

# Cross-Cultural Attitude Analysis in Media Discourse of Trump's Presidential Victory: A Comparative Study of British, American, and Indian Written Reports

Lingyu Yi<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Foreign Studies, University of Science and Technology Beijing, Beijing 100083, China  
Correspondence: Lingyu Yi, School of Foreign Studies, University of Science and Technology Beijing, Beijing 100083, China.

doi:10.56397/JLCS.2025.04.09

## Abstract

In today's globalized media landscape, the representation of political events reflects significant cultural and ideological differences, shaping public perceptions across contexts. While Martin and White's appraisal theory within Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) has been extensively applied to spoken discourse, its use in analyzing written texts, particularly in cross-cultural comparisons, remains underexplored. This study addresses this gap by employing the appraisal framework to analyze attitudinal resources in media reports on Donald Trump's presidential victory. Using UAM CorpusTool, the analysis examines variations in attitude types (affect, judgment, appreciation), polarity, explicitness, appraiser, and appraised elements across reports from *The Economist* (UK), *AP News* (US), and *Colombo Gazette* (India). Attitude resources and chi-square tests reveal significant cross-cultural differences in evaluative strategies: *The Economist* adopts critical judgment reflecting European liberal values, *Colombo Gazette* emphasizes regional priorities with pragmatic optimism, and *AP News* maintains neutrality consistent with American journalistic norms. The findings contribute to understanding how cultural and ideological contexts shape media discourse, offering insights into the interplay of language, ideology, and political narratives.

**Keywords:** appraisal analysis, attitude resources, written reports, political narratives

## 1. Introduction

The globalized nature of today's media landscape ensures that political events are not merely disseminated across borders but are also interpreted and framed in ways that reflect underlying cultural and national values (Chadwick & Stromer-Galley, 2016). Media representations of political events, such as presidential victories, serve as powerful tools in shaping public perceptions and constructing

ideological narratives (Deka et al., 2023; Kuang & Wang, 2020; Nagai et al., 2022). Despite the critical role of media discourse in influencing political ideologies, its linguistic dimensions, particularly the evaluative resources that underpin these representations, remain insufficiently explored in cross-cultural contexts.

Within the framework of SFL, language is understood as fulfilling both reflective and interpersonal functions, enabling the expression

of attitudes, evaluations, and social relationships (Halliday, 2014). Appraisal theory, a subsystem of SFL developed by Martin and White (2005), provides a robust analytical framework for examining how evaluative meanings are communicated in discourse. This theory foregrounds the linguistic mechanisms through which feelings, attitudes, and values are negotiated, focusing specifically on the subsystem of attitude. The attitude subsystem categorizes evaluative meanings into three domains: affect (emotions), judgement (ethics), and appreciation (aesthetics). These categories map the evaluative stances that speakers and writers adopt toward people, behaviors, and events.

In addition, political discourse, as a prominent domain of societal interaction, is intrinsically tied to the strategic use of language. It plays a central role in constructing authority, legitimacy, and consensus (Chilton, 2004). As Ross and Caldwell (2020) note, appraisal resources are particularly prevalent in political discourse, especially during campaigns, debates, and interviews. Van Dijk (1997) emphasizes that political discourse extends beyond the mere exchange of information to encompass the negotiation of political values and attitudes, often reflecting societal concerns such as justice, equality, and solidarity. Political actors strategically deploy evaluative language to legitimize their positions, delegitimize opponents, and sway public opinion (Chilton, 2004).

Although extensive research has examined appraisal resources in Western political discourse, primarily in campaign speeches and debates (e.g., Siyou & Zhongwen, 2018; Ross & Caldwell, 2020; Woods et al., 2023), there remains a notable gap in the cross-cultural analysis of media discourse. Specifically, limited attention has been devoted to understanding how evaluative language is employed by media outlets across different cultural and national contexts to frame significant political events, such as presidential elections. This gap is particularly evident in studies addressing media representations of Donald Trump's presidential victory, which offer a unique lens to examine the intersection of language, ideology, and media narratives.

To address this gap, the present study employs the appraisal framework within SFL to investigate the use of attitude resources in

media coverage of Donald Trump's presidential victory. Drawing on reports from *The Economist* (UK), *AP News* (US), and *Colombo Gazette* (India), this study explores variations in the types of attitude (affect, judgement, appreciation), polarity, explicitness, and appraiser-appraised relationships. UAM CorpusTool is utilized for linguistic analysis, and chi-square tests are employed to identify statistically significant differences in the distribution of linguistic resources among the three media sources.

This study aims to advance the understanding of how evaluative language is strategically employed in written reports to both reflect and construct ideological perspectives. By examining cross-cultural and linguistic variations in the framing of political events, this research contributes to the growing body of work in political discourse analysis, particularly within the theoretical framework of appraisal. Through the lens of attitudinal resources, it reveals how cultural and ideological influences shape media narratives, offering new insights into the complex interplay between language, ideology, and media practices in a globalized context. These findings underscore the importance of adopting integrated linguistic and cultural approaches in media studies, providing a foundation for more nuanced and context-sensitive analyses of political discourse and its sociopolitical implications.

## 2. Analytical Framework

The analytical framework for this study draws on Martin and White's (2005) Appraisal Theory within the broader context of Halliday's (2014) SFL, with a focus on the attitude system. This study seeks to explore the ways in which attitudes, expressed through linguistic resources, reflect cultural and ideological differences across media coverage of Donald Trump's presidential victory. The framework centers on three key components: attitude types, polarity, and explicitness, as well as the relationships between the appraiser and the appraised. These components allow for a nuanced analysis of media discourse across three culturally distinct sources: *The Economist* (UK), *AP News* (US), and *Colombo Gazette* (India).

### 2.1 Attitude Types

Attitude is a critical element in the appraisal framework, and it is classified into three sub-systems: affect, judgement, and appreciation. These sub-systems capture

different aspects of subjective evaluation. Firstly, affect pertains to emotional responses, including positive and negative feelings such as happiness, security, or satisfaction (Martin & White, 2005). Secondly, judgement reflects ethical evaluations of behavior and character, with dimensions such as normality, capacity, tenacity (social esteem), and veracity, propriety (social sanction) (Martin & White, 2005). Thirdly, appreciation focuses on the aesthetic evaluation of things, including reactions to their composition, value, and social worth (Martin & Rose, 2007).

## 2.2 Polarity

Attitude polarity refers to the positive or negative orientation expressed within the discourse (Martin & White, 2005). This study classifies attitudes into three categories: positive, negative, and ambiguous. Positive and negative attitudes are indicative of approval or disapproval, while ambiguous attitudes reflect a neutral stance or uncertainty. By analyzing the polarity of attitudes, the study identifies how different media outlets shape the public discourse surrounding Trump's victory through the deployment of either affirming or dissenting evaluations.

## 2.3 Explicitness

Attitudes are also classified based on how explicitly they are expressed within the text. Inscribed attitudes are those that are directly and overtly realized through attitudinal lexis that convey clear positive or negative evaluations (Caldwell, 2009; Matthiessen et al., 2010). Invoked attitudes, on the other hand, are more subtle and indirect, requiring an understanding of the broader context or the ideological background of the discourse (Martin, 2003). Analyzing invoked attitudes allows for the exploration of how implicit cultural and ideological perspectives are communicated through language.

