A Study on the Correlation of Attributive Position and Length in Legal Texts: Taking the Amendment to Criminal Law (XI) as an Example

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Abstract: This paper briefly introduces related research on language typology and introduces the related theory of linguistic typology to illustrate the implicational universal across languages. Next, after clarifying the types of Chinese inflections from the ephemeral and cognitive perspectives, the paper analyzes the features of Chinese that distinguish it from other SVO languages. Finally, starting from Chinese legal texts, this paper attempts to expound the correlation between the position of attributive in legal texts and its length in the small corpus of Criminal Law and concludes that the average length of postpositive attributives is significantly longer than that of prepositive attributives. Meanwhile, this paper emphasizes the importance and necessity of interdisciplinary, corpus empirical methods for research.

Keywords: VO-OV Word Order, Modifier, Competing Motivations, Motivation Analysis

1. Linguistic Typology

1.1 Typology Research Context

Modern linguistic typology emphasizes cross-linguistic typological analysis, taking large-scale human languages as research samples, analyzing various linguistic phenomena such as grammar, vocabulary, phonology, and prosody in languages, and verifying cross-linguistic commonalities in human languages as summarized in each search, and, finally, using linguistic commonalities as a backdrop for revealing the individual characteristics of human languages, and further clarifying the higher rules and driving mechanisms behind the commonalities [1]. More importantly, linguistic typology does not aim at assimilating all human languages but pursues a harmonious state of seeking commonalities while reserving differences, i.e., in the face of the complexity of human languages, typologists recognize the arbitrariness of languages, and while searching for the cross-language commonalities, they cannot neglect the individuality of languages; of course, for researchers, it is easier to explore the characteristics and individuality of a single language from the universality of its features [2]. Of course, for researchers, it is easier to explore the characteristics and individuality of a single language from the perspective of its universality, and this paper is based on this line of thought [3].

Greenberg laid down the research methods and research steps of contemporary linguistic typology in the 1960s. After observing the linguistic phenomena of 30 languages, he logically categorized human languages into six types, SVO, SOV, VSO, VOS, OSV, and OVS. Based on the basic inflectional types, Greenberg mainly studied the three types, VSO, SVO, and SOV, and abstracted the cross-linguistic commonalities they possessed [4-5]. A summary of these data for the languages of the sample is given in Table 1.

Table 1: The position of the qualifying adjective in VSO, SVO, and SOV types

	VSO	SVO	SOV
NA	6	8	5
AN	0	5	6

Statistically, Greenberg argues that languages in which VSO is the dominant order are configured with adjectives following nouns, except for occasional cases; it is worth mentioning that Greenberg

proposes the theory of entailed commonality, which is based on the logical expression "X entails Y", to describe commonality in linguistic phenomena, and uses this concept as a basis for classifying linguistic types [6]. Greenberg proposed the theory of implicit commonality using the logical expression "X implies Y" to describe commonalities in language phenomena and used this concept as a basis for classifying language types [7]. For example, if X is "language with VSO as the dominant order", Y is "always uses prepositions"; if X is "language that uses prepositions", Y is "language that almost always places the subordinator after the center"; if X is "language that uses prepositions", Y is "language that always uses prepositions". Collocations are almost always post-positioned to the central noun" [8].

As research progressed, this theory became one of the goals of contemporary linguistic typology, which does not stop at discovering the correlation between X and Y in human languages, but further explores what the driving factors are behind the logically sufficient condition for X to be Y. Greenberg, while being careful in his search for evidence, has proposed that "dominance" and "concordance" are the same. Greenberg, while carefully seeking evidence, has proposed the concepts of "dominance" and "harmony" to explain the cross-linguistic commonalities he observed, and further proposed the theory of competing motivators, which intends to explain the existence of linguistic genres and the phenomenon of variation in the interaction of the motivators behind linguistic commonalities, for example, he proposed a "non-vacancy" theory on the basis of the four-item table [9]. For example, on the basis of a four-item table, he proposed that "non-vacancy" competing motives are the fundamental reason for the existence and development of human languages, i.e., vacancies are the boundaries and limits of language variation. This theory has also been inherited and developed by later scholars: it is precise because of the reciprocity between the motives that precisely explains the high frequency of the appearance of language types as Lixin Jin(2019) has proposed that under the interaction of the leading principle of discriminability and the principle of semantic proximity of likenesses, the SOV and SVO basic language types have a high frequency of occurrence among the six basic types. Similarly, under the theory of competing motivation, there is no ideal language that can satisfy all the motivations at the same time. This provides room for an explanation of the possible variations in cross-linguistic commonality, and it also becomes the research direction of later scholars [10-11].

