5TH IATIS Conference

Posters

Vassilis Alexakis and Self-translation: Writing for the Other or Writing for the Self

Maria Recuenco Peñalver

Vassilis Alexakis was born in Greece in 1943, and went to France for the first time in 1961. Now, more than fifty years later, he has become «le plus francophone des Grecs» and «le plus athènien des Parisiens». Alexakis constantly travels between France and Greece, living a life divided between two languages and two countries. Even thou he has also worked as a journalist, literary critic, cartoonist, and script writer, he remains primarily an author. His literary works drawn from two cultures, and written (and/or self-translated) in Greek and French, explore the relationship between identity and language, are loaded with multicultural themes, and references to questions of memory and oneself, and represent the hybrid in its higher degree. A comparative study of his works in the two languages reveals significant aspects of the literary process of creation, aspects that can only be discovered through this self-translational approach. For Alexakis, self-translation forms a gradually essential creative dynamic, necessary and unavoidable part of the literary creation process and a mode of expression on itself. The writing in two different languages of what is (and not, at the same time) the same book, exists as the author's vindication of his belonging to an intermediary space (between languages, countries, cultures, identities, writing modes, etc.) For this and other reasons, I shall speak in my paper about the study of his bilingual work as a necessary way to approach self-translated literature.

Keywords:

Self-translation, literature, hybridity, in-between, process of creation.

Text segmentation in Subtitling: a comparative study with professional subtitlers and non-translators

Erica dos Santos Rodrigues and João Artur Souza

Most of the studies on subtiling focus on the practice regarding professional aspects, subtitling norms and reception. Research on subtitle processing has been conducted in the field of Audiovisual Translation (AVT) since the seminal papers by d'Ydewalle (1989, 1991). More recently, the translation process and subtitlers expertise have received special attention (Gonçalves, 1998; Pagano et al., 2011). In the context of these studies, segmentation and its impact on reading has represented a specific challenge, which has been tackled from a range of perspectives (Karamitroglou, 1998; Rajendrana et al., 2012; Perego, 2008, 2010, 2014). On this research, text segmentation strategies employed by professionals and non-translators are compared. The professional subtitling software, Genius Subtitler (GS), is used by both groups, and their behavior is monitored by a screen-logging software. GS is configured to provide them with information on the number of characters in one and two-liners. The analysis is conducted taking into account preferable text segmentation, duration of the task, number of corrections and revisions and attention shift over different types of information displayed on screen. The data analysis is complemented by oriented retrospective think-aloud protocols and by information concerning participants' eye movement captured by a webcam. We discuss to which extent experience in translation for subtitles plays a role on text segmentation and to which extent the performance of the non-translators group matches the guidelines provided by Brazilian AVT courses and TV broadcasts, which are seem as intuitive and reflections of natural reading behavior.

Cohesive Relations in Translated Text: a Corpus Based Study on English-Brazilian Portuguese

Rodrigo Castro, André Teixeira, Bruna Almeida and Thiago Oliveira

This study was motivated by Baker's (1992) claim that languages differ in the way they use resources for tracking discourse participants, Brazilian Portuguese favoring the use of lexical cohesion whereas English uses grammatical cohesion (co-reference). To verify such claim, cohesive devices contributing to participant tracking through co-reference and lexical cohesion were examined in a sample of texts retrieved from Klapt!(Corpus of Portuguese Language in Translation), a parallel and a comparable corpus compiled at the Laboratory for Experimentation in Translation, Federal University of Minas Gerais. The corpus compiles texts representative of eight text types: fiction, political discourse, review, instruction manual, popular science, academic article, educational website and tourist advertising. Drawing on Halliday and Hasan's (1976) and Halliday and Matthiessen (2013)'s cohesive categories, 300-word samples of each text type and language were manually annotated with UAM Corpus Tool (O'Donnell, 2007). The data obtained by counting occurrences for each tag were imported into R (R Core Team, 2014) and their frequency analyzed in terms of text type and language from both a parallel bilingual and a comparable monolingual perspective. The results from chi-square tests point to differences in the use of cohesive resources for participant tracking being statistically significant for some of the text types in the language pair, fiction in particular showing a distinct profile. This suggests that Baker's (1992) claim holds true for some of the text types, but cannot be generalized for the languages as a whole.

