

# **A Corpus-based Study on Metaphorical Modes of China's Diplomatic Discourse and Corresponding French Translation Strategies —— Taking the Speeches Made at the Regular Press Conferences of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2020 to 2022 as an Example**

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**Abstract.** Diplomatic metaphor is an important part of China's diplomatic discourse system. The study of translation strategies of diplomatic metaphors is helpful in improving the communication effect of diplomatic discourse and is of great significance to the international communication of China's diplomatic ideas and the development of discourse power. In this study, the text of the regular press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2020 to 2022 was taken as the research object, and a parallel corpus of Chinese and French was built. By using the research methods of quantitative statistics and qualitative analysis of examples, the distribution of metaphor modes in China's diplomatic discourse was investigated, and it was found that there were high-frequency metaphor modes such as journey metaphor and family metaphor in diplomatic discourse, which vividly showed the positive development concept and image of a powerful nation. Based on the compound translation standard of "political equivalence + image representation" put forward by Yang Mingxing and Zhao Yuqian, it is found that four Chinese-French translation methods of metaphors in diplomatic discourse are suitable: preserving vehicles, transforming vehicles, omitting vehicles, and supplementing vehicles. Appropriate translation strategies and methods for different metaphor types and in different contexts will help to enhance the acceptance of the audience of diplomatic discourse, and provide new help for telling the story of China and spreading the voice of China.

**Keywords:** diplomatic discourse; diplomatic metaphor; French translation strategy; corpus.

## **1. Introduction**

Traditional linguistics holds that metaphor is simply a linguistic feature, not a feature of thinking and behavior. After the rise of cognitive linguistics, Lakoff and Johnson put forward conceptual metaphor theory, which holds that thinking is mostly based on metaphor. Conceptual metaphor originates from life experience and culture. Cultural diversity requires translators to have a deep comprehension of different cultural backgrounds and use appropriate strategies to ensure semantic consistency. The traditional methods of metaphor translation include literal translation, substitution, and free translation, which have developed into various theoretical-oriented studies.

In recent years, metaphors in China's diplomatic discourse and their translation have become hot topics. Diplomatic discourse, as a political discourse in institutional discourse, refers to "the language and discourse behavior used by diplomatic subjects to express their international strategy and foreign policy in a certain historical period" (Hu Kaibao, Li Chan, 2018). At present, China's diplomatic discourse research has made remarkable progress in translation, national image construction, and diplomatic discourse power construction (Hu Kaibao, Tian Xujun, 2018; You Zeshun, 2019; Sun Jisheng, 2020; Zhao Yongxiang and Zhang Ting, 2022). The study of metaphor in diplomatic discourse and its translation can help to understand complex academic concepts and promote cross-cultural communication. However, most of the existing related studies use qualitative analysis, and there are few studies on metaphor modes of diplomatic discourse based on the corpus. There are many studies on metaphor and its English translation strategies in a specific field of diplomatic discourse, but there are few empirical studies on French translation strategies in a specific foreign diplomatic

text. In addition, in terms of translation strategies of diplomatic metaphors, academia pays more attention to English translation strategies at present. However, as one of the working languages of the United Nations, French is widely used in international communication and diplomatic activities, but the research on French translation strategies for diplomatic discourse, especially diplomatic metaphors, is still a dearth.

In terms of translation principles, Yang Mingxing (2008) proposed the translation principle of “political equivalence” based on the particularity of diplomatic language, but the translation principle is applicable to the whole diplomatic language. Therefore, Yang Mingxing and Zhao Yuqian (2020) further put forward a compound translation standard of “political equivalence + image reproduction” for diplomatic metaphors, pointing out that on the basis of accurately conveying the political connotation of metaphors, the recipients in different cultures should successfully activate their perception of a vehicle and form images in their minds. This standard has greatly improved the focus and pertinence of political discourse, and the existing research on metaphor translation of diplomatic discourse based on the principle of “political equivalence” has made some achievements. However, there are many studies analyzing various diplomatic discourses with the theoretical framework of “political equivalence”, and there are few confirmatory studies on the compound translation standard of “Political Equivalence + Image Re-presentation” (PEIR). There are many studies on English translation strategies of discourse texts in a diplomatic context, but few studies on Chinese-French translation strategies.

