into bloom for 2 weeks and are still in bloom’

\[b.\] *ciągłe-wciąż/jeszcze prze-mocz-on-e/*

\[still1/still2 \text{ though-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N/}\]

\[u-brudz-on-e na godzinę ubrani-e\]

\[at-dirt-PTCP-NOM.SG.N \text{ for hour clothing-NOM.SG}\]

Intended: `clothes that have been soaked/made dirty for an hour and are still soaked/made dirty’

At the same time the state-modification by *na*-adverbials may be accompanied by the event-modification by means of temporal completion adverbials (21a), manner adverbials (21b) as well as locative and *by*-phrases phrases (21c) and agent-oriented adverbials (21d).

\[(21)\]

\[a.\] *za-marz-nię-t-y w kilka godzin na*

\[for-freeze-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.M \text{ in several hours for}\]

\[resztę zimy staw\]

\[rest \text{ winter pond-NOM.SG}\]

‘pond that has frozen in a couple of hours for the rest of the winter’

\[b.\] *wy-łysi-a-ł-y błyskawicznie na resztę*

\[out-bald-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.M \text{ in a flash for rest}\]

\[życia mężczyzn-a\]

\[life man-NOM.SG\]

‘a man that became bald in a flash for the rest of his life’

\[c.\] *most s-konstru-owa-n-y na poligonie*

\[bridge-NOM.SG \text{ with-construct-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.M on training ground}\]

\[na czas przeprawy przez saperów\]

\[for time crossing by military engineers\]

‘a bridge constructed by military engineers in the training ground for the time of the crossing’

\[d.\] *prze-rw-a-n-a celowo na 2 godziny*

\[through-tear-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.F \text{ purposefully on 2 hours}\]

\[łączność radiow-a\]

\[communication-NOM.SG radio-NOM.SG.F\]

‘radio communication that has been interrupted on purpose for two hours’
Needless to say, none of the above phrases could be additionally modified by the Polish equivalents of *still*.

Moreover, state modifiers such as *obficie* ‘lavishly’ or *na brunatno* ‘grey (lit. on grey)’ are also compatible with event modifiers as illustrated in (22).

(22) a. *puchar-y obficie wy-pełni-on-e*
   *cups-NOM.PL lavishly out-full-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR*
   *w kilka chwil przez służących*
   *in several moments by servants*
   ‘cups that were lavishly filled by the servants in a few moments’

b. *u-brudz-on-e celowo na brunatno*
   *at-dirt-PTCP-NOM.SG.N purposefully on grey*
   *ubrani-e*
   *clothing-NOM.SG*
   ‘clothes that are still made grey from dirt’

In sum, the modification of adnominal participles by the Polish versions of *still* is incompatible with event modification, including agent-oriented modifiers and by-phrases (see 16–17), as well as result state-oriented for-adverbials (see 20). *Still* may, however, co-occur with result state modifiers such as the adverbial *obficie* ‘lavishly’, and result phrases such as *na brunatno* ‘grey’ (18). Absent *still*, virtually all kinds of modification may freely co-occur. Temporal completion adverbials, manner adverbials, locatives and agent-oriented modifiers are compatible with durative *na*-adverbials as well as other result state-oriented modifiers (21–22).

4. The analysis

4.1. The meaning contribution of *still*

The analysis presented below has been influenced by the analyses of the German particle (*immer*) *noch* ‘still’ (see König 1991; Lübner 1999; Krifka 2000, Irmer and Mueller-Reichau 2018) and English *still* (see Ippolito 2007; Greenberg 2009) as focus or phase particles.

According to Lübner (1999), *noch* (*immer*) is a focus particle whose meaning depends on the nature of the focalized constituent in a sentence. In the case of the aspectual uses of *noch* (*immer*) focus scopes over the state predicate and contributes an assertion and a presupposition concerning the property that holds over two abutting time intervals.

