

《世界语言类型学》 Typology of the World's Languages》

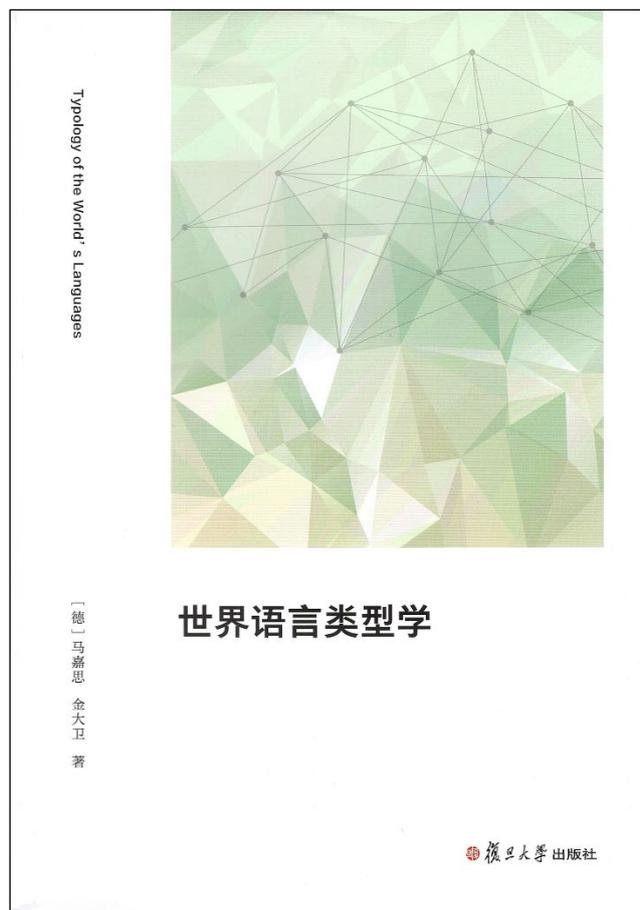
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Abstract:

This book integrates new typological data of the past twenty years by being attentive to the epistemological foundations of language typology.

The authors identify for each language phenomenon the kind of logical variable which is the source of cross-linguistic variation. Word orders in syntax or affix types in morphology, for example, correspond to nominal variables; syntactic cases comprising of nominative, accusative, dative and oblique case form hierarchical ordinal variables; the number of genders or classifiers found in a language are interval variables; and consonant and vowel inventories are understood as ratio variables.

With a clear view of what the source of variation is, this book illustrates each possible language type with data from at least one language. The authors involve a collection of more than 500 individual grammars of which 330 languages are quoted in this book. These languages are genetically representative of the world's languages.

Special attention has been paid to integrating and cross-referencing the different topics of this book. Grammatical agreement (chapter 9), for example, is the major technique of noun classification (chapter 11); *phi*-features (chapter 10) trigger differential word order (chapter 7), differential case (chapter 8) and differential agreement marking (chapter 9).

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