

Available Online at EScience Press

## Journal of South Asian Studies

ISSN: 2307-4000 (Online), 2308-7846 (Print)

<https://esciencepress.net/journals/JSAS>

### A Corpus Assisted Positive Discourse Analysis of President Xi Jinping's Speech at the National Assembly of Pakistan

<sup>a</sup>Arshad Ali, <sup>b</sup>Athar Rashid\*, <sup>c</sup>Munib Ahmed<sup>a</sup>Department of English, National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad, Pakistan.<sup>b</sup>Department of Governance & Public Policy, National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad, Pakistan.<sup>c</sup>Department of Chinese, National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad, Pakistan.\*Corresponding Author Email ID: [atharrashid@numl.edu.pk](mailto:atharrashid@numl.edu.pk)

#### ABSTRACT

State visits to friendly countries are a contemporary global trend. The speeches of heads of state are analyzed from a variety of angles. Positive discourse analysis of international leaders' speeches has gained prominence, particularly in Pakistan, following the inauguration of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). This 42-billion-dollar project, which was officially launched in 2013, has sparked intense regional and international debate. The study employs corpus-based positive discourse analysis. It is a combination of concordance and appraisal research using Baker's lexical category model. The adjectives associated with lexical items are analyzed from a PDA perspective. Three appraisal resources have been used to evaluate Xi's speech: the attitude system, the engagement system, and the graduation system. Following the analysis, it is discovered that President Xi's speech contains numerous positive resources. He strives to build a brotherly relationship with his audience based on mutual equality, respect, love, and strategic partnership. President Xi used language that demonstrates increased engagement. The current study applies positive discourse analysis to the speeches of the Chinese president, opening up new avenues for appraisal theory research.

**Keywords:** Positive Discourse Analysis, Corpus-Assisted, Adjective Analysis, President Xi's Speech.

#### INTRODUCTION

The speeches of political leaders, particularly those from developed countries, have a significant impact on society. For researchers, leaders' speeches are a popular topic in discourse analysis, particularly in positive discourse analysis (PDA). J. R. Martin (2004) proposed a new perspective on discourse analysis. Their theoretical foundations are positive discourse analysis (PDA) and appraisal theory. PDA has piqued the interest of academics both at home and abroad because of its gentle, constructive, and harmonious approach to analysis. However, there is currently very little research on Chinese leaders' speeches. As a result, the authors selected President Xi's speech delivered at Pakistan's National Parliament and used the concordance modal and appraisal theory framework to conduct corpus-assisted PDA research. It is worth mentioning that the writers chose to look at the English version of Xi's address because that is how his Pakistani audience understands

him. As a result, it is important looking at how the English version's speech achieves interpersonal dialogue between the president and his audience. The authors first review previous research on PDA and corpus, before explaining its theoretical framework, concordance modal, and appraisal system. The Baker (2008) model of concordance is then used to analyse Xi's speech from three perspectives: attitude system, engagement system, and graduation system. Finally, at the conclusion of the paper, the authors present the study's major findings as well as its limitations.

#### Objectives

Following are the objectives of this study:

- To find out the adjectives used in the speech
- To analyze the adjectives in the context
- To find out the appraisal sources used in the speech
- To analyze the appraisal sources from the perspective of positive discourse analysis

### Research Questions

1. What adjectives are used in Xi's speech to Pakistan's parliament?
2. What effect do the adjectives in the speech have on the audience?
3. What sources of appraisal are used in the speech?
4. What effect do these appraisal sources have on the public?

### LITERATURE REVIEW

A leader's speech establishes the direction for the nation's future. And if it is a world superpower, it has a significant regional and international impact. A political leader's visit to another country is a boon to the host country because it results in numerous benefits and agreements. A Chinese president's visit to any country is considered to be replete with economic agreements and memorandums of understanding. President Xi's visits to Pakistan and speech to the Pakistani parliament on April 21, 2015, reaffirmed the strategic and economic importance of the relationship.

Additionally, President Xi's speech to the Pakistani parliament is both political and economic history. Parliament is the country's most powerful institution and giving foreign leaders the floor demonstrates profound friendship and respect. To conduct an accurate and objective analysis, one must be aware of all the task's advantages and disadvantages. As a result, it is critical to present data on the core terms, which should be defined and explained succinctly using the linguistics work of previous linguists.

#### Positive Discourse Analysis

A new study identifies contemporary venues for researchers, among which is the PDA. As a contemporary perspective on discourse analysis, J. R. Martin's PDA emphasizes the labor of discourse development and the need to construct a distant better world. It is extremely important in the advancement of discourse analysis from Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to PDA. From a deconstructive to a constructive mode of analysis, discourse analysis progresses. PDA is not a genuine departure from CDA in terms of hypothetical premise and explanatory strategies, but rather a complement and advancement. Since its inception, it has diverted the attention of numerous domestic and international analysts.

Martin (2004) proposed PDA at the international course in Birmingham in his paper titled *Positive discourse*

*analysis: Solidarity and Change*. He asserts that linguistic analysis should focus on very good news rather than unequally bad news. Although the investigation into PDA began late in China, it has been discussed in a variety of contexts, including open discourses, news, and so on. According to Zhu Yongsheng (2006), PDA promotes a positive attitude toward the resolution of social inconsistencies and anticipates the construction of a concordant community through discourse analysis. In another study, Yuan Lijuan and Zhang Faxiang (2011) examine Obama's speech on the end of the combat mission in Iraq from a PDA perspective.

At the moment, the theoretical investigation of PDA is still in its infancy, and it requires further refinement and perfection. Since PDA is defined by a tender evaluation demeanor, positive and useful analysis, it will essentially increase researchers' interest.

