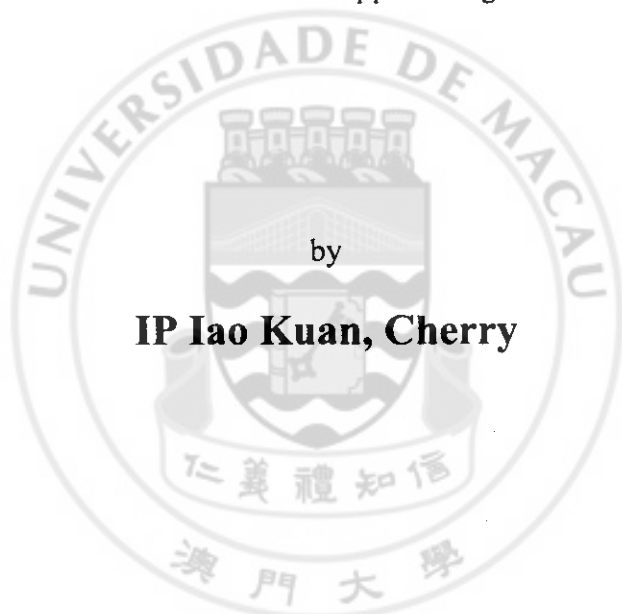


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An Examination of Chinese Translations of Lexical Repetition in Obama's Inaugural Speech

A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Arts in Applied English



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November 2010

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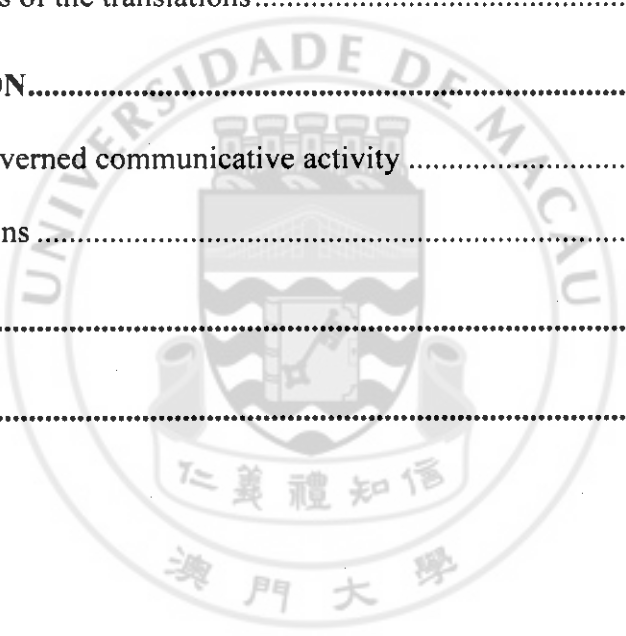
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ABSTRACT

This study examines lexical repetitions in Obama's inaugural speech. From a linguistic point of view, frequent use of parallelism is an important feature in the speech. However, Chinese translations of parallelism in Obama's speech have not been systematically studied. This research uses two versions of Chinese translation respectively from the US government and China Daily as the source of data to undertake a descriptive translation study that Toury (1995) proposes. We compare how parallelism, especially lexical repetitions in our sample, is preserved in the translations, in order to explore patterns in relation to the use of parallelism in Chinese and English, and to explore translational norms imposed by the two new agencies, thus to provide reference to the translation practice of public speech, and to extend our understanding on translators' treatment of parallelism.

Keywords: parallelism, lexical repetition, coherence, public speech, descriptive translation study, norm