Review Article

The Present Situation of the Ontological Study of Visual Verbs in English and Chinese

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Abstract

The ontological study of visual verbs mainly focuses on the meaning and grammar of visual verbs, while the grammar study focuses on the grammar of patterns, syntactic functions, grammaticalization, pragmatics and collocation. The cognitive research of visual verbs mainly includes categorization, life meaning, and metaphor and so on. The semantic research of visual verbs mainly includes polysemy and its meaning evolution, word-formation semantics, lexical semantics, syntactic semantics, and semantic field.
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INTRODUCTION

As a term and problem, grammaticalization was first proposed by Meillet, a French linguist. It refers to a linguistic phenomenon of "the transformation of autonomous words into grammatical elements". The discussion of grammaticalization has a long history in China and the West. From a diachronic perspective, Kurylowicz believes that grammaticalization is a transformation from lexical morphemes to grammatical morphemes or from low-level morphemes to high-level morphemes, such as from derivative word-building elements to internal inflectional elements. From the synchronic point of view, Levin-son holds that grammaticalization is to distinguish semantics by coding in terms of vocabulary, morphology/syntax, and phonetics.

In perspective of the Domestic research, Shen Jiaxuan believes that grammaticalization usually refers to a process or phenomenon in which words with real meaning are transformed into meaningless and grammatical elements. The study of grammaticalization can be carried out from two perspectives: one is diachronic perspective, which regards grammaticalization as a part of language evolution and examines the source, formation and development of grammatical forms; the other is synchronic perspective, which regards grammaticalization as a kind of syntactic and pragmatic phenomenon, and examines how grammaticalization determines grammatical barriers in daily language use. Various means of the Department.

As early as 1959, Mr. Lu Jianming talked about the evolution of the visual verb core word "see" in his article *a new auxiliary word "see" in modern Chinese"*. The article described in detail the position of "see" which often appears in sentences, and analyzed its grammatical meaning and formal characteristics. It shows that the tentative meaning of "see" is derived from the development of the verb "see". Then, starting from the grammaticalization problem, many scholars have studied and discussed the visual verb.

Achievements in Grammaticalization of Visual Verbs

From the grammaticalization of visual verbs, we can find that there are two general trends in the study of visual verbs. One is to explore or compare the syntax, function, distribution, collocation, cognitive mechanism, grammaticalization and grammatical markers of words. On the other hand, it explores the motivation of grammaticalization and the evolution of word meaning caused by the process of grammaticalization.

Research on Syntax, Function, Distribution and Collocation of Visual Verb

Wang Xiaoping [1] made a grammaticalization study of "Look" and prepositional framework "P+X+Look" from three levels, and compared the syntactic functions, distribution, collocation, differences and tendencies in semantic expression and differences in text performance between "Look" and "Look". Qiu Chuangxian [2] used the theory of Semantic Functional

Grammar and the methods of cognitive grammar, grammaticalization and systemic functional grammar to study visual verbs as parentheses, analyzed the words "you see" and "you see", described the nature, semantics and functions of parentheses, and according to the relevant language phenomena, studied visual verbs as parentheses. The characteristics are explained in terms of semantics, function, cognition or diachronic evolution. Zhang Yun [1] takes "see" in visual verbs as the object of study. From the diachronic level, this paper investigates the evolution of "see" in terms of its semantics, syntactic functions, grammatical features and object-taking situation. From the synchronic level, it analyses its grammatical features, syntactic functions and grammaticalization in modern Chinese. Hao Shuangshuang [3] summed up the path of "see" grammaticalization by combining synchronic expression (syntactic, semantic and pragmatic function analysis) with diachronic investigation (source and development). The grammaticalization of "see" is comprehensively investigated, which is divided into seven aspects, namely, grammaticalization into adverbs, auxiliary words and various grammatical markers.