#### Appraisal Theory

PDA's theoretical framework is defined by the appraisal hypothesis. Martin (2004) defined the evaluation hypothesis as assessment, state-of-mind negotiations, concentrated feeling, and identification with perusers. Perusers should disregard precise meaning and instead focus on the discourse's more profound meaning. Additionally, assessment is a system of interpersonal meaning. Individuals use evaluative assets to establish social relationships with other individuals by communicating their sentiments and perspectives toward other individuals and things to audience members and pursuers (Liu, 2010). In this way, a person's attitude toward events, other people's actions, and the environment is the starting point for evaluation. Following that, it is concerned with the source of the speaker's state of mind, which may not be the speaker himself but rather someone else's description. Third, it refers to the intensity with which people hold their beliefs, which can be classified as high, medium, or low. The three perspectives are known as attitude, engagement, and graduation, respectively.

#### Attitude System

The way one assigns a value or assessment to an audience and processes it through emotional responses or systems of culturally determined value systems is referred to as attitude in appraisal theory. Attendance consists of three subsystems:

1. Affect: a term that refers to the way in which phenomena are described in terms of emotion.

2. Judgment: the assessment of human behavior in light of social norms
3. Appreciation is the process of using aesthetic principles and other social value systems to evaluate objects and products.
4. Attitude is at the heart of the appraisal framework; it refers to the inter-subjective assessment of members and their treatment through the lens of an esteem framework characterized by the emotional response and social confinement. Language assets in the attitude system clarify language clients' feelings about behavior, content, and wonder, and use lexical resources to determine behavior and appraise the worth of issues. Following that, attitude is classified into three components: effect, judgement, and appreciation, each of which has a place in brain research, moral philosophy, and aesthetics. Affect refers to the feelings that dialect clients have toward specific individuals or things based on their personal preferences. It is concerned with an individual's positive or negative emotions: unhappiness, insecurity, and dissatisfaction. It is typically accomplished through mental or attributive relational processes, and judgement and appreciation are derived from the effect system.

Judgment refers to language users' presumptions based on social standards, which are concerned with people's attitudes toward behavior, such as admiration/criticism, praise/condemnation, and so on. In the judgement system, intensifiers serve as the circumstance of way, descriptive words serve as appellation or property, and a few things and verbs with attitudinal meaning additionally express the meaning of judgement. There are two components to the judgement subsystem: social regard and social sanction. Social regard assesses a person's character or behavior in terms of typicality, capacity, and tenacity. It is concerned with compliments and feedback, the majority of which are illegitimate. Individuals are judged by social sanctions on the basis of their integrity and appropriateness, that is, whether they are honest, or their behavior is suitable. It is typically included in commendation and condemnation in a legal sense.

Appreciation is the act of evaluating a phenomenon by observing dialect clients' attitudes toward specific individuals, things, and behaviors that conform to aesthetic standards. In contrast to judgement, appreciation focuses on inanimate objects, primarily for

the item and preparation. White defined appreciation as a verifiable or negative assessment of the fabric, craftsmanship, handling, and state of undertakings, not as an assessment of people's behavior. It has three subsystems: response (whether they capture our attention or whether it would be preferable if you did), composition (adjustment and complexity), and valuation (how imaginative, true, opportune). Separately, the response is comparable to warmth, the composition is comparable to recognition, and valuation is comparable to cognition, all of which are comparable to interpersonal, literary, and conceptual meaning.

### **Engagement System**

Engagement is a language system that demonstrates the creator's and texts' voices and is classified as Monogloss or Heterogloss. Monogloss expresses the author's contemplations, conclusions, and states of mind in a manner that appears to provide a single viewpoint and does not concede the possible outcomes of other public voices. Heterogloss is serious about forming use of other people's voices to claim views indirectly, implying that alternate conclusions may exist. Heterogloss can be classified into two types. If the words restrict and keep another position and voice from being present, they have a place in dialogic contraction. If not, it is the development of the discourse, which allows for the differentiation of the speaker's perspectives and points of view. The following are some illustrations:

- probability modals - perhaps, it may..., I believe..., unquestionably
- the phase of reality - it appears,
- attribution (hearsay/projection) - he is alleged to have..., informed sources report that..., scientists have discovered evidence indicating that,
- proclamation - Indeed, I am compelled to conclude..., We do have a small black and white cat.
- expectation - naturally, predictably
- astonishment -

Denying and proclaiming constitute the dialogic contraction. While resignation is a direct rejection or substitution of comment, proclaiming is the act of challenging, refuting, subverting, or rejecting an opinion through alteration, emphasis, or intervention. The disclaimer is comprised of two parts: deny and counter. Denying is a technique for introducing positive points of view into a debate; it is not a simple negation of affirmation in logical relationships. When the author

expresses his disagreement with a third party, the denial expressions frequently refer to the speaker-reader relationship. The author's goal is to persuade readers to support him in his cause and oppose the third party. Deny points to the presumed reader on occasion, especially if the speaker or writer implies that this line of thought might affect a segment of the audience. Counter intends to supplant or oppose another proposition, which is a possibility in this situation. There are three parts to a claim: agreement, proclamation, and endorsement. Concur is a speaker who publicly supports the viewpoint of the interlocutor.

It is to pronounce when someone emphasizes, intervenes, or modifies certain ideas. When speakers declare certain external viewpoints to be correct, effective, undeniable, or valid, they are expressing an endorsement. The dialogic expansion encompasses entertainment and attribute. Entertain implies that the relevant point of view is a possible one, which is typically expressed through modal helpers. The attribute has two subclasses: recognition and distance. Recognize is a neutral attribute that does not express the speaker's position on a particular proposition. The distance establishes a clear distinction between the speaker and the quoted proposition.

