



College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Department of Linguistics and Translation

翻譯及語言學系

# A CLAUSE-PIVOT APPROACH TO MODERN CHINESE GRAMMAR

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# 0. Introduction: The Clause-Pivot Model (CPM)

- First proposed in 1990s by Professor XING, Fuyi, professor emeritus at Central China Normal University
- One of the 8 eminent linguists in last 100 years.

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1935年 出生于海南乐东黎族自治县黄流镇；

1956年 在华中师范学院中文系担任现代汉语专业助教；

1957年 《中国语文》发表第一篇文章《动作定语要带“的”字》；

1972年 出版《现代汉语语法知识》；

1995年 《语法问题发难集》获中国高校首届人文社会科学研究成果一等奖；

1997年 出版《汉语语法学》；

1998年 《汉语语法学》获中国高校第二届人文社会科学研究成果一等奖、第十一届中国图书奖；

1999年 在华中师范大学创建语言学系，任系主任；

2001年 出版《汉语复句研究》，出版《邢福义选集》；

2002年 被华中师大特聘为文科资深教授；

2006年 《汉语复句研究》获中国高校第四届人文社会科学研究优秀成果一等奖；

2009年 商务印书馆出版《语法问题献疑集》；

2013年 《语法问题献疑集》获第六届高等学校人文社会科学研究优秀成果一等奖，为第四次获得该奖项的一等奖；

2016年 商务印书馆出版《汉语语法学》修订版；

2017年 美国卢德里奇出版社出版邢福义教授著、王勇教授译的《汉语语法学》；

2018年 商务印书馆出版《寄父家书》。

抬头是山 路在脚下

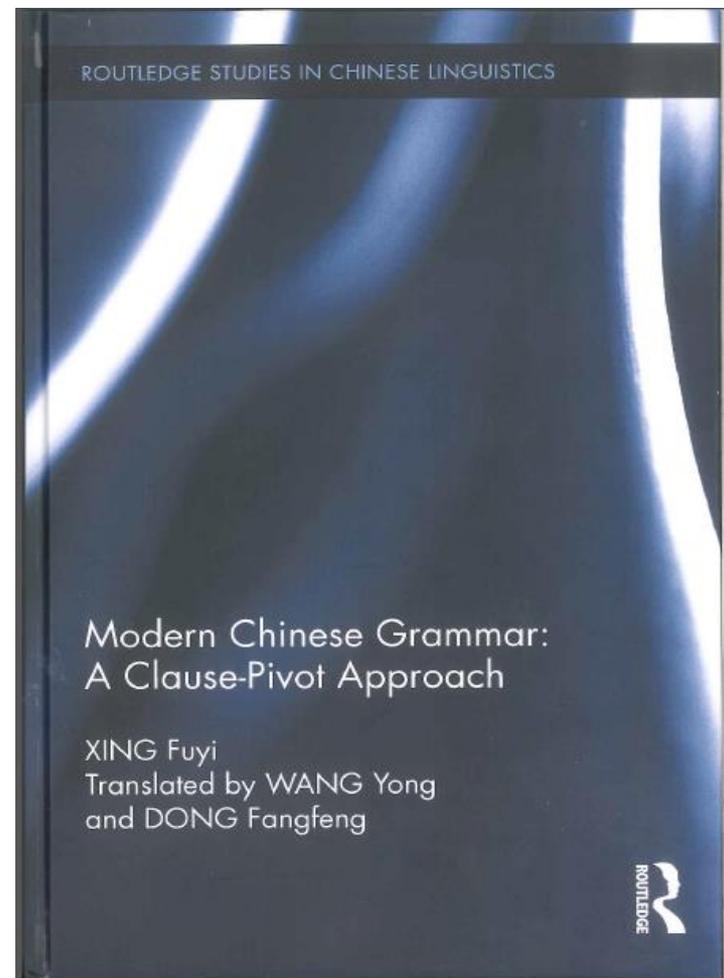
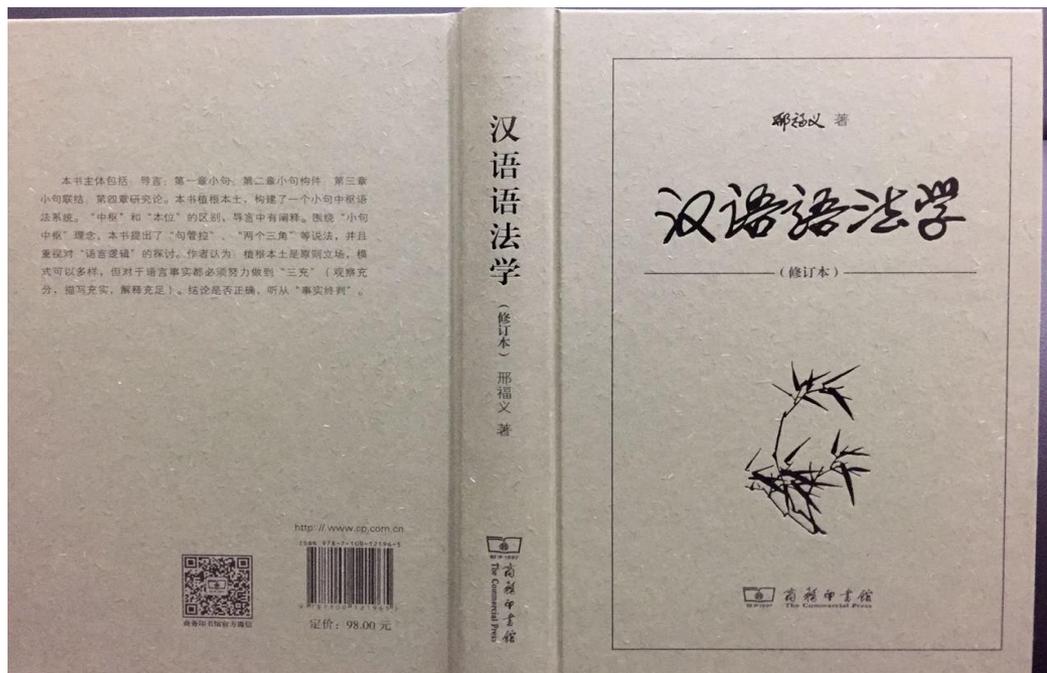
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Modern Chinese Grammar  
A Clear-Pivot Approach

