IPCITI 2023 – Book of Abstracts

Thursday 23 November

Friday 24 November

Keynote Address:
Professor Raquel de Pedro Ricoy | Trials and errors of an etic researcher

In this talk, I will discuss the methods that were utilised in two collaborative research projects in which I was involved between 2014 and 2019. The first one (2014-2016; financed by AHRC) focused on the State-sponsored initiatives to ensure the linguistic rights of the speakers of the originary languages spoken in Peru by providing translation and interpreting services between these languages and the hegemonic one, Spanish. The second one (2018-2019; financed by the AHRC/GCRF) focused on the role that ad hoc female interpreters play in the Andean region, without training or remuneration, on a routine basis. It is important to note that the research was not conducted on members of the Indigenous population of Peru, but, rather, with them to explore issues that relate to interlingual cross-cultural communication. I will describe my experience of gathering data, in collaboration with my fellow researchers, members of institutions and NGOs, through a variety of methods. These included questionnaires, TAPs, interviews, focus groups, observation, and participant-led activities. I will conclude by highlighting the importance to research design and development of information that is garnered from people, processes and events that are peripheral to the chosen methods, and is often unexpected.

Bio:

Professor Raquel de Pedro Ricoy holds the Chair of Translation and Interpreting at the University of Stirling. Most of her academic career has centred on the training of translators and interpreters and she has also worked as a freelance translator, interpreter and lexicographer. Raquel has been a Visiting Professor at the University of Bologna (Italy), the University of La Habana (Cuba) and the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú. Raquel was Co-I in an AHRC-funded project (2014-2016) that researched the role of State-trained indigenous translators and interpreters in the legislated mediation of indigenous rights in present day Peru. She was the PI in a follow-on project (2018-2019), funded by AHRC/GCRF, that revolved around the role of untrained, female indigenous interpreters in guaranteeing access to human rights, such as justice, education and health, for Peruvian indigenous women in the Andean region. Raquel is an associate researcher in the MELINCO project, funded by the Dirección Xeral de Relacións Exteriores e coa Unión Europea (Spain), which focuses on the role of interlingual mediation in development cooperation.

Workshop:
Professor Jo Drugan | Ethical Lines of Enquiry

This workshop seeks to untangle some important ethical aspects of methodology in translating and interpreting studies. Starting from the ethical journey of a real research project, we will explore why and how researchers need to engage with ethics far beyond university approval processes. The workshop will be interactive, with lots of opportunities for personal and small-group reflection relating to your own projects, present and future.

Bio:

Professor Jo Drugan is Head of the Department of Languages and Intercultural Studies at Heriot-Watt University. Her research focuses on translation quality, translation/interpreting ethics and translation technologies, particularly in professional/institutional settings and in contexts of transnational organised crime.

Panel 1: Creative Methods

Moderator - Sarah Goulding

Xi, Yaqi | 'The translator's voice embodied: translating "The New Northeast Chinese Writers Group" from text to audio'

Abstract:

My practice-based PhD project, 'The translator's voice embodied: translating "The New Northeast Chinese Writers Group" from text to audio', is a two-stage, multimodal translation project. The first stage aims to translate six short stories written by three Northeast-based Chinese writers from Chinese to English, and in a way that is highly attuned to the voices and local soundscapes embedded in these stories. The second stage aims to remediate the resulting English texts into creative forms of audio storytelling that combine my reading of the translated literary narratives with self-conducted field recordings made at the places mentioned in the stories, and with northeast folk music. Throughout the project, the written page is conceived as an auditory field to be recorded, transcribed, and (re-)imagined, where I, as the translator, narrator, and composer in the field, articulate my listening through a combination of literary translation and sound composition.

The PhD project aims to generate real-world impact in at least two ways. Firstly, it proposes an original approach to literary translation, namely, 'a stylistic, aurally attuned approach' which, by focusing on 'translating (literature) for the audio', aims to facilitate the audio remediation of global literary texts amidst the current audio content boom. As such, I hope the multimodal awareness embedded in my translation approach could help under-represented global literature – like the northeast Chinese texts that I am translating – to reach a wider audience. Secondly, the project foregrounds the agency and creativity of the practice of literary translation, with the translator's role moving beyond producing a linguistic counterpart of the source text to encompass the role of a literary stylist, a narrator, a composer, and a sonic ethnographer, in their efforts to facilitate the appreciation of richly embodied literary accounts in a different cultural and linguistic context.

Keywords: literary translation, Northeast Chinese literature, audio remediation, field recording, multimodality.

Presenter Bio:

Yaqi Xi (she/her) is a PhD candidate at the University of Warwick. Her research interests include literary translation, contemporary Chinese literature, and global queer literature with a theoretical focus on the intersection between psychoanalysis and trans-feminism. She holds a BSc in Psychology (Fudan University, China) and a MA in Literary Translation Studies (Warwick).

As a practising translator, Yaqi translates from Chinese to English and vice versa. She is the translator of a forthcoming Chinese edition of 'Golden: The Power of Silence in a World of Noise', a non-fiction bestseller by Justin Zorn and Leigh Marz (Cheers Publishing, 2023). She is currently working on her PhD project on translating and audio-remediating contemporary northeast Chinese literature, where she seeks to empower literary translators in cultural industries through creative practices of translation and trans-mediation.

Gebruers, Karolien | "For this study, you are asked to construct a mind map. Here are some guidelines on how to approach this."

Abstract:

Visual research methods are increasingly used in qualitative research, including photography, filming, drawing, the use of language portraits, sociograms, and so on. In addition, online platforms (e.g., websites, blogs/vlogs, social media, videocall tools) provide a great range of opportunities to conduct (visual) research. In my current study on the experiences and perceptions of both International Sign conference interpreters and deaf professionals in relation to their gender and other social identities, I have used mind maps to collect data. Mind maps have been mainly examined as a technique to take notes, to brainstorm and to memorise or analyse, but little attention has been paid to mind maps as a research method. In my presentation I will explain why I chose this tool, how I used it, map it against my research questions, my research philosophy and strategy. In regard to the practical use, I will elaborate on challenges and successes regarding, for example, participant recruitment and data analysis. As with many other visual research methods, questions arise regarding anonymity and the increased possibility of identifying the research participants. In my study the mind maps are combined with narrative interviews in which the participants explain their mind maps. I will share how I handled the video recording of these interviews, and, more importantly, how research participants experienced their mind map construction. As this study is on-going, I will conclude with questions and thoughts regarding potential challenges of documenting the findings.

Keywords: mind maps, narratives, International Sign conference interpreting, gender

Presenter Bio:

Karolien Gebruers is a white female hearing feminist from Belgium who has been working as an interpreter Dutch/Flemish Sign Language since 2012. Occasionally, she also carries out International Sign conference interpreting work. Karolien has a background in Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences (BAs from Lessius University College, Belgium) and Interpreting (MA from Humak University of Applied Sciences, Finland). She is a second-year joint PhD candidate in CREWs and CTISS at Heriot-Watt University in Scotland, supervised by Professor Kate Sang and Professor Jemina Napier. Her research centres around gender in the International Sign conference interpreting context through an intersectional lens (see SIGNS@HWU). Her Twitter handle is @KaroGebruers and you can contact her via kg43@hw.ac.uk.

Jerkovic, Tiana | Space, body and presence: The development of an analytical framework and reflection tool for remote interpreting

Abstract:

Translation and Interpreting Studies (TIS) has adopted various concepts from sociology, linguistics, cognitive studies and many other fields. Over time, the focus has shifted from text-based analysis to agent-centred research, including the use of field research methods etc. However, looking at research on remote interpreting, methodological development in this field seems to be lagging, as the main focus of numerous studies remains on issues of quality and how remote interpreting might compare to (or compete with) face-to-face interpreting. While many studies show that the quality of the output is "ok", they fail to tackle underlying questions such as: What makes interpreting online so different from interpreting on-site? Why do most interpreters not want to work solely online, even if the technical equipment is top-notch? These questions can be answered by using a bottom-up approach and by applying theories of space, body and presence to the interpreting process. In this presentation, an analytical framework and reflection tool developed as part of the presenter's PhD research project will be explained. Interactions in digital spaces are inherently different from interactions in physical spaces, and visibility, body and lived body play a key role in the interpreter's perception and influence their feeling of presence, especially when working with sign languages. Being aware of these aspects helps in analysing different assignments in digital spaces and in identifying their unique challenges. The main concepts used are the spatial triad by Rolshoven (2012), stages by Goffman (1959), lived body by Lindemann (2016) and social presence theory by Short, Williams and Christie (1976). Apart from using this analytical framework in empirical research, it can also be used as a reflection tool for interpreters and their practical work.

Keywords: Remote Interpreting, Space, Body, Presence, Analytical Framework

References:
Goffman, Erving (1959) The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life. New York: Doubleday Anchor Books.
Lindemann, Gesa (2016) „Leiblichkeit und Körper", in: Gugutzer, Robert/Klein, Gabriele/Meuser, Michael (eds.) Handbuch Soziologie. Band 1: Grundbegriffe und theoretische Positionen. Wiesbaden: Springer Verlag, 57–66.
Rolshoven, Johanna (2012) "Zwischen den Dingen: der Raum", in: Schweizerisches Archiv für Volkskunde 108, 156–169.
Short, John/Williams, Ederyn/Christie, Bruce (1976) The Social Psychology of Telecommunications. London/New York: Wiley.

Presenter Bio:

Tiana Jerkovic completed her Master's degree in Interpreting (German, English and Austrian Sign Language) at the Department of Translation Studies in Graz. After working as a sign language interpreter in a deaf association for two years, she was hired as a research assistant at the Department and started with her PhD. She decided to devote her research project to remote sign language interpreting and to reflect on interpreting technologies and the importance of human factors in digital spaces. Since October 2022 she has been working in a lecturer position at the Department of Translation Studies, teaching sign language translation and interpreting. She is an active member of several working groups at the University of Graz and the Austrian Association of Sign Language Interpreters, taking part in political discussions and organising various events such as lectures and trainings.

Schlager, Daniela | Feelings in the field: a self-reflexive perspective

Abstract:

In recent years, person-centered or "humanizing" approaches (Pym 2009) have gained popularity in translation studies. Translators as human beings have been put at the center stage, and various aspects of their agency and subjectivity have been explored, including translators' feelings, using concepts such as "emotion" (Hubscher-Davidson 2018) or "affect" (Koskinen 2020). Koskinen (2020) also reflects on her own affective background and motivations for writing her book. However, in contrast to the emotions or affects of practitioners, those of researchers have rarely been foregrounded in translation studies. In interpreting studies, anotable exception is Hokkanen (2017), who devotes a whole publication to an analysis of her feelings in the context of an autoethnographic study in the field of church interpreting.

I argue that feelings are an integral part of empirical research in translation studies, not only in obvious contexts such as autoethnography. It is widely acknowledged that self-reflexivity is essential for qualitative research in general and field research in particular, but while this usually includes reflections on positionality and power relations, feelings are comparatively under-discussed. However, they seem indispensable for a humanized approach to translation studies. They can be understood as "embodied meaning-making" (Wetherell 2012, quoted in Koskinen 2020:6) and thus have epistemological value and influence various methodological aspects: from data collection and interpretation to ethics and the researcher's motivation for a given research project.

