

# Analysis of Argumentation in Nam Cao's Story "Chi Pheo" Based on a Pragmatics Perspective

Nguyen Van Thao<sup>a</sup>, Herman<sup>b</sup>, Trinh Thi Ha<sup>c</sup>, Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy<sup>d</sup>,  
Nguyen Thi Quynh Tho<sup>e</sup>, <sup>a</sup>Faculty of Philology, Hanoi Pedagogical  
University 2, Vietnam, <sup>b</sup>English Education Department, Faculty of Teacher  
Training and Education University of HKBP Nommensen, Indonesia,  
<sup>c</sup>Vietnam Institute of Linguistics, <sup>d</sup>Faculty of Philology, Hanoi Pedagogical  
University 2, Vietnam, <sup>e</sup>Pedagogy Department – Tay Nguyen University,  
Vietnam, Email: <sup>a</sup>nguyenvanthao@hpu2.edu.vn, <sup>b</sup>herman@uhn.ac.id,  
<sup>c</sup>hangantrinhvtd@gmail.com, <sup>d</sup>toanmtc@yahoo.com,  
<sup>e</sup>quynhtho.1988@gmail.com

In written or spoken discourses, communicative processes in languages are basically monitored by argumentation. The presence of argumentation in discourse is the foundation of maintaining communicative relations and expressing the speaker's intention. According to this principle, in order to identify, analyze, classify, and integrate the argumentative types in Nam Cao's "Chi Pheo", the article utilizes the argumentative theory to demonstrate the utility of argumentations in each context to achieve the most effective expressions; furthermore, the article also indicates the semantic and pragmatic aspects in the story. Therefore, the article can expose the thinking, palliation, and the characters' intentions in the specific contexts as well as the ways of utilizing, building the argumentations which the author wants to convey to the target readers.

**Keywords:** *Argumentation, reason, premise, topos, conclusion.*

## **Introduction**

This study presents the illustration of how Nam Cao's 'Chi Pheo' story is interconnected with the study of argumentation. This study belongs to pragmatics, which investigates Nam Cao's 'Chi Pheo' story as an argumentative writing. The presence of argumentation in discourse is the foundation of maintaining communicative relations and expressing the speaker's intention. According to this principle, the article applies argumentative theory to analyze the argumentation in "Chi Pheo" of Nam Cao, and to expose the story's semantics and pragmatics. Thence, it can expose the thinking, palliation, and the intention of figures in the short story that the author wants to convey to the readers. This study utilizes some theories from Chau (2007) and Ban (2009). The method applied in this study was the description, semantics analysis, and discourse analysis method. The results have indicated the intelligence and meaning of the writer and of figures in the story. We are not only trying to emphasize the research history of argumentation and argumentative theory but also pointing out the way to research. Besides we have exposed some methods that we used to settle the research in this article. Argumentations in "Chi Pheo" we categorized by two main types: simple argumentation and complex argumentation. Each type of argumentation also has inferior argumentations. For example, simple argumentation has the reason (s) direct to the conclusion, reason (s) indirect to the conclusion, and reason (s) direct and indirect to the conclusion, etc. All of these expose the whole view of multi flexibility in using argumentations of the writer in the short story "Chi Pheo".

The article had analyzed the case of types, subtypes of argumentation in the scope of pragmatics, semantics, and an aspect of discourse analysis. The results have indicated the intelligence, meaning of the writer and figures in the story.

## **Theoretical review**

### *Argumentative review*

Linguists have a different viewpoints of argumentation, for instance, Ban [4,231] noted that "in the process of presenting a concept, humans may go from this ideal to another ideal by the inferences. The employment of argumentative reason for a certain convincing conclusion is called argumentation".

Chau [7,155] stated that "an argumentation is to set common sense and guide the listeners to an ultimate conclusion which the speaker wants in communication".



Whereas, Dan [8,165] supposes that “an argumentation is a mode of speech act, in which the speaker gives reasons to make the target-audiences accept one or more conclusions”.

Argumentation exists in each utterance, discourse of interlocutors in conversations. The argumentation is an illocutionary speech, which is used to convince the other. An utterance plays a very important role in controlling the communicative activities of humans.

To achieve purposes in the communicative process, interlocutors must take advantage of argumentation. In writing, the aim of argumentation is to persuade the target: readers, hence it also plays a decisive role in structuring the text. There are many factors related to text construction, but the argumentation is one of the most crucial parts. For this reason, argumentation is the inevitable tool of communication between writers and readers.

