

Artur Dariusz Kubacki / Alina Szwajczuk (eds.)

Translation as an Interdisciplinary Practice

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Herausgegeben von

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Edited by

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Introduction

Artur Dariusz Kubacki and Alina Szwajczuk

We are pleased to present the latest volume in the series *Translation Landscapes – Internationale Schriften zur Übersetzungswissenschaft*, which brings together papers and discussions from the International Conference Translation Landscapes IX, held on 23–25 October 2025 at the University of Szczecin Training and Recreation Centre in Pobierowo, a Baltic Sea resort in Poland. The event was organized as part of a long-standing collaboration between the Department of German Linguistics at the University of the National Education Commission in Kraków and the Institute of Linguistics at the University of Szczecin.

Over fifty speakers from Poland, Germany, and the Czech Republic attended the conference, representing institutions including Jagiellonian University in Kraków, the University of the National Education Commission in Kraków, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, the University of Białystok, the University of Rzeszów, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the University of Szczecin, the University of Warsaw, the University of Greifswald, Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, and Charles University in Prague.

Trala 11 is one of two volumes prepared following the conference. The other, *Trala 12*, was published in German. Funding for the English-language volume was provided by the University of Szczecin.

The volume comprises 19 peer-reviewed articles, 12 of which focus on specialized translation and 7 on literary translation. As the title – *Translation as an Interdisciplinary Practice* – suggests, the articles address translation as an interdisciplinary practice, combining Translation Studies in the broadest sense with state-of-the-art translation technologies, language models, law, psychology, and the natural environment. Furthermore, the authors examine questions about translation didactics, the future of the sworn translator profession, and the role of artificial intelligence in translation practice.

Although the volume is written in English, the scope of the discussion includes a contrastive approach not only between English and Polish, but also English and French, Spanish and Polish, and Chilean Spanish and Polish. Articles devoted to belles-lettres present comparative analyses involving Polish and Swedish, English and Ukrainian, Polish and Cuban Spanish, and Polish and Lithuanian, as well as studies of Sanskrit. The articles discuss translations

of works by authors such as Witold Gombrowicz, William Shakespeare, Czesław Miłosz, Wisława Szymborska, and Rammohan Roy.

This rich comparative diversity, in terms of both subject matter and languages, undoubtedly defines the international character and scope of the publication.

Let us also extend our sincere thanks to the reviewer of this volume, Professor Łukasz Grabowski of the University of Opole, whose comments provided valuable and constructive input into the preparation of the published articles.

We hope that this volume will be an engaging read and that it will inspire new research in the humanities.

PART 1

**Interpreting – Translating – Language Mediation –
Translation Technology**



Detecting, Analysing, and Translating Metaphors with AI: English–Polish Case Study

Małgorzata Brożyna-Reczko

Abstract This paper presents qualitative and quantitative findings from research using Gemini 2.5 Flash and ChatGPT 5 to identify, analyse, and translate metaphorical expressions between English and Polish. The material, drawn from English political texts, includes conventional metaphors typical of contemporary British press discourse. The study evaluates how effectively large language models perform in metaphor detection, analysis, and translation, highlights key discrepancies between models, and indicates where human intervention remains necessary. It also demonstrates that translators without coding skills can use AI tools to build applications for identifying and translating metaphorical expressions.

Keywords metaphor translation and identification – machine translation – AI in translation – conventional metaphors in political discourse

1 Introduction

People “live by metaphors” and use them unconsciously, often without recognizing them as figurative expressions (Lakoff / Johnson 1980). As Steen and other scholars have shown, metaphors are not occasional rhetorical ornaments but pervasive features of everyday language. In “Metaphor in Usage” (Steen et al. 2010), the authors report that, on average, one in every 7.5 lexical units in a corpus is metaphorically related. They further demonstrate that the proportion of metaphorical language varies by register, e.g., news texts contain approximately 16.4% metaphorical lexical units.

After decades of research in cognitive metaphor theory and deliberate metaphor theory (Steen et al. 2010), it has become clear that metaphors are even more intricate than previously assumed when treated traditionally as stylistic devices. In the context of artificial intelligence (AI), a key question arises: how effectively do large language models (LLMs) detect, understand, analyse, and

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translate metaphors? Can translators rely on AI tools as assistants in identifying such figurative elements and in analysing and rendering them accurately in translation?