I will reflect on the role of a researcher's feelings in field research based on my experiences with two ongoing projects: my PhD thesis and the third-party-funded research project "Rethinking Translation Expertise" (Retrex) at the University of Vienna. The focus is on "heartwarming experiences" (Dutton & Morhart 2010) that arose from interactions with study participants and which influenced my choices regarding interview and observation strategies, as well as approaches to data analysis and ethical considerations. I will also address the therapeutic effect that field research had on me and the opportunities that emotional bonding opens up for connecting researchers and practitioners.

Keywords: field research, self-reflexivity, emotion, affect, humanizing approach

References:
Dutton, Jane & Morhart, Felicitas (2010). Heartwarming as the Other Side of Heartbreaking Experiences in Research. Journal of Management Inquiry 19 (4), 342–344.
Hokkanen, Sari (2017). Analyzing personal embodied experiences: Autoethnography, feelings, and fieldwork. The International Journal of Translation and Interpreting Research 9 (1), 24–35.
Hubscher-Davidson, Séverine (2018). Translation and emotion: A psychological perspective. New York: Routledge.
Koskinen, Kaisa (2020). Translation and affect. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
Pym, Anthony (2009). Humanizing Translation History. Hermes (42), 23–48.

Presenter Bio:

Daniela Schlager holds an MA in Translation and is currently working on the third-party funded research project *Rethinking Translation Expertise: A Workplace Study (RETREX)*, led by Hanna Risku. From 2018 to 2022 she worked as a graduate research and teaching assistant at the Centre for Translation Studies at the University of Vienna. In her PhD thesis, she explores translators' personal goals as a dimension of translatorial agency. Her research interests include sociological, socio-cognitive, political and historical aspects of translators and translation.

Panel 2: Interpreter Identities
Moderator – Karolien Gebruers

Pratt, Sandra | Developing Identities of British Sign Language/ English Interpreting Students

Abstract:

The study makes use of a visual research methodology in the form of Visual Portraits (Prasad 2014) as a starting point, with discussions about participants' lived language and cultural experiences. Researchers such as Busch (2010, 2016), Coffey (2015), Lau (2016), Kusters and De Meulder (2019), Soares *et al.* (2020), among others have used linguistic portraits with children and adults to explore their linguistic identities. Busch positively recognizes the use of visual representation in this way as it helps to to "deconstruct internalized categories", "reflect on embodied practises" and "generate narratives that are less bound to genre expectations" (2010: 286). As an interpreter educator at the University of Wolverhampton, I recognise that students studying on the BA British Sign Language (Interpreting) course come with varied and rich backgrounds, as well as cultural lived experiences. Their identity and lived experience may evolve as they embark on the study of a new language and culture. The use of 'visual portraits' as a method of research enables students to illustrate their languages and cultures in a visual way and then through discussions, express their identities and lived experiences of language and culture. What we find out when we explore these backgrounds and the diverse experiences which students bring, is very interesting. What sense of attachment do they have to the languages and cultures which have played and start to play a part in their lives? How does BSL become a part of their linguistic identity is also explored as well as their definition of culture. I will put forward some of the initial findings identified using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) in exploring participants' linguistic and cultural stories.

Keywords: Identity, Culture, Language, Language Portraits, IPA

References:
Busch, B. (2010) School language profiles: valorizing linguistic resources in heteroglossic situations in South Africa, Language and Education, 24:4, 283-294, DOI: 10.1080/09500781003678712.
Busch, B. (2016) Biographical approaches to research in multilingual settings: Exploring linguistic repertoires. In Researching multilingualism (pp. 60-73). Routledge.
Coffey, S. (2015) Reframing teachers' language knowledge through metaphor analysis of language portraits. The Modern Language Journal, 99(3), pp.500-514.
Kusters, A.M.J. and De Meulder, M. (2019) Language portraits: Investigating embodied multilingual and multimodal repertoires. In Forum: Qualitative Social Research (Vol. 20, No. 3, p. 10).
Lau, S.M.C. (2016) Language, identity, and emotionality: Exploring the potential of language portraits in preparing teachers for diverse learners. The New Educator, 12(2), pp.147-170.
Prasad, G.L. (2014) Portraits of plurilingualism in a French international school in Toronto: Exploring the role of visual methods to access students' representations of their linguistically diverse identities. Canadian Journal of Applied Linguistics, 17(1), pp.51-77.
Soares, C.T., Duarte, J. and Günther-van der Meij, M. (2020) 'Red is the colour of the heart': making young children's multilingualism visible through language portraits. Language and education, 35(1), pp.22-41.

Presenter Bio:

Sandra Pratt is a part time doctoral researcher in her third year of study at the University of Wolverhampton. She is also a registered British Sign Language/ English Interpreter and Senior Lecturer in Interpreter education. Her MA was in Applied Linguistics from the University of Nottingham, which sparked her interest in her current research of linguistic and cultural identities from the learner's perspective.

Hanquet, Nicolas | Exploring co-interpreting: Interviews and Corpus Analysis, how to mix it up all together with the help of the grounded theory approach

Abstract:

The aim of my research is to investigate the complexities and dynamics of co-interpreting within the dyad between deaf and hearing interpreters who work simultaneously from French to LSFB (French Belgian Sign Language). My research is situated within the field of linguistic (auto)-ethnography. By utilizing a corpus of real data, including 100 press conference interpretations in which I participated, interviews of interpreters, field notes, and various documents, I specifically focus on the perspective(s) of the hearing interpreter. The integration of multiple research methodologies, such as interviews, corpus analysis, self-analysis, and reflexivity, poses a challenge.

To provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic, I employ grounded theory (Charmaz, 2015) as the overarching framework for this qualitative research study. This approach allows for an in-depth exploration of the experiences, perspectives, and practices of the interpreter pair, facilitating the identification and development of theoretical insights regarding the strategic nature of their work. Specifically, I utilize two tools from grounded theory, namely comparison and the multi-circular iterative process, to connect the different data sets and triangulate the findings.

In addition to the documents and interview data, I employ corpus analysis to examine language patterns and discourse features in interpreted productions. This systematic analysis of large collections of interpreted discourses enhances our understanding of the linguistic choices made by co-interpreters. By combining qualitative and quantitative methods, this study aims to gain a comprehensive understanding of the complexities involved in the co-interpreting process in that specific context.

However, it is important to acknowledge that this mixed-methods and "patchwork" approach has its limitations and challenges. Therefore, my presentation will primarily focus on the methodological design employed and the complex architecture of it in this research.

Key words: Co-interpreting, deaf & hearing dyad, patchwork, mixed-methods, Sign Language interpreting

Presenter Bio:

My name is Nicolas Hanquet and I am a French-speaking Belgian. I have been working for 10 years as a French-LSFB (French Belgian Sign Language) interpreter. Since October 2021, I am a full time PhD student at the University Saint-Louis Bruxelles, in the faculty of Translation and Interpreting (TransPhères). My research is conducted in partnership with the University of Namur, in the research center on Language and Translation Studies (NalTT). My promoters are Dr. Laurence Meurant and Dr. Dany Etienne, my research is situated in Sign Language Interpreting studies, with a focus on co-interpretation in the context of a mixed deaf/hearing interpreting team.

This research is funded by the National Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS).

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Saft, Anja | Sign Language interpreters as potential researchers in Germany

Abstract:

The profession of Sign Language interpreting (SLI) in Germany is currently undergoing a significant process of professionalization. Professionalization is not a static state that can be easily achieved, but rather an ongoing and dynamic social process that requires continuous evaluation and revision of existing practices. It involves critically reevaluating established norms and striving for improvement. Over the past three decades, there has been a notable increase in the number of academic-level training programs for SLI in Germany. This rise in academic programs has created a demand for educators who possess doctoral degrees. To address this gap, there is a need for PhD students who contribute to the field, and enhance the effectiveness of the profession. These PhD students become also part of a group of researchers who actively contribute to the stock of knowledge in the field of SLI.

Inspired by these developments, this study aims to examine the occupational transition of Sign Language interpreting practitioners into the academic world, a topic that has received limited attention thus far. By utilizing focus groups, the study seeks to explore the perceptions of practitioners who are currently undergoing the transition process, as well as the perspectives of those who have chosen not to pursue an academic path.

The findings of this study suggest that pathways to academia for SLI practitioners in Germany appear to be limited or inaccessible. Various individual factors may also influence the decision of practitioners to pursue a PhD. Currently, the first group of PhD students in the field of SLI is paving the way for future students. Their narratives describe the obstacles they have encountered along their journey, and attitudes that exist beneath the surface but they also provide glimpses of supportive structures. These pioneers may inspire and be followed by others in the future, ultimately fostering the growth and development of the profession.

Keywords: Signed Language interpreters, professionalization, research, occupational transition, doctoral studies

Presenter Bio:

Anja Saft (Germany) first studied interpreting in 1997 in Magdeburg, Germany. Anja began freelance interpreting in 2001 and has been an active Sign Language interpreter (SLI) for over 20 years working mainly in conference and work-related settings. She has teaching experience and delivered seminars to colleagues and also instructed as part of teaching assignments within Interpreting at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Anja has recently finished her MA-thesis with the topic of occupational transition of SLI practitioners to becoming PhD students. This presentation will be based on her Master's thesis. Her research interests include the professionalization of SLI.

Jacques-King, Selina | Intersectionality and Interpreting: Exploring interpreters of colour in the UK

Abstract:

An empirical exploration of British Sign Language/English interpreters (BSLI) who identify as a British Sign Language Interpreter of Colour (BSLIOC). Using the framework of intersectionality (Crenshaw 1991).

Crenshaw's 1991 seminal work on intersectionality focused on the experiences of Black women in relation to the law and how their race and gender intersect. However, thirty years on, intersectionality has now evolved as a way of understanding and analysing the world and the human experience. Thus, intersectionality as a theory is now used to explore an array of complex social processes and is not limited to race and gender Carbado 2013; Hill Collins & Bilge 2016).

Thus, this research focuses on the experiences of BSLIOC through an intersectional lens. The interpreting profession in the UK is predominately White and female (ASLI 2021). The ASLI census (2021) revealed that a typical Sign Language Interpreter (SLI) profile in the UK is a straight, White, British woman who is 44 years of age.

A review of the current literature shows a lack of research into intersectionality within the interpreting field, there have been limited notable exceptions (Obasi, 2013 and West Oyedele, 2015).

Therefore, this research is to obtain the experiences that BSLIOC may have faced, such as microaggressions and racism, but also the positives BSLIOC can bring to the profession, such as cultural competency, representation and allyship with deaf people of colour.

Keywords: British Sign Language. Interpreter. Intersectionality. Microaggressions. Representation.

References:

ASLI/Association of Sign Language Interpreters (2021) A demographic snapshot of the profession: The 2021 census of sign language translators and interpreters in the UK RESEARCH REPORT. [accessed 21.05.2023]

Carbado, D. (2013), Colorblind Intersectionality. In Women in culture and society. Vol 38. Iss 4. pp. 811-845. [accessed 02.11.2022].

Crenshaw, K. (1991), Mapping the margins: Intersectionality, identity politics, and violence against women of color, 43 (6), Stan. L. Rev. 1241 (1991).

Hill Collins, P. and Bilge, S. (2016), Intersectionality. Cambridge. Polity Press

Obasi, C. (2013), Race and ethnicity in sign language interpreter education, training, and practice. In Race, Ethnicity and Education. Volume 16. Issue 1. Pp 103-120. Doi:10.1080/13613324.2012.733686 [accessed 22.05.2023].