### **Graduation System**

When a speaker graduates, he or she increases or decreases the interpersonal impact, force, or volume of their utterances, or he or she sharpens or blurs their focus on semantic categorizations. Graduation is typically divided into two categories:

1. Force: slightly, somewhat, very, completely
2. Focus: I was feeling kind of woozy; they effectively signed his death warrant; a true friend, pure folly

Graduation occurs throughout the attitude system and is incorporated into the participation system, indicating varying degrees of evaluation significance. Gradeability is the most critical characteristic of attitudinal meaning. Affection, judgement, and appreciation are all in some way related to affirmation and denial. Graduation is divided into two dimensions: intensification or quantification and typicality or definition. The first is referred to as force, while the second is referred to as focus. Force has two dimensions: intensity and quantity, which Martin defined as intensification and quantification, respectively. Intensification is a term that refers to the assessment of intensity, which is primarily concerned with quality and process. While the entity is

subjected to the quantity or quantification. The model distinguishes three types of intensification: isolation, infusion, and repetition. Quantification is concerned with the entity, which can be either concrete or abstract. The quantified system is an imprecise assessment of the number, mass, and extension of linguistic resources. The extent encompasses both time and space, which can be quantified in two ways: distance and span. According to the graduation movement, there are two types of focus: focused and smooth. This indicates that the author wishes to maximize his or her position of value, whether positive or negative, in order to sway the reader's opinion and regard them as allies. Smoothing has a variable effect depending on the focus words. If the word is negative, it serves to soften the speaker's or author's value position, which is an appealing way to communicate with readers who hold opposing views. If the word is positive, determining its effect is difficult. Positive evaluation, in general, can be detrimental to the writer or reader, which is why it must be smoothed over.

By analyzing President Xi's speech at Pakistan's joint session of parliament from a PDA perspective and applying a modal of concordance and appraisal theory, this article aims to ascertain how President Xi accomplishes his goal of increasing foreigners' familiarity with China and inspiring them to play their role in Asia's development.

### **Corpus Linguistics and Appraisal Theory Connection**

The relationship between corpus linguistics and appraisal theory is about evaluating from a corpus linguistics standpoint (Hunston and Thompson 2000, 2011; Taboada and Grieve 2004; Coffin and O'Halloran 2006; Bednarek 2008, 2009). In corpus linguistics, corpora are used to identify and select evaluative lexical items, such as adjective evaluation, for example, Hunston and Thompson 2000, 2011; Taboada and Grieve 2004; Coffin and O'Halloran 2006; Coffin and O' Hunston and Sinclair 2000 asserted that specific lexical patterns identify and thus select evaluative lexical items, such as adjective evaluation. Interestingly, Bednarek (2008) emphasizes the importance of complementing Martin and White's (2005: 260) qualitative work on assessment with a more quantitative method that can underscore specific variables in corpora. Bednarek (2008) accepted the challenge in her book *Emotion Talk* and discussed several aspects of how the appraisal theoretical framework derives and treats feelings from the corpus and cognitive linguistics.

Bednarek defines corpus-linguistics as an investigation of the appraisal category of covert effect, which he views as a critical area of distinction between opinion (appreciation and judgement) and emotion (affect). As a result, Bednarek (2009) suggests that the effect subtype should be further subdivided into 'overt affect' and 'covert affect' in order to better account for Emoters' emotional responses. For examples;

1. It makes me feel happy that they've come, or the people are impatient for a change. An example of the overt effect regarding emotional responses. And the resources of indirectly denoting an emotional response or less personalizing ones is the best example of covert emotional responses.

2. I find it frustrating, or this is very distressing for Carol.

### **Concordance Model of Analysis**

The analysis of emerging significant lexis and lexical patterns was supplemented with concordance analysis. In the analyst's immediate co-text, a concordance provides examples of a word or cluster (Baker 2008). Concordance rules can be extended to the entire text, and the number of words on either side of the focus word/cluster can be adjusted to meet the researcher's needs. Correlation lines can be sorted in a variety of ways to help the analyst examine different patterns associated with the same word/cluster. Concordance analysis allows for the examination of language features in co-text while taking into account and inferring from the context that the analyst is aware of. It is no surprise, then, that it has become the only Corpus Linguistics tool with which discourse analysts appear to be at ease. This shows that Corpus Linguistics is well-versed in the concept of 'qualitative' analysis. Furthermore, because concordance analysis looks at a set number of concordance lines, the results can be categorized and quantified in absolute and relative terms to identify possible patterns.

### **Positive Discourse Analysis with Corpus**

The goal of this research is to look at the speech of the Chinese President through the lens of positive discourse analysis (PDA). Along with PDA, the use of corpora to locate the lexical items that are used to project the acquired agenda as true and real is an important methodological component of this research. In various genres, the dichotomy of two perspectives on a single speech is also common. They were examined using Corpus linguistics to look at the linguistic items that were used in the speech. A corpus is defined as "a collection of

naturally occurring instances of language gathered for the purpose of language study, ranging from a few sentences to a large number of composed messages or tape accounts." Corpus Linguistics is an etymological study based on the idea that the significance of "normally occurring" speech can be better appreciated when seen in its actual world capacity and context (Vessey, 2013). Corpus Linguistics can assist in determining the relative importance of including or excluding particular etymological and literary highlights. It classifies and examines the language structures that are used using experimental evidence. Furthermore, this data-based evidence deciphers the observed discourse to determine "probabilities, patterns, concurrent events, or groupings of highlights" (Cheng and Lam 2012: 175). One can estimate the inclinations and constraints associated with these qualities "for what they are" based on these perceptions (Hanks, 2012: 405). Collocations, concordances, descriptive words, and buzzwords are all important in achieving these goals. These spotlights are genuine examples of language that can be dissected subjectively to determine their utilitarian and affective significance (Sinclair 1996, McEnery and Wilson 1996). In this way, Corpus Linguistics considers language to be an integral part of philosophy; such language research achieves a level of objectivity that is impossible to achieve through instinct and reflection (Baker, 2006: 3).

