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INVESTIGATING VIETNAMESE FRAGMENT
AN APPROACH FROM
FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR PERSPECTIVE

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THESIS SUMMARY

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INTRODUCTION

1. The urgency of the research problem

1.1. Among the language units, sentences are considered the most complex units, as well as the smallest units that fully represent the three aspects of syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic. Therefore, from a very early age, sentences were studied by linguistics in general and grammar in particular with different approaches. However, many problems about sentences have not been resolved, especially those related to the meaning, administrative activities of sentences and types of sentences that are not interpreted according to the normal structural framework.

1.2. Fragments are sentences with unusual characteristics compared to others, attracting many grammarians interested in researching. The debates surrounding Fragments and similar kinds of sentences with similar grammatical characteristics have been mentioned in many works with different approaches and interpretations. However, because of its unique properties on many levels, from the overall to the elements, from the structure to the function, no radical and convincing model has been found for this type of sentence. Finding a grammatical framework to explain Fragments is still something that researchers worldwide are interested in in many different levels and forms.

1.3. The view of functional grammar as stated by Dik et al.: "A grammatical theory should not be satisfied with presenting the rules of language for its own sake but should endeavor, whenever possible, to explain these rules functionally in the way in which they are used and according to the ultimate purpose of the [108, p.15] will help clarify the research aspects of the fragments, explain the mechanism and form of existence of the fragments in Vietnamese.

From the above arguments, we chose " Investigating Vietnamese fragment, an approach from functional grammar perspective " as the research project in the hope that the thesis results will give a valid view of Vietnamese fragments.

2. Purpose of the study

We set out the following research tasks to clarify Vietnamese fragments:

(1) Clarify the syntax position of fragments;

(2) Describe the syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic aspects of fragments in the direction of analyzing the functional grammar of the discourse.

3. Objects, scope and tasks of the research
3.1. Object and scope of the research
The research object of this thesis is Vietnamese fragment.

Research scope: Research on Vietnamese fragment from the perspective of Functional Discourse Grammar

The source of materials used for analysis is surveyed from modern literary works to ensure topicality in the language of communication.

3.2. Tasks of the research
(1) Provide a comprehensive of fragments in the world and Vietnamese fragments to locate the research object;

(2) Define the syntax position of fragments;

(3) Describe the syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic aspects of fragments in the direction of analyzing the functional discourse grammar.

4. Survey materials and research methods
4.1. Survey materials
This thesis is oriented to theoretical research, however, to ensure reliability, the arguments raised must be formed from actual materials. It is both an illustration channel and a theoretical verification channel. The total number of collected materials is 5734 units cited in accordance with regulations.

4.2. Research methods
In order to carry out the tasks set out in this thesis, we use and coordinate the methods of processing the texts to be able to identify and extract fragments from the source of the text, thereby using the method of induction and interpretation, techniques of grammatical relations, etc semantics and methods of descriptive methods, comparative methods to thoroughly and accurately describe Vietnamese fragments, of which especially important are statistical methods of classification, analysis - synthesis method, description method, generalization method, systematization method combined with methods such as distribution, component analysis, contextual analysis techniques.

5. Contributions of the thesis
Investigating Vietnamese fragment is a meaningful work both in terms of theory and practical application.

In terms of theory: the research results of this thesis contribute to supplementing and perfecting the theory of functional grammar when applying this theory to the study of a specific object, fragment. On

that basis, it helps to establish the Vietnamese fragment within the system of Vietnamese grammar units according to the approach of functional grammar.

In terms of practice: the research results of the thesis can be applied to teaching and researching fragment in particular and Vietnamese sentences in general in texts according to the approach of functional grammar.

6. Thesis layout:

In addition to the Introduction and Conclusion, References, the thesis includes 4 chapters:

Chapter 1: Overview of research and theoretical basis of the project

Chapter 2. The syntactic of Vietnamese fragment

Chapter 3. The semantic of Vietnamese fragment

Chapter 4. The pragmatic of Vietnamese fragment

CHAPTER 1: OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH AND THEORETICAL BASIS OF THE PROJECT

1.1. Overview of research on fragments

1.1.1. Research works on fragments abroad

We have access to many books, theses, articles, conference proceedings, and exchange materials in thematic workshops on fragments. Interest in fragments is expressed through two groups: universal (referring to fragments in grammar research) and intensive (identifying fragments as a separate object of study).

The research works on sentence groups showing signs of being different from the above-mentioned group of sentences with structure and function have led us to the following comments:

(1) The existence of sentence patterns that are not described according to the usual grammatical theoretical framework in verbal or written communication is an undeniable evidentness;

(2) Authors with different schools of study have not yet come to a consensus when explaining the mechanism, describing the structure as well as interpreting the function of this type of sentence;

(3) Specific fragments markup methods may exist in each language of different types.

1.1.2. Research works on Vietnamese fragments

In most grammar books, authors have made statements about fragments. The main research direction on Vietnamese fragments can be identified as structural grammar. The main issues are as follows:

(1) In terms of approach: the works present the research results from the approaches: traditional grammar - subject structure, classification based on the main element, syntactic center, structural element; functional grammar - three-dimensional functional grammar, functional grammar system, theme – rheme structure; predicates - articles - IC structure, application; reality segments... in which the subject - predicate structure is the main approach.

