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A Construction Based on Audience *A Rhetorical Interpretation of the Toulmin Model*

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ABSTRACT: Toulmin provides a structural model which is more useful than traditional logical methods for dealing with practical argumentation. However, while a hot topic in argumentation theory, the current interpretations and elaborations of the Toulmin model mainly focus on logical and dialectical features, which ignore the exploration of rhetorical concerns. This paper calls attention to the rhetorical dimension of Toulmin's argument theory by exploring the vital concept of audience.

KEYWORDS: argumentation theory, argumentation and rhetoric, audience, rebuttal, the Toulmin model

1. INTRODUCTION

In the book *The Uses of Argument*, Stephen Toulmin (1958/2003¹) criticizes the traditional formal logician's ambitions to universal standards, which lead to the neglect of considering concrete and practical applications in the real world. In Toulmin's view, it was the excessive admiration for mathematical models and formal methods that led to the eager pursuit of a certain absolute and universal "idealized logic," but at the same time, we lost the theoretical connection between the study of logic and the actual analysis and evaluation of argumentation. In fact, a systematic divergence has grown up between the categories of logical practice and the analyses given of them in logicians' textbooks and treatises. (Toulmin, 2003, p. 8) There is an essential difference between the norms associated with evaluating everyday arguments in various academic disciplines and the criterion of formal validity used in formal logic. (Toulmin, 2003, p. 116)

Toulmin (2003) distinguishes analytic arguments and substantive arguments and asserts that arguments that appear in different fields and disciplinary areas are mostly substantive arguments rather than analytic arguments (p. 116). Because the complexity of substantive arguments is reflected in the emergence of new information, and in practical argumentation, we have to discriminate between specific fields, which are bound to change gradually over time, and the knowledge associated with them is not constant. The "idealized logic", which uses mathematics and formalization as its method of study, is undoubtedly inadequate in practice in terms of its necessary reasoning and its use of timeless and context-free propositions. We need "substantive logic", a logic that returns to the practical art, which means a kind of applied logic (Toulmin, 1983, p. 396). Thus, Toulmin constructs a theory of substantive argumentation.

¹The reference book in this paper is the revised version of 2003, and the original one is of 1958.

On this basis, Toulmin analyzes the process of argumentation by studying the practice of argumentation, taking into account the fields of argumentation and other factors, and argues that there are different levels of argumentative elements. The “warrant” of licensing is a different level of argument from the “data” and “claim”, and by analogy with jurisprudential argumentation, he outlines the different elements of argumentation and constructs a framework -- the Layout of Arguments, which was first introduced by Toulmin in *The Uses of Argument* and is now commonly referred to as the Toulmin Model.

However, there are also connections between Toulmin’s argument theory and rhetoric. After the initial release of Toulmin’s *The Uses of Argument*, in contrast to the criticism and claims of “anti-logic” from logicians, the book attracted the positive attention of rhetoricians due to the consideration of realistic argument and the criticism of the effectiveness of form. This approval surprised Toulmin, who had no idea that his work would be of interest to rhetoricians (Toulmin, 2003, p. viii). His view doesn’t change.

He believes that his study of arguments contributes to the ongoing logical debate rather than contributing to rhetorical theory, especially when he acknowledged that he knew little about rhetoric (McCarron, 2021, p. 4). Toulmin’s primary objective is to expand the scope of the logic’s application and to extend it into an “applied” art. While he acknowledges that the analysis and evaluation of argumentation will involve different areas based on the substantive situations, and that the evaluation of argumentation should also take into account its “functionality” (Toulmin, 1983, p. 396). As will be shown in this paper, these rhetorical features of the theory indirectly reveal the consideration of the audience in Toulmin’s argumentation theory.

Toulmin’s early-stage weak understanding of the nature of rhetoric is reflected in his confusion about the concepts related to “argument theory”, “rhetoric”, “informal logic” and “substantive logic”. In his 1982 speech at the University of Michigan, Toulmin named “The art of identifying and explaining the nature and mode of operation of “right” arguments” as substantive logic. He reports that “historically, it has been called more than a dozen different names, including topics, argumentation, rhetoric, organon, and method” (Toulmin, 1983, p. 398), which shows his belief, at that time, that these nouns refer to the same thing. However, they are not synonyms and cannot be equivalent. He also notes that calling this art “informal” logic was negative and asserts “substantive logic” should be the positive alternative. This mixed understanding shows that Toulmin’s cognition of rhetoric is not exact, which indicates he is unconscious of rhetorical features in the construction of his theory. Therefore, as a critical theorist of the same period as Perelman, Toulmin also developed his argument theory rhetorically, but unconsciously.² Drawing attention to the quality of the audience, we can detect that the reliance on rhetoric is mainly reflected in the motivation behind the creation of his theory, the criteria of theory evaluation, and the construction of the framework.