In what follows I adopt the concept of ‘relevant periods’ from Greenberg’s account of the meaning of *still* (Greenberg 2009: 72) to restrict the domain of existential quantification over the presupposed and asserted time intervals. To be precise, I assume that there is a relevant period *D*, which is a superinterval
composed of (i) the time interval directly before the reference time and (ii) the time interval overlapping the reference time, and that the relevant property holds at the interval D.

On these assumptions the assertion contributed by the Polish equivalents of still in (23a) is as in (23b) and acknowledges that verschiedene ‘still1/still2’ says that the property of being soaked holds of the individual, i.e.

the individual is soaked at least to degree d, at time t which falls within the reference time.

(23c) is the truth condition that says that there exists a time interval t which is a proper part of the superinterval D at which the entity is soaked, and that t is a part of the reference time.

(23) a. ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze prze-mocz-on-e
    still1/still2 through-wet-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.N
    ubrani-e clothing-NOM.SG
    ‘clothes that are still soaked’

b. λxλdλt. przemok(x) ≥ (d)(t)
   where t is part of the reference time identified by the tense of the sentence

c. ∃t [t ∈ D ∧ t ⊆ tR]

Following the majority of the literature on still I assume that ciągle~wciąż and jeszcze as used in (23a) presupposes the existence of a contextually salient time interval directly preceding time t at which some substantive degree of being soaked also held.

The component of the meaning of ciągle~wciąż and jeszcze described above is retained in a question about a belief (24a) and when the assertion is denied by means of negation or by being placed in the antecedent of an unreal conditional clause (24b–c).

(24) a. Myślisz, że ubrani-e jest ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze
    you think that clothing-NOM.SG is still1/still2
    prze-mocz-on-e?
    through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N
    ‘Do you think the clothes are still soaked now?’

b. To nie prawda, że ubrani-e jest ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze
    it not truth that clothing-NOM.SG is still1/still2
    prze-mocz-on-e.
    through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N
    ‘It’s not true that the clothes are still soaked now.’

c. Gdyby ubrani-e było ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze
    if clothing-NOM.SG was still1/still2
    prze-mocz-on-e, suszyłby je.
    through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N would dry it
    ‘Were the clothes still soaked, he would be drying them.’
The semantics of the presupposition together with its truth condition is presented in (25).

(25) a. $\lambda x \lambda d' \lambda t'. \text{przemok}(x) \geq (d')(t')$
    b. $\exists t' \exists d' [t' \prec D \land t'_{\text{init}} = D_{\text{init}} \land t' \prec t \land t' \succ t \land d \leq d']$

Ciągle~wciąż and jeszcze presuppose the existence of a time interval $t'$ that is the initial proper part of the focalized superinterval $D$, i.e. the initial subinterval of $t'$ is the initial subinterval of $D$, and that $t'$ precedes and abuts the interval $t$. (25) says also that at time $t'$ the relevant entity was soaked to the degree which was greater than or equal to the asserted degree $d$.

Finally, (26) summarizes the semantic component of ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze responsible for their incompatibility with participles denoting irreversible states (see 12 above). Irmer and Mueller-Reichau (2018) claim that the said component of the meaning of immer noch ‘still’ is an implicature that points to the existence of a time interval at which a relevant property does not hold and which is later than the reference time.

(26) a. $\lambda x \lambda t'' \lambda d''. \text{przemok}(x) = (d'')(t'')$
    b. $\exists t'' \exists d'' [t < t'' \land d'' = 0]$

(26) says that ciągle~wciąż and jeszcze trigger an inference according to which an entity is assigned value 0 on the scale of being soaked at interval $t''$ which follows interval $t$.

It is probably useful to note that for most speakers the implicature triggered by ciągle~wciąż is cancellable given the right context. This is illustrated by the sentence in (27a). At the same time, any attempts at cancelling the relevant meaning contribution of jeszcze is judged much less acceptable by the speakers I consulted.