In recent years, technological development, including the AI revolution, has gradually changed many areas of linguistic research, translation practice, and studies. As scholars point out, AI has now entered the stage of cognitive intelligence (e.g., Zhao / Xu 2022; Li / Liang 2022) meaning that AI systems are designed to replicate human-like abilities: language understanding, knowledge representation, reasoning, and autonomous learning. Thus, it also brings it closer to human capacity for figurative understanding, identifying, and analysing metaphorical concepts. In this context, *metaphorical competence* – the ability to comprehend and use metaphors as a means of conceptualizing and expressing abstract thought – can be seen as a crucial aspect of both human (Littlemore / Low 2006) and artificial cognitive intelligence.

Thus, the aim of this article is to investigate whether LLMs have acquired full *metaphorical competence*¹ that involves metaphor identification, comprehension, and generation in the target language. Previous studies (e.g., Lu et al. 2024; Ge et al. 2023) have assessed these aspects, showing progress from early rule-based systems to deep learning models capable of sentence-level metaphor processing. Tools such as MetaPro (Mao et al. 2022), DeepMet (Su et al. 2020), and Wmatrix (Rayson 2009) enable automatic metaphor detection and annotation. Recent research by Fuoli et al. (2025) demonstrated that fine-tuned LLMs can achieve near-human performance (median F1 = 0.79), suggesting their potential to support and enhance metaphor identification and translation.

2 Metaphor Analysis and Translation

One of the most challenging aspects of metaphor research has always been its identification. The Pragglejaz Group (Steen et al. 2010) developed the Metaphor Identification Procedure (MIP), later extended into MIPVU (Metaphor Identification Procedure Vrije Universiteit). The procedure consists of the following steps (Steen et al. 2010):

In translation studies, metaphors have long been seen as translation problems, initially within a prescriptive framework (Newmark 1988), which out-

¹ The term *metaphorical competence test scheme* is used in the article *Can Artificial Intelligence Understand and Talk about Metaphors? An Empirical Study on the Metaphoric Competence of ChatGPT* (2024) by Haoyu Lu, Tao Han, Yutao Sun, Chuan Liu.

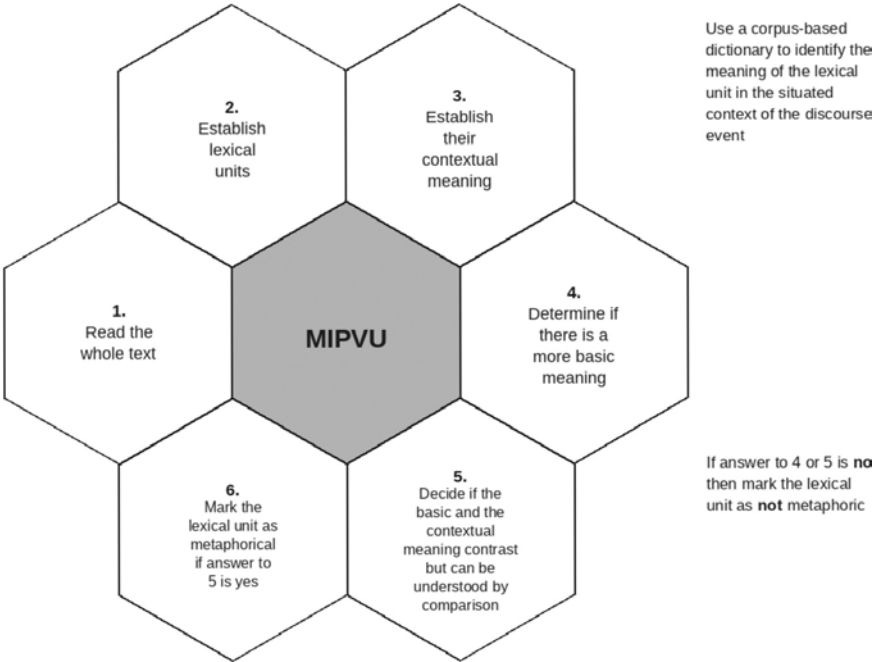


FIGURE 1.1 MIPVU procedural protocol visual representation of stages. (Source: Creed / McIlveen 2018: 33)

