

*An Appraisal and Corpus Study of Thai News Agencies' Evaluation of  
Suthep Thaugsuban found in Political Conflicts in Thailand*

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**Abstract**

Appraisal has been employed in previous foreign studies focusing on corpus-based analysis and comparison of news reports. However, the previous work in Thailand has inadequately been concerned with appraisal of news report comparison among news agencies, and corpus analysis. Thus, this paper aims to analyse and compare representation and attitudes of the media towards Suthep Thaugsuban in the political conflicts in Thailand between two Thai news agencies.

Political online news in Thailand written in English from Thai news agency, Bangkok Post and The Nation, published from 31 October, to 31 December 2013 were compiled. Suthep was selected because of getting high frequency in keyness, and playing key role. Collocations, and connotations were employed to analyse media attitudes. Appraisal (Martin & White, 2005) involving attitudinal positioning: affect, judgement, and appreciation were employed in this study.

The results in Bangkok Post and The Nation revealed that Suthep had negative attitudes towards Yingluck Shinawatra and her government, amnesty bill, and election expressed by affect. Types of judgement included: normality, capacity, incapacity and impropriety in Bangkok Post and The Nation; tenacity and untenacity in Bangkok Post. Suthep was appraised by his opponents, Suthep's supporters, and news reporters in these media. The results from judgement revealed that Suthep was expressed more negatively in Bangkok Post than in The Nation. In terms of implications, Corpus Linguistics and Appraisal are beneficial for textual evaluation.

**Keywords:** Corpus Linguistics, Appraisal, Discourse Analysis, Suthep Thaugsuban, political conflicts in Thailand

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## **Introduction**

After investigating the previous studies, Appraisal framework has been found in many text types including news (Biro 2008; White, 1998), email discussion (Don, 2007), wine tasting notes (Hommerberg, 2011), the student texts, and published research papers (Hood, 2004), and legal texts (Körner, 2000; Miller, 2002). In addition, the previous work has dealt with the comparison of news reports among various news agencies (Biro, 2008).

In addition, corpus-based approach has been employed in some previous studies including computer based data compilation, tagged data, and the use of concordancing tool, (Don, 2007; Hommerberg, 2011).

The previous research has focused on attitudinal positioning including affect, judgement, and appreciation (Biro (2008; Hommerberg, 2011; Hood, 2004; White, 1998). In addition, the previous studies have been concerned with dialogistic positioning including engagement, and negotiation such as persuasion, argumentation, and expository (Don, 2007; Hommerberg, 2011; Körner, 2000; Miller, 2002; White, 1998). Besides, the previous work has involved intertextual positioning including reported speech (White, 1998).

However, the previous work in Thailand has been inadequately concerned with appraisal of news report comparison among news agencies and little attention has been paid to the analysis of media attitudes towards political conflicts in Thailand by employing corpus analysis, and Appraisal framework. Thus, this paper aims to analyse and compare representation and attitudes of the media towards Suthep Thaugsuban in the political conflicts in Thailand between two Thai news agencies: Bangkok Post and The Nation. This paper has implication in providing guidance for using corpus –based analysis of evaluation in text.

## **The concept of Appraisal framework**

The Appraisal framework conducted by Professor James Martin means a particular approach to exploring, describing and explaining the way language is used to evaluate, to adopt stances, to construct textual personals and to manage interpersonal positionings and relationships. (White, 2012) Appraisal focuses on attitudinal positioning, and dialogistic positioning.

Appraisal adopts the concept from Systemic Functional Linguistics. Systemic Functional linguistics is founded by Halliday (Halliday, 1978; Halliday & Hasan, 1989; Halliday, 2004). It is a multi-perspective model designed to interpret language in use (Martin and White, 2005, p. 7). According to Halliday (2004, p. 24), language is used to make sense of experience focusing on the happenings and conditions of the world, and to carry out our interactions with other people concerned with the social processes we engage in. Systemic Functional Linguistics relates to systemic dimension because language is the form of system networks (Halliday 2004, p. 23), and sets of options for making meaning (Halliday, 1978, p. 67). In addition, it focuses on functional dimension because it is concerned with the study of how language is used to generate specific meanings within a certain context (Halliday et al., 1989, pp. 24-25).

Language particularly involving semantic and lexico-grammatical resources performs three kinds of function, or metafunction simultaneously: ideational metafunction, interpersonal metafunction, and textual metafunction (Halliday et al., 1989, pp. 45-46).

