ABSTRACT

The verb reduplication is highly concerned by The Society of Chinese Grammar since 1960s. Although the achievements of related research during these 40 years are remarkable, the divergence among the researchers on the issues such as the grammatical meanings of verb reduplication, verb reduplication form and the scope of verb reduplication is still evident.

The aim of this thesis is to explore the grammatical meanings of verb reduplication, verb reduplication form and the scope of reduplication with a new theory established in 1980s, which called cognitive linguistic (认知语言学). Through this theory, we know that there is a close relation between semantics and syntax, thus making us focus our study on the syntactic verb reduplication. Besides, we regard verb reduplication as a morphological process (形态化过程), which have been verified by Dr Shi Yu Zhi (石毓智博士), in order to find out the rules of syntactic verb reduplication and to identify the exact grammatical meanings of verb reduplication, verb reduplication form and the scope of verb reduplication.

Chapter One presents a review of relevant literature and our method of research. Chapter Two is discussing the grammatical meanings of verb reduplication and the verb reduplication form. Chapter Three is relevant to the features and the application of the use of verb reduplication. Chapter Four focus on the exploration to the commonality existing between Chinese and dialects’ verb reduplication. Chapter Five
concludes with a summary of the thesis. These findings aim to enhance our understanding of the features and the functions of syntactic verb reduplication.