West Oyedele, E. (2015), Persistence of African-American/black signed language interpreters in the United States: the importance of culture and capital. (Masters thesis). Western Oregon University. Monmouth. Oregon. Retrieved from https://digitalcommons.wou.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1022&context=theses [accessed 22.05.2023].

Presenter Bio:

Selina Jacques-King is a first-year PhD student at the University of Wolverhampton, whose research area lies the experiences of BSL/English interpreters of colour in the UK.

Panel 3a: Conflict and Crisis
Moderator – Kate Ferguson

Goukens, Sari | Investigating the investigators: an overview of procedural differences in the municipal marriage fraud investigative practices in Flanders

Abstract:

In Belgium, marriage applications involving a non-European spouse are typically investigated to determine whether the relationship is genuine, or a sham to obtain a residence permit for the non-European spouse. This investigation is conducted by the municipality in which they live and, should that investigation prove inconclusive, continued by the police precinct. During the investigations the couple will be interviewed by a civil servant and/or police officer, often with an interpreter present as at least one party does not speak the official local language(s) as their native language. The investigations yield written reports of the interviews with the couple and (ideally) proofs of a durable relationship, on which the ultimate decision regarding the marriage is based, making them of paramount importance for the future of the couple (Vandenbroucke 2020; 2022).

Such municipal marriage fraud investigations are typically decentralised procedures: no rules or regulations stipulate the exact manner in which the investigation is to be conducted by the municipalities. This leads to different methods of investigations adopted by different municipalities, at times even within the same judicial district. Some municipalities do not conduct interviews themselves and directly delegate the investigation to the police precinct, while the municipalities that do, organise the interviews as they wish. In this paper, based on fieldwork in several municipal offices and interview data with municipal officers, we focus specifically both on the differences concerning interpreter selection (either a sworn, social or ad hoc interpreter) (Vandenbroucke & Defrancq 2021), interview practices (positioning and access to the written record), and textual documentation, as well as on how these differences are metadiscursively motivated by each municipality. We will also reflect on possible procedural consequences if written statements from the municipal phase are later compared with written records of the police interview.

Keywords*:* Entextualisation, interpreting, metapragmatics, marriage migration

References:
Vandenbroucke, M. (2020) Legal-discursive constructions of genuine cross-border love in Belgian marriage fraud investigations, Critical Discourse Studies, 17:2, 175-192, DOI: 10.1080/17405904.2020.1715233
Vandenbroucke, M. (2022). 9. He Said, She Said: The Complexity of Oral Relationship Narratives as Written Factual Evidence in Belgian Marriage Fraud Investigations. In A.-M. D'Aoust (Red.), Transnational Marriage and Partner Migration (pp. 189–204). Rutgers University Press. https://doi.org/10.36019/9781978816749-011
Vandenbroucke, M., & Defrancq, B. (2021). Professionally unaligned interpreting in Belgian marriage fraud investigations and its consequences. The Translator, 27(1), 12–32. https://doi.org/10.1080/13556509.2021.1880309

Presenter Bio:

Sari Goukens is a doctoral researcher currently working on a joint PhD project at the University of Antwerp and Ghent University. She aims to research the influence of interpreters on the entextualisation process during sham marriage investigations in Flanders, looking into both municipal and police investigations. She has previously worked on a Fedasil National Project at the Department of Translation, Interpreting and Communication (UGent), aiming to evaluate the digital competencies and needs of asylum seekers in Belgium.

She studied at Ghent University's Department of Translation, Interpreting and Communication, and has obtained a BA in Applied Linguistics and an MA in Interpreting (Dutch, English and Turkish), including a certificate for sworn interpreting.

Guo, Shiyao | Non-professional interpreters in conflict: role expectations and role performance

Abstract:

The war inevitably involves recruiting more civilian interpreters from the local populations, given the insufficient military linguists (Kujamäki and Footitt 2019). Some scholars argue that local interpreters are often recruited because of their linguistic ability rather than their prior training or professional experience as interpreters (Moser-Mercer and Bali 2008, Baigorri 2011, Rosendo and Persaud 2016, Tryuk 2020). When interpreters enter the military field, the role expected of them by political institutions and the military is revealed at the outset of the deployment and is deepened in the training process. The ethical choices interpreters make in conflict are undoubtedly influenced by how they themselves perceive their status and roles.

This presentation sets against the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression from 1937 to 1945. The Kuomintang government recruited a large number of students from Chinese universities to serve as interpreters for American allies. The students were of varying majors and began work after receiving a short training that ranged from a few weeks to several months.

This presentation draws on interpreters' recruitment and training materials in the archival documents and personal and collected memoirs written by interpreters. Based on archival research, the presentation aims to discuss what role expectations the Kuomintang had of interpreters and the roles interpreters performed on the battlefield. The analysis shows that the Kuomintang's role expectations of interpreters were more military and ideological than actual linguistic knowledge and skills. Interpreters' understanding of their role and positioning was closely linked to their national identity and military duties. However, interpreters also had their own political agendas and made ethical choices that could contradict the training they received.

Keywords: Non-professional interpreters; conflicts; roles and positioning; archival research; memoirs

Presenter Bio:

Shiyao Guo is currently a third-year PhD candidate in Translation and Intercultural Studies at The University of Manchester. She holds a MA in Translation Studies from Beijing Foreign Studies University. Her project explores ethical issues, positioning, role, and identity of interpreters in the military during the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression (1937-1945) through a combined socio-narrative and historical approach. Her research interests include translation and history, ethics, archives, memoirs, sociological and historical methods, and translators and interpreters in wars and conflicts.

Wiesinger, Claudia | Mixed methods research into crisis translation: Combining surveys, interviews, and eye tracking

Abstract:

In disasters and crises, the absence of professional translation and interpreting often prevents timely and effective communication with those affected. For this reason, we can assume widespread use of machine translation (MT) tools among affected populations and disaster responders alike. While recent MT solutions have become more fluent, their accuracy should not be overestimated. This PhD project aims to alleviate some of the risks associated with MT use in this context by proposing an innovative MT-assisted crisis translation workflow that combines automatic speech synthesis (text-to-speech technology) with post-editing machine translation (PEMT). The hypothesis is that this new workflow called *Speech-enabled PEMT* can help untrained translators produce more accurate texts in a timely manner.

Following an exploratory sequential design (Creswell and Plano Clark, 2007: 77), data collection took place over two phases: the first phase aimed to determine challenges in crisis translation workflows that Speech-enabled PEMT can potentially mitigate. An initial exploratory survey identified key trends and was followed by an investigation into the crisis translation workflows of two Austrian organisations using semi-structured interviews and a second, targeted survey. The second phase aimed to test the suitability of the workflow for the main challenges identified. Rather than testing it in a real-life disaster or crisis, the workflow was piloted with disaster responders in a laboratory setting. An eye-tracking study helped gain insights into the quality of the post-edited texts, the participants' productivity, and their cognitive effort.

Combining qualitative and quantitative data across both phases provides a more complete picture of crisis translation and ensures that (a) the laboratory research is informed by real-world examples and that (b) real-world practices are optimised based on the findings. This presentation will discuss the suitability of mixed methods research for the context of crisis translation and show preliminary results from the eye-tracking study.

Keywords: Crisis Translation, Machine Translation, Mixed Methods Research, Eye Tracking, Non-professional Translation

References:
Creswell, J.W. and Plano Clark, V.L. (2007) Designing and conducting mixed methods research. Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Presenter Bio:

Claudia Wiesinger holds an MA in Literary and Cultural Studies from the University of Salzburg and an MA in Applied Translation Studies from the University of Leeds. She is currently working as a university assistant in the Human and Artificial Intelligence in Translation (HAITrans) research group (https://haitrans.univie.ac.at/) at the University of Vienna Centre for Translation Studies (ZTW). Claudia has also been a PhD student at the University of Vienna since February 2021. In addition to crisis communication and the role of translation, Claudia's research interests include the effects of speech tools on translation, revision and post-editing tasks, and computer-assisted translation and revision practices. Aside from working in academia, Claudia is also an active member of the language services industry. Having worked as an in-house translator and reviser in the United Kingdom, Claudia is now a freelance translator for the English-to-German language combination.

Jimenez Castro, María | Translational strategies in multilingual health communication

Abstract

Migrant people often move to countries whose language they do not know, so they experience a relocation, reorganization and restructuring between what they leave behind and the new life in the host country (Carretero, 2014). Cultural and linguistic barriers, amongst others, can lead to difficulties in access to health information, resulting in disparities between migrant and native populations. There are certain areas such as medical and health information where the precision and accuracy of translations is crucial due to the repercussions that misinformation can have on the physical and mental integrity of users (Karwacka, 2015). In this context, translational activities, such as transcreation, can play a key role in the inclusion of migrant people in health communication.

Transcreation is defined as a creative process where the translator not only translates a text or product but goes further and adapts it to generate the same emotional response in the target audience (Pedersen, 2014). It plays a crucial role in generating materials that enable understanding and are adapted to specific aspects of disadvantaged groups to reduce inequalities (Nápoles and Stewart, 2018) and promote inclusion in the host society. The objective of this doctoral thesis is to propose a framework to facilitate the implementation of translational strategies with an inclusion perspective to improve multilingual health communication.

Keywords: migration, translation, multilingual information, health communication, inclusion

Presenter Bio:

María Jiménez Castro holds a degree in translation and interpreting and a professional master's degree in conference interpreting (University of Granada). She is currently a lecturer and researcher-in-training (FPU) in the Department of Translation and Interpreting at the University of Granada. As part of this contract, she teaches in the Translation and Interpreting Degree and in the double degree of Translation and Interpreting and Commerce and Tourism. She is currently working on her doctoral thesis on the transcreation of health information materials for migrant and refugee populations. The main objective of this doctoral thesis is the creation of an action framework to facilitate the implementation of translational strategies in multilingual health communication, in a way that favors inclusion and gender perspective. Her research focuses on translation, interpretation, cultural mediation and transcreation as well as migration and inclusion.

Panel 3b: Researcher Practice
Moderator – Katherine Heller

Güércio, Nayara | Combining Datasets in Indirect Translation Research: challenges and opportunities

Abstract:

This presentation asks the question: what are the challenges and opportunities associated with combining two datasets in Indirect Translation (ITr) research? ITr is here understood as the translation of a translation (Gambier 1994: 11). In spite of the rise in ITr studies over recent years, there is a lack of systematic knowledge on how it correlates with other modes of translation, and how ITr impacts research in general (Assis Rosa, Pięta & Bueno Maia 2017: 113; Pięta 2017: 200).

To describe and understand the characteristics of ITr research, two sets of primary sources were examined: 83 publications (2017-2022), and 49 semi-structured interviews with researchers who have published in the field. To collect the first dataset, a systematic review of publications in ITr was conducted. This was done by searching scientific journals, academic repositories, the Indirectrans Network website, and Google Scholar. The second dataset was gathered by contacting the authors of the texts and carrying out snowball and convenience sampling from there.

Using computational tools, a corpus-based analysis was conducted to identify recurring themes and patterns in both sets. The main challenges associated with combining two datasets in ITr research are twofold: 1) preparation must be carried out before any analysis can be conducted, and 2) ITr research is not generally identified as such. Main opportunities include the triangulation of complex research questions, and mutual validation across datasets, both of which increase rigour.