The ideational metafunction is concerned with how language is used to construe our experience the world around and inside us which is the abstract logical component (Halliday et al., 1989, p. 45; Halliday, 2004, p. 640) including the logical relation of what's going on to another such as who's doing what to whom, where, when, why and how (Martin et al., 2005, p. 7).

The interpersonal metafunction focuses on negotiating social relations involving how language is used to show the attitudes and interaction between language producer or writer/ speaker and language receiver or reader/listener (Halliday et al., 1989, pp. 45-46; Martin et al., 2005, p. 7).

The textual metafunction involves how to build up sequences of discourse and organize the discursive flow of information constructed by the IDEATIONAL and INTERPERSONAL metafunctions by using linguistic structure and cohesion within the text and coherence or context of situation. (Halliday et al., 1989, p. 46; Halliday, 2004; Martin et al., 2005, p. 7).

In Appraisal, this paper focuses on Attitudinal positioning dealing with how to express positive or negative assessment of people, places, things, happenings and states of affairs (White, 2012). It includes affect or writers' and speakers' emotions, judgement referred to evaluation matrix for human behavior, and appreciation referred to evaluation of human artefacts, and natural objects (Martin, 2003; Martin & White, 2005; White, 2012).

Attitudinal positioning is concerned with ideational metafunction from Systemic Functional Linguistics dealing with transitivity focusing on the relation among process types (activity), participants (the contributors to the activity), and circumstances (the way in which that specific activity is performed) carried by the content words of clauses (Egins, 2004, p. 213, cited by Chueasuai, 2010, pp. 61-63).

Martin et al. (2005) cite that affect involves mental process, behavioral process, relational process, and circumstance. In terms of mental process, it expresses thinking, feeling or perceiving of the participants involving mental verbs such as like, hate, please, and fear. Besides, behavioral process shows the relation between doing and sensing of participants including smile, cry, compliment, and condemn. Relational process functions as describing or classifying participants which is found from epithet such as "a sad captain", and attribute of adjective such as "The captain was sad". In addition, circumstance expresses manner of processes found from adverbs such as happily, and sadly.

According to Martin et al. (2005, pp. 47-52), Appraisal relates to the relation among behavioral process, mental process, and relational process. For example, (behavior process) she smiled at him because (mental process) she loved him. This mental process caused undirected mood (relational process) She felt happy with him.

Like affect, judgement and appreciation focus on relational process including judgement terms such as educated, uneducated, brave, timid, honest, dishonest, good, and bad; and appreciation terms: beautiful, ugly, balanced, unbalanced, challenging, and shallow.

As mentioned earlier, Appraisal especially attitudinal positioning is assessment of people, places, things, happenings and states of affairs; it focuses on the relation between appraiser and appraised which is different from that described in Systemic Functional Linguistics. The appraiser means the emoter or the person who is feeling something: emoting, judging or appreciating. The appraised is the trigger of the emotion or the person, thing or activity that is being reacted to (Martin et al., 2005, p. 72). See the following examples illustrated the different analysis between Systemic Functional Linguistics and Appraisal.

Example a:

<b>Systemic Functional Linguistics</b>			<b>Appraisal</b>	
She	smiled.		She	smiled
Behaver	Process: behavioral		Appraiser	Appraising

In this example from Systemic Functional Linguistics, behavioral process involves behaver expressed by “she”. In terms of Appraisal, it is concerned with appraiser illustrated by “she”.

Example b:

<b>Systemic Functional Linguistics</b>			<b>Appraisal</b>		
He	Loved	him.	She	loved	Him
Senser	Process: mental	Phenomenon	Appraiser	Appraising	Appraised

In example from Systemic Functional Linguistics, mental process involves senser expressed by “she”, and phenomenon shown by “him”. In terms of Appraisal, it focuses on appraiser illustrated by “she” and appraised found from “him”.

Example c:

<b>Systemic Functional Linguistics</b>			<b>Appraisal</b>		
She	Was	happy with him.	She	was happy with	Him.
Carrier	Process: relational	Attribute	Appraiser	Appraising	Appraised

Example d:

<b>Systemic Functional Linguistics</b>			<b>Appraiser</b>	
She	Is	Honest.	She	Is honest.
Carrier	Process: relational	Attribute	Appraised	Appraising

Example e:

<b>Systemic Functional Linguistics</b>			<b>Appraisal</b>	
Her face	is	beautiful.	Her face	is beautiful.
Carrier	Process: relational	Attribute	Appraised	Appraising

Examples from Systemic Functional Linguistics reveal relational process including carrier (she in example c-d and her face in example e), and attribute (happy with him in example c, honest in example d and beautiful in example e). However, the results from Appraisal show the relation between appraiser (she in example c) and appraised (she in example d and her face in example e).

