

THE THIRD U.S.-CHINA STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC DIALOGUE: A
CONTRASTIVE STUDY OF CHINESE AND AMERICAN NEWSPAPER NEWS
REPORTING

By

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A THESIS PRESENTED TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF
ARTS IN MASS COMMUNICATION

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

2013

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To my Mom

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I'm grateful to all the faculty and staff of the College of Journalism and Communications, from whom I have acquired plenty of support and help.

First of all, I'm really appreciated to my chair Dr. Wanta, who has given me patient guidance and an amount of useful suggestions. Thanks to his invaluable help, I have made effort in working on the perfection of the thesis.

I also want to thank Dr. Cleary, Dr. Rodgers, and Dr. Roberts. Their breadth of visions of knowledge and strict attitude in research has deeply impressed me during the process of thesis writing.

And last, I would like to thank my parents. I would not complete my study in the U.S. without their financial support, patience, and love.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CDA	Critical discourse analysis
CL	Critical linguistic
SFL	Systematic functional language
SFG	Systematic functional grammar
S&ED	The U.S.-China strategic and economic dialogue

Abstract of Thesis Presented to the Graduate School
of the University of Florida in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Mass Communication

THE THIRD U.S.-CHINA STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC DIALOGUE: A
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NEWS REPORTING

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August 2013

Chair: Wayne Wanta
Major: Mass Communication

This study compares the news coverage of the third U.S-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED) by the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *China Daily* from May 8 to 11, 2011. By examining how Chinese and American newspapers report the same event differently, the study aims to uncover the reasons behind the difference from the perspective of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). Based on the three-dimensional model of Fairclough, together with Halliday's systemic functional grammar (SFG) as an analytic tool, a detailed and specific exploration of the news discourse was conducted so as to find the hidden ideologies from the different perspectives of the three newspapers.

The present study conducts a qualitative analysis. During the research, CDA was found helpful to reveal the correlation between language, power, and hidden ideologies, namely, how language reflects power and ideology, or how the latter influence language.

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

Research Background

China and the United States as the biggest developing country and the most developed country in the world respectively, occupy important positions in the world. The US-China relationship is one of the most sensitive and important relationships among world powers (Friedberg, 2005). According to Friedberg (2005), the relationship between the two pacific powers is important to the future security and prosperity of the Asian-Pacific region and even of the whole world. Moreover, “a deepening U.S.-China entente could bring with increased possibilities for sustained worldwide economic growth” (p. 8).

The history of their relationship reveals that it has been full of twists and turns at different periods of time. They may compete or cooperate (Morrison, 2011). To deepen cooperation, the two countries started the US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED) in 2009. The S&ED is a structure for an on-going series of annual meetings between high-level representatives of the U.S. and China to discuss issues of strategic and economic importance. This dialogue has been referred to in print by various names, including U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED), China-U.S. Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED) and Sino-U.S Dialogue. For clarity, this paper is using the phrase U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED) throughout the paper.

The first US–China S&ED was jointly launched by President Hu Jintao and President Barak Obama at their first meeting in London in April 2009. High-level representatives of both countries will meet annually, alternating between the US and China. Morrison (2011) describes the US-China S&ED as an important platform on which the two sides exchange opinions on major issues and promote cooperation at the highest government level. Bergsten (2009) speak highly of the dialogue between China and the

US: "The S&ED, at this early stage of its evolution, has both a positive record of achievement and a rich agenda for future action at both the broad conceptual and very practical policy levels" (p. 3).

Chinese and American officials conducted the third S&ED on May 9-10, 2011. On the first day of the dialogue, U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton welcomed Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan and Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo in Washington, D.C. Over the course of two days, Geithner and Wang discussed economic issues while Clinton and Dai discussed strategic issues.

This dialogue is of special importance because it was held at a turning point in history. In 2010, Sino-US relations suffered a setback, mainly because of America's arm sales to Taiwan. In January, President Hu Jintao visited the United States, which helped to improve the relationships. The third SE&D was expected to propel relations forward. Both the U.S. media and Chinese media heavily covered this dialogue. This thesis will analyze news media discourses in the online edition of three major newspapers, the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *China Daily*. These three newspapers are authoritative as well as influential in America and China.

As one of the most influential newspapers in the world, the New York Times is also the typical model of the western and essential medium representative. With its long development and popularity, the New York Times has been considered as a "national newspaper of record" in the American newspaper industry. With a digital circulation of nearly 900,000, The New York Times has the highest average circulation at the top five U.S. daily newspapers (Moos, 2012). The Wall Street Journal is one of the most influential financial dailies in the world, with emphasis on financial and commercial fields.

Print circulation of the Wall Street Journal is nearly 1,500,000, and the digital circulation is about 800,000 (Moos, 2012). Besides financial information and comments on internationally important events, it also provides other articles concerning science, education and entertainment, etc. Both the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal are elite newspapers in the U.S.

As China's only national English-language daily newspaper, China Daily is considered the "Voice of China" or "Window to China" (Thussu, 2006). The newspaper has an average daily circulation of more than 800,000 in 150 countries and regions (China Daily, 2013). Thussu (2006) notes one third of China Daily's readers was business-oriented in more than 100 countries. Launched in 1995, China Daily website (chinadaily.com.cn) is a comprehensive multimedia outlet and China's most influential English-language Web portal. Its daily page views now exceed 31 million, with about 60 percent of visitors from overseas (China Daily, 2013). China Daily is a comprehensive paper that has the greatest publications in China and international influence. Therefore, China Daily is considered as a newspaper supporting the interests of the Communist Party or the country as China is under the leadership of the Party (Yong & Campbell, 1995).

This study will take a contrastive analysis approach which aims to study relationships between two or more languages and especially the differences they have. According to Richards, Platt & Platt (1992), "Contrastive analysis was developed and practiced in the 1950s and 1960s as application of structural linguistics to language teaching" (p. 83).

As Tuchman (1978) points out, journalists construct a "window on the world"; however, the window is always a partial view. Mass media have played a more and

more important role in modern society; it serves as the exclusively essential source of diversified information. But, claiming to be neutral and objective in reflecting states of affairs, news reports boasts its own features in language (Cillie, 1967).

Due to the huge influence of media discourse on shaping public opinion, the special language of news reports has aroused many critical discourse analyses (CDA) scholars' attention (Fowler, 1991; Fairclough, 1989; van Dijk, 1988 et al.). As one of the most important parts of critical linguistics, CDA is useful in analyzing public discourse such as news reports and exploring the implied value system and ideology that is in the language. Fairclough (1992) argues that with the help of CDA, people "can be clear of the way in which language tends to impose on the addressor's view of the world on the addressees" (p.139). Thus, with the help of CDA, scholars and readers can more systematically and comprehensively understand news reports.

However, in terms of media discourse, foreign affairs news reporting draws little attention. Simpson (1993) points out that "as no use of language is considered truly neutral, objective and value-free, then theoretically critical linguistic analysis may be performed on any form of discourse" (p. 2). Therefore, in the hope of extending the existing critical studies of media discourse, this thesis carries out a critical discourse analysis on the news reports of the third U.S.-China S&ED.

Thussu (2006) indicates in recent years, with the coming of the digital information age, broadcast, television, newspapers, and the Internet have become the main channels for people to acquire information from the outside world. Among them, newspapers have gained quite a lot of popularity because of their mass information,

high authority and easy portability (de Beer, 2009). Moreover, the advancement of information technology enables readers to get access to electronic newspapers from the

Internet. To compare the news reports of the third US-China S&ED by Chinese and American mass media, this study focused on four days of data from the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and China Daily. The articles examined in this study

were published between May 8-11, 2011, the official time span for the third US-China S&ED. The four days of data include two days of the overall meeting, the day before, and the following day. As the dialogue ended on May 10, many media reported the achievements of the dialogue on May 11.

In order to explore the differences between news reports on the third US-China S&ED in these three American and Chinese newspapers, stories published between May 8-11, 2011 will be examined. The key words “third US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue” were used as search words. As for data collection, a total of ten stories were collected from the websites of the three newspapers. Among the ten news reports, five stories are from China Daily (www.chinadaily.com.); two news articles are from the New York Times (www.nytimes.com) and the remaining three are collected from the Wall Street Journal (www.wsj.com).

The present research is conducted within Fairclough's three-dimensional framework (1992) to analyze the news samples at three stages: description, interpretation, and explanation. At the first two stages, the linguistic choices of the texts will be examined by using the analytical devices of Halliday's systemic-functional grammar. At the third stage, the linguistic choices will be explained in the light of wider social context in which the texts are produced.

Research Purpose and Significance

Currently, the printed news media is a popular route for people to get worldwide information (de Beer, 2009). This thesis makes a critical analysis of the reports on the

third S&ED in American and Chinese news media. The study attempts to make a noticeable contrast between three leading newspapers to examine the relation between ideology and the language in news discourse. With Fairclough's (1992) three-dimensional model as the theoretical framework, this study explores powers and ideologies hidden in the language of three major media outlets in the US and China.

