

#04 30/06/2022

NEWSLETTER



The translation profession is somewhat meaningless if academics live only in ivory towers, especially in Hong Kong, where both Chinese and English serve critical social and communicative functions. At CTN, consultancy work and community service are valued as much as research. Our experienced translation and editing team is frequently invited to provide professional services for clients from both the public and private sectors, including government departments and fellow universities in Hong Kong, as well as multinational conglomerates and leading law firms. Besides, it is also our mission to support the community through our profession. We have over the years undertaken numerous community translation and interpreting projects often pro bono. We regard these projects as opportunities to strengthen our connection with the community. Some of the engagements also offer postgraduate and undergraduate students invaluable opportunities to contribute to the very world they live in.

CHECK OUT OUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS!

https://ctn.hkbu.edu.hk/community/

An example of one of our recent initiatives features a collaboration with HKBU's School of Chinese Medicine (SCM). CTN was entrusted to provide English subtitles for four seasons of the show "HKBU Chinese Medicine Online (《浸大中醫在線》)" for the YouTube channel "Embrace Health" managed by the Jockey Club Chinese Medicine Disease and Health Management Centre of HKBU. This talk show series introduces how traditional Chinese medicine treats different illnesses and how it helps patients recuperate. Topics covered range from everyday problems such as constipation and menstrual pain, to severe diseases like cancer, and even disorders including autism and dementia. Treating these conditions using Chinese medicine is novel to most people. With English subtitles available, a non-Chinese speaking audience can learn about some Chinese medicine practices and might even choose to try them out as a way to lead a healthier life. Translation for seasons one and three have been completed, and we are now working on season four.



Translation of medicinal recipes

It is our honour to join forces with SCM on this occasion. This kind of collaboration enables the dissemination of useful information to an audience previously unreachable, and therefore is valuable to the community. We also believe this project can enhance HKBU's reputation as a centre of excellence in both Chinese medicine and professional translating. After all, service dedicated to the community will always be at the core of CTN. We look forward to taking part in more community projects in Hong Kong and beyond in the future.





CTN has a history of recording presentations given during its academic events. They are currently centralized on HKBUtube, a platform managed by the HKBU Library. In fact, with more than 110 videos available for public access over the past 12 years, we have been the second-most active contributor within the University to the "Scholarly Talks" category, behind only the Library itself. Nevertheless, CTN has been making efforts to further enhance its accessibility and e-visibility. We hope the ideas presented by our distinguished speakers can reach a wider audience, thereby inspiring the global translation and interpreting community while appealing to the general public. As a result, we are proud to announce the launch of our own YouTube channel: "Centre for Translation, Hong Kong BaptistU". Presentations at conferences, symposiums, and other events organized by CTN will be uploaded to this channel (in addition to HKBUtube) for public viewing. The speakers' generosity in granting us permission to share their expertise is greatly appreciated.

Given YouTube's interactive nature, we invite viewers to provide comments and initiate discussions below the videos to help us strengthen the connection with our audience.

CENTRE FOR TRANSLATION, HONG KONG BAPTISTU SUBSCRIBE

THE LATEST FROM OUR FELLOWS

The Interpreter's Mind

By Prof. Min-hua Liu

The bilingual mind fascinates me. How the interpreter's brain functions has been one of my long-term research interests since my PhD years when I studied working memory and interpreting expertise. The two current projects for which my team and I have received two General Research Fund grants from the Hong Kong government are part of my research pursuit in this area.

In the first project, we explore if the cognitive functions of interpreters and non-interpreter bilinguals (e.g., translators) differ because of their respective training and experience. We focus on executive functions, which constitute the cognitive mechanism responsible for attention allocation and decision making in all kinds of cognitive tasks. We hypothesize that interpreters and translators build expertise specific to their respective domains that may affect their executive functioning as a domain-general cognitive ability and that expertise in interpreting may confer a certain 'advantage' in some executive functions.