In terms of types of attitudinal positioning, Martin (2003), and Martin et al. (2005) they contain affect, judgement, and appreciation.

## **1. Affect**

Affect can be classified as four main types:

### **1.1 Happiness and unhappiness**

According to Martin et al. (2005), Happiness focuses on many emotions such as cheer: laugh, rejoice, and cheerful. In terms of affection, it focuses on shake hands, hug, loving, and adoring. In addition, Unhappiness relates to misery found in whimper, cry, sad, and miserable. In terms of antipathy, it includes rubbish, abuse, dislike, and hate.

### **1.2 Desire and undesire**

Desire includes want, and request; and undesire contains not want.

### **1.3 Security and insecurity**

Security involves confidence: declare, confident, and assured. Besides, it involves trust: commit, entrust, confident in, and trusting. In terms of insecurity, it is concerned with disquiet such as restless, shaking, anxious, and freaked out; and Surprise involving start, cry out, surprised, and astonished.

### **1.4 Satisfaction and dissatisfaction**

Satisfaction is concerned with interest involving attentive, busy, involved, and absorbed. Besides, pleasure is found in many terms including compliment, reward, satisfied, and pleased. In terms of dissatisfaction, it involves ennui such as fidget, yawn, flat, and stale; and displeasure including scold, castigate, angry, and furious.

## **2. Judgement**

Judgement can be divided into five main types:

### **2.1 Normality and abnormality**

Normality focusing on how special contains lucky, fortunate, and charmed; and abnormality includes unlucky, hapless, star-crossed, and odd.

## **2.2 Capacity and incapacity**

Capacity contains powerful, healthy, and educated; and incapacity focuses on mild, weak, and uneducated.

## **2.3 Tenacity and untenacity**

Tenacity focuses on how dependable containing brave, heroic, and patient. Untenacity involves timid, cowardly, and impatient.

## **2.4 Veracity and inveracity**

Veracity is concerned with truth and how honest such as truthful, honest, and credible; and inveracity: dishonest, deceitful, and lying.

## **2.5 Propriety and impropriety**

Propriety dealing with ethics contains good, moral, and ethical: impropriety focuses on bad, immoral, and evil.

## **3. Appreciation**

Appreciation can be divided into three main subtypes:

### **3.1 Reaction**

Positive terms involve arresting, loving and beautiful. In addition, negative terms deal with dull, plain, and ugly.

### **3.2 Composition**

Positive terms are concerned with balanced, harmonious, and simple. Besides, negative terms relate to unbalanced, discordant, and extravagant.

### **3.3 Valuation**

Positive terms contain challenging, deep, and innovative. Negative terms include shallow, insignificant, conservative, and reactionary.

## **Research methodology**

According to Baker (2006, pp. 10-12, 2011, pp. 21-24), and Channell,(2003, pp. 39-55), Corpus has strengths in terms of investigating semantic prosody, decreasing researchers' certain cognitive and possibly ideological bias, linguistic intuitions and chancy, systematic observation of naturally occurring data, and the test of hypothesis. Due to these strengths, corpus is employed in this study.

The data in this study were in the form of online newspaper because of consumers' habit and the research methodological benefits. Globescan (2006, cited by Sriwimon & Jimarkon, 2014), and Pew Research Center (2009, cited by Sriwimon et al., 2014)

explain that online news appears to reach a wider audience, and readers are keener online than in any other media. Nowadays, news consumers' habits have changed dramatically because readers tend to get their news from online news sources rather than newspapers. In terms of research methodological benefits, News websites were used as the data source for corpus compilation because they provided downloadable archives of news articles. Using data from online news sources were methodologically appropriate for this study and was more suitable for a computer-assisted analysis than the printed sources. The data from online newspapers were easily saved and the form of text file and easily used with antconc 3.2.1 which was the monolingual concordancing tool required in this study.

In terms of the news agencies, the data were selected from English daily newspaper in Thailand including *Bangkok Post*, and *The Nation* which were two main English daily newspapers in Thailand. *Bangkok Post* was selected because it is the English-language oldest and longest daily newspaper published in Thailand. The first issue was sold on 1 August 1946. In addition, it portrays as being free from media censorship by critical reporting and commenting on controversial topics such as the impact of dam construction on farmers corruption in the international rice trade, and political controversies surrounding the Thaksin family (Bangkok Post, 2015a, 2015b).

