

The Compilation and Analysis of a Metaphor-annotated Corpus of Mandarin Chinese

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This study aims to adapt and evaluate the reliability of Metaphor Identification Procedure Vrije Universiteit (MIPVU; Steen et al. 2010) for Mandarin Chinese, to compile a metaphor-annotated corpus using the adapted procedure, to examine the distribution of metaphor-related words across Chinese texts in three different written registers: news texts, fiction, and academic texts, and to compare our results against those obtained from the VU Amsterdam Metaphor Corpus (VUAMC, Steen et al., 2010). MIPVU was initially designed for identifying metaphor in English discourse, but has been shown to be applicable to Dutch with some necessary adjustments made to address issues specific to Dutch (Pasma 2012). Our assessment of the replicability of MIPVU for Mandarin Chinese adds to the groundbreaking methodological contribution that Steen et al. (2010) has made to metaphor research. The metaphor-annotated corpus of Mandarin Chinese contributes a valuable language resource for Chinese metaphor researchers, and our analysis of the distribution of metaphor-related words in the corpus offers useful new insight into the use of cross-linguistic and cross-register variation in metaphor distribution. Potential applications of the corpus in metaphor analysis, language teaching, and natural language processing will also be discussed.

BIO

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