## 2.4 Appraiser and Appraised

The analysis also distinguishes between the appraiser and the appraised within the attitude framework. The appraiser is the entity responsible for expressing an attitude, while the appraised is the target of the evaluation (Martin & White, 2005). This study examines whether the attitudes expressed in the media reports are attributed to the writer-appraiser (i.e., the author or media outlet) or to an other-appraiser (external sources or individuals). Additionally, it considers whether the evaluation targets Trump,

Trump's victory, or other-appraised (external entities such as politicians, social groups, or events). This distinction provides insight into how media outlets position themselves in relation to the subjects of their reporting, revealing underlying biases or ideological alignments.

By utilizing this framework, the study aims to explore the complex interplay between language, ideology, and culture in the portrayal of political events, contributing to the broader field of media discourse analysis. The framework not only allows for the examination of the linguistic forms used but also sheds light on the underlying cultural and ideological forces shaping media representations. This approach is informed by contemporary research on cross-cultural discourse analysis (e.g., Ross & Caldwell, 2020; Caldwell, 2009) and ensures that the findings are grounded in a theoretically rigorous and methodologically sound framework.

# 3. Literature Review

## 3.1 Appraisal Theory in SFL

Appraisal theory, a central component of SFL, examines how language is employed to express evaluations, attitudes, and emotions within discourse. Developed by Martin and White (2005), appraisal theory has proven instrumental in the analysis of evaluative meanings, particularly in media texts. Recent studies have expanded the application of appraisal theory to complex discourse structures (Liu et al., 2022), showcasing its utility in uncovering implicit meanings embedded within political discourse. Similarly, Liu et al. (2023) highlight the framework's versatility in examining ideological positioning in public narratives, emphasizing its suitability for cross-cultural media studies.

Historically, research utilizing appraisal theory has largely focused on spoken corpora, as evidenced by studies on political speeches (Trnavac & Pöldvere, 2024; Zeng & Zhu, 2024). However, its application to written discourse, particularly in media contexts, has remained relatively underexplored. Given the influential role of written media in shaping public perceptions of political events, this lacuna in research warrants attention. By employing appraisal theory to analyze evaluative mechanisms in diverse cultural settings, the current study seeks to address this gap, thereby contributing to a more comprehensive

understanding of evaluative language in media discourse.

### 3.2 Media Ideology and Cultural Framing

Media discourse functions as both a reflection of cultural values and a vehicle for reinforcing ideological perspectives, shaping public perceptions and legitimizing dominant narratives. Hall (1997) argued that media representations are culturally mediated, constructing reality through codes and conventions rooted in specific ideological frameworks. These frameworks influence the framing of political events, with variations often aligning with national ideologies and socio-political priorities.

Recent studies have highlighted how media outlets adapt their narratives to resonate with local audiences and cultural expectations. For example, research on media framing and cultural identity (Kuang & Wang, 2020; Lyu & Takikawa, 2022; Xu et al., 2023; Zeng & Zhu, 2024) reveals that the presentation of political events is often tailored to align with regional interests and values. This adaptation underscores the role of media in bridging cultural contexts while maintaining ideological coherence, particularly in politically charged reporting.

### 3.3 Cross-Cultural Variations in Media Discourse

Cross-cultural studies provide a critical lens for examining how cultural and ideological differences shape linguistic practices in media discourse. Drawing on appraisal theory, research has revealed significant divergences in evaluative strategies used in media coverage of political and global events. For instance, studies comparing Chinese and American media representations (Mohammed, 2024) show how differing cultural paradigms influence the use of evaluative language and narrative structures. Similarly, analyses of environmental crises reveal stark contrasts in linguistic practices between Japanese and American media (Luo et al., 2023), reflecting broader cultural narratives that shape evaluative choices.

While much of the existing literature has focused on thematic areas such as environmental and economic issues (Scammell & Bielsa, 2022), political reporting—especially in the context of high-stakes events like presidential elections—remains underexplored. Addressing this gap, the present study applies appraisal theory to examine cross-cultural

media coverage of Donald Trump's presidential victory. By analyzing evaluative resources in reports from *The Economist* (UK), *AP News* (US), and *Colombo Gazette* (India), this research aims to illuminate how linguistic strategies and ideological framings vary across cultural contexts. It contributes to a deeper understanding of the interplay between language, culture, and ideology in shaping media narratives.

### 3.4 Research Gaps and the Significance of the Present Study

Despite the growing body of literature on appraisal theory and cross-cultural media discourse, several critical gaps persist. First, much of the existing research has focused on spoken corpora or single-language contexts, leaving the comparative analysis of written texts in multilingual, cross-cultural settings relatively underexplored. Second, while studies have examined linguistic styles in political discourse (e.g., Al-Khawaldeh et al., 2023; Chen et al., 2019; Kjeldgaard-Christiansen, 2024), they have paid limited attention to the evaluative mechanisms that underlie media narratives. Third, insufficient emphasis has been placed on understanding how cultural and ideological frameworks shape evaluative language in written texts about politics.

By addressing these identified gaps, the present study seeks to make a significant contribution to the fields of political discourse analysis, media discourse, and linguistics. Specifically, the research investigates the variations in attitude resources, polarity, and the relationships between the appraiser and the appraised within cross-cultural media texts. The study aims to answer the following research questions:

- 1) What are the differences in the distribution of attitude types (affect, judgment, and appreciation) across the three media sources?
- 2) How do variations in attitude polarity, explicitness, and the relationships between the appraiser and the appraised manifest across these reports?
- 3) In what ways do these differences reflect underlying cultural and ideological perspectives in the media?

## 4. Method

### 4.1 Corpus Description

This study examines linguistic and cultural



variations in media coverage of Donald Trump’s presidential victory by analyzing written reports from three prominent media outlets: *The Economist* (UK), *AP News* (US), and *Colombo Gazette* (India). These media sources were purposefully selected to capture diverse national perspectives on the same political event, providing valuable insights into how different cultural and ideological contexts shape the framing of a controversial political figure’s success. The inclusion of these outlets facilitates a comparative understanding of political narratives across cultures, highlighting the media’s role in constructing public opinion and reinforcing political ideologies.

The selection of these three media outlets reflects their distinctive national and cultural orientations. *The Economist*, a British weekly magazine renowned for its analytical depth and

global outlook, represents a predominantly European perspective on international political developments. *AP News*, a major American wire service, is recognized for its adherence to objective reporting and offers a lens into American political discourse surrounding the presidential election. Meanwhile, *Colombo Gazette*, a Sri Lankan publication with significant readership in India, provides a unique regional perspective, reflecting Indian political priorities and cultural attitudes toward the United States and its politics.

The written reports analyzed in this study are outlined in Table 1, ensuring a relatively balanced dataset from each country. Each article offers a comprehensive overview of Trump’s election victory, emphasizing distinct national perspectives and evaluative strategies.

**Table 1.** Overview of the Dataset

Report Title	Nation	Token
Welcome to Trump’s world	UK	1276
Donald Trump’s comeback	India	1040
Trump wins the White House in a political comeback rooted in appeals to frustrated voters	US	960

#### 4.2 Introduction to UAM CorpusTool

The linguistic analysis of the selected written reports was conducted using UAM CorpusTool (O’Donnell, 2011), an open-source software designed for the annotation and analysis of linguistic data. This tool was selected for its capacity to support both automatic and manual annotation of linguistic features, offering a flexible and comprehensive framework for the purposes of this study. Specifically, UAM CorpusTool provides robust functionality for the application of appraisal theory (Martin & White, 2005), enabling a systematic examination of attitudinal resources within the texts.

The appraisal framework, grounded in systemic functional linguistics (SFL), offers a detailed system for analyzing evaluative language, with a particular focus on five subsystems: attitude, polarity, explicitness, appraiser and appraised. In this study, manual annotation was employed to identify and classify these attitudinal resources across the three reports, facilitating a nuanced exploration of their distribution and variation within the distinct cultural contexts

represented by the media discourse.