lined procedures for translating figurative expressions. However, as Toury (2012: 108–109) pointed out, metaphor can be also seen as a solution. He proposed six general procedures for metaphor translation: metaphor into the “same” metaphor, metaphor into “different metaphor”, metaphor into non-metaphor, metaphor into $\emptyset$, non-metaphor into metaphor, $\emptyset$ into metaphor. Building on Cognitive Metaphor Theory, Schäffner (2003: 1267) proposed a cognitively grounded model for metaphor translation in political discourse, identifying four key strategies: the conceptual metaphor remains identical in the source text (ST) and target text (TT) at the macro-level, even if individual linguistic realizations differ; structural components of the source schema are replaced in the TT by expressions that make their entailments explicit; the metaphor becomes more elaborate in the TT; and the TT employs different metaphorical expressions that fall under a more abstract or related conceptual metaphor. A more elaborated classification of procedures applied in metaphor translation including conceptual domains has been proposed by, e.g., Schmidt (2015) with literary translation and film subtitles in English and Croatian, and Shuttleworth (2017) who focused on scientific texts and their translations into different languages.

Building on these theoretical foundations, the present study examines whether LLMs can replicate human-like metaphor identification and translation processes, using structured prompting based on MIPVU methodology and metaphor translation procedures.

3 Data and Methodology

The study is based on a corpus of 50 sentences (1,019 words) containing metaphorical expressions from contemporary British political discourse.² Each sentence includes source details (newspaper title and publication date) to enable contextual analysis. Most metaphors are conventional (e.g., *financial bubble*), although some are creative (e.g., *sulphurous treachery*, *disguise their tears and seams*). Analysis employed Loveable Pro, an LLM-based tool that applies the four-step MIPVU protocol, performs bilingual metaphor detection and translation, generates annotated data, classifies metaphors by type and creativity, and enables model selection between Gemini and GPT. The application reformulates prompts into structured instructions³ defining the expert role, MIPVU steps, output format, and explanatory requirements.⁴ The edge function transmits these to the model, which applies the MIPVU procedure using its own

2 The metaphorical sentences were extracted manually, and form part of a larger corpus compiled by the author of this paper (Brożyna-Reczko 2025).

3 “Structured prompting involves carefully programming instructions, examples, and constraints to make large language models handle challenging objectives predictably. This approach translates human knowledge into a prompt ‘script’ that trains the AI system to execute a desired flow based on inputs.” <https://promptengineering.org/a-guide-to-conversational-and-structured-prompting/> [17.10.2025].

4 Prompt used for metaphor analysis: You are an expert linguist specializing in metaphor analysis and translation using the MIPVU method (Metaphor Identification Procedure Vrije Universiteit). MIPVU Method Steps: 1. Read the entire text to establish general understanding 2. Determine the lexical units in the text 3. For each lexical unit: a. Establish its meaning in context (contextual meaning) b. Determine if it has a more basic contemporary meaning in other contexts (basic meaning) c. Decide whether the contextual meaning contrasts with the basic meaning but can be understood in comparison with it d. If yes, mark the lexical unit as metaphorical Your task: 1. Detect if the text is in English or Polish 2. Apply MIPVU method to identify ALL metaphorical expressions 3. For each metaphor, provide the basic (literal) meaning and contextual meaning 4. Translate the metaphor to the opposite language (English→Polish or Polish→English) 5. Translate the COMPLETE SENTENCE containing the metaphor 6. Categorize each metaphor as “conventional” or “creative” 7. Identify metaphor type (e.g., “conceptual”, “structural”, “orientational”, “ontological”, etc.) 8. For CONCEPTUAL metaphors, identify source domain (concrete) and target domain (abstract).