Toulmin’s main goal is to expand the scope of the application of logic and to extend it into an “applied” art while taking into account that the analysis and evaluation of argumentation will involve different areas depending on the substantive situations and that the evaluation of argumentation should also take into account its “functionality” (Toulmin,

² Perelman emphasized the essential differences between his ideas and Toulmin’s in the article: *The New Rhetoric* (Perelman, 1984) and *The Rhetoricians: Remembrances and Comments*. Perelman said Toulmin ignored the role of the audience in his book of 1958 and his analysis concerns only the manner of establishing judgments of fact (p. 195).

1983, p. 396). These are the rhetorical features of the theory, and through specific analysis, it is possible to find that the construction of the theoretical model shows conscious consideration of the audience in Toulmin's theory of argumentation.

As a crucial turn in history, the Toulmin model, as the main outcome of Toulmin's argumentative thought, has become a hot issue in contemporary argumentation theory. However, academic research on the Toulmin model of argumentation has mainly focused on the logical and argumentative features of the Toulmin model (Hitchcock, 2003, 2006; Freeman 1991, 1992; Slob, 2006), but with few interpretations of the rhetorical dimension.

In this paper, I intend to investigate the role of the audience in Toulmin's model and propose a way of interpreting the model from a rhetorical perspective, pointing out the foundational position of the audience in Toulmin's model. Although in this monograph Toulmin never uses the term audience, an audience concern can be found in his theoretical foundation and the construction of the Toulmin Model. It is the consideration of the response to the audience that ensures the construction of strong arguments.

2. FIELD, VALIDITY AND AUDIENCE

In constructing his theoretical model, Toulmin introduces plural fields to explore the validity of what counts as a good argument. To look at the field and explore fields in argument, rhetoric is unavoidable, for the assessment of argument according to fields and the acceptability to the audience is diverse in different fields. Toulmin's central thesis is that the standards and values of practical reasoning are not purely abstract and formal and that the soundness criterion depends largely on the nature of the problems at issue. (Toulmin, 2003, p. 185)

Toulmin points out the tendency to misinterpret or distort the elements and structure of real arguments by pursuing certain timeless and universal principles of necessity in analyzing actual arguments. (Toulmin, 2003, p. 106) He stresses the acceptability of actual arguments can be best understood and analyzed only in the context of concrete argumentative practice (p. 185).

Accordingly, Toulmin introduced the concept of "field", which is not a static concept, but is the branch of discipline or the field of human activity in which the subject of the argument is concerned. For example, the problem of geometry is related to the field of geometric disciplines, aesthetic judgment is related to the discipline of aesthetics, the problem of law is related to the field of courts, and so on. They are concerned with different subjects of argumentation, with different purposes to be achieved, and with different guarantees, which correspond to specific fields. According to the different contents and topics, the analysis and evaluation of the actual argumentation will depend on its specific field: "Arguments in different fields need to be evaluated for their merits according to the appropriate criteria in their field. The value of an argument recognized in one field will not necessarily be reflected in an argument in another field" (p. 255). This is about incorporating practical, discursive elements into argumentation and analyzing arguments in specific contexts, which inspires us to judge the fields to which they belong according to the themes and goals of the argumentation.

Therefore, arguments in different fields will show their "field-dependence" in terms of their justification requirements, evidence-based approaches, and assessment norms. According to Toulmin, universal principles of necessity under the previous formal logical

analysis approach cannot be applied to the analysis of everyday argumentation. “It simply cannot be explained in a purely formal way. So-called ‘validity’ is for them a completely inaccessible and inappropriate normative requirement” (p. 154). Toulmin then gives a broader meaning to the term “validity”, arguing that logic cannot be an idealized discipline closely related to mathematics, but must evolve into a discipline based on the practice of argumentation, seeking a closer connection with epistemology (p. 234).