2017  
Translated by Wang Yong  
with the author's guidance

# 0. Introduction

- 《汉语语法学》（1996/2016, The Commercial Press）
- Modern Chinese Grammar: A clause-pivot approach (Routledge 2017)



# 0. Introduction

- The pivotal status of the clause.
- The double-triangle approach:
  - the minor triangle of *form-meaning-value*
  - the major triangle of *Putonghua-dialects-Old Chinese*
  -

# 1. A review of different grammatical models

- **Chinese grammar** refers to the totality of the construction and configuration *rules* of grammatical *entities* of different ranks in Chinese.
  - Syllabic entities
    - Expressive units: clauses, complex sentences, and sentence groups.
    - Constituent units: morphemes, words, and phrases.
  - Non-syllabic entity: Mood

# 1. A review of different grammatical models

- The word-based theory
  - *Ma, Jianzhong, 1898/1983, 《马氏文通》 (Ma's Comprehensive Grammar). Beijing: The Commercial Press.*
  - *Zhang, Zhigong (ed.). 1956. 《语法和语法教学》 ('Grammar and Grammar Teaching'). Beijing: People's Press.*
- Grammatical system starts from, and is based on, the description and classification of words.
- This has been the mainstream in the tradition of Chinese grammar.

# 1. A review of different grammatical models

- The word-based theory
  - Chinese words exhibit little morphological change. We can detect their grammatical features only when they enter the clause.
  - a **yǒngyuǎn**-(de) shīqù-le (永远地失去了)
    - ‘to have lost forever’
  - b **yǒngyuǎn**-(de) fēngbēi (永远的丰碑)
    - everlasting-(SP) monument
  - c *cóng gǔdài dào xiàndài zhídào yǒngyuǎn* (从古代到现代到永远)
    - ‘from ancient time to modern time till eternity’

# 1. A review of different grammatical models

- The sentence-based theory:
  - Li Jinxi's *New Chinese Grammar* (《新著国文语法》, 1924/1992)
  - 依句辨品，离句无品。
  - (1) By the term sentence (*jù*), he only means clauses, excluding complex sentences.
  - (2) He does not probe into the grammatical features of Chinese.
    - a *xīnkǔ-de gōngrén* (辛苦<sup>的</sup>工人)
      - hard-working-SP worker
      - 'hard-working workers'
    - b *xīnkǔ-de jiànzào* (辛苦<sup>地</sup>建造)
      - hard-working build
      - 'to build painstakingly'

# 1. A review of different grammatical models

- The phrase-based theory:
  - Zhu, Dexi. *Lecture Notes on Grammar* (《语法讲义》, 1982).
  - Grammatical Interludes (《语法答问》, 1985)
- Phrases are a very inclusive rank containing various grammatical phenomena characteristic of Chinese grammar.

- Phrases are not the pivot of the grammatical system either. As with words, we may not know the features of phrases until we know how they are used in clauses.
- a. *wǒ-men xiàng guó-wài chūkǒu shǒujī.* (我们向国外出口手机)
  - I-PL to country-out export mobile phone.
  - ‘We export mobile phones to foreign countries’.
- b *wǒ-men mǎi-dào-le yìxiē chūkǒu shǒujī.* (我们买到了一些出口手机)
  - I-PL buy-get-PEF some export mobile phones.
  - ‘We bought some mobile phones that are for exporting’.
- a. *lǎohǔ yǎo-sǐ-le lièrén-de gǒu.* (老虎咬死了猎人的狗)
  - ‘The tiger killed the hunter’s dog by biting it’.
- b *zhè shì yì-zhī yǎo-sǐ-le lièrén-de gǒu.* (这是一只咬死了猎人的狗)
  - ‘This is a dog that has killed the hunter by biting him’.

# 1. A review of different grammatical models

- The character-based theory (Xu, Tongqiang 1994)
  - He was unable to write a grammar on the basis of this theory.
- The mood-based theory
  - Mood is one of the indispensable elements of the clause. It is therefore important to focus on mood. However, this does not mean that mood can be taken as the pivotal unit of Chinese because it is not pivotal.

## 2. Clause as the Pivot

- 2.1 Definition of clause
- The clause is the smallest independent expressive unit in Chinese grammar.
  - *nǐ hěn rènzhēn.!!/?* (你很认真)
  - *nǐ rènzhēn diǎn!* (你认真点)
- Clauses include both mono-clause sentences, i.e., those which consist of a single clause, and clauses within complex sentences.
- Both independent clauses and complex sentences are sentences.

## 2. Clause as the Pivot

- 2.2 The pivotal status of clause
- In the system of Chinese grammar, the pivot is the clause; that is, the clause is the central unit in the grammatical system of Chinese.
  - 2.2.1 Components of the clause
    - The clause contains the fullest range of grammatical elements: words, phrases, and it carries a specific mood.
  - 2.2.2 Its relation to other grammatical entities
    - Of all the grammatical entities of different ranks, only the clause is directly related to others.
    - It is the *center* of all relations. It is directly related to mood to realise its speech function, and it is composed of words and phrases. Clauses are directly related to complex sentences and sentence groups in that they both can be seen as configurations of clauses.

## 2. Clause as the Pivot

- 2.2.3 Its constraining and governing effects on other grammatical units.
  - Mood is attached to the clause.
    - *tā dāng-le kēzhǎng./?/* (他当了科长)
  - Complex sentences and sentence groups depend on clauses.