Additionally, the study refined the categorization of appraisers into three segments: Trump, Trump’s victory, and other. This segmentation enabled a more precise investigation into how evaluative language was employed to construct and reflect ideological and cultural perspectives in written reports. By integrating this analytical approach, the study provides nuanced insights into the interplay between linguistic choices, cultural values, and ideological positioning in media representations.

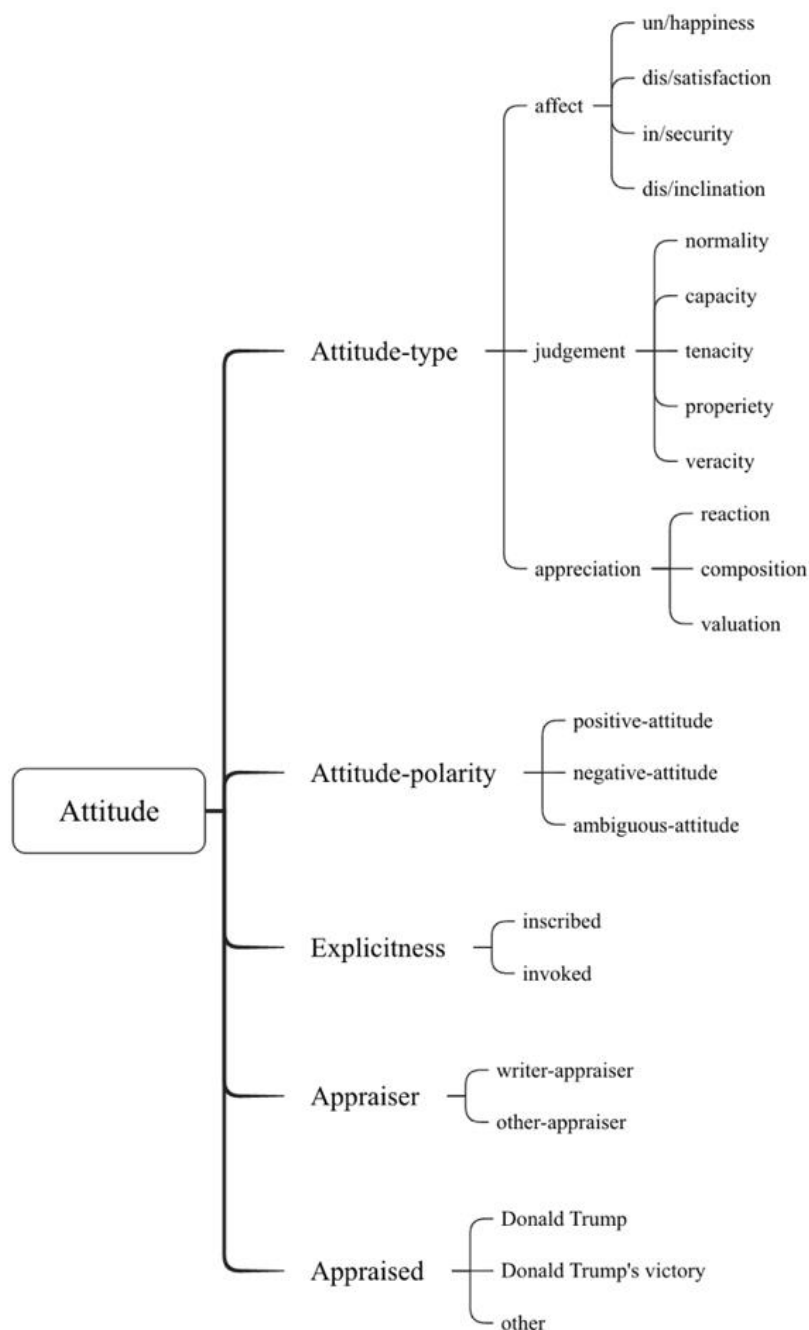
#### 4.3 Annotation Procedure

To ensure the quality and relevance of the data, the articles were first cleaned to exclude irrelevant segments, including jump prompt (e.g., seeing Briefing) and jump link. The analysis was then focused exclusively on the explicit attitudinal expressions within the texts. As recommended by Martin (2003), implicit evaluations were excluded to simplify the analysis and maintain focus on the observable, inscribed attitudes.

The appraisal framework in UAM CorpusTool was adjusted for the specific needs of this study (Figure 1). This included removing the unclear judgement from the original framework, as this was not mentioned in the three research objectives, and refining specific appraisers such as Trump, Trump's victory, and other.

The three primary attitude categories, affect,

judgment, and appreciation, were identified and annotated in each article. Additionally, the polarity of the attitudes (whether positive or negative), the level of explicitness, and the relationship between the appraiser and the appraised were also considered in the annotation.



**Figure 1.** The Framework of the Attitude Annotation in UAM CorpusTool

#### 4.4 Statistical Analysis

To ensure the robustness of the findings, the study employs chi-square tests for statistical

analysis. This method is used to assess the distribution of attitude types across the three media sources and determine whether the observed differences are statistically significant.

By comparing the distribution of linguistic resources across *The Economist*, *AP News*, and *Colombo Gazette*, the study quantitatively analyzes how each source utilizes language to portray Donald Trump's presidential victory, providing a clear understanding of cross-cultural differences in media discourse.

## 5. Results

This section presents the analysis of the attitude resources in media coverage of Donald Trump's presidential victory, based on the texts from

three distinct sources (Figure 2): *The Economist* (UK), *AP News* (US), and *Colombo Gazette* (India). The aim is to examine how the distribution of attitude types, polarity, and appraiser-appraised relationships differ across these media outlets, revealing the linguistic and cultural nuances embedded in their portrayal of the event. Statistical analyses, including chi-square tests, were conducted to assess the significance of these cross-cultural differences.