Later, for the convenience of the study, Dryer simplified the six language types into two categories, VO and OV sequences, and then expanded the language samples to look for the commonality of the configuration of each parameter in the two types of sequences in 625 languages, as shown in Table 2 which is a complete list of the correlation pairs discussed in his paper.

Table 2: Complete list of correlation pairs

VERB PATTERNER	OBJECT PATTERNER	EXAMPLE
verb	object	*ate + the sandwich*
verb	subject	*(there) entered + a tall man*
adposition	NP	*on + the table*
copula verb	predicate	*is + a teacher*
'want'	VP	*wants + to see Mary*
tense/aspect auxiliary verb	VP	*has + eaten dinner*
negative auxiliary	VP	cf. 7 in §4.2
complementizer	S	*that + John is sick*
question particle	S	cf. 8 in §4.4.
adverbial subordinator	S	*because + Bob has left*
article	N′	*the + tall man*
plural word	N′	cf. 9 in §4.7
noun	genitive	*father + of John*
noun	relative clause	*movies + that we saw*
adjective	standard of comparison	*taller + than Bob*
verb	PP	*slept + on the floor*
verb	manner adverb	*ran + slowly*

On the basis of summarizing the linguistic commonalities between the two types of inflections, Dryer creatively put forward a universal theory to explain the linguistic phenomena he observed, i.e. the "drivers" or "motivators" mentioned above. The branching direction theory suggests that non-expandable lexical constituents are parallel to the position of V, and syntactic constituents that can be further expanded are parallel to the position of O. In different languages, lexical constituents and syntactic constituents have their own fixed tendency to be either anterior or posterior. Thus, the VO language type, in which lexical constituents tend to be prepositioned, is a right-branching language; the OV language type, in which lexical constituents tend to be post-positioned, is a left-branching language [12]. With a clear language type, the researcher is able to easily predict possible language grouping commonalities. For example, Japanese, a typical OV language, is almost invariably predicted by the researcher to have inflectional referents in Japanese based on the implication commonality [13]. For example, the Japanese

use a fixed usage of modification with branching to the left. It is amply demonstrated from the three examples above that modifiers in Japanese are usually placed before the noun, and when by several modifiers, they gradually unfold before the noun [14].

But at the same time, the left-right branching theory can also be used to explain some special phenomena. For example, take the modifying constituent adjective in English:

(1) A sad boy

(2) A very sad boy

(3) A boy sad to argue with his mother

English is a typical right-branching language, and modifiers tend to be postfixed: collocations and relational clauses are placed after nouns. Although Dryer argues in his thesis that there is no correlation between the position of adjectives and the VO and OV order, we can explain the above examples with the help of the branching direction theory: an analysis of the analysis leads to the conclusion that the adjective in the examples in (1) and (2) can not be re-expanded (A sad to argue with his mother boy), so the adjective is placed in front of the centralizer boy, while in (3) the adjective followed by an infinitive can be expanded, so it is placed in the center. This shows that the branching direction theory proposed by Dryer has a wide range of applications.

In this paper, I will build on the linguistic commonalities derived by previous scholars and continue to explore elements that may be relevant, namely, the order of definite article constituents and central nouns, which includes such important inflectional referents as the order of adjectives and central nouns, and the order of relational clauses and central nouns.