(2) In terms of name, the authors have used different names to refer to this object, of which fragment is the most commonly used.

(3) In terms of the explanation of structural elements: including the forms of composition from a word, phrase (including or excluding the subject phrase), sentence composition (according to the subject - position or subject - theory), provincial results, etc.

(4) In terms of classification: The classification depends a lot on the approach, so many different classifications have been pointed out such as: fragments nouns, predicates, interjections; fragments

exclamations, proverbs and improvizations, titles; fragments express direct psychophysiological emotions, onomatopoeia, scene introduction sentences, shouting sentences, emotional expressions, evaluations; fragments categorized by typical...

The most obvious thing is that until now, there has been no unity in the delimitation of this type of sentence, there has been no separate research work on Vietnamese fragments from the perspective of syntactic reasoning.

1.2. Functional grammar theory

1.2.1. Khái niệm NPCN

Different from Noam Chomsky's view in the theory of Transformational-Generative grammar that considers language as a set of generalized rules independent of context, Functional Grammar is built on the philosophical concept that language was born to serve the purpose of human communication. That is its function, to perform this function, language must carry within itself a certain meaning.

1.2.2. Overview of functional grammar

1.2.2.1. Functional discourse grammar

Functional discourse grammar associated with the name of Simon C. Dik and his colleagues is the direction of sentence research in three dimensions.

1.2.2.2. Systemic functional grammar

Halliday's systemic functional grammar is associated with superfunctions: the ideational, the interpersonal and the textual metafunction

1.3. The perspective of three dimensions on sentence research in Functional Discourse Grammar (FDG)

Functional Discourse Grammar is a typical approach for researching sentences from three dimensions.

1.3.1. The syntactic dimension: this dimension expresses the relationship of linguistic elements within a sentence. According to Dik, the syntactic structure is manifested through the main components: the nucleus and operators.

1.3.2. The semantic dimension: this dimension performs the function of representing the roles of elements that participate in reflecting objective reality.

1.3.3. The pragmatic dimension: this dimension performs the function of representing the communicative status of elements in

specific communication situations, specific dialogues, and with specific purposes.

1.4. Some basic concepts

1.4.1. Layers

Layers refer to a hierarchical type of language structure with different levels of grammatical elements, the scope relations based on which are determined according to different semantic layers.

1.4.2. The nucleus

The nucleus is the important element of the propositional structure created by a predicate frame.

1.4.3. Operators

Operators are important grammatical elements that create an extended nuclear structure with the role of expressing the semantic and pragmatic functions of the expression.

1.4.4. State of affairs

The "state of affairs" meaning is a semantic component reflecting aspects of the real world or the internal world of humans, collectively known as events or situations. Each situation reflected in a sentence is a semantic structure consisting of the situation along with the elements involved.

1.4.5. Modal meaning

Modal meaning is the semantic component that expresses the speaker's attitude, relationship, and evaluation. It is the soul of the sentence's meaning, analyzed in a broad sense, including both objective and subjective modal meanings.

1.4.6. Context

In the pragmatic dimension of this thesis, we approach and analyze situational context. Accordingly, the situational context describes why something is happening and how to coordinate actions appropriately with that situation.

1.4.7. Interpersonal relationships

Interpersonal relationships include both horizontal and vertical relationships between communicative participants.

1.5. Establishing the fragment's position in Vietnamese syntax

1.5.1. Criteria for determining sentence unit

As "the smallest linguistic unit capable of conveying a message but the largest unit made up directly of grammatical elements and grammatical relations" [22; p.68], we define the criteria for establishing sentences as follows:

(1) In terms of structure, a sentence is a grammatical sphere with a complete structure related to the whole in which it participates.

(2) In terms of function, a sentence is conceived as a reflection of a proposition.

(3) In terms of signs (formal marking), it has the effect of perfecting the completeness and independence of the sentence, based on the phonetic attributes and corresponding representations on the surface of the text.

1.5.2. Positioning fragments

(1) Fragments satisfy the structural criteria of a sentence.

(2) Fragments perform the full function of a sentence in communication.

(3) Fragments are independent syntax elements that are marked and identifiable as any type of sentence.

1.5.3. Proposal of the fragment's definition

1.5.3.1. Fragments definition

Fragment *is a minimally formal representation.*

In the first understanding, the minimal form of fragment is a grammatical form constituted by a word or a word combination structured according to grammatical relationships of subordination or coordination. The grammatical-semantic components constituting the fragment are essential and cannot (or should not) be reduced to a smaller level.

In the second understanding - approached from the perspective of discourse functional grammar - the minimal form of fragment includes the grammatical relationship between the core and the operators, with the degree of importance influenced by the context that creates the premise for the appearance of that fragment.

1.5.3.2. Fragments identification criteria

(1) They are ability to express the notice completely;

(2) They are constructed from a word or combination of words with grammatical relations;

(3) They are marked with formal attributes (intonation or presentation specifications on the text).

Example:

- "Drink less alcohol! I beg you!" she pleaded on one of his visits.