Scientists established the high degree of objectivity inherent in Corpus Linguistics-supported examinations in media-related investigations. Biases about semantic and phonetic content can be mitigated with careful use of projects and factual strategies in corpora. It also lays the groundwork for conducting research on fixed languages (Baker, 2006). PDA and Corpus are frequently used in conjunction in examinations, despite their differing methodological perspectives. Positive Discourse Analysis (PDA) and Corpus Linguistics (CL) are primarily concerned with quantitative and qualitative analyses. The consistency and reliability of quantitative results, as well as the specificity and accuracy of qualitative analysis, are improved when these approaches are used (McEnery & Wilson, 2001). The use of a large collection of considered representative texts in Corpus Linguistics (CL) helps maintain a relative distance between the researcher and the data (Hoffmann et al., 2008). However, because the factual devices used in the investigation may provide a more comprehensive explanation of the data being considered, this methodology may jeopardize the

findings. PDA, on the other hand, allows for a more in-depth examination of the subject at hand. The information is examined in light of its sociopolitical context. It's a practical blend of Corpus' emphasis on literal meaning and objectivity pursuit and PDA's emphasis on rhetorical meaning and subjectivity pursuit. The combination of these two methods will undoubtedly have a significant impact on the outcome, which will undoubtedly be positive. By incorporating these two approaches into a study, the study's findings can be expanded.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study is a corpus-based mixed-method study. Baker's (2008) Concordance modal was used to analyze corpora and appraisal theory supported by PDA. The study is connected to Martin's concept of positive discourse analysis (2004). The current study focuses on the use of a lexical item, 'Adjectives,' and appraisal resources in President Xi of the People's Republic of China's speech. Pakistan and China have a long and tested friendship that endures through all seasons. As a result, the visits and speeches of heads of state have exerted considerable influence on the audience and the general public. The analysis of specific lexical item 'adjectives' and appraisal resources can assist in determining the language used in a speech delivered by Chinese President Xi to a joint session of Pakistan's Parliament on 21 April 2015. This paper is comprised of a single speech with a corpus size of 3157 words. The speech was delivered in both Chinese and English. The official English translation is available on the website of Pakistan's National Assembly. President Xi emphasizes the importance of friendship between two brotherly states that have always stood by one another in difficult times. The study is conducted using lexical items and a concordance. The lexical items aided in the generation of lists of words ranked by their frequency of occurrence within the corpus. Then, using the concord application. The KWIC (Keyword in Context) or concordance of the various parts of speech was identified, revealing the most frequently occurring collocation patterns. This aided in the analysis of adjective usage in POS within the speech. Antconc was used to extract these adjectives from the corpora. This software annotated data about various aspects of speech. It provided a list of adjectives along with their context. Manually selected adjectives from this list were used in Xi's speech as China's president.

Table 1. Lexical items in the speech.

Sr.no	Name of the lexical item	Frequency
1	Adjective	365
2	Verb	157
3	Noun	485
4	Pronoun	157
5	Determiner	292
6	Adverb	112
7	Noun phrase	265
8	Interjection	468
9	Helping verb	143
10	To infinitive	335

Source: (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2015).

### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical framework for this research is provided by Baker's (2008) modal of concordance and appraisal theory. Baker's (2008) concordance analysis modal generates a list of adjectives. The lexical item "adjectives" is critical for understanding the language. Lewis's (1990) lexical approach suggests that adjectives are a necessary component of language for expressing viewpoints. Appraisal theory, as embodied in Positive Discourse Analysis (PDA), serves as the foundation for this research, as the contextual use of various appraisal sources has been positively analyzed in order to ascertain their reflected meaning.

#### Analysis of Data

China's relationship with Pakistan has now reached a level that no other nation can match. President Xi illustrates the relationship with the well-known quote: "deeper than the sea, sweeter than honey, and higher than the mountain." These are comparative adjectives, and the bonds between them have grown so strong over the last seven decades that they are now ready for the superlative adjective degree. It is expected that the heads of the states will say the most profound, sweetest, and highest things at the upcoming meetings. In the subcontinent, it is a tradition that if a guest pays frequent visits, the relationship is brotherly. And this tradition has a long history in China and Pakistan.

Analyzing adjectives in President Xi's speech in Table 3 reveals some remarkable facts about the two states' friendships. Xi's speech contains 365 adjectives in total, out of a corpus of 3157. Adjectives account for 11% of total words. The following Table 3 summarizes the

adjectives and their frequency of occurrence in concordance, as determined by the software Antconc,

version 3.5.8.0, and the tagger TagAnt, version 1.2.0.

Table 2. List of some Adjectives used in the Speech.

Words	Frequency of Adjective	Words	Frequency of Adjective	Words	Frequency of Adjective
Chinese	24	Foreign	9	successive	3
Pakistani	12	South	23	economic	14
Great	9	National	8	Strong	5
Dignified	3	Mutual	5	outstanding	3
Domestic	6	Bilateral	2	Old	2
Strategic	7	colonialist	3	developing	3
Peaceful	3	Free	3	Shared	3
Diplomatic	3	Sincere	2	Pursued	3
all-weather	6	Political	3	Right	3
Crucial	2	Reliable	2	Cultural	3

Source: (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2015).

Table 3 describes the relationship between China and Pakistan using adjectives from a speech delivered in Pakistan's joint session of parliament on 21 April 2015. The adjectives used in the speech demonstrate the two brother countries' cordial relationship. The context-dependent word choice obscured the depth of the relationship between China and Pakistan.

Table 3 demonstrates how the speech is replete with instances of positive discourse analysis. The adjectives used in the speech convey the maximum amount of positivity. There is no single adjective that adequately conveys the adversarial nature of PDA. All of the adjectives are based on PDA and appraisal theory. This demonstrates the two countries' strength and strategic partnership. The 365 adjectives convey not only the depth of the relationship but also the equality of thought and deportment. President Xi frequently refers to economic strength or cultural ties established via the silk route.

The remarkable thing I came through is the use of the word south 23 times in the speech. The conjunction of the word south with the noun 'Asia' reveals the entire story in the Chinese president's mind. The frequency with which this word is used demonstrates Xi's concern and apprehension for the region. He is cognizant of the region's backwardness as well as its strategic significance. Additionally, he is knowledgeable about Pakistan's pivotal role in South Asia. As a result, he frequently visits Pakistan to discuss the region's development and political landscape with his Pakistani counterpart.