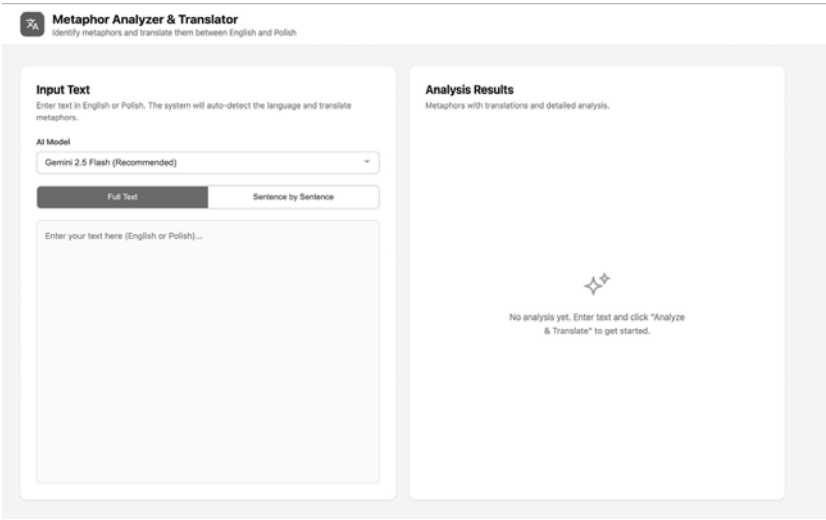


FIGURE 1.2 User interface of the “Metaphor Analyzer & Translator” application built in Loveable Pro. (Source: compiled by the author)

linguistic knowledge. For the purposes of this study, the temperature parameter was set to 0.7 for both Gemini 2.5 Flash and GPT-5.

Two large language models, ChatGPT 5 and Gemini 2.5 Flash, were tested on the same dataset to identify, classify, and translate metaphorical expressions from English into Polish. The results were exported to Microsoft Excel for quantitative and qualitative comparison of metaphor types, distribution, translation accuracy, creativity, and overlap between models.

4 Results and Discussion

ChatGPT 5 identified more metaphorical expressions than Gemini 2.5 Flash – a total of 113, compared to 100 recognized by Gemini. Among these, 20 metaphors were identified exclusively by ChatGPT, including domain-specific or fixed expressions such as *Great Depression*, *onset of the financial crisis*, *price stability*, *liquidity*, as well as more general expressions such as *feel worse*. It also detected context-dependent or problematic metaphors, such as *mild paranoia* and *hyperkinetic Mr Obama*. ChatGPT further identified a greater number of sentences containing four and two metaphors, and fewer with only one metaphor.

Gemini, on the other hand, identified 10 metaphors not recognized by ChatGPT. These include economic terms such as *economic bubbles* and *negative rates*, phrasal verbs such as *put in*, and domain-specific collocations such as *raise interest rates* and *on-message relentless discipline*. Gemini also captured several cases of anthropomorphic expressions typical of political discourse.

Both models share a high degree of overlap in metaphor identification (~84%), with 90 metaphors recognized by Gemini and 93 by ChatGPT. The difference in numbers results from different metaphor segmentation by the models, e.g., ChatGPT analyses *bled dry*, *capital flight* as separate metaphors whereas Gemini treats them as a single unit (*bled dry by capital flight*). However, the original metaphorical expressions identified by ChatGPT tend to be longer, averaging 3 words (333 words in total), while those detected by Gemini average 2.5 words (254 words in total).

Comparison of conceptual domains across shared metaphors shows that the models display a moderate degree of alignment: 15% demonstrate full overlap, where both source and target domains coincide; 34% show partial overlap, where only one of the domains corresponds; and 50% reveal divergent mappings, meaning that conceptualization differs completely between Gemini and ChatGPT. This suggests that while the models often identify the same metaphorical expressions, they frequently conceptualize them through different domain associations. Gemini tends to use shorter and more abstract domain labels whereas ChatGPT employs more specific and concrete ones, e.g., *obituary has been written* is analysed by ChatGPT as DEATH RITUALS / OBITUARY as POLITICAL FORTUNES, while Gemini classifies it as DEATH as POLITICAL END.

Differences in the outputs of the two models are also visible in the classification of metaphors. In total, 14 metaphorical expressions were identified as creative: 2 by Gemini (*sulphurous treachery*, *disguise their tears and seams*) and 12 by ChatGPT (e.g., *sulphurous treachery*, *[bubbles have] burst*, *are suffering more severe cashflow headaches*, *Portuguese disease*, *we're ill [about this position]*). Gemini labels metaphors as conceptual with very few identified as ontological (1) and orientational (2). It fails to use structural as a distinct type. ChatGPT identifies 45 conceptual, 29 structural, 12 ontological, 7 orientational, and introduces other mixed / hybrid labels (20), e.g., *soothe bank nerves* classified as ontological (personification) by ChatGPT whereas as conceptual by Gemini.