Research on the Cognitive Mechanism of Visual Verbs

Hou Jie [4] argues for grammaticalization of visual verbs. This paper chooses SEE as a case study and explores the changes of SEE in semantics, image schema and syntax in the process of grammaticalization on the basis of event cognitive model. By describing the above three aspects, this paper aims to reveal the characteristics and cognitive mechanism of SEE in the process of grammaticalization. Shi Fengfei [5] used the theory of type grammar to analyze the relevant data of "see" in the general balanced corpus of modern Chinese of the State Language Commission. With the help of the corpus of Peking University, she concluded that there are three main types of "see" which are viewpoint type, speculation type and attempt type. Xu Sijia [6] made a comprehensive summary and systematic analysis of the visual sensory verbs in modern Chinese, established a visual sensory verb network with "see" as the core, and grasped the similarities and differences between them by comparing and analyzing the semantic and syntactic characteristics of the members of the word group.

Research on Visual Verb Definition and Grammatical Markers

Jin Xiaohan [7] studies grammaticalization in a narrow sense, that is, the process or phenomena in which notional words evolve into grammatical markers, grammatical categories, grammatical constructions or idiomatic expressions. This paper mainly studies how the "see class" verb evolves from a notional word to a pragmatic "discourse marker" and its scope of use. Based on corpus analysis, Han Yuguo [8] discussed the semantic projection of Chinese visual verbs and related grammaticalization processes, described the

grammaticalization of "see", "phase", "look", "shine" and "see" into functional words, and considered that the process of visual metaphor was a projection from the starting domain to the destination domain.

Dong Natie [9] analyzed the conceptual framework of visual verbs such as spy, notice and view, and concluded that although there are transitives and intransitives, the basic conceptual structure of visual verbs is similar; some words are determined by their semantics whether they can be followed by orientation words. Spy can be added later, while witness does not. Qiu Chuangxian [2] inspected various usages of "see" on the synchronic plane of modern Chinese, and analyzed that "see" gradually evolved from visual verbs to pragmatic and discourse markers. Sun Minqing [10] based on the Russian national corpus, through setting up a sub-database of text type and time, quantitatively analyzed the meanings, collocations and sentence patterns of the typical visual verb CMOTPETb.

The Motivation of Grammaticalization and the Evolution of Word Meaning Caused by the Process of Grammaticalization

Wu Wenjie & Xu Yan [11] analyzed and compared the grammaticalization of four typical visual verbs "see", "see", "look" and "phase". It was found that there were some differences in the motivation and process of grammaticalization due to the differences in semantic features. Li Zongjiang [12] discussed the evolution process and conditions of "turning back" from a lexical phrase expressing turning action to a word, and grammaticalization to a temporal adverb and a connective component. He concluded that "turning back" is from the original "action domain" to the "time domain", and this change may be the result of the syntactic evolution. As a result, it may also be the result of pure cognitive metaphor. Cui Yachong [13] discussed the grammaticalization path of Chinese visual verb "see" and its evolutionary motivation and mechanism. He believed that the grammaticalization of Chinese visual verb "see" in ancient Chinese changed from verb to passive auxiliary, and later developed the usage of demonstrative adverb, which presented a radiation in the course of its development. The trajectory of shape develops and evolves from different perspectives, and ultimately produces different meanings. Gao Lingling [14] holds that the semantic evolution of visual verb SEE is mainly based on the mechanism of metonymy, reanalysis and subjectivization under the function of pragmatic inference. It is a process of gradual weakening of semantics, and its subjectivity is constantly increasing, which fully conforms to the process of grammaticalization. Liu Yingming [15] analyzed the grammaticalization path of the Korean visual verb pota from the synchronic point of view. He believed that the motivation and mechanism of the grammaticalization of pota were mainly the change of syntactic position,

cognitive metaphor and reanalysis. Hou Jie [16] selected the English visual verb SEE as a case study to explore the semantic changes of the visual verb SEE in the grammaticalization process on the basis of the event cognitive model. Yang Rui [17] summarized and summarized the Russian visual behavior representation methods of "gaze" and "stare", and analyzed their style color.

