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Numerals as a specialised means to express quantitative predicates in Latin

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Abstract. The class of numerals in Latin has been fragmentarily addressed in linguistic studies. This research aimed to bridge that gap by analysing Latin numerals as specialised means to express quantitative predicates within semantic and grammatical dimensions, thereby contributing to the theoretical grammar of classical languages. As a part of speech, numerals are highly productive and play a crucial role across various linguistic styles. A combination of selective, word-formation, descriptive and valency-distribution methods was employed to analyse, systematise and classify the Latin numerals. This approach shed light on the unique characteristics of this lexico-grammatical category. The study detailed the word-formation tendencies of Latin numerals, examined both intra- and interlingual constructions and revealed numerals despite their prepositive position in sentence structures function primarily as quantifiers without developing determinant roles. The syntactic functions of numerals, viewed through the lenses of lexical semantics and morphological paradigms, were also described. The research ddemonstrated that numerals as quantitative predicates exhibit varying valency based on their contextual usage. Semantic varieties of quantitative predicates were analysed at both semantic-syntactic and formal-syntactic levels. The specified predicates were divided according to their semantic variants based on the distinction among absolute, indefinite, approximate, distributive and ratio quantity predicates. The study

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underscored that, in texts, numerals in quantitative predicates often carry stylistic or pragmatic functions, highlighting the significance of the quantitative aspect in communication. Their usage is especially prominent in scientific and medical texts, religious and historical contexts, mathematical and logical formulations, literary works and legal codes. This research enhances the understanding of numerals and provides insights into the formal mechanisms of their realisation. The findings offer a foundation for future theoretical explorations of derivational processes in Latin

Keywords: grammar; part of speech; numeral; quantitative predicate; semantic variety of a quantitative predicate; sentence structure; syntax; semantics; information structure of the sentence

Introduction

In the theoretical interests of linguists, grammar occupies a prominent stance as a branch of linguistic science, as it is within this discipline that the unique manifestations of language structure are examined. During the emergence of the Latin numeral (*nomen numerale*) as a distinct class of words, specific lexical and grammatical features have evolved that clearly distinguish it from other parts of speech. The relevance of researching numerals in Latin lies in the importance of understanding numerical concepts and the structure of numerals, which constitute a discrete lexical and grammatical category characterised by unique syntactic and morphological properties. This, in turn, facilitates a deeper comprehension of the Latin linguistic system, i.e. a system that forms the foundation for modern European languages such as Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Romanian. Moreover, numerals exhibit significant typological similarity across many of the world's languages and their study can help uncover regularities in the evolution of numerical constructions and grammatical forms. Furthermore, numerals hold particular significance in Latin literature, religious texts, legal documents and scholarly works of antiquity. An accurate understanding of numerical forms contributes to more precise translation and interpretation of historical sources, a matter of critical importance for the study of the culture and history of Ancient Rome.

The relevance of investigating Latin numerals is also underscored by the fact that, in literary and historical texts, numerals frequently play a key role in structuring content and conveying stylistic nuances. Their examination enables a better understanding of the stylistic and semantic dimensions of Latin texts, which is vital for scholars of classical philology and for translators. In the contemporary context, research on Latin numerals contributes to the advancement of computational linguistics methodologies, particularly in the processing and recognition of Latin texts. Thus, the study of numerals is of both linguistic and cultural-historical significance, rendering the scholarly interest in their functioning within the semantic and syntactic structure of sentences entirely justified.

The study of Latin numerals has captured the interest of numerous linguists throughout various historical periods. The numeral system has been examined from diverse perspectives, e.g. its role within the system of parts of speech, its morphological structure, the processes of numeral word formation and the grammatical relationships between numerals and nouns, among other aspects. To date, research is still being pursued by specialists in classical philology who focus on the development of Latin numerals in both classical and medieval Latin. These scholars investigate the evolutionary changes, semantics and grammatical peculiarities of numerals as well as the relationships

between Latin numerals and those in other Indo-European languages, thereby contributing to the reconstruction of the Indo-European numeral system's evolution.

Contemporary investigations into numerals involve numerous linguists from European and American universities. Their research encompasses various dimensions of numerals, including syntax, semantics, formal models and typology. For instance, linguists such as S. Montrul & M. Polinsky (2021) and M. Polinsky (2021) have scrutinised the formal and cognitive aspects of grammar, with a particular focus on numerals in languages exhibiting diverse structural characteristics. Similarly, A. Spalek & L. McNally (2022) have examined numerals within the contexts of semantics and logic, while L. McNally (2024) has concentrated on the overall grammar of numerals and their formal features across languages of different typological groups. The investigation of numerals across a variety of languages has, in turn, broadened the scope of research.

Nevertheless, modern linguistics still requires further research into the expression of the quantity / quantitative predicate via numerals and the peculiarities of their functioning in Latin. J.-S. Löbner (2021) has substantiated numerous issues within cognitive semantics and the grammar of numerals, exploring the semantic dimensions of meaning, including both lexical and sentential semantics, and analysing the interrelations between meaning and the category of meaning. This work underscores the importance of context in determining linguistic categories and meanings and introduces non-traditional approaches to analysing logic and semantic composition, drawing on examples from various languages. Furthermore, D. Harbour (2023) has examined numerals and their morphosemantic properties, with his work focusing on the grammatical category of number across different languages. The study describes the method of writing through ideogrammes; the ideography of numerals enables them to remain among the most significant instruments for conveying information in various domains of human activity, from everyday communication to scientific discourse.

However, there is a clear need for additional scholarly inquiry into Latin numerals as specialised means of expressing the quantity / quantitative predicate as well as for a detailed analysis of their semantic variants at both the semantic-syntactic and formal-syntactic levels. This need is particularly pressing given the recent intensification of theoretical research into the multifaceted nature of the sentence in contemporary linguistic science. The study of Latin grammar, including numerals, has benefitted significantly from the contributions of Ukrainian scholars. From this perspective, L.L. Zvonska *et al.* (2017) characterised the numeral as a part of speech that denotes the quantity of objects, their order in counting or the number of times an action is repeated, and provided a rationale for Latin numeral declension. Nevertheless, there is a need to examine the specific use of numerals as the quantity / quantitative predicate when combined with a nominal component.