The extension of validity is the outcome of his consideration of Aristotelian rationality. Toulmin points out that theoretical and methodological research on “rational evaluation” must be conducted simultaneously in two complementary directions: “formal” and “functional”. As he mentioned in his 1982 lecture at the University of Michigan, philosophers have followed Plato’s idealistic intellectual tradition, thus completely contradicting the “formal” and “substantive” dimensions of argumentation.³ However, the study of logic, if we return to the Aristotelian theoretical tradition, should be “the theory and art of rational evaluation of argumentation,” which includes elements related to “form,” or “analysis,” as well as elements related to “function,” using different theoretical terms and normative standards.

Toulmin inherits Aristotle's view of rationality and relates the concept of “rationality” to the empirical dimension of the real world. In addition to universal, context-free, and necessary rationality, there is also a kind of rationality that depends on real activities and involves historical, empirical, and contextual dimensions in the treatment of the real world. The criterion of argumentation, accordingly, is related to practices and is not validity in the formal logical sense, but strength or weakness in the substantive sense, which is expressed in the terms of reasonable and unreasonable, sound or unsound, warranted or unwarranted, suitable or unsuitable, strong or weak, which shows exactly the basic characteristic of the functional consideration of rationality. In the broader sense, the soundness of the argument is an “intraterritorial,” not an “interterritorial” notion (van Eemeren, 2014, p. 211). This means that the argument must be assessed according to the particular norms which apply to the field to which the argumentation refers.

The critical distinction of fields is a major innovation in Toulmin’s argument theory, which extends the validity of argumentation and brings new insights to scholars, leading them to explore argumentation using in practical methods. From the above analysis, it is clear that it reflects Toulmin’s thinking and expansion of argument validity, and the combination of fields and argument evaluation reflects Toulmin’s care for realism in constructing applied logic, and on this basis, it also establishes a close connection with the audience. In the practical turn of argumentation, the logical and rhetorical dimensions of argumentation are deeply interwoven. If we wish to deal with real, everyday argumentation, we must then have to take into account the “functionality” of realistic argumentation mentioned by Toulmin. The audience becomes an indispensable and crucial element because the audience is the object of everyday argumentation, the subject that a particular argument wants to influence or produce effects in a particular field. Toulmin distinguishes between substantive and analytical argumentation and points out that the

³ The lecture was given by Toulmin at the University of Michigan in 1982, and the whole paper was collected on the book of the rhetoric of Western thought (third edition) by J. Golden, G. Berquist & W. Coleman (eds.). pp: 391-401. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall Hunt Publishing Company. 1983.

rationality of everyday argumentation, which is “substantive”, depends on the specific analysis of a particular field, situation, and experience.

As an interactive activity, argumentation has its audience, and the audience is the direct object of argumentation, which is the direct manifestation of its effect. In order to achieve a proper analysis of the validity of arguments, it is necessary to take into account their corresponding audiences, and the presentation of the diversity of audiences is achieved through the field. By assigning a particular argument to a field, it is possible to assess it according to the truth value assigned to its justification and proof by the audiences typically involved in that field. For example, if we are interested in the validity or suitability of an argument for a particular audience, it may be useful to evaluate the argument in light of the beliefs generally held by that audience. Thus, the field question is posed in a way that reflects the model’s care for the audience. Different arguments in different fields face audiences with different perceptions, knowledge, and values, and thus different levels of acceptance of the arguments.

Starting with the exploration of the concept of validity, Toulmin inherited the empirical rationality of Aristotle, developed the corresponding substantive rationality and the corresponding substantive logic, with the foundation of the most critical concept “field”. Toulmin’s definition of substantive empirical rationality and field-dependent considerations both reflect a close connection to the rhetorically critical concept of the audience. The following section will provide a rhetorical elaboration of the Toulmin model based on audience.

3. RESPONSE TO AUDIENCE’S CRITICISM

In response to the diversity of the field of everyday argumentation, Toulmin points out that the evaluation of substantive argumentation should be reliable or reasonable rather than valid in the sense of formal logic. Toulmin observed that different fields use distinct argument evaluation criteria but using the same argument model (Verheij 2006; van Eemeren et al. 2014, pp. 203–256; Zenker 2018).

Toulmin (2003) argues that a sound argument, with a well-grounded or firmly backed claim, is one that will stand up to criticism (p. 8). Although the origin of criticism hasn’t be stated, it should come from an audience in practical argumentation, thus this reliability is evaluated according to the audience to whom the argument is addressed. With the concern of audience, argumentation can be analyzed as a process in which arguers give information to make it acceptable to their intended audience, which reflects relevant rhetorical feature of Toulmin’s idea.