The significance of this paper is three-fold. First, previous studies explored news discourse concerning war, racism or economic issues (van Dijk, 1991; Wodak, 1989). But this study pays close attention to diplomatic events in this field. Through the current research, it shows that foreign affair news discourse is also an important carrier of ideology. Second, the combination of three-dimensional theory and Halliday's functional grammar is important to conduct a comparative study of the news reports by different news agencies on the same event. This research shows that the comparative research method is helpful in discovering the ideology hidden in news discourse. Last, the present research is beneficial for readers to develop their critical linguistic awareness.

CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

News Discourse

News discourse, as a type of media discourse, has become an indispensable part of human life. News, a tool for mass communication, is playing an irreplaceable part in people's daily life. News is playing a more and more important role in the information transference. To a large degree, people rely on the media for news.

Features of News Discourse

According to Hjarvard (2008), Mediatization is the most significant concept to understand the importance of media to culture and society. Base on the definition of mediatization, Hjarvard (2008) points “media simultaneously become an integrated part of other institutions like politics, work, family, and religion as more and more of these institutional activities are performed through both interactive and mass media” (p. 105). Thus, media play an important role in people’s lives. The analysis of media discourse has gained great attention among linguists (Fowler, 1991; Fairclough, 1995; van Dijk, 1995; Wodak, 1989).

For Fowler (1991), news is perceived as a practice, a product of the social and political world on which it reports. News is a representation of construction; it is not a value-free reflection of “facts”. van Dijk (1995) states that “foreign news products are basically selected according to the interests of political, military, and business elites. Indeed, most foreign news is about political, military and economic events and not about social and cultural events” (p. 248). As Geis (1987) says, “perhaps the most influential power of the news media is that it has the right to report what event is important at certain time and to choose whose voice is to be heard about a particular issue” (p. 10). According to Bell (1991), media discourse can be targeted as the research object in order to

discover how media mask their ideological positions, embodied their attitudes and opinions, in the way they represent issues. Therefore, news discourse is not only the carrier of information of what is happening around the world but also the carrier of specific ideologies, which functions with the broadcast of news.

From this point to view, China and US news media are dedicated to building and safeguarding the interest of their own nation while reporting on the third US-China S&ED. With the involvement of the national mass media, the news reports from them are the representations of each country's will to show to the audience. Therefore, it is necessary to read news reports critically and discover the implicit ideology compacted in the news discourse.

The news media transmit and embody ideology implicitly. Fishman (1980) says the way to making news and the dependence on external sources generate a uniform, ideological picture of the world. This ideology is largely defined in terms of the constraints on the practicalities of news making. Moreover, van Dijk (1988) states that "media are not a neutral, common-sensed or rational mediator of social events but essentially help reproduce pre-formulated ideologies" (p. 11). As van Dijk (1997) points out, the focus of discourse analysis should be "on the social actions accomplished by language users communicating within social and cultural contexts" (p. 13). As a result, news discourse is actually not a representation of reality. It is based on this assumption that this thesis is conducted with the aim to uncover the more often than not hidden and implicit ideologies and power relations.

Sociology of News Making

In order to explore why international newspapers report the same event differently, it is worthwhile to investigate what forces shape the media message; what and who sets

the media's agenda (Reese, 1991). According to Gitlin (1978), media sociology, what Daniel Bell has called the "received knowledge" of "personal influence," focuses on "the power of the media to define normal and abnormal social and political activity, to say what is politically real and legitimate and what is not; to establish certain political agendas for social attention and to contain, channel, and exclude others; and to shape the images of opposition movements" (p. 205).

Reese and Ballinger (2001) think media sociology is helpful to explain how individuals construct news within a social and occupational setting. They consider David Manning White's analysis of the "gatekeeper" news editor and Warren Breed's explanation of social control in the newsroom. For White, "the decisions of individuals, some of whom by virtue of their strategic location at key 'gates,' have the power to affect the flow of information" (Reese & Ballinger, 2001, p. 647). Moreover, White (1950) argues, "an editor sees to it (even though he may never be consciously aware of it) that the community shall hear as a fact only those events which the newsman, as the representative of his culture, believes to be true" (p. 390).

As Reese (2001) points out, one of the main tasks of comparative media sociology is to clearly define the media system in which journalists of interest work. For example, In China, most of the news media are owned by the state. The media are expected to follow Communist Party and government policies (de Beer, 2009). News media are regarded as a tool for national development, education, information, and entertainment. Media are supposed to be a bridge between the party and the people. The government keeps the media in line mainly through regulations and through the appointment or removal of editors (de Beer, 2009). Thussu (2006) also notes that in many developing countries, economic and political power was and remains restricted to a tiny, often unrepresentative,

elite, and the mass media play a key role in legitimizing the political establishment, which is totally different from developed countries.

There is also a major difference between American and Chinese media – press freedom. The oldest and best established of the organizations monitoring press freedom around the world is Freedom House, a nongovernmental organization based in Washington D.C. (de Beer, 2009). There are three criteria for Freedom House to measure press freedom of countries all over the world. The first category is the legal environment for the media, focusing on the laws and legal institutions that restrict the media's ability to operate. The second one is the political environment. Freedom House examines the degree of political control over the content of the media. The last criterion is economic environment such as the structure of media ownership, media concentration, and costs of starting and operation media. According to the Freedom of the Press 2012 report, 197 countries were covered in this research (Freedom House, 2012). United States ranks 22 while China is one of the bottom 10 countries (ranks 187) in press freedom.

According to Reese (2001b), media sociology suggests that “we must tackle the structural context of journalism, moving beyond the narrower attempt to psychologize the media through the attitudes and values of individual practitioners (p. 174). News is not only the newsworthy event itself, but also the report of the event. Before news appears on the page, it goes through several stages. The reporters or editors, who are usually from different social, economic, political, and cultural backgrounds, decide what is newsworthy, and how it is to be presented (de Beer, 2009). According to Fowler (1991), “the media do not simply and transparently report what are newsworthy in themselves. News is the end product of a complex process which begins with a systematic sorting and selecting of events and topics according to a socially

constructed set of categories" (p. 12). Therefore, the events which are reported cannot reflect the importance of the events, but show the selection of the events according to a complex and artificial set of criteria. And these criteria are known as "news values".

The everyday organization of news making, the routines of newsgathering, and the social and economic constraints of news production rather than how news events or the many source texts that describe or constitute them are actually processed into the news texts we read or see (van Dijk, 1998). The mass media largely generate and mediate the production and reproduction ideologies of public text and talk (Fowler 1991; Golding 1992; Hall 1982). Gitlin (1978) asserts that media sociology has highlighted the recalcitrance of audiences and their resistance to media-generated messages by its methodology.

Socio-Cognitive Theory

Socio-cognitive Approach

The original source of socio-cognitive approach is the socio-cognitive theory proposed by Moscovici in 1970s. van Dijk (1988) put forward the theoretical framework of the discourse-cognition-society triangle, and emphasizes the importance of the study of cognition in the critical analysis of discourse and communication. van Dijk (1988) explores the relationship among cognitive phenomenon, discourse structure and social structure. van Dijk (2009) emphasizes the importance of an analysis of "semantic macro-structures", that is, "global meanings, topics and themes", which could reveal the intention of the speaker (p. 68). His main focus is analyzing the role of the news media in the reproduction of racism. He distinguishes his discourse analysis from traditional content studies by focusing on a systematic description of semantic and syntactic features of text. Socio-cognitive approach to news discourse pays special attention to the role of cognition

both in production and in comprehension of news structure. Once one has the cognition that he or she belongs to a group or county, he will accept the relevant ideology and identity progress in a natural way.

Social Representations

Social representations theory is proposed and developed by S. Moscovici and Wagner et al. in the late 1960s. The social representation theory develops from the explanations for inter-group behavior and cognition provides approaches to how attitudes relate to each other and how attitudes are patterned by the membership of the groups who share the same representations. This theory puts more emphasis on the purpose of the behavior and communication, on the central role of the group and on the group influence and communication of the individual ideology (Moscovici, 2000). Moscovici (2000) defines social representations as a system composed of preconceptions, images and values which contain its own cultural meaning and independents of individual experiences. In sum, the social representations are the group-shared concepts, images, and social knowledge that are formed in specific history and society, which can be called a meaningful social symbols. Thus, the social representations can help to build and sustain some social order by offering some social rules and communication. Then, they play the promoting role in forming the consistent social recognition and social attitudes (Howarth, 2006).

The Layers of Socio-cognitive Approach

Socio-cognitive framing is influenced by meaning-making (van Dijk, 2008). Once one sets a goal, he or she would do anything possible to realize it. For instance, on the third US-China S&ED, besides the reports of the negotiation processes, the media *China Daily*, the *New York Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal* tend to build their national identity and protect their interests at the same time. Underlying cognitive categories—the

organization, categorization, and structuring of information are closely related with ideology and social practice. Ideology can be broadcast by different language strategies. However, a social representation is different from the attitude. Attitudes belong to the individual level, whereas social representations have the social characteristics (Wagner et al., 1999). The social representations have both social and individual concepts, which have values, concepts, and functions systematically. Meanwhile, it is one way of explaining the relevant beliefs and narrations in daily life. The social representations contain the deeper concepts and ideology. Attitudes are one of the meanings in the process of social representations. Attitudes are the peripheral and evaluative aspects of social representations (Wagner et al., 1999). The news media forms the readers' social representations gradually through news reports. Then it comes to serve the related nation to build a good and heroic national identity to the readers.

