

Plenary Talk

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Timing, Logging and Tracking: Steps to Modeling Translation as Ongoing Text Production

Research on translation at the Laboratory for Experimentation in Translation (LETRA), Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil, builds on the assumption that an approach combining data from translation process and product can provide valuable insights to model translated text production. Within this approach, translation is seen as time-constrained, guided text production (cf. Halliday, 1992) and experimental studies are designed to tap into this production process through data elicitation techniques including keylogging (Translog©), screen logging of text editing environment (Camtasia®), eye tracking (Tobii Studio®), recall protocols gathered immediately after task completion and target text analysis drawing on rhetorical structure theory (Mann & Thompson, 1988) and systemic functional grammar (Halliday & Matthiessen, 1999, 2004). This triangulation of data allows for an examination of different phases in text production as well as patterns of recursiveness and segmentation with insightful results as to long standing issues in translation studies such as the concept of translation unit. In this plenary, I'll present some of the studies carried out at LETRA (Braga & Pagano, 2007; Silva, Pagano & Alves, 2008) and their contribution towards a comprehensive view of translation, framed within studies of expertise and expert knowledge with impact on translator training and education.