

A Corpus Informed Study of Thai News Agencies' Evaluation of Two Key Participants Found in Political Conflicts in Thailand

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Abstract

Appraisal has been employed in previous foreign studies focusing on corpus-informed 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 compare media evaluation of Yingluck Shinawatra and Suthep Thaugsuban 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, connotations, and Appraisal (Martin & White, 2005) involving attitudinal positioning: judgement, were employed in this study.

The results in Bangkok Post showed more negative attitudes towards Suthep, and Yingluck including impropriety, incapacity, inveracity, and untenacity. In addition, the results revealed negative attitudes towards Yingluck: inveracity, incapacity, untenacity, and impropriety. The results focusing on negative attitudes towards Suthep uncovered that Suthep's impropriety got the highest attention. However, the results dealt with negative attitudes towards Yingluck showed that Yingluck's inveracity got the highest attention.

The Nation expressed more negative attitudes towards Yingluck: untenacity, inveracity, incapacity, and impropriety. The results related to negative attitudes towards Yingluck showed that Yingluck's untenacity got the highest attention. However, the results concerned with negative attitudes towards Suthep uncovered that Suthep's incapacity got the highest attention. In addition, the results uncovered more various types of negative attitudes towards Yingluck including 4 types than Suthep including 2 types.

Keywords: Corpus Linguistics, Appraisal, Discourse Analysis, Yingluck Shinawatra, 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 informed 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 compare media evaluation of Yingluck Shinawatra and Suthep Thaugsuban between two Thai news agencies. It has implication in providing guidance for using corpus informed 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.

This paper focused on attitudinal positioning, Martin (2003), and Martin et al. (2005) containing affect, judgement, and appreciation.

1. Affect

Affect can be classified as four main types:

1.1 Happiness and unhappiness

Happyness contains enjoy, happy, and loving. Unhappiness includes sad, hate, and dislike.

1.2 Desire and undesire

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

1.3 Security and insecurity

Security involves confidence, and trust. Insecurity includes many terms such as anxious and astonished.

1.4 Satisfaction and dissatisfaction

Satisfaction contains attentive, compliment, reward. In terms of dissatisfaction, it contains many terms including fidget, castigate, and angry.

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 deals 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 was 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 31st October to 31st December 2013. This period was the beginning of political conflicts in Thailand between Yingluck's government and the opponent. In terms of participant, Yingluck Shinawatra and Suthep Thaugsuban was selected in this study because they played key role in these conflicts as the leader of the government and the leader of protesters respectively and got high frequency of wordlist. Bangkok Post contained 995 tokens of Yingluck and 1311 tokens of Suthep. The Nation included 867 tokens of Yingluck and 716 files, and 867 tokens of Suthep Thaugsuban.

The analysis parts contained many steps: appraising item categorization, exploring media evaluation, and appraising item frequency comparison. Appraising items were categorized concerned with judgement as mentioned in Martin (2003), and Martin et

al. (2005). In terms of exploring media evaluation, go to the concordance menu, type “Yingluck” and “Suthep” to build concordance lines in the search box, and click Start to start the concordance lines results generation. Then use Kwic Sort options to rearrange the concordance lines by sorting words located to the right of the target word. After that, explore the collocations between the target word and appraising item from each concordance line in order to preliminarily select appraising items and categorize them into types of judgement. View the appraising items in the full text in order to see the context of the political conflicts in Thailand and to recheck appraising item selection and categorization.

In terms of appraising item frequency comparison, each type of appraising item was compared by employing relative frequency of percentage calculating from the results of appraising items concerned with Yingluck and Suthep from Bangkok Post and The Nation. Compare similarities and differences of appraising item type frequency focusing on Yingluck found in Bangkok Post and The Nation. Compare similarities and differences of appraising item type frequency focusing on Suthep found in Bangkok Post and the Nation. Compare similarities and differences of appraising item type frequency focusing on Yingluck and Suthep found in Bangkok Post and The Nation.

