

A Corpus-based Study on Metaphors in Chinese and American News Reports on U.S.-China trade war

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Abstract

This study focuses on the conceptual metaphors in news reports about U.S.-China trade war. With data retrieved from the New York Times in America and the Global Times in China. The research questions ask: (1). What are the most frequently used conceptual metaphors respectively in China and U.S. news report on the U.S.-China trade war? (2). How are the different ideologies constructed through metaphorical discourses? (3). Do the conceptual metaphors in the Chinese and English data show consistent or discrepant mapping process? The results show that the metaphors with human being concepts as the source domain take up a larger proportion in Chinese data than in English. Two approaches of ideologies construction are presented within the framework of Critical Metaphor Analysis and attributed to different discourse goals the two newspapers plan to achieve. The mapping processes in English and Chinese data are consistent. The working mechanisms of metaphorical discourse in the news reports are discussed to reveal the reason of continuing ideological conflicts and confrontations between China and the U.S.

Keywords: Conceptual Metaphor, Critical Metaphor Analysis, ideology construction, U.S.-China trade war, news report

中美貿易戰相關新聞報導中的隱喻：從報紙語料庫出發

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摘 要

本研究關注中美兩國媒體對中美貿易戰的報導中的概念隱喻，以美國紐約時報和中國環球時報中取得的語料為基礎，確認了中美兩國新聞報導中最常用的概念隱喻類型，研究了中英文語料中利用隱喻進行意識形態構建的方法，並探索了在中英文語料中隱喻映射過程的一致性。我們的結果顯示，中文語料中以人為概念作為來源域的隱喻比英文高出許多。在批評隱喻分析 (Critical Metaphor Analysis) 的理論框架下，本文呈現了兩種不同的意識形態構建路徑，並將其中差異歸因於中美兩份報紙不同的話語目標。本研究亦從社會認知的角度探討了隱喻性話語在新聞報導中的作用機制，揭示了中美間意識形態衝突對抗不斷的原因。

關鍵詞：概念隱喻，批評隱喻分析，意識形態構建，中美貿易戰，新聞報導