In order to achieve the communicative purpose, the writer offers several argumentations and convictions to prove and persuade the readers to believe or act in a way which the writer expects.

The argumentative relationship can be shown as follows:

$$P, Q \rightarrow R$$

P and Q are reasons and R is the conclusion. The complex of P, Q...→R is called an argumentation. Argumentation normally consists of discourses that could exist either in spoken or written forms. A discourse itself contains argumentation or potential argumentation.

Argumentation sometimes has always been unconsciously uttered by the speaker, which means the speaker does not deliberately argue. In brief, the argumentation is presenting serial reasons that persuade others to believe and follow the speaker. It's a directive activity to convince the hearer/reader.

This article emphasizes on the argumentative theory propounded by Ban (2009) in communication, discourse, and context construction.

### ***Types of Argumentation***

There are two types of argumentation: complex argumentation (syllogism) and simple argumentation (daily life). Complex argumentation formally used in the sciences whereas simple argumentation used in daily routine (Ban, 2009 pp. 322-327). Besides, we can also refer to compound argumentation, argumentative network, and circular argumentation. All of them will be interpreted in the findings and discussion section. “Chi Pheo” mentions the common life, therefore, the argumentations are logically simple argumentations.

### ***Topos of Argumentation***

According to Ducrot, topoi are experimental common truths not inevitably occurring as logical premise, specific to a region or ethnic group but having the general build of argumentations (In Chau, 2007, p. 191). Speakers/writers usually use the topos for argumentation. Topoi are the invisible social constraints, sometimes unconscious but decide the speaker’s speech and the human’s acts in his society. Finding the topos is finding cultural diversity, social morality and ethnicity in a language. Being dominant in language usage, we shall gather statistics and samples on them. Due to the scope of this research, the details of topos cannot be presented here.

### **Research Methodology**

The article applies description method, semantics analysis, and discourse analysis method. The methods are employed to demonstrate, analyze, and evaluate the utterance meanings in the text, thereby indicating the author’s intention to convey to the readers.

Besides, the methods above also expose the figures' reckoning, thinking, intellects, and arguments through their conversation.

In addition, we also use some tactics such as comparison, linguistic statistics, and classify in order to segregate to the different argumentative types, subtypes and compare their sequences. Based on this quantity results, the quality will be analyzed.

In brief, these methods and tactics applied to analyze the object in the scope of the story “Chi Pheo” of Nam Cao printed in Vietnam Literary essence “Nam Cao’s short stories”, Literature publishing company 2016, Hanoi.

## **Findings and Discussion**

On this research of Nam Cao's short story "Chi Pheo", some argumentations have not been fulfilled the original structure (reason proceeds conclusion), that may have implicit (imp) reasons or an implicit conclusion, reason and conclusion sometimes change in places. Another fact is that argumentation does not only separately consist of the discourses, but they also overlap, interlocking, and cover each other. To meet the linguistic demand, we try to separate and discuss them in order to make more logical and clearer.

The details of result as following:

### ***Types of Argumentation***

#### ***Simple Argumentation***

Simple argumentation is argumentation with one or more reasons and one conclusion. Simple argumentation normally appears in the nearby utterances in a paragraph or in the nearby paragraphs. The different types of simple argumentation are:

#### ***Simple Argumentation Containing Reasons Consistent with Conclusion***

a). Argumentation in which reason and conclusion are consistent

This is the explicit (exp) argumentation that has the same direction reason with the conclusion, for example:

*All of you, go back to your home now! (R) Is there anything interesting to gather like this?(P)*

This argumentation starts with a conclusion before the reason to emphasize the stability of the conclusion. Whereas, initiation accompanied by the explanative utterance with imperative purpose, generate an implicit command (go back home) to the hearers (seeing Chi Pheo and Ba Kien's family are quarreling and conflicting). Moreover, after an imperative utterance is a statement with an unfavorable intent of a situation (has nothing here). According to Vietnamese, there has the ordinary that if any situation does not relate to others, they should not get involved. Therefore, Ba Kien has used these ordinaries to the hearers, with the intention "unrelated- do not care- do not need to observe and do not need to intervene". Hence, the arguments not only have the means to advise, banish but also to order all peoples who are observing must go back homes.

