Mandarin Chinese Words and Parts of Speech

A Corpus-based Study

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10   D: Adverbs

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10 D: Adverbs

An adverb serves primarily as the verb or modifier of a sentence, and it does not affect the completeness of the sentence. Adverbs occur mostly between the subject and the verb in a sentence, while some adverbs occur at the beginning of a sentence. Also note that very few adverbs can occur after the verb.

The subcategorization of adverbs depends on the function of an adverb: Quantity, Evaluation, Modality, Negativity, Time, Degree, Location, Manner, Aspect, Interrogation, and Sentential Adverbs. Sometimes an adverb is equipped with more than one semantic component, e.g., 何時 he2shi2 'when' [Time + Interrogative], 何處 he2chu4 'where' [Locative + Interrogative], and 甭 beng2 'needn't' [Modal + negative]. One adverb can only be put in one semantic subcategory, with its other semantic functions labeled as features.

10.1 Da: Quantity Adverb

Strictly speaking, a quantity adverb does not modify a verb or a sentence, but a noun phrase. However, they 'can' occur in the typical position of adverbs (i.e. between the subject and the verb, but not necessarily near the noun phrase it modifies).

10.1.1 Syntactic Features

Quantity adverbs are not used to specify the quantity of the noun phrase but they have two functions: (1) To evaluate a quantity, e.g., 一共 三 個 人 yi2gong4 san1 ge0 ren2 'in total three people', 恰好 三 個 人 qia4hao3 san1 ge0 ren2 'exactly three people', 才 三 個 人 cai2 san1ge0 ren2 'only three people', 大約 三 個 人 da4yue1 san1 ge0 ren2 'about three people', 頂多 三 個 人 ding3duo1 san1 ge0 ren2 'at most three people', and 不只 三 個 人 bu4zhi3 san1 ge0 ren2 'not only three people'. (2) To indicate the degree of the action performed, e.g. 他們 都 走 了 ta1men0 dou1 zou3 le0 'they all have gone', 他們 決大多數 都 走 了 ta1men0 jue2da4duo1shu4dou1 zou3 le0 'they mostly have gone'. According to these two different functions, we divide quantity adverbs into two subcategories that exhibit different syntactic behaviors; see details in the description of the

subcategories. Note that quantity adverb frequently occur at significant distance from the noun phrase it modifies, as (292).

(291) (a) (modify the object)

他　一共　　　看見　　了　三　個　人
ta1　yi2gong4　kan4jian4　le0　san1　ge0　ren2
he in total see ASP three CLS people
'He saw three people in total.'

(b) (modify the complement)

他　一共　　　跑　了　三　　趟
ta1　yi2gong4　pao3　le0　san1　tang4
he in total run ASP three time
'He ran three times in total.'

(c) (modify the subject)

他們　　昨天　　　都　來　了
ta1men0　zuo2tian1　do1　lai2　le0
they yesterday all came ASP
'They all came yesterday.'

Therefore, in the syntactic framework of the CKIP, the quantity adverbs are still treated as auxiliary components that assume the role of quantity. However, quantity adverbs can also occur immediately before noun phrases, such as (292). Thus, we do not propose that this small category of adverbs should occur before the verb.

(292) (a) (modify the subject)

至少　　　三個　　人　看見　　那　個　小偷
zhi4shao3　san1ge0　ren2　kan4jian4　na4　ge0　xiao3tou1
at least three CLS people see that CLS thief
'At least three people saw that thief.'

(b) (modify the object)

他　需要　　至少　　　三　名　　助理
ta1　xu1yao4　zhi4shao3　san1　ming2　zhu4li3
he need at least three CLS assistant
'He needs at least three assistants.'

(c) (modify the complement)

他　來　了　至少　　　三　趟
ta1　lai2　le0　zhi4shao3　san1　tang4
he come ASP at least three time
'He came at least three times.'

10.1.2 *Subcategories*

[+estimate] Quantity adverbs carrying the feature [+estimate] evaluate or speculate about a quantity; for example, 僅僅 jin3jin3 'only' 唯獨 wei2du2 'only', 總共 zong3gong4 'in total', 剛好 gang1hao3 'exactly', 大約 da4yue1 'approximately', and 至少 zhi4shao3 'at least'. These adverbs occur immediately after the modified noun phrase or between the subject and the verb, such as (293)–(294):

(293) (a) (before the noun phrase)

<u>總共</u>　　　三　　家　　住戶　　　要求　　　建築
zong3gong4　san1　jia1　zhu4hu4　yao1qiu2　jian4zhu2
公司　　　賠償
gong1si1　pei2chang2
in-total three CLS householder ask construction company compensate

'Three householders in total asked the construction company to compensate.'