## 2. Clause as the Pivot

- 2.2.4 Words are governed by clause
  - The clause determines the grammatical class of a word.
    - *zhè-jìan 'yìwài' qíshí yìdiǎnr yě bú yìwài.* (这件意外其实一点也不意外)
    - this-CLS unexpected really a little too not unexpected.
    - 'Actually, the accident is not unexpected at all'.
  - It governs the grammatical functions of words.
    - a *zhāng xiānshēng yǎnzòu.* (张先生演奏)
      - 'Mr. Zhang plays the music'.
    - b *zhāng xiānshēng zhǐhuī yǎnzòu.* (张先生指挥演奏)
      - 'Mr. Zhang conducts the performance of the music'.

## 2. Clause as the Pivot

- 2.2.5 Phrases are subordinate to clause
  - *wǒ-men xiàwǔ xuéxí wénjiàn.* (我们下午学习文件)
  - I-PL afternoon study document.
  - ‘We will study the document this afternoon’.
  
- *wǒ-men xiàwǔ lǐng xuéxí wénjiàn.* (我们下午领学习文件)
- I-PL afternoon get study document.
- ‘We will get the document for study this afternoon’.

# 3. Three principles of CPM: Clause formation, inclusion, and conjoining

- *3.1 Principles of clause formation*
- 1) mood + clause-forming units = clausehood
  - Mood: Declarative, exclamatory, imperative, and interrogative
  - A clause-forming unit: a word or a phrase that can independently express an intention.
- 2) mood + clause-forming units + expression of intention = effectiveness of the clause

# 3. Three principles of CPM

- There are two aspects to effectiveness.
- 1) The internal structure of the clause (grammaticalness)
  - the obligatory constituents of the clause,
  - the proper patterning of constituents,
- 2) The external factors of the clause (appropriateness)
  - Linguistic context and situational context
  - In specific contexts, clauses can still express intentions even though some obligatory elements are missing.
  - Conditional ellipsis: the condition being the effective expression of intentions.

# 3. Three principles of CPM

- *3.2 Principles of clause inclusion*
  - The clause embraces all the structural relationships manifest in phrases and compound words.
  - Clause inclusion principle 1: clause – clause-specific features = phrase.
  - By taking away the features peculiar to clauses, various phrases can be obtained.
  - There are five features peculiar to the clause.
    - 1) *Mood*
    - 2) *Connectives in complex sentences*
    - 3) *Pragmatic features:*
      - a. vocatives, interjections, and various parentheses
      - b. Extraposition
        - **zhè-wǎn jiǔ, nǐ bǎ tā hē-xiàqu!** (这碗酒你把它喝下去)
        - **wǒ shízài nà tā méi bànfǎ, zhè-ge sǐbúyàoliǎn-de rén!** (我实在把他没办法, 这个死不要脸的人)

## 3.2 Principles of clause inclusion

- 4) Inversion of clause constituents
  - *zhùfú-ba, wèi nàxiē píngfán-de qīzi hé mǔqīn.* (祝福吧, 为那些平凡的妻子和母亲)
  - ‘Be blessed, those ordinary wives and mothers’.
  
  - *duōme hǎo, shēnghuó!* (多么好, 生活)
  - ‘How wonderful life is!’
  
- 5) *Constituent sharing*
  - *tóngbàn quàn wǒ shènzhì yào tuī wǒ xiàshuǐ.* (同伴劝我, 甚至要推我下水)
  - ‘My companions tried to persuade me and even tried to push me into the water’.

## 3.2 Principles of clause inclusion

- Clause inclusion principle 2: clause – clause-specific features – phrasal features = compound word.
- When features peculiar to the clause and to the phrase are removed from the clause, compound words are left.
- Differences between phrases and compound words lie both in structure and in syllable.
  - Structurally, the combination of phrasal constituents is much more flexible than in compounds.
    - Particles such as *-de*, *-le* can be freely inserted.
    - *kàn huāgǔxì*: *kàn* + *huāgǔxì*

## 3.2 Principles of clause inclusion

- Phonologically, phrases may contain many more syllables than words.
  - Compound words stand in a derivative relation to phrases as can be seen from the history of the Chinese language.
  - In Old Chinese, the language consists mainly of monosyllabic words which are combined to form phrases. These phrases, after repetitive use, become lexicalised; that is, they become compound words, e.g.,
    - *Xiāoxī* (消息): decrease and increase → information
    - *Xiǎngyìng* (相应): make sound and answer → respond to,
    - *Shuìjiào* (睡觉): sleep and wake → sleep