(1) "*Why[1]?*" - *Tại sao?*

- "Because i don't want to see you become an alcoholic." (2) *"it's pitiful!"*- *Thảm lắm!*

- "The future isn't bright enough for that! I'll die before i become an alcoholic."

She gently slapped his mouth:

(3) "*Nonsense! - Bậy nào!*

Has the courage of a man fallen under his shoes?"

He chuckled:

- "You can mock all you want. Twelve of us, and now only three remain. (4) *It's almost my turn*!" - *Sắp đến lượt tôi rồi!*

- "Everyone has their fate. How are those deaths related to your life?"

She tried to reassure him, but her heart trembled with a sudden premonition.

(Võ Thị Hảo, *Dây neo trần gian*, p.70)

Trong trích đoạn trên có thể nhận diện được 4 CĐB lần lượt là: "Tại sao?" - Why?, "Thảm lắm!" - *It's pitiful*, "Bậy nào!" - *Nonsense*, "Sắp đến lượt tôi rồi!" - *It's almost my turn*.

1.5.4. Delimitation of fragments with similar forms
1.5.4.1. Fragments are not the result of the ellipses
1.5.4.2. Fragments are different from existing sentences
1.5.4.3. Fragments are not subordinate sentences or direct object
1.5.4.4. Fragments are not the result of a sentence component inversion operation

Chapter summary

From the overview, we can affirm that there has been no research on Vietnamese fragments as a separate and comprehensive object. The theoretical framework applied to the study of Vietnamese fragments presented in this thesis is built from the perspective of functional discourse grammar of in the spirit of inheriting modern semantic analysis updates.

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[1] When translating Fragment into English, because of differences in language types and word order principles, many sentences cannot be conveyed completely or even approximately. Therefore, we will have to analyze the structure in Vietnamese and roughly translate it into English.

In this chapter, we have also analyzed sentence identification criteria to propose the concept of fragments as a basis for identification and statistical documentation.

CHAPTER 2. THE SYNTACTIC OF
VIETNAMESE FRAGMENT

2.1. Applying the FDG to analyse Vietnamese fragment structure

2.1.1. Analyzing fragment by layer structure

Layer structure refers to a hierarchical type of linguistic structure with different levels of grammatical components, where scope relationships are determined according to different semantic layers.

Basically, the process of breaking down the layers of a specific grammatical model involves three concepts: the nucleus - operators, and possibly satellites. In this, the syntactic structure of fragment is built from a nucleus and one or more operators.

2.1.2. Identifying the nucleus in fragment

The nucleus is the essential component of a clause structure, created by a predicate frame. The nucleus is the innermost layer of the fragment structure and the center of grammatical relationships within the fragment. Depending on the situation, the nucleus can exist independently in the form of a basic predicate frame or connect with operators to form an extended predicate frame.

2.1.3. Identifying the operator in fragment

The operator is the grammatical component that creates the extended nuclear structure of fragment. The operator simultaneously adds value to the nucleus, contributing to the completion of the semantic and pragmatic functions within fragment.

2.1.4. Methods for extracting Vietnamese fragment structure

When conducting this operation, we carefully identified the nucleus of the fragment, which can be considered the core in typical sentence structures. After identifying the nucleus, operators are counted based on their positions surrounding the nucleus, following the principles of quantification and the linear nature of the language. The identification of operators is carried out in close relation to the nucleus to outline the layer structure, avoiding the simple horizontal or mechanical counting that would overlook the layered nature of the fragment structure.

2.2. Establishing the types of Vietnamese fragment structures

When applying the decomposition process to determine the structure of Vietnamese fragment, by identifying the presence of the nucleus and operators, the thesis initially divides fragment into two main structure types: the structure with only the nucleus (without

operators) and the structure combining the nucleus with one or more operators.

2.2.1. The nucleus fragment

These sentences are typically formed by a verb or a verb combined with satellite elements of meaning, without containing operators. The structure with only the nucleus accounts for 2883 sentences, representing 50.3%.

2.2.1.1. The nucleus as a predicate

This type of fragment is constituted by a single word, with a total of 1795 sentences having a nucleus verb, accounting for 31.3%.

- *Khốn nạn!*- (*Damn*!) (Nguyễn Huy Thiệp*, Chảy đi sông ơi,* tr.90)

- *Hạnh! - (Hanh!)* (Nguyễn Minh Châu*, Bên đường chiến tranh,* tr.75)

2.2.1.2. The nucleus as a predication

In this classification group, the nucleus of the fragment is in an extended form, consisting of a verb combined with a number of functional components that supplement the verb's meaning, without combining with any operators. This accounts for 19% with a total of 1008 sentences.

- *Một con khỉ độc! - An evil monkey!* (Nguyễn Công Hoan, *Buổi chiều xám*, tr.129)

2.2.2. Structure with nucleus and operators

To identify the structural forms of fragments, we combine quantitative and qualitative methods, through the positioning of sentence frames including nuclear and +/- operator position cells to generalize into subtypes of fragments according to the prevalence ratio (counting on the percentage of occurrence of the total number of sentences).