(b) (between the subject and verb)

他　<u>總共</u>　　　拿　走　了　一　百萬　　　元
ta1　zong3gong4　na2　zou3　le0　yi1　bai3wan4　yuan2
he in-total take away one million dollars
'He took away one million dollars in total.'

(294) (a) (before the noun phrase)

<u>大約</u>　　　500　　　人　參加　　了　這　項
da4yue1　wu2bai3　ren2　can1jia1　le0　zhe4　xiang4
會議
hui4yi4
approximately 500 people participated this CLS conference
'Approximately 500 people participated in this conference.'

(b) (before the object noun phrase)

會計　主任　　　預支　　了　<u>大約</u>　　三十　　萬
hui4ji4　zhu3ren4　yu4zhi1　le0　da4yue1　san1shi2　wan4
薪水
xin1shui3
accounting director draw-in-advance approximately 30 ten.thousand salary
'The accounting director drew in advance approximately 300,000 dollars.'

(c)   (before the complement noun phrase)

他   跑   警察   局   跑   了   <u>大約</u>   四   趟
ta1   pao3 jing3cha2 ju2   pao3 le0   da4yue1   si4   tang4
才   完成   指認   工作
cai2 wan2cheng2   zhi3ren4   gong1zuo4

he run police station run ASP approximately four time CAI finish identification task

'He went to the police station approximately four times to complete the identification task.'

(d)   (between the subject and verb)

他   <u>大約</u>   賣出   了   兩千   打   這
ta1   da4yue1   mai4chu1   le0   liang3qian1   da3   zhe4
種   襪子
zhong3   wa4zi0

he approximately sell two thousand dozen this kind socks

'He sold approximately two thousand dozen socks of this kind.'

It is worth noticing that, the quantity adverb carrying [+estimate] usually evaluates or speculates about not only a quantity, but also an event. At this moment, these adverbs need dual categories, as shown in (295), (296).

(295) (a)   (quantity adverb)

<u>不過</u>   三   個   人   吃   壞   了   肚子
bu2guo4   san1   ge0   ren2   chi1   huai4   le0   du4zi0

just three CLS people eat ruin ASP stomach

'Just three people got diarrhea.'

(b)   (evaluative adverb)

他   <u>不過</u>   偷看   你   的   信
ta1   bu2guo4   tou1kan4   ni3   de0   xin4

He merely peek you DE letter

'He just peeked your letter.'

(296) (a)   (quantity adverb)

<u>大約</u>   三十   人   報名   參加   這   次
da4yue1   san1shi2   ren2   bao4ming2   can1jia1   zhe4   ci4
活動
huo2dong4

approximately thirty people register participate this CLS activity

'Approximately thirty people registered for participation in this activity'.

(b)   (modal adverb)

他　大約　　還　不　知道　　這　件　事
ta1　da4yue1　hai2　bu4　zhi1dao4　zhe4　jian4　shi4

he approximately yet not know this CLS thing

'He may not yet know this thing.'

[+participant] Quantity adverbs with the feature [+participant] are used to indicate how many members participate in the behavior denoted by the verb; for example, 都 dou1 'all', 全 quan2 'all', 大半 da4ban4 'most', and 絕大多數 jue2da4duo1shu4 'vast majority'. According to the positions of the nouns they modify, these quantity adverbs can be categorized into two types. The first type must occur after the noun phrase being modified. Therefore, when this adverb modifies an object, the object will move forward, as shown in (297b,c). The second type, on the other hand, can occur before the noun phrase being modified, as shown in (298).

(297)　(a)　他們　　都　　知道　　這　　件　　事
　　　　　　　ta1men0　dou1　zhi1dao4　zhe4　jian4　shi4

　　　　　　　they all know this CLS thing

　　　　　　　'They all know this thing.'

　　　　(b)　他　每　件　事　都　　知道
　　　　　　　ta1　mei3　jian4　shi4　dou1　zhi1dao4

　　　　　　　he every CLS thing all know

　　　　　　　'He knows everything.'

　　　　(c)　他　都　　知道
　　　　　　　ta1　dou1　zhi1dao4

　　　　　　　he all know

　　　　　　　'He all knows.'

(298)　(a)　大半　　的　節目　　都是　　外包　　的
　　　　　　　da4ban4　de0　jie2mu4　dou1shi4　wai4bao1　de0

　　　　　　　most DE program all be outsourced

　　　　　　　'Most programs are outsourced.'