Translation and retranslation of the passion according to G.H. by Clarice Lispector: are we reading the author or merely the translators?

Julieta Widman

We analyse the translation by Ronald Sousa (1988), and the retranslation, by Idra Novey (2012), of The Passion According to G.H. by Clarice Lispector. Our first step was, to apply Francis Aubert's Translation Modalities Method, that is Vinay & Darbelnet's technical procedures adapted and reworked to verify whether the obtained frequencies corroborate, Berman's hypothesis that "first translations are more domesticating than retranslations". The Translation Modalities Method measures and quantifies the degree of linguistic differenciation between the original text and the translation, using the word as a counted unit. By assigning a number to each modality it's easier to count the incidence of each modality and calculate its frequency in relation to the original.With the statistical results it is possible to draw a interesting graph that shows the behaviour of the two translations.The translation and retranslation were analysed also through a Corpus lingustic Program, AntConc, and also through manual comparison that gave support to the findings of the Translation Modalities Method. The results of the comparison of the translation and the retranslation are an auxiliary tool for interdisciplinary research in lexicology. By comparing the two translations we were able to discover elements of rithm, style, gender, positioning. Some examples show this differences . By analysing the translation and the retranslation we focus the translators, the process and the product, the cultural and economic moments.

Keywords:

Translation, Retranslation, Clarice Lispector, Intertexuality, Berman

Tracking the professional translator's process in retranslation tasks

Cristiane Fontes

Retranslation, i.e., translating a previously translated text into the same language, is a task scarcely studied from the perspective of translation process research. While there is research on similar tasks such as post editing (Krings, 2001; O'Brien 2004 to 2008) and revising (Kunzli 2004/2006), very little is known about the decision making process in retranslation and to what extent previous translations bear an impact on the target text. This presentation reports on a preliminary study of the translation process data obtained for 6 professionals participants, performing a task from English (L2) into Portuguese (L1) of a short excerpt of a literary text. Participants had access to the source text in English and two published translations into Portuguese. Eye movement metrics were used to analyze the cognitive effort. Regarding the distribution of attention, the participants had as much concentration on ST as TT and 1st translation, and the cognitive effort was driven to the target text beyond the great effort on Retranslation.

Teaching Creative Translation through the Framework of Conceptual Blending

Esa Penttilä

Ideas and methods from Cognitive Linguistics (CL) have begun to be used in Translation Studies (TS) to an increasing extent (see e.g. Rojo & Ibarretxe-Antuñano 2013). One of the areas where CL is expected to be of benefit is the translation of figurative metaphors, since metaphorical language is among the main interests of CL and constantly creates challenges for translation. Conceptual Blending Theory (CBT) is one of the theories that has been applied to TS with an aim to explain relationships between the inter-lingual figures of speech in translations (Mandelblit 1997). However, in addition to explicating existing translations, the theory could be used as an aid in teaching translation students to conceptualize possible alternatives for culture-specific figurative expressions − at least in certain contexts. This study discusses the possibilities of CBT in translator training. It presents an experiment in which the translations of two groups – one which has been taught the basic principles of CBT and one with more traditional training – are compared to investigate whether the theoretical tools offered by CBT help future translators in developing their skills to find solutions to translation problems caused by figurative culture-specific expressions.

References:

Mandelblit, Nili (1997) Grammatical Blending: Creative and Schematic Aspects in Sentence Processing and Translation. A PhD dissertation, University of California, San Diego.

Rojo, Ana & Iraide Ibarretxe-Antuñano (eds) (2013) Cognitive Linguistics and Translation: Advances in some Theoretical Models and Applications. Berlin: De Gruyter.

