

A Sea Change in Translation-generated Productive Forces and Productive Relations: How Application of AI Has Reconstructed and Re-evaluated the Mechanism of Human-Machine Synergy

By ZHU Jianping (Hunan University, Changsha, China) p.5

Abstract: Artificial intelligence (AI) is driving a paradigm shift in the field of translation, bringing about a transformation of both the productive forces and the productive relations generated by the practice. The translation-enabled productive forces are being made over in terms of their technological empowerment, cognitive restructuring, and mode of organizational collaboration. As neural machine translation and large language models have evolved into intelligent collaborative agents with autonomous cognitive capabilities, and cloud-based collaborative networks have significantly improved the efficiency of resource allocation, the translator is increasingly assuming the role as a cultural mediator and system collaborator rather than a mere language converter. This revolutionary change in productive forces has triggered a parallel restructuring of translational productive relations. The progressively deeper involvement of technological mediation has made it necessary to rethink the discursive power enjoyed by the translator. And since the traditional word-count-based remuneration mechanism is no longer adequate for compensating the translators for the high-order cognitive labor they are now called upon to perform, a new system of compensation ought to be set up in its place. Taking account of all these emerging situations and subjecting them to an analysis in historical materialistic terms, this paper identifies three phases of a paradigm shift in the production of translation – from the tool-assisted phase, through CAT period, to the current AI collaboration age, with the reconstruction of a triadic dialectical relationship among technological mediation, institutional structures, and cognitive roles as the core of the on-going revolution. The paper argues that along this trajectory of development, a new type of translational productive relations characterized by re-balanced rights and responsibilities as well as shared values will be established, human-machine interaction will be carried out as a mode of symbiosis, complementarity, and synergy, and translation will evolve, eventually, into a knowledge infrastructure supporting civilizational dialogues.

Keywords: translation; productive force; productive relations; AI empowerment; human-AI synergy; paradigm revolution; historical materialism

Dao-Yi-Ji as the Three-tiered Structure of Traditional Chinese Translation Theory

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Abstract: In traditional Chinese thinking, *Dao* (the way), *Yi* (art), and *Ji* (technique) constitute a three-tiered framework for philosophizing, representing respectively its ontological, subjective, and practical dimension. The origin of this trio of terms could be traced back to Zhuangzi's *Dao-Ji* theory and Confucius' *Dao-Yi* theory. Within the framework of traditional Chinese translation theory, discussions on the *Dao* of translation center on three inquiries: how to uphold *Xin* (faithfulness) as the foundation in pursuit of fidelity; how to seek *Mei* (beauty) as the goal with an emphasis on *Chuanshen* (vividness); and how to embrace the Golden Mean as the guide for operation without compromising ethical principles. The art of translation (*Yi*), while relying on the translator's creativity actualized through translation techniques (*Ji*), is guided by *Dao* and expected to carry *Dao* as well. Translation techniques (*Ji*) encompass a multi-layered structure that contains elements ranging from textual translation skills to cultivation of translation competence. Understanding traditional Chinese translation theory from the perspective of a *Dao-Yi-Ji* structure could shed fresh and valuable light on its ontological, subjective and practical dimensions, and could thus help to advance the development of an indigenous Chinese theoretical discourse in translation studies.

Keywords: traditional Chinese translation theory; *Dao*; *Yi*; *Ji*

Transforming ST's Tenor by Modifying Its Metaphorical Language: Ma Junwu's Rewriting of *On the Origin of Species* in Late Qing China

By WANG Jian (University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Chengdu, China) p.31

Abstract: In his late Qing Chinese rendition of *On the Origin of Species*, Ma Junwu systematically recast Darwin's text by replacing metaphors signifying unintended natural processes with Chinese expressions connoting purposiveness. In

this way, the Darwinian notion of a natural mechanism independent of subjective purposes is reinterpreted as a principle guiding conscious and purposeful human behavior, and what Ma Junwu's version conveys is not the non-teleological scientific Darwinism as such, but social Darwinism in the Spencerian sense. This paper ponders on why such a radical transformation should have occurred in this early Chinese version of Darwin's classic, arguing that Ma's rewriting can be attributed to a convergence of factors, including the historical conditions surrounding the translation, the translator's command of English, and his level of scientific literacy.

Keywords: *On the Origin of Species*; Charles Darwin; Ma Junwu; metaphor; purpose

Constructing and Empirically Validating a Model for Teaching Human-AI Collaborative Translation: Some Observations through the Lens of Translation-as-Metaphor Theory

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Abstract: Against the backdrop of the cognitive turn in translation studies, this study proposes a Translation-as-Metaphor Theory (TMT)-grounded pedagogical model for the deep integration of artificial intelligence into translator education. TMT sees translation as a conceptual-metaphorical mapping from source to target language by systematically instantiating and selectively foregrounding four cognitive dimensions: slot, property, relation, and knowledge. Adopting TMT as the theoretical framework within which to address the long-standing pedagogical challenge of handling culture-loaded items, we develop a four-stage, progressive human-AI collaborative instructional model centered on "cognitive explicitation" and "decision-process training." The stages include: (1) cognitive deconstruction coupled with AI-analytic demonstration; (2) multi-path generation and evaluation; (3) creative refinement and AI-transcendence; and (4) project-based collaborative translation. This structured progression repositions students from passive producers of target texts to active translators in possession of decision-making abilities and creative regulatory skills. In a controlled classroom experiment designed in alignment with this model (using Chinese culture-loaded sentences as stimuli), the experimental group significantly outperformed the control group in translational decision transparency, strategic diversity, and cultural appropriateness. Such results suggest that by integrating AI computational cognitive augmentation with aesthetic and creative decision-making by human agents, the proposed model offers a viable pathway for cultivating advanced translation professionals.

Keywords: Translation-as-Metaphor Theory; Artificial Intelligence; Human-AI Collaborative Pedagogy

From a Cultural Keyword to a Philosophical Term: The Purpose and the Strategy for Translating Wang Yangming's Core Concept *Xin* (Heart/Mind)

By *LIU Kongxi* (Hubei Minzu University, Enshi, China) p.74

Abstract: *Xin* (heart/mind) is not only the core concept of the philosophical school of mind founded by the Ming Chinese philosopher Wang Yangming (1472-1529), but also one of the central ideas constituting the broader Chinese cultural tradition, and has hence served as both a cultural and a theoretical keyword. The set of concepts and terms centered on *xin* is not only crucial to revealing the essence of Wang Yangming's thoughts, but also instrumental to the translation and global dissemination of his philosophy. Focusing on English renditions of Wang Yangming's *Chuanxi Lu* (*Instructions for Practical Living*), this paper systematically examines the translation strategies for the *xin*-centric terminology of his philosophy of mind. By calling attention to the multiple renderings for many terms in this work and analyzing from a holistic perspective the different communicative effects they each tend to produce, this study aims to contribute to the construction of Wang Yangming's thought as an independent system of philosophical discourse and to enhance its recognition and acceptance in the philosophical field throughout the world.

Keywords: Wang Yangming; philosophy of mind; term translation; international dissemination; construction of philosophical discourse system