4. Results of the study

This section was concerned with comparison of media evaluation between Yingluck and Suthep as the appraised focusing on judgement classified as (1) normality, (2) capacity and incapacity, (3) tenacity and untenacity, (4) veracity and inveracity, (5) propriety and impropriety discussed as follows:

4.1 Normality

It was found in Bangkok Post and The Nation that Suthep was appraised focusing on Suthep’s fame. (See Table 1)

Table 1

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Suthep’s normality between different media

Normality	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Celebrity	1	100.00	0	0.00
Star	0	0.00	1	100.00
Total	1	100.00	1	100.00

4.2 Capacity and incapacity

The Nation contained 3 terms focusing on Yingluck’s capacity of winning election, Yingluck’s victory of vote of no-confidence, and the ability of delivering a plurality at the polls. (See Table 2)

Table 2

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Yingluck’s capacity between different media

Capacity	Bangkok Post	The Nation
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	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Victory	0	0.00	1	25.00
Can	0	0.00	2	50.00
Could	0	0.00	1	25.00
Total	0	0.00	4	100.00

In terms of Suthep's capacity, the results in The Nation showed more various appraising items including 3 terms than Bangkok Post containing 1 term. Besides, Bangkok Post and The Nation focused on Suthep's political capacity, but The Nation was concerned with Suthep's healthiness. (See Table 3)

Table 3

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Suthep's capacity between different media

Capacity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Healthy	0	0.00	2	50.00
Succeed	1	100.00	1	25.00
Can	0	0.00	1	25.00
Total	1	100.00	4	100.00

In terms of Yingluck's incapacity, the results in Bangkok Post showed more various appraising items containing 3 terms than The Nation including 2 terms. In addition, the results in Bangkok Post, and in The Nation focused on Yingluck's political incapacity, and unintelligence. (See Table 4)

Table 4

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Yingluck's incapacity between different media

Incapacity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Fail	2	33.33	0	0.00
lacking efficiency	1	16.67	0	0.00
lacking intelligence	1	16.67	0	0.00
Stupid	0	0.00	1	33.33
Low intellect	0	0.00	1	33.33
Cannot	2	33.33	0	0.00
Be not capable	0	0.00	1	33.33
Total	6	100.00	3	100.00

The results in Bangkok Post showed Suthep's political incapacity of forcing Yingluck, and her government to resign expressed by fail. In addition, the results in The Nation focused on Suthep's incapacity of forcing Yingluck's government to resign, striking a court, and drawing a response from either ordinary protesters or the businessmen shown by fail. (See Table 5)

Table 5

Frequency comparison of appraising item focusing on Suthep's incapacity between different media

Incapacity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Fail	3	100.00	4	100.00
Total	3	100.00	4	100.00

4.3 Tenacity and untenacity

The results in The Nation focusing on Yingluck's tenacity showed more various appraising items including 7 terms than Bangkok Post containing 3 terms. The results in The Nation focused on Yingluck's independence, but the results in Bangkok Post, and The Nation were concerned with Yingluck's bravery. (See Table 6)

Table 6

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Yingluck's Tenacity between different media

Tenacity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Undeterred	1	33.33	0	0.00
Unyielding	1	33.33	0	0.00
Not afraid	1	33.33	0	0.00
Independence	0	0.00	1	11.11
Not rely on	0	0.00	2	22.22
Be in control of her government	0	0.00	1	11.11
Be the one who make decisions	0	0.00	1	11.11
Not give up	0	0.00	1	11.11
Show no sign of giving up	0	0.00	1	11.11
Out of fear	0	0.00	2	22.22
Total	3	100.00	9	100.00

The results in The Nation focusing on Suthep's tenacity showed Suthep's carefulness, and patience. (See Table 4.22)

Table 7

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Suthep's tenacity between different media

Tenacity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Carefully	0	0.00	1	50.00
Patient	0	0.00	1	50.00
Total	0	0.00	2	100.00

In terms of untenacity, the results in Bangkok Post, and The Nation got 3 terms. In addition, the results in two media were concerned with Yingluck's dependence, but the result in Bangkok Post focused on Yingluck's stubbornness. (See Table 8)

Table 8

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Yingluck's untenacity between different media

Untenacity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)

Puppet	3	60.00	2	28.58
Proxy	0	0.00	4	57.14
Lack of leadership	0	0.00	1	14.29
Stubbornness	1	20.00	0	0.00
Be not the country's real leader	1	20.00	0	0.00
Total	5	100.00	7	100.00

In terms of Suthep's untenacity, it was found in Bangkok Post focusing on Suthep's stubbornness shown by uncompromising. (See Table 9)

Table 9

Frequency comparison of appraising item focusing on Suthep's untenacity between different media