　　　　(b)　他　試　過　大半　　的　口味
　　　　　　　ta1　shi4　guo4　da4ban4　de0　kou3wei4

　　　　　　　he try ASP most DE flavor

　　　　　　　'He has tried most flavors.'

10.2 Dba: Modal Adverb

Modal (法相) adverbs are used to indicate "the speaker's" attitude or viewpoint toward an event. In semantics, modal adverbs treat the whole sentence as the argument, putting the proposition into different possible worlds to determine its

meaning. Based on meaning, modal adverbs can be further divided into two types. One called by linguists epistemics, which indicates the speaker's speculation about whether a possible event is true, such as 一定 yi2ding4 'necessarily' , 也許 ye3xu3 'probably', 可能 ke3neng2 'possibly', etc. The other type is named deontics, which indicates the speaker's attitude toward whether a possible event is becoming true such as 必須 bi4xu1 'must', 應該 ying1gai1 'should', and 可以 ke3yi3 'could', etc. The two types can be, based on level difference, further divided by three types: +necessity, +probability, and +possibility. Modal adverbs have very consistent syntactic behaviors: positions of occurrence in the sentence, components in the context, and the word order between modal words and various adverbial/proposition phrases.

10.2.1 Analysis Principles

A. In CKIP's framework, no auxiliary verbs are devised; therefore, any words containing the "modal" meaning are classified as modal words.

B. A modal verb is classified according to its meaning; hence, although some words are classified into this category, they also exhibit syntactic behaviors of a verb. For example, a few can contribute to the *A-not-A* construction, a few can carry degree adverbs, and a few can serve as the subject's verb, as seen in (299).

(299) 你   這樣   做   不   應該
       ni3   zhe4yang4   zuo4   bu4   ying1gai1
       you   this-way   do   not   appropriately
       'What you have done is not right.'

CKIP has strategies to deal with the syntactic behaviors of these verbs. See CKIP's technical report: Modal Words in Modern Chinese (Chang 1992).

C. Negative types of modal adverbs must carry the feature [+negative], since an affirmative modal adverb does not necessarily have a negative counterpart, and vice versa. Besides, the logical relation between the affirmative type and the negative type of modal verbs is complicated, so it is advisable to list all of these words.

D. Modal verbs also come in interrogative form; they survived from archaic Chinese, such as: 可否 ke3fou3 'can or not', and 應否 ying1fou3 'should or not'. There is currently no way to deal with them syntactically or morphologically, so we have listed all of them with the feature [+Q].

E. Words such as 有必要 you3bi4yao4 'necessarily' and 有可能 you3ke3neng2 'possibly' have syntactic behaviors that are perfectly consistent with modal verbs, but they are not listed in the lexical file, because their combinations can be infixed with various modifiers. We are thus unable to enumerate all of them; they must be handled by phrase rules, such as: 有必要 you3bi4yao4 'necessarily', 有其必要 you3 qi2 bi4yao4 'having its necessity', 沒必要 mei2 bi4yao4 'not

necessarily', 沒有必要 mei2 you3 bi4yao4 'not having necessity', 無必要 wu2bi4yao4 'not necessarily', 無此必要 wu2xi3bi4yao4 'not having this necessity', 有無必要 you3wu2bi4yao4 'have or not necessity', 有沒有必要 you3mei2you3bi4yao4 'whether having necessity', 有極大必要 you3 ji2da4 bi4yao4 'having much necessity', 沒有太大必要 mei2 you3 tai4da4 bi4yao4 'not having much necessity'.

10.2.2 Subcategories

- (Dbaa) [+epistemics]

  Epistemics indicates the 'speaker's' speculation about whether an event is true. In the sentence (300a), we do not know whether John has gone fishing, but we know the person uttering this sentence thinks that John would do it. Likewise, in sentence (300b), we can not know in reality whether 'John has gone fishing', but we can see that the speaker is quite certain about his speculation. In sentence (300c), we cannot obtain too much information, except learning the speaker's speculation, rather than his certainty. In other words, [+epistemics] indicates the speaker's evaluation of some proposition.

  (300) (a) 張三　　可能　　去　釣魚　　了
  　　　　　　zhāngsān　kěnéng　qù　diàoyú　le
  　　　　　　'John can have gone fishing.'

  　　　(b) 張三　　一定　　去　釣魚　　了
  　　　　　　zhāngsān　yīdìng　qù　diàoyú　le
  　　　　　　'John must have gone fishing.'