Professor B.V. Cherniukh (2022), a specialist in classical philology, has systematically explored the concept of Vulgar Latin, as well as the phonetic, morphological and syntactic changes, vocabulary and word-formation processes. The scholar's work also focuses on the numeral as a distinctive class of words that has developed its own specific lexical-grammatical features. In an earlier study, B.V. Cherniukh (2010) investigated the aspectual semantics of predicates in subordinate temporal clauses, i.e. clauses introduced by *dum, donec*, and *quod*. Nonetheless, further research is warranted into the semantic-syntactic structure of sentences in Latin that include a numeral component or numeral-nominal constructions.

N. Medynska (2021) substantiated that when numerals occupy peripheral positions within a sentence, they assume a secondary role analogous to that of attributive elements. The

author observed that contemporary linguistic scholarship is characterised by divergent interpretations regarding the structure of sentences that incorporate quantity / quantitative predicates. On the one hand, the numeral's function is viewed as secondary – emerging from a shift from a static to a dynamic attribute, whereas on the other hand, any transposition of the noun's morphological form engenders a misalignment between the semantic-syntactic and formal-syntactic structures of the sentence. I. Pavlova (2018) contends that numerals constitute pivotal units within discourse and text, acting as carriers of a unique type of information. Nonetheless, the morphological and syntactic nuances underpinning their capacity to express quantity predicates warrant further investigation.

Moreover, D. Dmytroshkin (2021) undertook a comprehensive analysis of composite nominals, delineating all conceivable structural types and elucidating the principles governing the formation of numeral composites within sentences. The authors believe that these numeral composites, potentially serving as an efficacious means of explicating the quantity / quantitative predicate, deserve additional scholarly attention.

Besides, in the contemporary linguistic paradigm, the tripartite nature of the sentence has been delineated. Modern linguists endeavour to recognise that the sentence is inherently multifaceted. According to A. Zagnitko (2020), the sentence is not only one of the syntactic units but also the principal predicative syntactic unit; it comprises either several word forms interconnected by syntactic relations or a single word form, thereby constituting an intonationally organised, semantically and grammatically coherent whole.

However, within linguistic scholarship, Latin numerals have not been sufficiently examined. There are no monographic studies in which the Latin numeral is investigated as a means of expressing the quantity / quantitative predicate. Therefore, the aim of the study was to find out the peculiarity of the functions of numerals as means of expressing the quantity predicate in Latin. To achieve this goal, the following tasks have been set: to systematise the semantic varieties of quantity predicates; to define their semantic varieties; to analyse their structural and semantic features for a deeper understanding of Latin grammar and its influence on modern languages.

Materials and Methods

The source materials for this study were drawn from a range of reference works, including the Latin-Ukrainian and Ukrainian-Latin dictionary (Churakova, 2009); the Ukrainian-Ancient Greek-Latin Dictionary (Boyko & Myronova, 2012); and the Latin-Ukrainian Word-Formation Dictionary (Petrova, 2010). In addition, the empirical basis of this research was derived from a selection of Latin literary texts spanning various genres. From these texts, sentences that exemplify the category of quantity predicates were systematically extracted using continuous and representative sampling techniques.

The overall corpus comprised over 300 instances, sourced from the following texts: M. Tulius Cicero's *Epistulae ad familiares* (C. Fam.), *Epistulae ad Atticum* (C. Att.), *Pro Sestio* (C. Sest.), *De oratore* (C. Deor.), *De republica* (C. Rep.), *Tusculanae disputationes* (C. Tusc.), *In Verrem (actio secunda)* (C. Verr.), *Brutus* (C. Br.) and *Pro C. Manilio* (C. Man.); C. Julius Caesar's *De bello Civili* (Caes. B.C.) and *De bello Gallico* (Caes. B.G.); M. Porcius Cato's *Libri ad filium* (Cato Fil.); Q. Horatius Flaccus's *Epistulae* (Hor. Ep.); T. Livius's *Ab Urbe condita* (Liv.); Cornelius Nepos's *Atticus* (Nep. Att.); and C. Sallustius Crispus's *Conjuratio Catilinae* (Sall. C.).

To achieve the aim and objectives of the study, several methods were employed in a structured and sequential manner. The initial phase utilised a sampling method, which proved instrumental in the analysis and systematisation of Latin numerals as means of

expressing the quantity / quantitative predicate. This approach involved the identification and selection of linguistic material from various sources, including the dictionaries and a range of Latin literary monuments dating from the 3rd century BC to the 6th century AD. Particular attention was devoted to selecting numerals that were representative of diverse morphological models, thereby ensuring a broad sample for a comprehensive analysis of quantity predicates within the semantic-syntactic structure of sentences. This methodology facilitated the identification of typical functional patterns of numerals, their morphological and syntactic behaviour and provided a representative overview of their functioning in different contexts, thereby revealing their grammatical and syntactic peculiarities. Moreover, the observational method enabled the tracking of numeral usage in Latin texts and supported a thorough analysis of their employment as quantity predicates, alongside an examination of their syntactic and semantic properties. This robust foundation paves the way for further scholarly inquiry.

Finally, the selected sentences containing numerals were systematised and a classification of the semantic variants of quantity / quantitative predicates was conducted. Following the selection and systematisation of numerals, the word-formation method was applied, serving as a key tool in examining the structure and semantics of Latin numerals, particularly when they function as quantity predicates within a sentence. This approach allowed for the identification of patterns in numeral formation, tracing their etymological development and functional characteristics within the language. The word-formation analysis not only facilitated an understanding of the historical evolution of numerals but also explained their adaptation to various syntactic positions. At this stage of the research, a detailed analysis of the morphological components of each numeral was conducted, revealing clear patterns in the semantic development of numerals.