## 3.2 Principles of clause inclusion

- In Modern Chinese, compounds are obtained by removing phrasal features from phrases and as contracted phrases.
  - *tǐjiǎn* (体检) ← *tǐgé jiǎnchá* (体格检查)
  - *huánbǎo* (环保) ← *huánjìng bǎohù* (环境保护)
  - *huìbiāo* (会标) ← *huìyì biāozhì* (会议标志)
  - *bīhé* (逼和) ← *bīde jiǎnghé* (逼得讲和)
  - *sòngshěn* (送审) ← *sòngjiāo shàngjí shěnychá* (送交上级审查)
  - *bìngxiū* (病休) ← *yīn bìng xiūjiǎ* (因病休假)

## 3.3 *Principles of clause conjoining*

- Clause conjoining principle 1:
  - conjoining of clauses + (clause → sub-sentence) = complex sentence.
- Complex sentences are composed of two or more clauses.
- There are two conditions for a complex sentence to be formed:
  - 1) two or more clauses are available as sub-sentences;
  - 2) these clauses are conjoined.

- *xiǎo lǐ gēn tā yǒu qīnqi guānxì.* (小李跟她有亲戚关系)
  - 'Xiao Li is his relative'.
- *xiǎo lǐ jiù bù yīnggāi dāndú zhǎo tā.* (小李就不应该单独找他)
  - 'Xiao Li should not contact him by himself'.
- since... then... (既然.....就)
- although...but (尽管.....但)

## 3.3 *Principles of clause conjoining*

- Clause conjoining principle 2:
  - Conjoining of clauses + clustering of sentences = sentence group
- A sentence group is formed out of two or more clauses; these may be directly or indirectly conjoined.
- Direct conjoining: a sentence group is formed by conjoining clauses directly. In this way, the sentences within the sentence group are all clauses (or simple sentences).
  - 谁是我们最可爱的人呢？我们的部队，我们的战士，我感到他们是最可爱的人。
  - ‘Who are our loveliest people? Our army, our soldiers; I feel they are the loveliest people’.

- Indirect conjoining: clauses are first combined to form complex sentences, which are, in turn, conjoined with other clause(s) or complex sentence(s) to form sentence groups;
  - 雨住一会儿，又下一阵儿，比以前小了许多，祥子一口气跑回了家。抱着火，烤了一阵，他哆嗦得像风雨中的树叶。
  - ‘The rain stopped for a while then began again much lighter than before. Xiangzi ran back home in one breath and warmed himself by the fire for a long time. He trembled like a leaf in the middle of a storm’.

- Clause conjoining is the basis for forming complex sentences and sentence groups. The conjoining may be tight in some cases and loose in others.
  - This reflects the 'running-on' feature of Chinese.
  - The subject is usually omitted in subsequent text once it has been mentioned.
  - The same sequence may be punctuated differently. As a result, different complex sentences will be produced, thus giving rise to completely different readings.

- *huò dào quán jiāo kuǎn* (货到全款)
- a *huòdào, quán jiāo kuǎn*. (货到, 全款)
  - goods arrive, full pay money.
  - 'The money shall be paid in full once (some of) the goods arrive'.
- b *huòdàoquán, jiāo kuǎn*. (货到全, 交款)
  - goods arrive full, pay money.
  - Money will be paid only when all goods have arrived.
- **Kill him not leave him alone.**

# 4. Clause-specific features

- 4.1 *Structural types and mood types*
- 4.1.1 Structural types
- 1) *Subject-predicate clauses*
- 2) *Non-subject-predicate clauses*
  - PREDICATIONAL CLAUSES
    - *xià yǔ-le!* (下雨了! 'It's raining!')
    - *hǎo xiǎn!* (好险! 'What a narrow escape!')
  - NOMINAL CLAUSES
    - *zhèyàng-de pópo!* (这样的婆婆! 'What a mother-in-law!')
  - ONOMATOPOEIC CLAUSES
    - *hōnglóng!* (轰隆! 'Rumble!')

