Valdeón, Roberto A. (ed.). (2017). *Chinese Translation Studies in the 21st Century: Current Trends and Emerging Perspectives.* London/New York: Routledge. pp. xiv+343. ISBN 978-1-1387-1496-0.

Chinese Translation Studies in the 21st Century: Current Trends and Emerging Perspectives, edited by Roberto A. Valdeón, is a collection of 18 articles published in the journal *Perspectives: Studies in Translatology* by Chinese scholars from 2012 to 2017. It highlights the vitality of translation studies as a profession and as a field of enquiry in China and demonstrates Chinese scholars' contributions to this growing discipline.

The book consists of four parts, in which scholars approach theoretical and conceptual issues (Part I), translation and the media (Part II), bibliographies and bibliometrics of translation studies (Part III), and interpreting studies (Part IV).

There are six articles in Part I. The first one, contributed by Leo Chan, takes a translational and intercultural perspective on adaptation studies. He argues that a translation approach can help unravel the linguistic reconfigurations in the adaptation process. Meanwhile, the linguistic strategies in adaptations will contribute to the assimilation of cultural differences. The second article revisits family resemblance, a topic that translation studies has yet to fully approach. This theory, which originated from Wittgenstein, is different from equivalence theory and can shed light on translation studies. It holds that translations are contextual variants of their original texts and have prototypical links with them. Lee Tong-King contributes the third

article, which focuses on the meaning production of the intersemiotic components in literary translation. Challenged by both the boundaries of languages and semiotic factors, translation functions in three multimodal cases and contributes a lot to meaning negotiation in technical environments. Adopting Bourdieu's field theory, Yu Jing and Xu Minhui analyse Zhang Guruo's translation of *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and show the whole process of norm-breaking and norm-making. They find that these are active structuring processes competing for more symbolic capital.

Both the fifth and sixth articles pay attention to transformations in translation. The former investigates the three versions of *The She King* translated by James Legge and presents the transformation of translatorial identity and the shift in translation style. The latter presents a feminist case of translation as adaptation and selection through the comparison of two Chinese translations of *The Vagina Monologues*.

Part II includes four articles covering two types of study. Both chapters 7 and 10 assume that it is difficult to achieve faithfulness in news translation; therefore, attention should be paid to stance engagement. Chapter 7 is written from the perspective of transeditors and chapter 10 from that of news organisations. Specifically, Zhang Meifang focuses on news headline transediting and carries out four case analyses of news headlines by different agencies. After showing how stance and attitude are mediated through linguistic resources within the appraisal theory framework, she probes the possible constraints of transeditors in the transediting process. Pan Li carries out an empirical study of the institutional practices of Reference News Newspaper. She uses qualitative methods to explore the institutional

influence on translation.

Both chapters 8 and 9 concern translation strategies in audio-visual translation, but their research data come from different fields. Interested in humour reconstruction in TV news translation, Claire Tsai adopts the news frame theory to study the significant role of translation in the humour reframing process after international English news enters non-English speaking areas. Tang Jun investigates the kung fu-related elements in *Kung Fu Panda*'s translation. She compares the translation strategies of professional and amateur translators and finds that their motivations are mainly based on contextual considerations.

Part III also has four articles, which focus on the application of quantitative methods in translation studies. The first study introduces the bibliography-based quantitative method to translation history research. It is powerful in that it includes many sources and technical tools for retrieving and analysing bibliographic data.

The other three articles are all devoted to reviewing research on Chinese translations and interpreting studies. Chapter 12 presents the results of a study mapping interpreting studies from 2000 to 2010. It employs thematic analysis and describes the state of interpreting studies at that time. Both chapters 13 and 14 draw on the scientometric approach to explore the current condition of Chinese translation studies. Regarding MA theses as the most productive source of Chinese interpreting studies, Xu Ziyun investigates the discipline's evolution, theoretical influence and future trends. Li Xiangdong pays attention to Chinese mainland scholars' international visibility. His study is based on Chinese scholars' articles in SSCI or A&HCI indexed

journals. Indicators such as publication count, citation analysis, editorial board composition analysis, and manual word analysis are used to evaluate the quality and draw a thematic map. Quantitative evidence suggests a comparatively low visibility of Chinese scholars and possible gaps between them and their international counterparts.