Subsequently, the descriptive method was employed as the primary approach for classifying the selected material. This method entailed a detailed examination of the functions and forms of numerals used to express quantity, measure or numerical value in Latin constructions. The focus was placed on how numerals operate within sentences, particularly when fulfilling the role of predicates. Numerals were classified based on their morphological and semantic characteristics, ensuring a systematic and coherent categorisation of numerals as quantity or quantitative predicates. This classification was essential for interpreting the broader linguistic functions of numerals as it demonstrated their integration into the structural framework of Latin. Moreover, the interpretation of the various types of quantity predicates contributed to a deeper understanding of the evolution of numeral forms and their communicative function, ultimately allowing for conclusions regarding their linguistic significance.

For a more in-depth analysis of Latin numerals as quantity predicates, the valency-distributional method was employed. This approach focused on understanding the syntactic behaviour of numerals, their syntactic dependencies (valency) and their distribution within different contexts. Each numeral's valency was analysed to determine its capacity to govern complements or modify nouns, which allowed for a clearer definition of the syntactic roles played by numerals. Furthermore, distributional analysis facilitated an examination of numeral functions within diverse syntactic structures, highlighting their positional flexibility and establishing the principles governing their placement in Latin syntax. This stage provided deeper insights into the functional capacities of numerals in context.

The structural framework of numeral semantics was further investigated through componential analysis and the contextual method, both of which were employed to explore numeral meanings at a deeper semantic level

and to classify the various types of quantity predicates. Componential analysis involved decomposing each numeral's meaning into its fundamental semantic components, thereby enabling the identification of distinct semantic variations of quantity predicates. The study of numeral meanings was further enriched by the contextual method, which examined how numerals were used within textual contexts. By analysing their usage across different sentences and literary works, the research identified the influence of context on the meaning and function of numerals as quantity predicates.

The functional-semantic analysis was employed to investigate the semantics and functions of the constituent elements within the functional-semantic field of quantity predicates. Additionally, the method of structural-semantic modelling was used to construct a model of the functional-semantic field of quantity predicates. The functional-semantic approach to the study of Latin numerals as quantity predicates allowed for an examination of numerals from the perspective of their role in the communicative structure of the sentence and their semantic content. This method not only facilitated a description of numerals in their syntactic and semantic roles but also demonstrated their interaction with other linguistic elements and their contribution to the formation of quantity or quantitative predicative meaning. Then, structural-semantic modelling combined the analysis of grammatical structure and semantic content of linguistic units, proving particularly useful for examining Latin numerals functioning as quantity predicates. This approach enabled a systematic classification of numeral usage and revealed the regularities governing the interaction between form and meaning. The study also adopted a functional-categorical approach, which allowed for a comprehensive investigation of the multifunctionality of numerals and their roles in language, particularly as quantity predicates shaping both the content and structure of utterances.

All research stages, from the initial selection and systematisation of data, word-formation analysis and classification of numerals to the study of their syntactic behaviour and semantic properties, facilitated a thorough examination of the formation and functions of Latin numerals as specialised means of expressing quantity predicates. Each methodological approach played a crucial role in achieving the primary objective: to distinguish numerals as specialised markers of quantity or quantitative predicates in Latin and to analyse their structural and semantic characteristics for a deeper understanding of Latin morphology and its influence on modern languages.

Results and Discussion

The system of numerical terms developed over an extended historical period. Throughout the formation of numerals as a distinct class of words, they acquired specific lexical and grammatical features that differentiate them from other parts of speech. The most prominent ancient Roman grammarian Priscian (Lat. *Priscianus*) identified numerical terms within the Latin language. As described by L.L. Zvonska *et al.* (2017), Priscian's *Institutiones grammaticae* is the most comprehensive grammatical work of late antiquity, distinguished by its detailed analysis of Latin syntax and serving as the foundation for Latin language studies. Following the model of this grammar, grammars of various European languages were later developed.

Ancient Roman grammarians classified numerals into cardinal and ordinal types, characterised by sequentiality, where each subsequent numeral represented a quantity greater than the preceding one by a single unit. Numerals exhibit typological similarities across many world languages. P. Ondrus (1971), in the study of the Slovak language, characterised numerals as a part of speech with distinct quantitative properties. Yu.L. Mosenkis (2018) analysed the contributions of the scholar M. Marr, who substantiated the "new theory of language",

based on the assertion of the common origin of all the world's languages and research on the role of numerals. According to I. Kochan (2009), numerals hold a significant place in literary texts of various genres, acquiring symbolic or even magical meanings, which can be both general and author specific.

Based on observations, numerals perform quantitative (*quantitativus*) and enumerative (*numerativus*) functions. In Latin, the primary function of numerals is quantitative, meaning they express quantitative-objective relations of extralinguistic reality, for example, *Marcellus duo vulnera accepit, unum in stomacho, alterum in capite secundum aurem* (C. Fam. 4. 12. 1) – "Marcellus received two wounds: one in the stomach, the other in the head near the ear"; *Vixit annis nonaginta* (C. Sest. 1. 1. 3) – "He lived for ninety years".

When performing a quantitative function, numerals occur in a pre-substantive position, modifying the noun's plural meaning by giving it precise numerical definition, for instance, *Itinera duo, unum per Sequanos, alterum per provinciam nostram* (Caes. B. G. 1. 6. 3) – "Two routes: one through the Sequani, the other through our province". Syntactically, numerals function alongside nouns because *nomen substantivum* is most closely related to numerical indicators. A numeral and a noun form an indivisible syntactic component and are closely connected morphologically and syntactically as in: *Nos apud Alysiam unum diem commorati sumus* (C. Fam. 16. 3. 1) – "In Alesia, we stayed for one day". In their enumerative function, Latin numerals can appear without an accompanying noun, e.g. *Alius alio plura invenire potest, nemo omnia*. – "One can discover more than another but no one can discover everything".