  　　　(c) 張三　　應該　　去　釣魚　　了
  　　　　　　zhāngsān　yīnggāi　qù　diàoyú　le
  　　　　　　'John must be fishing now.'

  According to the three level differences above, we divide these modal verbs into three subcategories, and exhaustively enumerate all the modal verbs expressing epistemics as follows. Note that negative modal verbs are also listed. See the principle of analysis 3.

  Examples:

  - [+necessity] 一定 yīdìng 'must', 必定 bìdìng 'must', 鐵定 tiědìng 'must', 必然 bìrán 'must', 諒必 liàng bì 'must', 必 bi 'must', 絕 jué 'absolutely', 絕對 juéduì 'absolutely', 包準 bāo zhǔn 'absolutely', 準 Zhun 'absolutely', 穩 wen 'absolutely', 是 shi 'indeed', 自然 zìrán 'consequently', 想當然 xiǎngdāngrán 'presumably', 免不了 miǎnbule 'inevitably', 不免 bùmiǎn 'inevitably', 會 hui 'would', 勢必 shibi 'will', 無疑 wuyi 'undoubtedly', 勢將 shì jiāng 'will', 準定 zhǔn ding 'will'.

- [+negative, + necessity] 不可能 bù kěnéng 'must not', 不太可能 bù tài kěnéng 'much unlikely'.
- [+probability] 應該 yīnggāi 'should', 應當 yīngdāng 'should', 應 ying 'should', 該 gai 'should', 理應 lǐyīng 'should', 理該 lǐ gāi 'should', 理當 lǐdāng 'should', 自應 zì yīng 'should', 自當 zì dāng 'should'.
- [+negative, +probability] 不致於 bùzhì yú 'unlikely', 不至於 bù zhìyú 'unlikely', 不致 bùzhì 'unlikely'.
- [+possibility] 可能 kěnéng 'could', 也許 yěxǔ 'possibly', 或許 huòxǔ 'possibly', 大概 dàgài 'possibly', 好像 hǎoxiàng 'seem', 似乎 sìhū 'seem', 說不定 shuō bu ding 'possibly', 恐怕 kǒngpà 'possibly', 搞不好 gǎo bù hǎo 'possibly', 不見得 bùjiàn dé 'possibly', 八成 bāchéng 'very likely', 恍若 huǎng ruò 'seem', 十之八九 shí zhī bājiǔ 'seem', 宛然 wǎnrán 'hearted', 容或 róng huò 'possibly', 許是 xǔ shì 'possibly', 似是 sì shì 'seem', 看樣子 kàn yàngzi 'seem', 依稀 yīxī 'seem'.
- [+negative, +possibility] 不一定 bù yīdìng 'not necessarily', 不見得 bùjiàn dé 'not necessarily', 未必 wèi bì 'not necessarily', 未必見得 wèi bìjiàn dé 'not necessarily', 不打準 bù dǎ zhǔn 'not necessarily', 未見得 wèi jiàn dé 'not necessarily', 難保 nánbǎo 'not guarantee', 絕不 jué bù 'never'.

- (Dbab) [+deontics]
  Deontics shows 'the speaker's' attitude despite the true condiiton of an event; concepts of 'command' and 'permission' are discussed here. However, this 'command' or 'permission' is made by the speaker, so sentence (301) does not express deontics, because the one giving the command is the subject 張老師 zhāng lǎoshī 'Teacher Chang' rather than the speaker, while in (302), it is the speaker that feels the event 安樂死 ānlèsǐ 'Euthanasia' needs to be brought up for discussion. All in all, the modal word meaning of [+deontics] indicates the speaker's attitude toward a certain event.

  (301) 張   老師   命令   他 的 學生   抄   一   遍
        zhāng   lǎoshī mìnglìng tā de xuéshēng chāo yī   biàn
        課文
        kèwén
        'Prof. Zhang requested his student(s) to transcribe the text for one time.'

  (302) 安樂死 應該   被   拿來   討論
        ānlèsǐ yīnggāi   bèi nálái tǎolùn
        'Euthanasia should be included in discussion.'

  Deontics is also divided into three types based on the nature of their differences. Sentences (303), (304) both express the speaker's request, or

command, but the manner of the former is stronger than the latter because the modal word 'must' carries more force than 'should.'

(303) 公平　　交易　法　之　管制　　必須　再　深入
　　　 gōngpíng jiāoyì fǎ zhī guǎnzhì bìxū zài shēnrù
　　　 考量
　　　 kǎoliáng
　　　 'The control of the Fair-Trade Law must be considered in more depth.'