The second project extends the research questions we ask in the first project to explore if what is seen in the executive functions of unimodal interpreters (who interpret between two spoken languages) can also be observed in bimodal interpreters (who work between spoken and signed languages). This research is motivated by some literature showing a lack of a 'bilingual advantage' in bimodal bilinguals as opposed to unimodal bilinguals. It is assumed that the two languages (one spoken and one signed) used by bimodal bilinguals do not compete for the same articulatory output system and thus do not impose as high a demand for language control required in unimodal language processing between two spoken languages.

Our third project taps into the aging of the bilingual mind. Research on aging shows that speaking more than one language and engaging in complicated tasks (in one's profession) help develop the cognitive reserves of the aging brain. We again find interpreters to be an ideal target group for exploring if and how professional interpreters differ in cognitive aging as a result of their long-term practice of a highly complex task such as simultaneous interpreting. A paper that reports part of our findings of the AIIC Lifespan Study provides a glimpse into interpreters' cognitive aging: The interpreter's aging: A unique story of multilingual cognitive decline?

To learn more about my views on these topics, please watch or listen to my interview with Dr. Adolfo García, "The interpreter's mind".



Podcast

https://www.buzzsprout.com/1896147/10620272



YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLYw1sT6Emo



New Book by Honorary Research Fellow

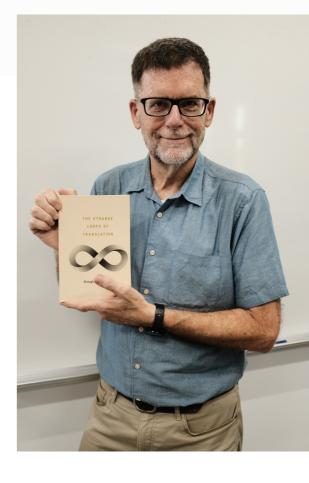
The Strange Loops of Translation

By Prof. Douglas Robinson

One of the most exciting theories to emerge from cognitive science research over the past few decades has been Douglas Hofstadter's notion of "strange loops," from Gödel, Escher, Bach (1979). Hofstadter is also an active literary translator who has published quite a lot on translation as well, especially in his 1997 book Le Ton Beau de Marot, where he also draws on his cognitive science research, but also in a 100-page disquisition on translation titled "Translator, Trader" attached to his English translation of Françoise Sagan's La chamade as That Mad Ache. And yet he has never stopped to consider the possibility that translation might itself be a strange loop, or at least strangely loopy in multiple ways.

In The Strange Loops of Translation Robinson puts Hofstadter's strange-loops theory into dialogue with a series of definitive theories of translation, in the process showing just how cognitively and affectively complex an activity translation actually is. Those theories include equivalence theories in Chapter 1 (Jerome on sense-for-sense translation, Schleiermacher on word-for-word translation); translator-function theories in Chapter 2 (Myriam Díaz-Diocaretz, Rosemary Arrojo, Theo Hermans); periperformativity theories in Chapter 3 (three chapters from a recent book on translating philosophy, plus looks at the theories of Sakai Naoki and Lydia Liu); embodiment theories in Chapter 4 (Robinson's own somatic theory, Henri Meschonnic on translating for the mouth and the ear, Kobus Marais), and "transgressive circulations" theory in the Conclusion (Johannes Göransson).

https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/strange-loops-of-translation-9781501382420/



Along the way the book offers signal cogsci complications of those noted translation theories through a series of trackings of the endless recursivity that constitutes them. But Hofstadter's recent work on strange loops also argues strenuously that consciousness and the "I" are constituted through them, and this book mobilizes that theory for a broader discussion of the audience-effects that constitute authorial, translatorial, and lectorial selves.



RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY FELLOWS

Catherine Hardie

Hardie, Catherine and Nicholas S. Hobhouse. 2021. "Shouldering His Guru's Legacy:
 Khenpo Tsultrim Lodro's Discourse in Relation to thos- bsam-sgom after the Death of
 Khenpo Jigme Phuntsok." Religions (Special Issue on Study, Reflection, and Cultivation:
 Integrative Paths to Wisdom from Buddhist and Comparative Perspectives) 2022, 13(1).
 (DOI: 10.3390/rel13010016) (full text)

Robert Neather

- Neather, Robert. 2022. "<u>Translation, Memory, and the Museum Visitor.</u>" In The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Memory, edited by Sharon Deane-Cox and Anneleen Spiessens, 155-169. London and New York: Routledge.
- Neather, Robert. 2022. "<u>Debating Buddhist Translations in Cyberspace: The Buddhist Online Discussion Forum as a Discursive and Epitextual Space.</u>" In Unsettling Translation: Studies in Honour of Theo Hermans, edited by Mona Baker, 197-216. London and New York: Routledge. (full text)

Jun Pan

- Pan, Jun, Billy Tak-Ming Wong, and Honghua Wang. 2022. "Navigating Learner Data in Translator and Interpreter Training: Insights from the Chinese/English Translation and Interpreting Learner Corpus (CETILC)." Babel: International Journal of Translation. (DOI: 10.1075/babel.00260.pan)
- Pan, Jun, Jackie Yan Xiu, and Jing Zhang. 2022. "From Blended to Virtual Learning: Insights from a Language Enhancement Workshop Programme." International Journal of Mobile Learning and Organisation. (DOI: 10.1504/IJMLO.2022.10046494)

Douglas Robinson

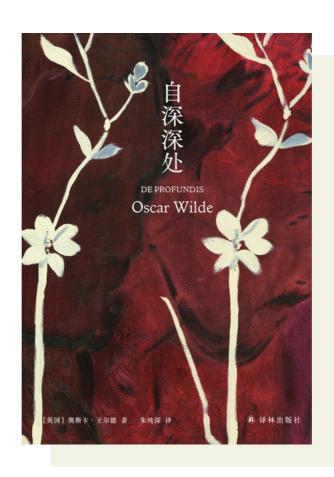
• Robinson, Douglas, and Svetlana Ilinskaya. 2022. "Queering the Popular Utopia through Translingual Science Fiction: Sense8 as Cultural Translation." In Translating the Queer Popular (a special issue of Perspectives), edited by Jonathan Evans, Michela Baldo, and Ting Guo. (DOI: 10.1080/0907676X.2022.2043396)

Xu Zhang

- 張旭, 2022, 〈翻譯規範的破與立: 馬君武譯詩研究〉, 《外語教學》2022(2): 81-87。
- 孫豔、張旭,2022, 〈中國翻譯史的海外發聲——基於九大國際譯學期刊的考察(1955—2020)〉, 《上海翻譯》2022(1):53-59,95。

Chunshen Zhu

- 朱純深譯,2022,《自深深處》(第三版) (Oscar Wilde's De Profundis),譯林出版社。
- Zhu, Chunshen. 2021. "Imagery Focalization and the Profiling of a Poetic World: From Semantic to Metaphorical Coherence and Beyond." Intercultural Communications Studies 30(2): 74-89.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Conference

The 3rd HKBU International Conference on Interpreting: Technology and Interpreting

Date: 7-9 December 2022

Keynote Speakers:

Sabine Braun (University of Surrey, UK)

Claudio Fantinuoli (University of Mainz, Germany)

Conference website:

https://ctn.hkbu.edu.hk/interpreting_conf2022/



Translation Seminars

Masaru Yamada (Rikkyo University, Japan)

Michaela Albl-Mikasa (Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland)

James Shea and Dorothy Tse (Department of Humanities and Creative

Writing of Hong Kong Baptist University)



Visit our website for details on the latest Translation Seminars!

https://ctn.hkbu.edu.hk/activities/translation-seminar-series/





Centre Members

Director Min-hua LIU

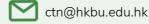
Associate Director Mark SHUTTLEWORTH

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Executive Officer Esther KWOK
Project Assistant Ka-lok CHUNG



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