Latin numerals possess distinct grammatical and syntactic features that influence sentence structure. Within the semantic-syntactic structure, numerals do not have an independent syntactic function; rather, they occupy the syntactic positions of other parts of speech, assuming their functions. Their morphological classification as a part of speech is confirmed by their morphemic structure, which includes a root morpheme and inflectional endings. The Latin language has two primary types of numerals: cardinal, which indicate exact quantity (*ūnus, duo, trēs*, etc.) and ordinal, which denote the order of elements (*prīmus, secundus, tertius*). According to E. Svitlychna *et al.* (2022), Latin possesses a well-defined numeral system, including ***c**ardinalia* (cardinal numerals) such as *ūnus, duo, trēs* ("one, two, three"), *ordinalia* (ordinal numerals) such as *prīmus, secundus, tertius* ("first, second, third") and *distributiva* (distributive numerals) such as *singulī, bīnī, ternī* ("one by one, in pair, three altogether"). Their study highlights the significant grammatical role numerals play in Latin.

Based on analysis, Latin numerals (Table 1) can be classified into the following categories: cardinal numerals (*numeralia cardinalia*), ordinal numerals (*numeralia ordinalia*), distributive numerals (*numeralia distributiva*), adverbial numerals (*numeralia adverbia*), collective numerals (*numeralia collectiva*), multiplicative numerals (*numeralia multiplicativi*) and fractional numerals (*numeralia fractionarii*).

Table 1. *Categories of Latin numerals*

Category	Numeral	Example	Translation to Ukrainian / English
Numeralia cardinalia	*unus, duo, tres*	*Unus discipulus in aula sedet*	Один учень сидить у класі / One pupil is sitting in the classroom
Numeralia ordinalia	*primus, secundus, tertius*	*Primus inter pares*	Перший серед рівних / First among equals
Numeralia distributiva	*singuli, bini, terni*	*Terni flores in vase sunt*	По три квітки у вазі / Three flowers in each vase
Adverbia numeralia	*semel, bis, ter*	*Semel venisti ad me*	Ти прийшов до мене один раз / You came to me once

Table 1. Continued

Category	Numeral	Example	Translation to Ukrainian / English
Numeralia collectiva	*centeni, milia*	*Centeni viri in acie stabant*	Сто чоловіків стояли в строю / One hundred men stood in formation
Multiplicativi	*simplex, duplex, triplex*	*Numerus simplex saepe in mathematica invenitu*	Просте число часто зустрічається у математиці / A (one) prime number (= prime numbers) often appears in mathematics
Fractionarii	*dimidius, tertia, quarta*	*Dimidius mensis iam praeteriit*	Половина місяця вже минула / Half of the month has already passed

Source: *authors' development*

Numeralia cardinalia (cardinal numerals) indicate an exact quantity of objects or an abstract mathematical number in whole units. Quantitative numerals are a significant element of Latin grammar and are used both in everyday texts and official documents, emphasising their importance in the language. The distinctive feature of these numerals lies in their combination with nouns, which denote the items being counted. According to N. Medynska (2021), numerals in combination with nouns form a functional-semantic unity, which occupies the position of a compound subject or a strongly governed secondary member of the sentence, such as a direct object, in the semantic-syntactic structure of the sentence.

The numeral-noun functioning is crucial for numerals as in the syntactic plan, *numeralia cardinalia* with a noun form an inseparable component of the sentence, for example, *Interim legiones sex, qui primae venerant, opere dimenso castra munire coeperunt* (Nep. 7. 8. 6) – "Meanwhile, six legions, who had come first, began fortifying the camp after measuring the work"; Lat. *Centum oppida intra paucos dies in deditionem accepit* (Liv. 40. 49. 1) – "Within a few days, a (one) hundred cities surrendered to him". According to M. Plutsch (2017), the conceptual (functional-semantic) category of quantity in numerals manifests as lexical semantics at the level of word-class organisation, representing a static quantitative feature of objects.

Numeralia ordinalia (ordinal numerals) indicate the order of items in a series or the sequence of actions. An important feature of their usage is in dates, ordinal lists and official texts, for example, *Carthaginienses, prima luce oppugnaturis hostibus castra, saxis undique congestis augent vallum* (Liv. 28. 15. 13) – "When the first rays of the sun were about to attack the camp, the Carthaginians, having gathered stones from all sides, reinforced the rampart"; *Tertio die Macedoniam pervenit* (Caes. B. C. 3. 106. 1) – "On the third day, he arrived in Macedonia"; *Caesar Gomphos pervenit, quod est oppidum primum Thessaliae venientibus ab Epiro* (Caes. B. C. 3. 80. 1) – "Caesar reached Gomphi, the first city of Thessaly for those coming from Epirus"; *Quem rem ita graviter tulit Alexander, ut secunda legatione denuo bellum deprecantibus ita demum remiserit, ut oratores et duces sibi dedantur* – "Alexander bore this matter so heavily that after the second embassy, he resumed war against those who had pleaded for peace, so that the envoys and leaders surrendered to him".

According to O.A. Vatseba & L.R. Oliynyk (2020), ordinal numerals are used to indicate dates, order in lists and other contexts where sequence is needed, e.g. in dates (*Kalendae Martiae* "the first day of March"), indicating the order of emperors, popes or eras (*Ioannes Paulus Secundus* "John Paul II'), and in numbering books or chapters (*liber tertius* "the third book"). In Latin, ordinal numerals are formed from cardinal numerals and change according to gender, number and case, agreeing with the noun they modify.

Numeralia distributiva (distributive numerals) indicate the distribution of items into certain quantities and are used when something needs to be evenly distributed among individual parts. In the Latin-Ukrainian and

Ukrainian-Latin dictionary by L.P. Churakova (2009), the following forms of distributive numerals are recorded: *bini* "by two"; *terni (trini)* "by three"; *quaterni* "by four"; *quini* "by five"; *seni* "by six"; *septeni* "by seven"; *octoni* "by eight"; *novena* "by nine"; *deni* "by ten". Distributive numerals often appear in texts describing the division of objects between people or groups: *Militibus bini denarii dati sunt* – "The soldiers were given two denarii each"; *Bini gladiatores pugnabant* – "Two gladiators fought each". This type of numeral is not widely used in modern languages but is significant in classical texts and for the study of Latin grammar.