In constructing their new audience-oriented rhetorical theory, Perelman and Olbrechts-Tyteca (1969) point out that a good argument should satisfy the following three elements, namely, adherence, relevance, and resistance to objections (pp. 469, 475), of which the key element is the ability to resist objections or criticism. In both cases, the source of criticism and opposition is the audience, which results in a direction to consider the anticipated negative voice as much as possible in the construction of the argument. In this sense, the consideration of validity by Toulmin coincides with Perelman’s, which has the rhetorical dimension for practical use through the concern of audience.

Toulmin developed a set of foundational components to portray everyday realistic arguments, which is named the Toulmin model. According to Toulmin, every argument is composed of a claim(C), the reason for that claim(D), and the warrant that licenses the step from this reason to that claim. In principle, this is the simplest form of argument. But Toulmin observes that in everyday arguments, we can also distinguish three more elements: backings, rebuttals, and modal qualifiers, and the framework appears as follows:

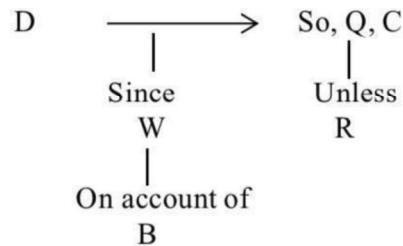


Fig. 1 The Toulmin model on *The Uses of Argument* (2003, p. 97)

Toulmin's goal for *The Uses of Argument* is to provide a framework for justifying statements, especially for practical argumentation. To him, this justifying function implies that asserting something means making a “claim”, and a person who asserts something lays claim to acceptance by a potential challenger (Toulmin, 2003, p. 90). The challenger, in this context, plays the role of the audience in argumentation. Therefore, good argumentation requires justifying the claim by presenting arguments that support the claim in response to the challenge posed by the audience. And the consideration of the audience allows for the analysis and evaluation of arguments in everyday contexts, and the success of an argument is dependent on its ability to respond to the criticism of the intended audience.

Now, we could give the interpretation of The Toulmin Model through the lens of audience. The key element of the Toulmin model, warrants, receives lots of concerns in logical approaches, like as the license of inference between claim and data, but it can also be understood from a rhetorical perspective through audience. Warrants confer different degrees of force on the conclusions they justify. This force and degree of support is reflected in a rhetorical perspective as the force of resistance to the audience’s rebuttal. When the arguer gives an assertion from data to claim, the audience as challenger may question and criticize this support by asking how one can get C from D and finding incompatible cases to challenge the connection from D to C. The arguer should thus strengthen the argument by focusing on the criticisms that the audience may raise, and the warrant can be analyzed as a response to the audience’s challenge or criticism, which also indicates the persuasive goal of the argument. Moreover, since the criticisms raised by the audience vary with different audiences in a given field, warrants possess field-dependent features.

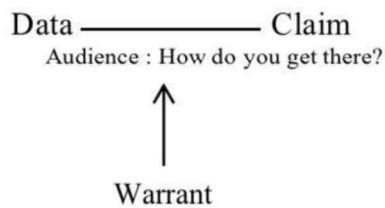


Fig.2 warrant and the response to audience's criticism

After a warrant has been created to ensure the process from D to C, the audience may criticize the strength of the warrant with the questions that “Does C necessarily follow from D based on the warrant?” and “Is there any exception in which the rule isn't applicable?” Considering the first criticism, Toulmin introduces the modal qualifier(Q) as “an explicit reference to the degree of force which our data confer on our claim in virtue of our warrant”(Toulmin, 2003, p. 94). With modal qualifiers like “almost certainly”, “probably”, “presumably”, the degree by which D ensure C is different.

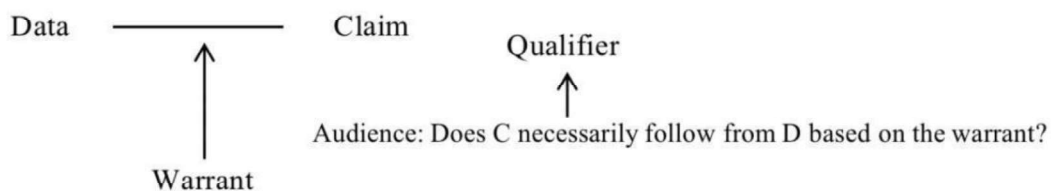


Fig. 3 qualifier and the response to audience's criticism

Besides, if there were exceptions to the rule or some criticism of expectation from the audience occurs, the force of the warrant would be weakened. In that case, conditions of exception or rebuttal (R) have to be inserted to give responses to the criticism of the audience, which refers to “circumstances in which the general authority of the warrant would have to be set aside” (p. 94).