1.2 A typological study on definite article constituents

Overall, VO languages have a general tendency for modifying constituents to be placed posteriorly in the central clause, while OV languages do not have a significant tendency, but it can be seen proportionally that OV languages have a higher percentage of adjective fronting compared to VO languages, which to a certain extent also reflects the explanatory power of the branching direction theory proposed by Dryer [15]. In this section, three linguistic principles will be introduced on the basis of the previous theory to further discuss exactly the driving factors behind the dominant grouping of languages in which modifiers are prepositioned in front of nouns [16].

First is the principle of structural harmony, this paper regards modifying constituents such as adjectives as constituents with a predicative nature, and the dominant order in human language is that the topic is placed before the predicative constituent, so under the influence of the principle of structural harmony, the adjective as a predicative constituent should be placed after the topic as well, which is a strong motivation for the decision that adjectives are more inclined to be placed after the center of the language in human language. Second is the leading principle of distinctness, the higher the contribution to the identification of the core, the more the constituent tends to be placed in front of the core, adjectives have lower the leading principle of distinctness than nouns, which also provides a strong argument for the tendency of adjectives to be placed after nouns [17]. The last is the principle of main predicate verb highlighting, in VO order, once the definite article, which is a component with a predicative nature, is placed in front of the center, it appears that two predicative components, the verb and the modifying component, are in close proximity to each other, which is not conducive to the highlighting of the core predicative verb. At the same time, in order to follow the branching direction of harmony and consistency, the subject's determiner component also tends to be placed later. The combined effect is that NA order is used very frequently in human languages.

Through reading the literature, I also found that there are scholars who break away from the restriction of VO and OV order and study the motives affecting the position of modifiers. For example, in 1983, Hawkins put forward the "principle of heavy order" to show that the dominant order of the modifier is mainly restricted by its own length and other rhythmic factors, which means that the longer the component tends to be post-positioned, and the shorter the component is more likely to be prepositioned, which is similar to the principle of "distance likeness" put forward by scholars later. This is similar to the principle of "distance likeness" proposed by later scholars. For example:

(4) the good book

(5) the good book about nature

(6) Tom told me a good book that was about the nature where human live in.

The theoretical basis behind this principle is twofold. First, from the point of view of functional grammar, the closer to the core, the stronger the effect, i.e., the closer the modifier is to the core noun, such as the arrangement of the determiner clause after the core noun book in Example (6) is precisely because the speaker wants to emphasize that the intrinsic nature of the book is "good", i.e., the distance between the language presentation and the concept to be expressed corresponds one to one, which is in line with the principle of semantic proximity. That is to say, the distance between the form presented by the language and the concept to be expressed corresponds one-to-one, which is in line with the principle of semantic proximity. Secondly, from the biological point of view, human beings are good at short-term memory, once the modifying components before the core are too long, it will increase the burden of the brain to understand and remember, which is not conducive to the cognition and processing of linguistic information, and it is also not in line with the principle of the economy of language use in the context of daily communication.

In conclusion, it can be seen from the results of previous research that many motives that determine the position of modifying components, and a single motive is not sufficient to explain linguistic phenomena. Therefore, I recognizes that variation is the linguistic norm under the theory of competing motives, and the main task of this paper is to explore the individual characteristics that emerge in the competition of motives.

2. Exploring Chinese Definitions

2.1 The Uniqueness of Chinese Word Order

Having clarified that Chinese is an SVO order, we will move on to explore the placement of definite article components in Chinese. In the previous section, there was a bias when using cross-linguistic commonality to predict Chinese word order. That is to say, when we use implicational commonality to predict Chinese word order, it does not show the strong predictive power of implicational commonality. Based on this, I boldly hypothesizes that Chinese is an exception among SVO languages due to its uniqueness. Therefore, looking at the history of Chinese language development, we can find that there exists in the Chinese language both the form of grouping which is in harmony with the VO order, i.e., postposition of the definite article, and also the grouping of definite article + center article. For example:

(7) The Chu people have waded into the river. ("Carving a Boat for a Sword")

That is, center + definite article + "the man". Translation: There is a man who crosses the river in Chu.

