Abstract proposal for a poster

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Computational source language detection: Is it applicable to indirect translation?

Previous studies suggest that translations into language X are different from text written originally in language X and that a translated language contains some traces of the source language; these features can be used to computationally detect the source language of a translation (Islam and Hoenen 2013).

However, not all translations are done directly from the original source; indirect translation is translation from a translation, forming thus the chain ultimate ST/SL > mediating text/language > ultimate TT/TL (Assis Rosa, Pieta and Maia 2017).

If an indirect translation is put under a computational SL detection, will the computer detect the ultimate source language or the mediating language? I use stylo, a package in R to do stylometry, to test whether a machine learning approach can be used to detect the mediating and/or ultimate source language of an indirect translation.

References

Assis Rosa, Alexandra, Hanna Pięta, and Rita Bueno Maia. 2017. "Theoretical, Methodological and Terminological Issues Regarding Indirect Translation: An Overview." Translation Studies 10 (2): 113–132.

Islam, Zahurul and Armin Hoenen. 2013. "Source and Translation Classification using Most Frequent Words." *International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing*, 1299–1305. Nagoya, Japan, 14-18 October 2013.