The application of this type of method is not limited to two datasets. It also extends beyond ITr, advancing developing subfields, and Translation Studies in general.

Keywords: Indirect Translation. Research Methodology. Corpus Methodologies. Combined Datasets. Subfields in Translation Studies.

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Pięta, Hanna. 2017. "Theoretical, Methodological and Terminological Issues in Researching Indirect Translation: A Critical Annotated Bibliography." In: Translation Studies 10 (2), pp. 198–216.

Presenter Bio:

Nayara Güércio is a third-year PhD candidate who researches the developing subfield of Indirect Translation Studies at the Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation (TCLCT), Trinity College Dublin. The main aim of her project is to provide a basis for understanding the current state of the art of research in Indirect Translation, as well as how this research might develop over the coming years. Her doctoral work is generously supported by a scholarship granted by the Haddad Foundation. Nayara also has an MPhil in Literary Translation from Trinity College Dublin and a Master's degree in Communication Studies from the University of Brasilia, Brazil.

Wilson, Donna | Practice makes perfect: using practice in translation studies research

Abstract:

In this paper I discuss practice as a mode of research in translation studies (TS) and demonstrate how I am using it to offer ways of increasing understanding of autism. Practice research (PRAG UK, 2023) is a type of research that uses practical activity as the main mode of research, such as in action research (Kemmis and McTaggart, 2005), practice-led research (Smith and Dean, 2009) and practice-based research (Candy, 2006; Candy et al., 2022), methods commonly found within the health and social sciences, as well as the creative arts. In TS, practice research is referred to as translation and commentary. It is neither well defined in the methodology literature (Saldanha and O'Brien, 2013; Williams and Chesterman, 2002; Zanettin and Rundle, 2022) nor widely used in postdoctoral work. Nevertheless, a small body of this type of research exists: in literary translation (e.g. Loffredo and Perteghella, 2009; Scott, 2000, 2006; Shan, 2012; Tawada, 2002/2013) and in critical humanities focused translation (e.g. Bessaih, 2021; Krasuska et al., 2021; Marinetti and Rose, 2013; Sabu, 2021; Shread, 2009). These scholars employ various approaches and terminology, often adapted from other disciplines. Situating this work within the wider field of practice research, this paper offers a detailed definition within TS, highlighting that the cognitive processes of self-reflection and reflexivity, key features of the methodology generally, are also key features of translation practice research. I then demonstrate how I am using the practice of translating an autism memoir (Pivot, 2017) as a vehicle for autoethnography (Ellis, Adams and Bochner, 2011), drawing on my own personal experience of autism and emotional responses during translation. I also show how I use grounded theory (Glaser and Strauss, 2008) to uncover themes for an exploration of attitudes to autism in society more widely.

Keywords: Practice research, self-reflection, reflexivity, autoethnography, grounded theory

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Bionote: Donna Wilson is a PhD student at the University of Glasgow.

Zhang, Ying | Objectiveness and Ethics of the Netnographical Research on online Translational fan communities: A Case Study of Viki.com

Abstract:

This article explores how researchers maintain objectiveness and ethics in a netnographical approach to online translational fan communities. Kozinets' (2020, 4) netnography offers a detailed and specific approach to conducting qualitative research on virtual communities, like Viki.com providing a web-based communication platform where fans volunteer to subtitle Asian dramas to many different languages. The participatory and interactive nature of Web 2.0 allows researchers have an 'immersive' and 'prolonged' engagement with these translational fans. This helps in carrying on interviews, data scraping, archival work, etc. to understand how fans translate these dramas on Viki. However, it is important for researchers to detach themselves from participants to avoid biases and to maintain objectiveness in a social community. Another methodological concern is the ethical issues associated with informed consent, as well as the use and citation of online postings, especially for using those screenshots by which participants' identities could be revealed. When users post things in a forum thread, they already know that it becomes public information. However, the fact that users' postings are public does not mean that researchers can use the data in any way that they want (Kozinets 2010, 137). Drawing on the author's case study of Viki.com, the article suggests researchers to be a 'lurker' so as to keep a careful distance from community members in the process of data collection; it highlights that there is a need to distinguish participants' pseudonyms from their usernames in working out informed consent, and also a close examination of *Terms of Use*, *Privacy Policy* and *Copyright Policy* of the websites on which users posted things. In addition, before using the public knowledge, researchers are recommended to approach posters for the permission if it is possible.

Key Words: Objectiveness, ethics, netnography, online translational fan community, Viki

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Kozinets, Robert V. 2010. Netnography: Doing ethnographic research online. London: Sage.
Kozinets, Robert V. 2020. Netnography: The Essential Guide to Qualitive Social Media Research. London: Sage.

Presenter Bio:

I am currently in the final year of my PhD study on Translation Studies from Department of Languages, Cultures and Visual Studies of University of Exeter. My research title is "Fansubbing and *xianxia* media culture: A case study of *Eternal Love* at viki.com", focus around xianxia fansubbing culture. The key question of my research is how *xianxia* fansubbers translate *xianxia* culture in the world of media convergence. The case study I look at is *Eternal Love (2017*), the English of Chinese *xianxia* TV drama *Three lives Three worlds, Ten Miles of Peach Blossoms (2017).* I explore two English versions of subtitles of the *xianxia* drama by fansubbers and professional translators on Viki and Netflix and discuss how fansubbers contribute to the dissemination of *xianxia* culture.

Baumann, Antonia | Exploring the Integration of Digital Tools in Ethnographic Studies of Workplace Settings: Insights from a Speech-to-Text Interpreter

Abstract:

Methodological literature often emphasizes the use of handwritten field notes as the standard approach for data collection in participant observation in workplace settings. The use of technology to support the ethnographic research process has been addressed in scholarly discussion; however, it seems to increasingly focus on online ethnography or the ethnography of online communities. Nevertheless, this does not discount the presence of digital tools in research practice beyond cyberethnography. In my ongoing work within the third-party-funded research project "Rethinking Translation Expertise" and my PhD thesis at the University of Vienna, I have gained personal experience using digital tools in three different ethnographic case studies.

Hoffmeister, Marguin, and Schendzielorz's (2018) account is one of the few that addresses the integration of digital tools in ethnographic research. They explore the shift toward digital tools and argue that researchers engage in an "analogue-digital bricolage," choosing tools as needed.

Building upon this discussion, my contribution aims to explore the challenges associated with using digital tools for taking field notes, shedding light on the potential benefits and complexities of utilising such tools in ethnographic research. Drawing on my training and experience as a speech-to-text interpreter (STTI), I will in particular compare and connect the practices of STTI and digital field note-taking. Additionally, I will share and reflect on my experiences from using a speech recognition software for transcription. Guided by the premise that everything is translation, I will reflect how my background in STTI allows me to effectively translate my observations into written text. My contribution will examine aspects such as the use of technology, participants' perceptions of intrusiveness, and the role of translation in conveying observations in field notes. Thereby, I hope to add valuable insights to the methodological development of ethnographic observation in physical workplace settings.

Keywords: ethnographic research; speech-to-text interpreting; digital tools; workplace research; field notes

Reference:
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Presenter Bio:

Antonia Baumann holds an MA in Translation and Dialogue Interpreting from the University of Graz and works as graduate research associate at the University of Vienna within the third-party funded research project "Rethinking Translation Expertise" (Retrex), led by Hanna Risku. In her PhD theses, Antonia Baumann focuses on feedback in the translation industry. Her research interests include sociological and socio-cognitive aspects of translation and interpreting as well as workplace research. In June 2022, Antonia Baumann completed the postgraduate certificate course in "Speech-to-Text Interpreting" at the University of Vienna and has been actively working as a freelance speech-to-text interpreter since then.

Panel 4a: Translator Studies
Moderator – Leri Price

Liu, Zhaolong | Translators' Identities and Text Dissemination: Investigating the English Translations of Louis Cha's Martial Arts Novels

Abstract:

Louis Cha's martial arts novels have been translated into English since the 1990s. So far, there exist four book-form English translations: Fox Volant of the Snowy Mountain translated by Olivia Mok; The Deer and The Cauldron translated by John Minford; The Book and The Sword translated by Graham Earnshaw; and Legends of the Condor Heroes co-translated by Anna Holmwood, Gigi Chang and Shelly Bryant. Previous studies mainly focus on the translation strategy or the reception of the translations, whereas little attention has been paid to the translators' identities.

By examining the translation process, interviews and book reviews, this paper explores different translators' identities and their roles in disseminating Cha's novels. The study reveals that (1) while the five translators translated the same author's novels, they had different 'social or cultural capitals' in Pierre Bourdieu's terms from the outset. John Minford's established fame as a renowned translator and sinologist enables his translation to attract the most attention from the target readers. (2) In addition to the professional expertise needed to carry out the project, non-professional factors in translators' identities merit attention. As Mok is an academic, her translation is much read and discussed by researchers rather than common readers. Earnshaw's close rapport with Cha and Minford lays a foundation for his translation's entry into the target culture. Holmwood, as a copyright trader and project initiator, is more adept at finding a publisher and organising a collaborative translation team. (3) The translators' identities led to different adoptions of paratexts, which further influenced the dissemination of their translations. These findings indicate that research into the translators' identities could shed fresh light on the translation of Cha's novels. Furthermore, it would help develop 'translator studies', an area once *neglected and inadequately represented in James Holmes' classic map of translation studies.*

Keywords: Translator's Identity; English Translations; Louis Cha; Martial Arts Novels; Dissemination

Presenter Bio:

Zhaolong Liu is currently a PhD student in Translation Studies at School of Modern Languages and Cultures, University of Glasgow. His research focuses on the English translation of Louis Cha's martial arts novels. As a certified translator, Liu is interested in translating contemporary Chinese literature into English. Liu has published research articles on Translation Studies in peer-reviewed journals and has delivered a number of papers at academic conferences held in Mainland China, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom.

Zeng, Xiaojing | Li Di, A Jesuit Translator and Catholic Printing Enterprise in Late Qing

Abstract:

The year of 1842 marked the official return of Catholicism to China, followed by establishment of publishing houses to facilitate religious dissemination across the empire. Focusing on the Sino-Christian exchange in Late Qing, this project carries out a micro-historical case study of the printed works by Laurentius Li (1840-1911), a Jesuit who translated prolifically in Shanghai-based Tushanwan Press. Under the guidance of Actor-Network Theory, it seeks to ascertain the production and circulation process of Catholic translations during this period in a country far removed from the Vatican. Did the Church set controls and procedures to ensure institutional orthodoxy? Were there norms and standards the translator conformed to for message consistency? How did these geographically dispersed participants interact and communicate with each other to form the network? A corpus of paratextual elements identified in Li's works is being built, including peritexts such as book titles, prefaces, annotations, and illustrations, together with epitexts like instructions from Propaganda Fide and letters to or by Li regarding the translation and printing activities. With a qualitative research method, this paratextual corpus will be analyzed to find out how paratexts served to deliver and spread religious messages, as well as how they contributed to the making of printed products from translated texts. By investigating imageries and portraits existent in the printed works of Li, this study aspires to add a new dimension to the understanding of multimodal translations from a historical perspective.