Based on the above research gaps, this study will establish a parallel corpus of Chinese-French diplomatic discourses, and take the speeches made by the regular press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an example to explore China’s diplomatic discourse metaphor modes and French translation strategies, so as to fill the relevant research gaps and enrich the empirical research on metaphors and their translation strategies in Chinese diplomatic discourses by domestic academia.

## **2. Research Design**

### **2.1 Research questions**

This study attempts to answer the following three questions:

- (1) What types of metaphors can be classified in the speeches of the regular press conferences of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2020-2022?
- (2) What is the distribution of different types of metaphor modes?
- (3) Under the guidance of the principle of “political equivalence”, what strategies should be adopted in the Chinese-French translation of metaphors in China’s diplomatic discourse?

### **2.2 Corpus selection and compilation**

Firstly, this study established a small-sized Chinese-French parallel corpus of Chinese diplomatic discourse, which contains two sub-corpora, namely, the Chinese diplomatic discourse corpus and the corresponding French translation corpus. A total of 692 speeches were made at the regular press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) from 2020 to 2022. The source of the corpus is authoritative and the quality is guaranteed, as the French text is completed by senior official translation experts, which is of high research value. The specific construction method of the corpus is as follows:

- (1) extracting Chinese-French bilingual texts from official websites and cleaning them;
- (2) the corpus is segmented by the word segmentation software CorpusWordParser, and the number of the word of Chinese sub-corpus is 1562307, and the French sub-corpus is 2055194 words.
- (3) using the bilingual alignment tool Abbyy Aligner 2.0 to achieve sentence-level parallel alignment of Chinese and French texts;
- (4) applying the TMX file editor Heartsome Tmx Editor to adjust the aligned text manually and convert the format for export, so as to form a Chinese-French parallel corpus and a corresponding retrieval website UXMCORPUSFR.

## 2.3 Metaphor identification and labeling

Based on grasping the selected texts, this study first refers to previous studies, lists as many metaphorical keywords as possible in diplomatic and political texts, and summarizes the metaphorical frames appearing in the corpus. For example, in terms of keywords in the framework of war metaphor, the current study compares non-war behaviors or events to wars in the real world and participates in the construction of cross-domain mapping between the “war domain” and other conceptual domains. The keywords in the framework of plant metaphor are the mapping results obtained by imagining the plant shape, its components, and growth conditions. In this study, after summarizing 12 metaphor frames such as the journey metaphor and family metaphor, we use the Conceptual Metaphor Theory (CMT) and the Metaphor Identification Procedure (MIP) proposed by Pragglejaz Group (2007) for reference to identify and label metaphorical keywords in the corpus one by one. The specific implementation methods are as follows:

- (1) Reading through the text to achieve a basic understanding of the content;
- (2) Searching metaphorical keywords in the corpus in batches;
- (3) Determining the specific meaning of lexical units in combination with the text context, and examining whether they have more basic meanings outside the current text. If it has a more basic meaning than the current context in other contexts, it is necessary to determine whether there is a contrast between its actual contextual meaning and the more basic meaning and whether the actual meaning in the specific context can be understood in the comparison; If the answer is “Yes”, the unit is marked as metaphorical use. If the answer is “no”, it is classified as non-metaphorical;
- (4) Summarizing the identified metaphor keywords, and using AntConc 4.2.4.0 as a statistical tool to calculate the frequency and proportion of metaphors in different types of frameworks;
- (5) Using the parallel corpus retrieval software Paraconc to investigate the translation strategies of metaphors in diplomatic discourse texts.

## 2.4 Analysis of translation strategies

M.B. Dagut (1976) divided metaphor into “shared metaphor” and “non-shared metaphor” based on the experience of metaphor. On this basis, the compound translation standard PEIR classifies diplomatic metaphors into three categories according to their nature: fusion, conflict, and strangeness. Mapping image-fusion diplomatic metaphor means that the source language vehicle has no cognitive obstacles in the target language, while conflict and strangeness refer to the opposite or wrong cognition, low cognition, or unsatisfactory image mapping of the addressee in different cultures, respectively (Yang Mingxing, Zhao Yuqian, 2020). According to the above classification method, the “PEIR” translation standard puts forward different translation strategies for different types of metaphors (see Appendix 1.1) in order to achieve “image reproduction” on the premise of achieving “political equivalence” (Yang Mingxing, Zhao Yuqian, 2020).

