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### **Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society**

#### **Title**

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#### **Permalink**

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/8w39f0ts>

#### **Journal**

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 33(33)

#### **ISSN**

1069-7977

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#### **Publication Date**

2011

Peer reviewed

# The Typology of Chinese in Talmy's Verb-framed vs Satellite Framed Languages

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**Abstract:** Talmy proposed that languages fall into two types on the basis of where the semantic component of PATH is conflated in a Motion event. In his bifurcation, if the PATH is characteristically represented in the main verb of a sentence, the language is verb-framed, if it is characteristically represented in the satellite of the verb; the language is satellite-framed. In this framework, Chinese falls into Satellite-framed languages. It was argued by other studies suggesting that Chinese does not neatly fit either category. Slobin (2004) proposed a third category of equipollently-framed languages. In this three category typology, Chinese falls into "equipollently framed" languages. This paper intends to make a comprehensive exploration on corpus based data of serial verbs in Chinese, examining their 1) main verb properties; 2) satellite properties; 3) PATH constituent conflation characteristics, in an attempt to delineate a clearer picture for the typological status of Chinese language.