Order of operator	Pre-nuclear operator			NUCLEAR	Post-nuclear operator		
	Oper ator	Oper ator	Oper ator		Oper ator	Oper ator	Oper ator
Conven tional location	-3	-2	-1	X	+1	+2	+3

Board 2.2. Operator position frame

Based on the allocation of the operator position in the framework diagram, we found that there are 16 fragments patterns that are allocated according to the likelihood of occurrence and alternately

combine the operator with (+) representing the occurrence location and (-) is the opposite (table 2.3 in the full text).

In fact, in 5734 fragments obtained in this survey, there are 13 samples divided into the following 3 classification groups:

2.2.2.1. Fragments with pre - operator

According to the convention on the order of nuclears, fragments have the pre - operator because at least 1 and a maximum of 3 operators combined with the nucleus, there is no post - operator position. For this form, the survey results collected 3 samples as follows:

E.g -1|X: *Thật | bất ngờ!* - (Amazing!)

(Bùi Việt Phương, *Năm tôi bốn mươi chín tuổi*, tr.188)

E.g -2|X: *Hình như | lại | có mưa.* - (It seems to be raining*)*

(Nam Cao*, Làm tổ*, tr.68)

E.g -3|X: *Sao | lại | không | chắc!* (Don't be despised!)

(Thạch Lam, *Hà Nội ban đêm*, tr.94)

2.2.2.2. CĐB có tác tử sau hạt nhân

Fragments have a post - operator because 1 to 3 operators are combined with the nucleus, without the pre-operation position. For this form, the survey results collected 3 samples as follows:

E.g X|+1*: Éo le | vô cùng.* - (*Extremely awkard*!)

(Nhất Linh, *Hai buổi chiều vàng*, tr.163)

E.g X|+2: *Khó | thật | đấy!* - (*Really hard!)*

(Thạch Lam, *Hà Nội ban đêm*, tr.97)

E.g X|+3 *Hay | thật | đấy | chứ!* - (*That's really good*!)

(Vũ Trọng Phụng, *Ăn mừng*, tr.167)

2.2.2.3. CĐB có tác tử trước và sau hạt nhân

This form of fragments is composed of operators that are distributed before and after the nucleus, respectively. In this classification, we surveyed the following samples: -1|L|+1, -2|L|+1, -3|L|+1, -1|L|+2, -2|L|+2, -3|L|+2

E.g -1|X|+1: *Chỉ |khổ thằng này| thôi!* - *Just this poor guy!*

(Nam Cao, *Đời thừa*, tr.165)

E.g -2|X|+1: *Sao | lại | thế | nhỉ!* - *Why does it happen?*

(Trần Nguyễn Anh, *Hơi ấm Linh Cảm*, tr.144)

E.g -3|X|+1: *Đừng | có | mà | bi đát | vậy.* - *Don't be so tragic.*

(Nguyễn Trí, *Giá của bánh giò*, tr.121)

E.g -1|X|+2: *Chỉ là | bệnh tưởng | đấy | thôi!* - *It's just a delusion*

(Võ Thị Hảo, *Dây neo trần gian*, tr.75)

E.g -2|X|+2: *Hoá ra | chẳng | có quỷ ma | nào | cả! - Turns out there are no ghosts!*

<div align="right">(Nguyễn Huy Thiệp, <i>Cún</i>, tr.255)</div>

E.g -3|X|+2: *Ấy | bẩm | chính | thế | đấy | ạ! - Well precisely that's it!*"

<div align="right">(Vũ Trọng Phụng, <i>Số đỏ</i>, tr.380)</div>

We have summarized 13 types of sentence structures in this survey according to the typical level as follows:

No	Symbol	Quantity	Percentage %
1	X	2883	50,28
2	X|+1	1291	22,51
3	-1|X	788	13,74
4	-1|X|+1	334	5,82
5	-2|X	156	2,72
6	X|+2	100	1,74
7	-2|X|+1	75	1,31
8	X|+3	44	0,77
9	-1|X|+2	34	0,59
10	-2|X|+2	10	0,17
11	-3|X	10	0,17
12	-3|X|+1	6	0,10
13	-3|X|+2	3	0,05
	Total	5734	100,0

*Table 2.3. Types of sentence patterns arranged by typical level*

2.3. Layer structure in fragment with operators

In fragment with the nucleus and operators, fragment with a nucleus as a predicate structure can be formed by a predicate combined with some verbalized operators (p2) that supplement predicate's meaning. Additionally, other operators add clause or communicative meaning, thus not directly affecting the predicate of the nucleus but forming a predication combining the nucleus with

one or more operators, creating different layer structure types. This can be compared through the following two examples:

Không đi nữa à? - Not going anymore?
(Ngô Tất Tố, *B. Tiểu thuyết phóng sự Lều chõng,* tr.202)
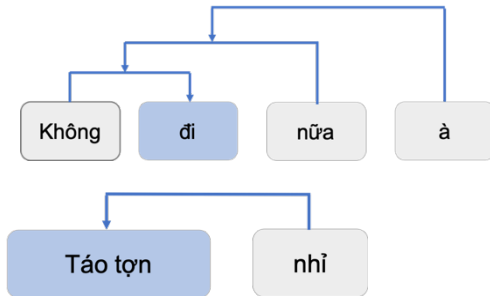
Táo tợn nhỉ? - Bold, isn't it?" (Khái Hưng, *Ông đồ đạc*, tr.490)

Chapter summary

Investigating the syntactic of fragment, we find that the fragment structure is organized comprehensively and clearly stratified, which can be modeled into typical structural types. From the general model built from the main components and the specific marking methods of Vietnamese, we have isolated 13 sentence patterns corresponding to 13 structural types of fragment, divided into two major groups: fragment with only the nucleus and fragment with a nucleus structure combined with operators. Thus, through analyzing and examining fragment within the syntactic dimension of discourse functional grammar, we have clearly demonstrated the structural variation and organized nature of fragment. This is the foundation for further understanding and analysis in the next stages: exploring the semantic and pragmatic dimensions to explain and decode the functional components of each specific fragment.