This study extracts metaphor keywords from various common metaphor modes in the self-built corpus, and analyzes the skills and strategies of the official translators of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to translate them into French in different discourse environments. In addition, combined with pragmatic cases in a real diplomatic context, the current study discusses the ideal strategies for the Chinese-French translation of diplomatic metaphors under the guidance of the compound translation standard PEIR.

# 3. Results and Discussion

## 3.1 Metaphor mode analysis

After using the corpus analysis tool AntConc to search keywords, 12 categories of metaphor frames with the highest frequency are obtained (see Appendix 1.2 for details). The statistical results show that the most frequent metaphor mode in the regular press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2020-2022 is journey metaphor, accounting for 25.57%, which shows that the development

of international relations in the diplomatic context is often projected to all aspects of journey activities for visual display and expression, followed by family metaphor (13.46%), war metaphor (12.23%), architectural metaphor (11.26%). Ontological metaphors (Lakoff, G. & Johnson 1980) (such as physical metaphors and animal metaphors) that serve limited purposes and functions such as definition and quantification account for a relatively low proportion in the use of discourse metaphors, but they are still powerful tools for value dissemination and position declaration and important “weapons” that carry functions such as external position and discourse power game (Zhao Yuqian, Yang Mingxing, 2022).

Metaphorical expression related to journey (see Appendix 1.3) refers to metaphors projecting the development of a country and the evolution of international relations to all aspects of the journey, which is a typical structural conceptual metaphor, that is, constructing another concept with a highly structured and clearly defined concept (Lakoff, G. & Johnson, 1980). Taking some expressions related to journey in the corpus in Table 3 as an example, in diplomatic and political discourses, the “starting point”, “route”, “obstacle”, “intersection” and “means of transportation” in the journey are mapped to the “starting point”, “method”, “difficulties encountered”, “turning point” and “international relations” of events, policies, and activities, respectively.

Taking the journey metaphor as an example, metaphorical expressions such as “economic recovery is the road for countries in the region” “China’s manned space program must make steady progress step by step”, “economic recovery” and “program development” are referred to as “road” that must be continuously advanced, highlighting China’s development concept of taking a long-term stand on related events and taking a long-term attack. In metaphorical expressions such as “the situation of global change is stormy waves” and “unprecedented global changes and a once-in-a-century pandemic”, “international change” and “global pandemic” are referred to as “storms” in the journey, which reflects the speaker’s three-dimensional understanding of the development challenge.

The results of the frequency distribution of existing metaphor modes are different from those of previous studies. Previous studies have found that China frequently uses metaphor types such as journey metaphor, architectural metaphor, and human metaphor in diplomatic discourse (Feng Lulu, 2018; Huang Yuming, 2019). The first three high-frequency metaphor modes obtained in this study are the journey metaphor, family metaphor, and war metaphor. The reason for this difference is that previous studies have randomly selected diplomatic and political texts such as leaders’ diplomatic speeches and diplomatic interviews, while this study focuses on the texts of speeches at regular press conferences of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the corpus. Meanwhile, there are also differences in the year of the selected corpus and the classification criteria of metaphor frames, which will have an impact on the final distribution of metaphor modes.

### **3.2 Strategies and methods of the French translation of diplomatic metaphors under the guidance of PEIR**

Drawing on the translation standard of PEIR, the current study takes the high-frequency metaphor modes displayed in the corpus and the metaphor modes with high vehicle culture load as examples, and discusses the French translation strategies of diplomatic metaphors in different types and contexts in combination with real French translation cases in the corpus (see Appendix II):

#### **3.2.1 Preserving the vehicle**

The image-preserving translation method is mainly applicable to the “mapping image fusion” diplomatic metaphor (Yang Mingxing, Zhao Yuqian, 2020), which is easy to arouse emotional resonance and cultural identity. Family metaphors take intimacy and family life environment as the main metaphorical images, which are similar to the journey metaphors mentioned above. Because most of them are based on the common cognitive experience of human beings, and there are few obstacles to semantic association inspired by Chinese and Western cultural audiences, in most cases, it is suitable to adopt the method of preserving the vehicle for translation, that is, the translation strategy of “literal translation” is basically adopted for images.