(8) The Horse of a Thousand Miles. (The Horse Speaks)

That is, center word + "of" + definite article . Translation: a thousand-mile horse.

(9) If you live high up in the temple, you worry about your people; if you are far away in the rivers and lakes, you worry about your ruler (The Records of the Yueyang Tower)

That is, center + "of" + definite article. Translation: To be an official at the court (or to reside in a high temple), one has to worry about the sufferings of the common people, and to be retired far away from the court, one has to worry about the ruler of the country.

(10) a. I am holding a pair of white jewels to offer to Lord Xiang: a pair of jade buckets to offer to Yafu ("Hongmen Banquet")

That is, the center ten quantitative definite article components. Translation: I have with me a pair of white jewels, ready to be offered to Lord Xiang Yu, and a pair of jade buckets, ready to be offered to my sub-father Fan Zeng.

(10) b. A little bit of food and a little bit of soup.

That is, quantitative definite article component + center word. Translation: a bowl of rice, a bowl of soup. (Mengzi, "Fish I Desire")

We know from the data that none of the existing inflectional commonalities is "SVO implies a definite middle structure", which to a certain extent supports the possibility that Chinese has both "noun + definite" and "definite + noun" configurations. To some extent, this supports the possibility that Chinese has both "noun + determiner" and "determiner + noun" configurations. What best reflects the uniqueness

of the Chinese language is that the "modifier branching to the left" is an extremely common configuration in the Chinese language, which is not in harmony with the VO language. We will discuss in depth the driving factors behind this particular paratactic configuration in Section II.

2.2 Driving factors behind the uniqueness of the Chinese language

When arguing that NA inflections are dominant in human languages, I introduced three linguistic principles on the basis of Dryer's branching direction theory, namely: the principle of structural harmony, the principle of distinctiveness leadership, and the principle of main predicative verb prominence. The special phenomenon of Chinese modifying constituent order preference suggests that other motives overriding the branching direction theory, which I will analyze from the syntactic and pragmatic perspectives.

The linguistic form of a people can reflect the way of thinking of that people. In the following, we will start from the thinking habits of the speakers of the two languages, and then examine what kind of syntactic forms the two peoples' ways of thinking are projected in their language use. Native English speakers have a straightforward way of thinking. They tend to identify the core constituent at the beginning of a sentence before expanding it, so the language is always presented as a backward-extending structure with a small head and a large tail. In other words, the language form of "open structure at the end of the sentence" is favored by English speakers, so the syntactic form of determiners in English is often constrained by the length of determiners to avoid top-heaviness, which is mainly manifested in the order of shortest followed by the longest, e.g. they are accustomed to putting single words as determiners before the core and placing determiners after clauses or phrases in the core. clauses or phrases after placing them in the core. (e.g. Example (7)(9)). Chinese speakers, on the other hand, rely more on intuition and emphasize comprehension more than Westerners' dispassionate analysis. Because Chinese speakers are accustomed to laying the groundwork in the beginning and pointing out the core of the discourse in the end, the whole sentence shows a reverse linear extension with a big head and a small tail. In other words, Chinese often has the language form of "open structure at the beginning of the sentence", and such a way of thinking is projected on the position of determiners, which shows that modifiers have the tendency to be placed in the core. For example:

(11) Xiangtan, Hunan Province is the hometown of Mao Zedong, a famous modern Chinese politician and military man.

Xiangtan, Hunan Province, is the hometown of Mao Zedong, a famous modern Chinese statesman and strategist.

The biggest motivation for "definite + center" to become an advantageous combination should be its unique pragmatic function. Lu Bingfu (2004) and Fang Mei (2008) have suggested that the definite article structure is more in line with the rule of information transfer that old information is placed in front of new information than the definite article postposition structure, and it is in line with the principle of leading in distinctness and semantic proximity, so in order to obtain higher clarity and expressiveness, the definite article component is always placed in front of the central article in Chinese. For example:

(12) a. This wall is green with creepers.

