

Vincent X. Wang, Lily Lim and Defeng Li, Springer (2021). *New Perspectives on Corpus Translation Studies*. Berlin: Springer. pp: 318. ISBN 978-981-16-4918-9

With the advent of Baker's (1995) seminal paper on Corpus Linguistics and Translation Studies, there has been an upsurge of research and resource books in this fast growing and rigorous area of inquiry (Fang, 2020; Vasheghani Farahani and Kazemian, 2021; Zanettin, 2012). As a call to expand this field of inquiry, this book edited by Wang, Lim, and Li (2021) has come to fruition as a landmark contribution to the field. It works to push the boundaries in Corpus-based Translation Studies with a focus on English, Chinese, Dutch, Russian, Finnish, and German.

Conceptually and structurally, this edited volume is divided into three strands: translation and pedagogy (pp. 3-55), translation norms and style (pp. 55-199), and cognition and translation equivalence (pp. 201-318). The book at hand is thus located at the theory and practice of Corpus-based Translation Studies. With its thirteen different chapters thematically covering the synthesizing concepts of translation and corpora, this volume seeks to explore the essential role of corpora in translation research. Indeed, when read in one sitting, this scholarship provides a detailed overview of the overriding concepts of corpora in translation research, plus new insights.

The first strand of the book focuses on translation and pedagogy. It consists of two chapters authored by Laviosa and Falco (chapter one) and Lim (chapter two). The impetus beyond these two chapters is that although pedagogy is an indispensable ingredient and a sub-discipline of translation (Kiraly 2012, Massey 2021), there is no big body of literature in this line of research. Accordingly, these two chapters flesh out the key role of corpora in translation. The chapters set out to explain how corpora can be applied in translation pedagogy, a field of research which concerns "teaching methods, testing techniques and curriculum planning "(p 4) in translation studies within the area of multilingualism as a term which subsumes monolingualism (May 2014).

Shedding light on the key role of multilingualism and the critical relationship between corpora in such fields as language teaching, translator training and pedagogy, Laviosa and Falco in chapter one (pp. 3-27) add translation policy, language teaching and translation pedagogy to the sub-branch of applied translation studies. With Holmes's eminent Map of Translation Studies (1972), purporting that translation pedagogy commences with its application to second language teaching and then towards translator training, Laviosa and Falco, as their point of principle, hold the assumption that this offshoot can superordinate the term translation pedagogy. In chapter two "A

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Corpus-Based Examination of the Translation of the Suffix –ism into Chinese”, (pp. 29-55), Lim unveils the multifarious applications and implications of corpus approach in translation research. The author zooms in on how translators and translation trainers can utilize parallel corpora in analyzing, comparing, and contrasting source and target languages in translation teaching, learning and pedagogy. Lim utilizes an English-Chinese parallel corpus with the purpose of gaining access to wealth of resources for identifying words ending with ‘ism’. The results demonstrate that the application of parallel corpora and searching tools such as concordance lines could assist translators to tease out various ism-words in translation.

The second strand of the volume consists of five chapters which revolve around the umbrella concept of translation norms and style. The authors of these five chapters accentuate the pivotal role of (parallel) corpora in doing empirical research in translation norms and styles. The prime reason why the second strand of this book concentrates on translation, norms and styles consists of the fact that in conceptual terms, norms of translation as well as translation style / translator’s style have always been controversial issues in translation research (Huang, 2015).

In the chapter “New Trends in Corpus-Based Translator’s Style Studies”, (pp. 59-73, Huang focuses on new trends in corpus-based translator’s style studies to showcase the emerging trends in this field ranging from “interpreter’s style, group translators’ style, self-translating style, to the diachronic variation in translating style of specific translator” (p.59). In the chapter “Building a New-Generation Corpus for Empirical Translation Studies: The Dutch Parallel Corpus” (pp. 75-100), Reynaert et.al. introduce a new version of a bi-directional parallel corpus of professional translations, more than 2.75 million words. This is a sentence-aligned, lemmatized and POS-tagged corpus with metadata about translators’ gender, education, and experience.

Kwong’s chapter “Probing a Two-Way Parallel T&I Corpus for the Lexical Choices of Translators and Interpreters” explores parallel corpora and their potential for investigating lexical choices between translators and interpreters (pp. 101-132). The author utilizes a two-way parallel translation and interpretation corpus for this study. To shed light on the linguistic behavior of translators and interpreters, Kwong carried out a frequency test of the parallel corpora. The results suggest that interpreters had inclination towards more frequent words as compared to translators.

Kunilovskaya and Pastor in chapter titled “Translationese and Register Variation in English-To-Russian Professional Translation”, (pp. 133-180) unearth the effects of register on translations’

properties. They compare translation and non-translated reference texts, probing into linguistic specifications of translations between four registers in English and Russian to reflect on morphological, syntactic, and text-level characteristics of translations. The results indicate that each register has its own ‘translationese’ which can account for cross-linguistic factors. The last chapter of the second strand titled “Normalization, Motivation, and Reception: A Corpus-Based Lexical Study of the Four English Translations of Louis Cha’s Martial Arts Fiction” by Wu and Li (pp181-199) is an attempt to qualitatively and quantitatively explore four English translations of Louis Cha’s Martial Arts Fiction in terms of normalization, motivation and reception. The results demonstrate that the translations differ significantly in terms of lexical normalization.

