

## Contents

Acknowledgements.....	i
内容摘要.....	ii
Abstract.....	v
List of Tables.....	xv
List of Figures.....	xx
List of Abbreviations.....	xxi
<b>1 One Introduction.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Rationale of the Study.....	1
1.2 The Choice of Dialects for the Study: the Five Wu Dialects.....	3
1.3 Relevant Notions.....	10
1.3.1 Linguistic Distance.....	10
1.3.2 Mutual Intelligibility.....	12
1.3.3 Language, Dialect, Accent and Variety.....	12
1.4 The Aim of the Study.....	15
1.5 Structure of the book.....	16
<b>2 Previous Studies on Mutual Intelligibility.....</b>	<b>18</b>
2.1 The Early Studies on Mutual Intelligibility.....	18
2.2 Objective Testing versus Subjective Testing.....	22
2.3 Studies on Mutual Intelligibility of Chinese Dialects.....	26
2.4 Summary.....	31
<b>3 The Phonology of Five Wu Dialects.....</b>	<b>34</b>
3.1 General Introduction of the Previous Studies.....	34
3.2 The Phonology of Huangyan.....	38

3.2.1. Initials .....	38
3.2.2 Finals .....	41
3.2.3 Tones .....	44
3.3 The Phonology of Wenzhou .....	45
3.3.1 Initials .....	45
3.3.2 Finals .....	49
3.3.3 Tones .....	51
3.4 The Phonology of Quzhou .....	53
3.4.1 Initials .....	53
3.4.2 Finals .....	54
3.4.3 Tones .....	55
3.5 The Phonology of Yongkang .....	56
3.5.1 Initials .....	56
3.5.2 Finals .....	58
3.5.3 Tones .....	59
3.6 The Phonology of Wujiang .....	60
3.6.1 Initials .....	60
3.6.2 Finals .....	61
3.6.3 Tones .....	62
3.7 A Brief Comparison of the Phonological Structures of the Five Dialects .....	64
3.7.1 Initials .....	66
3.7.2 Finals .....	68
3.7.3 Tones .....	72
3.7.4 Syllable Structure .....	73
3.8 Summary .....	74
<b>4 Experimental Analysis of Mutual Intelligibility Among Five Wu Dialects .....</b>	<b>75</b>
4.1 Introduction .....	75

4.2 Stimulus Material .....	76
4.3 Recording of the Material .....	79
4.3.1 Speakers of the Stimuli .....	79
4.3.2 Sound Recordings .....	80
4.3.3 Sound Editing .....	80
4.4 Listeners for the Test .....	83
4.5 Testing .....	84
4.6 The Results .....	86
4.6.1 Results of Self-self Pairs .....	86
4.6.2 Results between Different Dialect Pairs .....	89
4.6.3 Comparisons between the Results of Self-self Pairs and those of Dialect Pairs .....	90
4.6.4 Mutual Intelligibility Scores .....	92
4.6.5 The Intelligibility Degree of the Five Wu Dialects .....	94
4.6.6 Adjusted Intelligibility Scores .....	96
4.7 Summary .....	99
<b>5 Linguistic Distances Among Five Wu Dialects .....</b>	<b>101</b>
5.1 Edit Distance .....	102
5.1.1 Introduction .....	102
5.1.2 Edit Distance: Phonetic Transcription Based .....	105
5.1.3 Matches of Segments .....	106
5.1.4 Operation Weights .....	107
5.1.5 Non-normalized and Normalized Edit Distances .....	108
5.1.5.1 Non-normalized Edit Distance .....	108
5.1.5.2 Normalized Edit Distance .....	109
5.2 Linguistic Distances of the Ten Dialect Pairs .....	112
5.2.1 Reliability of the Sample .....	112
5.2.2 Edit Distances Calculated Based on the Data of Trisyllabic Words .....	115

5.2.3 Edit Distances Calculated Based on the Data of Sentences .....	137
5.2.4 Linguistic Distances Calculated Based on the Data of Words and Sentences .....	156
5.2.5 Tonal Distances based on the Data of Trisyllabic Words .....	157
5.3 Visualizing Aggregate Differences: Multidimensional Scaling .....	160
5.3.1 Visualizing the Phonetic Distances .....	160
5.3.1.1 Visualizing the Non-Normalized Phonetic Distances .....	160
5.3.1.2 Visualizing the Normalized Phonetic Distances (Method 1) .....	162
5.3.1.3 Visualizing the Normalized Phonetic Distances (Method 2) .....	164
5.3.2 Visualizing the Vowel Distances .....	166
5.3.2.1 Visualize the Non-normalized Vowel Distances .....	166
5.3.2.2 Visualizing the Normalized Vowel Distances (Method 1) .....	167
5.3.2.3 Visualizing the Normalized Vowel Distances (Method 2) .....	169
5.3.3 Visualizing the Consonant Distances .....	171
5.3.3.1 Visualizing the Non-normalized Consonant Distances .....	171
5.3.3.2 Visualizing the Normalized Consonant Distances (Method 1) .....	172
5.3.3.3 Visualizing the Normalized Consonant Distances (Method 2) .....	174
5.3.4 Visualizing the Mutual Intelligibility Distances .....	175
5.3.4.1 Visualizing the Mutual Intelligibility Distances (Based on the Word Level and Sentence Level Tests) .....	176
5.3.4.2 Visualizing the Word Mutual Intelligibility Distances .....	177
5.3.4.3 Visualizing the Sentence Mutual Intelligibility Distances .....	179
5.4 Summary .....	181
<b>6 Predictors for Mutual Intelligibility Among Five Wu Dialects .....</b>	<b>182</b>
6.1 Introduction .....	182
6.2 Linguistic Distance as a Predictor .....	183
6.2.1 Correlations between the Linguistic Distances and the Raw Mutual Intelligibility Scores .....	184

6.2.2 Correlations between the Linguistic Distances and the Adjusted Mutual Intelligibility Scores .....	188
6.2.3 Correlations between the Tonal Distances and the Mutual Intelligibility Scores .....	192
6.3 Structural Distance as a Predictor .....	193
6.3.1 Structural Distances Among the Five Dialects.....	196
6.3.2 Correlations Between the Structural Distances and the Mutual Intelligibility Scores .....	200
6.4 Geographical Distance as a Predictor .....	202
6.5 Summary .....	204
<b>7 Conclusion.....</b>	<b>206</b>
7.1 Summary of the Major Findings .....	206
7.1.1 Word Level Test vs. Sentence Level Test .....	206
7.1.2 The Degree of Mutual Intelligibility Among Five Wu Dialects .....	207
7.1.3 Raw Intelligibility Scores vs. Adjusted Intelligibility Scores .....	208
7.1.4 Non-normalized Linguistic Distance vs. Normalized Linguistic Distance .....	209
7.1.5 Method 1 vs. Method 2.....	210
7.1.6 Vowels vs. Consonants.....	211
7.1.7 Predictors for Mutual Intelligibility.....	212
7.2 Limitations .....	213
7.3 Suggestions .....	214
<b>References .....</b>	<b>216</b>
<b>Appendix I.....</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>Appendix II .....</b>	<b>232</b>
<b>Appendix III .....</b>	<b>240</b>
<b>Appendix IV.....</b>	<b>241</b>