Quantitative analysis also examines how Gemini and ChatGPT translated the identified metaphors to assess whether they were preserved, modified, or replaced with non-metaphorical expressions. Both models most often trans-

lated metaphors literally (88% for Gemini and 87% for ChatGPT), modifying wording in about 8–10% of cases. In a few instances (3–4%), metaphorical expressions were rendered non-metaphorically while preserving a similar meaning, for example, *get a grip on* translated as *opanować* (*control*), *muddle along* as *byle jak sobie radzić* (*get by somehow*), *severe handicap* as *poważne utrudnienie* (Gemini) (*serious difficulty*) or *poważne obciążenie* (ChatGPT) (*serious burden*). The last example proves that the models preserve the meaning but lose the figurative component (physical impairment image present in the source text)⁵ and its associations with illness or sport. Interestingly, *handicap*⁶ is also used in Polish, although primarily in the context of sports. It is worth noting that ChatGPT removed quotation marks signalling the metaphor, whereas Gemini retained them.

Although both models generally preserve metaphors and demonstrate high accuracy, certain fluency errors occur, primarily due to literal translations, atypical word choices, stylistic inconsistencies, or expressions uncommon in Polish political discourse. These issues were more frequent in Gemini's output (27%) than in ChatGPT's (14%).

There were six particularly challenging cases for models resulting in mistranslations or serious fluency errors. Difficulties result from the lack of similar metaphorical expressions from the same domain in Polish political or economic discourse. For example, both models identified the expression *toothless*⁷ as metaphorical; however, its literal translation results in a mistranslation, as *bezzębny* in Polish fails to convey the figurative meaning of ineffective or with no power. Interestingly, this type of error does not occur in the translation of the idiom *lose heart*, rendered by the models as *tracić ducha* (Gemini) (*lose one's spirit*) and *tracić otuchę* (ChatGPT) (*lose hope / encouragement*).

Another example includes a cluster of interrelated metaphors used to talk about political discipline and a party conference and, more broadly, POLITICS as a CLINICAL PROCESS, framing it in terms of control, lack of diversity, artificiality, and lifelessness. In Polish translations, expressions retain only literal medical connotations, without conveying the figurative meaning.

5 Handicap “an illness, injury or condition that makes it difficult for someone to do some things that other people do [...]” (CD).

6 Handicap “1. Wyrównanie szans przeciwników przez stworzenie słabszemu lepszych warunków [...]; 2. Korzystna lub niekorzystna sytuacja albo cecha [...]” (SJP PWN) “1. Equalising the chances of opponents by giving the weaker one more favourable conditions; 2. An advantageous or disadvantageous situation or feature.”

7 Toothless “used to describe an organization or a rule that has no power” (CD).

Original: In their *relentless, sanitised, on-message discipline*,⁸ Tory conferences increasingly resemble *the sterile Labour ones*⁹ of the 1990s (The Economist, 10–16.10.2009).

Gemini: W swojej nieustannej, sterylizowanej, zgodnej z przekazem dyscyplinie, konferencje Torysów coraz bardziej przypominają sterylne konferencje Partii Pracy z lat 90.

ChatGPT: Swoją nieustępliwą, wyjąłową, podporządkowaną przekazowi dyscypliną konferencje torysów coraz bardziej przypominają sterylne zjazdy Partii Pracy z lat 90.

Sanitised and *sterile* evoke medical and biological associations of being hygienic, disinfected. However, their figurative meaning refers to fruitlessness, lack of originality, and the process of making something less vivid (CD). The Polish equivalent *sterylne* fails to convey these associations, while *jałowy* may appear semantically closer but still does not fully fit the context (SJP PWN). Similarly, *relentless* refers to a behavioural trait implying strictness and persistence, which is not adequately reflected in *nieustępliwą dyscypliną* (*unyielding discipline*). The expressions *zgodnej z przekazem dyscyplinie* (*discipline consistent with the message*) and *podporządkowanej przekazowi dyscyplinie* (*discipline subordinated to the message*) also sound unnatural and fail to match the intended sense.

Another example proves that literal translation may result in the loss of figurative meaning and, more importantly, in weakening or disappearance of the evaluative function of metaphor, which is a crucial element in political discourse.

Original: They surely cannot go back to the *sulphurous treachery*¹⁰ and dishonesty that were part of Labour's DNA under Tony Blair and Gordon Brown (The Sun, 24.09.2010).