## 4.1.2 Mood types

- 1) *Declaratives* (小莲很认真。)
- 2) *Exclamatories* (小莲很认真!)
- 3) *Imperatives* (小莲, 认真点。)
- 4) *Interrogatives* (小莲很认真吗?)

## 4.2 Clause-specific Elements

- 4.2.1 Absolute elements
- 1) Reminders
  - **nín kàn**, nà-ge rén shì-bu-shì yǒu diǎn kěyí? (你看, 那个人是不是有点可疑)
  - ‘Look, is that person suspicious?’
- 2) Comments
  - **yán’gé-de shuō**, zhè-zhǒng rén bù néng suàn shì xuézhě. (严格地说, 这种人不能算是学者)
  - ‘Strictly speaking, this kind of person cannot be called a scholar’.
- 3) Interjectors
  - **heng**, nǐ xiǎozi hái hǎoyìsi yào jiǎngjīn. (哼, 你小子还好意思要奖金)
  - ‘Humph, do you boy have the nerve to claim the prize’.
- 4) Vocatives
  - **duìzhǎng**, zhè-jìan shì ràng wǒ lái chǔlǐ! (队长, 这件事让我来处理)
  - ‘Captain, let me handle this matter!’
- 5) Exemplars
  - yǒude lǐshì, **bǐrú zhāng jīnxīng**, hěn bù yǐwéirán. (有的理事, 比喻张金星, 很不以为然)
  - ‘Some directors, for example, Zhang Jinxing, do not quite agree’.

- 6) *Conjunctive expressions*

- ... *zhè jiù shì shuō* ... (这就是说)

- ‘... that is to say ...’

- ... *huàn jù huà shuō* ... (换句话说)

- ‘... in other words ...’

- 7) *Expletives*

- *yǒude rén hěn bù-zhège-zhège-yǐwéirán*. (有的人很不一这个这个—以为然)

- some people vey NEG-this-RED-think this way.

- ‘Some people do not think, um, um, much of it’.

## 4.2 Clause-specific Elements

### • 4.2.2 Extraposed elements

- *wáng chūnlín, nà-ge mùjiàng, nǐ zěnmē rēnde tā?* (王春林, 那个木匠, 你怎么认得他)
- ‘Wang Chunlin, the carpenter, how do you know him?’
- *shénme dōu yǒu: dàoji, bógu, lánbèi . . .* (什么都有: 稻鸡、鸫、蓝背)
- ‘There are all kinds of (birds): rice pheasant, wood pigeon, blueback birds . . .’

### • 4.2.3 Auxiliary elements

- *tā zǒu-le-ma?* (他走了吗)
- ‘Is he gone?’

## 4.3 *Special syntactic patterns*

### • 4.3.1 The existential clause

- *ménkǒu yǒu liǎng-gè shí shīzi.* (门口有两个石狮子)
- ‘There are two stone lions in the doorway’.
  
- *guìbīn xí-shang zuò-zhe jǐ-wèi jiāngjūn.* (贵宾席上坐着一位将军)
- ‘There are several generals seated in the VIP box’.

### • 4.3.2 The serial-verb clause

- *wǒ xiě tiáozi qǐng bìngjià.* (predicator-object + predicator-object)
- (我写条子请病假)
- ‘I write a note to ask for sick leave’.
  
- *wǒ tái-qǐ tóu xiào-le yí-xià.* (predicator-object + verb-complement)
- (我抬起头笑了一下)
- ‘I raised my head and smiled’.

## 4.3 *Special syntactic patterns*

### • 4.3.3 The pivotal clause

- *yǐnyòu wǒ-men shàngdàng* (引诱我们上当)
- ‘to lure us to be fooled’
- *hàoqíxīn cùshǐ wǒ dāying-le tā.* (好奇心促使我答应了他)
- ‘Curiosity impelled me to agree with him’.