Part IV groups four empirical studies on interpreting. The first two studies concentrate on pauses and explicitation patterns, respectively, and both carry out comparative studies on professional and trainee interpreters. Wang Binhua and Li Tao analyse the characteristics of pauses in Chinese-English simultaneous interpreting with three parameters: frequency, duration and syntactic distribution. Also, retrospective interviews are carried out to help the interpreters recall their motivations for unnatural pauses. Tang Fang and Li Dechao compare the explicitation patterns in English-Chinese consecutive interpreting between professional and trainee interpreters. They propose a theoretical model consisting of 10 different forms and 4 motivations for explicitation, which may facilitate related studies in the future.

Xiao Xiaoyan and Li Feiyan conduct research from the perspective of d/Deaf viewers to reveal the state of sign language interpreting on Chinese TV. Based on data from questionnaires completed by the d/Deaf community and post-survey interviews with sign language interpreters, they present the general reception by the target viewers and discuss problems and possible solutions. Mireia Vargas-Urpi employs a qualitative method to investigate the problems and countermeasures of public service interpreting in Catalonia. The study finds that the problems are on the word and discourse level. Informed by these problems, she provides implications for the

training needs of public service interpreting.

Although this volume is divided into four parts, they overlap. First of all, interdisciplinarity is evident throughout the book. It ranges from the theoretical foundation (philosophy in chapter 2, sociology in chapter 4 and news theory in chapter 9) to the research approach (intercultural approach in chapter 1 and multimodality in chapter 3). Second, a variety of research methods are present in this volume. They cover quantitative (Part III), qualitative (most of the other articles), synchronic (chapters 4 and 5) and diachronic methods (most of the other articles). Meanwhile, many studies adopt a comparative method (chapters 6, 15 and 16). All of these research methods enhance the scientificity and systematicness of these studies.

However, there is still much work waiting to be done by Chinese scholars of translation studies. First, it is important to enhance theoretical exploration. Among the 18 studies, 15 of them are empirical. Empirical studies are of great value to translation studies, but theoretical explorations are also crucial and largely determine Chinese scholars' international influence. Furthermore, addressing Chinese translation issues calls for more oriental theoretical frameworks. Nevertheless, most of these empirical studies did not adopt Chinese scholars' theories, except for chapter 6 which followed eco-translatology proposed by Chinese scholar Hu Gengshen.

Second, it would be fruitful to deepen interdisciplinary integration, especially with linguistics. As chapter 14 argues, studies conducted from the perspective of neurolinguistics, cognitive linguistics, psycholinguistics, discourse analysis, sociology, anthropology and intercultural communication are welcomed. However, most of these

perspectives are absent from this volume. An exemplary study might be chapter 7 by Zhang Meifang, who integrates appraisal theory in discourse analysis with the study of news transediting. The author proves that the incorporation of linguistic theories can improve the persuasiveness of translation studies.

Third, it is possible to grasp more research opportunities in the Chinese context. With English as the dominant academic language, it might be challenging for Chinese scholars to publish in international journals. However, with the country increasingly opening up to international academia, Chinese translation scholars are embracing the abundant research opportunities.

In conclusion, this volume proves to be an invaluable resource for readers with different needs. First, for scholars aspiring to publish in *Perspectives: Studies in Translatology,* this volume can serve as a textbook. Second, for scholars who are interested in translation and interpreting studies in the Chinese context, it offers an overview of the current state of research. Third, for scholars having difficulties in selecting their research topic, the promising research areas proposed in the introductory chapter will provide help and inspiration. Lastly, for scholars from other disciplines, it is also worth reading because it covers a wide range of research topics and includes interdisciplinary explorations. Moreover, a large proportion of its empirical studies lack formidable theories and will not be a threat to them.

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