8 In this sentence, Gemini identified four separate metaphors: *relentless* (conventional, conceptual EFFORT / DISCIPLINE as PHYSICAL FORCE), *sanitised* (conventional, conceptual INFORMATION / PRESENTATION as CLEANLINESS), *on-message* (conventional, conceptual COMMUNICATION / CONSISTENCY as PHYSICAL ALIGNMENT), and *discipline* (conventional, conceptual POLITICAL STRATEGY / BEHAVIOUR as TRAINING / CONTROL), whereas ChatGPT identified only *sanitised* as a metaphor, classifying it as a conventional, conceptual metaphor, mapping POLITICAL COMMUNICATION onto CLEANING / STERILISATION.

9 Gemini identified *sterile* as a conventional, conceptual metaphor, mapping VITALITY onto BIOLOGICAL LIFE / CLEANLINESS, while ChatGPT classified it as a conventional, conceptual metaphor, mapping POLITICAL EVENTS onto STERILITY / MEDICINE.

10 Both models classified it as a creative metaphor, with the mappings: MORAL CORRUPTION as HELL / FIRE (conceptual, Gemini) and MORAL CORRUPTION as HELLFIRE /

Gemini: Z pewnością nie mogą wrócić do *siarkowej zdrady* i nieuczciwości, które były częścią DNA Partii Pracy za czasów Tony’ego Blaira i Gordona Browna.

ChatGPT: Z pewnością nie mogą wrócić do *piekielnej zdrady* i nieuczciwości, które były częścią DNA Partii Pracy za Tony’ego Blaira i Gordona Browna.

The adjective *sulphurous*¹¹ evokes associations with danger, toxicity, fire, and hell. Its metaphorical meaning extends to qualities such as being hot-tempered, fiery, or intense. The underlying conceptualization can be described as IMMORALITY IS TOXIC SUBSTANCE. The Polish equivalent *siarkowy* fails to convey these figurative connotations, remaining within the chemical domain, and thus losing its original evaluative component. A more appropriate expression is *piekielny* (*hellish*), which shifts the imagery from the chemical to the religious sphere while preserving similar evaluative and emotional undertones. In this case, ChatGPT uses a different metaphorical expression of a different domain,¹² which preserves the meaning and connotations of the source sentence. At a more general level, the conceptualization POLITICAL PARTY AS A LIVING ORGANISM is preserved in the translations by two models.

There are more instances in which translation produced by models preserve the original meaning but use different metaphorical expressions that modify metaphorical mapping and imagery,¹³ e.g.,

Original: There will be a risk of a *resurgence in inflation*¹⁴ later, and the *stimulus will then have to be withdrawn* (The Times, 27.10.2010).

SULFUR (ontological, attributional, ChatGPT). Gemini identified one additional metaphor *part of Labour’s DNA* whereas ChatGPT recognized two: *go back to* and *Labour’s DNA*.

11 Sulphurous “[...] 3. Of or relating to hellfire, 4. Hot-tempered” (CLD).

12 Schäffner (2004) observes that target text may employ different metaphorical expressions that fall under a more abstract or related conceptual metaphor; Schmidt (2015: 257) lists the strategy: “a metaphorical expression is translated by a metaphorical expression of a different conceptual metaphor with a different mapping and a similar meaning”.

13 Schäffner (2004), Schmidt (2015).

14 Gemini identified the metaphorical expression *resurgence in inflation* as a conventional, conceptual metaphor mapping ECONOMIC ACTIVITY onto DISEASE / LIFE, whereas ChatGPT classified it as a conventional, structural metaphor conceptualizing INFLATION as a WAVE. Gemini identified the expression *the stimulus will then have to be withdrawn* and categorized it as conventional, conceptual mapping ECONOMIC POLICY onto PHYSICAL OBJECT / ASSISTANCE whereas ChatGPT classified it as conventional, ontological metaphor conceptualizing ECONOMIC POLICY as PHYSICAL REMOVAL.

Gemini: Później będzie istniało ryzyko *odrodzenia się inflacji*, a wówczas *bo-dziec będzie musiał zostać wycofany*.

ChatGPT: Później będzie istnieć ryzyko *ponownego nasilenia inflacji*, a *stymulację gospodarczą będzie wtedy trzeba wycofać*.