(304) 公平　　交易　法　之　管制　　應該　　再　深入
　　　 gōngpíng jiāoyì fǎ zhī guǎnzhì yīnggāi zài shēnrù
　　　 考量
　　　 kǎoliáng
　　　 'The control of the Fair-Trade Law should be considered in more depth.'

The weakest manner of speaking is by expressing permission, such as 能 neng2 'can':

(305) 從　　今年　　十月　　起 任何　人　都　能　　使用
　　　 cóng jīnnián shíyuè qǐ rènhé rén dōu néng shǐyòng
　　　 詞庫　的　詞彙檔
　　　 cíkù de cíhuìdàng
　　　 'Starting October this year, everyone can use the CKIP lexicon file?'

Example: here we also enumerate the words showing deontics. Just as modal adverbs' analysis principles 3, 4 says, we also list negative and interrogative modal adverbs.

- [+necessity] 'must' 必須, 必, 須, 得, 須得, 總得, 直須, 終須, 必得, 必要, 務須, 務必, 勢必, 非 (...... 不可), 非得 (...... 不可), 可得, 不得不, 尤須, 但須, 祇得, 不能不, 只得, 需, 須要.
- [+negative, +necessity] 'must not' 不可, 不可以, 不能, 不能夠, 不得, 不行, 不准, 不許.
- [+Q, +necessity] 'Why must ...?' 何須, 何必
- [+probability] 'should' 應該, 應當, 應, 該, 當, 要, 可要, 理該, 理當, 理應, 本該, 本應, 該當, 正該, 偏要, 可要.
- [+negative, +probability] 'should not' 不應該, 不應當, 不應, 不該, 不要, 別, 休, 勿, 莫, 切莫.
- [+Q, +probability] 'Should ...?' 應否.
- [+possibility] 'could' 可, 可以, 能, 能夠, 得以, 行, 猶可, 裨能, 即可, 不妨, 'had better' 最好, 倒不如.
- [+negative, +possibility] 'need not' 不必, 不用, 不須, 不需要, 不必要, 弗, 毋庸, 毋, 甭, 無須, 免, 不需, 莫須, 大可不必, 無需, 犯不著.
- [+Q, +possibility] 'Can ...?' 可否, 能否, 豈能, 怎能, 有何不可.

10.3 Dbb/Dbc: Evaluative Adverb

Like modal adverbs, evaluative adverbs also show the 'speaker's' viewpoint toward an event. As seen in Section 10.2, modal adverbs are meant to show the speaker's 'speculation' or 'request' of an event, but evaluative adverbs show the speaker's 'evaluation' of an event. Besides, while modal adverbs refer to a 'possible event', evaluative adverbs indicate a 'real event'. This is quite understandable because for an event whose occurrence is uncertain in nature, we can only speculate about it or make it happen, and for an event that has happened, we can only evaluate it. In sentences (306) and (307), '林主任盗用公款' must be a real event that has happened, so that we can use 居然 jūrán 'unexpectedly', and 果然 guǒrán 'as expected', only that the former shows that what happened does not conform to normality or the speaker's expectation, while the latter shows that what happened measures up to the speaker's expectation.

(306)　林　主任　　居然　盗用　　公款
　　　　lín　zhǔrèn　jūrán　dàoyòng　gōngkuǎn
　　　　'Director Lin unexpectedly embezzled the public funds.'

(307)　林　主任　　果然　盗用　　公款
　　　　lín　zhǔrèn　guǒrán　dàoyòng　gōngkuǎn
　　　　'Director Lin as expected embezzled the public funds.'

There remains one more difference between evaluative adverbs and modal adverbs, that is, whether or not the event takes place does not affect the truth value of the sentence. In the above two examples, neither 居然 jūrán 'unexpectedly' nor 果然 guǒrán 'as expected' can affect the truth value of the sentence.

In the CKIP framework, the evaluative adverb is an affiliated component of the verb, playing the semantic role of evaluation.

10.3.1 *Principles of Analysis*

A. Evaluative adverbs and modal adverbs are often confusing and difficult to distinguish; the easiest way to differentiate is that what an evaluative adverb refers to is a real event, while a modal adverb refers to possible events.

B. For words that come with the functions of both evaluative adverbs and quantity adverbs, please see Section 10.1.

C. Evaluative adverbs and sentential adverbs are easily confused. If the word fits the definition of sentential adverbs, the CKIP should classify it into sentential adverbs. The position of sentential adverbs in the CKIP framework is like that of evaluative adverbs, both serving as affiliated components of the verb, and both assuming the semantic function of evaluation.