Untenacity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Uncompromising	0	0.00	1	100.00
Total	0	0.00	1	100.00

4.4 Veracity and inveracity

In The Nation, the results revealed Yingluck's focusing on veracity shown by Deny corruption practices. (See Table 10)

Table 10

Frequency comparison of appraising item focusing on Yingluck's Veracity between different media

Veracity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Deny corruption practice	0	0.00	1	100.00
Total	0	0.00	1	100.00

The results focusing on Yingluck's inveracity showed that Bangkok Post got more various appraising items containing 10 terms than The Nation including 3 terms. In addition, the results in Bangkok Post, and The Nation showed that evaluative meaning was expressed directly such as lie liar, corruption, not sincere, insincerity, and lack of credibility. In some cases, the results in Bangkok Post, and in The Nation showed that evaluative meaning was expressed indirectly. The results in Bangkok Post uncovered hidden messages from the opponent that Yingluck was dishonest because she was accused of turning a blind eye to corruption in government projects, state fund abuse, and Misusing state funds for political gain in order to win her election campaign in the future.

In terms of accusing of 'crocodile tears', it showed hidden message from the opponents that Yingluck was a liar because she cried but she was not really sad or sorry. According to Bangkok Post, A video clip showing the caretaker premier allegedly smiling shortly after she appeared to be on the brink of tears when she answered a question about anti-government protesters' calls to evict the Shinawatra family from Thailand at the Thai Army Club press conference. Yingluck was accused of faking her emotional response to reporters before being unknowingly caught on camera smiling shortly after.

Besides, the results in Bangkok Post and The Nation showed that Yingluck was indirectly accused of liar because she could not keep the promise about rejecting amnesty bill, curbing / lowering the cost of living, and suppressing corruption.

As we have seen, the results of inveracity found in Bangkok Post and the Nation showed that evaluative meaning was expressed both directly and indirectly. (Table 11)

Table 11

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Yingluck's inveracity between different media

Inveracity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Misusing state funds	3	25.00	0	0.00
Lie	1	8.33	0	0.00
Liar	1	8.33	0	0.00
Corruption	1	8.33	2	40.00
Not sincere	1	8.33	2	40.00
Insincerity	1	8.33	0	0.00
Lack of credibility	1	8.33	0	0.00
Turn a blind eye to corruption	1	8.33	0	0.00
Crocodile tears	1	8.33	0	0.00
Failed to keep promises	1	8.33	1	20.00
Total	12	100.00	5	100.00

It was found in Bangkok Post focusing on Suthep's inveracity expressed by cheating. (See Table 12)

Table 12

Frequency comparison of appraising item focusing on Suthep's inveracity between different media

Inveracity	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Cheating	1	100.00	0	0.00
Total	1	100.00	0	0.00

4.5 Propriety and impropriety

The result in Bangkok Post focused on Yingluck's legality expressed by legal, but the result in The Nation was concerned with Yingluck's responsibility shown by responsibly. (See Table 13)

Table 13

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Yingluck's propriety between different media

Propriety	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Legal	1	100.00	0	0.00

Responsibly	0	0.00	1	100.00
Total	1	100.00	1	100.00

In terms of Yingluck's impropriety, The Nation got more various appraising items including 2 terms than Bangkok Post containing 1 term. In addition, it was found that Bangkok Post focused on Yingluck's immorality, but The Nation involved Yingluck's irresponsibility. (See Table 14)

Table 14

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Yingluck's impropriety between different media

Impropriety	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Lacking morality	1	100.00	0	0.00
Fail to take responsibility	0	0.00	1	50.00
Avoid responsibility	0	0.00	1	50.00
Total	1	100.00	2	100.00

In terms of Suthep's impropriety, the results in Bangkok Post got more various appraising items including 14 terms than The Nation containing 2 terms. In addition, Bangkok Post, and The Nation were concerned with Suthep's illegality, but the results in Bangkok Post focused on Suthep's violence, and dictator. (See Table 15)

Table 15

Frequency comparison of appraising items focusing on Suthep's impropriety between different media