### • 4.3.4 The *bǎ*-clause

- *bǎ xínglǐ qīnglǐ-qīnglǐ!* (把行李清理清理)
- ‘Sort out the baggage!’
- *tā bǎ guānzhòng dōu chàng pǎo-le.* (他把观众都唱跑了)
- ‘She drove the whole audience away by singing’.

### • 4.3.5 The *bèi*-clause

- *shū bèi lǎoshǔ yǎo pò-le!* (书被老鼠咬破了)
- ‘The book was ripped apart by mice!’
- *zìjù bèi huǒ shāo-le!* (字据被火烧了)
- ‘The written pledges were burned in the fire!’

## 5. The double-triangle approach

- In grammatical studies, both **static** and **dynamic** analyses are necessary.
- Static approach: constituent analysis, stratification analysis, analysis of semantic features, etc.
- Dynamic approach: a multi-dimensional analysis.
- Static analysis needs to be combined with a dynamic analysis.
- The 'double-triangle' approach:
  - the minor triangle of form-meaning-value
  - the major triangle of Putonghua-dialects-Old Chinese

# 5.1 The minor triangle

- **5.1.1 The form angle**
- E.g.:
- In the structure 'V + N', the configuration of V and N is the form.
  - 学习文件
- The following phrases share the form of 'V1-de V2':
- a *zànxǔ-de wēixiào* (赞许的微笑)
  - 'to smile approvingly'
- b *xìnrèn-de diǎntóu* (信任的点头)
  - 'to nod trustingly'
- c *tǎohǎo-de jūgōng* (讨好的鞠躬)
  - 'to bow flatteringly'

## 5.1.2 *The meaning angle*

- Different grammatical units carry different meaning, each being expressed through a different relation between its constituents. For example:
  - *huòwù tuīxiāo* (货物推销, ‘commodity promotion’)
    - subject-predicate or attribute-head
  - *kàn xīngxīng* (patient) (看星星)
    - ‘to watch the stars’
  - *kàn yīshēng* (agent) (看医生)
    - ‘to see the doctor’
  - *kàn jìngzi* (instrument) (看镜子)
    - ‘to look at oneself in the mirror’

## 5.1.3 *The value angle*

- This refers to rhetorical effects in some situations and to contextual effects in others.
  - a *yěhuā kāi biàn yuányě*. (野花开遍原野)
    - ‘Wild blossoms are all over the open field’.
  - b *yuányě kāi biàn yěhuā*. (原野开遍野花)
    - ‘All over the open field are wild blossoms’.

## 5.1.4 Use of the minor triangle

- The phrase pattern A-A-B-B
  - *dà-dà-xiǎo-xiǎo* (大大小小, big-big-small-small, 'of different sizes')
  - *cháng-cháng-duǎn-duǎn* (长长短短, long-long-short-short, 'of different lengths'),
  - *gāo-gāo-ǎi-ǎi* (高高低低, high-high-low-low, 'of different heights')
  - Form
    - A and B are both monosyllabic adjectives and antonyms of each other.
    - What are the monosyllabic antonymous adjectives that appear in this pattern and what is the order in which A and B configure.
  - Meaning:
    - 'of different heights, lengths, weight, size, etc.'

## 5.1.4 Use of the minor triangle

- Value

- Pragmatically, we are interested in the overtones the pattern may carry.
- For example, when this pattern functions as a complement it describes some undesirable features:
  - *zhè dōngxi nòng-de dà-dà-xiǎo-xiǎo-de, tài nánkàn!* (这东西弄得大大小小的, 太难看)
  - ‘These things are ugly; some are too big and some are too small’.
  - *zhè-tiáo lù pū-de gāo-gāo-dī-dī-de, zhēn bù-hǎo zǒu.* (这条路铺得高高低低的这不好走)
  - ‘This road is very uneven; it’s really hard to walk on it’.

## 5.2 The major triangle

- In order to investigate a linguistic item in Putonghua, we may need to refer to Modern Chinese dialects and/or Old Chinese.
- **5.2.1 Putonghua**
- It is a very inclusive language variety. Many linguistic items in other dialects are integrated into Putonghua as soon as they are in common use. Modern Chinese grammar actually refers to the grammar of Putonghua.