Cognitive Study of Visual Verbs

Cognitive studies of visual verbs mainly focus on categorization, meaning of life and metaphor.

Categorization of Visual Verbs

Categorization is an important concept in cognitive linguistics. According to J. Littlemore, categorization is the first thing we do when we first see something, that is, categorizing things. Only in this way can we make the world we live in meaningful. When we first see something, we think about it. Is it edible, drink or play? Then categorize things according to their own judgment, so as to make use of the value of things [18] from the perspective of categorization, the study of visual verbs mainly focuses on the basic level category, prototype category and non-categorization.

Meng Fanyu [19] studied the basic level category vocabulary of head movements in Chinese. The lexical, phonetic, semantic and word-building abilities of the 20 basic level categories are analyzed, with emphasis on the metaphorical patterns and image schemas of the basic level words.

Zheng Songyi [20] examines the use of prototype semantics and extended semantics by analyzing the semantics of the sensory verb "see" combined with each semantics object. Secondly, from the perspective of cognitive linguistics, he uses prototype category theory to analyze the correlation between the extended semantics of "see", and to find out the reasons and mechanisms of semantic expansion. Finally, from the perspective of linguistics and applied linguistics, some teaching strategies about the sensory verb "see" in modern Chinese are provided.

Xie Juan [21] analyzed the basic semantics of Japanese visual verb 「みる」 to study the process of semantic expansion of 「みる」 and its relationship, and constructed the semantic network of 「みる. Through exploring and studying the semantics of, we find that with the extension of semantics, a new way of expression emerges, that is, "て" is connect with, and transformed into a Non-categorized form of"てみる". Gu Yue [22] mainly discusses the extension process of "seeing" from ordinary visual meaning to other meanings and the non-categorization phenomenon in this process.

A Semantic Study of Vitality of Visual Verbs

Animacy is the degree of vitality of the living body. It first appeared in the biological category, and then entered the linguistic category. It is a one-dimensional quantification projected in language on the basis of the life of natural objects. Based on this, predecessors established the life-span sequence of nouns in modern Chinese, and classified them in terms of life-span, which affected the life-span of parts of speech closely related to nouns, such as verbs, adjectives and so on. As the core and soul of language, verbs are closely related to human life and are naturally influenced by life. As the main way to get information, the perceptual verb "see" is the beginning of human basic cognitive activities, which is closely related to human survival and life activities and forms the ability of human survival and development.

Hu Wenjing [23] chooses the action verb "eat" and the perceptual verb "see" as the research objects, and takes the life sequence as the criterion to discuss the combination of "eat" and "see" when referring to person noun, animal noun, abiotic noun, place noun and abstract noun respectively as subject and object. It is found that there are similarities and differences between the two phenomena of benchmark positioning and swing significance under different conditions. Hu Xindan [24] compares "look up", "look up/value", "see through", "see through", "see through", "look through", "look" and "look" to analyze the situation and differences of nouns entering "NP1 + see - +NP2". Look at the vitality of NP and the semantics of "Look - +X" implementation. Peng Yuhai [25] explores the origin and development of perceiving the metaphorical meaning of verbs and the cognitive operation procedures, structures and methods from the operational levels of cognitive similarity, semantic misplacement, image schema, metaphorical mapping and metaphorical patterns, and on this basis establishes the cognitive semantic mechanism of Russian visual perception verbs.

Metaphorical Study of Visual Verbs

In recent years, metaphor plays an important role in the study of visual verbs. The main issues discussed include metaphorical mechanism, cognitive analysis of metaphorical meaning, metaphorical mapping, etc.

