

# Manner in Chinese coextension paths

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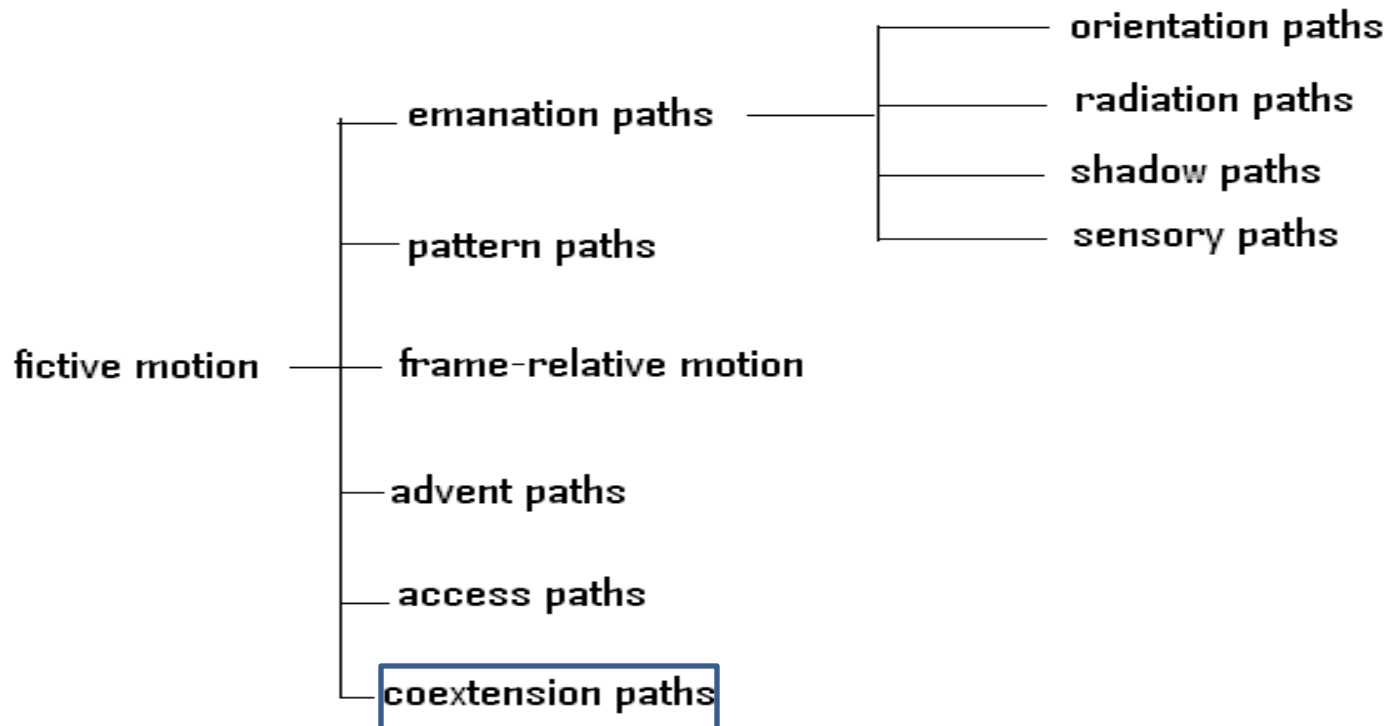
# Outline

- Definition and examples
- Theoretical explanations
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# Definition and examples

- Fictive motion expressions ----- describe physical entities or situations with no actual motion using dynamic linguistic forms (motion verbs, directional prepositions, etc.) (Talmy, 2000, p. 99).
  - This **fence** *goes from* the plateau *to* the valley.
  - The **sun** is shining *into* the cave.
  - I sat in the car and watched the **scenery** *rush past* me.
  - The **bakery** is *across* the street *from* the **bank**.

# Definition and examples



# Definition and examples

- Coextension path sentences depict “the form, orientation, or location of a spatially extended object in terms of a path over the object’s extent” (Talmy, 2000, p. 138).
  - The **fence** *goes from* the plateau *to* the valley.
  - 从 大陆 伸展过来的 道路 在这里 走到 了 尽头。  
from mainland *extend-towards-here-AUX* **road** at-here *walk-to* ASP end  
The **road** *extending from* the mainland *walks to* its end here.

# Theoretical explanations

- Mental scanning
- Conceptual blending
- Conceptual metaphor & metonymy
- Experimental studies-----mental simulation of motion

# Theoretical framework

- Matsumoto (1996, p. 194)
  - a. The path condition:

Some property of the path of motion **must** be expressed.
  - b. The manner condition:

**No** property of the manner of motion **can be** expressed **unless** it is used to represent some correlated property of the path.

