This abstract works on the Locative Alternation in Mandarin Chinese. I formulated a new verb type that can go through the locative alternation through observation, which different from the normal verb type on the semantics of the verb. And a comparison has been made between resultative construction and change of location type construction.

In the literature of locative alternation (e.g. Pinker (1989) and Goldberg (1995, 2002), among others), the difference between the locatum-as-object variant and the location-as-object variant is understood as: ① change of location or change of state, ② location-as-object variant has holistic interpretation but Locatum-as-variant does not.

(1) a. John smeared paint on the wall. (locatum-as-object variant)
    b. John smeared the wall with paint. (location-as-object variant)

In (1b), location-as-object has the meaning of the whole wall was smeared by the paint, while in (1a), the sentence stands up as long as the paint is smeared on the wall.

While in Mandarin Chinese, the verbs that can go through the locative alternation in Mandarin Chinese can be divided into two kinds: Ambiguous Type and Change of Location Type. Ambiguous Type are the verbs that involve both a change of state and a change of the location. In contrast to Ambiguous Type, Change of Location Type only involve one of the properties mentioned above. Change of Location Type, which do not exist in English and Japanese, can go through the locative alternation by combining with an element to become a compound word, because the combined element can satisfy the condition the locative alternation needs.

**Ambiguous Type:**

(2) a. Taro zai-zhuozi-shang pu-le baozhi
    Taro(Subj) table(LOC) spread-PST newspaper(Obj)
    “Taro spread the table with newspaper”
    b. Taro yong-baozhi pu-le zhuozi
    Taro(Subj) newspaper(INS) spread-PST table(Obj)
    “Taro spread newspaper on the table”

**Change of Location Type:**

(3) a. Taro zai-huaping-li cha-le cha-man-le hua
    Taro(Subj) vase(LOC) put-PST / put-X(1)(full)-PST flowers(Obj)

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1 X: In this paper the second component is marked as “X” in the interlinear gloss.
“Taro putted flowers into the vase. / Taro putted flowers into the vase and vase became full”

b. Taro yong-hua *cha-le/cha-man-le huaping
   Taro(Subj) flowers(IN) put(PST)/put-X(full)-PST vase(Obj)
   “Taro putted the vase with flowers. / Taro made the vase be filled with flowers”

However, what differ the locative alternation in mandarin form English and Japanese is that the location-as-object variant in Mandarin does not have a holistic interpretation.

Furthermore, a comparison has also been made between Change of Location Type construction and resultative constructions, and the difference was sorted out. Specifically, Direct Object Restriction (Simpson 1983, Levin and Rappaport Hovav 1995) on resultative construction exists both in English, like in (4), flat predicate the state of metal. While in mandarin Chinese, as shown above in (5) tired can predicates both subject and object in resultative constructions (Cheng, L.-S., & James Huang, C.-T. (1994), Li (1990)).

(4) The boy hammered the metal flat.
(5) Zhangsan zhui-lei-le lisi
    Zhangsan chase-tired(PST) lisi
   “a. Zhangsan chased lisi and as a result lisi got tired.”
   “b. Zhangsan chased lisi and as a result zhangsan got tired.”
   “c. lisi chased Zhangsan and as a result lisi got tired.”

What should be noted is that the alternative construction of “chaman” in (3) has shown a different property to (5), in which “man(full)” predicates the state of wall in PP. Which means “man(full)” predicates the state of the vase in both (3a) and (3b). This is the property that does not exist in resultative construction and which can also differ the construction of “chaman” from the normal resultative construction.

In this paper, I clarified two sort of verbs that can go through the locative alternation; and the differences between Mandarin Chinese and English concerning the locative alternation. At the end of the analysis a comparison has been made between resultative construction and change of location type construction to show that they are different constructions.

Reference