Keywords:

Metaphor translation, cognitive TS, Conceptual Blending, translation experiment, cognitive linguistics

Translation and cross-cultural adaptation of medical questionnaires: a case study of interdisciplinary collaboration

Júlia Rodrigues, Raisa Silva, Sumaya Cecilio, Heloisa Torres, Ilka Reis and Adriana Pagano

This study reports on innovative interdisciplinary work carried out by a team of researchers from the Laboratory for Experimentation in Translation, the School of Nursing and the Statistics Department at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, aimed at developing a methodology to ensure cultural adequacy of medical protocols translated for Brazilian target users. Following conventional guidelines for the translation and cross-cultural adaptation of medical questionnaires (Beaton et al., 2000), a questionnaire developed within a proposal of empowerment of Diabetes patients - the Behavior Change Protocol (Anderson & Funnell, 2000) -was translated into Portuguese and pilot tested in a group of thirty people diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes through face-to-face interviews. Reported problems regarding participants' comprehension of the protocol were discussed in sessions held by the interdisciplinary team and the steps followed in the process were systematized into a proposal for ensuring cultural adequacy of the protocol as a complementary stage to its translation and cross-cultural adaptation. Items in the protocol yielding ambiguous interpretation or lack of understanding were reworded from the perspective of the target population. Particular attention was paid to differences in the language used when the target interlocutors were questionnaire administrators and when the questions were addressed to the target population, i.e., elderly people with very low literacy skills. Discussion by an interdisciplinary team of the feedback obtained on the target population's understanding of the translated protocol proved essential in a methodological proposal geared towards cultural adequacy of translated and cross-cultural adapted protocols.

Keywords:

Medical questionnaires, translation standards, cross-cultural adaptation, cultural adequacy, interdisciplinary work

The Translation of Modal Particles from Brazilian Portuguese into English: a corpus-based study

Arthur de Melo Sá

Modal Particles are a phenomenon of the Brazilian Portuguese. Because of its mostly oral occurrence, prescriptivists have regarded this phenomenon as improper language use for many years (Franco, 1988). However, recent researches have regarded it as discourse or conversational markers (Ko Freitag, 2009; Chagas, 2007), and more recently Figueredo (2011) approached this phenomenon through systemic functional linguistics, describing its function as 'to assess propositions and proposals as an argument of the interpersonal exchange'. Examples of Modal Particles include 'né' and 'hein', at the end of sentences, and 'uai' and 'ah', at the beginning. This research aims to investigate a corpus the translation of Modal Particles from Brazilian Portuguese into English. This presentation focuses on the translation patterns of some Modal Particles, such as those of Consent (e.g. 'né') and Confirmation ('hein') types. This research is based on the systemic functional theory (Matthiessen & Halliday, 2009; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004) and on the systemic functional description of the Brazilian Portuguese system of ASSESSMENT (Figueredo, 2011). In order to investigate the translation of Modal Particles, a parallel corpus containing of approximately 37.000 words was analysed qualitatively using UAM Corpus Tool (O'Donnell, 2007) and quantitatively using R (R CORE TEAM, 2013). The results inform that some Modal Particle types demonstrate a pattern in translation (e.g. the Consent particle 'né' translated as a 'tag-question' and as 'eh' in English), and the consistence of these patterns indicate the existence of a system of ASSESSMENT in English similar to the one in Portuguese.

Intertextuality and translation: a multimodal analysis of translated picturebooks in Brazil