CHAPTER 3.THE SEMANTIC OF
VIETNAMESE FRAGMENT

In this chapter, the thesis clarifies the semantic plane of fragments that functional grammar pays attention to, such as the state of affairs and the modal meaning.

3.1. The state of affairs of Vietnamese fragment

3.1.1. Basis for determining the state of affairs in Vietnamese fragment

The term "state of affairs" is used in its broad sense as "what could be a situation in a certain world." this thesis analyzes three basic types of state of affairs based on cao xuan hao's perspective, which applies s.c. Dik's classification of state of affairs to the study of the Vietnamese language.

3.1.2. Types of state of affairs in Vietnamese fragment

3.1.2.1. Action

a. Actionless

An action that does not affect an object is an actionless action, which signifies a deliberate movement from one position to another:

Nhếch mép cười. – Smirked (Phong Điệp, *Sau cánh gà*, tr.61)

b. Actuation

In fragment, this impact is almost insufficient for occurrence, indicating a rather poor expression of transitive action, making it difficult to identify.

Biểu năm trăm đồng. - Gave five hundred dong (Nguyễn Huy Thiệp, *Tướng về hưu*, tr.106)

3.1.2.2. Process

An event in which no subject is intentional is called a process. However, since no explanatory relationship exists in fragments, it is almost impossible to determine the process fact, whether in the form of inaction or transposition.

3.1.2.3. State

The state is used to express the properties and conditions in fragments.

a. Quality state of affairs

In fragment, this group of material qualities is vividly described, mostly focusing on expressing the evaluation of physical rather than mental qualities.

Đẹp quá nhỉ.- It's so beautiful. (Thạch Lam, *Cô hàng xén*, tr.274)

"Đẹp quá nhỉ" is the quality of the pair of golden earrings that Liên had just bought in the province, a positive feature closely associated with the object itself.

b. Condition state of affairs

Conditions in fragment are often objective.

Tối lắm. - Very dark. (Thạch Lam, *Sợi tóc*, tr.298)

"Tối lắm" is used by a hostess to describe the spatial condition outside at the time referred to in the conversation. If linked to humans, state of affairs conditions are subjective, possibly stemming from the speaker's assessment of the current circumstances within the communicative context.

Kinh khiếp quá!... - Horrifying! (Nguyên Hồng, *Tàu đêm*, tr.140)

"Kinh khiếp quá" is the narrator's assessment of the contextual state of affairs.

3.1.2.4. *Relational state of affairs*

Fragment can express several classifications of relational state of affairs.

a. Mutual relationship state of affairs

The state of affairs information that the fragment with personal pronouns provides is used as confirmation of the relationship between the communicative participants.

- *Nhà tôi. - My house* (Khái Hưng, *Tiếng dương cầm*, tr.402)

b. Spatial relational state of affairs

The space in noun fragment is often a narrow space representing information about existence within the communicative context displayed directly.

- *Rừng lan. - Orchid forest.* (Nhất Linh, *Lan rừng*, tr.200)

c. Temporal relational state of affairs

Ba, bốn giờ đêm. - Three, four in the morning (Thạch Lam, *Buổi sớm*, tr.329)

Fragment does not have explanatory relationships; hence, time is often more objective than subjective, also known as physical time. Most fragment introduces a time point or a marked time interval.

3.1.3. Some remarks on the expression of state of affairs meaning in fragment

- In reality, not all fragment can express any state of affairs. Fragments with only interjection nuclei do not express any state of affairs in relation to reality.

- The expression of state of affairs in Vietnamese fragment is quite limited. In other words, this type of sentence is only chosen to convey certain types of state of affairs.

3.2. Modal meaning of fragments

3.2.1. Basis for determining the modal meaning in Vietnamese fragment

In the fragment structure, the clause operator refers to the speaker's attitude towards the content of their speech act, so it can be understood as a component in the sentence that can be extracted for the analysis of modal meaning.

