

WANDERWORD WANDERS AND WONDERS

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Wanderwords *Wanderworter*

- *Wanderworter* are loanwords that have spread in a wide geographic areas in the word in languages that are not linguistically related; and very often reflect the spread of objects the words refer to.
- Why *Wanderworter*
 - Rich sources for cultural and historical studies: And especially to support and/or instead of scarce physical evidence: Ex. Names of spices in different languages along the maritime silk road; many examples in Jurafsky 2014
 - Good data for establishing cross-cultural or cross-linguistic differences
 - Sources for study on the linguistic mechanisms of loan words (as the origin and loaning direction of *wanderworter* are much easier to establish.

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OUTLINE

- Introduction
- *Ketchup*: 300 years around the world
- Spices; or how *wanderworter* record the history of contact and influences of material cultures
- Japan as pivot: the influence of orthography on form and meaning of *wanderworter*

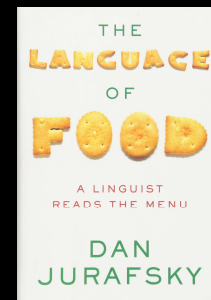
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《食物的語言》

- Some of the most popular wanderworter are food related and Jurafsky 2014 discussed many interesting cases
- Wanderworter represent one perspective of studies on language and food
- Some of our recent studies on language and food:
 - Yao, Y. and Q. Su. 2019. Chinese, Food and Menus. In Huang, C.-R., B. Meisterernst, and I. Jing-Schmidt. (Eds.). 2019. Routledge Handbook on Chinese Applied Linguistics. London: Routledge
 - Zhong, Y. and C.-R. Huang. 2018. Pleasing to the mouth or pleasant personality: a corpus-based study of conceptualization of desserts in online Chinese food reviews. Paper presented at the 32nd Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC-32), December 1-3, Hong Kong SAR, China.



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The Full Story of Ketchup

- Ketchup in Taiwan Southern-Min: *khe-tsiap-pu*,
 - > borrowed from Japanese ケチャップ (kechappu)
 - > from English *ketchup/catchup* (probably in early 20th century)
- Popular belief (among English and Cantonese speakers):
 - > etymology of catchup is Cantonese *ke-zap* (茄汁 from 蕃茄汁/醬)
 - E.g. 2000 American Heritage Dictionary/WIKI
- Other sources referred to Malay *ke chap*: fish sauce; or even India...

Historical Facts:

- Catchup/ketchup was first recorded in English in 1690.
- At that time (16-7 century) UK peoples believed tomatoes are poisonous and not edible, influenced by John Gerard's (1597) *Herball* (based on R. Dodoens's work).
- The main ingredient of ketchup was NOT tomato before late 19 century.
 - F.&J. Heinz started selling *tomato* ketchup in 1876.

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The Journey of *Ketchup*?

Linguistic facts

- Southern-Min 汁 *tsiap* is phonologically closer to English *tjap*, (than Canonese *zap*)
- Historical document from JiYun 醋汁 (集韻) (1073) 醋, 戶佳切, 「吳人呼魚菜總稱。」《說文》段注: 醋俗作醋; Early Southern-Min/Amoy Dictionaries (e.g. Douglas 1873, Macgowan 1883, Campbell 1913).
- Field work: Amoy (dialect of SM) 「無醋無菜, 好醋好菜」, "No kue2; no dish. Good kue2; good dish" (李如龍Li 2000)

Integrated Facts

- Encyclopedia Britannica: ketchup came from Chinese *ke-tsiap*, which refers to a sources used in cooking made from marinated seafood/fish.
- Borrowed after British sailors encountered it in Malaysia.
- Ruled out: Cantonese (wrong time, wrong ingredients).
- Malay: not the original source
- India: only a stop on the route of borrowing...

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Summary: 300 years around the world

- Southern-Min people brought **koe** to South-East Asia, including Malaysia, **koe** being an important cooking ingredient.
- It was picked up by British sailors to improve the taste of food cooked during their long journey on board, **catchup** was first recorded in 1690
- In the next 2 centuries, ketchup was introduced around the world and localized to use many different ingredients, notable ones including mushroom and walnut.
- With industrialization and the affordable availability of tomato (old myth of its being poisonous took a while to overcome), **tomato ketchup** was introduced in late 19th c.
- This is the ketchup that was introduced as a new cooking sauce to Southern-Min in the early 20th century, through Japan.
- Southern-Min Hokkien people shared **koe-tsiap** more than 300 years ago; as **catchup**, it wandered around the world, became **tomato catchup**, and returned to Taiwan as **khe-tsiap-pu**, a wanderword coming home unknown to its kins.

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Spices: How **Wanderworter** Record The History of Contact and Influences of Material Cultures

- Spices were the more important traded commodities in ancient history, including and especial on the maritime silk road
 - By weight, they worth more than gold
 - Spices have long lasting and deep-rooted influences in material cultures where ever they go, and are among the most often recorded wanderworter.