Impropriety	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Unconstitutional	4	17.39	2	66.67
Against the constitution	0	0.00	1	33.33
Illegal	5	20.83	0	0.00
Violate the law	3	12.50	0	0.00
Violate the criminal code	2	8.33	0	0.00
Violation of the criminal code	1	4.17	0	0.00
Not legitimate	1	4.17	0	0.00
Illegitimate	1	4.17	0	0.00
Overthrow democracy	1	4.17	0	0.00
Violate the charter	1	4.17	0	0.00
Not peaceful	1	4.17	0	0.00
Breach the peace	1	4.17	0	0.00
Not angelic	1	4.17	0	0.00
Dictator	1	4.17	0	0.00
Dictatorial	1	4.17	0	0.00
Total	24	100.00	3	100.00

As we have seen, the results in Bangkok Post focusing on Yingluck as the appraised revealed 28 appraising items dealt with judgement including 12 tokens of imveracity (42.86 percent), 6 tokens of incapacity (21.43 percent), 5 tokens of untenacity (17.86

percent), 3 tokens of tenacity (10.71 percent), 1 token of propriety (3.57 percent), and 1 token of impropriety (3.57 percent).

The results in The Nation uncovered 32 tokens of judgement including 9 tokens of tenacity (28.13 percent), 7 tokens of untenacity (21.88 percent), 5 tokens of inveracity (15.63 percent), 4 tokens of capacity (12.50 percent), 3 tokens of incapacity (9.38 percent), 2 tokens of impropriety (6.25 percent), 1 token of veracity (3.13 percent), and 1 token of propriety (3.13 percent). (See Table 16)

Table 16

Frequency comparison of Yingluck as the appraised focusing on judgement between different media

Judgement	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Normality	0	0.00	0	0.00
Capacity	0	0.00	4	12.50
Incapacity	6	21.43	3	9.38
Tenacity	3	10.71	9	28.13
Untenacity	5	17.86	7	21.88
Veracity	0	0.00	1	3.13
Inveracity	12	42.86	5	15.63
Propriety	1	3.57	1	3.13
Impropriety	1	3.57	2	6.25
Total	28	100.00	32	100.00

Incapacity, Tenacity, untenacity, inveracity, propriety, and impropriety were found in Bangkok Post, and in The Nation; and capacity and veracity were found in The Nation.

As we have seen, the results from evaluative items classified by employing Appraisal framework uncovered that inveracity got the highest frequency in Bangkok Post but tenacity got the highest frequency in The Nation. The frequencies of incapacity, inveracity, and propriety in Bangkok Post were higher than those found in The Nation. The frequencies of capacity, untenacity, veracity, and impropriety in The Nation were higher than those found in Bangkok Post. Incapacity, inveracity, and propriety got higher attention in Bangkok Post. Capacity, untenacity, veracity, and impropriety got more attention in The Nation.

In addition, the results showed that Bangkok Post express more negative attitudes towards Yingluck than The Nation. Bangkok Post contained 85.72 percent of negative attitudes: 42.86 percent of inveracity, 21.43 percent of incapacity, 17.86 percent of untenacity, and 3.57 percent of impropriety. In addition, The Nation included 57.14 percent of negative attitudes involving 25.00 percent of untenacity, 17.86 percent of inveracity, 7.14 percent of incapacity, and 7.14 percent of impropriety.

In terms of Suthep as the appraised, the results in Bangkok Post uncovered 30 appraising items focusing on judgement including 24 tokens of impropriety (80.00 percent), 2 tokens of incapacity (6.67 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 14 tokens of judgement containing 4 tokens of capacity (28.57 percent), 4 tokens of incapacity (28.57 percent), 3 tokens of impropriety (21.43 percent), 2 tokens of tenacity (14.29 percent), and 1 token of normality (7.14 percent). (See table 17)

Table 17

Frequency comparison of Suthep as the appraised focusing on judgement between different media

Judgement	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	(Tokens)	(Percentage)	(Tokens)	(Percentage)
Normality	1	3.33	1	7.14
Capacity	1	3.33	4	28.57
Incapacity	2	6.67	4	28.57
Tenacity	0	0.00	2	14.29
Untenacity	1	3.33	0	0.00
Veracity	0	0.00	0	0.00
Inveracity	1	3.33	0	0.00
Propriety	0	0.00	0	0.00
Impropriety	24	80.00	3	21.43
Total	30	100.00	14	100.00

As we have seen, normality, capacity, incapacity, and impropriety were found in Bangkok Post, and in 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 capacity, and 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, but normality, capacity, incapacity, and tenacity got more attention in The Nation.