Keywords: Catholic Print, Paratext, Multimodal Translation, Actor-Network Theory, Microhistory

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Presenter Bio:

Xiaojing Zeng is a 2nd year PhD student in University of Galway, Ireland, and my project examines the intersection of translation and print in Late Qing China. I received my BA in Translation and Interpreting (2017) from Beijing Foreign Studies University, and my MA in Translation (2018) from Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Spicer, Barbara| A 'floating head' at Rosalind's shoulder: insights from an innovative, humanising approach to literary translation process research

Abstract:

When I began my doctoral journey in October 2019, my original plan was to replicate Claudine Borg's case study, responding to her call for more process-oriented research into 'the uniqueness and individuality of translation behaviour' (2016, p.206). Borg's doctoral research, now published as a monograph (2023), centres on Anthony Aquilina, a translator working in the French-Maltese language pair. The focus of my qualitative project is the acclaimed freelance literary translator, Rosalind Harvey. Her English-language translation of Juan Pablo Villalobos' 2020 novel, *La invasión del pueblo del espíritu* (Invasion of the Spirit People), coincided with the planned fieldwork phase. In March 2020, however, Covid-19 was declared a global pandemic. It was no longer possible to conduct in-person research, as Borg had done. In this presentation I will outline the innovative methods co-developed with Rosalind to remotely capture, and record, the real-time unfolding of her publisher-commissioned literary translation.

Located (virtually) in the translator's workplace during lockdown, the authentic setting offered fascinating and unexpected insights into the translator's practice. For example, Rosalind translated aloud, using voice recognition software, to produce sections of her first draft. In addition, although both Anthony Aquilina and Rosalind Harvey generated a number of alternative translation solutions (ATSs) in their draft versions, they behaved very differently in terms of human-computer interaction, asynchronous collaboration, and authorial involvement. Focussing on individuality over generalisability, and visibility over invisibility, my unique approach to Literary Translator Studies is a 'humanizing' one (Klaus Kaindl, 2021, p.11). I will use text-based slides, but I will also share multi-modal snapshots of a contemporary translation process, using visual images and audio recordings to bring the data to life. I will then highlight the ways in which internet-mediated research (IMR) can offer a viable, more inclusive, and less disruptive alternative to more established TPR methods, even in non-pandemic times.

Keywords: translation process research, human-computer interaction, literary translator studies, internet-mediated research, humanising approach

Presenter Bio:

Barbara (Babs) Spicer is a first-generation doctoral researcher at The Open University, where she is currently supervised by Dr Séverine Hubscher-Davidson and Dr Ursula (Uschi) Stickler. She is 'writing up' her thesis with dictation software. Her research is driven by intellectual curiosity, as a polyglot and avid reader of books in translation. She lives in Scotland but also inhabits the digital space that is Twitter (@BornLinguist).

Email Barbara.spicer@open.ac.uk

Sun, Rui | Why do Translators Explicitate? – Investigating the Motivation for Explicitation through the Translations of Reporting Verbs

Abstract:

Existing research on translator's style predominantly involves comparing translators with one another to identify differences in their ways of translating. This research adopts a distinct approach to translator's style by devoting attention exclusively to one translator, Howard Goldblatt, and investigating how his way of translating changes over time.

In this research, changes in Goldblatt's translation style are examined through explicitation in his translations of reporting verbs in Mo Yan's novels. This presentation will focus on the aspects of an utterance Goldblatt tends to explicitate. The overall tendencies identified by studying all of the seven selected novels translated by Goldblatt collectively are compared with the tendencies exhibited in individual novels to see whether the overall tendencies and the individual tendencies are consistent, and whether there are differences and trends across individual novels.

To facilitate the analysis, the *Parallel Corpora of Goldblatt's Translations* are compiled, which has over two million words and consists of seven Chinese novels by Mo Yan and their English translations by Goldblatt. This research also refers to the *Corpus of Contemporary American English* and the *Translational English Corpus* to serve as standards for original and translational English to compare with Goldblatt's translations.

This research reveals that Goldblatt's way of translating is not always consistent. While some tendencies in his translations are displayed in all of the seven novels, other tendencies change over time. This research generates fresh insight into Goldblatt's translation style by highlighting its changing nature. More importantly, it enriches our understanding of translator's style by providing empirical evidence that a translator's way of translating is not static but may change over time.

Keywords: Corpus methodologies, translator's style, explicitation, reporting verbs, Howard Goldblatt

Presenter Bio:

Rui Sun is a third-year PhD candidate in Translation and Intercultural Studies at the University of Manchester. Her PhD project investigates Howard Goldblatt's translation style through explicitation and implicitation in his translations of reporting verbs in Mo Yan's novels using a corpus-based method.

Panel 4b: Feminist and Queer Approaches

Moderator – Sarah Goulding

Zhang, Xinyao | Chinese Feminist Translations of A Room of One's Own (1978-2022): a Transnational Feminist Perspective

Abstract

To date, scholarly publications discussing the translation of Western feminist texts into the Chinese context have primarily focused on the influence that Western discourses had in the development of feminism in China. However, little attention has been paid to the influence that Chinese gender agendas have inevitably had on the recontextualisation of these Western publications, for them to serve Chinese gender agendas. This project aims to fill this gap. I will examine the recontextualisation and representation of Virginia Woolf's feminist and gender ideas in the Chinese translations of *A Room of One's Own* produced from the Reform and Opening-up period in China (starting from 1978) to 2022, in relation to the socio-political contexts in which they were conducted and published.

I will conduct this comparative analysis drawing on transnational feminism as my main theoretical framework, focusing on both the textual and paratextual dimensions of both the source and the target materials. The analysis seeks to explore how Woolf's feminist and gender ideas have been mediated to fit the needs and expectations of the target culture and audiences in different time periods; and how the translations conducted by different translator groups (e.g., grassroots feminist activists, scholars and students) vary according to their respective feminist agendas.

Through the explorations, this research strives to re-examine the roles that Western discourses and Chinese feminist agendas have actually played in the construction of Chinese feminist discourses. It also probes the possibility of viewing feminism in Chinese context from a transnational feminist perspective.

Keywords: transnational feminism, feminist translation, Chinese feminism, Virginia Wolf in China, *A Room of One's Own*

Presenter Bio:

Xinyao Zhang is a 2-year PhD candidate in Translation and Transcultural Studies at the University of Warwick, supervised by Dr Olga Castro and Dr Qian Liu, being funded by the AHRC-Midlands4Cities Doctoral Training Partnership. Her project investigates the recontextualisation of Virginia Woolf's gender ideas in the Chinese context. Her research interests focus on gender and translation, fan/amateur translation and the intersection between audiovisual translation and transnational feminist translation studies.

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Woolley-Núñez, Laura | Exploring feminist translation strategies in María Teresa León's Memory of Melancholia

Abstract:

María Teresa León (1903–1988) was a highly regarded author and activist who fought to defend the Republic during the Spanish Civil War (1936–1939). Following the war, she spent 28 years in exile. During this time, she published an extensive and complex memoir titled *Memoria de la melacolía* (1970) which spans over 60 years of her life. León's memoir remains inaccessible in English translation despite receiving critical acclaim in the UK and being described as one of the key testimonies from the 20th century. This paper focuses on my ongoing experience translating *Memoria de la melancolía,* exploring four translation challenges and different feminist strategies to overcome them. In response, I identify context-specific feminist translation strategies. These challenges are: translating the linguistic invisibility of women as a result of the so-called generic masculine; negotiating the losses caused by the linguistic and generational differences with a feminist awareness of my political role as a mediator; approaching the translation of the 'patriarchal noise' in León's work; and translating the transitional nature of the exiled home and continuous dis/re-articulation of self (Minh-Ha 2010: 33, 45). My feminist translation practice draws on five key theoretical texts on the intersection of gender and translation, and feminist translation approaches (Flotow 1991, 2019a, 2019b; Maier 1998; Massardier-Kenney 1997). The strategies adopted aim to "make the feminine visible" acknowledging the choices in the translated literature call upon "consciously feminist principles" (Massardier-Kenney, 1997:58). My translation seeks to bring more nuance to these strategies and develop new context-specific multidimensional solutions best suited for recovering Spanish lost anti-fascist women's voices while also presenting the historical context to English-speaking audiences. This project responds to a feminist interest in women's experiences of oppression, dictatorship and exile transcending national and class boundaries.

Keywords: feminist translation studies; feminist translation strategies; literary translation; memoir translation; María Teresa León.

Presenter Bio:

Laura Woolley-Núñez (she/her) is a PhD student in Translation and Transcultural Studies at the University of Warwick. Her practice-based project is funded by Midlands4Cities Doctoral Training Partnership (AHRC). Her research interests include the translation of autobiographical writing, feminist translation studies and the recovery of women's voices.

Melfi, Raghad | Multimodal Feminist Analysis of Saudi Feminist Films: A Case Study

Abstract:

The representation of gender identities in subtitles has been a recent research focus in audiovisual translation studies, allowing for the investigation of how women's portrayals travel geo-politically and cross-culturally in a multimodal medium. However, not all contexts have received the same scholarly attention. For example, no research has been conducted about the Saudi context, despite the growing number of feminist films in Saudi Arabia that challenge local and international regnant depictions of Arab women and fight against the social constraints imposed on them. This paper will examine how Saudi women are portrayed in the English subtitles of the Saudi feminist film *Wadjda* (2012), directed by the first Saudi woman director Haifa Al-Mansour. I will carry out a multimodal analysis of the subtitles using a combination of feminist critical discourse analysis and narrative theory. The technical constraints of audiovisual translation will also be considered. In my analysis, I will reflect on whether the linguistic rendition of the subtitles consider all the social and multimodal complexities of the feminist messages in the film, and to what extent it may create a new perception on Arab women's portrayals rather than a reinforcement of stereotypes. This paper seeks to raise awareness about gender identities in audiovisual translation by filling in the vast gap of Arab women's representation in subtitles, resisting victimising representations that have been historically hegemonic.

Keywords: Subtitles, transnational feminist translation, Saudi feminism, critical feminist discourse analysis, multimodal analysis.

Presenter Bio:

Raghad Melfi is a 2-year PhD candidate in Translation and Transcultural Studies at the University of Warwick, supervised by Dr Olga Castro and Dr Mila Milani. Her project investigates the audience reception of gender representations in the English subtitles of contemporary Saudi feminist films. Her research interests focus on the intersection between audiovisual translation and transnational feminist translation studies. She is also an associate editor for *Exchanges: The Interdisciplinary Research Journal* at the University of Warwick, and a sessional associate teacher at the department of School of Modern Languages and Cultures.

Facchini, Igor | Queer (mis)representation in interpreting: investigating feasibility and acceptability in institutions

Abstract:

Language can include, exclude or (mis)represent diversity. Translation, in turn, has either the role of acknowledging or erasing individuals from discourse, with repercussions in terms of gender equality and self-determination. By legitimising and reflecting the linguistic agency of queer people, translation and interpreting not only serve the purpose of content fidelity, but also of social justice. This paper sheds light on the challenges and the stakes of identity representation in interpreting, providing insights from the sociolinguistic interplay of language, gender, and identity. Using such framework as a starting point, and referencing the most recent contributions of queer and trans approaches to linguistics and translation (Zimman 2020; Baldo et al. 2021), this proposal aims at bridging the gap between existing theorisations and practices in translation studies (Epstein & Gillett 2017; Baer & Kaindl 2018) and the current lack of such investigations in its oral modalities (Defrancq et al. 2022). Against this background, the present contribution revolves around two main axes. The first aspect that will be discussed is the feasibility of incorporating gender-inclusive and queer-sensitive linguistic practices when interpreting from English into Romance languages. To this end, by showing the key findings of an experimental study on non-binary language in consecutive interpreting from English into Italian, methodological considerations will be proposed, aiming at testing the oral viability of linguistic strategies informed by institutional guidelines and by other relevant recommendations. Then, the second issue that will be addressed is acceptability. This paper will argue that, as far as the cross-linguistic representation of gender identities in orality is concerned, acceptability can effectively be measured through interviews with institutional interpreters, and secondly triangulated with a study that will be conducted in the Italian public administration to assess the monolingual reception of techniques whose feasibility was first tested under the constraints of conference interpreting.