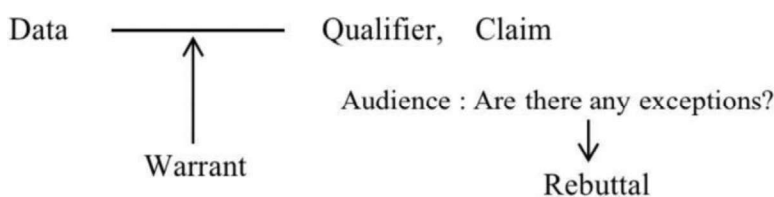


Fig.4 rebuttal and the response to audience's criticism

Sometimes the criticism could also be the warrant itself, that is where does the reliability of the warrant come from? To give the response to this criticism, backing is requested. Backings are defined as “other assurances” that stand “behind our warrants” (p. 96).

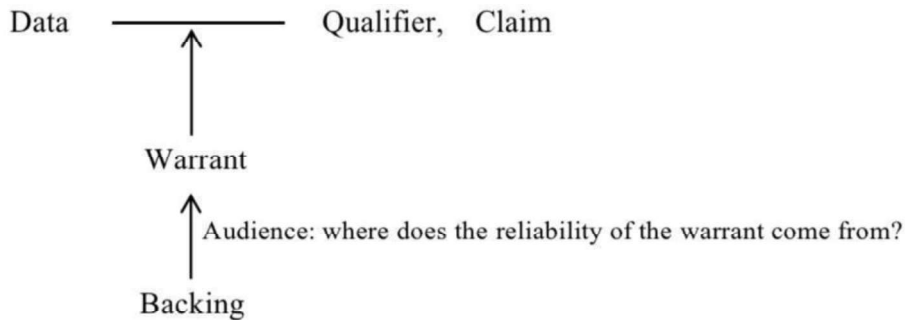


Fig. 5 backing and the response to audience's criticism.

According to the above analysis, the example of Harry which is presented in the book can be illustrated in the following fig. 6, which shows the model's construction and the function of each subsequent statement through the response to criticism of the audience. Starting from the critique of the conclusion, other elements of the argument are added step by step by considering the possible challenges and critiques from potential challengers, the audience. Ultimately, the argument achieves its strength and acceptability by responding to the critiques presented by the challengers at each step.

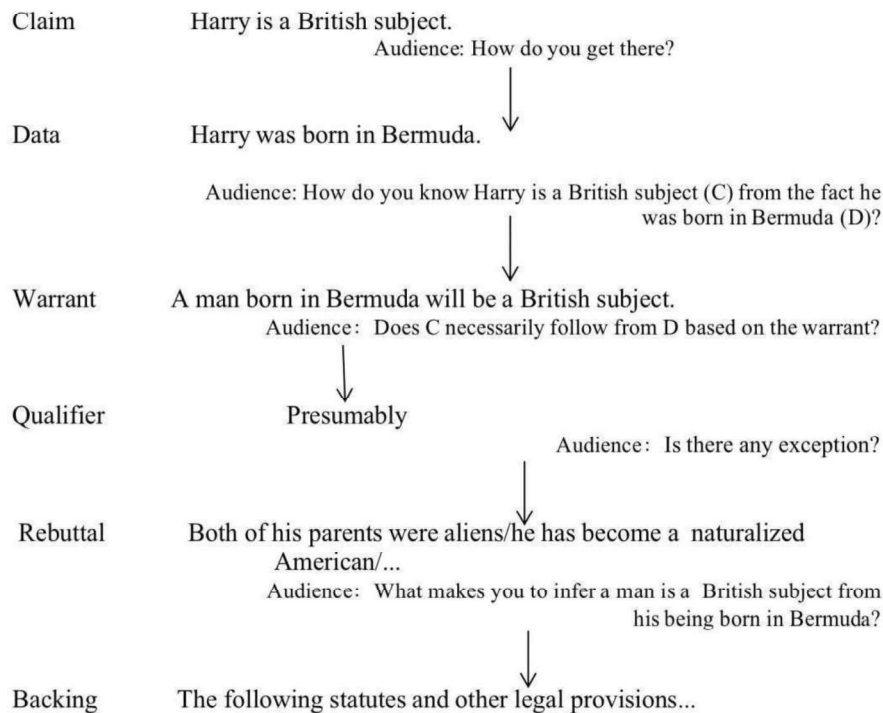


Fig. 6 The interpretation of The Toulmin Model through resisting audience's criticism