(12) b. This wall is covered with green creepers.

In example (12), "lush green" is a color adjective, which is the first information that can be observed by the human eye when gazing at the wall, and compared with the order in which the viewer discerns that it is a "creeper", the former naturally belongs to the old information; moreover, (12)b satisfies the principle of distinctness, and (12)b is the first one in the contextual reference point, which is conducive to better determining that the core target is a "creeper". leading principle, "green" as the environmental reference point in the front is conducive to better determining the core target is "creeper"; at the same time, does not satisfy the principle of semantic proximity (12) a semantic is not clear, can be understood as either. The semantic meaning of (12)a is not clear, and it can be interpreted as either "the wall is green" or "the creeper is green". To summarize, there is no single motivation for determining the position of Chinese determiners, and under the interaction of several linguistic principles and cognitive psychology, the Chinese language shows the diversity of human languages.

3. A study of the position of the definite article in legal texts

3.1 Quantitative analysis of the position of the definite article in legal texts

Before working on the corpus construction, I first clarified the criteria for judging a postpositional constituent as a definite article. I believe that from a functional point of view, if a postpositive modifier is put before the center of the language, and it can still play the role of modifying and qualifying as a definite article, then this modifier can be classified as a postpositive definite article and be included in the corpus. It is inaccurate to assume formally that all "the" structures located after the center word and separated by commas are postpositions. E.g.:

(13) If a person who commits the crimes provided for in Articles 201 to 205 of this Section and is sentenced to a fine or confiscation of property shall, before execution, have the tax authorities recover the tax and the fraudulently obtained export tax refunds. (Article 212 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China)

(14) A taxpayer who, after paying the tax, adopts the method of deception provided for in the preceding paragraph to cheat the tax paid shall be convicted and punished in accordance with the provisions of Article 201 of this Law; the portion of the tax that is cheated in excess of the tax paid shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph. (Article 204 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China)

(15) Any person who, for the purpose of making profits, infringes upon copyright, if the amount of illegal gains is relatively large, shall be sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment of not more than three years and shall also be fined. If the amount of illegal gains is huge or if there are other especially serious circumstances, who shall be sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment of not less than three years but not more than 10 years and shall also be fined (Article 21 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China).

In Example (12), the phrase "sentenced to a fine or confiscation of property" is placed after the central phrase "crime", separated by a comma, but from the semantic point of view, the structure of the Chinese word "de" in the article should be the subject of the omitted phrase. However, analyzing from the semantic point of view, the "of" structure of the article should be the omitted subject, so it cannot be understood as a postpositional determiner; in Example (13), "exceeding the amount paid" as a modifier is placed in the center of the word "tax", and the prepositioning and post-positioning do not lead to the change of its semantic function. It limits the scope of reference of the center term "taxes" to "taxes paid". The postpositive determiner in example (14) does not follow the central term but is far away from it. Neither the similarity of distance nor the principle of semantic proximity is sufficient to counteract the logical structure required by the legal discourse, i.e., a legal rule consists of three parts: assumption + treatment + sanction, and the structure of the two postpositions of the Chines word "de" in example (14) is an expression of the assumption to which this law applies. The two post-positioned "of" constructions in example (14) express the presumption of the application of the law, separated by the integrity of the legal text, which requires that they be followed by the treatment and sanction.

Table 3: Prepositions

| Number of written characters	1 to 10	11-20	21-30	31 to 40	41-50	51 to 60
Frequency	290	74	23	1	3	3
Percentage	73.42%	18.73%	6.33%	0.25%	0.76%	0.76%

Table 4: Postpositions

Number of written characters	1 to 10	11-20	21-30	31 to 40	41-50	51 to 60	61-70
Frequency	175	112	147	20	13	4	6
Percentage	36.01%	23.05%	30.25%	5.97%	2.67%	0.82%	1.23%

After that, I mark the preattributive and postattributive in the sample separately and summarizes the word counts of both. By comparing the word counts of preterite and postattributive, the influence of the principle of heavy order on the position of the definite article in legal texts is examined. Next, through quantitative analysis, I came up with Table 3 and Table 4 which show prepositions and postpositions'

related data.