Key words: Gender, queer representation, interpreting, Romance languages, Italian

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Zimman, L. (2020). Transgender Language, Transgender Moment: Toward a Trans Linguistics. In Hall, K. & R. Barrett (Eds.), The Oxford Handbook of Language and Sexuality.

Presenter Bio:

Igor Facchini is a PhD student in Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies at the Department of Interpreting and Translation of the University of Bologna (Forlì), where he graduated with an MA in Conference Interpreting. He is currently conducting research on gender inclusivity in spoken language and in interpreting, with a particular emphasis on non-binary communication in institutional settings. His project focuses on the intersections between queer studies and interpreting studies in relation to the language combinations English/Italian and English/French.

Panel 5a: Technologies

Moderator – Gökhan Fırat

Hayette, Manon | Translating Chinese Idioms Chengyu with AI and CAT Tools: Finally a Path out of the Woods?

Abstract:

The translation of phrasemes, fixed expressions which are inherently linked to their source language and culture, have long been a major stumbling rock for translators (Sadeghpour, 2012, p. 102) and an even bigger worrying matter for translation teachers, whom, without suitable tools and methodologies, tend to feel as if they are chasing rainbows.

Therefore, one might wonder if technological innovations as AI and CAT tools may constitute one way out of this dilemma, especially in the case of *chengyu*, which have been considered as the most representative type of Chinese idiomatic expressions (Conti, 2019; 2020, p. 412). Indeed, *chengyu*, which are fixed non-compositional phrases that usually convey a complex message in a relatively short form (usually four sinograms) and that can take any grammatical function, represent an interesting research topic, so far almost unexplored in the teaching studies field (Conti, 2020, p. 412 & Guo, 2017, p. 101).

In this paper, we will focus on how and if CAT tools – such as Google Translate, DeepL, Bing Microsoft Translator, 百度翻译 Baidu Fanyi, 云译 Cloud Translation, – AI softwares (ChatGPT) and parallel corpora such as the OPUS2 corpus available on SketchEngine, can help translators and translation trainees produce better translations of these fixed expressions, consequently contributing to an improvement of translation teaching techniques.

In this case study, we will use a parallel corpus (ZH-FR) composed of contemporary Chinese novels written by 高行健 Gao Xingjian, 莫言 Mo Yan, 苏童 Su Tong and 余华 Yu Hua (compiled by Kevin Henry in 2016 as part of his PhD thesis dissertation) and their official French translations. Previously extracted *chengyu* will then be randomly selected and their translations by the aforementioned tools will be analysed and compared to the published French versions translated by human professional translators. This multi-modal approach, which needs to be refined, will contribute to a better understanding of AI and CAT tools applications to translation training.

Keywords: *Chengyu* – Idiomatic translation – Corpus-based analysis – CAT tools and AI softwares – Translation training

Presenter Bio:

Manon Hayette holds a master's degree in translation with a specialist focus on multidisciplinary translation and a master's degree in translation with a research focus from the University of Mons (Faculty of Translation and Interpretation – School of International Interpreters). She is currently working on her PhD thesis (under the supervision of Kevin Henry and Loïc Aloisio) and teaching Chinese as well as French-to-Chinese translation in the same institution. Her dissertation focuses on the lexicographic processing of *chengyu*, i.e. quadrisyllabic Chinese phrasemes. On a broader scope, her research interests include translation studies (especially translation criticism), translation training and language teaching, comparative linguistics (mainly lexicology and phraseology), lexicography, comparative literature, and Chinese studies.

Terribile, Silvia | Towards an in-depth approach to evaluating time efficiency in translation

Abstract:

Time efficiency is a top priority for the localisation industry, which demands ever-faster turnaround times. However, to date the standards of the localisation industry have not provided any specific guidelines on how to assess time efficiency in the translation practice. Moreover, due to the infrequency of collaborations between academic researchers and industrial partners in Translation Studies, translation speed is still largely underresearched. Therefore, there is a lack of clarity about how language service providers (LSPs) can measure the performance of their human translation (HT) and post-editing (PE) services. This research aims to be a first step towards developing a detailed approach to evaluating time efficiency in professional translation, and to enhance our understanding of the speed at which human linguists are able to work. It applies techniques from exploratory data analysis (EDA) to investigate productivity data related to marketing translation projects completed by an LSP, Toppan Digital Language. EDA is a statistical approach that involves utilising data visualisation and other quantitative methods to identify trends and patterns in the data, and it has rarely been used in Translation Studies. This study constitutes the first large-scale investigation of translation and revision speed in HT and in the PE of neural machine translation, based on real-world data from an LSP. It uses the statistical analysis software SPSS to analyse data for 90 million words, translated by 879 linguists across 11 language pairs, over 2.5 years. The results of this research indicate that (a) it is crucial for LSPs to consider the distribution of speed values across their productivity datasets, because average speed values may be misleading; (b) translation speed is highly variable, with post-editing being usually but not always faster than human translation; and (c) edit distance metrics are not a reliable proxy for post-editing productivity.

Keywords: Exploratory data analysis, translation speed, productivity, post-editing, language service provider

Presenter Bio:

Silvia Terribile is a final-year PhD Researcher in Translation and Intercultural Studies at the University of Manchester, where she investigates productivity in the post-editing of neural machine translation. Her PhD is a collaborative project fully funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, in partnership with Toppan Digital Language, a language service provider that specialises in the translation of marketing and advertising content. Silvia's primary research interests are in the fields of translation technologies, localisation, audiovisual translation, and cognitive translation studies. She has been teaching translation, focusing on translation technologies and localisation, at the University of Sheffield, University of Manchester, and University of Roehampton. She has previously worked on localisation at world-leading companies, Hogarth Worldwide and Warner Media. She holds an MSc in Specialised Translation (Audiovisual) from University College London, and a BA in Linguistic and Cultural Mediation from the University of Turin (Italy).

Guarini, Clarissa | The value of remote simultaneous interpreting (RSI) for post-pandemic research

Abstract:

Remote simultaneous interpreting (RSI) is defined as the simultaneous interpretation of a speaker in a different location from that of the interpreter, enabled by information and communications technology. It is a type of interpreting that was already present before Covid-19. However, its frequency and context of usage were inevitably amplified by the pandemic. In effect, remote interpreting was mainly used in the healthcare and judicial sectors (Braun, 2015), until the inability of organising in person-meetings during Covid-19 led to its debut in conference settings.

This paper focuses on the value of RSI for research. An experimental study has been carried out with nine professional interpreters to identify the strategies they used when interpreting syntactically-different sentences from German into English. The participants were based in different countries and, since the experiment took place during Covid-19, it could not have happened without RSI. It is worth noting that, even if the experiment had been organized in a different moment, having it in-person would have drastically reduced the number of participants. The platform used was Zoom, which enables language interpretation and allows to hear the original speech in the background, which is a further advantage for interpreting research as it ensures that the source and target language tracks are aligned.

RSI has some disadvantages, among them the quality of the audio input (Fantinuoli, 2018), as active participants do not always use an external microphone (Buján M., 2021). However, when RSI is used as a research tool, the investigator can curate the experimental set up to amplify its advantages and reduce its disadvantages.

The present paper will therefore illustrate how RSI should also be addressed as a research tool, to remain valuable in a post-pandemic world.

Keywords: remote simultaneous interpreting; interpreting research; simultaneous interpreting during Covid-19; post-pandemic research; experimental research on simultaneous interpreting

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Presenter Bio:

I am a third-year PhD student in the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, University of Leeds, and my research is about the strategies used by professional simultaneous interpreters to tackle head-final negative sentences in German to English simultaneous interpreting. I am currently working as a Research Assistant on a project on social justice in and through education, and I have been working since October 2022 as Teaching Assistant on two interpreting modules: introduction to interpreting skills and IT-EN consecutive and simultaneous interpreting.

In 2018 I obtained an MA in Conference interpreting from the University "Università degli Studi Internazionali di Roma UNINT" in Rome. I am an interpreter myself and have worked as a simultaneous interpreter at both in-person and online events.

Yuan, Lu & Wang, Binhua | Eye-tracking the use of live transcripts in remote simultaneous interpreting. Preliminary findings

Abstract:

The Covid-19 pandemic has shaped a new reality for international conference interpreting, with a shift to remote simultaneous interpreting (RSI) on many occasions, which makes it necessary for interpreting professionals to utilise RSI technologies and adapt to the new working conditions (Wang and Wang 2021). In RSI, interpreters have to cope with more cognitive challenges ranging from remote access to the speakers on the screen to the automatically generated live transcripts. How do interpreters process these? Are live transcripts an aid or a distraction?

Different from previous experimental studies that focused on the visual input of written text in simultaneous interpreting (sight translation) (e.g., Zheng & Xiang, 2013; Su & Li, 2019), this study examines the role of live transcripts in remote simultaneous interpreting. The study aims to: 1) investigate whether access to live transcripts enhance interpreting performance; 2) explore whether RSI with live transcripts tax more cognitive resources; 3) identify possible visual attention patterns in RSI with live transcripts. A group of professional interpreting trainees (N=13) were recruited for the study to examine their interpreting with live transcripts and interpreting without live transcripts. Their eye movement measures and interpretations were recorded. Preliminary analysis results show that: 1) There was a positive correlation between live transcripts and the interpreting performance; 2) RSI with live transcripts might be more cognitively demanding as indicated by more fixation counts; 3) Participants tend to allocate more overt visual attention to live transcripts in RSI with live transcripts.

Keywords: Remote simultaneous interpreting; live transcripts; cognitive load; eye-tracking.

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Presenter Bios:

Lu Yuan is a PhD student currently doing interpreting research at the Centre of Translation Studies at the University of Leeds. She holds the position of lecturer and module lead in the conference interpreting program at East China Jiaotong University in Mainland China. Parralel to her teaching, she is also a seasoned conference interpreter with 7 years of experience.

Binhua Wang is Chair/Professor of interpreting and translation studies, where he served as Director of the Centre for Translation Studies and Programme Manager of the MA Conference Interpreting and MA Business & Public Service Interpreting programmes. As a veteran interpreter and interpreting trainer, he is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Linguists (CIoL). He serves as co-editor of *Interpreting and Society* (SAGE Publishing) and on the editorial boards of *Babel, The Interpreter and Translator Trainer, Forum* (John Benjamins)*, Foreign Language Teaching & Research* (外语教学与研究)*, Chinese Translators Journal* (中国翻译) and *Translation Quarterly* (翻译季刊). His research interests include interpreting and translation studies, intercultural communication studies and language education studies, in which he has published about 50 articles in refereed CSSCI journals such as *Chinese Translators Journal* and in SSCI/A&HCI journals such as *Babel, Meta, Perspectives*, *Interpreting* and *Translation Review*, and over a dozen peer-reviewed book chapters in Routledge, Springer, John Benjamins and Palgrave. He has authored the monographs *Theorising Interpreting Studies* (2019) and *A Descriptive Study of Norms in Interpreting* (2013) and edited with Jeremy Munday *Advances in Discourse Analysis of Translation and Interpreting* (Routledge, 2020).