3.2.2. Signs of modalities affection in Vietnamese fragments

In this section, the thesis in turn points out the groups of media that represent the modal meaning that appears in fragments and points out examples that represent the group of vehicles such as:

3.2.2.1. Subordinates
Sắp mưa rồi. - It's going to rain.

<div align="right">(Nguyễn Thị Thu Huệ, Phù thuỷ, tr.190)</div>

3.2.2.2. Modality verbs
Đừng khoảnh với bà! - Don't be arrogant with me!

<div align="right">(Ngô Tất Tố, Tắt đèn, tr.120)</div>

3.2.2.3. Interjections
Ô hay! - What the hell!

<div align="right">(Nguyễn Công Hoan, Trong chuyến xe lam, tr.286)</div>

3.2.2.4. Modal expressions
Gì mà chả lo? - Of course very worried.

<div align="right">(Mai Tiến Nghị, Cá nướng úp vung, tr.45)</div>

3.2.2.5. Modal particles
Lạ nhỉ! - Strange, isn't it!

<div align="right">(Nguyễn Công Hoan, Bạc đẻ, tr.106)</div>

3.2.2.6. Auxiliary
Chính phải rồi! - That's right!

<div align="right">(Khái Hưng, Dọc đường gió bụi, tr.395)</div>

3.2.2.7. Questionable pronouns or conjunctions
Đót hả? - Are you Dot?

<div align="right">(Hữu Phương, Bản nhạc mõ trâu, tr.50)</div>

3.2.3. Analysis of the modal meaning of Vietnamese fragments
3.2.3.1. Objective modal meaning of Vietnamese fragments

Objective modal meaning announces the relationship between what is said and whether it is true.

a. Realistic possibility modal meaning indicates that the thing mentioned in the sentence has not yet happened but is likely to occur.

Sắp hết hè rồi. **-** *Summer is almost over.*

<div align="right">(Thạch Lam, Nắng trong vườn, tr.322)</div>

b.Necessarily realistic modal meaning indicates that the thing spoken of in the sentence is realistic: it has happened, there was a beginning, there was an end, there was a state that lasts or does not last, suddenly or unexpectedly:

Đang đứng cạnh tao. - *Standing next to me*.

<div align="right">(Di Li, Bộ tóc giả, tr.242)</div>

c. Necessarily unrealistic modal meaning indicates that the thing mentioned in the sentence does not happen or is presented in a negative way: ***Không tốt gì*!** - *Not good*

<div align="right">(Nguyễn Huy Thiệp, Chuyện tình kể trong đêm mưa, tr.368)</div>

3.2.3.2. Subjective modal meaning of Vietnamese fragments

The main criterion for determining the meaning of a subjective situation is to identify the speaker and their point of view when the sentence is uttered.

a. Cognitive modal meaning expresses the speaker's understanding, including the confirmation as well as the speaker's personal commitment to the truthfulness of what is said in the sentence, which can be seen two basic groups of nuances: the possibility of reality and the possibility of unreality.

a1. Cognitive reality modal meaning only makes a guess about something that may have happened, is, will happen, but the speaker is not sure:

Chắc có chuyện gì uẩn khúc? - *There must be something twisted*?

<div align="right">(Nguyễn Huy Thiệp, Những ngọn gió Hua Tát, tr.55)</div>

a2. Cognitive unrealistic modal meaning makes a conjecture about the possibility of not being real, not happening of what is in question.

Cũng chả khó đâu. - *It's not complicated*.

<div align="right">(Nguyễn Công Hoan, Hai mẹ con, tr.258)</div>

b. Evaluative modal meaning

Evaluative modal meaning is a type of emotion that indicates the relationship between the speaker and what is said in the sentence.

b1. Modal meaning of quantity evaluation is the evaluation of the properties of things and phenomena in the objective world in terms of mass, size, speed, etc.

Phải mất chừng một tiếng. - It took about an hour.

(Phong Điệp, *Kẻ dự phần*, tr.9)

b2. Modal meaning of qualitative evaluation

Qualitative evaluation is the evaluation of things and phenomena according to their basic properties and attributes, making that thing different from other things:

Thực may! May quá! - Lucky! So lucky!

(Nguyễn Minh Châu, *Phiên chợ Giát*, tr.325)

c. Emotional modal meaning is a type of emotional meaning that indicates the relationship between the speaker and the thing being said.

c1. Modal meanings expressing positive emotions are often not explicitly expressed in fragments.

c2. Modal meaning of negative emotional states:

Eo ôi, khiếp thế à? - Oh my gosh, is it so terrifying?

(Phong Điệp, *Người lạ*, tr.38)

d. Moral modal meaning

A moral attitude means that the speaker imposes on the actions of others or the speaker himself performs based on the community's rules, institutions, or common sense.

d1. The moral modal meaning indicates the possibility of reality:

Xin hãy bình tĩnh! - Please calm down!

(Trần Thị Tú Ngọc, *Thăm thẳm bóng sông*, tr.242)

d2. The moral modal meaning indicates unrealistic possibilities:

Hỏi thăm làm gì? - Don't ask anything

(Vũ Trọng Phụng, *Số đỏ*, tr.389)

d3. The moral modal meaning expresses the mandatory nuance of reality

Quên. Phải quên. - Forget. Must forget.

(Khái Hưng, *Hồn bướm mơ tiên*, tr.673)

d4. The moral modal meaning expresses the nuance of unrealistic compulsion

Nghĩ ngợi làm gì. - What's the use of thinking.

(Nguyễn Huy Thiệp, *Giọt máu*, tr.174)

e. Attitude modal meaning is a type of attitude meaning that indicates the relationship between the speaker and the listener.

For fragment, the modal expression groups often do not express positive or negative nuances explicitly but through their combination with the nucleus structure to convey the overall meaning of the sentence.