Finally, after counting, I found a total of 395 prepositional determiners and 486 postpositional determiners as shown in Table 5. It can be seen that in this sample of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China, the use of postpositional determiners obviously exceeds that of prepositional determiners, which contradicts the commonly used definite-medium order of the Chinese language, but it further supports that the legal text, as a strict form of the Chinese language, is not in line with the particularity of the daily language. Next, on the basis of the total number of words of pre-attributive and post-attributive respectively, I calculate that the average length of preterite is 8.8 words, and the average length of post-attributive is 15.72 words. Thus, we can conclude that the average number of words of postpositions is obviously more than the average number of words of prepositions, which further shows empirically that there is a strong correlation between the position of definitions and their word lengths in legal texts, and that the principle of the order of gravity has a greater influence in legal texts.

Table 5: Correlation between word length and position of determiners
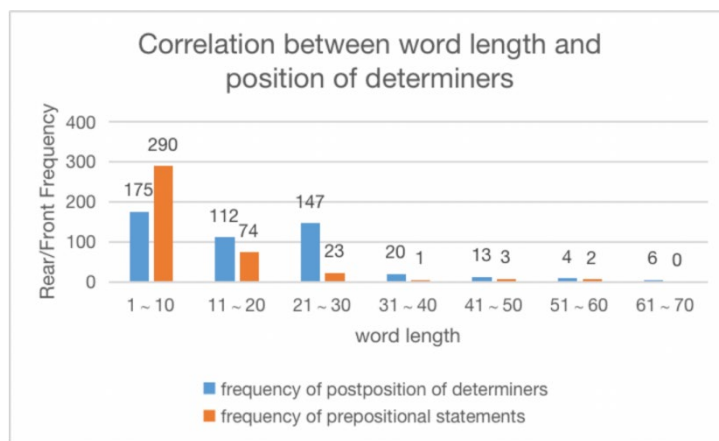
3.2 The significance and driving factors of postpositions in legal texts

Harold J. Berman once said that "the law must be believed in, otherwise it will be nothing", and the prerequisite for belief is that the legal text can be adapted to the needs of reality. Therefore, writing qualified legal texts is the most important task for jurists. This paper applies the knowledge of linguistics to the analysis of legal discourse and tries to analyze how the rightward branching of modifiers in the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China embodies the qualities of a good legal text.

First of all, in order to better utilize the instrumental value of legal language in punishing crimes and protecting people, the legal language must resist all expressions that are full of ambiguity and vagueness. It is common in the daily language of Chinese to place the definite article component in front of the noun, but the lack of a specific context will produce a deviation in understanding, such as:

(16) a. Dogs that bite hunters to death

Example (16) a. There are two interpretations: the dog was bitten to death and the dog bit the hunter. Similar ambiguities caused by definite antecedent constructions exist in large numbers in Chinese; however, this difficulty is resolved when one employs a construction in which the modifying element branches to the right. E.g.:

(16) b. Dogs that killed the hunter

Thus, with the goal of creating a rigorous and well-crafted legal text, the creators put the finishing touches on the text at the expense of "readability", for example:

(17) a. Actions taken to stop an unlawful invasion in order to protect the State, the public interests, one's own person, property, and other rights or those of others from an ongoing unlawful invasion, which causes damage to the unlawful invader, are justified in self-defense and do not entail criminal liability. (Article 20 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China)

(17) b. Actions taken to stop an unlawful intrusion and cause damage to the unlawful intruder in order to protect the State, the public interest, one's own person, property, and other rights or those of others from an ongoing unlawful intrusion are justifiable self-defense and do not entail criminal liability.

In (17) b. the prepositional qualifier before the central word "act" creates an ambiguity of understanding: the act of stopping is "an act that causes harm to the victim as well as to the wrongdoer", and only example (17) a can accurately express the intention of the legislator: the act of stopping is self-defense if it causes harm to the wrongdoer. Only example (17) a can accurately express the legislator's intention: the act of suppression is self-defense if it causes damage to the wrongdoer.