Panel 5b: Multimodality and Embodiment
Moderator – Eilidh Johnstone

O'Callaghan, Romy | Multilingualism and Multimodality

Abstract:

International Sign (IS) has been described as the epitome of the visual nature of national sign languages. Although research has shown IS to have a small, conventionalised lexicon, there have been studies exclaiming the complexity of its grammatical systems. The grammar hinges on iconicity, depiction, simplified handshapes, calibrating language, and moral orientation to one's audience. Interpreters must also exploit these features considering the added time pressure in simultaneous interpretations. Traditionally, IS interpreting research has examined perceived extended processing time and strategies employed.

To successfully communicate with IS, an extended linguistic and semiotic repertoire is advised. These repertoires are an individualised toolkit, composed of languages and experiences, that inform and influence the work of an interpreter, resulting in the research question: Does having International Sign as part of an interpreter's linguistic and semiotic repertoire have an observable influence on national sign language interpreting strategies? To answer this question four primary participants were recruited whose language combination is British Sign Language (BSL) and English. However, two participants have no experience with IS, and the second two have IS as a working language. Two secondary participants were recruited with BSL, IS and English in their language combination. They interpreted into IS. All data was analysed for processing time, additions, and omissions.

Although a small group, the results indicate that processing times are similar across the participants despite the rhetoric that interpreting to/from International Sign demands an extended processing time. Of note is that interpreters working into BSL with IS experience appear to make higher use of conceptual additions and omissions than their BSL-English peers who do not have IS. This would indicate there is an observable influence of International Sign on national sign language work. It could be argued that the interpreters with IS have increased meta-awareness resulting in conceptual level strategy use.

Keywords: Interpreting, International Sign, strategies, linguistic repertoires and semiotic repertoires

Presenter Bio:

Romy O'Callaghan is a proud Limerick woman. She graduated from Trinity College Dublin as an Irish Sign Language (ISL) – English interpreter in 2016 where she was soon catapulted to the International Sign – English arena. Since, she has predominantly worked in conference settings both in the private and public sector. Romy is a qualified and accredited WFD-WASLI IS interpreter and a RISLI ISL interpreter. She is currently a pre-candidate with AIIC with the hopes of being the first Irish Sign Language-English interpreter to be a full AIIC member. Although relatively new to the field, her extensive experience has raised questions of interpreting standards and the effects of International Sign on national sign language work. She hopes to graduate from the European Masters of Sign Language interpreting April 2024 at Heriot-Watt University Scotland.

King, Catherine | Holding the tension: performance interpreting as an arts practice

Abstract:

The work of the British Sign Language/English interpreter in performance is traditionally viewed as an 'access' provision and the little research we have on it focuses on linguistics and training approaches. My research posits the notion that the performance interpreter is engaged in a complex set of artistic practices including dramaturgy, adaptation, performance and translation and can more correctly be considered an arts practitioner. Searching for a methodology that would support this approach, self-reflexive, iterative and that would keep, me, the practitioner and the practice as the focus, proved highly problematic and, while the world burned in 2020, I set about trying to pin one down. Over the course of a year, I wrestled with a number of methodologies including phenomenology, auto-ethnography and case study but found that, using these, would require a bricolage approach rather than offer me something ready-made. Stepping outside my comfort zone and considering practice as research as a methodology was a great philosophical and personal leap in the dark. Predicated on the notion that the output of such research is art and as academically robust as any written text accompanying it, I found myself considering fundamental questions about what art is and who is allowed to call themselves an artist. Constrained by both my working class perception of art and my training as an interpreter, I struggled to reconcile my sense that art is for the elite as well as the tension between my position as an ally of a marginalised, minoritized community and that of an arts practitioner. This paper presents, in part, the journey from practice professional to arts practitioner, from researcher to practice as researcher and the hybrid identity that evolved.

Keywords: methodology, art, dramaturgy, interpreting, performance

Presenter Bio:

Catherine has worked across a number of areas in interpreting over her 29 year career and is currently pursuing a PhD with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland which explores the work of the performance translator as an arts practice. Her work in performance centres BSL as an artistic language and the body of the interpreter as creative collaborator while working closely with companies such as National Theatre of Scotland and Theatre Gu Leor. She also collaborates with deaf performers as a rehearsal room interpreter, adopting a dramturgical approach to text-in-performance translation. Catherine has worked as an integrated interpreter for 15 years and also specialises in interpreting stand-up comedy. Catherine was an interpreter trainer in higher education for 10 years and now offers CPD training. She is currently an assessor for the Masters in Education (Learning & Teaching in the Performing Arts) programme at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Park, Jisue | Metaphors in comic books: how they are translated in different modalities

Abstract:

The goal of the project is to explore how people translate metaphors when dealing with the creative parts of a text and to measure the quality of metaphors. In this project, three issues have been investigated. First, the process of translating metaphors in comic books of two different groups is described and compared. The first group consists of human translators who translated metaphors in comic books by hand without the use of machine translation, and the second group consists of post-editors who revised metaphors that had been translated automatically by a machine translation engine Google Translate. Second, the effort that translators and post-editors make cognitively is measured and compared through pauses. Although it is challenging to directly measure the cognitive effort made by humans, pauses that happen during translation can be a useful indirect way to measure cognitive effort. Third, to look at the influence of machine translation on the translation product in various aspects, the quality of the final product from translators and post-editors is measured by reviewers. The process of translating metaphors is recorded by the participants themselves, using screen-recording software and key-stroke logging software. Additionally, interviews are conducted after the translation task to conduct a qualitative analysis of the data. The translation is carried out from Korean into English. Thus, this project examines the extent to which machine translation may help or hinder the production of a text that requires taking visual and cultural context into account. This project builds on a tradition of examining the translation process and translators' cognitive effort; at the same time, it innovates because the project deals with machine translation post-editing when translating a text which requires translators' and post-editors' creativity. Moreover, this project is expected to contribute to studies on comics in the field of Translation Studies.

Keywords: Metaphor translation, Translation process research, Cognitive effort, Machine translation post-editing, Comics translation

Presenter Bio:

Jisue Park is a final year PhD student in Translation Studies in the University of Surrey, United Kingdom, working on the process of translating metaphors in comics and the quality of final translation. Her research interests include translation process research, cognitive aspects of translation, metaphor translation, and machine translation post-editing. She received a Master's Degree in Translation Studies in Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea, where she focused on the translation of metaphors in proverbs from Korean into English from the perspective of conventional equivalence. Before joining Surrey, she worked as a part-time lecturer at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, where she instructed a module on theory and practice of interpreting and translation. Alongside her studies, she worked as a project coordinator and an assistant for The National Institute of Korean Language's project to translate the Korean-Foreign Language Learners' Dictionary, which offers parallel translations into 10 different languages.

Haapaniemi, Riku | Materiality in translation theory and research methodology: three case studies

Abstract:

Textual materiality is the notion that all kinds of signs, including language, require a material form of some kind in order for their recipient to be able to observe and interpret them. Meaning-construction in communication is therefore dependent on and affected by material media. Translation is a form of textual communication that combines the reception of a source text and the production of a target text. From the material perspective, translation appears as a process of sign compilation and material text distribution taking place under co-textual and contextual constraints (Haapaniemi 2023a).

In my PhD dissertation, I have utilised this conceptualisation as a theoretical and methodological framework in three case studies. The first case is on the subject of song translation (Haapaniemi & Laakkonen 2019), where the requirement of singability is treated as a co-textual constraint and the relationship between lyrics and music is discussed as that between a sign-complex and its material medium. The second case focuses on organisational translation work (Haapaniemi 2023b) and details how the production of translations is divorced from their textual environment even while the process of distribution of translations via material media requires translations to co-exists with their co-texts. The third case (Haapaniemi, et al., forthcoming) investigates whether AI text production processes can be seen as a form of translation within the conceptual framework of materiality.

These case studies are examples of how textual materiality can provide useful theories and methods for translation research. The material approach answers to recent calls for the reconceptualisation of translation and allows for translation concepts to be applied to phenomena beyond the traditional scope of translation studies, while also retaining the capability to focus on traditional linguistic and textual phenomena within that wider conceptual framework.

Keywords: materiality, semiotics, song translation, translation in organisations, AI

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Haapaniemi, Riku, Annamaria Mesaros, Manu Harju, Irene Martín Morató, and Maija Hirvonen. "Automated audio captioning as translation: Utilizing material translation theory in AI development." Forthcoming.

Presenter Bio:

Riku Haapaniemi is a doctoral researcher at Tampere University, Finland. His research concentrates on the concept of materiality in translation studies, its philosophical and ontological implications, its applications in practical translation analysis, and its connections to research in other fields, including semiotics, textual studies, and language technology development. He is also a professional translator and is involved in a number of research groups, academic associations, and professional organisations.

Panel 6a: Audiovisual Translation
Moderator – Emma Dussochaud

AlGhanem, Sarah | Methodological steps to overcome issues in multimodal experiments

Abstract

Wordplay humour is a subject that has received much attention, but the focus of these studies has been on the descriptive analysis of the strategies used when translating wordplay. With regards to AVT, most studies on wordplay have mostly focused on the linguistic dimensions and ignored the multimodal nature of audiovisual products and the fact that the meaning of wordplay is also, sometimes, built through the combination of different modes. Therefore, in an attempt to look at wordplay humour from a multimodal approach and to identify how certain elements contribute to the meaning making process, issues arose, especially since no two multimodal products are completely comparable. To this end, this paper will discuss the methodological steps taken to overcome this issue and create a valid ecological experiment aiming at testing the impact of subtitling and specific multimodal combinations on the reception of wordplay.

Key words: multimodality, audiovisual translation, methods, wordplay, reception studies

Presenter Bio:

Sarah AlGhanem is a second-year audiovisual translation PhD student at the University of Leeds School of Languages, Cultures and Societies. She received her bachelor's degree in English Translation from King Saud University, Saudi Arabia and her master's in Conference Interpreting and Translation Studies from The University of Leeds. She currently works at Prince Sattam University, KSA. Her research interests focus on reception studies, multimodality, and audiovisual translation.

Wang, Jing | The impact of personalised headnotes for English-speaking audiences in viewing Chinese TV shows: preliminary results

Abstract:

This study explores the impact of personalised headnotes on the reception of humour in subtitled Chinese comedies by English-speaking audiences. It examines the role of headnotes, i.e., annotations that explain cultural references and humour along with subtitles on the screen, on viewers' appreciation and comprehension of humour. The concept of "personalised headnotes" is introduced, referring to headnotes tailored to viewers' requirements based on their features of cultural intelligence and personality traits.

Previous research in audiovisual translation (AVT) has primarily focused on subtitling speed (Szarkowska and Gerber-Morón, 2018; Diaz Cintas and Remael, 2014) and various subtitling practices (e.g., Romero-Fresco, 2018; O'Hagan and Sasamoto, 2016; Pérez-González, 2013), but little attention has been given to headnotes and their effect. Additionally, the incorporation of personalisation in AVT remains unexplored. To address these gaps, a within-subject design is employed in this research, presenting three translated comedy clips under different conditions.