The word “家园(homeland)” refers to “the garden at home, which can also express the meaning of hometown and hometown by referring to the family” (Gong Xuesheng 2015: 665). In response to a reporter’s question about China’s attitude towards the proposal of the “Indo-Pacific Economic Framework”, Wang Wenbin introduced China’s principled position on this issue, and fully expressed China’s will and determination to persist in win-win cooperation and oppose zero-sum confrontation by using the word “homeland”. In example (1), the official interpreter of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs directly translated homeland as “foyer” by preserving the vehicle.

From the perspective of balance, it is not only faithful to the source language but also completely able to make the target language recipients understand its connotation. It is not difficult to see from examples (1)-(3) that spokespersons of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs often use family metaphors such as “family”, “neighbor” and “partner” to describe China’s friendly and cooperative relations with other countries and international organizations. With respect to this kind of metaphor, most translators in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs directly adopt the translation method of preserving the original image. According to the political and dynamic nature of the principle of political equivalence, this kind of metaphorical image is shared by China and the West, with stable meaning and positive color. Literal translation can accurately show the attitude and position, realize the communication effect of “political equivalence”, and at the same time make the target image completely and accurately reappear in the receiver’s mind, “successfully activating the receiver’s perception of a vehicle in a different culture” (Yang Mingxing and Zhao Yuqian, 2020).

### 3.2.2 Transforming the vehicle

Diplomatic metaphors rooted in traditional culture and with outstanding national characteristics have a high cultural bearing capacity, and it is often difficult for simple literal translation to make the addressee generate correct semantic associations according to specific images. In view of the high political sensitivity and national characteristics of diplomatic metaphors, metonymy methods such as image transformation are sometimes adopted to translate them (Yang Mingxing and Zhao Yuqian, 2020), so as to make them ideal images that conform to the cultural habits of the target language.

The idiom “为虎作伥(to be the aid of the evil)” first appeared in Sun Yat-sen’s *The Origin of Revolution* (1981): “There are royalists who are the aid of the evil and oppose the revolution and the republic.” Its allusions originated from the Taiping Era. In ancient times, “伥(ghost)” referred to people who were eaten by tigers turned into ghosts after their death, specifically luring people to eat tigers. Later it was used as a metaphor to act as an accomplice of the wicked (Cihai Editorial Board, 2019). In example (4), in response to the condemnation of China’s legitimate actions to safeguard national sovereignty within the Taiwan Strait by the Group of Seven headed by Britain in the form of foreign ministers’ statements, Wang Wenbin used the idiom “to be the aid of the evil” to satirize Britain’s joint efforts with some countries to cater to the US strategy and interfere in China’s internal affairs. “To be the aid of the evil” is a diplomatic metaphor with strong cultural image attributes, which is officially translated as “servir de griffes et de dents au tigre”. This translation takes full account of the cultural differences between the speaker and the audience while retaining the common animal image of “tiger”, it uses the words “griffe” and “dent” which are more easily understood in the French context instead of “ghost” in Chinese allusions, and accurately conveys the political connotation of condemning Britain and other countries as accomplices of the United States. The expression “acting as a tiger’s paw and teeth” realizes the iconicity reproduction of the source language image, improves the acceptability of the vehicle, and can win the recognition of the audience.

### 3.2.3 Omitting the vehicle

In the process of translating diplomatic metaphors into Chinese, the following translation strategies can usually be adopted:

(1) When the cultural load of the vehicle in the source language is too high and the corresponding metaphorical expression cannot be found in the translated culture, free translation can be carried out by abandoning the vehicle (Yang Mingxing, Zhao Yuqian, 2020);

The allusion of the word “狐假虎威(The Fox Who Profited by the Tiger’s Might)” originated from the *Warring States Policy Chu Ce I*, “which means that the fox scares off all the animals by taking advantage of the tiger’s prestige, and is used as a metaphor to intimidate and bully people by relying on the prestige of the powerful” (Gong Xuesheng 2015: 581). Hua Chunying, a spokeswoman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, made the above comments in the face of repeated accusations by the US that China has imposed economic and military “coercion” on its American allies. This metaphorical expression with profound cultural implications strongly condemns the US and its allies’ attempts to “hold a group” to put pressure on China. In example (5), the translator of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs abandons the vehicle and translates it into “intimidier en profitant de la puissance d’autrui”, centering on semantics. Examples (6) and (7) also adopted similar translations: translating “刻舟求剑(carving a boat to seek a sword)” into “se comporter de façon mécanique” and translating “一手好牌打得稀巴烂(good cards, bad game)” into “ont totalement raté les avantages dont ils auraient pu profiter”.

