



Once upon an invisible TIME: On Frequentative Phrases in Chinese

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Abstract

In view of Kayne's (2014) analysis, the English expressions of *once*, *twice*, and *#-times* are compared with the corresponding Chinese expression, *#-ci*. This paper shows that data from Chinese not only support Kayne's analysis that treats the silent TIME as classifier, but they also suggest that the frequentative phrase may involve a silent NP and/or PP. The latter provides some possible modifications to Kayne's original analysis of the suffix *-ce*.

Keywords

silent element, durative/frequentative phrases, classifiers, Chinese syntax

消失的“時間”：談漢語的計次詞組

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提要

本文從 Kayne (2014) 提出的分析談起，比較漢語與英語的計次詞組。我們提出證據指出計次詞組在漢語應該分析為量詞組，這呼應了 Kayne 提出的空成分 TIME 應該分析為量詞的論點。本文進一步指出在某些環境下，這些量詞組應該也包含了空的名詞與介詞。這些從漢語得到觀察與分析不但呼應了 Kayne 對英語的分析，也對 Kayne 原來的分析提供了一些可能的修改方向。

關鍵詞

無聲成分，時 / 次量詞組，量詞，漢語句法