

MASTER'S THESIS

A corpus study of the interaction of the aspect marker *le* with different Chinese syntactic structures

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A CORPUS STUDY OF THE INTERACTION OF THE ASPECT
MARKER *LE* WITH DIFFERENT CHINESE SYNTACTIC
STRUCTURES

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ABSTRACT

This dissertation proposes a syntactic approach to explore the interaction of the Chinese perfective aspect marker *le* and different Chinese syntactic structures, to see whether the *le* would reveal certain distribution patterns in different sentence structures.

This dissertation adopts one of the most influential corpora for Mandarin Chinese, the Sinica Corpus, as the source of data for its reliability. Two groups of data are collected from the corpus, namely, BA construction and BEI construction. As for the data processing part, two groups of sentences are further categorized according to their syntactic structure. And a concordance software is adopted to measure the syntactic distribution of the perfective *les*. In doing so, the compatibilities of *le* with different types of BA/BEI structures are clear and so does its functional tendency in these structures.

Results show that BA and BEI sentences with the structure of NP BA/BEI NP V + Q (quantifying phrases) and NP BA/BEI NP V +NP (noun phrases) tend to contain more perfective *les* than other structures; BA and BEI sentences which contain locative phrases, de expressions and verb phrases (serial verb construction) as their XPs or BA/BEI constructions which are ended by verbs without any XPs tend to include very limited perfective *les*.

Reasons accounting for these results are further proposed in the discussion part. Different types of BA /BEI constructions tend to take different verbs and delimiting elements, which makes the temporal feature of these constructions varies from each other. And *le* tends to appear in sentences with [+telic] or [+bounded] features. Besides, *le* tends to appear with actions which have been actualized.

摘 要

本文從句法學角度對“了”與不同漢語句型的搭配情況進行探究，檢測“了”對不同句型中是否存在特定功能的搭配模式。

為確保語料的可靠性，本文所有例子均取自當前在現代漢語研究中最有影響的語料庫之一——中央研究院語料庫。一共有兩組語料從語料庫中被截取出來：把字句和被字句。在數據處理階段，兩組句型分別按照不同句式結構分類，通過一個索引軟件來檢測“了”在不同句式結構中的分佈情況，從而得出“了”在不同結構的漢語把字句、被字句中的分佈模式。

結果顯示，“了”傾向於出現在以這些研究結果將對以後關於“了”的語言學研究提供了新的思路。“了”傾向於出現在動詞后帶有量化成份以及名詞成份的把\被字句；而以方位短語、“得”結構、帶有指向/完成/結果性詞素的複合動詞、動詞短語以及一般動詞結尾的把/被字句不傾向帶有“了”。

同時本文對次結果做出解釋。不同句式結構的把字句、被字句各含有不同類型的動詞及其定界成份，這使得這些句式結構在時態、語態的特徵上存在差異。

“了”傾向於出現在帶有終結性及時限性特徵的句子中。同時，“了”傾向於出現帶有已經實現了的動作的句子。

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