From the political and dynamic point of view, this kind of translation method takes into account the cultural background and thinking characteristics of the text audience, so that they can understand the expressed political position and basic political connotation. However, omitting the vehicle directly cannot convey the rich cultural connotation of the source language.

According to the PEIR standard, when there is a conflict between “political equivalence” and “image reproduction”, the latter should make appropriate concessions. When there is a lack of similar metaphorical expressions in the French cultural context, we can choose to give priority to the translation of the position and connotation conveyed by metaphors and take “political equivalence” as the primary criterion. From the perspective of balance, the free translation method by abandoning the vehicle can facilitate the receiver to understand semantics, but it is still lacking in fidelity to the source language. In the translation of diplomatic discourse, “the ‘foreign factors’ of culture should be appropriately preserved in order to better spread China’s thoughts, culture, and values” (Fan Wuqiu and Wang Yu 2021). If we can accurately convey the political connotation while retaining the vehicle with special characteristics and convey the cultural connotation with special characteristics by adding annotations, the translation will be more suitable for the source language and the target language. While satisfying the principle of balance, this method makes the source language images vividly restored in the audience’s cognition, and achieves the good effect of “image reproduction”.

(2) When the number of vehicles is  $\geq 2$  and the vehicles are very similar in function and nature, only the vehicles closest to the context can be kept (Yang Mingxing and Zhao Yuqian, 2020), that is, vehicles with higher cultural load or repeated meanings can be omitted from translation. Simultaneously, it can simplify the vehicle and make the target language concise and clear;

In the diplomatic and political context, spokesmen often use plant metaphors to describe the positive progress of undertakings, forces, activities, and other things, and map the birth and prosperity of specific things with images such as the budding and flowering of plants. In example (8), the spokesman described that China’s railway industry has made great progress in the world with two words: “落地生根、枝繁叶茂(Take root and flourish)”. The official translator translated it into “s’épanouir”. From the political and dynamic point of view, the translation conforms to the audience’s cultural habits, sticks to the legal sentence structure, and conveys the political meaning expressed in the source language. From the perspective of balance, the meaning is clear, showing a certain image meaning, but the language richness and rhetorical effect are slightly insufficient.

### 3.2.4 Supplementing the vehicle

When metaphor is not used in the source language or the image mapping formed by the vehicle in the source language is not ideal due to cultural differences, the translation can be carried out by supplementing vehicles, which can accurately convey the political meaning and strengthen the image, make the expression more vivid and make the meaning more acceptable.

Hua Chunying, a spokeswoman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, commented on the statement provided by the FCCC for illegal acts such as Sha Lei’s irregular departure. Among them, “over-

generalize” means to look at the whole problem from a one-sided point of view. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs translated it as “prendre un arbre pour la forêt”, which effectively conveyed the political connotation of the source language and satirized the false and one-sided words of the other side. Meanwhile, this translation made the meanings of “part” and “whole” concrete by adding two images of “arbre” and “forêt”, which is an ideal translation in line with PEIR standards. In example (10), “being unscathed” means “keeping one’s moral integrity. At present, it refers to taking care of oneself, regardless of other people’s affairs” (Gong Xuesheng 2015: 339). In this example, by adding the image of “cavalier”, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs vividly conveys the criticism and irony of the United States for beggar-thy-neighbor and only considering its own interests in the face of the pandemic.

