

## Abstract

The present thesis aims to provide verification of the simplification hypothesis in the corpus of philosophical texts by Panajotis Kondylis and their translations in German and Modern Greek. The analysis was conducted using quantitative methods on two monolingual comparative corpora. Additionally, a parallel German-Modern Greek corpus was qualitatively analyzed to examine selected aspects that may have an impact on the obtained results. The thesis consists of 8 chapters.

Chapter 1 demonstrates an introduction to the methodological tradition of translational universals' research. Such aspects as: the gradual linguisticization of translation studies, its emergence as a separate discipline and the theories constituting the foundations of translation universals, are discussed here. The criticism faced by the researchers involved in research on universals is also discussed at length. Chapter 2 is devoted solely to simplification. It presents the source basis justifying the inclusion of this phenomenon as a proposed universal, and describes the types of corpora used in research. Additionally, all the ideas on how to operationalize such a phenomenon are discussed here.

Chapter 3 presents the state of research. It concerns the results and interpretations emphasised in previous papers. Qualitative and quantitative outcomes are discussed separately. The corpora used for quantitative analysis are reviewed in terms of their size, thematic scope, and the source and target languages involved in the translation. Reference was also made to the issue of statistical tests as a tenuous basis for extrapolation. An important part of this chapter is a resume of previous research on simplification and their interpretation as it was discussed by researchers. The chapter ends with a summary which seeks the extent to which the simplification can be traced and justified.

Chapter 4 introduces the author of the texts constituting the basis of the study. His biography and translation and editorial activities are discussed, with particular emphasis on self-translations, analyzed here as a separate subcorpus. This part also defines how the concept of a philosophical text is understood in this work, what is the specificity of this type of text and what difficulties are associated with its translation. The last subchapter presents short biographical notes of the Greek and German translators of Kondylis's texts.

Chapter 5 characterizes both types of corpora constituting the basis of the study, explains the reason for dividing it in two parts: shorter and longer texts, and presents the process of their compilation. Additionally, 6 research hypotheses were stated. Chapters 6 and 7 consist of presentation and discussion of the results of the quantitative analysis of research hypotheses regarding: lexical diversity, lexical density, frequency lists, the most frequently



used vocabulary in a given language and the average length of words and sentences. The results and their interpretations are summarized in each part, and in Chapter 7 there is a comparative analysis of both corpora. Chapter 8 presents the results of a qualitative study complementing the above analysis. Examples taken from a parallel corpus are shown in order to explain their possible impact on sometimes inconclusive results of quantitative research.

The summary of the dissertation indicates potential reasons for the differences found in the study. The hypothesis is verified in 7 out of 12 parameters for the German corpus and only in one case of the Greek corpus. This may be due to differences in the prestige of the language and philosophical cultures of the two countries, as well as to the translation norms that are more obeyed in the German context. A research postulate is made to limit the scope of future analyzes to universals recognized as locally occurring features. It is also pointed out that self-translations are significantly more similar to subcorpora of target texts.

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