Different opinions can be formed and judgments be made due to different ideologies. Bell and Garrett (1998) give the explanation that media usage influences and represents the readers' mind and attitude toward certain events; audience receive social meanings and stereotypes projected through language and communication from media usage. All these features should be combined with the language characteristic of news discourse.

CDA Research on News

Besides the socio-cognition approach, van Dijk (1995) thinks the analysis of news reports should come from two aspects, the summary part and the body part, since there are some differences between the two. In the analysis of news reports, it is useful to make clear not only the particular linguistic features, but also some hidden ideology and power influences. The authorities of this approach consider the existence of unequal

power relations in the economic and political contexts, which influence news production and consumption practices. They reveal the hidden unequal power relations in news discourse via this approach (Fowler, 1991; van Dijk, 1993; Fairclough, 1995).

Fairclough (1989, 1992, 1995) has also developed his own approach to media discourse. Drawing on Halliday's functional framework, Fairclough's (1995) approach is concerned with language, discourse, and power in society. He also draws on knowledge of social theory, especially the ideas of French philosopher and social theorist Michel Foucault. The view of this approach is that events and actions may be described with syntactic variations, which hide the ideologies. Fairclough's (1995) study aims to contribute to the struggles for social emancipation through increasing the critical awareness of newsreaders.

Above all, the CDA study of news is a recently developed domain in linguistics. The relationship between language and ideology is the core of critical studies. Media discourses, in particular, catch the attention of researchers. In addition, most critical research focuses on political, economic disaster, and technological news reports. News reports on foreign affairs are paid little attention, so this thesis will make an attempt in this area.

Critical Discourse Analysis

Studies of CDA

The publication of *Language and Control* by Roger Fowler in 1979 marked the beginning of CDA. Kress (1985) pointed out readers should be emphasized. Then Fowler (1986, 1987) refocused on critical linguistics and concentrates on the perfection of the theory and methodology of critical linguistics. He argued the most urgent task is to develop a complete analytical system, which should be easy for the analysts to learn (Fowler, 1987). Kress (1990) studies the application of CDA and develops the theory of

critical reading. During this period, the main principles, the general goals, and the methodology of CDA became more definite and concrete.

Besides, there were many influential linguists studying CDA at this stage. Foucault's (1975)'s theory of discourse and Halliday's (1973) Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) has had a great influence on scholars like Hodge (1988), Fowler (1991) and Fairclough (1995). Furthermore, Wodak (2001) is especially famous for his discourse-historical method. And van Dijk's (1995) socio-cognitive reveals how discourse structures and social structures are influenced by personal and social cognition. The scholars mentioned above all seek to reveal social inequalities that are generated and reflected in discourse so as to change the unequal condition in society.

Considered as the pioneer of CDA, Fowler (1991) has made great contributions to the development of CDA. In 1991, he and Bell wrote the first general textbook in English on media language. Fowler considers the tools for analysis as an eclectic selection of descriptive categories suited to the purpose: especially those structures identified by Halliday as ideational and interpersonal function (Coulthard & Coulthard, 1996). The group represented by Fowler has been strongly influenced by Halliday and his SFG.

Based on van Dijk (1998), CDA aims to offer a different perspective of analysis and application in this field. Traditional news analysis is constructive. It is through analyzing the news content and seeing the appropriateness of diction, or whether the structure of the text is reasonable etc., to present some practical suggestions for improvement and adjustment of ideas. As for van Dijk (1998), CDA makes a connection between the textual analysis of language and the social practice analysis. It stresses explaining the cause of discourse from the aspect of social structure and analyzes the hidden power behind language, to disclose the role of language in social change and the constraining of social

institution to discourse. It studies the relationship between language, text and social structure.

Interested in the complex interrelations of social and cultural matters and their representations in the form of signs, Kress (1985) is also regarded as one of the initiators of CDA. Kress and Hodge (1979) pointed out that CDA has had a political project from the very beginning. It aims to reveal unequal distributions of economic, political and cultural goods in modern societies. Through the analysis it can disclose inequalities and thereby it is of great help in achieving a more equal social condition. Moreover, Kress (1990) lists the criteria that characterize work in the critical discourse analysis paradigm, illustrating how these distinguish such work from other politically engaged discourse analysis. He argues meanings are produced through interaction between readers and receivers and the linguistic features take place because of social processes (Kress, 1990).

Fairclough (1992) is the representative of the Lancaster School in the field of CDA. His social-cultural analysis combines discourse analysis with social theory: it not only studies the change of language but also changes in society and culture. According to Fairclough (1995), CDA is interdisciplinary and problem-oriented, studies complex social and political phenomena, and explores the ideological implications and power relations through the analysis of language use. Fairclough (1995) states that CDA looks to establish connections between properties of texts, features of discourse practice (text production, consumption and distribution), and wider socio-cultural practice.

For Fairclough (1995), the purpose of CDA is to explore how the relationships of causality and determination that function between discursive practices, events and texts, and the relationships of causality and determination functions between wider social and cultural structures, relations and processes. The "critical" in CDA has two meanings: first,

it refers to the analysis of social inequality; second, this type of analysis is different from the traditional analysis as the latter does not give an analysis of social inequality. Besides, critical discourse analysis aims to investigate how events and texts are generated and ideologically shaped by relations of power. Also he says that the opacity of relationships between discourse and society can have the function of securing power and hegemony (Fairclough, 1995).

The most comprehensive framework of CDA is proposed by Fairclough (1989, 1992, 1995, 2003). In this approach to CDA, there are three analytical focuses, or three dimensions as Fairclough calls it, in analyzing a communicative event: text, discourse practice (the process of production, distribution, and consumption), and sociocultural practice (the situational, institutional, and societal process) (Fairclough, 1995). These three dimensions closely resemble van Dijk's (1995) three dimensions of ideology analysis mentioned above: discourse, sociocognition, and social analysis, but differ in the second dimension, which mediate the other two. To be specific, van Dijk believes that it is social cognition and mental models that mediate between discourse and the social while Fairclough maintains that that task is achieved by discourse practice (Fairclough, 1995).

Fairclough's (1992) theory mainly draws on Halliday's Functional Grammar and recent social theories in France. He insists that these social theories support CDA and analyzes various textual samples to illustrate his theories. Among the various types of texts, his preference is for media discourse, especially in news. His list of factors should be considered in analyzing news; those factors has also become the guideline of many critical discourse analysts (Fairclough, 1991). Moreover, he put forward a three-dimensional framework for CDA, which will be discussed later. From these definitions, we

can come to the conclusion that CDA is interdisciplinary and problem-oriented, studies complex social and political phenomena, and explores the ideological implications and power relations through the analysis of language use. As Simpson (1993) states, CDA aims to "explore the value systems and sets of beliefs which reside in texts, in other words, ideology in language" (p. 5).

Fairclough (2011) integrated argumentation theory and CDA to focus on practical reasoning of the argument in the corpus of 13 policy-making texts and the annually Pre-Budget report of Britain from 1997 to 2009. By analyzing the main argument of the 2008 Pre-Budget Report of British government. He advanced this analysis as a contribution to CDA. Reyes (2011) used analytical tools from SFL under an interdisciplinary framework of CDA to explain specific linguistic ways in which language represents an instrument of control and manifests symbolic power in discourse and society. Saghaye-Biria (2012) sought to study the "reproduction of racism" against Muslim Americans in the United States Congress using CDA based on the case of a congressional hearing held on March 10, 2011. Jane (2012) conducted a corpus-based CDA of deixis (a language phenomenon which reflects the relationship between language and context in the language system) in UK education policy discourse from 1972 onwards to reveal the hegemony of inclusion and how the flexible semantics of person deixis were exploited so as to claim consensus over politically contestable claims. We can conclude that CDA is developing very fast theoretically and practically, popular with many linguists overseas.

Key Terms of CDA

Discourse

In most studies of CDA, the notion of discourse is more frequently applied by researchers than language. Martin and Nakayama (2010) explain discourse refers to language in use, which means that all discourse is social. Besides, "the language used –

the words and the meanings that are communicated – depends not only on the context but also on the social relations that are part of that interaction” (p. 233).

Fairclough (1993) holds the opinion that “discourse” refers to the whole process of social interaction, the interaction between speaker and addressee or between writer and reader. Therefore, discourse reflects the social interaction between the information sender and receiver. The unique features of ideology determine that they cannot be read directly. Thus, the communication of ideology can only be achieved through a certain channel. As the crust of ideology, language is the most common means of communication and discourse production. Therefore, discourse, which takes the form of language, is ideological. van Dijk (2006) states that ideology and other social representations control discourses and other social practices of group members. Therefore, discourse is a language group in processing rather than a language product.

Ideology

As has been mentioned above, the Frankfurt School argued ideology belongs to the superstructure which is determined by material production of the society. Nevertheless, the ruling class manipulates the means of production. Accordingly, ideology will be shaped to meet its own interests. The distorted ideology is served as a national machine to impose "false consciousness" upon people, which helps the dominant class to disguise the inequality of reality and consolidate their ruling power (Devereux, 1998).