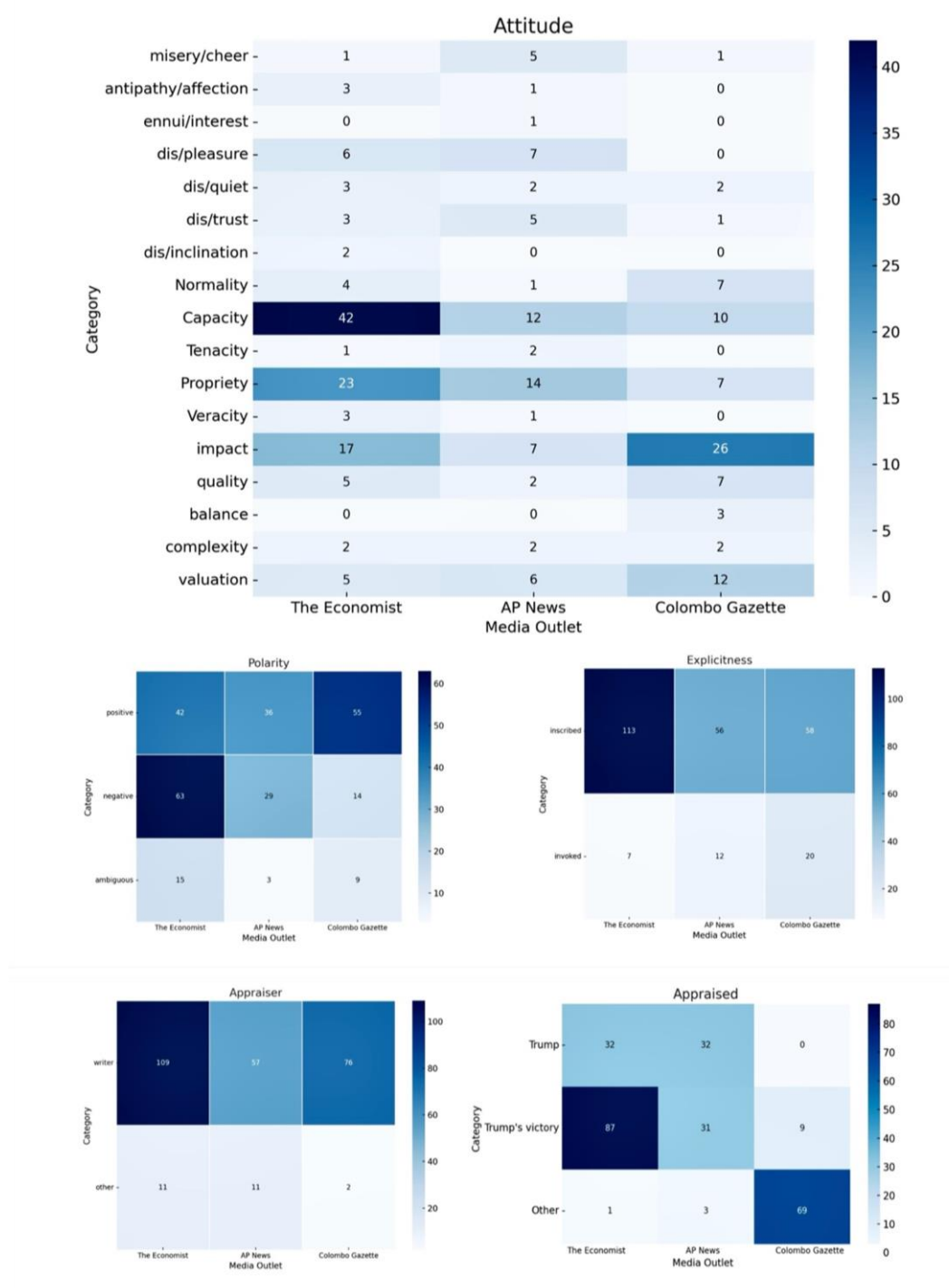


Figure 2. Distribution of Attitude Resources under the Analytical Framework

### 5.1 Distribution of Attitude Types

The appraisal analysis demonstrates distinct cross-cultural variations in the use of attitude resources across the three media outlets, revealing how different cultural and ideological orientations influence evaluative language in media discourse. Among the attitude types (Table 2), judgment was the most frequently employed, constituting 60.83% in *The Economist*, 44.12% in *AP News*, and 30.77% in *Colombo*

*Gazette*. This indicates a strong focus on ethical and moral evaluations, particularly in Western outlets, where *The Economist* and *AP News* emphasized critiquing actions and behaviors of individuals or institutions. In contrast, *Colombo Gazette* exhibited a comparatively lower reliance on judgment, reflecting a more restrained evaluative stance that aligns with its localized narrative priorities.

**Table 2.** Attitude Types Employed by Three Written Reports

Attitude	The Economist		AP News		Colombo Gazette	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Affect	18	15.00	21	30.88	4	5.13
Judgement	73	60.83	30	44.12	24	30.77
Appreciation	29	24.17	17	25.00	50	64.10
<b>Total</b>	120	100.00	68	100.00	78	100.00

Appreciation emerged as the second most prominent attitude resource, particularly dominant in *Colombo Gazette* (64.10%), compared to *The Economist* (24.17%) and *AP News* (25.00%). This highlights *Colombo Gazette's* tendency to focus on aesthetic and contextual evaluations, potentially as a strategy to resonate with its audience by framing political events in culturally relatable and socially positive terms. The high proportion of appreciation in *Colombo Gazette* suggests a narrative strategy that prioritizes affirming and aesthetically focused descriptions over direct critique.

In contrast, affect, which captures emotional responses, was the least utilized resource across all three outlets, accounting for 15.00% in *The Economist*, 30.88% in *AP News*, and a mere 5.13% in *Colombo Gazette*. *AP News's* relatively higher use of affect reflects its emphasis on engaging the audience emotionally, whereas *Colombo Gazette* displayed minimal affective expressions, adhering to a more neutral and detached tone. This limited reliance on affect in *Colombo Gazette* could indicate cultural preferences for objectivity and moderation in media reporting.

The chi-square test results ( $\chi^2 = 48.29$ ,  $p < 0.001$ )

confirm that the observed disparities in attitude resource distribution are statistically significant. These findings underscore how cultural and ideological priorities shape media framing practices. Specifically, Western media (*The Economist* and *AP News*) tend to emphasize judgment and emotional engagement as tools for critical analysis, while *Colombo Gazette* employs appreciation to craft narratives that align with local cultural expectations and values. This analysis contributes to broader discussions on cross-cultural media representation, demonstrating how evaluative language reflects underlying ideological and cultural frameworks in global political reporting.

#### 5.1.1 Affect

The analysis of affect resources revealed notable cross-source variations in their frequency and distribution patterns (Table 3). *AP News* demonstrated the highest proportion of affect resources (25.56%), followed by *The Economist* (15.00%), while *Colombo Gazette* exhibited a significantly lower proportion (5.13%). These differences reflect diverse editorial approaches in the use of affective language across the outlets.

**Table 3.** Affect Resources Employed by Three Written Reports

Affect	The Economist		AP News		Colombo Gazette	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%



Un/happiness	4	22.22	6	28.57	1	25.00
Dis/satisfaction	6	33.33	8	38.10	0	0.00
In/security	6	33.33	7	33.33	3	75.00
Dis/inclination	2	22.22	0	0.00	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Among the subcategories of affect, in/security was the most consistently observed resource across all three outlets, though its prevalence varied. *Colombo Gazette* displayed the highest proportion of in/security expressions (75.00% of its affect resources), while both *The Economist* and *AP News* each utilized this category in 33.33% of their affective language. In contrast, expressions of dis/satisfaction were prominent in *The Economist* (33.33%) and *AP News* (38.10%), but entirely absent in *Colombo Gazette*.

A distinct pattern emerged in the use of un/happiness, which accounted for over one-fourth of the affect resources in *AP News* (28.57%) and *The Economist* (22.22%). However, it was less frequent in *Colombo Gazette* (25.00%) due to its limited overall use of affective language. Additionally, the subcategory of dis/inclination, reflecting expressions of desire or aversion, was exclusively present in *The Economist* (11.11%), with no instances in either *AP News* or *Colombo Gazette*.

Examples:

- 1) Our *fear* is that during this presidency he will be at his most radical and unrestrained, especially if, as America's oldest-ever president, his powers begin to fail him. (from *The Economist*)
- 2) "I want to thank the American people for

the *extraordinary honor* of being elected your 47th president and your 45th president," Trump told throngs of cheering supporters in Florida even before his victory was confirmed. (from *AP News*)

- 3) India's Foreign Minister, S. Jaishankar, highlighted the country's strategic response to this outcome, expressing *optimism* in India's readiness to navigate and leverage the expected geopolitical shifts. (from *Colombo Gazette*)

Statistical analysis confirmed the significance of these variations, with chi-square tests indicating a significant difference in the distribution of affect resources across the three outlets ( $\chi^2 = 29.43$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). These results underscore the differential deployment of affective resources, shaped by varying editorial and linguistic choices.

#### 5.1.2 Judgement

The distribution of judgment resources, which evaluate ethical and moral behaviors, varied significantly across the three media outlets (Table 4). *The Economist* exhibited the highest proportion of judgment resources, accounting for 60.83% of its attitude resources, followed by *Colombo Gazette* (30.77%) and *AP News* (24.17%). These figures highlight differing emphases on evaluative language among the outlets.