Starting with the criterion of resisting criticism, Toulmin's argument diagram can be interpreted from the perspective of the audience, which also reflects the rhetorical character

of the Toulmin model. The above analysis greatly shows how the audience is integrated into the construction of the argument. In the procedural portrayal of argumentation, each step of the argument can be critically examined. The development of the argument can be interpreted as a response to the audience's scrutiny at each step. The inclusion of warrant, qualifier, backing, and rebuttal are actually responses to the audience's criticism, and this response also accelerates the audience's acceptance to achieve the purpose of persuasion in the rhetorical sense.

4. THE RHETORICAL CONCERNS OF REBUTTAL

In the above analysis, we have interpreted the Toulmin model at the rhetorical level through the introduction of the concept of "field" and the pursuit of audience acceptance. Each element of the Toulmin model can be constructed with step-by-step responses to the audience's criticism, through which the ability of the argument to resist rebuttal is enhanced. Moreover, the rebuttal, which is the key element in the Toulmin model, is most closely connected to the audience. Rebuttal originates from the audience and is a direct manifestation of the audience's criticism. By elaborating on the relationship between rebuttal and audience and exploring the key role of rebuttal in the Toulmin model, we will further give an explanation of the Toulmin model on the basis of audience. Besides, through further analysis of rebuttal, it is asserted that rebuttal not only has its critical function but also plays a strengthening role in argumentation. In addition, rebuttal becomes a key tool for argument evaluation and plays a key role in argument evaluation.

In addition to its strengthening function for argumentation, the above analysis also reflects the critical role of rebuttal in the evaluation of arguments. Toulmin's assessment of argumentation is reflected through rebuttals. First of all, different audiences in different fields have different perceptions and values, and accordingly, their acceptance of argumentation varies from one to another. Thus, in contrast to the "rationality" of formal logic, which is a universal, necessary, and definitive view of reason, substantial rationality in substantial argumentation is realistic and defeasible and has close conjunction with reality. It involves more functional content, and the corresponding norms and standards are realistic. Compared with seeking a unique "reason" in all fields of experience, the evaluation fully takes into account the special requirements of the different problems faced and is closely related to the audience.

As a key element that distinguishes the Toulmin model from traditional formal logic, Toulmin gives a rebuttal to a variety of functions. The first is the weakening of the authority of the warrant. Rebuttals can "indicate circumstances in which the general authority of the warrant would have to be set aside". At the same time, it is a key part of the weakened argument, it can challenge the applicability of the warrant because rebuttal could be "exceptional circumstances which might be capable of defeating or rebutting the warranted conclusion" (Toulmin, 2003, p. 94)

The presence of a rebuttal weakens the support and undermines the acceptability of the audience. Toulmin emphasizes that good argumentation can stand up to criticism, and I have shown criticism comes from the audience, and thus the strength of the argument should be evaluated and judged by the acceptability of the argument by the audience. The field-dependent nature of substantive argumentation complicates the analysis of

acceptability directly, but it becomes easier to assess the acceptability of argumentation from the perspective of audience criticism, and rebuttal becomes a tool for argument evaluation.

From the audience's perspective, good arguments can stand up to audience rebuttals. The implication is that if it cannot withstand the audience's rebuttals, it means that the argument is not accepted by the audience, and the soundness of the argument is challenged. Therefore, if an argument is presented without a rebuttal from the audience, it can be said that the acceptance of the audience is realized and the effect of functional rationality is achieved. If there are refutations from the audience, it shows reflects the audience has questions about the acceptability of the argument and the justification of the argument is defeated and defeasible.