Chapter summary

When applying the framework of FDG combined with the developmental perspective of Cao Xuan Hao and some authors in the study of Vietnamese, this chapter has shown that fragment has the ability to convey state of affairs information from the viewpoint of the communicative participant, while simultaneously expressing subjective evaluations and emotions. The analysis also shows that some fragment express a combination of state of affairs and modal meaning, some sentences express only state of affairs meaning, and conversely, some sentences make it difficult to clearly determine modal meaning. In terms of meaning function, fragment also demonstrates its uniqueness by focusing on conveying certain classifications of meaning (both state of affairs and modal) that are distinctive.

CHAPTER 4. THE PRAGMATIC OF
VIETNAMESE FRAGMENT

In this chapter, we will analyze the pragmatic of fragments by focusing on their contextual features and the content of marking the purpose of speech to clarify their message.

4.1. Contextual feature of fragments

Each sentence is produced in a certain context, to understand that sentence fully, we must place it in the context in which it was born.

4.1.1. Background of fragments

The context of fragments from a narrow perspective of context, which is the upper or lower paragraph or sentence of a fragment or the combination of words together in the speaker's speech sequence in the case of a monologue and the preceding and following speech sequences in the relationship between the parties involved in the conversation communication.

4.1.1.1. Fragments in the personal narrative

The personal narrative is understood by us as the words of the narrator who oversees leading and telling the whole story. Fragments in appearsase usually appear in a descriptive paragraph.

4.1.1.2. Fragments appearing in monologue sequences

Fragments appear in such a general context to evoke themes, name emotions, moods, or precisely desperation about the problem they are facing, which is often at an impasse. Sometimes, fragments are used to evoke ideas that the character suddenly comes up with during the monologue.

4.1.1.3. Fragments appearing in dialogue

This is the situation where the most fragments appear, especially in the types of contact that are not official and public; it is a simple conversation in colloquialisms, an atmosphere of spiritual and moral equality between spokespersons.

4.1.2. Interpersonal relationships

4.1.2.1. From the perspective of the axis of power

Power relations in Vietnam are often manifested in several aspects, such as gender relations, status relations, ranks, age relations, level of knowledge, etc. The axis of power not only does not limit the participants' choice to use fragments, but with fragments in different ways, it also reflects an obvious division on this axis of communication.

E.g: - The car door opened, and she dropped her stick to get off. The two grandchildren supported their armpits, and she stretched out her hands and said:

- **Don't worry. -** ***Khỏi****. I'm back in my homeland, and I feel great.* With my parents here to support me, how could I possibly fall?

[...] – **Cha bố anh***!*

<div align="right">(Vu Thanh Lich, Aunt by Husband, pp.265-267)</div>

E.g: - You love that boy very much, don't you? - I asked. Silent. Then, after a while, she replied softly:

- **Yes! -** ***Vâng ạ!***

<div align="right">(Nguyen Thi Thu Hue, After Heaven, p.169)</div>

4.1.2.2. From the axis of distance

The distance relationship is also the horizontal relationship or near and far relationships. We analyzed examples in the same relationship, the same social status, but the different distances make the use of fragments also diverge in separate directions. In addition, depending on the various levels of affinity, the participants have various ways of using fragments in different ways, fluent or fluent:

Too precious*. -* **Quý hoá quá***. I didn't expect Ms. Loan to be so good at cooking!* (Nhat Linh, *Picking up the Fallen Gold Leaf*, p.270)

Damn it! – **Mẹ kiếp! Thế chứ lại!** *- Phan muttered and looked around:* **Come on! - Thôi đi đi mày!**

<div align="right">(Phong Diep, The Deserted House, pp.31-32)</div>

4.2. Marking the purpose of speech

To accomplish a speech purpose, a specific syntactic structure is often used with distinct linguistic means that create a correlation between the form of the sentence and the intended use.

4.2.1. Methods of marking the purpose of speech in fragments

4.2.1.1. Universal modes include: modal particles, adverbs, punctuation marks.

4.2.1.2. Specific methods

In fragments, there is also a method of marking the purpose of speech that is specific and not established in other sentence forms. That is, for fragments, the nuclear of contextual itself can express the purpose of marking without any accompanying signs or methods such as marking exclamation with the words expressing the emotion itself or marking the purpose of the bridge with verbs or verb phrases:

Trời ơi! - Oh my God! (Thach Lam, *Mother Le's House*, p.136)

4.2.2. Purpose of fragments

Implementing the purpose of speech is a way for us to prove that fragments are a sentence type capable of fully conveying the four groups of purpose of speech like other types of sentences.

4.2.2.1. Using fragments for narrative (description, presentation, narration)

For narrative purposes, fragments affirm that it is a type of sentence used to confirm the state, characteristics, and properties of the object.

"Miscarriage". - Sảy thai rồi.

(Phong Điệp, *Kẻ dự phần*, p.15)

Negative fragments note the absence of a thing or phenomenon, characterizing the nature of relations or in imagination.

There are no charms.

(Nguyễn Ngọc Tư, Rượu trắng, p.112)

4.2.2.2. Using fragments to raise questions and need to be answered

The basic purpose of a question is to ask a question, and to achieve that purpose, in many cases the speaker chooses fragments to highlight the content of the question, helping the speaker focus on the focus of the information to direct the most concise answer.