**Table 4.** Judgement Resources Employed by Three Written Reports

Judgement	The Economist		AP News		Colombo Gazette	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Social Esteem						
Normality	4	5.48	1	3.33	7	29.17
Capacity	42	57.53	12	40.00	10	41.67
Tenacity	1	1.37	2	6.67	0	0.00
Social Sanction						
Propriety	23	31.51	14	46.67	7	29.17
Veracity	3	4.11	1	3.33	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Among the subtypes of judgment, social esteem was the dominant category across all three sources, although the specific distribution of its subcategories varied. In *The Economist*, social esteem constituted 79.55% of its judgment resources, with capacity as the most frequently used subcategory (57.53%). *AP News* similarly prioritized capacity within its judgment resources (40.00%), albeit to a lesser extent compared to *The Economist*. In contrast, *Colombo Gazette* distributed its use of social esteem more evenly, with capacity (41.67%) and normality (29.17%) being the most utilized subcategories.

Social sanction, which includes evaluations of ethicality and honesty, was less prominent overall but displayed notable cross-outlet variation. Propriety accounted for 46.67% of judgment resources in *AP News*, marking it as the most significant subtype within the outlet. Meanwhile, *The Economist* allocated 31.51% of its judgment resources to propriety, alongside modest use of veracity (4.11%). In comparison, *Colombo Gazette* employed propriety in 29.17% of its judgment resources but made no use of veracity.

Examples:

- 1) After *defeating* Kamala Harris — and not just narrowly, but by a wide margin — America's 45th president will become its

47th. (from *The Economist*)

- 2) In his second term, Trump has vowed to pursue an agenda centered on *dramatically* reshaping the federal government and pursuing retribution against his perceived enemies. (from *AP News*)
- 3) Trump's administration might enforce *stricter* immigration policies, yet Jaishankar believes economically motivated mobility may be encouraged. (from *Colombo Gazette*)

Statistical analysis confirmed that these differences in the distribution of judgment resources were significant ( $\chi^2 = 34.89$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). These results indicate systematic variations in the deployment of judgment resources across the three media outlets, reflecting distinct editorial and linguistic strategies.

### 5.1.3 Appreciation

The distribution of judgment resources, which evaluate ethical and moral behaviors, varied significantly across the three media outlets (Table 5). *The Economist* exhibited the highest proportion of judgment resources, accounting for 60.83% of its attitude resources, followed by *Colombo Gazette* (30.77%) and *AP News* (24.17%). These figures highlight differing emphases on evaluative language among the outlets.

**Table 5.** Appreciation Resources Employed by Three Written Reports

Appreciation	The Economist		AP News		Colombo Gazette	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Reaction	22	75.86	9	52.94	33	66.00
Composition	2	6.90	2	11.76	5	10.00
Valuation	5	17.24	6	35.29	12	24.00
<b>Total</b>	29	100.00	17	100.00	50	100.00

Among the subtypes of judgment, social esteem was the dominant category across all three sources, although the specific distribution of its subcategories varied. In *The Economist*, social esteem constituted 79.55% of its judgment resources, with capacity as the most frequently used subcategory (57.53%). *AP News* similarly prioritized capacity within its judgment resources (40.00%), albeit to a lesser extent compared to *The Economist*. In contrast, *Colombo Gazette* distributed its use of social esteem more evenly, with capacity (41.67%) and normality

(29.17%) being the most utilized subcategories.

Social sanction, which includes evaluations of ethicality and honesty, was less prominent overall but displayed notable cross-outlet variation. Propriety accounted for 46.67% of judgment resources in *AP News*, marking it as the most significant subtype within the outlet. Meanwhile, *The Economist* allocated 31.51% of its judgment resources to propriety, alongside modest use of veracity (4.11%). In comparison, *Colombo Gazette* employed propriety in 29.17% of its judgment resources but made no use of

veracity.

Examples:

- 1) A *stunning* victory has crowned Donald Trump the most consequential American president since Franklin D. Roosevelt. (from *The Economist*)
- 2) Donald Trump was elected the 47th president of the United States on Wednesday, an *extraordinary* comeback for a former president who refused to accept defeat four years ago, sparked a violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, was convicted of felony charges and survived two assassination attempts. (from *AP News*)
- 3) “Digital payment platforms, for example, will become much *more valuable*,” Jaishankar said, noting the need to build resilience and secure infrastructure. (from *Colombo Gazette*)

Statistical analysis confirmed that these differences in the distribution of judgment

resources were significant ( $\chi^2 = 34.89$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). These results indicate systematic variations in the deployment of judgment resources across the three media outlets, reflecting distinct editorial and linguistic strategies.

### 5.2 Polarity of Attitudes

Polarity analysis indicated distinct differences in the evaluative framing of Trump’s victory across the three media outlets (Table 6). *The Economist* exhibited a predominant use of negative polarity (52.50%), which exceeded its positive instances (35.00%), highlighting its critical stance in reporting. In contrast, *AP News* showed a relatively balanced polarity distribution, with a slight preference for positive polarity (52.94%) over negative polarity (42.65%). This balanced approach aligns with its journalistic norm of maintaining neutrality while incorporating evaluative elements. *Colombo Gazette* displayed a notably positive orientation, with 70.51% of its appraisals categorized as positive and only 17.95% as negative.

**Table 6.** Polarity Employed by Three Written Reports

Polarity	The Economist		AP News		Colombo Gazette	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Positive	42	35.00	36	52.94	55	70.51
Negative	63	52.50	29	42.65	14	17.95
Ambiguous	15	12.50	3	4.41	9	11.54
<b>Total</b>	120	100.00	68	100.00	78	100.00

Instances of ambiguous polarity, although less frequent, also varied across the sources. *The Economist* demonstrated the highest proportion of ambiguous attitudes (12.50%), while *Colombo Gazette* followed with 11.54%. In contrast, *AP News* exhibited the lowest proportion of ambiguous polarity (4.41%), reflecting its preference for clarity in reporting.

Examples:

- 1) A *stunning* victory has crowned Donald Trump the *most consequential* American president since Franklin D. Roosevelt. (positive polarity from *The Economist*)
- 2) While Harris focused much of her initial message around themes of joy, Trump channeled a *powerful* sense of anger and resentment among voters. (positive polarity from *AP News*)

- 3) For India, maintaining strong ties with the U.S., while preserving regional alliances, may prove beneficial in creating a *stable* diplomatic environment that supports India’s economic aspirations. (positive polarity from *Colombo Gazette*)
- 4) It will take time for the *full* significance of Mr. Trump’s victory to sink in. (ambiguous polarity from *The Economist*)
- 5) While India may benefit from increased manufacturing and digital opportunities, Trump’s pro-business agenda has *broader* financial implications. (ambiguous polarity from *Colombo Gazette*)
- 6) Trump will *inherit a range of challenges* when he assumes office on Jan. 20, including heightened political polarization and global crises that are testing America’s influence abroad. (ambiguous polarity from *AP*)

News)

- 7) The party compounded its errors by covering up Mr. Biden's disqualifying frailty until it was *undeniable*. (negative polarity from *The Economist*)
- 8) Donald Trump was elected the 47th president of the United States on Wednesday, an extraordinary comeback for a former president who refused to accept defeat four years ago, sparked a *violent* insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, was convicted of felony charges and survived two assassination attempts. (negative polarity from *AP News*)
- 9) If the U.S. limits outsourcing or imposes tighter regulations on pharmaceuticals, profit margins may *narrow*. (negative polarity from *Colombo Gazette*)

The chi-square test results ( $\chi^2 = 32.11$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ) confirmed that the observed differences in polarity distributions among the three media outlets were statistically significant. These findings provide robust evidence that the

evaluative stances of the outlets are shaped by their respective cultural and ideological orientations, as reflected in their polarity patterns.