Secondly, since the rebuttal will affect the use of a qualifier, it also becomes a tool for different argumentation effectiveness and acceptability in the argument evaluation. The Qualifier indicates the strength conferred by the warrant (p. 94). Therefore, when evaluating the force of the argument, the analysis of the type and force of rebuttal can indirectly give assessment to the effectiveness of the audience acceptable-- acceptance. Bart Verheij (2006) focused on the important role of rebuttal in argument evaluation, extended Toulmin's rebuttal from formal construction of Toulmin's scheme and differentiated five types of rebuttal, which are (1) Rebuttal to D; (2) Rebuttal to C; (3) Rebuttal to W; (4) Rebuttal to D

→ C; (5) Rebuttal to the support from W to D → C. As Verheij (2006) observes, the three situations to which Toulmin attaches to the term rebuttal (defeat of the conclusion, of the applicability of the warrant, and the authority of the warrant) are among these five kinds of rebuttals, viz. the second, fifth and third, respectively. Verheij (2006) raises the five kinds of rebuttal to analyze the statements of arguments, which leads to the emphasis on the evaluation status of the statements in an argument. But from this classification, we could analyze the force of each kind of rebuttal, then give a method to test the degree of the argumentation's force by checking the force and number of rebuttals. The more rebuttals there are and the stronger force they have, the more criticisms from the audience exist, thus the weaker the acceptability of the argument is.

From a rhetorical perspective, the process of argumentation is actually the process in which the speaker persuades the audience. Different rebuttals from the audience indicate different levels of acceptance of the argument. When there are no more rebuttals from the audience, it means that the audience accepts the given argument. The larger the number of rebuttals from the audience, the greater the questioning of the reliability of the argument, and the lower the strength of the reliability and effectiveness of the argument. In the functional validity of substantive argument researches, the validity of an argument depends on the audience's acceptance of the reasoning. As long as the audience has reasonable questions, the proponent will still be asked to answer them. The absence of any reasonable questions and rebuttals means that the argument is accepted by the audience. Thus, if a reason is accepted in a particular context, then not only the proponent but also the opponent acknowledges the commitment. Slob and Freeman present the opponent from a dialectical perspective which is in fact also the presentation of the audience.

The consideration of rebuttal in the Toulmin model is reflected in the construction of its model. By considering the rebuttals of the basic parts W, D, and C and responding to these rebuttals, audience acceptance is improved and the justification of the arguments is achieved. Thus, the argument should be constructed by considering the possible rebuttals from the audience and responding to them in order to enhance the validity of the argument.

In this sense, rebuttals indirectly support the argument and the audience becomes a co-creator of the argument. Moreover, the rebuttal also embodies the defeasible reasonableness under the Toulmin substantive argument. The rebuttal is field-dependent and audience-related, and its presentation may lead to the fact that the reasonableness which applies to the previous field is no longer applicable to the present, thus to the defeasibility of the previous argument. In conclusion, rebuttal, as a key element in the Toulmin model of argumentation, is the basis for the later development of the Toulmin model. Rebuttal embodies the relationship between the audience and the evaluation of argumentation, expresses the audience's questioning of the strength of argumentation, and is a crucial manifestation of the effectiveness of argumentation, meanwhile becoming a beneficial tool for the evaluation of argumentation.

5. CONCLUSION

The purpose of this paper is to try to give a new interpretation of the Toulmin model from a rhetorical perspective through a specific exploration of the concept of audience and the related concept of rebuttal. By analyzing the rationality underlying his theory, it can be found that the rationality that Toulmin seeks to apply to the analysis of everyday argumentation is an empirically based, functional substantive rationality. This pursuit of rationality is manifested in the acceptability of arguments by the audience. Moreover, through the introduction of key conceptual fields, Toulmin further develops his approach to argument analysis and evaluation that differs from traditional formal logic and also reflects rhetorical features. Again, Toulmin defines a good argument as one that can stand up to criticism, which implicitly reflects the model's concern for the audience. The rebuttal, as a direct manifestation of the audience's criticism, becomes a beneficial tool for argument construction and argument evaluation. It is on the basis of the continuous response to audience rebuttals that the Toulmin model is procedurally developed and refined.

In the construction of his theory, Toulmin considered the concept of rationality and distinguished between formal logic and substantive logic, taking into account the shortcomings of the "standard theory" of that time. Rhetorical features are implicitly involved in his construction of the model, even though it does not put forward a precise rhetorical perspective, and the grasp of rhetoric and substantive argument is not appropriate. Thus, his theory in general reflects his unconscious rhetorical concern, and further elaboration of his model through a rhetorical perspective can help us understand the Toulmin model more deeply and promote its further development in everyday analytical argumentation.

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