## 5.2.2 Dialect

- *zài xiānggǎng, wǒ-men shǎo chàng dàlù gēqǔ.* (在香港, 我们少唱大陆歌曲)
- 'In Hong Kong, we seldom sing songs from mainland China'.
  
- *zài xiānggǎng, dàlù gēqǔ wǒ-men chàng-de shǎo.* (在香港, 大陆歌曲我们唱得少)
- 'In Hong Kong, we seldom sing songs from mainland China'.
  
- *zài xiānggǎng, (nǐ-men) shǎo chàng dàlù gēqǔ!* (在香港, (你们) 少唱大陆歌曲)
- 'In Hong Kong, you do not sing so many songs from mainland China!'

## 5.2.3 *Old Chinese*

- Modern Chinese is based on, and develops from, Old Chinese. It is necessary to explore Old Chinese for the purpose of studying Modern Chinese.
- Old Chinese includes both written Chinese from the archaic period to 1919 and the spoken form of the language before 1919. The former is called Wenyanwen ('Classic Chinese'), while the latter is called Gudai Baihua ('pre-modern vernacular Chinese'), which can be found in novels written before 1919.

## 5.2.4 Use of the ‘major triangle’

- **1) Studying Putonghua through dialects**
- *Example 1: -ba vs. bù-a*
- The mood particle *-ba* develops from and is the contracted form of *bù-a* (不-啊)(Lü Shuxiang 1944/1982: 260; Chao Yuen Ren 1968/1979: 361).
  - Putonghua
    - *jīntiān wǎnshàng yǎn diànyǐng-ba?* (今天晚上演电影吧)
    - ‘There’s a movie this evening, isn’t there?’
  - Dialect: Linzi
    - *jīn hòushǎng yǎn diànyǐng-o/a-bù-a?* (今天晚上演电影哦/啊不啊)
    - ‘There’s a movie this evening, isn’t there?’
- The data from the Linzi dialect supports Lü Shuxiang’s and Chao Yuen Ren’s observation.

- *Example 2: 'yǒu-méiyǒu VP' (有没有, 'have or have not VP')*
- It originates from the Cantonese or Min dialect. Its Putonghua equivalent is '*shìfǒu VP*' ('yes/no VP'). The former has found its way into Putonghua and is commonly used in daily use.
  - *jǐngchá yǒu-méiyǒu zhuī-shànglái?* (警察又没有追上来)
  - 'Are the police chasing (us) and catching up?'
  - Negative: *jǐngchá méiyǒu zhuī-shànglái?* (警察没有追上来)
  - Positive: ? *jǐngchá yǒu zhuī-shànglái?* (? 警察又追上来)

## 2) Studying Modern Chinese through Old Chinese

- Researchers can also draw on historical facts for evidence to support their analysis of a linguistic item in Putonghua, e.g.,
  - *NP*-men
    - *gèwèi xiānsheng-men* (各位先生们)
    - every gentleman-PL
    - ‘all gentlemen’
  
  - *suǒyǒu wényìjiā-men* (所有文艺家们)
  - all literature and arts expert-PL
  - ‘all experts in literature and arts’

## 6. Concluding remarks: CPM and SFL

- Clause-based
- Meaning and form
- The multi-functional/dimensional perspective
- Language in use and the double triangle
  - Corpus-based
  - Context

## 6. Concluding remarks

- Scholars agree that CPM is a progress and development from other grammatical models. Its plausibility, validity, and practicability have been proven from different angles (Xiao1995, Li 1997, Pan 2002, Fan 2005, Li 2005).
- CPM is believed to be able to bring out the particular features of the Chinese language. And it represents a trend of attaching more importance to language in use than to abstract linguistic units (e.g., Xiao 1995, Li 1997).
- It is consistent, economical and comprehensive (e.g. Xu 2005).
- It is a model that is inductively (rather than deductively) derived.
- This is in line with scholarly tradition in academia in general and in linguistics in particular.

- **Thank you!**
- **Comments and suggestions  
are welcome!**