Above is the argumentation with the conclusion frontward reason. The following is an argumentation with a conclusion after reason, for instance:

*Women are not alcohol but they still make men drunk (P). And he gets so drunk by her (R)*

There is a topos that being as a female inherently fascinates men. Therefore, the writer has described with an argument that affirms women themselves fascinate and make men passionate about their beauty, gentleness, kindness, and thoughtful... This is not beautiful but she is thoughtful (caring for others). Chi Pheo has not connected with any woman in his life, has never been taken care of by a woman's hand, hence, when Chi was taken care of by Thi No, he was thrilled and grateful. Here, argumentation has the connector “and” which has the function of connecting arguments to the conclusion, conjunct argument with the conclusion “he drank her so much”.

b). Argumentation has several same direction reasons with conclusion

This is the most typical argumentation which is the easiest to notice in the simple argumentation, the examples blow:

*Because the young-wife is at home (P1), with two children (P2), her eyes are as sharp as a knife (P3) with pinky cheeks (P4), her husband is away from home (P5), as a precious thing is available, who could stand?(R).*

The above discourse mentions Binh Chuc’s wife. This is an argumentation consisting of five complementary reasons that are consistent with the conclusion. In terms of sign in directional argumentation, we see the appearance of three auxiliary particles “because....and” and “suddenly” which is inherently homogeneous to perform the function of leading and increasing the stability of the following reasons to conclude. The first four reasons with the contents to describe Binh Chuc’s wife such as young (P1), who has only two children (P2), *her eyes are as sharp as a knife (P3) with pinky cheeks (P4)*. These four reasons describe the beauty of a very attractive woman who is in the youth, passion with life, and has the strongest and highest sexual demands. Naturally, the woman like this will have many men consider and want to conquer. However, if it was just a youth, beauty with highly sexual demand, would not lead to Binh Chuc's wife having relationships with many other men. But the last reason “Her husband is away from home” (P5) is the main and indispensable reason lead this woman falls in love and has sex with many other men. “Husband is absent” is the most effective reason which drawing to the conclusion “who can stand it?”. Because, if Binh Chuc is at home, there may not any man dare to come, flirt, and solicit his wife. Therefore, his wife’s adultery got very difficult or can not have a chance to happen. For more information, this argumentation is modeled as follow:

P1, P2, P3, P4, P5 → R

The argumentation below has the conclusion stand middle of the reasons:

*Seeing his aggressive gesture (P1), the first wife extrusion second wife, the second wife forces third wife, third wife calls the fourth wife, but the results have not any wife can talk to him any right or wrong words (R). Because of the very reckless guy, (P2) he is wine drunk, (P3) in his hand has an empty glass bottle, but at that moment only woman present at home (P5)*

The above argumentation has a conclusion stand between reasons. There are four reasons describe the protagonist as appearance, aggressive attitude, reckless, drunk, and bring an empty glass bottle (weapons). One reason describes the difficult situation of all wives “only women presents at home”. In ordinary, women can’t fight (victory) man, moreover this is a drunk and reckless guy who has a weapon. Hence, all wives decided to keep silent to survive. This status shows the true mentality of Ba Kien’s wives: they stand and accept the injustice, frustration, and waiting to have a chance to revenge later.

This argumentation is modeled below:

P1 → R ← P2, P3, P4, P5

### ***Simple argumentation containing reasons inconsistent with conclusion***

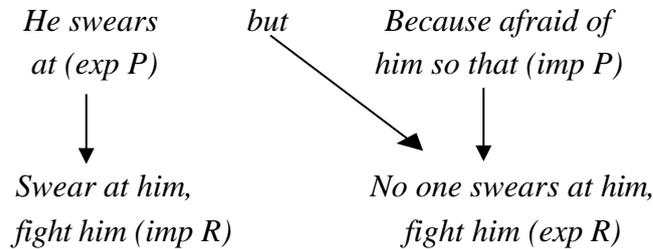
In fact, argumentation with reason(s) against conclusion is two simple argumentations. In “Chi Pheo”, they are subdivided into two types:

a). Argumentation with one reason inconsistent with conclusion

This type of argumentation has a reason indicating an implicit conclusion and an implicit reason leading to a conclusion. We can see a sample of such in the construction below:

*“He swears at anyone father who does not swear with him (P). But no one dares (R).*

This argumentation can be fully reconstructed as follow:



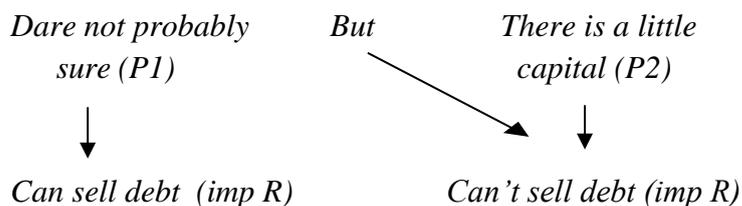
Through this replenishment, we can see the complete form of argumentation and can analyze why Chi “swear the father” of everyone in his village who does not swear with him. In ordinary, Chi will be sworn by all people in the village and maybe beaten seriously as a lesson that he never dares to repeat. However, there is circumstance behind “no one dares to talk with him”. Chi has nothing to lose, therefore, they are afraid of him and no one can “teach him a lesson”.

