

The aim of this paper is to analyze the existential construction there is/are from the syntactic and FSP point of view. The paper first briefly outlines the development of the FSP theory and summarizes the observations thus made. The analysis is carried out on a sample of 200 instances taken from four different scientific texts. The instances are divided into two main groups: bare existential construction (i.e. without any adverbial), and existential construction with adverbial(s). The analysis of the bare existential construction is mostly focused on the structure and FSP functions of the notional subject. A special emphasis is put on the modification of the notional subject, its context dependence and the FSP patterns the bare existential construction can realize. The analysis of the other construction mainly describes the different types of adverbials with particular attention to their sentence position and FSP functions. The aim of the analyses is to find what functions the existential construction performs, defining its primary and secondary functions. It also observes the application of the FSP theory on a real text. The paper is to bring new findings in the study of existential construction and its results are to be applicable for pedagogical and translation purposes.