Li Jinlan [26] takes a class of verbs in modern Chinese, namely body verbs, as the object of study. Based on the theory of cognitive linguistics, he describes and analyses the restrictions of body nouns on body verbs, the semantic system, sentence types, sentence semantics of body transitive verbs and intransitive verbs, and the metaphorical mechanism of body verbs. It is studied from the aspects of semantic features and argument structure. Xue Jingjing [27] classified sensory verbs and described their behavioral characteristics, and analyzed the metaphorical meanings of five sensory verbs: visual, auditory, olfactory, taste

and tactile. Gao Zailan [28] believes that the two kinds of virtualization of "see" have the same evolution path: first, through metaphor, the meaning of words changes. The ways of metaphor are from the material world to the psychological world. Sensory action verbs are metaphorically "casual" from "see" and "listen" to "casual". The sensory perception verb "see" is changed from visual perception metaphor to psychological perception "recognize" and "realize".Secondly, it absorbs the logical semantics of a format in context through metonymy. The sensory action verb "see/listen" enters the unconditional compound sentence and absorbs the format meaning, which further becomes the symbol of unconditional logical relationship. The visual perception verb "see" enters the compound sentence of causal relationship, and obtains the meaning of causal logic relationship further into the marker of causal clause.

Lu Yan [29] takes the visual words in Modern Chinese Dictionary as the object of study. By analyzing their metaphorical meanings and cognitive basis, and comparing them with the metaphorical meanings of other sensory words, he reveals that Chinese visual words have a highly systematic tendency to derive the metaphorical meanings of "mind". Hou Jie [16] made a detailed analysis of the semantics of the visual verb see based on the event cognitive model of cognitive linguistics, and concluded that the semantic evolution of see is mainly due to the metaphorical and metonymic mapping from physical space to psychological space and finally to speech act space.

Wu Wenjie [18] believed that the basic meaning of "hope" contains the meaning of distance. In people's cognitive psychology, long-distance things have the meaning characteristics of difficult observation, arrival and acquisition, that is, there is a certain degree of obstacle. Although neither "visiting class" nor "expecting class" emphasizes visual behavior, there is similarity between the basic meaning of "looking" and the emphasis on some kind of "hindrance" in semantic features. Zhe Ruilong [20] discussed the metaphorical representation of visual category and its cognitive basis, and concluded that when we use eyes to observe objects, visual effect is closely related to the quality of information we get, and then has an impact on the next high-level mental activities such as judgment and reasoning. If the visual effect is "clear" and "clear", the understanding of things is easy to "understand" and "clear"; if the visual effect is "vague" and "unclear", the understanding of things is often "vague" and "unclear". Song Jinlan [30] considered that the word "day" and "month" in both Chinese and Tibetan languages originated from the word "eye". This hypothesis can be supported by human culturology. The eye is the only organ with obvious luminous characteristics and round shape. It has some similarities with the appearance of the sun and the moon. Chen Lin [31] put forward the concept of

implicit visual subject, using the combination of falsification and confirmation, based on the object characteristics of different narrative perspectives and the time-air-conditioning control characteristics of the omniscient narrator, analyzed the implicit visual subject, and drew the conclusion that it exactly refers to the omniscient narrator.

Semantic Study of Visual Verbs
The study of semantics is the core part of the study of visual verbs, which can be classified as follows:

Polysemy of Visual Verbs and Their Evolution
The phenomenon of polysemy is to explore the meaning of a word from the synchronic plane. The study of polysemy of a visual verb mainly includes the cognitive interpretation of the principle and motivation of polysemy, and the type of semantic expansion, etc. as follows:

Based on the theory of cognitive linguistics, Zhou Chunyan [32] attempts to verify that the principle governing polysemy is the metaphorical mapping of image schema by studying the meaning of English visual perceptual verb SEE, especially its non-visual perceptual meaning. Liu Yayan [33] investigated and analyzed the relationship between the word-formation ability of Japanese compound verb "see + V" and the semantic expansion of its preceding verb "see" from the perspective of rhetoric function. According to the semantic extension of the former verb "see", the polysemy of the compound verb "see + V" can be divided into three categories: prototype semantics, metaphorical extended semantics and metonymic extended semantics. Zhang Jianli [34] constructed a simplest polysemy scheme to represent the set of cognitive models. By constructing a dynamic interpretation process, we can demonstrate the choice and enrichment of the simplest polysemy of see by specific context and metaphorical metonymy. Hu Lingli [14] interpreted the verb "see" from the perspective of figure-background theory, trying to find out that the main reason for the existence of multiple meanings of "see" lies largely in the fact that the cognitive subject is pulled by the mutual transformation of figure and background when giving out visual behavior. Hu Lingli [14] believes that the main reason for the existence of multiple meanings in "see" is that the subject is pulled by the transformation of figure and background when he sees external things.