10.3.2 Subcategories

Evaluative adverbs, according to the internal structure of the word, are divided into two subcategories. The first category (Dbb) includes general evaluative adverbs, such as: 幸虧 xing4kui1 'thanks to', 不愧 bu4kui4 'worthy of', 難怪 nan2guai4 'no wonder', 居然 ju1ran2 'unexpectedly', 果然 guo3ran2 'as expected', 竟然 jing4ran2 'actually', 膽敢 dan3gan3 'dare', 竟敢 jing4gan3 'dare', 畢竟 bi4jing4 'after all', 未免 wei4mian3 'rather', 何必 he2bi4 'why', 總算 zong3suan4 'finally', 終究 zhong1jiu4 'after all'. The second category (Dbc) includes evaluative adverbs with the structure [V-起來 qi3lai2 '-like']; the combination rules of these adverbs are derivative, hence CKIP lexicon cannot list them exhaustively. For example: 看起來 kan4qi3lai2 'look like', 聽起來 ting1qi3lai2 'sound like', 嚐起來 chang2qi3lai2 'taste like'.

10.4 Dc: Negative Adverb

In the framework of CKIP, negative adverbs only include adverbs that purely express the concept of negation; negative adverbs that also express other semantic concepts are not included here (see the following principles of analysis). Negative adverbs fall into a category of only a few members, such as: 不 bu4 'not', 沒 mei2 'no', 沒有 mei2you3 'no', 未 wei4, and 'not yet'. However, all of the adverbs that express negative concepts must have the feature +negative. CKIP has proposed a principle of analysis in order to avoid overlapping categorization. When an adverb comes with the functions of both negative and another semantic concepts, it should be classified into another category; for example, 未曾 wei4ceng2 'have not', 從不 cong2bu4 'never', and 從未 cong2wei4 'never', which are not only negative adverbs but also time adverbs, and which CKIP classifies as time adverbs. Besides, these adverbs are given the feature `+negative`, so as to indicate their negative meaning.

10.5 Dd: Time Adverb

This is a big category that includes all time concepts that are capable of annotating the occurrence of an event, be it a time point, interval, frequency, length of duration, such as suddenly/gradually, immediately/later, etc.

In the CKIP system, these time adverbs are affiliated components of the verb, playing the role of time. In the position distribution of a sentence, time adverbs are categorized into two kinds: one that can only occur in the position of prototypical adverbs, that is, between the subject and verb; the other that can also occur in the beginning of the sentence. The greatest difference between time adverbs and time nouns (Nd) is that time adverbs cannot serve as the argument of the verb. Time adverbs can be put into following categories.

To express time interval 好半天 hao3ban4tian1 'for a quite while', 一年到頭 yi4nian2 dao4tou2 'year round', 從早到晚 cong2zao3dao4wan3 'from

morning to night', 累世 lei3shi4 'lifetimes', 漏夜 lou4ye4 'midnight', 從小 cong2xiao3 'from childhood', 整天 zheng3tian1 'all day', 終年 zhong1nian2 'throughout the year', 成年累月 cheng2nian2lei3yue4 'months and years', 自古以來 zi4gu3yi3lai2 'since ancient times', 常年 chang2nian2 'perennial', 短期 duan4qi2 'short term'.

To express frequency 常常 chang2chang2 'often', 經常 jing1chang2 'usually', 老 lao3 'always', 時時 shi2shi2 'often', 時常 shi2chang2 'often', 屢次 lv3ci4 'repeatedly', 三番兩次 san1fan1liang3ci4 'repeatedly', 有時 you3shi2 'sometimes', 偶爾 ou3er3 'occasionally', 間或 jian4huo4 'occasionally' , 從不 cong2bu4 'never', 從未 cong2wei4 'never'.

To express eternal/temporal state 始終 shi3zhong1 'always', 一向 yi2xiang4 'always', 向來 xiang4lai2 'always', 一直 yi4zhi2 'have/has', 素來 su4lai2 'always', 無時無刻 wu2shi2wu2ke4 'all the time', 暫時 zhan4shi2 'temporally', 暫且 zhan4qie3 'for the time being'.

To express immediacy/later 馬上 ma3shang4 'immediately', 立刻 li4ke4 'at once', 隨即 sui2ji2 'immediately', 立即 li4ji2 'immediately', 即刻 ji2ke4 'immediately', 儘快 jin4kuai4 'as soon as possible', 即將 ji2jiang1 'soon', 待會兒 dai1hui3er0 'a little later', 等一會 deng3yi4hui3 'wait a minute', 等一下 deng3yi2xia4 'wait', 等一會兒 deng3yi4hui3er0 'wait a minute'.