The expression, *resurgence in inflation*, which indicates that inflation rates may rise again, conveys the image of inflation as a dynamic and evolving phenomenon capable of sudden upward movement.¹⁵ In economic discourse, such MOVEMENT-based imagery rather reflects dynamism and unpredictability and suddenness. Gemini translated the phrase as *odrodzenie się inflacji*, preserving the image of inflation as a dynamic and changeable but conceptualizing it as a living organism / animal through the use of the verb *rodzić* (*born*). The expression *odrodzenie się inflacji* (*literally: rebirth of inflation*) used in Polish economic and political discourse (most likely as a borrowing from English), evokes more biological and existential imagery, domain of LIFE / DEATH. In contrast, ChatGPT's translation evokes more associations with POWER but from a negative perspective, depicting inflation as something harmful that intensifies, resembling a disease or adverse weather condition. It is worth noting that in Polish, *odrodzenie* carries a positive or negative semantic prosody (WSJP), but a collocation such as *odrodzenie się choroby* (*resurgence of the disease*) is not accepted in Polish. ChatGPT's translation appears more adequate in this context, particularly when considered alongside the subsequent biological or medical metaphor *stimulus will have to be withdrawn*. The term *stimulus*, translated literally by Gemini, is rendered by ChatGPT as *stymulacja gospodarcza* (*economic stimulation*) – a more technical, specific, and less figurative expression that still maintains the image of inflation as a recurring disease requiring treatment.

The loss of the imagery, while meaning is preserved, can be observed in the following example.

Original: But despite *much huffing and puffing*,¹⁶ the commission seems reluctant to raise the legal stakes (The Economist, 18–24.07.2009).

Gemini: Jednak pomimo *wielu szumu*, komisja wydaje się niechętna podnosić stawkę prawną.

15 Surge "a sudden and great increase, a sudden and great movement forward" (CD).

16 The expression *huffing and puffing* is classified by Gemini as a conventional, conceptual metaphor, mapping EFFORT / ACTION onto PHYSICAL EXERTION, while ChatGPT categorizes it as a conventional, structural metaphor, conceptualizing POLITICAL RHETORIC or BLUSTER as PHYSICAL EXERTION / BREATHING. Another metaphor identified in this sentence by both models is *raise the legal stakes*.

ChatGPT: Ale mimo *całego hałasu i buńczucznych zapowiedzi*, komisja wydaje się niechętna, by podnieść stawkę w wymiarze prawnym.

The idiomatic expression *huffing and puffing*, meaning making a fuss or showing exaggerated effort without tangible results leading to annoyance and dissatisfaction (CLD), creates wordplay through both sound (repetition) and sense. This expression is also used in the tale *The Three Little Pigs: I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down*.¹⁷

Gemini simplifies the expression, producing a version with fluency issues and grammatical error, while ChatGPT introduces *buńczuczny* (*defiant, boastful*), which partially compensates through the repetition of the “cz” sound combined with nasal consonants (“n”, “ń”), adding a touch of phonetic intensity. However, the physical image of the commission “huffing and puffing” – the vivid metaphor of empty effort or bluster – is lost in both translations.

The majority of metaphors that share the same source and target domains were translated by the models similarly, e.g., *flexing their political muscles* as *preżę swoje polityczne muskuły*, *a weak opposition* as *słaba opozycja*, or with slight stylistic modifications, e.g., *spelt out* as *wyjaśnił* (Gemini) or *wyłożył jasno* (ChatGPT), *insurgent parties* as *partie powstańcze / buntownicze* (Gemini) or *partie buntownicze* (ChatGPT). One exception is *we're ill about this position*, translated as *źle się czujemy z powodu tej sytuacji* (Gemini) and *jeszemy chorzy z powodu tej sytuacji* (ChatGPT), which sounds unnatural in this context, as it refers to a political and economic situation.

5 Conclusions

The study shows that LLMs can assist in identifying, analysing, and translating metaphors, although notable differences were observed between models, particularly in identification and analysis. This can also indicate that AI-based metaphor analysis is model-dependent and not theoretically neutral. Also, more generally, AI translation tends to prioritize literal accuracy which may lead to fluency errors and partial misunderstandings. Human translation, by contrast, is typically more sensitive to cultural context, allowing for more adaptive and creative solutions.

As metaphor interpretation remains a debated issue among scholars, LLMs offer valuable support rather than definitive answers. While both models tend to produce literal translations prioritizing accuracy, ChatGPT shows more cre-

¹⁷ <https://americanliterature.com/childrens-stories/the-three-little-pigs> [20.10.2025].

ativity in metaphor translation than Gemini. The findings, although not fully generalizable across genres, suggest that translators can effectively use LLMs as tools for analysing and translating metaphorical expressions.

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