Flávia Ferreira de Paula

According to O'Sullivan (2006), the communication in children's literature is asymmetrical. She points out that adults write, publish, and sell children's books, write critics about them, and also translate them. The translation of picturebooks can be a challenge for the translator, as they combine two kinds of mode: the written and the illustrated. Moreover, Desmet (2006) claims that intertextual and intervisual references, very common in the books published nowadays and sometimes unknown in the target culture, may provide further difficulties for the translator. In this sense, the manipulation of the children's texts by the adult translator as a reader is unavoidable. This paper aims at studying the particular forms of manipulation in children's literature translated in Brazil, as there is a lack of research work on the subject in the country. The corpus is composed of two picturebooks originally written in English: The Jolly Postman and The Jolly Christmas Postman, by Janet and Allan Ahlberg; and their Brazilian translations: O Carteiro chegou and O Carteiro de Natal, by Eduardo Brandão. The analysis follows Van Meerbergen (2008) as an innovative approach to the translation of children's books in Brazil. It integrates multimodal analysis (Kress and Van Leeuwen, 2006) into a descriptive model for translation (Toury, 1995) to study picturebooks. Some of the preliminary results show that changes in the titles in the Brazilian translations lead to a different relationship between text and image on the covers and erase the intertextuality between the two books.

Keywords:

Translation, Children's literature, Picturebooks, Adult translator, Multimodal analysis

Digitizing the Intimacies of Translation

Christi Merrill

How to map the personal engagements and intellectual discoveries of literature students working across borders? How to help novice translators build and display networks of sources that situate their practice in the complex overlapping histories of translation theory and literary practice? In the proposed poster we will showcase one interactive web-based application developed with a team of professors, graduate and undergraduate students and staff from the University of Michigan -- of Comparative Literature scholars focused on Translation Studies, Engineers specializing in Natural Language Processing, Artists with portfolios in web design, and Education specialists in Applied Technologies -- that worked together to develop a tool for mapping sources and relevant precedents across borders of language, culture, era, medium and approach. We will highlight examples from the version piloted in an upper-level undergraduate translation workshop where students worked from both native (Chinese, Brazilian Portuguese) and non-native languages (Ancient Greek, German, Spanglish) into English, discovering analogies (political sarcasm, moral reckoning, mixed genre) specific to each of their projects the application helped them make relevant to their classmates.

Keywords:

Translation-networks digital-humanities interactive mapping pedagogy

Comparable or parallel corpus for establishing the contextual consequences between English and Arabic

Sultan Almujaiwel

A corpus query system needs to be further firm for the purpose of investigating the existing bilingual A-E/A-E lexicographical works . What challenges we can do are whether the term comparable corpus can be used to refer to individual monolingual corpora that have their own original texts and do not include translated texts, or it is just used to refer to a corpus that has data from two languages or more, equalised to one another by means of time, domain, type, genre or text form. However, the difference between comparability and parallel is discussed in a wide range. This paves the way for establishing a new facet of investigating the contextual consequences between English and Arabic texts. The criteria of matching two monolingual corpora altogether to obtain similarities between the genres and domains of their texts will be met. Thus, the comparable corpora-based approach is what will be taken into consideration in this research. A comparable or parallel English-Arabic corpora-based investigation into a visualised entity in English and Arabic lexicons will be launched- an empirical evidence obtained by the study of concrete lexical units. These corpora are Birmingham 500M and KACSTAC 700M. The results are given statistically with qualitative approaches to the whole phenomenon of the conceptuality. The criteria of matching two monolingual corpora altogether to obtain similarities between the genres and domains of their texts will be met.

Writing Studies and Translation Process Research: methodological issues and interfaces

Eneida Werner and Erica Rodrigues

Written Research faces challenges, in methodological terms, to those faced by Translation Research. As in the writing process, cognitive operations and strategies available in the translation process cannot be directly observed and initial research in these domains employed verbal protocols as a methodological resource to capture investigative data. Such is the case pointed out by Flower and Hayes (1981) in writing research and Krings (1986) and Königs (1987) in translation research. Together with technological achievement and the development of new computer research tools such as keylogging programs and screen recording programs, there have been many advances in the investigation of the translating process. These programs provide descriptive information about the paths of writing and translation processes. The information encoded in such descriptive paths reflect relevant aspects for understanding of the cognitive path traced by writers or translators for making decisions and solving problems related to the tasks they are engaged in. A closer relationship between these two areas has been observed through research resources methodology. In this work, an attempt is made to establish parallels between the paths of both processes argued so far: writing and translating, regarding their components, types of representations, mental operations and cognitive strategies. We discuss the extent to which Translation Process Research may contribute theoretically and methodologically to Writing Research and whether Psycholinguistic Research on Writing can raise new investigation questions regarding the Translation Process.