The results revealed that Bangkok Post expressed more negative attitudes towards Suthep than The Nation. Bangkok Post Contained 93.33 percent of negative attitudes: 80.00 percent of impropriety, 6.67 percent of incapacity, 3.33 percent of inveracity, and 3.33 percent of untenacity. The Nation focused on 50.00 percent of negative attitudes: 28.57 percent of incapacity, and 21.43 percent of impropriety.

In terms of the comparison between Yingluck and Suthep, The results in Bangkok Post focusing on judgement revealed that Yingluck's incapacity (21.43 percent), tenacity (10.71 percent), untenacity (17.86 percent), inveracity (42.86 percent), and propriety (3.57 percent) got more attention than Suthep's incapacity (6.67 percent), tenacity (0.00 percent), untenacity (3.33 percent), inveracity (3.33 percent), and propriety (0.00 percent). However, Suthep's normality (3.33 percent), capacity (3.33 percent), and impropriety (80.00 percent) got higher attention than Yingluck's normality (0.00 percent), capacity (0.00 percent), and impropriety (3.57 percent).

The results in The Nation uncovered that Yingluck's tenacity (28.14 percent), untenacity (21.88 percent), veracity (3.13 percent), inveracity (15.63 percent), and propriety (3.13 percent) got more attention than Suthep's tenacity (14.29 percent), untenacity (0.00 percent), veracity (0.00 percent), inveracity (0.00 percent), and propriety (0.00 percent). However, Suthep's normality (7.14 percent), capacity (28.57 percent), incapacity (28.57 percent), and impropriety (21.43 percent) got higher attention than Yingluck's normality (0.00 percent), capacity (12.50 percent), incapacity (9.38 percent), and impropriety (6.25 percent). (See Table 18)

Table 18

Frequency comparison of judgement between Yingluck and Suthep as the appraised

Judgement	Bangkok Post		The Nation	
	Yingluck	Suthep	Yingluck	Suthep
Normality	0.00%	3.33%	0.00%	7.14%
Capacity	0.00%	3.33%	12.50%	28.57%
Incapacity	21.43%	6.67%	9.38%	28.57%
Tenacity	10.71%	0.00%	28.13%	14.29%
Untenacity	17.86%	3.33%	21.88%	0.00%
Veracity	0.00%	0.00%	3.13%	0.00%
Inveracity	42.86%	3.33%	15.63%	0.00%
Propriety	3.57%	0.00%	3.13%	0.00%
Impropriety	3.57%	80.00%	6.25%	21.43%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

The results in Bangkok Post showed more negative attitudes towards Suthep, and Yingluck including 93.33 percent of negative attitudes towards Suthep: 80.00 percent of impropriety, 6.67 percent of incapacity, 3.33 percent of inveracity, and 3.33 percent of untenacity. In addition, the results revealed 85.72 percent of negative attitudes towards Yingluck: 42.86 percent of inveracity, 21.43 percent of incapacity, 17.86 percent of untenacity, and 3.57 percent of impropriety. The results focusing on negative attitudes towards Suthep uncovered that Suthep's impropriety got the highest attention in Bangkok Post. However, the results dealt with negative attitudes towards Yingluck showed that Yingluck's inveracity got the highest attention in Bangkok Post.

The Nation expressed more negative attitudes towards Yingluck, and Suthep. They included 57.14 percent of negative attitudes towards Yingluck: 25.00 percent of untenacity, 17.86 percent of inveracity, 7.14 percent of incapacity, and 7.14 percent of impropriety. In addition, the results contained 50.00 percent of negative attitudes towards Suthep: 28.57 percent of incapacity, and 21.43 percent of impropriety. The results related to negative attitudes towards Yingluck showed that Yingluck's untenacity got the highest attention in The Nation. However, the results concerned with negative attitudes towards Suthep uncovered that Suthep's incapacity got the highest attention in the Nation. In addition, the results uncovered more various types of negative attitudes towards Yingluck including 4 types than Suthep's including 2 types.

Conclusion and discussion

The purpose of this paper is compare media evaluation of Yingluck Shinawatra and Suthep Thaugsuban between two Thai news agencies. The data were Political online news in Thailand written in English published from 31 October, to 31 December 2013. Yingluck and Suthep were selected because of getting high frequency in keyness, and playing key role. The results showed that Bangkok Post express more negative attitudes towards Yingluck and Suthep than 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 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 judgement more than appreciation.

The results confirm 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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