Besides, *The Nation* is English daily newspaper in Thailand founded in 1971. It is free from media censorship. After Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra was elected in 2001, companies associated with Thaksin started discontinuing advertisements in *The Nation*, in order to put pressure on the newspaper for more favorable reporting. However, *The Nation* reported on the advertising cuts and still criticized Thaksin's government (The Nation, 27 February 2008; The Nation and Bangkok Post newspapers in Thailand, 2010).

This paper is a part of pilot study of my dissertation so the data has been collected for two months from 31<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013. This period was the beginning of political conflicts in Thailand between Yingluck's government and the opponent. In terms of participant, Suthep Thaugsuban was selected in this study because he played key role in these conflicts as the leader of the protesters and got high frequency of wordlist. In addition, the data from online political news were compiled and saved into text files. Bangkok Post contained 1,172 files, and 1311 tokens of Suthep Thaugsuban. The Nation included 716 files, and 867 tokens of Suthep Thaugsuban.

In terms of analysis parts, they contained many steps: Firstly, conduct corpus analysis and study co-texts of the key words such as collocation to explore connotations and structures of the appraising items of the Suthep Thaugsuban in the political conflicts in Thailand. Secondly, categorize words or phrases that carry evaluation meanings using the Appraisal framework. Thirdly, compare similarities and differences between Bangkok Post, and *The Nation*.

## Results of the study

The results of this study focused on the comparison of Suthep Thaugsuban as the appraiser focusing on affect and as the appraised concerned with judgement between Bangkok Post and The Nation as mentioned below.

### 1. Affect

In Bangkok Post, the results revealed Suthep's negative attitudes towards Yingluck Shinawatra, amnesty bill, and election mentioned as follows:

(1) ... **he wanted** Ms Yingluck to step down before the election, (Bangkok Post December 14, 2013-1.txt)

(2) Protest leader **Suthep** Thaugsuban repeated a **call for** Yingluck ... to resign within three days ... (Bangkok Post December 11, 2013-17.txt)

(3) Mr **Suthep demanded** the prime minister ... step down from their caretaker role to pave the way for his proposed people's council to reform rules and regulations before an election can take place. (Bangkok Post December 22, 2013-15.txt)

(4) Yingluck bids to stay on in caretaker role - **Suthep not satisfied**, gives PM, cabinet 24 hours to quit - HMKing approves royal decree for Feb 2 election (Bangkok Post December 10, 2013-9.txt).

The results revealed Suthep's negative attitudes towards Yingluck expressed by verb of desire such as "want Yingluck to step down" in example 1, "call for Yingluck to resign" in example 2, and "demand the Prime Minister step down" in example 3. In addition, Suthep's negative attitude was expressed by dissatisfaction including "not satisfied" in Example 4.

As we have seen, verbs of desire in these example contained scale intensity of feeling. Demand had higher intensity of feeling than want, and call for.

(5) ... **he only wanted** the amnesty bill not to pass. (Bangkok Post December 23, 2013-18.txt)

In this example, Suthep's negative attitude towards amnesty bill was shown by verb of desire: "want the amnesty bill not to pass" in example 5.

(6) ... Mr **Suthep wanted** to take power without going through an election. (Bangkok Post December 29, 2013-11.txt)

(7) Pheu Thai spokesman Prompong Nopparit on Thursday questioned **Suthep Thaugsuban's motive for denying** the legitimacy of the forthcoming election, (Bangkok Post December 19, 2013-7.txt)

In terms of negative attitudes towards election, they were expressed by verb of desire such as "want to take power with out election" in example 6, and verb of undesire including "deny" in example 7.

In addition, the results in The Nation showed Suthep's negative attitudes towards Yingluck Shinawatra and her government, amnesty bill, and election described as follows:

(8) ***Suthep*** Thaugsuban and his PDRC ***want*** Yingluck ... to resign ... (The Nation December 13, 2013-3.txt)

(9) ***Suthep called on*** Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to dissolve the House of Representatives ... (The Nation December 5, 2013-8.txt)

(10) ***Suthep*** also ***urged*** people to show their dissatisfaction of the government (The Nation November 18, 2013-1.txt)

Suthep expressed negative attitudes towards Yingluck and her government shown by verb of desire: "want Yingluck to resign" in example 8, "call for Yingluck to dissolve the House of Representatives" in example 9, and "urge people to show dissatisfaction of the government" in example 10.