# Literature review

Support	Oppose
Translation studies: English-Spanish (Rojo & Valenzuela, 2003). English-Italian (Cappelli, 2012)  S language-V language	Fan (2011)  奔 ( <i>rush</i> ) 走 ( <i>walk</i> )
Wang (2012)  Use: directional verbs; meander verbs  Suppress: manner verbs	Matlock (Matlock, 2004) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The road runs along the coast.</li><li>▪ The table goes from the kitchen to the sliding glass door.</li></ul>

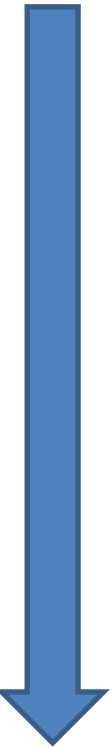


# Data

- Data source:  
written texts (geography magazines;  
geography books; travel essays).
- Exhaustive examination
- 661 sentences involving coextension paths.

# Results

- A continuum in terms of the degree of encoding of manner information
  - Absence of manner information
  - Manner information conflated with path information in one grammatical form
  - Manner information coexists with path information in separate grammatical forms
  - Presence of manner information and no overt path information



# Results

## ➤ Absence of manner information

1. 大陆架 是 陆壳 延伸到 海中的  
continental-shelf is **continental-crust** *extend-to* sea-in AUX  
比较 平坦的 海地区域。  
relatively flat sea-continent area

**The continental shelf is the relatively flat area between the sea and the continent where **the continental crust** *extends into* the sea.**

# Results

➤ Manner information conflated with path information in one grammatical form

1. 甚至有巨大的 树根 从 窑顶 直插  
even have huge tree-root from kiln-top all-the-way-stick-into  
地面。  
ground

There are even huge tree roots sticking all the way into the ground from the top of the kiln.

# Results

2. 凯伦家 有 个 巨大的 露台, 深深地 探向 一个  
Kellen-house have CL huge terrace deeply stretch-towards a-CL  
幽暗寂静的 山谷。  
dark-silent valley  
There is a terrace in Kellen's house which stretches deeply into the  
silent dark valley.
3. (巴丹吉林沙漠) 柔和地 向上 隆起, 渐渐地 抵达 顶峰。  
(Badain Jaran Desert) gently upwards rise gradually reach peak  
(The Badain Jaran Desert) rises gently upwards and gradually reaches  
its peak.

# Results

➤ Manner information coexists with path information in separate grammatical forms

1. 这 万里长城，从 燕山支脉的 角山上  
this **Great-Wall** *from* Yan-Mountain-branch-AUX Cape-Mount-on  
*直冲下来*， 一头 *扎进* 了 渤海 岸边。  
*all-the-way rush-down-come* head *jump-into* ASP Bohai-Sea bank  
**The Great Wall** *rushes down all the way from* the Cape Mount of Yan  
Mountain, and *jumps into* the bank of the Bohai Sea.

# Results

2. 这条 **穿过** 大凉山山脉、大小相岭 和 大渡河峡谷 的  
this-CL **cross** Daliangshan-Mountain Daxiaoxiang-Mountain and Daduhe-Gorge AUX  
**铁路**, “**强行**” **穿越** 了 诸多 复杂 危险的 地形。  
**railway forcibly pass-through** ASP many complicated dangerous landscape  
The **railway** which **crosses** Daliangshan-Mountain, Daxiaoxiang-Mountain and  
Daduhe-Gorge, **passes through** many complicated and dangerous landscapes  
**forcibly**.
3. 入夜, 城市 平静了, **小巷子** **幽幽** **延伸**。  
into-night city quiet ASP **small-alley silently extend**  
When the night falls, the city become quiet, and **small alleys extend silently**.

# Results

## ➤ Presence of manner information and no overt path information

1. 扇子崖... 如 一面 折扇, 独立无倚, 高走云霄。  
**Shanzi-Cliff** like a-CL folding-fan alone-stand-no-leaning-point high-walk-cloud  
**Shanzi Cliff** stands alone like a folding fan, and walks highly in the clouds.
2. 美国66号公路 堪称 流动 在北美大陆上 的 最壮伟的  
**US-Route 66** can-be-called flow PREP-North-America-on AUX most-magnificent  
自然风景线。  
natural scenery  
**US Route 66** can be called the most magnificent natural scenery flowing on North America.
3. 一座 叫“安顺廊桥”的 桥梁 像长龙一样 游荡 在800米宽的锦江上。  
a-CL name-Anshun-AUX bridge like-long-dragon wander PREP-800m-wide-AUX-Jin-River-on  
**A bridge** named “Anshun” wanders on Jin River of 800 meters wide like a long dragon.



# Discussion

- We propose that the degree to which the manner information is encoded is related with the function of the sentence.
- In geography texts, the salience degree of manner information is relatively low.
- It is well motivated to involve some manner information if the writer's intention is to use coextension path expressions to meet the rhetorical needs.

# Discussion

- It is necessary to distinguish semantic path information and grammatical forms encoding them.

# References

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# Thank you!