However, critical linguists provide a neutral interpretation of ideology in the research of CDA. Fowler (1991) defines it as “the sum of the ways in which people think, say and interact with the society” (p. 92). Fairclough (1992) defines “ideology” as “significations generated within power relations as a dimension of the exercise of power and struggle over power” (p. 67). Wodak (1996) gives a similar definition: “ideologies are

particular ways of representing and constructing of society which reproduce unequal relations of power, relations of domination and exploitation” (p.18). In short, critical discourse analysis regards ideology as a system of values representing a certain community or class, usually the ruling class.

For CDA, ideology is almost the essential concept in the study. van Dijk (1998) argues that ideologies are the knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs which are shared by the members of groups, organizations, or other social collectives of people. He (1995) also thinks that “besides their social function of sustaining the interests of groups, ideologies have the cognitive function of organizing the social representations (attitudes, knowledge) of the group, and thus indirectly monitor the group-related social practice; and hence also the text and talk of its members” (p.256).

In spite of different definitions concerning ideology, critical linguists take the same ground that ideology is deeply rooted in society and directly engaged in social process. Thus, ideology is the collection of judgments and opinions by a group of society and serves the purpose justifying and interpreting a certain event that happens in a particular social and cultural context. It is indispensable in any kind of discourse analysis of our daily life and is really worth further exploration by linguistic researchers.

Power

As an essential concept in CDA, Fowler (1985) defines power as "the ability of people and institutions to control the behaviors and material lives of others" (p.61). In the area of linguistics, especially in CDA, power means a kind of control, which refers to the action of manipulating others' thinking with the use of language (Fowler, 1985). According to van Dijk (1998), a social group is said to have power if it has the privileges to acquire rare social resources, such as wealth, fame, knowledge, information and military force,

etc. and the abilities to manipulate the thoughts and actions of other social groups. For van Dijk (1998), power contains special characteristics and can be divided into several kinds of type, and each type has different levels of influence in overmastering others. For example, rich people can use money to make others work for them; the cruel man can practice crime on others to reach his aim. What is more, there is hardly any absolute power. People in power may not always have unconditional force. For instance, a rich man cannot ask everyone to work for him because someone does not need the money, or a cruel man meets a person who is not afraid of his violence. Therefore, power does not always belong to a certain group of people.

At the same time, it is helpful for them to control the dominant discourse power in various forms of public discourse. For different social groups, speakers have their own language choice to show their identities. The diction of language variety depends on many factors, such as the social context, social distance between speakers, status of speakers, the topic, the formality of the setting and so on. Language is engaged in social power in a number of ways: language embodies power, expresses power, and it is involved where there is contention over power (van Dijk, 1998). As a conclusion, power relations determine the structure and language choice of the whole text. CDA analysts are interested in the means by how linguistic forms are used in various expressions and manipulations of power.

Generally speaking, the three terms are interrelated and indispensable in CDA. The study of CDA enables linguists to explore how powerful groups make use of language to maintain power and to investigate power relations and social inequality embodied in discourse. Halliday (1973) says "Language plays a central part, both as determiner and has determined: Language is controlled by the social structure, and the

social structure is maintained and transmitted through language" (p.90). That is the reason why CDA research starts from an investigation of the linguistic features of the target discourse for the purpose of disclosing the true hidden ideologies and powers inside the language. In addition, ideology is closely related with power. Based on the former research, Fairclough (2003) has given a detailed illumination of ideology and power, "ideologies are representations of aspects of the world which can be shown to contribute to establishing, maintaining and changing social relations of power, domination and exploitation" (p.117). In his mind, founded on the employment of ideologies, power can be constructed, preserved as well as altered. Thereby, power is built upon ideology, and ideology is the carrier of power.

Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar and the Three Stages of Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model

Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) developed by Halliday (1970) is found to be a suitable instrument to conduct CDA. Halliday's SFG is the main source and underpinning of the theory. In addition, it provides CDA with clear linguistic categories for analyzing the relationships between discourse and social meaning. There is a close relation between CDA and SFG. As early as 1970, Halliday (1970) had stressed the relationship between the grammatical system and the social and personal needs that language is required to serve. Following Halliday, CDA practitioners view language in use as simultaneously performing "three metafunctions which are closely interconnected: first, the ideational function through which language lends structure to experience (the ideational structure has a dialectical relationship with social structure, both reflecting and influencing it); secondly, the interpersonal function which constitutes relationships between the participants; and thirdly, the textual function which constitutes coherence and cohesion in

texts” (Wodak, 2001). Besides, subcategories such as transitivity, lexical classification, transformation, modality, presupposition, etc., have been employed in CDA.

According to the review of the previous studies of critical discourse analysis as well as news discourse, Fairclough's three-dimensional model is affected by SFG and suitable for the analysis of news reports, especially the political news with strong ideology influences. Thus, this paper will mainly employ this model as theoretical framework together with Halliday's systemic-functional grammar as the supplementary instrument.

A Brief Introduction of Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model

According to Fairclough (1989), language is a kind of social practice. "Discourse refers to the whole process of social interaction of which a text is just a part" (p. 24). Fairclough (1989) insists that critical analysts should not only focus on the texts, the process of text production and interpretation of the texts, but also look into the interrelationship among texts, production processes, and their social context.

Based on such assumptions, Fairclough (1989; 1992; 2003) developed his three-dimensional framework. In his view, every communicative event comprises three dimensions: it is a text (speech, writing, visual images or a combination of these); it is a discursive practice which involves the production and consumption of texts; and it is a social practice. Corresponding to the three levels of discourse, Fairclough developed three stages of CDA: description, interpretation and explanation. For him, discourse is a kind of social practice, which is the embodiment of social structure. Discourse is a unity of "context, interaction and text". Among them, text lies in the bottom, which is the result of interaction. Both the process of production and process of interpretation rely on context (Fairclough, 1992).

Text, interaction and context are the primary three dimensions. The reason why Fairclough (1992) uses "sociocultural practice" and "discourse practice" to replace "context" and "interaction" is that he regards "a mode of action" as discourse. In this way, the viewpoint that discourse is a kind of social practice is stressed. The three dimensional model can be briefly illustrated by the following figure.

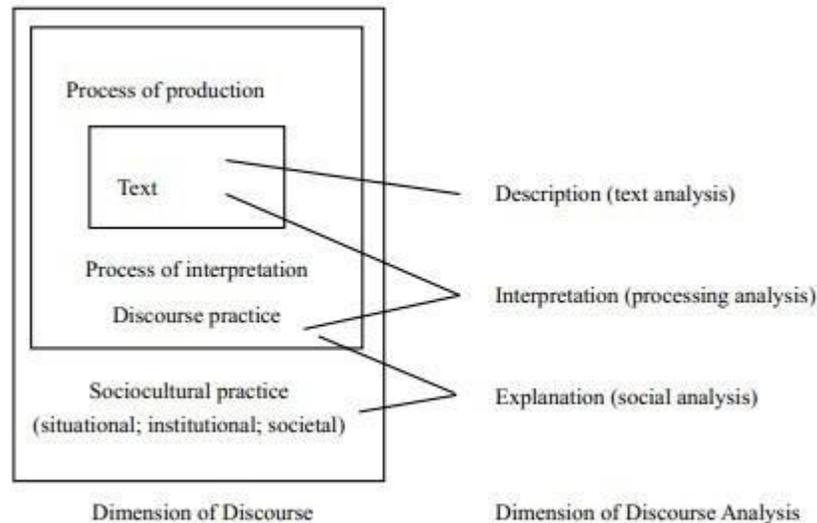


Figure 2-1. The Three-Dimensional view of discourse [adapted from Fairclough, Norman. 1992. *Discourse and Social Change* (Page 93, Figure 5-2). Cambridge: Polity Press]

Description

As it has been mentioned above, description, interpretation and explanation are the three steps of discourse analysis. According to Figure 2-1, in the description stage, linguistic features such as choices in vocabulary (wording), grammar (transitivity, passivization) and text structure (thematic choice, turn-taking system) should be systematically analyzed. This is the first step, in which text is the object.

For Fairclough (1989), "description is the stage which is concerned with formal properties of text" (p. 26). In other words, linguistic features of the text are to be explored in the descriptive stage. For the purpose that it can understand more clearly, he also posts ten key questions together with more other sub-questions, which are mainly

involved with vocabulary section, grammar section, and textual structures section (Fairclough, 1989). The section of vocabulary mainly deals with the choice of different words; grammar is about the grammatical features, which has a close relation with Halliday's systemic-functional grammar whereas the textual structures part concerns the whole structures of the discourse.

Due to the deep influence that Halliday's SFG has exerted on Fairclough's three-dimensional model, the metafunctions can serve as an analytic tool for critical discourse analysis, especially the first part of the three-dimensional model, linguistic practice. Just as Fowler (1979) once mentioned, "During the process of critical discourse analysis, it is of great importance for researchers to explore and discover the hidden ideologies from transitivity, modality, transformation, classification, etc" (p. 198). As for this, some specific component elements of Halliday's three metafunctions can be utilized for critical discourse analysis, which are transitivity, classification and modality.

Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) proposed by Halliday (1970), is a sociologically oriented functional linguistic approach. It holds a view that language is functional in that it is used by people to achieve social goals. Halliday (1970) explains the nature of language in terms of social structure: "why is language as it is? The nature of language is closely related to the demands that we make on it; the functions are specific to culture... the particular form taken by the grammatical system of language is closely related to the social and personal needs that language is required to serve" (p.142). In Halliday's (1970) opinion, language is a system network consisting of a number of sub-systems from which people take choice to express their meanings.

Halliday (1970) conceptualizes transitivity as the procedure of how the idea is transferred through the words to express the meaning and how people encode their

thought towards the reality as well as how they understand and explain the experience of the world. It is an indispensable part in the ideational function and it realizes the ideational function through processes. Generally speaking, there are six kinds of processes: material process, verbal process, relational process, behavioral process, mental process and existential process. The differences of the processes lie in that they contain different ideological meanings. The process of the sentence can be changed once the participants or the situations are altered. In general, it is the ideology that decides the process or the transitivity.

In the functional grammar, classification is about the description or definition of certain events or characters (Halliday, 1994). This kind of action mainly relies on the choice or the selection of vocabulary by the speaker or writer. Since any language in the world is not completely objective, the classification of the vocabulary is more or less accompanied with personal experiences and opinions. In other words, instead of a direct reflection of a thing's basic qualities, the classification of the discourse is more influenced by a person's cognitive level and ideological idea. When a person chooses one word from the others in the same context, it shows his own viewpoint towards it. In this way, it is helpful for us to take classification into consideration during the discourse analysis.

Based on the viewpoint of functional grammar, modality means the attitude, idea, or opinion of the speaker or the writer expressed through the use of language towards a certain phenomenon or event. That is, it includes the negative or positive viewpoints of the speaker or the writer. There are indeed three types of the expressions of modality: First, the modal auxiliary verbs, like "should", "may", "might", etc. Second, the modal adjectives, like "possible", "affirmative", "likely", etc. Third, the modal adverbs, like "probably", "perhaps", "undoubtedly", etc. As for the analysis of discourse, the exploration

of modality is to investigate the writer's comments and standpoints through the entire language employed (Halliday, 1994).

Theme, according to the functional grammar, is a starting point of the clause, and theme is the substance and content about the theme. To quote Halliday's (1994) words, "The theme is the element which serves as the point of departure of the message; it is that with which the clause is concerned" (p.37). Thus, the theme is very essential in the clause because all other parts are revolving around it. In the clauses of English, the thematic structure is the foundation of organizing the propositional content given by the speaker or the writer. The choice of different themes involves different ideological ideas and opinions of the message provider.

Interpretation

Fairclough (1989) says "interpretation is concerned with the relationship between text and interaction with seeing the text as the product of a process of production, and as recourse in the process of interpretation" (p.26). In the interpretation stage, the relationship between the discourse and its production and its consumption should be interpreted. Besides, discourse is not only regarded as text but also a discursive practice in this stage, which means apart from analyzing linguistic features and text structure, attention should be drawn to other factors such as speech act and intertextuality. These factors link the text to its context.

This dimension (text as discursive practice) includes two processes. One is institutional process (editorial procedure), and the other is discourse process (the alteration that the text goes through in production and consumption). Here, the key concept "intertextuality" is highly conducive to explain the discourse process. In other words, this step deals with the exploration of inter-textual relations among discourse, texts

and setting. That is, the discourse should not only be considered as the linguistic version, but also a kind of discursive practice. Those factors which relate to how people produce and interpret the news discourse should be taken into consideration, thereby, the news source and reporting modes should be worthy of exploration in the interpretive stage of news reports (Fairclough, 1995).

De Beer (2009) conceptualizes that news source is the information provider who offers materials for a certain event to the reporters. Moreover, as the news reporters cannot witness or experience the whole event to acquire the first-hand material they need during the editorial process, they have to depend on the provider's voice or information (p.156). Therefore, the application of other people's message is one of the indispensable ways for the journalists in the news discourse production and is interrelated with discursive practice.

Fairclough (1995) notes reporting modes indicate the quotation of the words or statements by the reporters from others in the news discourse. More often than not, the news discourse mainly includes two parts, the thing or event about the news and the talk or words said by people. In fact, reporting modes are exactly connected with the talk mentioned by the person involved in the news event. This is also an essential component in the news reports (de Beer, 2009).

Explanation

According to Fairclough (1989), "explanation is concerned with the relationship between interaction and social context with the social determination of the process of production and interpretation, and their social effects" (p. 26). On the other hand, the analysis in explanative part is in reference to the historical, social, and cultural contexts.

Since news discourse can be considered as a kind of social practice, sociality and institution in fact, exert huge influence on news reports. In discourse analysis, especially news reports, the undiscovered information of power, ideology and language will be investigated and explained in this part by two contexts, institutional context and societal context (Fairclough, 1995). The explanation stage corresponds to the dimension "discourse as social practice," more precisely "socialcultural practice." In this stage, factors like ideology or power are taken into account so as to fully explain the interaction between social-cultural context and the production and consumption of texts.

As a matter of fact, the three steps are closely related with each other none of them are indispensable. With the three successive steps united together, the hidden knowledge of linguistic, inter-textual and social factors can be explicated in the analysis of the news discourse. This paper adopts a contrastive analysis of the news coverage of the third US-China S&ED. Based on Fairclough's three-dimensional model together with Halliday's SFG as analytic tool, a detailed and specific exploration of the news discourse will be conducted so as to find the hidden ideologies from different perspectives.

Based on the Halliday's SFG for CDA and Fairclough's model, integrating the qualitative method, the thesis aimed at answering the following three questions:

RQ1: What are the differences in discourses of reports on the third US-China S&ED?

RQ2: How are the different ideologies expressed through their linguistic features and structures in the sample reports?

RQ3: What are the explanations behind those differences in discourses of the news coverage on the dialogue?

CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY

Data collection

To compare the news reports of the third US-China S&ED by Chinese and American mass media, this study focused on four days of reports (May 8-11, 2011) in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *China Daily*. All three newspapers are authoritative as well as influential in America and China.

As one of the most influential newspapers of world, the *New York Times* is also the typical model of the western and essential medium representative. The *Wall Street Journal* is one of the most influential financial dailies in the world, with emphasis on financial and commercial fields. As a prestigious newspaper which has the greatest international influence in China, *China Daily* is considered as a mouthpiece of the Communist Party or the country (Yong & Campbell, 1995).

There is no doubt that English has already become one of the most influential languages all over the world under the background of globalization (Martin & Nakayama, 2010). News reports, especially designed for the purpose of communication and information transfer are always in an English version. Therefore, data in this paper are all published in the English language.

The articles examined in this study were published between May 8 and 11, 2011, the official time span for the third US-China S&ED. The four days of data includes two days of the overall meeting, the day before and the day following. As the dialogue ended on May 10, many media would report the achievements of the dialogue on May 11. The term "third US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue" was used as search words. Reports on the overall progress of the dialogue, mainly on preparation, outcomes and assessments of the dialogue were collected.

As a result, 35 news reports in *Wall Street Journal* (www.wsj.com), five from the *New York Times* (www.nytimes.com) and 74 from *China Daily* (www.chinadaily.com.) meet the mentioned requirements above. However, with further investigation, some articles were not focusing on the third US-China S&ED. Reports of US/China economy, public relations, strategy etc. were included in the selected articles. Therefore, three news reports from the *Wall Street Journal*, two from the *New York Times* and five stories from *China Daily* are used as the final sample of the qualitative research. Then the 10 sample texts selected are classified into two groups: the reports from American media are labeled as Group US and those from China as Group China. The headlines and Internet URLs are shown in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2. In the analysis, American articles are referred as US 1...US 5 and the Chinese news as China 1...China 5.

Analysis methods

The qualitative analysis was adopted to explain how the event is reported in different newspapers and how ideologies function in the representation of news reports. The analysis is illustrated with the specific and representative examples extracted from the news samples.

The present research is conducted within Fairclough's three-dimensional framework to analyze the news samples at three stages: description, interpretation and explanation. At the first two stages, the linguistic choices of the texts will be examined by using the analytical devices of Halliday's systemic-functional grammar. At the third stage, the linguistic choices will be explained in the light of wider social context in which the texts are produced. In order to make the research more reliable and systematic, the qualitative analyses are adopted in the research.

Table 3-1. Data source of group US in thesis

Article	Source
US 1	U.S. and China Begin High-Level Dialogue http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704681904576313140914923256.html
US 2	U.S.-China Talks Make Progress on Market Access http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704681904576315350414574300.html
US 3	Beijing Blames Foreigners for Its Fears of Unrest http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/09/world/asia/09china.html?_r=0
US 4	More Hopes Than Gains At U.S.-China Meetings http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/11/world/asia/11china.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=China-US%20dilogue&st=cse
US 5	U.S. Will Press China to Hasten Yuan's Rise http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:t0zCmwKHYpgJ:online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704681904576311093851810736.html+&cd=2&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us

Table 3-2. Data source of group China in thesis

Article	Source
China 1	Shared interests highlighted http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011sinousdialogue/2011-05/10/content_12475785.htm
China 2	Biggest energy players to continue cooperation http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011sinousdialogue/2011-05/11/content_12485186.htm
China 3	Central bank pegs yuan rate at new record high http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011sinousdialogue/2011-05/10/content_12475819.htm
China 4	China, US seek common ground http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011sinousdialogue/2011-05/10/content_12484368.htm
China 5	Shared interests outweigh differences http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011sinousdialogue/2011-05/10/content_12475579.htm

CHAPTER 4 CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF NEWS REPORTS

The following part is the comparative and detailed analysis of the 10 news reports from Chinese and American media. The analysis intends to reveal the hidden ideologies and power relations in the articles from three stages: description, interpretation, and explanation. At the first two stages, the linguistic choices of the texts will be examined by using the analytical devices of Halliday's systemic functional grammar. At the third stage, the linguistic choices will be explained in the light of wider social context in which the texts are produced.

