
Reviewed by
Lisheng Liu¹
Xuchang University, China

Recent years have witnessed the increasingly changing landscape of translation practices as evidenced in the various novel translation forms such as volunteer translation, crowdsourcing translation, localization, and transediting. The considerable innovations have greatly expanded the research scope, while at the same time bringing great challenges to researchers, for some traditional concepts in translation studies are inadequate to account for some emerging translation phenomena. Therefore, there is a strong urge to reconceptualize translation, reposition the different translation phenomena, and delineate their boundaries in the discipline of translation studies and beyond.

Up to now, many researchers (Gambier & Doorslaer, 2016; Renna & Barschdorf, 2018) have explored the issue of boundary in translation. The volume under review, *Moving Boundaries in Translation Studies*, analyzes the current developments in translation practice and discusses their implications for the boundaries of the discipline. In addition to the introduction, the book consists of 13 chapters that can be further categorized into conceptual innovation, novel approaches, methods, new translation practices, tools, and forms of organization.

In chapter 1, Chesterman discusses four types of conceptual innovations in translation studies: platypus, splitter, lumper, and rebranding. These four concepts are adopted to reflect the taxonomy of conceptual innovations both in translation theory and practice, which prove to be pragmatically useful as case studied in his research on fansubbing, scanlation, translanguaging, and transcreation.

Considering the fuzzy border between localization studies and translation studies due to technological advances, Jiménez-Crespo intends to clarify the boundary between localization and translation in chapter 2. His analysis revolves around two questions: whether the localization process has redefined, blurred, or broadened the scope of translation; or whether its peculiarities and interdisciplinary connections have led to its consolidation as a (sub) discipline (p. 27). In so doing, he adopts the prototype approach to distinguish translation proper and localization proper, and then explores the overlapping area of localization and translation studies and their associations with other related phenomena. His findings suggest that localization studies as a subdiscipline has introduced new theories, approaches, and concepts to translation studies, and the technological developments will continue to make the border fuzzy between them.

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In chapter 3, Franz Pöchhacker moves beyond the five main defining criteria for interpreting—humanness, bilinguality, interlinguality, immediacy, and fidelity—and seeks to examine the novel features of extratemporality, extraspatiality, intermodality, intralinguality, and automaticity in interpreting driven by technology. Then, he analyzes the intermodal forms of transpeaking (speech-to-text interpreting), transterpreting (deaf relay interpreting), and machine interpreting (machine output with human postediting), and classifies them into interpreting. Thus, it extends the conceptual territory of interpreting and further enriches interpreting studies as a subdiscipline.

Technology-driven innovations are the theme in chapter 4. For Arnt Jakobsen, the distinction between self-revision and translation has become blurred since the process in which translation solutions are produced is associative, and imperfect solutions are the major cognitive causes of revision both during drafting and end-revision (p. 69). The advent of combined technologies like speech recognition, machine translation in the cloud, and speech synthesis allows automated translation and relegates the translator’s job to postediting, a tendency not welcomed by professional translators for its uncreative and mechanical way of language output.

Given the major shifts in the translation technology landscape and the blurring line between translation memory and machine translation, Sharon O’Brien and Owen Conlan, in chapter 5, propose to build a personalized translation technology engine. By taking into account the context, motivation, user modeling, trust, and well-being, the engine serves to increase the autonomy, competence, and relatedness in translation and ensure better and more valuable interactions between translators and translation tools.

Digital technologies and Web 2.0 have allowed translators to set up a myriad of virtual communities to finish such collective translation activities as fansubbing and crowdsourcing. In chapter 6, Dolmaya uses social network analysis and Gephi, a graph visualization program, to study how translation communities are constructed, and describes the interaction between different actors based on three translation blogs. Her research reveals that the borders of translation blog networks are not restricted to translators, and accordingly, blog networks are not restricted to bloggers’ geographic regions.

Grbić and Kujamäki focus on nonprofessional translation practices and analyze how boundary work shapes research agendas in translation studies in chapter 7. Their review of its boundary in translation history, specifically the translation and interpreting practices in Finland during the WWII and sign-language interpreting in Austria in the 19th and 20th centuries, helps to unveil its socially constructed nature of boundary in the process of setting, institutionalization, disputing, maintaining, blurring, spanning, crossing, and shifting.