Numeralia adverbia (numeral adverbs) are an essential tool for conveying numerical characteristics in Latin, emphasising the precision and clarity of statements. The Latin-Ukrainian word-formation dictionary by H. Petrova (2010) includes a substantial number of these numeral adverbs, which express quantity: *semel* "once", *bis* "twice", *ter* "three times", *quater* "four times", *quinquies* "five times", *sexies* "six times", *septies* "seven times", *octies* "eight times", *novies* "nine times", *decies* "ten times", as well as numerals indicating order: *primum* "firstly", *secundum* "secondly", *tertio* "thirdly", *quarto* "fourthly", *quinto* "fifthly". The dictionary by N. Boyko & V. Myronova (2012) records numerals that indicate frequency: *simpliciter* "once", *dupliciter* "twice", *tripliciter* "three times", *quadrupliciter* "four times". These numerals are indeclinable and are used to clarify the frequency or sequence of actions in texts. Numeral adverbs are frequently used in historical texts, legal documents and scientific treatises to precisely indicate actions: *Bis vincit qui se vincit in victoria* – "He conquers twice who conquers himself in victory"; *Ter consule* – "He was consul three times".

Numeralia collectiva (collective numerals) in Latin are used to denote a group or collection of items or people, typically of the same kind. They are used less frequently than other types of numerals and have a limited set of forms: *bīnī* "by two", *ternī* "by three", *quaternī* "by four". Collective numerals are often used in expressions related to pairs of items: *bīnī calcei* – EN two pairs of shoes, and to indicate several identical items belonging to one person; in the context of division or distribution: *bīnī denarii* – EN two denarii each. These numerals usually agree in gender, number and case with the noun they relate to.

Multiplicativi (multiplicative numerals) in Latin indicate multiplicity and answer the question "how many times?". They are formed using the suffixes *-plex* or *-plicis*. The Latin-Ukrainian word-formation dictionary by H. Petrova (2010) includes the following numerals: *simplex* "simple (once)", *duplex* "double", *triplex* "triple", *quadruplex* "quadruple". These numerals are used to describe the multiplicity of something, for example, *domus duplex* "a two-storey house".

Fractionarii (fractional numerals) in Latin express fractional parts and are used to denote parts of a whole. The basic fractional numerals in Latin are formed from ordinal numerals with the addition of the suffix *-arius* or derivative forms. In the dictionary by N. Boyko & V. Myronova (2012), the following numerals are recorded: *dimidia* "half", *tertia* "a third", *quarta* "a quarter", *quinta* "a fifth", *sexta* "a sixth". To denote fractions with larger numerals, rotational constructions are used, for example: *tres partes septem* "three sevenths".

The purpose of numerals is to convey accompanying predicative meaning. Numerals associated with the category of quantity are among the most fundamental properties of existence. The category of quantity is distinguished in terms of predicativity. The predicative component of the semantics of objectivity is numerals that denote a specific or indefinite quantity of objects while the non-accompanying predicative component refers to numerals that denote abstract numbers. According to I.R. Vychovanets (1992), the necessity of using numerals as a quantitative characteristic of objects led to their attachment to supporting

nouns as specificators of the quantitative definiteness of objects. Syntacticians I. Sag *et al.* (2006) analysed numerals in the context of various formal models such as Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar (HPSG). Earlier, the American linguist D. Pesetsky (1989) described the syntactic structures of numerals and other grammatical categories, including their functions in sentences, agreement forms with other parts of speech and the specifics of their use in different grammatical contexts.

The numeral, as a separate part of speech, is distinguished by its semantic aspect and is a full-fledged part of speech that denotes the quantity of objects and abstract mathematical numbers. Latin numerals, when functioning as predicates of quantity, express specific numerical values in combination with verb or noun forms, for example, Lat. *Unus est* – EN There is one or Lat. *Tres sunt* – EN There are three. In such constructions, numerals not only indicate quantity but also acquire a certain syntactic and semantic autonomy, allowing them to function as independent predicates. When numerals perform the role of predicates, they are typically used with nouns in genitive or accusative case and may have different forms depending on the numerical value. When functioning as predicates, numerals describe how many elements exist or indicate the size, quantity or degree of a particular property. For instance, in the construction *Centum sunt homines* – EN There are one hundred people, the numeral *centum* serves as a predicate denoting the number of people. Research into the contexts in which Latin numerals function as predicates has revealed specific linguistic constructions where numerals indicate not only the quantity of objects but also abstract concepts, such as time, space or other measurable categories.

In Latin, numerals can be used as predicates of quantity, possessing a certain valency, i.e. the ability to combine with a specific number of arguments. It has been found that numerals as predicates may have different valency depending on their context. The following was observed: monovalent constructions: *Tres homines* – EN Three people; divalent constructions: *Quinque pueri tres libros legunt* – EN Five boys read (are reading) three books; trivalent or higher constructions: *Septem equites duo milites tria castra expugnabant* – EN Seven horsemen and two soldiers were capturing three camps. Numerals as predicates of quantity form a specific functional-semantic field, in which they interact with other linguistic units, such as verbs, pronouns or nouns. For example, in the construction *duo sunt* – EN there are two, the numeral combines with the linking verb, serving as the primary carrier of the quantitative meaning.

The analysis conducted revealed the potential transformations of numerals functioning as predicates of quantity, such as the formation of derived forms or the change of their function depending on the syntactic environment. The sentence *Milia sunt in exercitu* – EN There are thousands in the army illustrates the use of the numeral milia as a predicate of quantity. Functionally, the numeral serves as the main element, to which additional information about location (*in exercitu*) is appended. Semantically, it expresses many objects, emphasising the scale of the phenomenon.