Which of the following Spices are Indigenous in China ?

- badian/star anis*
- coriander/Chinese parsley*,
- cumin/zireh*,
- fennel*,
- fagara*,

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Names of Spices Tell Us Where They Are From And Their Wander-route

- badian, star anis*
八角, 茴香, 大料 ; (*badiane* French, *badiyan* Persian)
- coriander/Chinese parsley*
芫荽, 又名**胡荽**, 香葉, 來自波斯/伊朗 But from Persia, NOT China
- cumin/zireh*
孜然, 阿拉伯茴香、安息茴香 (Persian **zireh**, travelled on land to the east) ; 荳蔻, 小茴香, (Arabic **cumin**, travelled by sea to the west)
- fennel*
茴香, 蔞薹, 古希臘即有栽培, 《說文》無“茴”字 documented in Greek time, but “茴” was not recorded in ShuoWenJieZi, and the word formed with 回 topped by 艹; 回 often refers to people/ things from south/central Asia through the silk road.

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Names of Spices Tell Us Where They Are From And Their Wander-route II

- fagara, zanthoxylum, Sichuan pepper*
 - 花椒, 秦椒, 川椒, 山椒; (genus: *Fagara* (old); *zanthoxylum* (current, from Greek, yellow+wood)
 - The only spice whose Chinese origin is scientifically established,
 - Yet its earlier Latin genus name *fagara* is known to came from Arabic [but in fact wandered there from China through Persia]
 - No direct evidence for pronunciation of 花椒, but based on our current knowledge of related dialects/Sinitic languages, it is probably something like *faa-giao*
 - 《花椒之味》 *Fagara*: 2019 Hong Kong movie (Chinese name: Taste of Sichuan Pepper)
- Other Relevant Linguistic Evidences
 - Note the repeated use of 茴香 in various spice names in Chinese, and often following a foreign location. This suggests that the spice that it refers to without modifier (i.e. batian, star anis) was either indigenous or at least introduced much earlier before the other spices (the later being more likely)
 - Similarly, alternative names of Sichuan pepper 秦椒, 川椒 is modified by Chinese (and not foreign) place names (variants/regions of present-day Sichuan), the names also support that its origin is in China

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Cha, Chai, Te Chinese Tea or English Tea ?

- *The word for 茶/Tea takes one of the three following forms in (almost) all languages in the world : *cha, chai, te* (tea) (Mair and Hoh 2009)
 - Yet Sinitic Language has two main forms: *de* (Southern-Min, Hokkien, where tea was grown originally), *cha* (almost all others), but no *chai*...
- té/tea* languages where tea was imported directly form Hokkien (maritime)
- cha(1)* languages where tea was imported through Guangdong (maritime)
- cha(2)* languages where tea was imported through northern China (maritime) , e.g. *ocha* in Japan. (with the Japanese o- prefix)
- chai* languages where tea was imported through the silk road through Persia (where the suffix -i was added)
- A Couple of special English Teas that are not quite English
 - lapshang souchong* 正 (立) 山小種 ; Hokkien tea, but through Guangzhou (hence 'lap' instead of 'zheng')
 - pekoe* 白毫 (should be pek-oe, the white down at tip of fine tea leave, S.-M. or C.)

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Translation Of 權 Power/Right

Many modern concepts in political and social sciences in both Chinese and Japanese were translated into Japanese first from Dutch/English/German using borrowed kanji expressions than borrowed by Chinese again... That is, words that travelled from China to Japan, then took a virtual visit to the west and return again to China. These words include revolution 革命 democracy 民主 etc.

- Power/Right 權利/力
- 論語曰。可與立。未可與權。
- 孟子曰。執中無權。猶執一也。
- 公羊傳曰。權者何。權者反於經然後有善者也。
- 義 is altruistic 'right way' 權 is the 'compromised' or 'expedient' right way; the right thing to do in crisis or given serious constraints
- From here 權 is the power that is being shared/given under exceptional conditions. Not rights that comes with birth or considered as given

-This may be the reason for the mismatches of directionality in English and Chinese for the concept of power--.

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ON 三sān/THREE

- 三寶顏 san1bao3yan2 Zamboanga
- 三藩市 san1fan2shi4 San Francisco
- 三明治 san1ming2zhi4 sandwich
- 三文魚 san1wen2yu2 salmon

- 見'三'不是'三' none of the above sān's have the meaning of 'three'.
- And why not?

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How Many 味 Mèi's
Does Chinese and Japanese Have?

- One
- Two 二味耶曼陀羅, 《般若二味經》
- Three 三味 (many examples)
- Four 四味真火
- Five 五味真火
- Six 六味童子
- Seven 七味之術....

Is any of the above translatable?