The ergonomic perspective provides an adequate approach to understanding the impact of various constraints upon translators’ practice. In chapter 8, Ehrensberger-Dow and Jääskeläinen conduct a survey on translation ergonomics in the two multilingual countries of Switzerland and Finland. They intend to look into their professional workplace realities as translators are struggling to cope with the way translation is becoming increasingly machine-driven. A detailed comparison of physical, environmental, social, cognitive, and organizational factors shows that the ergonomic perspective offers new tools for us.
to examine translation quality and translators’ job satisfaction, and contributes to improving future translation practice and training.

The distinction between literary and nonliterary translation is tackled in Margaret Rogers’ contribution in chapter 9. She replaces the term “binaries” with “borders,” for the latter implies a productive interface with innovative insights. Then, she sets out to analyze the two phenomena from the perspectives of genre, people/things, readers, agency, terminology, institutional affiliation/professional activity, and translator training. Her research findings indicate that the borderland between them is a fertile area, which provides many possible research topics for future translator training.

Özlem Berk Albachten argues for a repositioning of intralingual translation in chapter 10. She expounds on two cases in the 19th century Ottoman Turkish literary context, and her research results demonstrate that intralingual translation, an integral part of translation history covering various textual production practices, such as translating, writing, summarizing, renewing, and conveying without clear boundaries, contributes to constructing a fuller picture of translation history.

The pedagogic translation is a field linking the two disciplines of translation studies and educational linguistics. In chapter 11, Laviosa reports on a case study of translation and translanguaging in a second-language learning course at an Italian university. Her descriptive observation testifies to the usefulness of integrating translanguaging in language pedagogy.

The boundary between translation academia and translation practice is explored by Dam and Zethsen in chapter 12. They draw on data elicited from group discussions among eight staff translators and seven project managers, which relate to the concepts of translation, interpreting, subtitling, and adaptation, etc. Their research findings show that, though there exist some differences in their understanding of what constitutes the translation field, translation practitioners and scholars share a common prototype model of translation, suggesting the soft borderline between translation practice and academia.

Doorslaer reflects on the various paradigm-shifting in translation studies in the concluding chapter 13, in which he argues that the growing complexity of translation in scholarly discourse is still being misunderstood by the public as a language-based practice with invariance as its main goal, a sharp contrast with the shifting paradigms in translation studies. Therefore, the new term, “trans-studies” is proposed to make explicit the current paradigm of change and arouse scholarly thinking.

In all, Moving Boundaries in Translation Studies is a timely contribution to the study of translation boundaries. It offers a comprehensive and well-balanced coverage of topics on translation boundaries both in practice and theory. Arguably, it can be seen as the latest volume addressing the boundary issue confusing many translation practitioners and researchers. It enables us to reexamine how these phenomena push or break the traditional boundaries of translation and interpreting practice, and allows us to have a better understanding of their developments, interrelations, and solutions. Therefore, it serves as a guide book for later researchers.
Moreover, the contributors’ research relates to new concepts, tools, and methods that are newly advanced by technological development. Therefore, their in-depth analyses help to delineate the boundaries of translation practices in translation studies and its relations with other disciplines. As a result, it extends the research scope and further consolidates the position of translation studies as an independent discipline.

On the other hand, it is much hoped that the research from countries like China with a different language system and a translation history of more than 2000 years can also be included in the future volume, for it will serve as a sharp contrast, promote reciprocal dialogues, and make the findings in this volume more thought-provoking. Of course, we cannot deny the fact this collected volume builds on the theme of the 8th Congress of the European Society for Translation Studies as the editors admit (p. x), and represents the current status of translation boundary studies in the West.

Overall, this volume elaborates on the moving boundaries in translation studies in a highly engaging and insightful way. The contributors’ insightful analysis makes the volume a key reading for students and researchers interested in this field. Therefore, it is strongly recommended as a valuable reference book.

References