Keywords:

Translation Process Research, Psycholinguistics, Writing Studies,, Research Technology, Keylogging

Lexical ambiguity of signs in Brazilian sign language: challenges and theoretical reflexions concerning translation activity

Tânia Aparecida Martins and Jorge Bidarra

Lexical ambiguity, a phenomenon extensively studied in human languages, has been a rich material for theoretical and scientific research. Characterized by the ability of certain words bear more than one meaning, especially when submitted to context, such phenomenon imposed challenges for researchers, and also opened new possibilities of research, mainly regarding sign languages, gesture-spatial-visual language modality. About developed research, was curious to note that, diferente from oral languages, in Libras (Brazilian sign language) lexical ambiguity, besides the two classifications traditionally known by specialized literature: homonymy and polysemy, shows a third kind of manifestation, to which, arbitrarily, we refer to as "culturonímia". According to the results gotten so far by analyzing the translation of sentences written from Portuguese to Libras, it was possible to identify some "ambiguous signs" of Libras, therefore they are not only by the determination of factors traditionally considered by theoretical linguistics, but also by influence of the so called evocative or cultural factors. To this research, we selected 500 pairs of sentences, each composed of a sentence in Portuguese and its correspondent in Libras, such material was extracted from a parallel corpus. The criterion used for selection was that in the translated sentences there should be, at least, one manifestation that would indicate the material to this third kind of occurrence. With the data, we started the analysis which, among other activities, included work of comparing the sentence written in Portuguese and its equivalent in Libras.

La Belle et la Bete: a commented translation into Brazilian Portuguese

Aída Sousa

The eighteenth century is best known in French literature history as the Age of Enlightenment, when the writings of male philosophers and writers became canonical. However, a great number of women writers, since the seventeenth century, had been engaged in the literary scene. In addition, interest in oral fairy tales had grown and they later became a new literary genre. The production of women writers in that period had become undeniably too evident; some of their novels and literary fairy tales were best-sellers at that time. Strangely they have been somewhat forgotten. Mme de Villeneuve (1695-1755) was one of those French writers, whose work remains in the shadow until nowadays. She is claimed to be the first author of the fairy tale La Belle et la Bête (1740). Although it is best known as a classic tale for children (thanks to an adaptation by Mme Leprince de Beaumont in 1757), Villeneuve's fairy tale was originally written for adults, in a long novel-like narrative. Due to her literary legacy, we propose a commented translation into Portuguese of that fairy tale, in which we deliver some aspects of our translation project, based on Berman's concept of ethical translation (2003).

Remote interpreting started over-the-phone but has no end

Raquel Lázaro-Gutiérrez and Gabriel Cabrera-Méndez

Remote interpreting on community services and for private companies started with the simplest mean of remote communication, the telephone, and since its appearance in Australia in 1973 it has been spread all over the world and reaches an approximately market of US$2.03 billion. The main field continues being community services (emergencies, health centres, hospitals, domestic violence, Police, prisons, tourism, city councils…) but thanks to technology and remote interpreting our market as interpreters is the whole world. An interpreter could work where technology can bring his voice and/or image. Videoconferencing, VoIP, ToIP, voice-messaging, instant messaging, multi-conference platforms, virtual conference rooms are no longer new ICTs but the real present and professional interpreters must be ready to accept that these technologies are here to stay. There are some R&D projects and many companies which are developing new services, mainly focused on health emergencies and court interpreting, and they are just working with those interpreters who accepted the challenge, however with a big lack of previous training and practice. The aim of this proposal is to show what companies and researches are doing and to forecast the needs in terms of training, and a possible change of mind and aptitude, regarding the current generation of professional interpreters and those to come.