The mixed-methods approach is adopted to ensure a comprehensive investigation, combining objective measures of eye tracking with subjective measures of questionnaires and interviews. Eye-tracking technology is utilised to record participants' eye movements and facial expressions, checking their engagement with subtitles and personalised headnotes. Questionnaires are employed to assess participants' comprehension of humour in the clips and gather their opinions. Furthermore, semi-structured interviews provide an opportunity for participants to compare the various viewing conditions and articulate their preferences, facilitating deeper insights into their reasoning.

This research contributes to AVT studies as the preliminary results suggest potential benefits of using personalised headnotes in improving viewers' understanding and appreciation of humour in foreign TV shows. Furthermore, the study provides some insights into the development of AVT strategies that cater to the diverse needs of audiences.

Keywords: audiovisual translation, headnotes, humour reception, personalisation, mixed-methods.

Presenter Bio:

Jing Wang is a PhD researcher in Dublin City University, Ireland. Her research focuses on the field of audiovisual translation, especially in subtitles for humour- and culture-related comedies. She has practical experience in translation, including literary translation, conference interpretation, and fansubbing.

Almousa, Ayat | A Framework of Multimodal Analysis of Irony in Film Text

Abstract:

Multimodality is increasingly becoming a prominent concept in audiovisual translation studies. Yet, most AVT practices have not considered the non-verbal meaning-making resources as an integral component in the composition of multimodal text but rather limiting their offering to a contextual role or hindrance to the translation process. As a result, studies on irony reception have focused on the verbal mode, leaving behind the effect of the dynamic non-verbal meaning-making resources of films on the interpretation of meanings. Accordingly, the present study proposes a framework of multimodal analysis for the identification of modes and resources participating in the generation of ironic events in films. This framework helps to identify the various components of film texts: resources pertaining to the visual composition; film montage; and soundtrack that are seen as the key ingredients of the construction and interpretation of ironic meaning and thus their examination is an essential step towards the study of the reception of irony. This framework offers tools to (a) identify the meaning-making elements and intermodal relations that contributed to the ironic construct in films as well as (b) inform the selection procedure of the material required for the experimental reception study. It is hoped that this multimodal approach to the analysis of irony in films highlights the role played by the non-verbal resources in the generation of meanings in audiovisual texts and examine the impact of different multimodal compositions and subtitling strategies on the reception of irony as will later be demonstrated through experimental investigation.

Keywords: Reception Studies, Multimodality, , Audiovisual Translation, Irony, Filmic Texts.

Presenter Bio:

Ayat Almousa is a PhD candidate in Translation Studies at the University of Leeds. She currently hold the position of assistant lecturer in Translation Studies at the university of PSAU in Saudi Arabia 2016-2021 and she will be resuming her teaching position after her doctoral studies. She holds a master degree in Arabic-English Translation from the University of Leeds (2016). Her research project is mainly focused on the multimodal composition of meanings in filmic texts and the reception of their subtitling into Arabic. She is interested in investigating the interplay between different modes and meaning-making resources and how they might mediate the audience reception. She is particularly interested in empirically testing the impact of innovative practices of subtitling as opposed to the professional subtitling and the audience perception towards it.

Li, Hanbin | Subtitling Dialect Humour: Strategies, Stereotypes, and Reception

Abstract:

Dialect humour, a popular comedic device in TV and film productions, has the potential to entertain and enrich content by adding diversity. However, like other forms of humour, it can also be offensive when it relies on cultural stereotypes. This study investigates the impact of two subtitling strategies, standardisation, and dialect-for-dialect, on the perception of dialect humour among British viewers. Specifically, it examines whether standardised translations compromise the representation of regional source cultures and linguistic diversity or if the alternative strategy perpetuate stereotypes.

The research design consists primarily of a reception study involving two groups of 30 British individuals each. Both groups will be presented with the same humorous scene, subtitled differently—one group will view a standardised translation, while the other will observe dialect-for-dialect subtitling. To provide a comparative perspective, an additional group of 30 Chinese viewers will watch the original clip without subtitles.

The study's objective is to analyse the audiences' reception of the subtitles in terms of humour comprehension, appreciation, and their perception of the subtitling strategies' impact on cultural representation and linguistic diversity. Through questionnaires and interviews, participants will provide insights into their understanding and enjoyment of the humour, as well as their thoughts on the implications of subtitling strategies for cultural representation and language use diversity.

The findings of this study will shed light on the effectiveness of different subtitling approaches in capturing the essence of dialect humour while maintaining cultural authenticity. Moreover, it will explore the potential consequences of standardised translations, such as potential erasure of regional cultural identities, as well as the extent to which the alternative strategy may reinforce or challenge existing stereotypes. Ultimately, this research aims to contribute to the development of more nuanced and culturally sensitive subtitling practices in the context of dialect humour.

Keywords: Dialect Humour, Subtitling, Cultural Representation, Stereotypes, Reception

Biographical Note:

Li Hanbin is a Stage-1 PhD student at Newcastle University, specializing in subtitling and Audiovisual Translation, and is a recipient of the Newcastle University Overseas Research Scholarship. Having obtained a Master's degree in Translating and Interpreting from the same institution, Li possesses a solid academic foundation in translation and interpreting.

In addition to his academic pursuits, Li is an accomplished professional translator and interpreter. With seven years of experience in freelance translation and interpretation, he has diligently honed his skills and cultivated a genuine passion for the art of translation.

Li's dedication to the craft has been recognized through the publication of two translated books. Additionally, for the past two years, Li has been actively engaged in providing subtitling services to major streaming platforms, including Netflix, iQIYI, and Disney. His portfolio predominantly comprises reality shows and television programs, allowing him to explore the nuances of language and its hidden intricacies.

Panel 6b: Narratives and Narratology

Moderator – Eilidh Johnstone

Yang, Hanru | Combining quantitative and qualitative narratology in translation studies: A new model

Abstract:

This paper proposes a mixed-method approach to conducting translation analysis of narrative texts, particularly short stories. The methodology is innovative as it incorporates non-traditional narratology in translation analysis while building on established translation analysis methods. Existing translation analysis models proposed by Jean-Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet (1995), Kitty M. van Leuven-Zwart (1989, 1990), and Charlotte Bosseaux (2007) either neglect the importance of providing quantitative data before qualitative analysis or generate a large amount of irrelevant data. To address these issues, I propose a model which combines quantitative and qualitative analysis to provide relevant and concrete data to support focused qualitative analysis.

The model consists of five steps: 1) identifying the analysis unit, 2) determining translation shifts, 3) summarising shift patterns, 4) analysing the descriptive effects of the patterned shifts, and 5) examining the translator's stylistic voice conveyed through the narrative shifts. To test the model out, a short case study is conducted on Angela Carter's short story 'The Tiger's Bride' (1975) and its Chinese translation by Yan Yun ([2005] 2012). The theory of characterisation is applied to identify the comparative unit. The quantitative data of patterned shifts suggest that the translator conveys her own creative voice, reinforcing the author's implied creative intention. This study contributes to the field of Translation Studies by incorporating narrative theories and providing a method that facilitates quantitative pattern analysis before qualitative analysis. This model also shows potential to be applied in longer novel texts and non-fictional texts.

Keywords: comparative translation analysis, narratology, quantitative and qualitative methods, short stories, translator's voice

Presenter Bio:

Hanru Yang is a first-year PhD student based at the University of Glasgow. Her PhD project is entitled: 'Unnatural Narrative in Translating Novels and Short Stories: The Case of Angela Carter's Works Translated into Chinese' and she is working towards a model incorporating narrative theories in comparative translation analysis. Hanru balances her academic research on translation with practical work, and she was the Chinese translator of Edith Wharton's short story collection Crucial Instances (2021).

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Leri Price | Translation as Metaphor: Relationality in Narrative Hermeneutic Practice

Abstract:

There has been growing interest in the idea of narrative as a hermeneutic practice, whereby the lived world is experienced and lent meaning through narrative (Meretoja, 2018). While this approach allows for embodied and material modes in addition to discursive (Heavey, 2015), narrative theory in general is still exploring how to incorporate these strands of knowledge (Rosiek & Snyder, 2020). In order to address this gap, this research draws on Latour's (2005) metaphor of translation to explore the relationality of thinking through narrative as a material, embodied act. Drawing on fieldwork with Syrian women in Scotland to explore how this theory plays out in practice, this paper will argue that narrative's inherent relationality is achieved through multi-layered, multi-sited, and multi-modal processes of translation, allowing narrative to highlight the fluid, dialogic, and intersubjective process of creating meaning out of the world.

Presenter Bio:

Leri Price is a literary translator and third-year PhD student in the Intercultural Research Centre at Heriot-Watt University. Her research explores how Syrian women in Scotland think about and experience home, with a particular focus on how home is constructed through the employment of material, embodied, and intersubjective narratives. Leri's research interests include materiality and material feminisms, narrative, home, belonging, language, and displacement.

Towers, Daisy | Exilic Translation: Narratives, Community, and Identity

Abstract:

This paper argues for the new consideration of literary translation as a form of exile in itself, in which the author is exiled from their own text. By approaching this research through the lens of sociological narrative theory, I propose that translation removes the author from their community narratives in order to reach the new target audience, and in doing so, the author's identity is uprooted and transferred to a new space. I focus on the work of twentieth-century Catalan author Mercè Rodoreda, who was exiled from Catalonia following the Spanish Civil War, in my assessment of how translating a literary text affects their identity and authorial figure.

In my research I introduce a new typology of social narratives: personal, community, and abstract, in order to demonstrate new and revised ways of approaching sociological narrative theory in translation, building on the work of Mona Baker's Translation and Conflict (2006). A key thread throughout this paper is the understanding of translation itself as a form of exile which involves an element of separation, as narratives are removed from their original context, and the author is separated from their work.

Mercè Rodoreda is often defined by and recognised for her experiences of exile from Catalonia, during which she wrote her most celebrated novels, including La plaça del Diamant (1962) and El carrer de les Camèlies (1966). I argue that Rodoreda's experiences of exile are multifaceted and yet also paradoxical, namely that she is often defined by her physical exile, highlighted in the paratexts of her translated work, and yet her writing, which demonstrates sentiments of (female) isolation and exile is also renarrated, creating further distance between her personal and her literary narrative. As such, the exile which defines her does not originate from her, but is furthered by the translation of her work.

Keywords: narrative theory, exile, identity, community

Presenter Bio:

I graduated from the University of Durham in 2019 with a BA in Modern Languages and Cultures, having studied French, Spanish and Catalan. I then began an MA in Translation and Interpreting Studies at the University of Manchester, completing my thesis entitled 'Catalan Women in English Translation: The Renarration of Mercè Rodoreda's La plaça del Diamant'. I received the Translation and Interpreting Studies Best Scholar award in recognition of the best overall performance in the MA programme. I was also awarded the 2022 Fundació Mercè Rodoreda Prize. After spending a year working at the University of Manchester, I joined the University of Leeds as a PhD candidate in 2021, generously funded by the AHRC via the White Rose College of the Arts & Humanities (WRoCAH). During my PhD I am continuing to study Mercè Rodoreda and her writing, focusing on how her authorial figure has been renarrated through the transfer of her fictional works from Catalan into English.

https://ahc.leeds.ac.uk/languages/pgr/3528/daisy-towers