(27) a. Basen jest ciągle/wciąż o-próżni-on-y pool-NOM.SG is still1 about-empty-PTCP-NOM.SG.M and zostanie o-próżni-on-y już na zawsze. will remain about-empty-PTCP-NOM.SG.M already for always ‘The swimming pool is still emptied and it will remain emptied forever.’

b. ??Basen jest jeszcze o-próżni-on-y pool-NOM.SG is still2 about-empty-PTCP-NOM.SG.M and zostanie o-próżni-on-y już na zawsze. will remain about-empty-PTCP-NOM.SG.M already for always Intended: ‘The swimming pool is still emptied and it will remain emptied forever.’

To the extent that the component of meaning of the Polish equivalents of immer noch is indeed an implicature, it may be concluded that it is the nature of the said implicature that differentiates between ciągle~wciąż and jeszcze in that only the implicature triggered by the former is defeasible the same time the two subclasses of particles share the same assertion and presupposition.
4.2. The meaning of other event and result state-oriented modifiers

The analysis of temporal adverbials such as wczoraj ‘yesterday’ as well as manner, locative, instrument, resultative and agent-oriented adverbials assumed here follows the traditional Neo-Davidsonian lines. They are treated as semantic type <s, t> (see Morzycki 2015: chapter 5) and are assumed to attach at different levels of structure. I take the by/przez-phrase to be merged in the extended projection of Voice Phrase (see e.g. Bruening 2012) and to saturate the external argument of the participle. The example in (28) illustrates the modification of resultative adjectives with different types of adverbials.

(28) a. (ubrani-e) u-brudz-on-e do reszt-y, wczoraj,
    (clothing-NOM.SG) at-dirt-PTCP-NOM.SG.N to rest yesterday
    szybko, w garażu celowo farbą, przez Tomka
    quickly in garage purposefully paint by Tomek
    ‘clothes made completely dirty with paint, yesterday, quickly, in the garage, on
    purpose, by Tomek’

b. λλσλAd.(d > d')(s)(e) ∧ λe.wczoraj(e) ∧ λe.szybko(e) ∧ λe.IN(garaż)(e) ∧ λe.
    celowo(e) ∧ λe.WITH(farbą)(e) ∧ λe.Initiator(Marek)(e) ∧ λe.u-brudz(e)

Where d’ is a contextually defined degree of being dirty above which one talks
about being ‘completely dirty’

Following Bruening (2012, 2014) I assume the modified nominal (in the case
above ubranie ‘clothing’) not to be born as the internal argument of the parti-
ciple but rather that the participial structure merges in the extended projection
of the nominal phrase headed by the noun. The place of the internal argument
is taken by an empty operator (lambda abstractor) that moves to the extended
projection of the stativizing AP and allows the structure to function as a predi-
cate of individuals.

(30) illustrates the position of the adverbials found in (28). The point of
attachment of each class of adverbials can be deduced on the basis of their
ungrammaticality is certain classes of verbs and participles. Thus, agent-orien-
ted adverbials such as celowo ‘on purpose’ as well as by/przez-phrases and
instrument adverbials such as farbą ‘with paint’ are absent in passive partici-
ples based on unaccusatives, which, by definition, do not introduce an external
argument and lack the Voice layer altogether (see 29).

(29) a. *za-kwit-ł-e celowo kwiat-y
    for-flower-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR purposefully flower-NOM.PL
    Intended: ‘flowers that came into bloom on purpose’

b. *pęk-nię-t-a kamieniem/przez Tomka szyb-a
    crack-TH-PTCP-NOM.SG.F stone by Tomek pane-NOM.PL
    Intended: ‘a pane that was cracked with a stone/by Tomek’
Manner adverbials such as szybko ‘quickly’, temporal adverbials of the type wczoraj ‘yesterday’ as well as locative adverbials intuitively modify the change of state denoted by the participles. Since I assume the change of state to be substantiated by the measure-of-change function introduced at the level of
the Inner Aspect, the relevant adverbials are analysed as Inner Aspect-level adverbials. As I will argue in the following section, participles modified by the Polish equivalents of the particle still in principle cannot possess the Inner Aspect specification in their structure, hence, they are expected not to accept the modification by temporal, manner and locative adverbials.