In example (9), however, the word “倒打一耙(beating a rake backward)” has a high cultural load and belongs to a strange diplomatic metaphor of mapping images. “This kind of metaphor can be translated by vehicle transformation, vehicle omission, and vehicle supplement according to the situation” (Yang Mingxing and Zhao Yuqian, 2020). In this example, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs abandoned its metaphor, which is translated as “rejeter des responsabilités sur autrui”. Although it accurately conveys the political connotation of criticizing the relevant contents of the FCCC statement and transferring responsibility, it is feasible to some extent. However, the rhetorical effect contained in the metaphor itself is completely abandoned, and the degree of fit with the source language is greatly reduced. If we can keep the vehicle and add relevant notes or adopt the translation method of supplementing the vehicle on the basis of ensuring “political equivalence”, we can increase the rhetorical effect and meet the principle of balance, which is convenient for the audience to understand and accept. For example, in example (11), in view of the contrast between the pandemic situation and people’s “sentimentality” and “ruthlessness”, translation 1 literally translates it into “cruel” and “chaleureux”, which accurately conveys the basic meaning and political stance of the source language; translation 2 translated it as “L’humanité brille malgré le nuage sombre de l’épidémie”. Compared with translation 1, the translation method of translation 2 increases the rhetorical effect by adding images such as “clouds” and “light”, greatly enhances the communication effect and acceptance of diplomatic discourse on the premise of ensuring “political equivalence”, and realizing the vivid reproduction of the meaning of the source language.

#### 4. Conclusion

Based on the self-built parallel corpus of Chinese and French, this paper investigates metaphors in diplomatic discourse and their French translation strategies and analyzes the distribution of various metaphors in China’s diplomatic discourse represented by the regular press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The research shows that journey metaphor, family metaphor, and war metaphor are the high-frequency metaphor modes used in existing diplomatic discourse. Using the above metaphor modes can vividly show China’s development concept and discourse characteristics. In addition, the compound translation standard of “political equivalence + image representation” (PEIR) provides a new idea for metaphor translation in diplomatic discourse, which is demonstrated to be applicable and feasible by a large number of cases in this study. In the Chinese-French translation of diplomatic metaphors, four metaphor translation strategies should be adopted according to metaphor types and specific contexts, such as preserving vehicles, transforming vehicles, omitting vehicles, and supplementing vehicles. While conforming to the three characteristics of “politics”, “balance” and “dynamics” and achieving “political equivalence”, it is helpful to make the images in the source language accurately and vividly reappear in the target language, which will enhance the communication effect and acceptance of diplomatic discourse and its metaphors. However, this paper also has some shortcomings. Firstly, this study only analyzes the text of the speech at the regular press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and does not involve other diplomatic discourses such as speeches and interviews of leaders on diplomatic occasions. Secondly, influenced by the limitations of existing research tools and research perspectives, this study only labels and analyzes

metaphorical keywords, and does not use the corpus method to quantitatively analyze and study text translation strategies. Therefore, future research can enrich the text types of diplomatic discourse and further investigate the Chinese-French translation strategies of diplomatic discourse and its metaphors by using quantitative methods such as corpus.

## Appendix I:

### 1.1

Table 1 Translation strategies and methods of diplomatic metaphors under the guidance of PEIR

| The main types of diplomatic metaphors |                           | Translation strategies of diplomatic metaphors |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Shared metaphor                        | Mapping image fusion type | Image preservation translation                 |
| Non-shared metaphor                    | Mapping image conflict    | Image transformation translation               |
|  | Mapping image strangeness | Image omittance translation                    |
|  |                           | Image supplement translation                   |