Tưởng bỏ về rồi? - I thought you had left.

(Nguyễn Phú, *Tuyết đào*, tr.127)

4.2.2.3. Using fragments to express emotions

Interjection fragments often do an excellent job of expressing sudden, unexpected emotions that other types of sentences almost can't fully express:

Đau đớn biết bao! How painful!

(Khái Hưng, *Con chim vành khuyên*, tr.420)

4.2.2.4. Using fragment to state a causative idea

A fragment with the purpose of causation is a sentence that expresses the speaker's intent to cause the listener to perform the action mentioned in the sentence. These sentences are not a commonly marked purpose in fragment and are easily confused with command sentences.

Chapter summary

In this chapter, the thesis analyzes the pragmatics dimension. The fragments are placed about the communication activity to explore and clarify the contextual characteristics and utterances of the fragments. Through the contents of chapter 4, we have affirmed that the syntactic form called fragments is an inevitable choice in specific

communication situations. At the same time, fragments themselves also fulfill the role of conveying the message, like all other types of sentences.

CONCLUSION

By implementing this project, we have learned lessons on methodology and manipulation. To analyze a specific sentence type with many differences from the usual sentence frame, it is most important to flexibly apply modern grammatical theoretical guidelines based on respecting the characteristics of language typology and the specificity of the object of study.

Based on the research, we have established the position of fragment in Vietnamese syntax by constructing the concept and analyzing the criteria for identifying fragment, while also distinguishing fragment from similar grammatical forms, including sentence types that closely resemble fragment and near-sentence forms that can easily be mistaken for some classifications of fragment.

From the concept and identification criteria, we have gathered a large, reliable corpus, combining quantitative and qualitative methods within the functional discourse grammar of S.C. Dik and etc to accurately describe fragment in syntactics, semantics, and pragmatics.

On the syntactic dimension, based on the layered structure frame. and the tool concepts of the nucleus - operators we have identified the structural model of Vietnamese fragment, isolating 13 structural forms of fragment into two major groups: fragment with only the nucleus and fragment with the nucleus - the operators. The sentence patterns are symbolized and explained based on the position of the value components. The corpus also initially demonstrates the variation in the prototypicality of sentence patterns, where the more minimalistic forms of fragment are more common in communication.

From the description of the syntactic dimension, it can be confirmed that fragment is an independent sentence type with its model, completely separate from other sentence types in Vietnamese syntax. The structure of fragment is organized in a complete and clearly stratified manner, which can be modeled and differentiated in terms of prototypicality.

On the semantic dimension, through the analysis of the two main dimensions of sentence meaning, state of affairs and modal meaning, the thesis has demonstrated fragment's ability to express meaning. Like other sentences, the semantic elements in fragment harmoniously combine to convey state of affairs information quite fully and subtly reveal the speaker's attitude towards what is being

said in the sentence or towards the listener. The semantic dimension also highlights the special points of this sentence type, or in other words, classifies fragment into different meaning-conveying groups, such as: fragment that can fully convey both state of affairs and modal meaning; fragment with only modal meaning and undefined state of affairs meaning (often fragment with interjection as the nucleus); and fragment with clearly defined state of affairs meaning but difficult to determine modal meaning (fragment with only a nucleus and the nucleus is not an interjection). Going into detail, the fragment also reflects selective expression, only reflecting certain types of state of affairs and modal meaning.

On the pragmatic dimension, the thesis examines fragment in relation to communicative activity to analyze and clarify the contextual characteristics and speech purposes of fragment. Through the analysis of the direct context in which fragment appears and the impact of interpersonal relationships on the syntactic adjustment of fragment, we have affirmed that fragment is an inevitable choice in certain communicative circumstances. At the same time, fragment itself can convey major speech purposes like all other sentence types, with some cases where the speech purpose is fully and sharply marked through the expression of fragment.

Thus, from the research results of this project, we have initially established the position of fragment in Vietnamese syntax, proposed the concept of fragment, and applied the theoretical framework of FDG (fundamentally) to describe the three dimensions of syntactic, semantics, and pragmatics of Vietnamese fragment. As a sentence, fragment fully reflects the three research dimensions: syntactics, semantics, and pragmatics.

From the arguments presented in the thesis, we can assert that the existence of fragment is a necessary and intentional choice among many communicative options available within the language system. In other words, fragment must have differences compared to other classifications at the same dimension, but it is not an abnormal sentence type; therefore, it should not (or need not) be isolated into a separate group, and stringent judgments regarding the existence of fragment in syntax should be avoided. This can be considered a condition or basis for identifying and distinguishing fragment in Vietnamese syntactic theory.

As stated in the thesis, the understanding of the various aspects of fragment has not yet achieved complete consensus, particularly

regarding the theoretical framework when applied to a subject with many specific characteristics like the Vietnamese fragment. Therefore, we believe that further exploration and clarification of fragment can be undertaken using other functional theoretical frameworks (such as Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics), modern theories like prototype theory, or Nanosyntax to address the gaps remaining in this thesis.

**LIST OF AUTHOR'S PUBLISHED WORKS STATEMENT
RELATED TO THE THESIS**

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