### 5.3 Explicitness

The explicitness of attitudes, measured through the distribution of inscribed and invoked attitudes, exhibited notable variations across the three media outlets (Table 7). *The Economist* demonstrated the highest proportion of inscribed attitudes (42.48%), followed by *AP News* (21.80%) and *Colombo Gazette* (21.05%). These figures indicate a shared preference for explicit evaluative language, particularly among Western outlets.

Invoked attitudes, which require contextual interpretation, were observed more frequently in *Colombo Gazette* (14.29%) compared to *The Economist* (10.64%) and *AP News* (2.63%). This suggests a greater reliance on implicit evaluative strategies in *Colombo Gazette* compared to the other two outlets, which preferred more overt evaluative expressions.

**Table 7.** Explicitness Employed by Three Written Reports

Explicitness	The Economist		AP News		Colombo Gazette	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Inscribed	113	94.17	56	82.35	58	74.36
Invoked	7	5.83	12	17.65	20	25.64
<b>Total</b>	120	100.00	68	100.00	78	100.00

Examples:

- 1) In the 1920s and 1930s that led to *dark* times. (inscribed attitude from *The Economist*)
- 2) The *coarse* rhetoric, paired with an image of hypermasculinity, resonated with angry voters — particularly men — in a deeply polarized nation. (inscribed attitude from *AP News*)
- 3) Jaishankar also pointed to the *critical* role of digital ecosystems, which have become deeply integrated into both economic and societal frameworks. (inscribed attitude from *Colombo Gazette*)
- 4) His victory will be made complete by Republicans retaking the Senate and, as seems *likely*, holding on to the House. (invoked attitude from *The Economist*)

- 5) The results *cap* a historically tumultuous and competitive election season that included two assassination attempts targeting Trump and a shift to a new Democratic nominee just a month before the party's convention. (invoked attitude from *AP News*)
- 6) Trump's pro-fossil fuel stance could also mean fewer restrictions on oil and natural gas, *pushing up* global prices. (invoked attitude from *Colombo Gazette*)

Statistical analysis confirmed that the differences in the distribution of explicitness across the three outlets were significant ( $\chi^2 = 21.47$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ). These results highlight the varied linguistic strategies employed by the outlets in their evaluative framing of Trump's victory, reflecting distinct editorial conventions and audience expectations.

#### 5.4 Appraiser-Appraised Relationships

The appraiser was predominantly the writer across all three media outlets (Table 8), with *The Economist* exhibiting the highest proportion (90.83%), followed closely by *Colombo Gazette* (97.44%) and *AP News* (83.82%). These figures

indicate that media narratives across all sources were largely constructed through the writer's evaluative stance, highlighting the centrality of the writer's voice in shaping the evaluative framing of the coverage.

**Table 8.** Appraiser Employed by Three Written Reports

Appraiser	The Economist		AP News		Colombo Gazette	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Writer	109	90.83	57	83.82	76	97.44
Other	11	9.17	11	16.18	2	2.56
<b>Total</b>	120	100.00	68	100.00	78	100.00

In terms of appraised entities, *The Economist* and *AP News* predominantly focused on Trump and his victory, albeit with varying emphasis (Table 9). *The Economist* directed the majority of its appraisals toward Trump's victory (72.50%), whereas *AP News* distributed its attention more evenly between Trump (47.06%) and his victory

(45.59%). In contrast, *Colombo Gazette* demonstrated a markedly different pattern, with the majority of appraisals targeting other entities (88.46%), and only a minimal proportion focused on Trump's victory (11.54%). Notably, *Colombo Gazette* did not directly appraise Trump himself.

**Table 9.** Appraised Employed by Three Written Reports

Appraised	The Economist		AP News		Colombo Gazette	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Trump	32	26.67	32	47.06	0	0.00
Trump's victory	87	72.50	31	45.59	9	11.54
Other	1	0.83	3	4.41	69	88.46
<b>Total</b>	120	100.00	68	100.00	78	100.00

Examples:

- 1) Our *fear* is that during this presidency he will be at his most radical and unrestrained, especially if, as America's oldest-ever president, his powers begin to fail him. (writer as appraiser from *The Economist*)
- 2) There will be time for recriminations among Democrats about what went *wrong*, but the early answer is: almost everything. (other as appraiser from *The Economist*)
- 3) He had attacked Harris in deeply personal — often misogynistic and racist — terms as he pushed an apocalyptic picture of a country overrun by violent migrants. (writer as appraiser from *AP News*)
- 4) The results cap a *historically tumultuous and*

*competitive* election season that included two assassination attempts targeting Trump and a shift to a new Democratic nominee just a month before the party's convention. (other as appraiser from *AP News*)

- 5) Jaishankar also pointed to the *critical* role of digital ecosystems, which have become deeply integrated into both economic and societal frameworks. (writer as appraiser from *Colombo Gazette*)
- 6) India's Foreign Minister, S. Jaishankar, highlighted the country's strategic response to this outcome, expressing *optimism* in India's readiness to navigate and leverage the expected geopolitical shifts. (other as appraiser from *Colombo Gazette*)
- 7) As the polls predicted, he *enjoyed* a big



surge in support from Latino men. (Trump as appraised from *The Economist*)

- 8) A stunning victory has crowned Donald Trump the most consequential American president since Franklin D. Roosevelt. (Trump's victory as appraised from *The Economist*)
- 9) What was *remarkable* was not that they sometimes broke the rules, but how much they stuck by them. (other as appraised from *The Economist*)
- 10) He is the first person convicted of a felony to be elected president and, at 78, is the *oldest* person elected to the office. (Trump as appraised from *AP News*)
- 11) The victory validates Trump's *bare-knuckles* approach to politics. (Trump's victory as appraised from *AP News*)
- 12) I want to thank the American people for the *extraordinary* honor of being elected your 47th president and your 45th president. (other as appraised from *AP News*)
- 13) After a four-year absence from political office, Donald Trump has returned as the 47th President of the United States, a comeback that's expected to *reverberate globally*. (Trump's victory as appraised from *Colombo Gazette*)
- 14) Jaishankar also pointed to the *critical* role of digital ecosystems, which have become deeply integrated into both economic and societal frameworks. (other as appraised from *Colombo Gazette*)

It is important to note that the chi-square test was not conducted, as some cell frequencies in the dataset did not meet the assumptions required for such analyses. Specifically, the chi-square test requires that no more than 20% of expected frequencies fall below 5, and that all expected frequencies are greater than 1. In this case, certain appraised categories, particularly those with minimal occurrences (e.g., the absence of direct appraisal of Trump by *Colombo Gazette*), violated these conditions, rendering the test unsuitable. Consequently, the analysis presented here focuses on descriptive patterns to capture the observed distribution of appraiser-appraised relationships across the three media outlets.

## 6. Discussion

### 6.1 Distribution of Attitudinal Resources Across the

#### *Three Media Sources*

This study revealed significant cross-cultural differences in the distribution of attitudinal resources, specifically in the categories of affect, judgment, and appreciation, across the three media outlets. Each outlet exhibited distinct patterns in the deployment of these attitudinal resources, reflecting cultural and ideological priorities.