To express suddenness 突然 tu2ran2 'suddenly', 猝然 cu4ran2 'suddenly', 忽然 hu1ran2 'suddenly', 剎時 cha4shi2 'suddenly', 霎時 sha4shi2 'instantly', 瞬間 shun4jian1 'moment'.

Others 剛 gang1 'just now', 方才 fang1cai2 'just', 正在 zheng4zai4 'doing', 起初 qi3chu1 'in the beginning', 現今 xian4jin1 'currently', 改天 gai3tian1 'another day', 近來 jin4lai2 'recently', 稍後 shao1hou4 'later', 趕明兒 gan3ming2er0 'tomorrow', 到時 dao4shi2 'at that time', 於今 yu2jin1 'today', 臨末 lin2mo4 'in the end', 有朝一日 you3zhao1yi2ri4 'someday', 一大早 yi2da4zao3 'bright and early'.

10.6 Df: Degree Adverb

Degree adverbs often immediately precede the verb, a few immediately succeed the verb, showing the level of action. In the CKIP framework, degree adverbs are affiliated components of the verb that assume the semantic role of degree.

10.6.1 Subcategories

Degree adverbs can be divided into two subcategories based on whether they precede or succeed the verb:

(Dfa) Preceding Degree Adverbs: Preceding degree adverbs often immediately precede the verb, such as 很 hen3 'very', 非常 fei1chang2 'very much', 十分 shi2fen1 'very', 格外 ge2wai4 'particularly', 真是 zhen1shi4 'really', 頗 po3 'quite', 滿 man3 'full', 有些 you3xie1 'sort of', 有點 you3dian3

'a little', 十二萬分 shi2er4wan4fen1 'extremely', 極具 ji2ju4 'great', 更 geng4 'still more', 更加 geng4jia1 'more', and 越發 yue4fa1 'more'.

(Dfb) Succeeding Degree Adverbs: Succeeding degree adverbs immediately succeed the verb, such as 得很 de0hen3 'very', 極了 ji2le0 'extremely', 過頭 guo4tou2 'overdone', 透頂 tou4ding3 'extremely', 無比 wu2bi3 'matchless', and 入骨 ru4gu3 'extremely'.

10.7 Dg: Location Adverb

In modern Mandarin Chinese, in terms of the form of prepositional phrases or locative phrases, we tend to show the location where an event takes place, so the number of location adverbs is not large. We consider location adverbs as affiliated components of the verb that carry the feature of location (地方). Similar to time adverbs, location adverbs cannot serve as the argument. Examples include 處處 chu4chu4 'everywhere', 到處 dao4chu4 'everywhere', 遍地 bian4di4 'everywhere', 當場 dang1chang3 'on the spot', 當眾 dang1zhong4 'in public', 當街 dang1jie1 'on the street', 隨地 sui2di4 'anywhere', 沿街 yan2jie1 'along the street', 一路 yi2lu4 'all the way', and 渾身 hun2shen1 'all over the body'.

10.8 Dh: Manner Adverb

Literally, a manner adverb expresses the "manner" in which an action is executed. Since "manner" is diverse in nature, this category is also the largest one of all adverbs. That is, whichever adverbs cannot be included in other categories can be included into this one. For example: 千方百計 qian1fang1bai3ji4 'by all means', 暗地 an4di4 'secretly', 原原本本 yuan2yuan2ben3ben3 'from first to last', 互相 hu4xiang1 'mutually', 異口同聲 yi4kou3tong2sheng1 'with one voice', 如此 ru2ci3 'in this way', 竭誠 jie2cheng2 'wholeheartedly', 變相 bian4xiang4 'in a different form', 私底下 si1di1xia4 'privately', 連名 lian3ming2 'jointly (petition)', 親手 qin1shou3 'with one's own hand', 藉故 jie4gu4 'to find an excuse', 專程 zhuan1cheng2 'purposely', 私自 si1zi4 'privately', 親口 qin1kou3 'personally', 從中 cong2zhong1 'in the middle', and 草草 cao3cao3 'hastily'. In the CKIP framework, a manner adverb is an affiliated component of the verb that assumes the semantic role of manner (方式). Most of the time, manner adverbs only occur between the subject and the verb.

10.8.1 Principles of Analysis

(i) To prevent multiple categorization, when a word comes with the functions of both the manner adverb and the status verb, such as (308a,b), only the category of the status verb is given, and it is marked with the feature [+way].