The second most frequently used adjective in a Xi speech

is 'economic.' This word appears 14 times throughout his speech. Nearly 3000 words, 14 times in total, is critical for the South Asian region's growth and sustainability. The Chinese priorities economic development in the region; the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a major economic policy initiative for China. She invites numerous countries to join the BRI in order to boost economic growth. Pakistan's unique position in China prompted her to plan a new and vibrant economic initiative dubbed the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The 42 billion-dollar CPEC project is a symbol of China's friendship with Pakistan.

Additionally, this plan demonstrates how these two countries are cooperating in areas other than defence. As a global economic giant, China seeks to strengthen ties with other economies. Economic relationships are more durable than other types of relationships, such as religious or cultural ones.

The comparison between Chinese and Pakistani words is the most intriguing. Chinese words are mentioned 24 times in the speech, while Pakistani words are mentioned 12 times. President Xi of China uses the Chinese term more frequently than the Pakistani term. It demonstrates how he is emphasizing his country's role in Pakistan's development.

The following word is used seven times: 'strategic.' As South Asia is the world's most strategic region. The entire world's secret services are rushing to this area due to its strategic importance.

There are several reasons for its significance: China is an emerging world power, and Afghanistan is in the midst of

its second war. And Pakistan's third position in the heart of South Asia.

**KWIC concordance Words in context**

Figure: 1 shows the word south in the speech of Xi is full of positive discourse analysis. Keywords in context

reveal the whole story. President Xi is very concerned about the economic condition of south Asia. He uses the word in a context like; *a peaceful and stable South Asia, cooperation in South Asia, South Asia occupies a priority for China*, and many more examples fully uncover PDA in President Xi's speech.

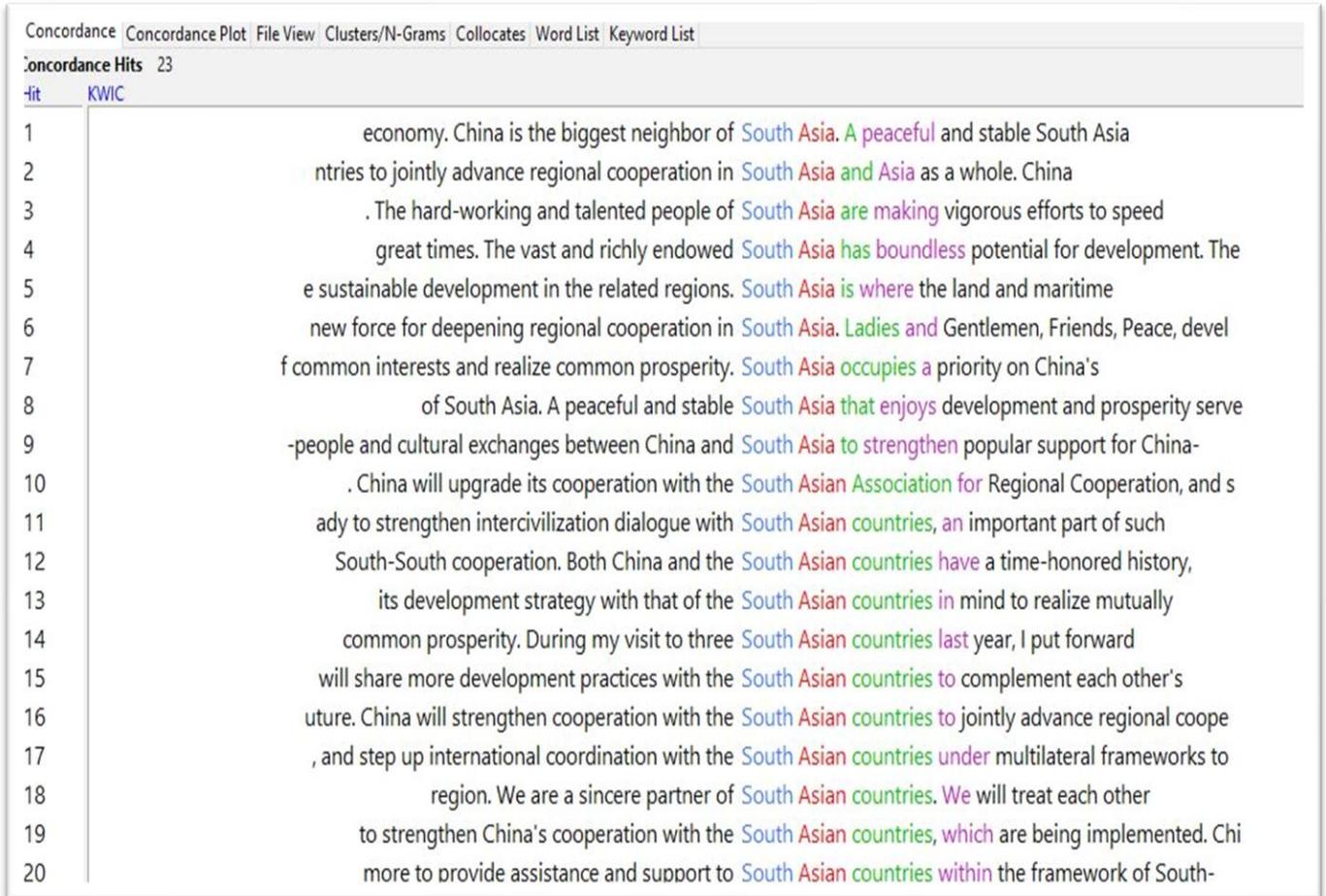


Figure 1. KWIC Concordances for word south in Xi Speech to Pakistani Parliament.

Source: (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2015).