##### 6.1.1 Judgment and Its Cultural Significance

Judgment, the predominant attitudinal resource across all three outlets, serves as a key reflection of ethical and cultural norms in media discourse. *The Economist*, in line with its liberal European orientation, emphasized leadership competence and moral evaluations, portraying Trump through a critical lens. Conversely, *Colombo Gazette*, with its regional and pragmatic focus, highlighted governance evaluations that were more aligned with India's geopolitical interests, showcasing a more cautious approach. *AP News*, representing an American journalistic norm of impartiality, adopted a balanced stance in its evaluation of Trump's leadership qualities, reflecting a neutral approach to political reporting.

These findings resonate with previous studies, such as those by Liu et al. (2022), which highlight the ideological positioning of Western media outlets, but also reveal new patterns, such as the more balanced and action-focused approach of *AP News*, which diverges from typical Western media portrayals.

##### 6.1.2 Emotional Engagement and Its Implications

The study also explored the use of affect resources, revealing divergent strategies in emotional engagement. Western media outlets, particularly *AP News*, displayed a higher frequency of affective language, aiming to evoke emotional responses from their audience. This trend is consistent with previous research by Zhu and Shi (2022), which notes the emotional expressivity typical of Western media.

In contrast, *Colombo Gazette* demonstrated a much more restrained use of affect, reflecting South Asian cultural norms of indirectness and measured communication. This finding provides an important nuance to existing studies on emotional engagement in Asian media, offering a fresh perspective on the varying emotional tones employed in different

geopolitical contexts.

### 6.1.3 Aesthetic Evaluations and Ideological Biases

Appreciation, particularly in the form of aesthetic evaluations, also differed across the media sources. *The Economist's* frequent use of appreciation to critique policy and governance aligns with its role as an analytical and critical outlet. *Colombo Gazette*, on the other hand, emphasized social valuations, consistent with the region's more pragmatic approach to political reporting. *AP News*, in contrast, showed a reduced emphasis on aesthetic evaluations, focusing more on facts and actions rather than on evaluative judgments.

This contrast in the use of appreciation aligns with Sun & Liu's (2023) assertion that Western media frequently employ aesthetic evaluations to shape narratives, but also suggests that American media may be evolving, as seen in the de-emphasis of appreciation in *AP News'* coverage.

## 6.2 The Role of Polarity, Explicitness, and Appraiser-Appraised Relationships

Polarity, explicitness, and appraiser-appraised relationships played a crucial role in shaping the evaluative framing of Trump's victory. These elements further underscored the ideological and cultural differences across the media sources.

### 6.2.1 Polarity: Ideological Significance and Cultural Influence

The study's polarity analysis revealed notable differences between the three outlets. *The Economist* and *AP News* employed a relatively balanced approach, with both positive and negative evaluations reflecting nuanced critical stances. This aligns with Hall's (1997) findings on critical Western media coverage, which often balances multiple viewpoints to maintain credibility and objectivity.

*Colombo Gazette*, in contrast, exhibited a strong positive bias, with an overwhelming focus on Trump's victory and its potential benefits. This approach likely reflects the outlet's alignment with national interests and its cautious optimism about India's position in the global geopolitical landscape. Such a trend echoes Lin and Xu's (2023) observations on media alignment with national priorities.

### 6.2.2 Explicitness and the Cultural Norms of Communication

The distribution of explicit and invoked attitudes further highlights the cultural dimensions of media reporting. *The Economist* favored explicit, inscribed attitudes, indicating a preference for direct, clear communication. *Colombo Gazette*, by contrast, relied more on invoked attitudes, reflecting a cultural preference for indirectness and subtlety, a pattern consistent with Li and Feng's (2020) findings on South Asian media's communication styles.

*AP News* demonstrated a middle ground, using a mix of inscribed and invoked attitudes. This balanced approach aligns with Western media's adaptation to diverse audience expectations, as seen in recent research by Luo et al. (2023), which highlights the trend of balancing directness and subtlety in contemporary American journalism.

### 6.2.3 Appraiser-Appraised Dynamics and Media Agency

The appraiser-appraised dynamics revealed important cultural differences in the construction of media narratives. In all three outlets, the writer predominantly assumed the role of the appraiser, underscoring the centrality of the writer's voice in shaping the evaluative stance of the coverage. However, *Colombo Gazette* displayed a higher frequency of self-referential appraisals, a pattern that deviates from the Western emphasis on external evaluations. This finding suggests a shift in the Indian media's approach to asserting agency in global political narratives, as also noted by Li and Feng (2020).

## 6.3 Cultural and Ideological Underpinnings in Media Framing

The differences observed in the distribution of attitudinal resources, polarity, explicitness, and appraiser-appraised relationships are deeply reflective of the cultural and ideological contexts within which these media outlets operate. *The Economist's* critical stance, *AP News'* neutrality, and *Colombo Gazette's* optimistic framing all speak to the distinct cultural and political environments that shape these narratives.

Incorporating insights from previous studies, this research highlights how media outlets' linguistic choices are influenced by their cultural, ideological, and geopolitical contexts. The variations in the use of attitudinal resources, polarity, and explicitness underscore the complex interplay between language and ideology, offering new perspectives on how

media outlets construct political narratives.

#### 6.4 Implications and Research Contributions

The observed patterns demonstrate how media outlets, shaped by cultural, ideological, and geopolitical factors, construct narratives that resonate with their audiences. The critical tone of *The Economist*, the pragmatic framing of *Colombo Gazette*, and the objective reporting of *AP News* reflect broader cultural values and journalistic practices. While many findings align with existing studies, this research introduces new insights into the evolving dynamics of media discourse, particularly in the nuanced framing and strategic appraisals observed across diverse contexts.

This study highlights the linguistic and cultural variations in media coverage of Donald Trump's presidential victory, revealing the interplay between language, ideology, and culture. By integrating insights from prior studies, such as Martin and White's (2005) foundational work on appraisal theory and recent cross-cultural analyses (e.g., Luo et al., 2023; Mohammed, 2024), this research underscores the evolving nature of media narratives in political discourse. The findings contribute to cross-cultural media studies, offering both confirmations of existing theories and novel perspectives on linguistic analysis in ideological framing.

### 7. Conclusion

This study aimed to explore cross-cultural variations in the use of attitudinal resources within media coverage of Donald Trump's presidential victory. Anchored in appraisal theory, it addressed three key research questions: (1) How do the distribution and types of attitudinal resources differ across media outlets? (2) What role does polarity play in shaping the evaluative stance of the texts? (3) How are appraiser-appraised relationships constructed in the coverage, and what cultural and ideological factors influence these patterns?

Through a comparative analysis of texts from *The Economist* (UK), *AP News* (US), and *Colombo Gazette* (India), the study uncovered significant linguistic and cultural differences in framing the event. The analysis demonstrated that judgment resources—focused on ethical and moral evaluations—predominated across all sources, highlighting a universal emphasis on leadership and governance in political reporting. However, the specific framing of these judgments revealed substantial cross-cultural and ideological

distinctions.

Firstly, *The Economist* adopted a critical stance, prioritizing leadership competence and global ramifications in line with its European liberal values. *Colombo Gazette*, by contrast, centered its pragmatic evaluations on regional interests, balancing cautious optimism with considerations of India's geopolitical priorities. *AP News* upheld a neutral stance, reflecting the American journalistic norm of impartiality through a balanced evaluation of actions and outcomes.

Secondly, affect resources illuminated cultural differences in emotional engagement. Western media, particularly *AP News*, employed affect more frequently to establish emotional resonance with their audience, while *Colombo Gazette* maintained a restrained tone, consistent with South Asian norms of measured expression. Appreciation resources further underscored ideological differences, with *The Economist* favoring analytical critiques, *Colombo Gazette* emphasizing societal implications, and *AP News* de-emphasizing aesthetic considerations.