The third strand of this worthwhile book encapsulates five chapters in this field of research which cover a wide range of various theme, ostensibly addressing the critical concept of cognition and translation equivalence with a designated focus on corpora. As the relationship between translation, cognition and corpora is still a marginalized line of research with visible gap with the intertwined connection between corpora and translation (Hu & Hye Kim, 2020), this third strand is a welcome addition to the field. The wide range of topics stresses how corpora, translation, and cognitive linguistics confluence to help researchers unearth the cognitive aspects of translation.

In their chapter titled “Translating Principles of Translation: Cross-Cultural and Multi-Brain Perspectives” (pp. 203-226), Huang and Wan elucidate on translating principles of translations. For this purpose, Huang and Wan utilize a cross-cultural perspective based on comparable corpora; that is to say, British National Corpus (BNC) and Gigaword Chinese Corpus. Their analysis of the corpora suggests that the cultural differences in source and target languages can be used to underline the nature of translations as a multi-brain and multi-cultural context. Lin’s chapter on “Going to Understand 柴? Evidence and Significance of Metonymic Chains in Chinese/English Translation” (pp. 227-257) explores metonymic chains in Chinese/English Translation based on ‘big data’ (English-Chinese corpus), ‘small data’ (Chinese translations) and synchronic records. As the author explains, metonymic is defined as “a chain of correlatively motivated metonymic extensions or inferences that are found in the multiple target language renditions of the source language original “ (p.227). The results indicate that the many variations in Chinese-English translations cannot be justified by unmotivated arbitrariness in style. They are various links in a metonymic chain which are accounted for cognitive rationale.

Mikhailov's chapter on "Mind the Source Data! Translation Equivalents and Translation Stimuli from Parallel Corpora" (pp. 259-279) probes into translation equivalents and stimuli from parallel corpora. He puts forward the claim that translation stimuli rather than equivalence exist; meaning that stimuli is a "correspondence between the lexical items of target texts and their matches (=stimuli) in source texts" (p. 259), despite both being lexical functions. Mikhailov's study shows that parallel corpora may offer equivalences that are not present in dictionaries. Hansen-Schirra et.al in the chapter titled "An Intralingual Parallel Corpus of Translations into German Easy Language (Geasy Corpus): What Sentence Alignments Can Tell Us About Translation Strategies in Intralingual Translation" (pp. 281-298) explain how they ran a study to investigate translation strategies in intralingual translation in German language. They compiled an intralingual translation corpus of published professional translations in various genres and discovered that sentence alignment in parallel corpora is a good fit for unveiling translation strategies. Finally, Wang's chapter, "Making Sense of the Prefix *de-* with an English–Chinese Parallel Corpus" (pp. 299-318) explores the senses of the prefix '*de-*' in English by virtue of an English-Chinese parallel corpus. To detect the instances of '*de-*verbs' in English, Wang utilized British National Corpus (BNC) as reference corpus. Methodologically, this research accentuates the versatility of large parallel corpora to unearth the specifications of translations.

This book has much to offer in the domain of Corpus-based Translation Studies as it pushes boundaries while showcasing cutting-edge developments within the field. The editors have brought together high-profile researchers to compile a must-read book that encompasses a wide spectrum within the field Corpus-based Translation Studies. In addition, the examples referred to in each chapter make this book an invaluable and enriched contribution in this area of inquiry.

There are however some gaps in this volume which cannot be ignored. One drawback relates to pedagogic implications for this book. The authors of the chapters in the first strand titled Translation and Pedagogy have addressed some practical issues but mostly discuss the theoretical implications of corpora in translation studies research. There are moreover no introductory chapters or overviews of the basic concepts of corpora which could be of benefit to scholars new to the field of Corpus-based Translation Studies and interested in its pedagogical implications. In the first chapter titled "Using Corpora in Translation Pedagogy", for example, Laviosa and Falco state that they use corpora in translation pedagogy. While they do expand on and incorporate new

perspectives into Holmes's Map of Translation Studies, they do not cover the concept of corpora in translation in depth and make only brief references to translation training towards the very end of the chapter without any empirical evidence. It seems then that the topic of this first chapter is a misnomer as there appears to be little correlation between title and content.

Another minor, not-to-be-ignored flaw relates to the second strand of the book. In the second strand, titled 'Translation Norms and Style', the rationale for including the chapter "Building a New-Generation Corpus for Empirical Translation Studies: The Dutch Parallel Corpus 2.0" by Reynaert, Mencken, Tezcan, Sutter (pages 75-100) is not made clear. Including this chapter within this strand appears somewhat odd in that there is no clear rapport between the topic of the chapter, which is parallel corpus compilation, with the themes of Translation Norms and Style.

In the same vein, methodologically speaking, it is evident that almost all chapters in this volume lack empirical studies and have a designated focus on theoretical aspects of corpus –based translation studies. Consequently, one point of improvement could have been to dedicate chapters to studies that focus on empirical research within the field of corpus-based translation studies.

Despite these drawbacks, the array of topics covered in this volume is so dynamic that readers may not need to read the topics in a linear fashion. By the same token, the state-of-the-art topics will trigger the rise of further studies in this area of research and will help readers, new or experienced in the field, to become more cognizant of the interplay of the constructive role of corpora in translation. In addition, kudos must be awarded to the high quality of the print as well as the eloquently written content, which make this book an enjoyable and accessible read.

In short, while some researchers may find some aspects of this volume limited in scope, this influential work is a key point of reference. The vast range of various topics combined with the accessibility of its content makes this work into a must-read for prospective readers who intend to push the boundaries of, and contribute to, the field of Corpus-based Translation Studies.

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