The evolution of word meaning is to explore the meaning of words from the diachronic plane. The research on the evolution of visual verbs mainly includes the evolution trend and motivation of word meaning, the description of the extension system of word meaning, the development of word meaning, the evolution path of word meaning, and the mapping of word meaning. As follows:

Liu Xueyong [35] used induction and deduction to study the general trend and motivation of the semantic evolution of visual verb SEE. Xu Chaohong [36] inspected the semantic evolution process related to the turning conjunction "Gu", analyzed the motivation of these semantic evolution, and from a cross-linguistic perspective, believed that the turning conjunction "Gu" should originate from its turning adverb, and then formed the semantic evolution model of "turning adverb > turning conjunction".

Wang Aixiang [37] describes the meaning extension system of "see" from a diachronic perspective through exhaustive corpus search. Based on the meaning system, the influence of the semantic features of "see" on the grammatical function is explained by comparing the meaning changes of "see" in ancient Chinese, modern Chinese and its position in the semantic field. Wu Wenjie [38] analyzed the visual behavior verbs in modern Chinese from static and dynamic, synchronic and diachronic aspects. The scope, type and semantic features of visual action verbs are analyzed from the static aspect. From the dynamic aspect, the frequency statistics, grammatical attributes and correlation analysis of Chinese visual behavior verbs are carried out. This paper analyses the evolution and semantic extension of Chinese visual verbs from diachronic and synchronic perspectives. Zou Yan made a diachronic study of a large number of visual verbs which evolved the meaning of psychological verbs, and summed up the evolution path from visual verbs to psychological verbs. Psychological verbs are divided into three categories, namely, emotional psychological verbs, cognitive psychological verbs and willingness psychological verbs. According to the different meanings of psychological verbs, visual verbs are divided into three categories. The characteristics and causes of these three types of evolution are explained respectively. It is found that the trend of evolution into cognitive psychological verbs is the most common, which explains people. Visual and mental connection is the closest. The diachronic evolution of "visual verb" to "psychological verb" is explained in terms of cognitive theory. It is believed that the physical "visual" to psychological "cognitive" and "emotional" and "will" are the result of metaphor and subjectivity, and attempts to explain them by using the relevant theories of cognitive semantics. Liu Xueyong [35] studied the meaning change of the visual verb "see", and found that the time/place usage of "see" is an obvious subjective process.

Zhang Zihua [39], on the basis of previous discussions, makes an analysis of the psychological cognition of "see", the development of word meaning caused by metaphor, and the syntactic distribution of "see" in the pre-Qin period, and then explains the grammatical functional features of "see", and points out that the referential pronoun of "see" originates from the

verb "see" rather than the auxiliary verb "see". Prove further proof. Xiao Hong [40] holds that there are obvious differences in semantic expression and stylistic features between "verb + complement" and "verb + complement" in modern Chinese, which should be traced back to their different sources and development processes. Liu Hua & Liu Kun [43] starts with several typical visual verbs and examines the dynamic components in the semantic structure of verbs through their special pragmatic behaviors. Lv Lei-Yang Tingjun [17] analyzed the meaning change of visual verb "SEE" from the perspective of cognitive linguistics. The study found that the meaning change of visual verb "SEE" was influenced by metonymy theory. The way of meaning change of visual verb "see" was based on the mapping of the same ideal cognitive model and the prominence of conceptual structure. Study on Word-formation Semantics, Lexical Semantics and Syntactic Semantics of Visual Verbs