Secondly, in order to ensure judicial fairness and maintain legal authority, legal texts must strike a balance between ambiguity and precision. With the development of society, social phenomena, and human thought are becoming increasingly complex and diverse, and no single law can solve all problems. However, the basic requirement for shaping legal authority is that the legal text cannot be changed from one day to the next, nor can it overturn the results of the application of the law at will. Therefore, the legal text is more careful in the choice of words than the general language style. Thus, the ambiguous "aggravating circumstances" is placed after the central phrase to further emphasize the conditions and precision of the application of the law.

Finally, in order to ensure the accuracy and flexibility of the application of the law, legal texts must be clearly organized. The law to maintain social justice is the last line of defense, so the legal text of the discussion must be thorough, complete chapters, and clearly organized, to avoid contradictions and repetitions. Such as:

(18) For the purposes of this Law, a serious injury is an injury in one of the following circumstances:

(i) Mutilates or disfigures a person;

(ii) Loss of hearing, sight, or other organ functions;

(iii) Others that cause significant harm to the health of the person. (Article 95 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China)

The Chinese word "de" in parentheses is used as a postmodifying component of the central phrase "circumstances". If they are used as a premise, it will increase the burden on the brain's comprehension and memory, and will not be conducive to the cognition and processing of linguistic information, i.e., it is not in line with the principle of the order of gravity.

At the same time, from the perspective of pragmatic function, when the central phrase is prefixed as a topic, the Chinese word "de" modifying component is followed to emphasize the characteristics and types of the topic. This not only highlights the relevance of the legal provisions but also facilitates the judiciary to clarify the object of application of the law. Such as:

(19) The death penalty shall be submitted to the Supreme People's Court for approval, except where it is imposed by the Supreme People's Court in accordance with the law. Where a death sentence is suspended, it may be adjudicated or approved by the Higher People's Court. (Article 48 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China)

Consequently, under the requirements of the legal text's own characteristics, legal discourse is different from everyday language. From the syntactic point of view, it follows the commonality of cross-language under the VO order; from the pragmatic point of view, it also retains the uniqueness of the Chinese language itself; from the ephemeral point of view, it retains some of the sentences and words of the ancient Chinese language, in order to highlight the simplicity and solemnity of the legal text. It can be seen that the legislator can only create an excellent legal text through repeated trials.

4. Conclusion

In recent years, as "interdisciplinary" has become a buzzword, this paper tries to combine linguistic typology and legal linguistics to conduct shallow "interdisciplinary research" in the selection of topics. Studying legal language under the framework of linguistic typology, the two interact and complement each other: using the research results of linguistic typology to reveal the uniqueness of Chinese legal texts, and thinking about the role of the uniqueness of the Chinese language in the commonality of human language, further enriching the research samples of human language. Secondly, in terms of research methodology, after Halliday (2004) set up a special chapter in his work to introduce the important instrumental value of corpus in the science of linguistics, more and more literature has begun to pay attention to the use of corpus, and this paper analyzes the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China to conduct a simple corpus construction and seeks to draw a direct conclusion through the concise presentation of data: the average length of the postpositions is significantly longer than the prepositions,

the average length of the postpositions is significantly longer than the prepositions. This paper analyzes the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China to construct a simple corpus and tries to conclude directly through simple data presentation that the average length of postpositional determiners is significantly longer than that of prepositional determiners, and that the position of the determiners in the legal text has a strong correlation with their word length. This structure is different from the daily language of Chinese, and the contradictions and conflicts in it add another weight to the specificity of Chinese and also increase the research value of Chinese in the study of linguistic typology. Finally, in the process of writing the thesis, I deeply understand that "variation" is the normal state of language under the principle of commonality and other languages. In future research, we not only need to present a variety of possibilities of human languages by exploring the uniqueness of a certain language but also need to further analyze the real motivation of human language "variation".

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