

Corpus meets cognition: mixed methods for researching translation processes

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This talk addresses methodological considerations when working with empirical product and/or process data as well as for interfacing both. It explains how methods from neighbour disciplines, e. g. corpus linguistics or cognitive science, can be adopted to empirical translation studies and how they can be combined. The combination of corpus-based work on translated texts (i. e. product-oriented research) with experimental studies of translators' behaviour (i. e. process-oriented research) enables not only the quantification and interpretation of translation properties and strategies but also their explanation concerning cognitive processes and resources. Recent advances in corpus architecture and corpus querying (including multi-layer annotation and alignment) and increasing incorporation of methods from psycholinguistics and cognitive science into process-oriented research (especially eyetracking and keystroke-logging) point to a desired combination of corpus studies with a more direct, experimental insight into processing efforts.

Within this context, the most common methods are introduced and their strengths and shortcomings are discussed. Examples of successful product-process interfaces are given.