Adverbials such as do reszty ‘completely’ (lit. ‘to rest’) as well as obficie ‘lavishly’ or na brunatno ‘grey’ may modify the passives of transitive and unaccusative verbs as well as the passives modified by still. They will be treated as result state modifiers and will be analyzed as VP level adverbials whose grammaticality is licensed by the presence of the state variable (introduced by the Result-head), the event variables (introduced by the V-head) and the semantic R(esult) relation between the two. Thus, the semantics of VP attested in (30) is as follows:

\[
\lambda d \lambda e \lambda s \lambda x. [\exists s [\lambda d \lambda x. \text{brud}(x) \geq d \land d > d'] \land R(e)(x)(s)]
\]

I take the denotation of the root to involve a mapping from an individual to the degree on a scale of being dirty.

Concerning the semantic contribution of durative for/adverbials, I will follow Piñón (1999) in assuming that durative result state-oriented adverbials are compatible only with predicates containing the result state argument. (32) presents the semantics of the phrase na 2 godziny ‘for 2 hours’ based on Piñón’s (1999) account. The semantic interpretation of the adverbial incorporates the relation of Result (R) that involves the theme of the state assumed to be identified with the theme of event (x), the state argument (s) and the event argument (e). Piñón takes for to apply to predicates of states and to existentially bind the state argument. In the relevant case the predicate of state is the measure phrase godziny ‘hours’ treated as a measure function from states to degrees on the scale of number of hours.

\[
[[\text{for/na}]] = \lambda P \lambda R \lambda x \lambda e. [\exists s [R(e,x,s) \land \text{hour}(s) \geq 2]]
\]

where \( P = \lambda d \lambda s. \text{hour}(s) \geq 2 \)

Finally, temporal completion adverbials will be given a familiar Neo-Davidsonian analysis. The phrase presented in (33) maps the event on a temporal scale of hours.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(33)} & \quad \text{a. przemocz(on-e) w 2 godzin-y (ubrani-e)} \\
& \quad \text{through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N in 2 hour (clothing-NOM.SG)} \\
& \quad \text{‘clothes that became soaked in two hours’}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{b. } & \quad \lambda e. \text{przemocz}(e) \land \lambda d \lambda e. \text{hour}(e) \leq 2
\end{align*}
\]

Whereas durative for/na-adverbials are VP-level modifiers, completion in/w-adverbials will be introduced in the extended projection of the Inner Aspectual Phrase that decides about the telic or quantity character of the predicate.
4.3. The change-of-state component of resultative adjectives

The analysis presented below has been strongly influenced by the approaches to the meaning and structure of degree achievements argued for in Hay et al. (1999), Kennedy and Levin (2008), Baglini (2012) and Bobaljik (2012) among others. I will start the account by discussing the semantic and syntactic structure of the participle *prze-mocz-on-y* ‘through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.M, meaning ‘soaked’.

The semantic packaging of the root *mok*-6 ‘wet’ is assumed to be a function from an individual to the degree on a scale of wetness (\(\lambda d \lambda x. mok(x) \geq d\)). The root takes the Result Phrase as its complement. The Result-head introduces the state argument into the derivation.

The root merges with the categorizing V-head, which introduces the event variable into the structure. The verbalized root is subsequently merged with the inner aspectual head that carries the \(\Delta\)-operator, whose role is to introduce the measure-of-change function \(\text{wet} \Delta = \lambda x \lambda e\). The said function returns the difference between two points on a derived scale of wetness whose lowest point coincides with the initial point of the event. The returned value is the difference between the degree to which the entity is wet at the final point of the event and at the initial point of the event.