Description

Material Process

According to Halliday (1985), material process is a process of “doing,” which is expressed by an action verb (e. g. beat, break, kick), an actor (logical Subject), and the goal of the action (logical direct subject, usually a noun or a pronoun). The different choice of actor relating to the same event or sentence is ideologically significant. Because the news reports are very long, it is impossible to analyze all the samples.

Table 4-1 and Table 4-2 list the actors and process in US 1 (American article one) and China1 (Chinese article one). There are 4 categories of actors found on the two tables: U.S., China, the U.S and China, and the dialogue. Then we can find the great difference between the two tables. In Table 4-1, nearly two thirds of the actors in the news report from American media are U.S. related. However, in Table 4-2, only one third of the actors in the text from China Daily is about China. There is also a great difference in the news coverage of dialogue content in the two samples. Examples are listed in Table 4-3.

First of all, the leads of US 1 and China 1 are totally different. In the lead of US 1, the Actor is “The U.S. and China,” the process is “squared off,” which assumes the

attitude of a person about to fight. The goal is “Beijing's human-rights record.” According to this sentence, the main focus of this story is about China’s human rights issues. There are also direct and indirect quotes from Mrs. Clinton and Vice President Joe Biden that focus on human rights problem of China in sentence 2 and 3. However, compared with the article from the Wall Street Journal, China 1 more concentrates more on the main purpose and significance of the dialogue. For instance, China1 uses the speech of China’s Vice-Premier Wang as the lead, which shows China’s willing and hope to cooperate with U.S. The phrase “human rights” has been mentioned 9 times in US 1 whereas the news sample from China Daily only notes the topic twice without detailed information. Moreover, It can be seen from process (verb) “urge” and “press” in sentences 4 of US 1 and China1 that U.S. has a very strong and dominant attitude on the acceleration of China’s currency.

From the analysis of the material processes in US 1 and China 1, we can conclude that American news reports paid more attention to the conflict and had a harsh attitude toward China’s human rights issue and Chinese currency while China Daily mainly expressed the will of the two countries to help each other and develop together. Thus, different focuses of the news reflect the reporters’ views and different countries’ ideology. China is active and positive about the talk with reporting on the harmonious process. On the other hand, the U.S. is portrayed with a hegemonic and aggressive image by the material clauses with the U.S. as actors.

The Application of Modality Words

The investigation of modality is significant to CDA because it is a tool that expresses the attitude and comment of the speaker or writer. Words such as will, can, could, may, and should are frequently used by news reporters to express their approval

of others' speech and present their view point. In this section, we mainly focus on the modal auxiliary verbs used in American and Chinese articles. According to Halliday (1994), speakers or writers express a higher or lower degree of certainty about the validity of a statement and make a big push on carrying out certain commands. Modality usage contains the speaker and reporters viewpoints. Lyons (1991) defines as the expression of the attitude of the speaker, or the expression of subjectivity and the speaker's opinions and emotions. Modality is the way of introducing additional voice into the texts. Table 4-4 and 4-5 show the distribution of modal auxiliary verbs used in 10 news samples from American and Chinese newspapers respectively.

We can see the utilization of modal auxiliaries from the figures in Table 4-4 and Table 4-5. The top four are "will", "can", "could", "should" both in group US and group China. The Table 4-6 shows the percentage of the four auxiliary verbs. From the two tables it can be concluded that both Chinese and American news media make good use of the modality words to express their attitude toward the dialogue and to make prediction for the outcome of the conferences. The word "will" can provide information about what will happen in the future, in which the addresser puts himself as the guarantor, as it were, of the truth or the occurrence of the event he refers to (Lyons, 1977:310). What's more, "will" can express the speakers' assurances about accuracy of the propositions. "Can" is the typical modality word of possibility/ability/ permission. It indicates what the writer's supposing-something is possible to happen or someone's capability of doing something. The word "should" can take on the meaning of moral obligation or duty of something (Coates, 1983). However, according to the detailed of these modality words in the contexts of sentences from group US and group China, there is a big difference between American and Chinese media's attitude toward the

dialogue.

According to Table 4-6 and Table 4-7, the sample sentences with modality verb from group China show the *China Daily* mainly used the word “will” to forecast the future situations and achievement of the dialogue. Chinese officials believe both U.S. and China is going to benefit from the talk and hold positive attitudes towards the meeting. They also show a strong will to cooperate with U.S and indicate the two countries have more shared interests than differences. However, news samples from American media mostly used the modality verb “will” to describe the process of meeting, such as the content and topic to be covered in the conference. It also indicates the U.S. side held an uncertain attitude about the outcome of the talk. The word “can” in sentence 9 from group U.S. shows that the U.S. believes China can do nothing but raise the currency of the yuan. America also holds a negative attitude on China’s possibility and ability to confront the currency issue. On the other hand, the example 9 from group China shows China didn’t want to make yuan’s value rise fast. Chinese experts think the appreciation of yuan will cause job losses and is not helpful to China’s inflation problem. U.S. and China have different opinions about the rise of yuan currency because they have conflict in economic benefits.

As a conclusion, modal auxiliaries in the news reports of *China Daily* on the dialogue mainly express the meaning of volition and prediction especially by will and would and indicating the permission, possibility and ability potential by can, could, may and might. Representatives from China show a positive attitude toward the fruit of the meeting whereas U.S. pays more attention to the process of the talk.

Interpretation

As has been discussed in Chapter 3, in the interpretative stage, the discourses will not only be treated as the texts themselves but also as discursive practice, namely, text production and consumption. Accordingly, attention should be drawn to another factor – intertextuality. According to Fairclough (1995), intertextuality refers to the process of constructing a text with other texts. In other words, news reporting, to a large extent, is making a descriptive record of what other people say and how they say. The rearrangement is not randomly operated. News discourses quote numerous words from others with a purpose to generate a sense of reality and make the report seem to be objective. In fact there is no absolutely objective and fair report. The statements quoted are selected by writers in terms of news sources and reporting modes. Naturally, the selection made by writers is ideology-loaded.

Intertextuality is concerned with two issues, reporting mode and news source. News source is one who provides the information to the news reporter. Because the reporter cannot always witness what happened on the spot by themselves, they have to resort to other people's description of the event. However, news reports do not generally quote statements randomly. They are mainly based on what an authoritative source tells a reporter. The values of news reports are influenced by the quality of sources.

Reporting modes

Fairclough (1995) distinguishes reporting modes into three categories: direct discourse (DD), indirect discourse (ID), and direct discourse slipping DD(S). The direct discourse means it is absolutely faithful to the original statement, while the indirect discourse indicates that it is only faithful to the original content but not the expression form. Leech and Short suggest that "the use of ID involves a commitment to give the full ideational meaning of the secondary discourse" and "DD carries a commitment to give

also the exact form of the words used" (as cited in Fairclough, 1995, p. 56). In addition to the two main reporting modes, there is another type of reporting mode, DD(S) which is abbreviated form for sub-type of direct discourse) is a category for case of slipping between the direct and the indirect mode (Fairclough, 1995). Fairclough (1995) indicates the choice of reporting modes and sources is the subtlest way to embed the writer's ideology into news discourse. In Chinese and American news samples, the three modes- DD, ID and DD(S) are employed. Table. 4-8 is the distribution of reporting modes of in the samples from group US and group China.

According to Table 4-8, direct discourse (DD) and indirect discourse (ID) are the two main reporting modes applied in both groups. As mentioned above, DD is believed to be faithful to not only the original content but also the form of the reported statement. By deploying the mode of DD, writers can distance themselves to the reported discourse so as to achieve a sense of objectivity, which can also help writers to evade commitment to the information. Although the figures in Table 4-8 shows DD takes a predominant position in both groups (42% and 42.4% respectively), the reported statements in the two groups have different focuses after a detailed analysis. Table 4-9 and Table 4-10 list the example sentences of DD and ID from group US and China.

With a close look of sample sentences from group China, we can see that most of DD and ID are the expressions of personal emotion, judgments or attitudes rather than stating facts. It also shows China Daily mainly focuses on the dialogue whereas U.S. media pay more attention to some various topics such as human rights (sentence 10 and 11 from group US), economy of China (sentence 12 and 13), and foreign investment of China (sentence 14).

As a conclusion, the reporting mode is a strategy used by the journalists and news reporters to break through the constraints of personal attitude, opinion and the report perspective. Therefore, news texts are full of the quotations of other people's utterances and comments. The quotations do not come up randomly and are selected based on the reporters' attitudes towards the event. The attitudes are the reflection of the ideologies. On the contrary, news reports often quote other people's words to present different social institutions' value and ideology. At the same time it can reproduce these words in some forms and then make discourse representation to the public with the reporters' stance and attitude.