*Originally from Buddhism, and later popular with Taoism; both Chinese Buddhism and Taoism tried to give definition to the many 味 mèi's

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How Many 味's II

新華嚴經論卷 第二十六 唐 李通玄撰 (Written by Chinese Monk, NOT translated)

- 第一義空三昧者。過一切有為無常法故第一空三昧者。明創過上二界息想定。亦過聲聞緣覺淨土三乘淨識之定。又十方萬像一性名第一空三昧。大空三昧者。過世情所識空過三乘住無作安也。得意生身故。合空三昧者。明與十方凡聖有性無情合故。起空三昧者。明寂用自在故。如實不分別空三昧者。明無情識故。示現根所見故。不捨離空三昧者。示現遠離過惡故。離不離空三昧者。處世界如蓮華居水故。以此十二昧為首。皆不離空無作無願。三三昧門為體。百千二昧總從此起。

- 味 mèi' as countable units
- But what is 味 mèi'

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Translation of Three

- 三味さんまい samadhi in Japanese
 - 五味 a plant's name: *Kadsura japonica*
 - 七味 The denial of seven senses as a way toward Zen enlightenment

- Any wanderworder function in a different environment in a new language, just like a traveler has different roles and functions in different places.
 - The word/person's identity does not change, but its function/significance in the environment changes...

- 三 in Chinese and Japanese are good examples, a wanderword containing 三 inherits the meaning of the number three in them regardless of whether it is in its original meaning or not.

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From Time to Sweet, From Portugal to
Taiwan (and China) via Japan

- Portugal: *quatuor anni tempore* (Ember Days)
 - Time for fast and praying, hence no meat is eaten
 - Hence the special method of preparing deep-fried vegetable and seafood in batter, which was introduced by the Portuguese to Japan (in Nagasaki)
- Tempura
 - Which was then transcribed to kanji as 天婦羅
- 甜不辣 *tiānbùlà* (Sweet but not Spicy): although it is neither sweet, nor spicy in taste by nature or by design.... [but phonologically closer to *tempura* than 天婦羅]
 - 天婦羅 *tiānfùlúo* was introduced later in greater China. As a consequence, it is use more in formal context (fancier Japanese restaurants), and 甜不辣 for casual dining
- Of course there is also Nagasaki *castella*, a Portuguese pound cake introduced by Dutch to Nagasaki to Taiwan, and known first as 長崎蛋糕 but now as 蜂蜜蛋糕 *fēngmídāngāo* honey-cake as it became the prominent local ingredient for castella made in Taiwan.

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Sounds Can Trump Character Forms Too

- Dutch/French *pan* → パン in Japan
- 食パン *shokupan* meal-bread (?) refers to the most popular bread loafs
- Shokupan borrowed in Taiwan → *siok phang*
- 俗 *phang* = cheap bread, now stands for toasts
- 饅頭 *húndùn* from China (probably 吳 Wu region) to Japan
- > *Udon*
- Back to China as 烏龍 (麵) *wūlóng* noodle

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On 高雄: Character Forms Trump Sounds

- *Takau* (from Austronesian Formosan Taokas, unconfirmed) bamboo groves
→ 打狗 to hit the dog *dāgao*, early Han Taiwanese 16-7th Century.
- Japanese found the place name vulgar (among other similar names), and took the sound and match it with Japanese place names with most similar sounds..高雄 *takgao*, an old city around Kyoto.
- After Taiwan Restoration after World War II, the place name of高雄 is kept with the Mandarin pronunciation *kaohsiung*
 - So 高雄州 is *Tagao Prefecture* NOT Kaohsiung Prefecture
- Similarly Austronesian *mangka/bangka* (boat) > 藍鯨 *Báng-kah* (Taiwanese Southern Min) > 萬華 *bankā* (Japanese Rule, from Buddhism) > 萬華 *wànhuá*

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Time for Coffee Break

Let's go to *kopitiam*,
Have some *sago*,
In *bubble tea* or in *tapioca pudding*?

- *Kopitiam*: Coffeeshop (Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei) portmanteau loan word of coffee+ *diam diam* = shop in Hokkien/Southern-Min
*Chinese were called *Sangleys* in the Philippines in 16-7 century, from S.-M. *seng-ll-lang* 生理人 business-person; business/commerce is widely associated with Hokkien Chinese
- *Sago* (from heart of sago palm) 西谷米 *xigu(mi)* in Chinese;
- *Sago* (from Asian Pacific) and *tapioca* (from root of cassava, from South America) are different plant starches but are nowadays often substitutable ingredients in many different menus, such as
- *bubble tea* (originally made in Taiwan with *sago pearls*, 珍珠奶茶), or *tapioca* pudding;
- can you differentiate a cassava cake from a sago cake?


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Wanderworter Wonder and Wander

-A travelling word weaves a cultural and linguistic network by blending into any language that adopts it and by bringing parts of the language that adopted it to the next language.

-Time for linguists to join the wander and wonder!



The Routledge Handbook of Chinese Applied Linguistics

Edited by Chu-Pien Huang, Zhuo Jing-Schmidt, and Barbara Meistersat

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