The next step in the derivation involves turning the so-far unbounded predicate into a bounded or telic predicate. The structural interpretation of telicity assumed in this study is the presence of the open value (#) in need of range assignment in the head of another inner aspectual phrase (InnAsp2P). Adopting the account presented in Borer (2005), I will assume that the range assignment takes place as a consequence of the spec-head agreement between the Inner Aspectual-head carrying the said open value and the phonologically null quantity DP located in the spec-InnAsp2P. The relevant DP is the complement of the prefix that heads a PP merged in the specifier of the InnAsp2P. (34) presents the relevant portion of the representation of a telic change-of-state verb *przemoczyć* ‘to soak.’ and the participle *przemoczony* ‘soaked’.

---

6 The alternation between the velar \(k /k/\) and the post-alveolar \(cz /tʃ/\) attested in the stem of the participle *przemoczony* is a regular morphophonological change known as the 1st Velar Palatalization (see Gussmann 1980, 2007; Rubach 1984 for details and analyses).
The key point of the analysis put forward in this study is that the semantics of the structure presented in (34) makes it incompatible with the modification by the Polish equivalents of *still*. To understand why this has to be the case, let us consider (35b), which breaks down the application of the measure-of-change function \( \text{mok} \) applied to individuals and events and returning the difference between \( d' \), i.e. the degree to which the property holds over \( x \) at the end of the event (END(\( e \))), and \( d \), i.e. the degree to which a property holds at the beginning of the event (BEG(\( e \))).

(35) a. \( \text{prze-mocz-on-e w 5 minut ubran-e} \)  
through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N in 5 minutes clothing-NOM.SG  
'clothes that became soaked in 5 minutes'

b. \( \lambda e \lambda x \lambda d \lambda d' P. \text{mok}(\text{BEG}(e))(x)(d) \land \text{END}(e))(x)(d') \land \text{minute}(e) \leq 5 \)  
where \( P = \lambda e \lambda d. \text{minute}(e) \leq 5 \)

Importantly, for the proposition contained within (35a) to be true, the entity could not have been entirely wet (i.e. wet in every part) at the inception of the event. (35a) says, rather, that the entity has undergone a change from not being entirely wet to being entirely wet, and that this state has been achieved in (no more than) 5 minutes.

It is quite clear that the point of attachment of the completion *in/w*-adverbials is as the modifier of Asp2P that defines the predicate as quantized, bounded or telic. At the same time the point of attachment of *still* and its Polish equivalents is above the stativizer, which I take to be the TARGET-operator occupying the head of the AP and assumed by Paslawska and von Stechow (2003) to map a relation between events and states onto properties of states (see 36).

(36) \( \lambda R \lambda s \exists e R(s)(e) \) (Kratzer 2000, Paslawska and von Stechow 2003)
To be more precise, I assume *still* to occupy the Particle Phrase (PartP) in the extended projection of the Adjectival Phrase that categorizes the participle. The graph in (37) presents the placement of the modifiers in question in the structure.

(37)

Recall that the focus of the constructions under investigation is the predicate of state mapped onto the superinterval D throughout which a focalized property holds. In the relevant case, it is the property of being entirely wet. Syntactically speaking, the focus is congruent with the c-command domain of the particles ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze. In other words, the property of being entirely wet holds of the state predicate defined by the TARGET-operator.
At this point it becomes clear why the modification by *still* is incompati-
ble with the representation of a change-of-state predicate. The presence of the
change of state entails the existence of an interval within the scope of the focus
particle at which not every part of the clothes is wet. This is incompatible with
the semantic contribution of *still*, which requires that the state of being entirely
wet, i.e. soaked, hold throughout the superinterval D. The unacceptability of
the phrase found in (38) is illustrated by means of the graph in (39).