Figure: 2 concordance of the word 'economic' is very interesting, the president of China used it positively. One can say that PDA is applicable 10/10 % on this word. The context of the word *economic belt, economic cooperation,*

*economic corridor, economic development, and economic growth* shows the brain's idea is to carry the whole region to the peak where all would feel prosperity and peace.

Concordance Hits 14	
Hit	KWIC
1	. The initiative of building a Silk Road <b>Economic Belt and a 21st Century Maritime Silk</b>
2	dship, fully leverage on geographic proximity and <b>economic complementarity to share</b> opportunities, meet chal
3	ovide a reliable security guarantee for bilateral <b>economic cooperation and common</b> development. Fifth, we sho
4	been made in building the China-Pakistan <b>Economic Corridor and the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar</b>
5	is to help ourselves. The China-Pakistan <b>Economic Corridor is a</b> focal point of our
6	cooperation. The planning and layout of the <b>Economic Corridor should cover</b> other parts of Pakistan
7	common development, and we should use this <b>economic corridor to drive</b> our practical cooperation with
8	in the development of the China-Pakistan <b>Economic Corridor. To support</b> economic development and imp
9	Corridor and the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar <b>Economic Corridor which are</b> closely connected with the
10	Silk Roads. The building of these two <b>economic corridors will give</b> a strong boost to
11	the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. To support <b>economic development and improve</b> people's wellbeing in
12	integrity as well as in national and <b>economic development. In</b> the new century, Pakistan has
13	development partners to contribute more to the <b>economic growth in both</b> our region and the
14	will give a strong boost to the <b>economic growth of the</b> related countries and provide

Figure 1. KWIC Concordances for word Economic in Xi Speech to Pakistani Parliament.

Figure: 3 of the speech is a 'Chinese' word. President Xi uses this word 24 times and describes his country's positive role in terms of the progress and development of Pakistan. The context is very interesting as *Chinese people, Chinese adhere, Chinese culture, Chinese and*

*leaders. Chinese believes* etc., shed light on the bond and cooperation between two brotherly nations. The word Chinese connotes development, progress and equality. The word Chinese connotes development, progress and equality.

Concordance Hits 24	
Hit	KWIC
1	you." This is a principle that we <b>Chinese adhere to, and</b> we do not subscribe
2	nation loves peace. Over 2,000 years ago, the <b>Chinese already knew that</b> a belligerent country, however
3	is indeed deeper than the sea. Former <b>Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan,</b> Geng Biao, whom I
4	ties, thanks to the commitment of successive <b>Chinese and Pakistani leaders</b> and the concerted efforts
5	us to create greater benefits to the <b>Chinese and Pakistani peoples,</b> contribute to stability an
6	courage more contacts and exchanges between young <b>Chinese and Pakistanis. In</b> the next five years,
7	is more precious than wealth. And we <b>Chinese believe that</b> a person cannot do without
8	red interests and achieve common development. The <b>Chinese culture believes that</b> to achieve success, one
9	Pakistanis are working side by side with <b>Chinese engineers and workers</b> on projects undertaken by
10	sea and sweeter than honey. And we <b>Chinese fondly refer to</b> the Pakistani people as
11	aining opportunities for Pakistan and train 1,000 <b>Chinese language teachers</b> for Pakistan. We welcome Pakist
12	both our region and the world. The <b>Chinese nation loves peace.</b> Over 2,000 years ago, the
13	most recent evacuation mission in Yemen, the <b>Chinese navy evacuated</b> 176 Pakistanis from the Port of
14	", outlining a great blueprint for Pakistan. The <b>Chinese people are confident</b> that the Pakistani people,
15	Pakistani poet Muhammad Iqbal wrote that the <b>Chinese people are waking</b> up from their sleep
16	healed with care and love of the <b>Chinese people. In</b> the most recent evacuation mission
17	lines saluted and voiced support to the <b>Chinese people in their</b> struggle for independence and
18	, on behalf of the 1.3 billion and more <b>Chinese people, our warmest</b> greetings and best wishes
19	the profound friendship you cherish towards the <b>Chinese people. Thank you</b> very much for your
20	er progress in pursuing national development. The <b>Chinese people will always</b> stand together with the

Figure 2. KWIC Concordances for word Chinese in Xi Speech to Pakistani Parliament. Source: (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2015).

The word 'Pakistani' in Figure: 4 is a glittering example of friendship and positive discourse analysis. Xi, the

president of China, gives respect to Pakistani. Therefore, he used it in an affirmative context. The contextual

meaning of the usage of the Pakistani word is multidimensional. He talks about *Pakistani people, Pakistani leaders, Pakistani friends, the Pakistani*

*government, and Pakistani poets.* The context shows how he is concerned about the progress and development of Pakistan.