Structural-semantic modelling has allowed the examination of the features of Latin numerals functioning as predicates of quantity. In the sentence *Duo sunt mentes hominum* – EN There are two thoughts of people, the numeral *duo* serves as the predicate of quantity. A model has been created for the numeral *duo* (two) as a predicate of quantity, i.e. structure: [Duo] + [Substantive, Nom.] + [Verb, Sing./Plur.], with semantics indicating the exact quantity of two subjects/objects. The numeral can serve as the grammatical centre of the utterance, expressing the number of objects being affirmed or denied. In this case, the numeral takes on the role of the grammatical predicate. In the construction *Duo sunt* – EN There are two of them, the numeral *duo* functions as the predicate.

As predicates, numerals express the semantic category of quantity, which is their primary meaning. However, within a sentence, this category can interact with other meanings, such as time, modality or aspect. In various contexts, numerals functioning as predicates of quantity can serve to specify the quantity or be used in generalised statements. In the sentence *Unus est sapiens* – EN The only wise man, the numeral acquires a semantic load that goes beyond its purely quantitative function. In texts, numerals as predicates of quantity can carry stylistic or pragmatic functions, emphasising the significance of the quantitative aspect of the statement.

Numerals function in various grammatical and syntactic contexts, fulfilling the role of expressing quantitative characteristics. Latin numerals have specific contexts and are predominantly used in scientific and medical texts, religious or historical writings, mathematical and logical discourses, as well as in formulations related to legal norms or codes (Table 2). A characteristic feature of the Latin numeral as a predicate of quantity is its syntactic connection within the sentence structure with other words.

Table 2. *Latin numerals as predicates of quantity: frequency of use*

Numeral	Frequency in texts (examples)	Area of usage (literature, medicine, law etc.)	Examples based on texts
Unus	120	Literature, law	*Unus vir sufficit*
Duo	85	Medicine, philosophy	*Duo sunt necessaria*
Tres	90	Religion, law	*Tres faciunt collegium*
Quattuor	45	Mathematics, rhetoric	*Quattuor sunt elementa*
Quinque	30	Education, literature	*Quinque sensus habemus*

Source: *authors' development*

The issue of the status of sentences containing quantity predicates remains a topic of debate within linguistic scholarship. According to I. Vychovanets (1992), quantity predicates are divided into two categories: definite-quantitative predicates, which denote the precise quantity of specific objects or individuals, and indefinite-quantitative predicates, which do not form as complete a set of elements as the definite-quantitative predicates. However, many linguists argue that these two categories fail to capture the full range of meanings conveyed by quantity predicates. Specifically, N. Popovyth *et al.* (2011) identify six primary semantic types of quantity predicates, each with distinct meanings: absolute quantity (exactly defined quantity), indefinite quantity, approximate quantity, distributive quantity, quantity-ratio and dynamically quantitative characteristics.

The issue of semantically classifying quantity predicates in Latin remains unresolved. Based on current observations, in Latin, numerals as specialised tools for expressing quantity / quantitative predicates appear in the following semantic varieties: absolute quantity, indefinite quantity, approximate quantity, distributive quantity and quantity-ratio. Each of these varieties is expressed differently in sentence structures and carries significantly different meanings. Table 3 illustrates the various ways in which Latin numerals are used to express precise quantitative characteristics, depending on the context.

Table 3. *Semantic varieties of quantity / quantitative predicates (QP)*

QP Type	Examples of numerals	Usage in sentences	Examples of QP in sentences
Absolute quantity	*unus, duo, tres, decem, centum*	Express the exact number of items	*Centum milites castra obsident* / EN One hundred soldiers are besieging the camp
Indefinite quantity	*nonnulli, pauci, multi, aliquot*	Express the total or undefined number of items	*Nonnulli homines in foro sunt* / EN Some people are in the forum
Approximate quantity	*fere, circiter, plus minusve* + *numeral*	Express an approximate number with additional limitations	*Fere quinquaginta milites advenerunt* / EN Nearly fifty soldiers arrived
Distributive quantity	*singuli, bini, terni, quaterni*	Express the distribution of items or phenomena into groups or units	*Bini milites in uno cubiculo habitant* / EN Two soldiers live in one room
Quantity-ratio	*semel, bis, ter, quater, quingenties*	Indicate multiplicity or the repetition of actions	*Ter urbem obsederunt* / EN They besieged the city three times

Source: *authors' development*

In Latin, cardinal numerals (*numeralia cardinalia*) serve as means to express predicates of absolute quantity, playing an important role in denoting numerical characteristics and often specifying an exact or approximate amount, for example, *Cum venissem Athenas, sex menses cum Antiocho philosopho fui* (C. Br. 315) – EN When I arrived in Athens, I spent six months with the philosopher Antiochus; *Consultabam, utrum Romam proficisceretur, an Capuam teneret, an iret ad tres legiones Macedonicas* (C. Verr. 1.41. 105) – EN He was wondering whether to go to Rome, to proceed to Capua, or to join the three Macedonian legions; *Inter ipsum pugnae tempus decem naves in sinu stabant* (Liv. 32. 29. 2) – EN During the battle itself, ten ships were standing in the bay. Numerals of exact quantity are most used with nouns of temporal meaning, e.g. *Sex annos est* – EN He is six years old.

With the meaning of a single quantity, specific numerals like *unus, una, unum* (one) are highlighted, for example: *Bestiolae quaedam unum diem vivunt* (C. Tusc. 1. 39. 94) – EN Some small creatures live for one day; *Una atque eadem persona* – EN The (one) same person; *Videturne omnem hic beatam vitam in una virtute ponere?* (C. Tusc. 5. 12. 35) – EN Does it not seem that he sees the happy life in one virtue alone?; *Accidit, ut una nocte omnes Hermae dejecerentur* (Nep. Att. 7. 3. 2) – It happened that all the Herms were knocked down in one night; *Una erat magno usui res praeparata a nostris* (Caes. B. G. 3. 14. 5) – EN One thing had been prepared by our people for general use; *Veneti navium quod ubique fuerat in unum locum coegerant* (Caes. B. G. 3. 16. 2) – EN The Venetians gathered the ships, which had been scattered everywhere, into one place. The numeral *unus* (one) is grammatically marked for singular and rarely for plural, typically in plural-only nouns.