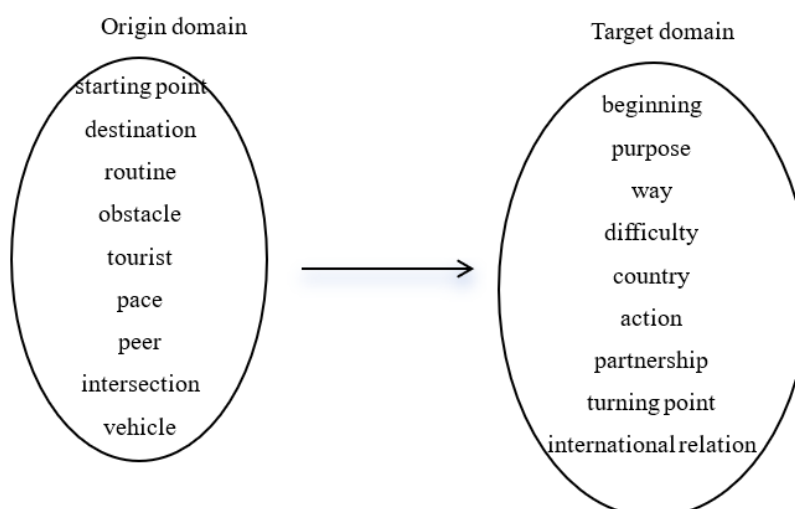
### 1.2

Table 2 Frequency and text range of metaphor modes displayed in corpus

|    | Metaphor type              | Frequency (times) | percentage | Range (692) |
|----|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| 1  | Metaphor of journey (MJ):  | 4849              | 25.57%     | 672         |
| 2  | Metaphor of family (MF):   | 2553              | 13.46%     | 608         |
| 3  | Metaphor of war (MW):      | 2319              | 12.23%     | 570         |
| 4  | Metaphor of building (MB): | 2135              | 11.26%     | 616         |
| 5  | Metaphor of circle (MC):   | 1832              | 9.66%      | 561         |
| 6  | Metaphor of health (MH):   | 1630              | 8.60%      | 537         |
| 7  | Metaphor of plant (MP):    | 1364              | 7.19%      | 503         |
| 8  | Metaphor of machine (MM):  | 1193              | 6.29%      | 405         |
| 9  | Metaphor of artistic (MA): | 407               | 2.15%      | 242         |
| 10 | Metaphor of physical (MS): | 405               | 2.14%      | 257         |
| 11 | Metaphor of weather (MT):  | 198               | 1.04%      | 155         |
| 12 | Metaphor of animal (MZ):   | 77                | 0.41%      | 44          |
|    | Total                      | 18962             | 100.00%    |             |

### 1.3

Fig. 1 Partial mapping relationship between conceptual metaphors related to “journey”





## Appendix II:

Example (1): 中方愿.....美好的亚太家园。 (2020年5月25日外交部例行记者会发言)

Translation: La Chine est prête à travailler ... un beau **foyer**.

Example (2): 期待更多志同道合的伙伴加入金砖“大家庭” (RPC 2022-06-24)

Translation: Nous attendons avec impatience que ... **la grande famille** des BRICS.

Example (3): 中国永远是.....信得过的好伙伴。 (RPC 2022-05-26)

Translation: La Chine restera **un bon voisin, un bon ami et un bon partenaire** ... de l' ASEAN.

Example (4): 英国.....伙同一小撮国家为虎作伥。 (RPC 2022-08-11)

Translation: Le Royaume-Uni ... pour **servir de griffes et de dents au tigre**.

Example (5): 试图.....狐假虎威来吓唬中国,是行不通的。 (RPC 2021-03-22)

Translation: Les tentatives ... **l'intimider en profitant de la puissance d'autrui** ... une impasse.

Example (6): 如果.....那就是刻舟求剑, 就不会得出符合实际的结论。 (RPC 2021-08-19)

Translation: Si ... **nous nous comporterons de façon mécanique** et ... conforme à la réalité.

Example (7): 反观美国个别政客, 他们把一手好牌打得稀巴烂。 (RPC 2020-10-16)

Translation: Certains politiciens ... **ont totalement raté les avantages dont ils auraient pu profiter**.

Example (8): 中国铁路.....落地生根、枝繁叶茂.....正确之道。 (RPC 2022-08-11)

Translation: Ces histoires inspirantes ... ne pourra **s'épanouir** que ... du développement mondial.

Example (9): 关于以偏概全、黑白颠倒、倒打一耙的反面教材。 (RPC 2021-04-01)

Translation: Et ... **rejet des responsabilités sur autrui** ... en prenant un arbre pour la forêt.

Example (10): 倘若.....美国又如何能够独善其身呢? (RPC 2021-04-20)

Translation: Comment les États-Unis peuvent-ils **faire cavalier seul**... contre l'épidémie ?

Example (11): 疫情无情人有情。 (RPC 2020-03-11)

Translation 1: Le virus est **cruel**, mais les êtres humains sont **chaleureux**.

Translation 2: L'humanité **brille** malgré le **nuage sombre** de l'épidémie.

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