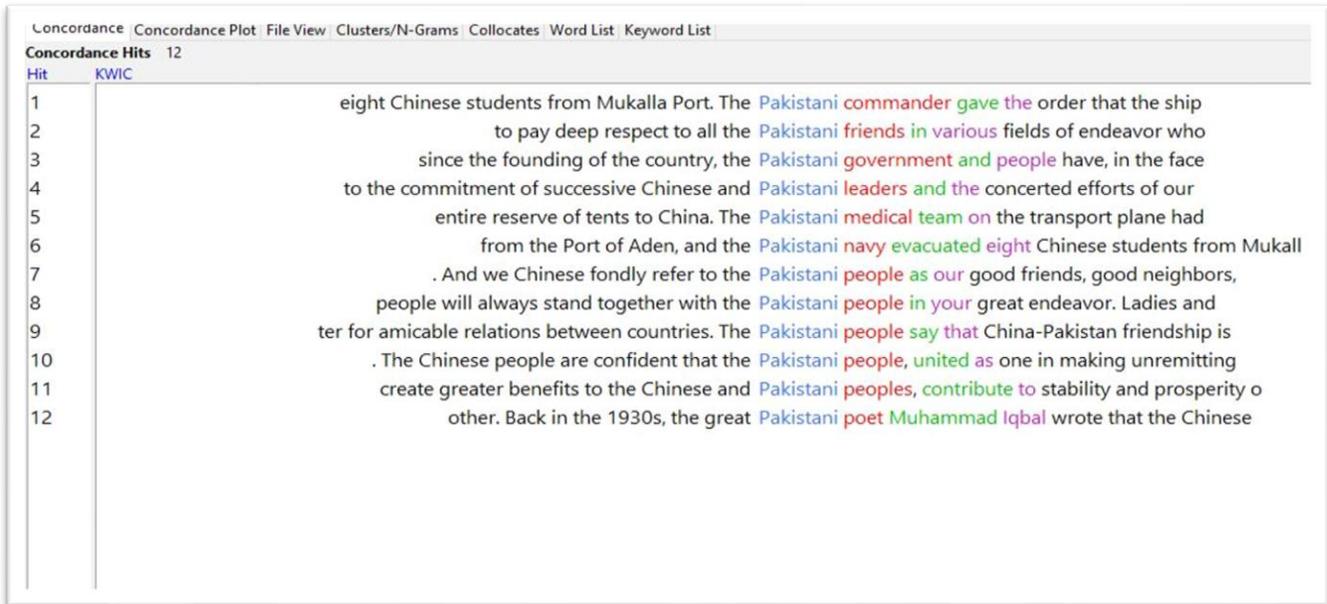


Figure 3. KWIC Concordances for word Pakistani in Xi Speech to Pakistani Parliament. Source: (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2015).

Figure: 5 is about the 'strategic' word mentioned by President Xi in the speech. He was aware of the importance of the location of Pakistan. The context of this word is *strategic communication, strategic cooperation,*

*strategic decision, strategic issues, etc.* He knew that both countries are located in the most important strategic region, so cooperation between them would usher in a new era of development and progress.

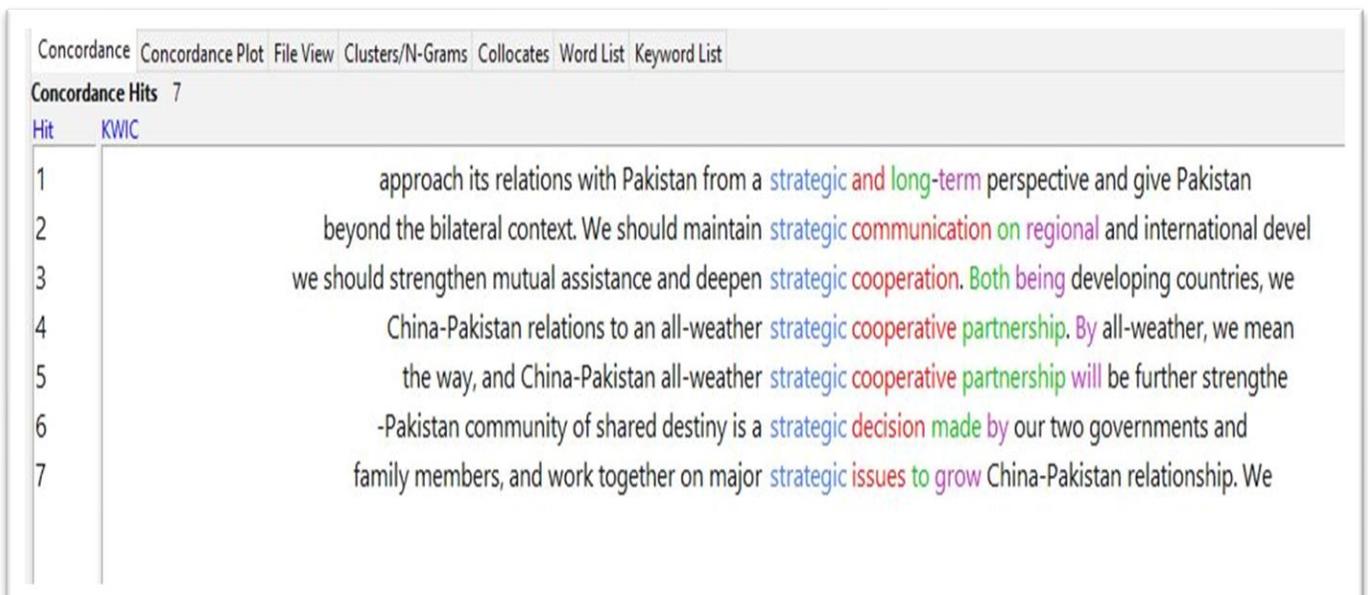


Figure 5. KWIC Concordances for word Strategic in Xi Speech to Pakistani Parliament. Source: (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2015).

### Analysis of Appraisal Resources

The following table of appraisal sources are revealing a

very interesting story. The Chinese president seems very cordial, particularly towards the members of parliament and Pakistani people in general.

Table 3. Appraisal resources in Xi's speech.

Appraisal Resources	No of usage	% of the resources	Total Appraisal Resources
Attitude	71	45%	157
Engagement	53	33%	
Graduation	33	21%	

Source: (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2015).

In attitude resource, there are some effects, some are judgment, and some are appreciation. The examples from the attitude in the speech are;

- ***I am very pleased*** to come to the Parliament of Pakistan today.
- ***Thank you very much for your kind invitation...***
- ...testifies ***to the profound friendship*** you cherish towards the Chinese people
- ***I wish to convey***, on behalf of the 1.3 billion and more Chinese people...
- ***...our warmest greetings and best wishes*** to the brotherly people of Pakistan

These instances reveal the story of cordial and deep relations between China and Pakistan. The words show how he is friendly to the people of Pakistan and wants to register his voice with greeting words.