News source

News sources refer to the addressors or expressers whose speeches, ideas, and viewpoints are quoted in the news reports (Fairlough, 1995). It is up to the reporter, and ultimately the newspaper he or she works for, to decide whose voice is to be heard on what issue and such decisions are usually highly significant. Both group US and group China quote political leaders and experts' statements. Chinese and US reporters both skillfully abide by the rule of being "objectivity" by using abundant specific sources. For example, in US 5, the writer cites Cui Tiankai (vice minister of foreign affairs); Clinton (the secretary of state); Clinton; Cui Tiankai; Geithner (US Treasury Secretary) and John Frisbie (president of the US-China Business Council). In China 5, the following sources are employed: the White House; A senior US official; A senior US official; the Washington Post; Fan Jishe (an expert on US studies at CASS); Wang Qishan; Dai Bingguo (State Councilor). It is easily understood that there are voices from both sides in AN5 and CN5 because it is a Dialogue between the two countries. In US 5, the writer tries to show that his report is objective by employing 6 specified sources. However, we can find most of the

speeches are from voices of American officials. Only one China's news source, which is Cui Tiankai is mentioned in this report. Compared with US 5, there are four speeches quoted from the American side and three from the Chinese side. As a conclusion, US 5 mainly express the opinion and thought from U.S. side and focus on America's own attitude toward this event. It can be seen that news reporters choose specific news sources to ensure the objectivity of the reports. However, the reporters' ideologies and attitudes can be revealed through a detailed analysis.

Explanation

According to Fairclough (1995), news discourse can be considered as a kind of social practice. Sociality and institution in fact, exert a huge influence on news reports. In discourse analysis, especially news reports, the undiscovered information of power, ideology and language will be investigated and explained in this part by institutional context and societal context (Fairclough, 1995).

Institutional context

News media, a special kind of social organization, has a close relationship with the government and politics (Thussu, 2006). China and the US are often taken together for their power equality by the international media. What's more, the representative newspaper from China and U.S. would try to build a good national image in front of the audiences and indoctrinate the ideology and attitude to them. More often than not, it is the national ideology that directs the press to provide a certain kind of news, which serves for the politics in shaping the majority of people's mind (de Beer, 2009). From this point of view, the institutional context such as characteristics of organizations is meaningful to explore because it often reflects the hidden background information for news media during the editorial process.

Herman and Chomsky (1988) offer that they call a ‘propaganda model’ of the mass media, the view that the media “serve to mobilize support for the special interests that dominate the state and private activity” (p. xi). According to them, American press depends on advertising for its profits; it is dependent on government officials for its sources; it is intimidated by right-wing pressure groups; it is imbued with anti-communist ideology. Therefore, the direction of choice-making of a news agency is led by the government in ideological sense.

On the other hand, China is one of the bottom-ten countries in press freedom according to the Freedom of the Press 2012 report (Freedom House). In China, the government has a strong control over the national media, especially the most authoritative media such as China Daily, People’s Daily, and Xinhua News Agency. They are not only mass media of communication but also act as the mouthpiece of the Communist Party and the government. As the mouthpiece, they mainly express the latest tendencies on behalf of the government and lead public opinion at home. As the authoritative news media of the China and USA, the news reports from China Daily, the New York Times, and the Wall Street Journal represent the two countries’ power and attitudes toward the international issue. The news texts contain the undying ideologies of the serving grouping of the nation simultaneously. For example, on the lexical choices level, the news reports of China Daily use more gentle words and more moderate tones compared with those from U.S. Furthermore, the coverage in China Daily focuses on the dialogue and expresses a positive view to the results whereas the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal pay more attention to U.S. and the conflicts between the two countries such as human rights and the raise of yuan currency.

Societal context

Apart from institutional context, societal context also plays a vital role in understanding the profound level of news reports (Fowler, 1991). Generally speaking, media are influenced by the societal context of the event and the country, such as historical, economic and political factors (Hall, 1980). According to Fowler (1991), "the media do not simply and transparently report what are newsworthy in themselves. News is the end product of a complex process which begins with a systematic sorting and selecting of events and topics according to a socially constructed set of categories" (p. 12). The disparity between the nature of Chinese and American media lies in their different economical, and political contexts. The relationship between China and America is very complex. They are not only strategic partners due to common benefits but also competitors due to conflicts of interests. China takes the U.S.-China S&ED as a good platform for China to express the will to cooperate with America and also the changes of China as the biggest developing country. However, America mainly focuses on the differences and conflict between the two countries. For instance, news samples from group A criticize Chinese government's control over the appreciation of currency, which shows the economic conflict of China and the U.S.

Major Findings

Based on Fairclough's three-dimensional modes of CDA and Halliday's Functional Grammar as analytical tools, the present study conducted a critical analysis of ten news reports on the same issue from two sides, namely, Chinese newspapers including *China Daily* and US newspapers including the *Wall Street Journal* and the *New York Times*. The major findings can be summarized as follows.

As far as the ten news stories are concerned, although both the U.S. reports and Chinese reports center around the same topic, noticeable differences lie in their linguistic

features such as material process, modality and intertextuality. Putting the texts and discursive practice in the institution and social context, the results illustrate how news discourses are shaped by the reporters' ideology and how ideology is skillfully concealed in the discourses. It is found that these linguistic choices are not randomly made by reporters but are deliberately orchestrated under the influence of ideology.

The comparative analysis reveals that although newspapers try to be objective and impartial, the seemingly neutral representations concealed the naturalized ideology. The distinctions in linguistic features between Chinese and American newspapers are rooted in their ideological orientation determined by its institutional context, and the mainstream social ideology. Due to the conscious or sub-conscious ideological control, news media can hardly keep their independence. The study also reveals that news discourses are socially constructed and are products of values and ideologies, which are in turn maintained and reinforced by language and discourses. The seemingly factual news reports are in fact not a transparent representation of the world but constructed realities.

Table 4-1. Material process of US 1

	Actor	Process
U.S.	U.S. administrations	have sought
	U.S. officials	have created
	U.S. officials	said
	Secretary of State Hillary Clinton	said
	Mrs. Clinton and Vice President Joe Biden	made clear
	U.S. officials	urged
	Mr. Geithner	said
	He (Mr. Geithner)	said
	Mrs. Clinton and Mr. Biden	make clear
	Mrs. Clinton	said
The Dialogue	Mr. Biden	told
	We (U.S.)	have
The U.S. and China	The talks	mark
	The closely watched talks	opened on
	The U.S. and China	squared off
China	Chinese officials	disputed
	State Counselor Dai Bingguo	followed
	He (Dai Bingguo)	said
	Vice Premier Wang	said
	China	has intensified

Table 4-2. Material process of China 1

	Actor	Process
The U.S. and China	China and the United States	have
	Leaders from both sides	sounded
	Both sides	brought
	the two sides	will break into
China	The US and Chinese leaders	were also scheduled to meet
	Both sides	hope to build
	The Chinese team	is led by
	Dai (China's top foreign-policy official, State Counselor)	made
	China,	wants
	Sun Zhe (director of the Center for US-China Relations at Tsinghua University)	said
U.S.	China's concerns	include
	US Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton	led
	Geithner	said
	Clinton	said
	US Vice-President Joe Biden	said
	Both Biden and Clinton	acknowledged
The dialogue	He (US Vice-President Joe Biden)	welcomed
	Geithner	said
	annual talks	aim to
	The talks	wrap up

Table 4-3. Sample sentence from US 1 and China 1

US 1	China 1
<p>1. Lead- The U.S. and China squared off over Beijing's human-rights record during Monday's launch of wide-ranging talks among officials overseeing the two countries' trade, foreign policy and defense policies.</p>	<p>1. Lead- China and the United States have far more shared interests than differences, and nothing can hold back the momentum of cooperation, Vice-Premier Wang Qishan said on Monday.</p>
<p>2. Mrs. Clinton and Mr. Biden both made clear the U.S. won't back down on the human-rights issue, even as Washington tries to improve ties with Beijing.</p>	<p>2. Clinton said the annual talks aim to build a stronger relationship, "to weather through disagreements when they arise, and narrow areas where our interests diverge...We need to better understand each other, build trust to work to avoid misunderstanding and miscalculation."</p>
<p>3. "We have a vigorous disagreement on human rights," Mr. Biden told the delegates.</p>	<p>3. Both Biden and Clinton acknowledged that the two countries have differences over human rights.</p>
<p>4. U.S. officials urged China to allow its currency to appreciate more quickly.</p>	<p>4. While Geithner said last week that the US would press China to accelerate efforts to revalue the yuan, he had sounded a conciliatory tone prior to the talks</p>

Table 4-4. The distribution of modal auxiliary verbs used in group US

Semantic classes	Modal auxiliaries	Occurrences	Total
Permission/ Possibility/ ability	can	5	9
	could	2	
	may	1	
	might	1	
Obligation/ necessity	must	1	3
	should	2	
Volition/ prediction	will	13	14
	would	1	
Total			26

Table 4-5. The distribution of modal auxiliary verbs used in group China

Semantic classes	Modal auxiliaries	Occurrences	Total
Permission/ Possibility/ ability	can	5	12
	could	4	
	may	3	
	might	0	
Obligation/ necessity	Must	1	6
	should	5	
Volition/ prediction	will	23	25
	would	2	
Total			43

Table 4-6. The percentage of the top four auxiliary verbs in group US and group China

	will	can	could	should
US	34.6%	19.2%	7.6%	7.6%
China	53.5%	11.6%	9.3%	11.6%

Table 4-7. Sample sentences with modality verb from group US and group China.