(38) *ciągłe-wciąż/jeszcze prze-mocz-on-e w 5 min
still1/still2 through-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N in 5 minutes
ubrani-e clothing-NOM.SG
Intended: ‘clothes that have become soaked in 5 minutes and are still soaked’

(39)

The graph presents the interaction of the scale of wetness and the time
scale. The degree of wetness expressed by the predicate in (38) relative to
time is represented by means of the bold line. dF represents the contextu-
ally salient point on the scale of wetness defined by the prefix above which
the entity counts as entirely wet (much as in Kagan 2013). D is the rele-
vant period at which the property of being entirely wet is expected to hold
or, to put it differently, at which the truth condition of the focalized predi-
cate of state is expected to be fulfilled. As discussed in section 4.1 the said
truth condition includes the assertion concerning the interval t which is
identified as part of the reference time and a presupposition of the interval
t’ which abuts t and is the initial proper subinterval of D. Still is also
claimed to implicate the existence of an interval t” after t at which the prop-
erty of being entirely wet does not hold anymore. This is illustrated in (39)
by the bold line descending below the level marked with the horizontal
dashed line, which represents the level of being entirely wet (or soaked).
The predicate represented by (39) is unacceptable due to the existence of
the 5-minute-long interval which falls within the focalized superinterval D
and during which the entity is not entirely wet. This interval, indicated by
means of the dashed bold line, is the interval during which the change of state from not being entirely wet to being entirely wet takes place. To be more precise, the existence of the said interval contradicts the truth condition of the presupposition triggered by ciągle-wciąż/jeszcze, which says that the property of being entirely wet should hold over the initial proper interval of D.

According to the account outlined above, completion adverbials that measure the duration of the event as well as other temporal, manner and locative adverbials are not incompatible with still per se. It is rather the case that still is incompatible with the change-of-state component of the meaning of participles, and that the presence of the change-of-state component is the prerequisite for the grammaticality of temporal, manner and locative adverbials, which all modify the change of state.

4.4. Participles modified by still

The issue that obviously needs to be addressed at this point is why most target state resultative adjectives actually allow the modification by still. I would like to postulate that those participles do not contain the Δ-operator that introduces the measure-of-change function. Additionally, the participles accompanied by still will be claimed to constitute an extreme case of uninstantiated event kind-based participles, whose compatibility with modifiers is regulated by the State Relevance Hypothesis (McIntyre 2013, 2015).

The idea that (stative) adjectival participles are constructed on uninstantiated event kinds has been articulated in Gehrke (2011, 2015). According to the Gehrke’s original analysis, statives lack the viewpoint aspectual specification that instantiates the event forming part of the participle. For such an account, all the participles discussed in this article are uninstantiated as all of them lack the viewpoint aspectual specification. At the same time, unlike adjectival participles in predicative position, the adnominal participles accept a wide variety of modifiers, except when they are accompanied by the phase particles equivalent to still.

In the light of these facts, it seems justified to claim that for Polish adnominal participles it is not the lack of the viewpoint aspectual specification that decides about the (un)availability of event modification but rather the presence and absence of inner aspectual specification. To be precise, the participles modified by still that do not contain the change-of-state component function as uninstantiated event-kind based participles and may be accompanied only by modifiers which possess a very specific relation to the result state they denote.

McIntyre (2013, 2015) discusses the scope of various constraints on event modification attested in the environment of adjectival participles and proposed by Gehrke (2011, 2015). He puts forward an additional constraint which he refers to as the State Relevance Hypothesis (see 40).
The Semantics of *still* and the Modification of Polish Adnominal Participles

(40) State Relevance Hypothesis (McIntyre 2013, 2015)

In adjectival passives in e.g. German, English, Hebrew, event-related satellites are unacceptable unless they contribute to the description of the state expressed by the participle or of the theme during the interval *i* during which this state holds. They are most acceptable if they provide information which can be inferred solely by inspection of the theme during interval *i*.

The modification of resultative adjectives accompanied by the Polish equivalents of *still* is constrained by the State Relevance Hypothesis. Note that the participles found in the scope of *still* may be accompanied by some modifiers which are unattested with adjectives and which, therefore, count as ‘event-related satellites’ (see 41).

