

Abstract of thesis entitled:

The Differences between Traditional and Simplified Chinese Users in Encoding of Reading

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Two experiments were conducted to examine whether traditional and simplified Chinese readers differed in encoding characters in reading. In both experiments, the eye tracking technique was adopted to measure the reading performances of the two groups of readers.

In Experiment 1, participants were instructed to read several paragraphs in both their familiar and unfamiliar scripts in order to determine the difference between the efficiency of lexical access in visual word recognition during natural reading. No significant difference was found between the two groups of participants in eye movement measures reflecting the early stage of lexical access, suggesting that the lexical access in the two scripts was similarly efficient.

In Experiment 2, participants were required to read sentences comprised of characters with different proportions and types of strokes removed in order to explore whether strokes would play different roles in processing simplified and traditional characters. The results indicated that simplified Chinese readers used configuration information more efficiently for lexical access than traditional Chinese readers. Moreover, the beginning strokes were more influential than ending

strokes and this difference was more salient for traditional Chinese readers than for simplified Chinese readers. However, such difference might be subjected to the difficulty levels of the reading task and the reading efficiencies of participants.

To conclude, the differences between the skilled readers of two scripts of Chinese are not as straight forward as one might anticipate and might require investigations with more sensitive measures or tasks. Some future directions of this topic are discussed in the final section.

论文摘要：繁体字和简体字读者在阅读中的差异

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本论文报告了两个实验，旨在探讨繁体字使用者和简体字使用者在阅读中识别汉字时的差异。两个实验都采用眼动追踪技术来记录分析两组被试在阅读任务中的表现。

实验一旨在研究两组被试在自然阅读中词汇通达的效率有无差异。在实验一中，被试分别阅读了以自己熟悉字体及不熟悉字体写成的篇章。反映早期词汇通达的眼动指标显示，两种字体在词汇通达的效率上没有显著差异。

实验二采用笔画移除范式进一步探讨繁体字和简体字在笔画加工上的差异。在该范式中，组成句子的汉字有不同比例和种类的笔画被移除。实验二的结果说明框架信息在简体字中被更有效的利用。此外，移除开头笔画对繁体字读者的影响更大，而移除结尾笔画对简体字读者的影响更大，但是这种组间差异可能会受到阅读任务难度和被试阅读效率的调节。

综合两个实验的结果，对于熟练读者来说，繁体字和简体字的差异并不如预期中的明显，可能需要使用更敏感的测量方法和实验范式才会有所体现。这个问题未来的发展方向在本论文中有所讨论。