Predicates of absolute quantity describe the numerical characteristic of an object or phenomenon, indicating its precise amount or numerical property. These predicates may be expressed by numerals or other linguistic means denoting quantity. In Latin, numerals can function as predicates when they describe the quantitative characteristic of the subject, for example, *Numerus discipulorum est viginti* – EN The number of students is twenty. In this sentence, the numeral *viginti* (twenty) serves as the predicate and specifies the quantity. Predicates of exact quantity agree with the grammatical categories of the nouns they relate to. For instance, numerals can affect the case of the nouns they are used with: *Decem libri sunt in mensa* – EN Ten books are on the table (the noun *libri* is in the nominative plural form).

Predicates of indefinite quantity in Latin are expressed by numerals of unspecified quantity. I.P. Poliak (2018) explored the semantic varieties of predicates of indefinite quantity and indefinite quantity-relation and characterised them at the semantic-syntactic and formal-syntactic levels. In Latin, indefinite numerals function in various syntactic positions. The key position is the head word in quantity-noun combinations, e.g. *Hannibal milia pedium, duodecim milia equitum Iberum traduxit* (Liv. 21. 23. 1) – EN Hannibal led thousands of foot soldiers and eleven thousand horsemen across the Iber; *Num, si Scipio ad centesimum annum vixisset, senectutis eum suae paeniteret?* (Cato Fil. 6. 19) – EN Would Scipio, had he lived to the hundredth year, have regretted his old age? With the meaning of multiple indefinite quantity, predicates are also expressed by non-numerical units of different lexical-grammatical classes, e.g. *Egomet, qui sero ac leviter Graecas litteras attigissem, tamen, cum Athenas venissem, complures tum ibi dies sum commoratus* (C. De or. 1. 18. 82) – EN I although late and with little knowledge of Greek letters, nevertheless, when I arrived in Athens, stayed there for several days; *Ager, cum multos annos quievit, uberiores effere fructus solet* (C. Br. 4. 16) – EN The field, when it has rested for many years, usually bears more fruit; *Cis pauculos dies republica restituta* (Jul. 15) – EN Soon (= within a few days) the republican order was restored. Predicates with indefinite quantity are important grammatical phenomena used to express an indefinite subject or circumstance. They appear in various contexts, making Latin suitable for expressing generalised truths or undefined situations, which are typical of classical texts.

Predicates of approximate quantity are expressed by combining numerals close in the numerical series. In this work's observations, a common way to express predicates of approximate quantity is by combining numerals with prepositions or particles, where the form of the numeral defines the corresponding boundary of the exact quantity, e.g. *Ad duodecim milia sunt caesa; capta plus quinque milia hominum* (Liv. 40. 33. 7) – EN Around twelve thousand men were killed; over five thousand were captured. Approximate quantity predicates in Latin reflect amounts within uncertain or approximate limits. They are used to refer to objects, phenomena or concepts whose number is hard to determine exactly. These predicates play an important role in expressing generalised judgments and evaluations. Characteristics of approximate quantity predicates include *indeterminacy*, which cannot be exactly counted, e.g. *multi, pauci* (many, few); comparative nature, often used to compare quantities or to emphasise a general trend, e.g. *Plus quam mille homines adfuerunt* – EN More than a thousand people were present; contextual dependence, where the meaning of the predicates may change depending on the context. For example, *pauci* may mean "several", but in certain cases can imply "insufficient". Words that clarify or blur the boundaries of quantity are often added when used with numerals: *Circiter decem milia* – EN About ten thousand; *Fere duo milia* – EN Nearly two thousand. Approximate quantity predicates in sentences can function as subjects: *Multi adveniunt* – EN Many are coming; as objects: *Habeo multum pecuniae* – EN I have much money; as circumstances: *Venit paucis diebus post* – EN He came after a few days. Approximate quantity predicates add flexibility to the language, enriching its stylistic colouring and allowing the avoidance of excessive precision, which is especially important in rhetorical or literary works. For instance, in Cicero's speech *De Oratore*, such predicates are used to create an emotional background and engage the audience in the discussion: *Nonnulli sapientes putant…* – EN Some wise men think… Approximate quantity predicates are an integral part of Latin grammar and rhetoric, reflecting the language's pursuit of flexibility and expressiveness.

Predicates of distributive quantity are expressed using numerals that determine the distribution of something among someone or occasionally something, and are used in literary, legal and religious texts to emphasise the individual approach, duties or actions of each person, for example, *Partes tres, quarum unam incolunt Belgae* (Caes. B.G. 1. 1. 1) – EN Three parts, one of which is inhabited by the Belgae. In Latin, predicates of distributive quantity are used to express actions or states concerning each member of a group individually rather than the group as a whole. Such predicates indicate that an action is performed separately on each of the subjects or objects. A distributive quantity predicate implies that action is carried out on each element of the group individually, for example, *Singuli discunt* – EN Each learns (individually), where *singuli* ("each") emphasises the distributive nature of the action. In these constructions, distributive numerals are often used to clarify the nature of the action: *Bina dona accipiunt* – EN Each receives two gifts. Predicates of distributive quantity, where the numeral serves as the expression, can be used in combination with different types of subjects, depending on the content, for example, with homogeneous subjects: *Viri et feminae singuli veniunt* – EN Men and women come one by one. Distributive quantity in Latin plays an important role in sentence structure, allowing for the precise and clear conveyance of information about actions or states concerning each individual element of a group.