Engagement resources are 33% in a speech of President Xi. With these words, Xi expresses his personality in words to the people of Pakistan. The instances are;

- ***Pakistan is a great country***, both ancient and young...***The Pakistanis are a kind, brave, dignified and confident people...***
- ***The Chinese people are confident*** that the Pakistani people...
- As a Chinese saying goes, "Strong wind reveals the strength of grass..."

The last appraisal resource is graduation; it has used in the speech only 21%. With graduation Xi was focused and forceful regarding Afghanistan, Pakistan's development, and the south Asia situation.

- ***Similarly***, whenever Pakistan is in need...
- ***No matter how*** the international landscape may change, China will always...
- ***Yes, that is true***. But as long as we are...
- ***Let us work together*** to create an even brighter future ...

All of President Xi's adjectives in the speech demonstrate a positive state of mind and deeds. While the PDA

emphasizes subjectivity in the text, the corpus encompasses and analyses that blank space objectively. Thus, the speech was uniquely analyzed using a combination of two theories. As a corpus, we objectively gathered lexical item adjectives and analyzed them in context using PDA. Both corpus analysis and appraisal sources validate and substantiate the positive discourse analysis. The adjectives and appraisal resources fully support President Xi's positive discourse.

### CONCLUSION

This study examined President Xi's positive influence on the Pakistani parliament. The speech is positively charged with connotations. President Xi makes extensive use of appraisal resources. The lexical item adjectives convey the Chinese president's entire mindset. He employs a variety of adjectives to convey a positive message, including south, economic, Chinese, Pakistani, and strategic. He addresses the parliamentarian in his speech, but the tone and expression are intended for the general public. The speech is grounded in reality, logic, and truth. The total of 365 adjectives used in the speech reflects feelings of love, respect, cooperation, economic growth, comprehension, and equality. Xi's speech demonstrates that speech in a neighbor brotherly country is replete with PDA and appraisal resources that have a greater positive impact on future relationships.

The speech contains 157 appraisal resources in total, another milestone toward greater positivity in discourse. He uses the term "brother," Pakistanis are kind, brave, and self-assured, Pakistan is a wonderful country with an ancient civilization, and many more. These examples represent a small subset of the 3157 corpora. President Xi's speech is an excellent example of positive discourse analysis in action.

In a nutshell, 3157 corpus of Chinese President Xi's speech were analyzed using PDA under the auspices of Baker's (2003) corpus lexical model and Martin's

appraisal theory (2004). Antconc and Ant tagger were used to extract adjectival terms from lexical categories. The appraisal resources were manually extracted from the speech corpus. The actual content of the speech is a mirror of positivity. The speech incorporates lexical item adjective and appraisal resources, as well as pleasant words expressing gratitude, cooperation, and brotherhood.

## REFERENCES

- Baker, M. C., & Baker, M. C. (2003). *Lexical categories: Verbs, nouns and adjectives* (Vol. 102). Cambridge University Press.
- Baker, P. (2006). *Using Corpora In Disclosure Analysis*. London: Continuum.
- Baker, P., Gabrielatos, C., Khosravini, M., Krzyżanowski, M., McEnery, T., & Wodak, R. (2008). A useful methodological synergy? Combining positive discourse analysis and corpus linguistics to examine discourses of refugees and asylum seekers in the UK press. *Discourse & society*, 19(3), 273-306.
- Bednarek, M. (2008). *Emotion talk across corpora*. New York: Springer.
- Blommaert, J. (2005). *Discourse: A Positive Introduction*. UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Cheng, W., & Lam, P. W. Y. (2012). Western Perceptions of Hong Kong Ten Years On: A Corpus-driven Positive Discourse Study. *Applied Linguistics*, 34(2), 173-190.
- Coffin, C., & O'Halloran, K. (2006). The role of appraisal and corpora in detecting covert evaluation. *Functions of language*, 13(1), 77-110.
- Fowler, R. (1996). 'On Positive Linguistics': in Caldas-Coulthard, C. R. and Coulthard, M. Hanks, P. (2012). *The corpus revolution in lexicography*. *International Journal of Lexicography*, 25(4), 398-436.
- Hoffmann, S., Evert, S., Smith, N., Lee, D., & Prytz, Y. B. (2008). *Corpus Linguistics with BNCWeb - a Practical Guide*. Frankfurt: Peter Lang.
- Hunston, S., & Thompson, G. (Eds.). (2000). *Evaluation in text: Authorial stance and the construction of discourse: Authorial stance and the construction of discourse*. Oxford University Press, UK.
- Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad. (2015). Full Text of President Xi Jinping's Speech to the Joint Session of Parliament in Pakistan. [http://issi.org.pk/wpcontent/uploads/2015/07/Pak-China\\_Year\\_of\\_Friendly\\_Exchange\\_Doc-1.docx.pdf](http://issi.org.pk/wpcontent/uploads/2015/07/Pak-China_Year_of_Friendly_Exchange_Doc-1.docx.pdf)
- Liu, B. (2010). Sentiment analysis and subjectivity. *Handbook of natural language processing*, 2(2010), 627-666.
- Martin, J. R. & White, P. R. (2005). *The Language of Evaluation: Appraisal in English*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Martin, J. R. (2004). Positive discourse analysis: Solidarity and change. *Revista canaria de estudios ingleses*, 49(1), 179-202.
- McEnery, T., & Wilson, A. (1996). *Corpus Linguistics*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Sinclair, J. (1996). The search for units of meaning. *Textus*, 9(1), 75-106.
- Taboada, M., & Grieve, J. (2004, March). Analyzing appraisal automatically. In Proceedings of AAAI Spring Symposium on Exploring Attitude and Affect in Text (AAAI Technical Report SS# 04# 07), Stanford University, CA, pp. 158-161. AAAI Press.
- Vessey, R. (2013). Challenges in cross-linguistic and corpus-assisted discourse studies. *Corpora*, 8(1), 1-26.

**Publisher's note:** EScience Press remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.



**Open Access** This article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, which permits use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made. The images or other third-party material in this article are included in the article's Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article's Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

© The Author(s) 2022.