(308) (a) (status verb)

她 很 漂亮
tā hěn piàoliang
'She is gorgeous.'

(b)   (manner adverb)

他 漂亮的　　　擊出　一　支　全壘打
tā   piàoliangde   jíchū   yī   zhī   quánlěidǎ

'He hit a gorgeous home run.'

For verbs that do not require "的" or "地" to have the adverbial function, such as (309b) "怒氣沖沖" our analysis still gives it the feature [+de].

(309)   (a)   (status verb)

他 今天　一整天　　　怒氣沖沖。
tā   jīntiān   yīzhěngtiān   nùqìchōngchōng

'He was angry for the whole day today.'

(b)   (manner adverb)

他 怒氣沖沖　　　責問　女友　遲到　的 原因。
tā   nùqìchōngchōng   zéwèn   nǚyǒu   chídào   de   yuányīn

'He angrily questioned his girlfriend about her reason for being late.'

(ii)   To prevent multiple categorization, when a word has the functions of both the manner adverb and the Non-Predicative adjective, such as "共同" in (310a,b) only the category of Non-Predicative adjective is given, and it is marked with the feature of [+way] or [+de].[1]

(310)   (a)   (manner adverb)

我們　　　共同　　　承包　　　這　家　公司　　　的
wǒmen   gòngtóng   chéngbāo   zhè   jiā   gōngsī   de
業務
yèwù

'We joined forces to contract with this company.'

(b)   (Non-Predicative adjective)

共同　　　天線
gòngtóng   tiānxiàn

'shared antenna'

10.9 Di: Aspect Adverb

This category of adverbs usually denotes the verb's tense or aspect, for example: 了 le0, 著 zhe0, 過 guo4, 起 qi3, 起來 qi3 lai0, 下去 xia4qu4, 中 zhong1, 當中 dang1zhong1. There is some debate as to whether these aspectual markers can be classified as adverbs. Our current classification is based on the fact that semantically they are affiliated components of the verb.

10.10 Dj: Interrogative Adverb

Literally, interrogative adverbs are adverbs carrying interrogation. However, in the CKIP framework, not all adverbs carrying interrogation are included into this category, that is only adverbs that express interrogation. In other words, only the interrogative adverbs that cannot be classified into other categories of adverbs, can be included in this category. For example, 'for what' 為什麼 wei4shen2me0, 幹啥 gan4sha2, 為啥 wei4sha2, 為何 wei4he2, 怎的 zen3de0, 何故 he2gu4, 為甚麼 wei2shen2me0, 幹嘛 gan4ma2, 幹麼 gan4ma2, 'why not' 怎不 zen3bu4, 幹什麼 gan4shen2me0, and 'whether or not' 是否 shi4fou3. Hence, the interrogative adverbs included in this category only express the concepts of 為什麼 wei4shen2me0 'for what' and 是否 shi4fou3 'whether or not'. Interrogative adverbs all carry the feature [+Q].

10.10.1 Principles of Analysis

All adverbs expressing interrogation carry the feature [+Q], but in categorization, other categories of adverbs are given precedence, for example:

應否 '**should or not**' **: +deontics, +Q**: included into modal adverbs.

何時 '**when**': **+temporal$_r$elation, +Q**: included into time adverbs.

何處 '**where**': **+locative, +Q**: included into locative adverbs.

10.11 Dk: Sentential Adverb

This category of adverb serves the purpose of conveying mood, and of clarifying the relation of mood in the context. For example: 'all in all' 總之 zong3zhi1, 歸根結底 gui1gen1jie2di3, 'generally speaking' 概括地說 gai4kuo4de0shuo1, 一般而言 yi1ban1er2yan2, 質言之 zhi4yan2zhi1, 'accordingly' 據報 ju4bao4, 據了解 ju4liao3jie3, 據稱 ju4cheng1, 據說 ju4cheng1, 'without speaking' 不消說 bu4xiao1shuo1, 'in other words' 換句話說 huan4ju4hua4shuo1, 'honestly speaking' 老實說 lao3shi2shuo1, 'in a narrow sense' 狹義地說 xia2yi4de0shuo1, and 'in one word' 一言以蔽之 yi1yan2yi3bi4zhi1. In the CKIP framework, members of this category also have the feature of evaluation due to their semantic content. This category of adverbs usually occur at the beginning of a sentence; those that can occur after the subject are quite limited.

Note

1 When a word has both the adverb usage beyond manner adverbs and Non-Predicative adjective usage, we include it in both categories.