Sun Minqing [41] focuses on the analysis of typical perceptual verbs, supplemented by the investigation of atypical perceptual verbs, and presents the characteristics of the subject category verbs in word-formation semantics, lexical semantics and syntactic semantics in a point-to-surface way. This paper focuses on the generic relationship of perceptual verbs, the word-formation families of typical perceptual verbs, the derivation mechanism of perceptual verbs, and the semantic projection of perceptual verbs to the syntactic level. Guided by the theory of semantics and grammar, Houber makes a deep study of the two modules of lexical semantics, sentence semantics and sentence semantics of Chinese sensory words. This paper focuses on the semantic analysis of sensory verbs, the construction of semantic network with the verb "see" as the hub, and the synaesthesia mechanism of Chinese. Hou Jianmin takes the behavioral verbs in Shishuoxinyu as the object of study. He takes visual verbs as a small category of behavioral verbs and conducts a systematic semantic study from the perspective of semantic features and argument structure. Yuan Xiaoyan [42] analyzed the distinction and description of polysemous visual verb meanings in paper dictionaries and frameworks, and then discussed the types and expressions of the semantic relations between them. This paper compares the processing of lexical meanings by frame net and paper dictionary, summarizes their advantages and disadvantages, and finds out which one is more suitable for readers, and then puts forward some enlightenment for the future compilation of traditional paper dictionary in order to improve its compilation. Liu Hua & Liu Kun [43] inspected the dynamic components in the semantic structure of several typical visual verbs. When examining the semantics of linguistic symbols, it should be noted that the semantic components in their semantic structure actually change with the cognitive activities or contextual factors of both sides of the discourse. Sun Shufang & Sun Minqing [10] analyzed the semantic

construction, derivation types, collocation ability and cognitive mode of Russian perceptual verbs from the perspective of word-formation semantics, and concluded that visual verbs have the strongest word-formation derivation ability, while the number of word-formation modes of hearing, smell, touch and taste is decreasing. Wei Qi [44] classified the common monosyllabic visual verbs in ancient and modern times from their meanings, and made a simple analysis of the subtle differences between synonymous visual verbs. Feng Liangzhen and Zhao Xueling [27] describe twelve monosyllabic visual verbs in Huozhou dialect of Shanxi Province. It holds that the members of visual verbs in Huozhou dialect have their own different semantic and syntactic characteristics, which is in line with the iconicity principle of "different forms and different meanings" of language.

Semantic Field of Visual Verbs

The study of the semantic field of visual verbs focuses on the synchronic and diachronic description of visual verbs as one of the subfields of sensory verbs.

Jiang Xinglu [45] divided the semantic field of sensory verbs in Zhufa Nursing Translation into five sub-semantic fields: visual verb semantic field, auditory verb semantic field, taste verb semantic field, olfactory verb semantic field and tactile verb semantic field. Firstly, it describes the sub-semantic fields in Zhufa Nubian Translation Sutra synchronously, then describes them diachronically, and inspects their usage in the three periods of Pre-Qin, Han, Wei and Jin. Zeng Shifei [46] used synchronic and diachronic methods, word frequency statistics, sememe analysis and comparative methods to analyze concretely the synchronic distribution and diachronic evolution of the five sub-fields of vision, hearing, taste, smell and touch and their members.

CONCLUSION

In summary, the ontological study of visual verbs mainly focuses on Chinese visual verbs, with a small number of English visual verbs and Japanese visual verbs. Ontology research focuses on the grammaticalization and semantics of visual verbs. On the one hand, the study of grammaticalization explores or compares the syntax, function, distribution, collocation, cognitive mechanism, grammaticalization and grammatical markers of words. On the other hand, it explores the motivation of grammaticalization and the evolution of word meaning caused by the process of grammaticalization. Through reviewing the previous studies, we find that the comparative study of cognitive semantics mostly explores their common metaphorical projection, and the analysis of their differences is not deep enough. Therefore, there is still room for the study of the meaning of visual verbs from the perspective of cognitive linguistics.

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