Thirdly, polarity analysis underscored divergent evaluative tendencies. Both *The Economist* and *AP News* employed a nuanced balance of positive and negative attitudes, indicative of critical and complex stances. Conversely, *Colombo Gazette* leaned predominantly toward positive portrayals, likely reflecting national interests and diplomatic optimism. Variations in explicitness also emerged, with Western outlets favoring inscribed attitudes and Indian media employing invoked evaluations, reflecting cultural preferences in communication styles. Moreover, appraiser-appraised relationships highlighted strategic differences: Western outlets predominantly evaluated external entities, while *Colombo Gazette* incorporated self-referential appraisals, signaling a shift toward asserting agency within global discourse.

These findings make significant contributions to cross-cultural media studies by illustrating how linguistic strategies are shaped by cultural and ideological contexts. The critical framing of *The Economist*, the neutral objectivity of *AP News*, and the pragmatic optimism of *Colombo Gazette* reflect the intersection of language, culture, and socio-political dynamics in media narratives. Furthermore, the study identifies emerging trends, such as the implicit ideological framing

in Western media and the strategic self-appraisals in Indian media, offering new insights into the role of media in political discourse.

Looking forward, several promising directions for future research emerge from this study. Firstly, expanding the analysis to include additional geopolitical contexts could provide a broader understanding of how linguistic and cultural factors influence media discourse across diverse regions. Secondly, a more detailed exploration of underexamined dimensions of appraisal theory, such as engagement and graduation, could uncover nuanced patterns in evaluative language and their ideological implications. Finally, longitudinal studies tracing changes in written reports over time would offer valuable insights into the evolving dynamics of linguistic practices, cultural ideologies, and political narratives, contributing to a deeper comprehension of global media systems in an increasingly interconnected world. In conclusion, this study enhances the understanding of the intersection between language, culture, and ideology in media discourse. By highlighting how attitude resources shape cross-cultural narratives, it underscores the value of integrating linguistic and cultural frameworks in media analysis. These insights not only advance the field of cross-cultural media studies but also provide practical implications for fostering more nuanced and context-sensitive media reporting in an increasingly globalized world.

## References

- AI-Khawaldeh, N. N., Rababah, L. M., Khawaldeh, A. F., & Banikalef, A. A. (2023). The art of rhetoric: Persuasive strategies in Biden's inauguration speech: a critical discourse analysis. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 10(1), 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-023-02450-y>
- Chadwick, A., & Stromer-Galley, J. (2016). Digital media, power, and democracy in parties and election campaigns: Party decline or party renewal? *The International Journal of Press/Politics*, 21(3), 283-293. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1940161216646731>
- Chen, X., Yan, Y., & Hu, J. (2019). A corpus-based study of Hillary Clinton's and Donald trump's linguistic styles. *International Journal of English Linguistics*, 9(3), 13-22. <https://doi.org/10.5539/ijel.v9n3p13>
- Chilton, P. (2004). *Analysing political discourse: Theory and practice*. Taylor & Francis Group.
- Deka, A., Hazarika, N., Vij, S., Barua, A., & Fantini, E. (2023). Media reporting on conflicts and cooperation: what does it mean for the Brahmaputra basin? *International Journal of Water Resources Development*, 39(5), 819-845. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07900627.2022.2163478>
- Hall, S. (1997). *Representation: Cultural representations and signifying practices*. Sage Publications.
- Halliday, M. A. K. (2014). *Introduction to functional grammar* (4th ed., C. M. I. M. Matthiessen, Rev.). Taylor & Francis.
- Kjeldgaard-Christiansen, J. (2024). The voice of the people: Populism and Donald trump's use of informal voice. *Society*, 61(3), 289-302. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12115-024-00969-7>
- Kuang, X., & Wang, H. (2020). Framing international news in China: An analysis of trans-edited news in Chinese newspapers. *Global Media and China*, 5(2), 188-202. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2059436420924947>
- Liu, M., Yan, J., & Yao, G. (2023). Themes and ideologies in China's diplomatic discourse – A corpus-assisted discourse analysis in China's official speeches. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 14, Article 1278240. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1278240>
- Liu, Q. Y., Ang, L. H., Waheed, M., & Kasim, Z. M. (2022). Appraisal theory in translation studies – A systematic literature review. *Pertanika Journal of Social Science and Humanities*, 30(4), 1501-1518. <https://doi.org/10.47836/pjssh.30.4.07>
- Luo, D., Lin, Y., & Zhang, L. (2022). Positive discourse analysis of journalistic discourses about Sino-foreign relations from the attitude perspective of appraisal theory. *International Journal of Frontiers in Sociology*, 4(2), Article 040209. <https://doi.org/10.25236/IJFS.2022.040209>
- Lyu, Z., & Takikawa, H. (2022). Media framing and expression of anti-China sentiment in COVID-19-related news discourse: An analysis using deep learning methods. *Heliyon*, 8(8), e10419. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2022.e10419>
- Martin, J. R., & Rose, D. (2007). *Working with*



- Discourse. Continuum.*
- Martin, J. R., & White, P. R. R. (2005). *The Language of Evaluation: Appraisal in English*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Mohammed, A. (2024). Appraisal theory and interpreting political speech. *European Scientific Journal, ESJ*, 30, 281-294. <https://doi.org/10.19044/esipreprint.6.2024.p281>
- Ross, A. S., & Caldwell, D. (2020). 'Going negative': An appraisal analysis of the rhetoric of Donald Trump on Twitter. *Language & Communication*, 70, 13-27. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.langcom.2019.09.003>
- Scammell, C., & Bielsa, E. (2022). Cross-cultural engagement through translated news: A reception analysis. *Journalism*, 23(7), 1430-1448. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14648849221074555>
- Sing Bik Ngai, C., Yao, L., & Gill Singh, R. (2022). A comparative analysis of the U.S. and China's mainstream news media framing of coping strategies and emotions in the reporting of COVID-19 outbreak on social media. *Discourse & Communication*, 16(5), 572-597. <https://doi.org/10.1177/17504813221099191>
- Siyou, Z., & Zhongwen, P. (2018). Analysis of political language based on appraisal theory: The mutual construction of language and power—Taking Xi Jinping and Donald Trump's speeches at the World Economic Forum as examples. *Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research*, 248, 98-101. <https://doi.org/10.2991/icsser-18.2018.23>
- Sun, J., & Liu, Z. (2023). Evaluation mechanism of political discourse: A holistic approach. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, 52(6), 2143-2179. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10936-023-09988-7>
- Trnavac, R., & Pöldvere, N. (2024). Investigating appraisal and the language of evaluation in fake news corpora. *Corpus Pragmatics*, 8(2), 107-130. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41701-023-00162-x>
- Van Dijk, T. A. (1997). What is political discourse analysis? In J. Blommaert & C. Bulcaen (Eds.), *Political linguistics*. John Benjamins.
- Woods, E. T., Fortier-Chouinard, A., Closen, M., Ouellet, C., & Schertzer, R. (2023). The battle for the soul of the nation: Nationalist polarization in the 2020 American presidential election and the threat to democracy. *Political Communication*, 41(2), 173-198. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10584609.2023.2291150>
- Xu, P., Krueger, B., Liang, F., Zhang, M., Hutchison, M., & Chang, M. (2023). Media framing and public support for China's social credit system: An experimental study. *New Media & Society*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448231187823>
- Zeng, L., & Zhu, X. (2024). Constructing cultural identities through new media: A multimodal appraisal analysis of Chinese web-based ink and wash cartoons. *Semiotica*, 2024(259), 217-253. <https://doi.org/10.1515/sem-2022-0098>