b). Argumentation has two contrary reasons inconsistent with two implicit conclusions

Different from an argumentation has a reason inconsistent with the conclusion, this argumentation has 2 contrary reasons directed towards two contrary conclusions. For instance:

*We dare not probably sure, (P1) but there is a little capital (P2).*

This argumentation is fully reproduced as follows:



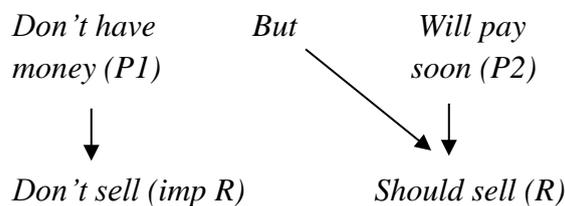
We can explain why the seller does not want to sell goods for Chi. The seller has rejected indirectly with the clever explanation, she has used common sense that if who has “little capital”, they cannot “sell debt”. This is the cleverest reason which the seller uses to avoid selling for him. In fact, the seller knows that if she sells for him, she will never get back her money. This is the same as giving him free because seller knows and understands him very clearly.

***Argumentation has reasons consistent and inconsistent with conclusion***

Above are three types of simple argumentation. Following is the argumentation has reasons consistent and inconsistent with the conclusion, which also belongs to simple argumentation, for instance:

*Today I don't have money, (P1) you sell debt a bottle for me. (R) I will pay you tonight (P2)*

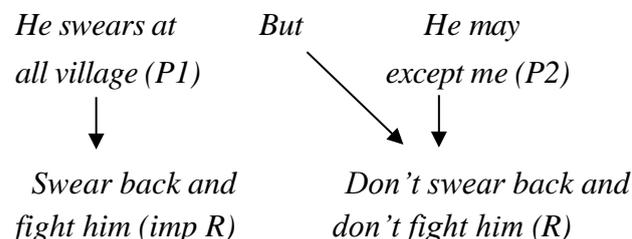
Below is the reconstruction of the argumentation:



According to the argumentative reconstruction, we can clearly see the full argumentation, then can explain why Chi can convince the seller to “sell debt” for him. Ordinarily, no one sells their merchandise if they don't get paid instantly. However, Chi can convince the seller because of his pledge of paying: now I don't have money but I will pay you betimes, only until tonight I will have money to pay you, hence you should sell debt for me without distressing.

*Angry, he swears at all Vu Dai village. (P1) Yet in Vu Dai village, everybody is thinking: “He may except me”. (P2) No one dares converses anything (R).*

Below is the re-enactment of the argumentation



For Vietnamese in general, no one dares to threaten or to perturb with all villages or any family lineage. However, Chi has sworn “all village”, ordinarily, people in the village will not excuse Chi. Yet, has no one talks anything because they thought “he may except me” (P2). In fact, Chi Pheo has sworn at all people in the village but everyone tries to find many

reasons to avoid conflict with him meanwhile keeping their pride. They have taken improper reason to sophisticate that he did not swear directly at their name, hence they can ignore it. This is also the reason that villagers have to rely on to avoid collisions to other swears, such as in the argumentations about "reviling heaven", "cursing life", "imprecating mother" and "swear at anyone's father who does not swear with him. " Perhaps, the villagers didn't want to touch him because of his drunk, bastard, and he had loss everything.

### ***Complex Argumentation***

Complex argumentation is also known as syllogism, it is a kind of argumentation that includes two in equivalent reasons: one reason shows the general called major premise while the other indicates the particular called minor premise and one conclusion of the minor premise. The syllogism not only always appears in science but also in daily life. The syllogism is the typical form of argumentation. Let's consider the following discourse.