(11) ***Suthep called for*** people to sign their name to a petition for the impeachment of 310 MPs who voted for the blanket amnesty bill, saying they are Thaksin's slaves. (The Nation November 15, 2013-13.txt)

In this example, Suthep's negative attitude towards amnesty bill was shown by verb of desire "call for" in example 11.

(12) ***He wants*** a non-elected "people's council" to choose a prime minister. (The Nation December 3, 2013-2.txt)

(13) At the meeting, ***Suthep agreed that*** national reform should be put in place before an election is held ... (The Nation December 13, 2013-7.txt)

(14) ***Suthep*** responded that the election could be postponed as it was in 2006, as these were abnormal circumstances. He also said ***he would not accept*** an election under the same old rules ... (The Nation December 13, 2013-7.txt)

(15) ***Suthep*** said ***he would not be satisfied*** with ... a new election. (The Nation December 3, 2013-2.txt)

As illustrated in these example, Suthep expressed negative attitudes towards election shown by verbs of desire such as "wants a non-elected "people's council" to choose a prime minister" in example 12, "agree the national reform before election" in example 13; verb of undesire including "not accept an election" in example 14; and dissatisfaction: "not be satisfied" in example 15.

## 2. Judgement

In Bangkok Post, the results revealed 31 tokens of judgement including 24 tokens of impropriety (80 percent.00), 2 tokens of incapacity (6.66 percent), 1 token of normality (3.33 percent), 1 token of capacity (3.33 percent), 1 token of untenacity (3.33 percent), and 1 token of inveracity (3.33 percent).

The results in The Nation showed 13 tokens of judgement containing 4 tokens of incapacity (30.77 percent), 3 tokens of capacity (23.08 percent), 3 tokens of impropriety (23.08 percent), 2 tokens of tenacity (15.38 percent), and 1 token of normality (7.69 percent). (See table 1)

**Table 1**  
**Frequency comparison of Suthep as the appraised focusing on judgement**

Types of judgement found in Bangkok Post	Tokens	%	Types of judgement found in The Nation	Tokens	%
Normality	1	3.33	Normality	1	7.69
Capacity	1	3.33	Capacity	3	23.08
Incapacity	2	6.66	Incapacity	4	30.77
Tenacity	0	0.00	Tenacity	2	15.38
Untenacity	1	3.33	Untenacity	0	0.00
Inveracity	1	3.33	Inveracity	0	0.00
Impropriety	24	80.00	Impropriety	3	23.08
Total	31	100.00	Total	13	100.00

As we have seen, normality, capacity, incapacity, and impropriety were found in Bangkok Post, and The Nation. Untenacity and inveracity were found in Bangkok Post. Tenacity was found in The Nation. In addition, impropriety got the highest frequency in Bangkok Post but incapacity got the highest frequency in The Nation.

The frequencies of untenacity, inveracity, and impropriety in Bangkok Post were higher than those found in The Nation, but the frequencies of normality, capacity, incapacity, and tenacity in The Nation were higher than those found in Bangkok Post. untenacity, inveracity, and impropriety got higher attention in Bangkok Post than in The Nation, but normality, capacity, incapacity, and tenacity got higher attention in The Nation than in Bangkok Post.

Judgement was expressed by many evaluative terms discussed as follows:

### 2.1 Normality

(16) As a protest leader, Mr Suthep has now become something of a celebrity in his own right. (Bangkok Post November 16, 2013-14.txt)

(17) But every coin has two sides. Even though Suthep look like a star when he leads the protesters, his opponents make a mental note of his every move. (The Nation December 21, 2013-4.txt)

The results in Bangkok Post, and The Nation showed that Suthep was represented positively expressed by “celebrity” in example 16, and “star” in example 17.

### 2.2 Capacity and incapacity

(18) Mr Suthep's demands could only succeed with another dose of military, judicial or palace support. (Bangkok Post December 5, 2013-4.txt)

In Bangkok Post, Suthep was appraised focusing on his capacity expressed by “succeed”.

(19) Despite his age and the tiring routine the protests entail, **Suthep remains healthy**, (The Nation December 21, 2013-4.txt)

(20) **Suthep** Thaugsuban, a former Democrat MP and leader of the People's Democratic Reform Committee (PDRC), on Monday **succeeded** in mobilising over 100,000 protesters ... (The Nation December 11, 2013-7.txt)

The results in The Nation showed that Suthep was appraised by his supporter involving his capacity showed by “healthy” in example 19, and appraised by news reporter shown by “succeed” in example 20.