(41) a. *ciągłe~wciąż/jeszcze* obficie wy-pełni-on-e
    ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze puchar-y cup-NOM.PL
    lic:1/2 part.adj lavishly out-full-PTCP-NOM.PL.NVIR
    *'cups that are still lavishly filled’*

    b. *ciągłe~wciąż/jeszcze* u-brudz-on-e na brunatno/
    ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze farbą ubrani-e paint clothing-NOM.SG
    lic:1/2 part.adj at-dirt-PTCP-NOM.PL.N on grey
    *'clothes that are still made grey from dirt’*

Result state modifiers such as *obficie* ‘lavishly’, *na brunatno* ‘grey’ as well as the Voice-layer modifiers such as *farbą* ‘with paint’ describe the properties whose presence can be ‘inferred solely by inspecting the theme’ during the interval over which the properties of being filled or being dirty hold. They may, therefore, be attested in the environment of the extreme case of spatio-temporally uninstantiated event kind-based participles, i.e. participles compatible with *still*. At the same time, the fact that the relevant type of modifiers is not attested with adjectives suggests that the *still*-modified resultative adjectives possess at least some portions of the verbal structure found in event token-based participles.

In addition, if we assume that the *still*-modified participles are necessarily based on aspectually uninstantiated event kinds and that the modification of such predicates is constrained by the State Relevance Hypothesis, we account for their incompatibility with durative result state-oriented *for/na*-adverbials (see 42).

(42) a. *ciągłe~wciąż/jeszcze* za-kwit-ł-e na 2 tygodnie
    ciągle~wciąż/jeszcze wiśni-e cherry-NOM.PL
    lic:1/2 part.adj for-flower-PTCP-NOM.PL.M for 2 weeks
    *Intended: ‘cherry trees that came into bloom for 2 weeks and are still in bloom’*
b. *ciągłe–wciąż/jeszcze prze-moczn-e/
still1/still2 though-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N/
ubrzaon-e na godzinę ubrani-e
at-dirt-PTCP-NOM.SG.N for hour clothing-NOM.SG
Intended: ‘clothes that have been soaked/made dirty for an hour and are still soaked/made dirty’

Although durative for-adverbials are result state modifiers, their presence does not conform with the State Relevance Hypothesis as it is not possible to tell for how long cherry trees have been in bloom or for how long a piece of clothing has been soaked/dirty by simply inspecting them physically, e.g. looking at them or touching them.

(44) summarizes the structure of the still-modifiable resultative adjective found in (43).

(43) ciągłe–wciąż/jeszcze prze-moczn-e ubrani-e
still1/still2 though-wet-PTCP-NOM.SG.N clothing-NOM.SG
‘clothes that are still soaked’

(44)
The structure in (44) lacks the inner aspectual specification responsible for the change-of-state semantics as well as the open value in need of range assignment. At the same time the state(-kind) expressed by the structure is a result of the event(-kind), hence it may be modified by adverbials which are not accepted by underived root adjectives.

5. Conclusion

Out of the several questions that one might want to ask in connection with the analysis presented in this paper I think I should address the one concerning the place of the postulated participles among the cross-linguistically attested classes of passives. This contribution isolates two subclasses of participles which are not specified for viewpoint aspect: (i) participles built on telic events possessing the measure-of-change function within their structure and (ii) participles built on event kinds lacking the measure-of-change component. The division certainly does not overlap with the division into the target state and resultant state passives discussed in Kratzer (2000), Anagnostopoulou (2003, 2017), Alexiadou et al. (2015) and Bondaruk and Rozwadowska (2018) for Polish. Rather the two subclasses discussed here are target state passives in that they possess a modifiable target state and are not just abstract perfect states arising as a result of the culmination of the event. Moreover, although the class of still-modifiable participles is deprived of much of the aspectual information, it is still a class of resultatives rather than statives (see Embick 2004 for the distinction between resultatives and statives). Polish possesses a separate class of constructions which are completely deprived of eventive semantics and give rise to adverbials. These are participles such as wzniosły ‘lofty, noble’, wytrzymały ‘durable’, przestarzały ‘old-fashioned’ or zacofany ‘backward’. It seems, therefore, that the two classes of participles discussed in this study illustrate an additional line of division within the class of resultant target state passives.

References