Predicates of quantity-ratio have a specific form of expression as they are derived from words with an indefinite-quantitative meaning, for example, *Paetus omnes libros, quos frater suus reliquisset, mihi donavit* (C. Att. 2. 1. 12) – EN Paetus gave me all the books that, supposedly (according to him), his brother had left; *Omnes fama atque fortunis expertes sumus* (Sall. C. 33. 1) – EN We are all deprived of fame and fortune; *Multi deorum beneficio perverce utuntur* (C. Rep. 3. 28. 70) – EN Many abuse the kindness of the gods. In Latin, predicates of quantity-ratio play a crucial role in expressing various aspects of quantitative relationships between objects, actions, or characteristics. These predicates focus on indicating numerical and comparative characteristics that may relate to volume, quantity, size, proportion or order. Quantitative predicates point to the numerical characteristic of objects or phenomena. They are expressed through numerals and constructions that denote magnitude or degree (quantity predicates). According to observations made during this research specific syntactic tools that help convey quantitative relationships in a sentence include the genitive of quantity (*genetīvus partītīvus*), used to indicate a part of the whole: *Pars exercitūs fugit* – EN A part of the army fled; and the ablative of measure or degree (*ablātīvus mēnsūrae*), used to denote the measure of difference: *Multō maior est* – EN He is much larger. Predicates of quantity-ratio in Latin are realised through numerals and syntactic constructions that give the language flexibility in expressing relationships and quantitative characteristics, thus forming the basis for precise and multifaceted communication.

Therefore, in Latin, predicates of quantity expressed by numerals serve to indicate the number of people or objects. Such predicates are typically formed using numerals that agree with the subject or are accompanied by other syntactic elements to convey the meaning more precisely. Latin numerals have a complex system of agreement and governance, which significantly influences sentence structure. Their usage varies depending on context and grammatical rules. A distinctive feature of the functioning of numerals in the semantic-syntactic structure of a sentence is their use in preposition to the noun.

Conclusions

The numeral forms recorded in the Latin language reflect the general trends in the development of the Latin numeral system. The numeral, associated with the category of quantity, serves

as the primary means of expressing the predicate of quantity and forms the semantic centre of the sentence, on which the position of the predicate of quantity is based. It plays a crucial role in conveying quantitative information in a sentence, indicating the precise or approximate number of objects, persons or phenomena. The primary function of the predicate of quantity in the semantic-syntactic structure of a sentence is its use in a post-nominal subposition.

Based on the method of expressing the predicate of quantity and its corresponding variations of quantitative meanings, the following types of predicates have been identified: predicates of absolute quantity, predicates of indefinite quantity, predicates of approximate quantity, predicates of distributive quantity, and predicates of relational (ratio) quantity. The formal-syntactic structure of a sentence is based on the semantic-syntactic structure formed by the predicate of quantity, where the predicate of quantity corresponds to the predicate expressed by a numeral. As a sentence element, the predicate is a component in which grammar and semantics intertwine in a rather complex manner.

In Latin, numerals functioning as predicates may agree with the subject in case, number and gender. At the same time, predicate numerals are often combined with nouns or pronouns that specify or clarify their meaning. A distinctive feature of predicates of quantity is their ability to create formally simple constructions that convey clear quantitative characteristics. Numerals can function as independent components, answering questions about quantity (*Unus est* – EN There is one) or specifying subjects or objects of an action (*Tres viri veniunt* – EN Three men arrive). The use of predicates of quantity, i.e. numerals, as sentence components is based on the interaction of formal-grammatical and semantic indicators within a sentence. A particular feature of using a numeral as a predicate of quantity is its syntactic connection within the sentence to a nominal component, meaning its attachment to core nouns as determiners of quantitative definiteness.

Numerals functioning as predicates of quantity in Latin are a precise tool for conveying numerical information and their use adheres to strict grammatical and syntactic rules that contribute to the accuracy and conciseness of expression. This study does not claim to provide an exhaustive description of numerals as means of expressing the predicate of quantity. The prospects for further research lie in an in-depth study of the semantic varieties of numerals as predicates of quantity in Latin, English and Ukrainian and their role in shaping the linguistic worldview.

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Числівники як спеціалізовані засоби вираження предиката кількості в латинській мові

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Анотація. У мовознавчій науці частиномовний клас числівників латинської мови відображений фрагментарно. Аналіз латинських числівників доповнює розвідки у сфері теоретичної граматики класичних мов. Числівник, як частина мови, є досить продуктивним елементом різних мовних стилів. Метою дослідження було схарактеризувати числівники латинської мови як спеціалізовані засоби вираження предиката кількості у семантичному і граматичному вимірах. У дослідженні застосовано вибірковий, словотвірний, описовий та валентно-дистрибутивний методи для аналізу, систематизації, класифікації та вивчення особливостей латинських числівників, що відповідно репрезентують цей лексико-граматичний розряд слів. Подано опис словотвірних тенденцій латинських числівників, проаналізовано внутрішньомовні та зовнішньомовні конструювання, а також з'ясовано, що числівники, незважаючи на препозитивність у реченнєвій структурі, виступають звичайними квантитативами і не розвивають детермінантних функцій. Описано синтаксичні функції числівників як ознакових слів з погляду лексичної семантики і морфологічної парадигми. З'ясовано, що числівники в ролі предиката кількості можуть мати різну валентність залежно від їхнього контексту. Схарактеризовано семантичні різновиди предикатів кількості та проаналізовано їх на семантико-синтаксичному і формально-синтаксичному рівнях. Предикати кількості поділено на семантичні різновиди: власне-кількості; неозначеної кількості; приблизної кількості, предикати розподільної кількості та предикати кількості-відношення. Обгрунтовано, що у текстах числівники в ролі предиката кількості можуть мати стилістичні або прагматичні функції, підкреслюючи важливість кількісного аспекту у висловленні та використовуються здебільшого у наукових і медичних текстах, у релігійних або історичних, у математичних і логічних, у художніх та у формулюваннях, що стосуються правових норм або кодексів. Проведене дослідження розширює уявлення про числівник й інтерпретує формальні засоби його реалізації. Результати дослідження можуть бути використані у наступних наукових теоретичних розвідках з погляду деривaційних процесів латинської мови

Ключові слова: граматика; частини мови; числівник; предикати кількості; семантичні різновиди предикатів кількості; реченнєва структура; синтаксис; семантика; актуальне членування речення