### ***Explicit Syllogism***

Here is the example of explicit syllogism:

*They said, Mr. Ly in the village communal house is bossy, all villagers are afraid of him. However, at home, he is afraid of his third young wife whose body is chubby and has pinky cheeks. Mr. Ly always has a backache, anyone who has backache is normally afraid of his wife yet has very strong jealousy. Someone said Mr. Ly is jealousy of a strong and young farmer but does not dare to reprimand because of afraid to his third wife. The other said that the farmer has the third wife's belief and favor thus he steals money and rice. They said very different stories with each other but no one knows exactly. They only know one day Chi was brought to the district then hearing him be arrested for prison.*

Above discourse has two syllogisms:

#### **First syllogism:**

***Major premise:*** *Who has backache, is normally afraid of his wife*

***Minor premise:*** *Mr Ly has backache*

***Conclusion:*** *Mr Ly is afraid of his wife*

#### **Second syllogism:**

***Major premise:*** *Who is always afraid of his wife, will strong jealousy*

***Minor premise:*** *Mr Ly is afraid of his third wife*

**Conclusion:** *Mr Ly has strong jealousy*

The first syllogism, the major premise mentions the general belief that who has backache will not have enough ability to meet his wife's sexual demand, therefore, leading to afraid of the wife. Minor premise manifests the fact that Mr. Ly has a backache, which will direct to the epilogue where he is afraid of his wife. Appear a question that why Mr. Ly had a backache? Perhaps due to old age, he can't meet her sexual demands. Mr. Ly had tried his best yet can not meet his wife's demand, hence he got a backache. The same as the first syllogism, the second syllogism has major premise mentions the general conscience that who afraid of their wife, ordinarily strong jealousy. Two syllogisms draw the conclusion: Mr. Ly is always afraid of his wives, therefore, Mr. Ly will be strongly jealousy.

**Implicit Syllogism**

Above are syllogisms that have explicit premise. Here is one sample that has implicit premise:

*Without lying to you, I have murdered. If you don't sympathy and arrest me to prison, my wife and children will starve. They will die anyway, I stab them here then you arrest me to prison onward.*

The discourse has one syllogism:

**Major premise (imp):** *Murder must be arrested to prison*

**Minor premise:** *I have murdered*

**Conclusion:** *I have to go to prison*

Above syllogism has an implicit major premise, which can be deduced from the minor premise and the conclusion. Major premise mentions the general rule is murder must be arrested to prison, minor premise mentions Mr. Binh Chuc murdered and therefore, it inevitably leads to the conclusion that he must be arrested to prison. The next utterance concentrates on supporting meanings for the arrest of Binh Chuc. "They will die anyway" is a natural principle because being humans, everyone must die. My family will starve to death because they lose the breadwinner, who has murdered and go to jail. Therefore, I will kill them then go to prison onwards. In fact, Binh Chuc wants to threaten and force Mr. Ly to act to his demand: if my children and my wife die here (your house), hence you got a nuisance. I may kill my wife, my children thus I may kill you too and you should follow my demand.

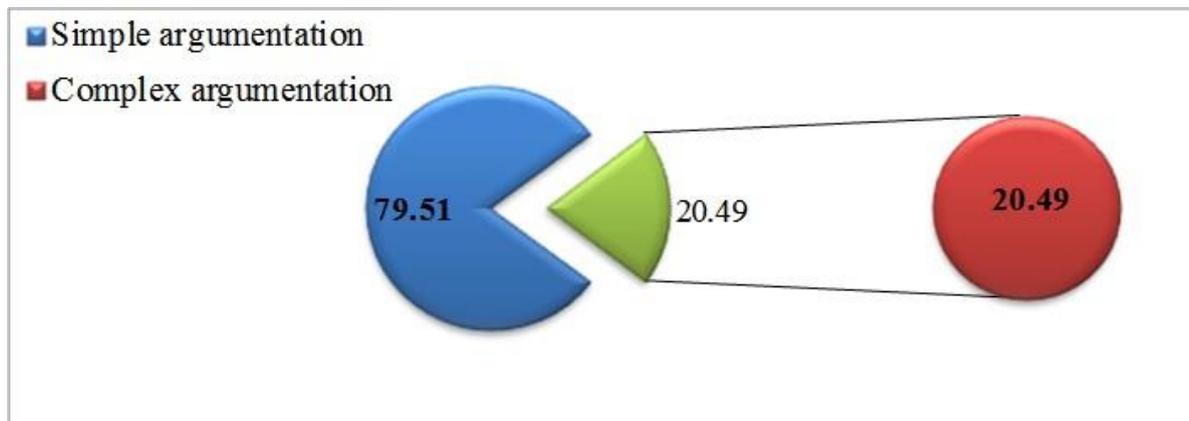
Above is the result of our research on argumentative types in the story "Chi Pheo". For the panoramic view, take a look at the statistics table:

**Table 1:** Statistics of argumentative types

No	Argumentation			Quantity	Rate
	Types	Sub types	inferior subtypes		
1	Simple argumentation	Reason (s) consistent with conclusion	One reason consistent with conclusion	19	15.57
			More than one reasons consistent with conclusion	51	41.80
		Reason (s) inconsistent with conclusion	One reason consistent with Conclusion	13	10.66
			Two opposite reasons inconsistent with two implicit conclusions	5	4.10
		Reason (s) consistent and inconsistent to conclusion	9	7.38	
<b>Plus</b>				<b>97</b>	<b>79.51</b>
2	Complex argumentation	Syllogism with explicit premise		8	6.56
		Syllogism with implicit premise		17	13.93
	<b>Plus</b>				<b>25</b>
<b>Plus in Total</b>				<b>122</b>	<b>100</b>

“Chi Pheo” of writer Nam Cao has 931 utterances. Among them, we found 122 argumentations, thus the average is over 9 utterances per argumentation. Through the statistics on the above table, it can be seen that in the two types of argumentations (simple, complex), the simple argumentation has the largest number with 97 arguments, accounting for 79.51%. The topic in the short story "Chi Pheo" is drawn from day-to-day life, therefore, the figure's speech must be rustic, simple, easy to understand, and close to the masses. For this reason, the authors' used mostly the simple types of argumentations, which had the highest incidence. Typically, this type of simple argumentation has many reasons that are consistent with the conclusion, 51 argumentations in total. On the contrary, complex argumentation is rarely used in which a total number is 25 arguments, accounting for 20.49%. Because in everyday life people hardly have a chance to access scientific research, therefore, they have a lot of limitations in understanding complex information such as complex argumentation. However, the authors have also flexibly used different types of argumentations to convey the figures and his intention to readers. This is the specific argumentative feature which is used in the story “Chi Pheo” of writer Nam Cao. The chart below exposes clearer percentages of these two argumentative types.

**Chart 1.** Percentage of two argumentative types



### ***The Argumentative Techniques***

Argumentation strategies (technics) are the techniques in which speakers (writers) use to organizing inferior argumentations in different ways to create the highest efficiency of arguments. In other words, argumentative technics are the arrangement and combination of the inferior argumentations to create the most efficient conclusion which has the most powerful argumentative effects. We have found three argumentative technics in "Chi Pheo" of Nam Cao

### ***Compound Argumentation***

Compound argumentation is an argumentation mobilized by several discourses, including several inferior argumentations that stand as reasons. These inferior argumentations are related to each other and are all consistent with the main conclusion. On its part, the main conclusion concludes all the textual meanings of the argumentation.

*Nam Tho was a bull-headed man. (R) At the time Ba Kien has become chief of the village, Nam Tho seems to be conflict with him. (P1) Ba Kien wants to teach him a lesson, however, he has no opportunity. (P2) After a while of time, he involved in a robbery, hence be arrested (P3); Ba Kien uses some tacit agreements for imprisonment. (R1) No one thinks a potent man like Nam Tho got to prison and never comes back because of his pride. Ba Kien is very blissful to have imprisoned the opponent. However, one night, when Ly Kien sits alone with his papers, suddenly Nam Tho brings a knife (weapon) to his house (P1). He stood blocking the door and said: If yells, he would kill immediately (P2). He flees from prison to come here, wanted Mr. Ba Kien to give him a transparent profile of a good man and a hundred Dong (money) for him to escape. (R2) Nam Tho also said: act to his demand, he will go away forever (P1), if do not follow him, he will be stab to death (P2), then whatever thing turning to be; (P3) if want to live with family (P4), Mr. Ba Kien must meet his demand. (R3)*

The above discourse is a compound argumentation with inferior argumentations, each inferior argumentation has its' own reason and conclusion, three inferior argumentations combine, complement with each other, and leading to the major conclusion.

***Inferior argumentation 1:*** *Nam Tho was a bull-headed man. (R) At the time Ba Kien has become chief of the village, Nam Tho seems to be conflict with him. (P1) Ba Kien wants to teach him a lesson, however, he has no opportunity. (P2) After a while of time, he involved in a robbery, hence be arrested (P3); Ba Kien uses some tacit agreements for imprisonment.*

Below is the structure of this inferior argumentation:

P1, P2, P3 → R1

***Inferior argumentation 2:*** *However, one night, when Ly Kien sits alone with his papers, suddenly Nam Tho brings a knife (weapon) to his house (P1). He stood blocking the door and said: If yells, he would kill immediately (P2). Escaping from the jail, he asked Mr Ba Kien to give him a good profile and money for him to escape. (R2)*

The structure of this argumentation:

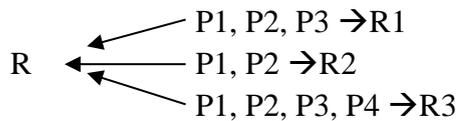
P1, P2 → R 2

***Inferior argumentation 3:*** *Nam Tho also said: act to his demand, he will go away forever (P1), if do not follow him, he will be stab to death (P2), then whatever thing turning to be; (P3) if want to live with family (P4), Mr. Ba Kien must meet his demand. (R3)*

The structure of this inferior argumentation below:

P1, P2, P3, P4 → R3

Through the above structure analysis, it can be seen that the paragraph is a compound argumentation. Nam Cao had mobilized several inferior argumentations that stand as the reasons which lead to the major conclusion. Three inferior argumentations are consistent, having relations, and complements with each other. All expressing the gesture and the speech of figures, aiming to highlights the theme of the paragraph (major conclusion): “Nam Tho was a theft and a bull-head man”. Now we can brief this argumentation:



### ***Network of Argumentation***

The argumentative network can be understood as a chase of argumentation following each other in a chain relation, in which the conclusion of the previous argumentation takes the role of the reason for the next argumentation and so on until the final conclusion.

Number (9) sample which has analyzed above, besides syllogism, there also have the argumentative network, now we reconstruct this argumentative network as follow:

*Who has a backache (P) normally afraid of his wife (R) - Who is afraid of his wife (P) has strongly jealousy (R) - Strongly jealousy (P) will revenge (imp R) – Mr. Ly revenge (P), hence Chi goes to prison (R).*

It can be seen that the above argumentative network indicates the first argumentation as “Who has a backache (P) will be afraid of his wife (R)”, the conclusion “afraid of his wife” takes the role of reason for the second argumentation. “Who is afraid of his wife (P) has strongly jealousy (R)”, conclusion “strongly jealousy” takes the role of reason for the third argumentation. “Strongly jealousy (P) will revenge (implicit R)”, conclusion “revenge” takes the role of reason for the last argumentation. “Mr. Ly revenge (P), hence Chi arrests to prison (R)”. All four argumentations concentrate and complement their meanings which lead to the last conclusion “Chi arrests to prison”. Through this argumentative network, it can manifest why Chi Pheo arrested in prison: Ba Kien does not revenge Chi just because he had stolen his money and rice, the real motivation is he was jealous of Chi promiscuous with his third wife, so Ba Kien deliberately "act" for Chi to be imprisoned.

### ***Circular Argumentation***

The last typical strategy that we found was the circular argumentation method. Circular argumentation is argumentation in which reasons for a clause contain the clause itself. This kind of argumentation uses circular reasons, the conclusion can be withdrawn from premise but the premise also has withdrawn from the conclusion. Here is the form of this type of argumentation: have A because of having B and have B because of having A. For instance:

*Nam Tho also said: act to his demand, he will go away forever (P1), if do not follow him, he will be stab to death (P2), then whatever thing turning to be; (P3) if want to live with family (P4), Mr. Ba Kien must meet his demand. (R3)*

Nam Tho has used the reasons to convince Ba Kien to meet his requirements, these can be separated into argumentations:

**Argumentation 1:** *act to his demand (meet his demand) (P) he will go away forever (R)*

**Argumentation 2:** *if do not follow him (P) he will be stab to death (R)*

**Argumentation 3:** *if want to live with family (P) Mr. Ba Kien must meet his demand. (R)*

Nam Tho has used a circular argumentation by using several reasons to threaten Ba Kien. Although he threatens Ba Kien by many reasons, his target is to convince and wants Ba Kien to meet his requirements.

The statistic table below expresses the frequency use of argumentative techniques:

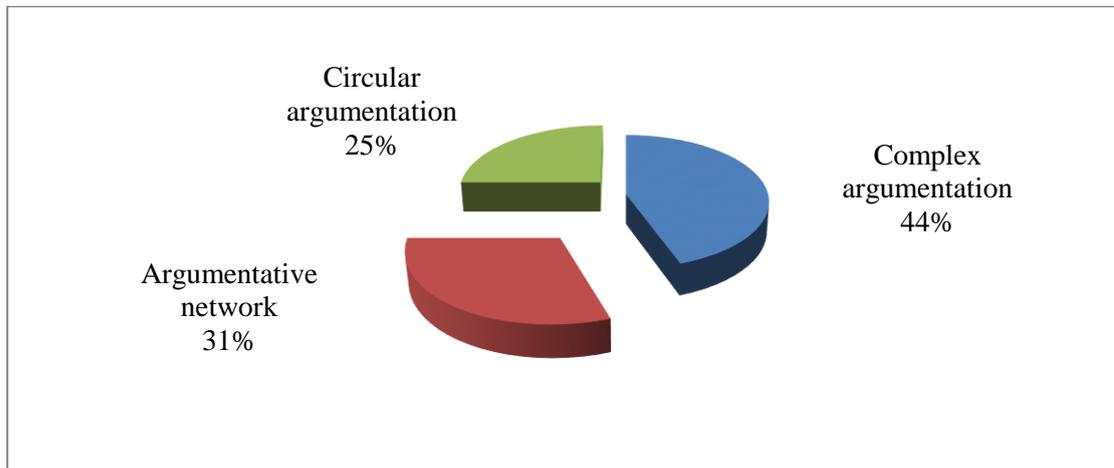
**Table 2:** Statistics of argumentative technics

No	Argumentative technics	Frequency	Percentage
1	Compound argumentation	16	44.44
2	Argumentative network	11	30.56
3	Circular argumentation	9	25.00
<b>Total (1+2+3)</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>100</b>

As we have mentioned, Chi Pheo is the story of day-to-day life, hence simple argumentation is almost used. Besides two types of argumentations, some argumentative technics are employed to create the highest efficiency for information transmission. There are three technics such as complex argumentation, argumentative network, and circular argumentation. In which, complex argumentation is used with the highest rate of 44.44%, the argumentative net is 30.56% and the last is circular argumentation with only 25%. Because in everyday life, people hardly have a chance to access scientific research, therefore, complex, circular, and argumentative networks rarely occur. The article one more time demonstrates the use of argumentation types and techniques (method) of the author through the linguistic standard.

The chart below expresses the percentage of argumentative technics:

Chart 2. The percentages of argumentative techniques



## Conclusion

The article has used mainly linguistic theories such as description method, semantics analysis, and discourse analysis method. The methods employed to describe and analyze the utterance meanings in the text to expose the writer's intention which is to transmit to readers the figure's thoughts, argumentations, and quackeries in communicating with each other.

We have tried to epitomize the research history of argumentation and argumentative theory in order to point out the way to research, besides we have exposed some methods that we used to settle the research in this article.

Argumentation in "Chi Pheo" was set up and splitted into two types: simple argumentation and complex argumentation. Each type of argumentation also has inferior argumentation. For instance, simple argumentation has a reason (s) consistent with the conclusion, reason (s) inconsistent with the conclusion, and reason consistent and inconsistent to conclusion.etc. All create a panoramic view of the author's flexible and diverse use of argumentations in Chi Pheo.

The paper analyzed the case of types, inferior types of argumentation in the scope of pragmatics, semantics, and discourse analysis. The results have shown profound intentions of the author and the characters in the story. These imply that meanings are difficult to perceive without considering the linguistic perspective. Accordingly, the article shows the beauty and the talent of the author's language use exposed through the short story "Chi Pheo".



## REFERENCES

- Anscombre, J. C. and Ducrot, O. (1975), "*L'argumentation dans la langue*", in *Actes de la session linguistique de Saint-Flour*, p. 1-20.
- Ban, D. Q. (2009), *Giao tiếp, diễn ngôn và cấu tạo của văn bản*, Nxb GD.
- Chau, D. H. (2007), *Đại cương ngôn ngữ học (tập 2)*, Nxb GD.
- Dan, N. D. (1998), *Ngữ dụng học (tập 1)*, Nxb Giáo dục.
- Huyen, H. T. T. (2014), *Cấu trúc của một số lập luận phức hợp trong câu ghép tiếng Việt*, Tạp chí Từ điển và Bách khoa.
- Huyen, H. T. T. (2016), *Vai trò của hư từ tiếng việt trong việc hình thành lập luận của câu ghép*. Tạp chí Ngôn ngữ và Đời sống.
- Nghia T. T. (2015), *Lập luận trong tiểu phẩm trào phúng (Trên cứ liệu tiếng Việt)*, (LATS Ngữ văn – ĐH KHXH & NV - ĐH quốc gia TP.HCM).
- Trang, N. T. T. – Huong N. T. T. (2016), *Lập luận qua đoạn văn miêu tả nhân vật Thị nở trong truyện ngắn Chí Phèo của Nam Cao (ĐHKH - ĐH Thái Nguyên)*.
- Trang, N. T. T. (2016), *Kết tử lập luận trong tiếng việt* (LATS Ngữ văn - ĐHSP Hà Nội)