(21) To try and force Ms Yingluck's resignation, Mr **Suthep** has tried a few tactics, but all **have failed**. (Bangkok Post December 14, 2013-12.txt)

(22) A high-ranking Democrat source admitted yesterday that **Suthep's proposed civil-disobedience measures to pressure the Yingluck government had failed** to draw a response from ... or businessmen ... (The Nation November 14, 2013-6.txt)

In Bangkok Post, and The Nation, Suthep was appraised by News reporter, and the source focusing on his incapacity expressed by “fail” in example 21, and example 22.

### 2.3 Tenacity and Untenacity

(23) **Suthep** reads each draft **carefully** (The Nation December 14, 2013-5.txt)

(24) According to the PDRC committee member, **Suthep** has great **patience** in long meetings. (The Nation December 14, 2013-5.txt)

In the Nation, Suthep was appraised by His supporter concerned with tenacity expressed by carefully in example 23, and patient in example 24.

(25) He said Mr **Suthep's demands are uncompromising** ... to the government. (Bangkok Post December 5, 2013-4.txt)

In terms of untenacity, this example in Bangkok Post showed that Suthep was appraised by his Opponent untenacity expressed by uncompromising.

### 2.4 Inveracity

(26) Ms Arnutch said in her view Mr **Suthep is cheating**. (Bangkok Post December 23, 2013-18.txt)

As illustrated in Bangkok Post, Suthep was appraised by his opponent showned by cheating.

## 2.5 Impropriety

(27) Speaking in a televised broadcast, Pol Gen Pracha said *Mr Suthep's actions violated the law*. (Bangkok Post November 30, 2013-12.txt)

(28) The government says Mr *Suthep's decision to seize state offices ... is akin to overthrowing democracy*. (Bangkok Post November 28, 2013-15.txt)

As shown in Bangkok Post, Suthep was appraised by his opponents concerned with impropriety expressed by “violate the law” in example 27, and “overthrow democracy” in example 28.

(29) *Suthep* responded by giving her an ultimatum to return the power to the people and pave the way for reform. However, the prime minister insisted that she had done nothing wrong and that *his demand was unconstitutional*. (The Nation December 3, 2013-4.txt)

(30) Worajet Pakeerut, a lecturer of law at Thammasat, said *Suthep's demand for caretaker PM Yingluck Shinawatra to step down went against the Constitution ...* (The Nation December 11, 2013-2.txts)

In The Nation, Suthep was appraised by his opponents involving impropriety shown by “unconstitutional” in example 29, and “against the constitution” in example 30.

## **Conclusion and discussion**

The purpose of this paper is to analyse and compare representation and attitudes of the media towards Suthep Thaugsuban in the political conflicts in Thailand between two Thai news agencies. The data were Political online news in Thailand written in English published from 31 October, to 31 December 2013. Suthep was selected because of getting high frequency in keyness, and playing key role.

The results in Bangkok Post and The Nation revealed that Suthep had negative attitudes towards Yingluck Shinawatra and her government, amnesty bill, and election expressed by affect. In terms of judgement, normality, capacity, incapacity, and impropriety were found in Bangkok Post, and The Nation. Untenacity and inveracity were found in Bangkok Post. Tenacity was found in The Nation.

In terms of media representation, the results from affect showed that Suthep was undemocratist because of undesire and dissatisfaction of election. In terms of judgement, Suthep was positively represented focusing on normality, capacity, and tenacity. However, he was Negatively represented focusing on incapacity, untenacity, inveracity, impropriety. Although, Suthep was negatively represented in two media, he represented more negatively in Bangkok Post than in The Nation.

The results of this study revealed similar types of attitudinal positioning to those described in Martin (2003), and Martin et al. (2005) including affect and judgement. However, appreciation is not found in this study. It may be because the key participant in this work deals with human so the attitudinal positioning may focus on affect and judgement more than appreciation.

The results support the previous studies that corpus analysis has implication for evaluation in text because corpus-based approach is beneficial in terms of systematic observation of naturally occurring data and decreasing bias, linguistic intuitions and chancy due to a large collection of texts (Baker, 2006, pp. 10-12, 2011, p. 24; Channell, 2003, pp. 39-55).

Further studies can be conducted to explore appraisal of news reports on other key participants as the appraiser and appraised such as government members including Thaksin Shinawatra, and Pheu Thai Party, and anti-government members:, protesters, Abhisit Vejjajiva, and Democrat Party.

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