

Current Perspectives on Historical Metaphor

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Historical texts offer ample opportunities for exploring the evolution of metaphor over time. Analyzing figurative language in historical discourses from a diachronic perspective necessitates a critical examination of one's theoretical assumptions as the models applied must account for challenges like the scarcity of linguistic data, the ever-changing function of metaphor, and the cultural knowledge integral to language comprehension. The focus stream aims to highlight trends in historical metaphor research and invites submissions across a broad spectrum of topics, encompassing various methodologies. We welcome contributions that:

1. provide insights into the use of figurative language in diverse discourses, genres, and texts across different periods;
2. investigate the evolution of figurative expressions and metaphorical mappings;
3. examine the implicit and explicit impact of historical metaphors on contemporary language and conceptualizations;
4. address the challenges of applying theoretical frameworks, including Cognitive Metaphor Theory, Blending Theory, Discourse Analysis etc., to analyze historical data.

We encourage both in-depth case studies and comprehensive investigations using linguistic corpora, electronic dictionaries, and lexical/conceptual databases (WordNet, FrameNet etc.) to analyze evolution of patterns in conceptual mapping.