US	China
<p>5. U.S. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner and China's Vice Premier Wang Qishan, meeting here this week, will discuss the yuan, trade, and other economic issues.</p>	<p>5. Dai made an evocative speech highlighting that cooperation between the two countries will benefit future generations.</p>
<p>6. Mr. Geithner said U.S. officials also will focus on opening Chinese markets to U.S. firms, including financial firms, and encouraging China to boost domestic demand for goods and services.</p>	<p>5. Geithner said that sound China-US relations will benefit not only the two countries, but also the world economy.</p>
<p>7. Other U.S. and Chinese officials will address sensitive strategic concerns such as human rights, North Korea's nuclear aspirations and Iran sanctions.</p>	<p>7. As concerns over energy security grow across the globe, the world's two largest producers and consumers of power will continue to cooperate on climate change initiatives and clean energy development, senior officials from China and the United States said on Monday.</p>
<p>8. During a meeting known as the Strategic and Economic Dialogue, they will smile across conference tables and talk about cooperating on a range of issues: trade, currency, North Korea.</p>	<p>8. China and the US have far more shared interests than differences, and nothing can hold back the momentum of cooperation, Chinese Vice-Premier Wang Qishan said at the S&ED.</p>
<p>9. Allowing the yuan to rise faster also would allow the Chinese government to sell fewer yuan and buy fewer dollars...The Chinese increasingly see the reserves as a burden because there is little that can be done with them other than invest them in very low-yielding U.S. Treasury bonds.</p>	<p>9. But Chinese experts said the export sector will suffer if the yuan's value rises fast and the country will suffer from lost jobs while the appreciation may not solve China's inflation problem.</p>

Table 4-8. Distribution of reporting modes of in the samples from Group US and China.

Modes	Group US (News York Times; Wall Street Journal)		Group China (China Daily)	
	Number	Percentage	Number	percentage
DD	21	42%	25	42.4%
ID	20	40%	22	37.3%
DD(S)	9	18%	12	20.3%
Total	50	100%	59	100%

Table 4-9. Sample sentences of DD from group US and group China.

US	China
10. Mrs. Clinton said: "We know over the long arc of history that societies that work toward respecting human rights are going to be more prosperous, stable and successful."	10. "With vision and foresight, the two presidents opened a new page in China-US relations," Wang said.
11. "We have a vigorous disagreement on human rights," Mr. Biden told the delegates	11. "Our ability to work together is important to the overall health and stability of the global economy," Geithner said.
12. "We are seeing very promising shifts in the direction of Chinese economic policy," Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner said Tuesday.	12. "A thriving US is good for China, and a thriving China is good for the US," she (Clinton) said.
13. "All of these recent moves by China result in its economy becoming less competitive and less welcoming to foreign direct investment," Mr. Locke said.	13. "I am doing this (attending the meeting) to implement the consensus of our presidents for the achievement of one lofty goal, to make our two countries and people forever good friends and good partners, and to enable our children and children's children to live in peace and happiness," said Dai.
14. "We want to see these commitments...translate into action," Mr. Geithner said.	14. "We need to better understand each other, build trust to work to avoid misunderstanding and miscalculation," said Clinton.

Table 4-10. Sample sentences of ID from group US and group China

US	China
<p>15. Monday night, China's top economic official, Vice Premier Wang Qishan, said in a Charlie Rose interview that inflation is the country's biggest economic challenge.</p>	<p>15. Dai made an evocative speech highlighting that cooperation between the two countries will benefit future generations.</p>
<p>16. The Treasury official said Washington was also able to secure important commitments from officials that should foster a better environment for U.S. businesses seeking to compete in China's growing economy.</p>	<p>16. Geithner said that sound China-US relations will benefit not only the two countries, but also the world economy.</p>
<p>17. While the official said there won't be any changes to carefully watched wording on China's currency policy in the statement from the bilateral negotiations, the official also said there was a marked change in the tenor of conversations over China's yuan policy from previous negotiations.</p>	<p>17. Clinton said the annual talks aim to build a stronger relationship</p>
<p>18. He (Geithner) said the U.S. wanted to make progress on protecting intellectual-property rights for firms operating in or exporting to China</p>	<p>18. Tuesday's talks in the Economic Track will focus on rebalancing both economies and strengthening recoveries, Chen said.</p>
<p>19. U.S. officials said the two sides also discussed ways to coordinate in stabilizing Pakistan and Afghanistan, including pursuing development projects</p>	<p>19. Sun Zhe, director of the Center for US-China Relations at Tsinghua University, said the US is mainly concerned about the yuan exchange rate, innovation, intellectual property rights and government procurement.</p>

CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

According to the result of the study, news reports are not merely reporting the news facts, but correspondent to ideologies and interests of the two serving governments respectively. Thus, the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *China Daily* report the same international event differently. The specific arrangement of the news structure and the focus of the coverage are purposefully selected. From the cognition aspect, the news headline and news leads can catch the audience's attention. In consideration of these, Chinese and American media focus on different points of the dialogue. Apart from the common focus of the negotiation processes, the news reports of the two media have different emphases. Table 4-7, 4-9, and 4-10 and illustrate the divergences and the hidden reasons for the appearance of this phenomenon. American media publicize ideology and let their hegemony power be recognized. On the other hand, Chinese government builds the harmonious and peace-loving national ideology and broadcasts this image to the audience through mainstream media such as *China Daily*, *People's Daily*, and Xinhua News Agency.

Above all, different news media would apply the similar discourse strategies on reporting the same event, although varying from different reporting angles. While reporting the news "facts," the news media choose different reporting perspectives with the aim of building their national identities to the acceptances of the public. That is to say, the news texts compact the underlying ideologies of different nations. The news media use similar discourse strategies to build the images, (the most prominent one)- the overall strategy of positive self-presentation of the dominant in-group and the negative other-presentation of the dominated out-groups (van Dijk, 1998).

Limitations of the Study

First, due to the limit of time, it is impossible to analyze all the Chinese and American news reports concerning the issue. The data under analysis are confined to ten news samples selected from two sides, which may not be representative of the discursive practices of all the news presses in China and America. Therefore, conclusion may be tentative and the validity of the analysis may be reduced to some extent. Second, The present study is only a case study based on a detailed analysis of ten news reports, and may not be applied to all genres of news discourse. Third, due to the space limit, the study doesn't examine all the linguistic features. Some analytical devices, such as thematic structure and transformation are not included, which may affect the accuracy of the results.

The study only concentrates on the analysis based on Halliday's functional theory as analytic tools and Fairclough's three dimension of CDA as theoretical framework. The cognition of readers' comprehension of news discourses has been ignored. In other words, how readers comprehend news discourse construction and how readers consume the discourses information in their cognitive process? These kinds of questions have not been solved. The interpretation of ideology in the samples is just based on the author's assumptions of readers' probable comprehension. Therefore, only the analysis of how the discourse is constructed and how the reporters embed the ideology in the discourse combined with the study of readers' cognitive process can achieve a comprehensive understanding of how news discourses exert an influence on readers' ideology. What's more, the study tries to explore different language strategies and discourse arrangement critically. It would be wise to study the two media's discourse from other sides, such as

positive discourse analysis, to compare how the two countries make plans together regarding to the international economic issue cooperatively.

Due to the limitations above, it is hoped that a more comprehensive framework will be employed with exhaustive data analysis to lead a more valid study on news discourse. Apart from the limitations mentioned above, the study could be of some help in providing inspiration for further analysis in the relative fields. It is also worthwhile in the deeper exploration of the news value, news production and comprehension and some other aspects concerning information transmission and dissemination. Since in essence CDA is an interdisciplinary subject, more research of news discourse analysis in combination with other humanistic study, such as journalism or cognition in the future are expected and welcomed.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Xinyi is a graduate student from the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications of University of Florida. Majoring in mass communication, Xinyi took advantage of her study abroad experience and did studies on similarities and differences among international news agencies in U.S. and China. She was an intern in the headquarter of Xinhua News Agency in Beijing as well as the north bureau of Xinhua in New York. After graduation, she will work as an assistant program manager for SoZo Group, a non-profit company which tries to improve the relationship between U.S. and China and provide advisory service to Chinese companies which want to invest in America.

Born in 1988, Xinyi is from Bazhong, a small city in the southwest part of China. Her parents operate a food company in the hometown. Xinyi first came to U.S. in 2007 and completed three years' study majoring in English with distinction in Troy University while auditing in classes which she preferred. During that period of time, she was exposed to different cultures and educational patterns which gave her much experience to study aboard. Inspired by western culture, she broadened her horizon and widened her knowledge which enriched the creativity as well as imagination greatly.