

## **A Multidimensional Analysis of the Discourse Features of the English Translation of *Heavy Wings***

**Jingxiao Zhao, Xiuwen Li\***

*Institute of Foreign Languages, Changchun University of Technology, Beiyuanda Street, Fenjin Town, Changchun, Jilin, China*

*\*Corresponding Author.*

**Abstract:** Ideology and translation go hand in hand. Translation is a rewriting of the source text, reflecting the ideology and poetics of a particular society. This paper establishes a Chinese-English parallel corpus based on two English translations of *Heavy Wings*, which takes ideology as the object of study, using multidimensional analysis to examine register differences and to compare the represented features in ideological markers between the two translations in the four dimensions, namely nominalization, transitivity, modality and coherence. Based on system functional linguistics, this paper examines the relationship between ideological markers and the process of the event, the participants and the environment. It was found that: (1) There is a great significance in register of two translations, with 31 out of 67 lexico-grammatical features. Gladys Yang's translation shows a higher degree of abstract information and explicit; (2) Gladys Yang's translation mainly focus on the reform process and participants, deliberately distancing the two parties from each other, while Goldblatt's translation tends to attribute the factional conflicts in the reform to various environmental components, opening up more evaluation space for the textual content; (3) The differences in the use of linguistic and ideological markers are affected by both intra-linguistic and extra-linguistic factors, namely source text factors, social context, ideology, translator subjectivity, etc.

**Keywords:** *Heavy Wings*; Multidimensional Analysis; Ideological Markers; Corpus

### **1. Introduction**

*Heavy Wings* is a long reform novel written by contemporary female writer Zhang Jie,<sup>[1]</sup>

which was awarded the Second Mao Dun Literature Prize. Set against the backdrop of reform and opening-up, the novel boldly reveals the complex and sharp conflicts on the industrial front in the process of “the four modernizations”, and presents the different attitudes towards economic reform from ministers to ordinary workers in factories in the early stage of reform and opening-up, and has been translated into twelve languages such as English, French, German, Russian, etc. At present, this book has been published two well-known translations including Gladys's and Goldblatt's edition. The Gladys's edition<sup>[2]</sup> was written by Gladys Yang as individual translators, while Goldblatt's edition<sup>[3]</sup> was commissioned by an American publisher. Current research based on *Heavy Wings* has mostly focused on (1) the study of linguistic features of the single translation from different perspectives: interpersonal relationships<sup>[4]</sup>, textual metaphors<sup>[5]</sup>; the influence of subject-object consciousness difference on translation process<sup>[6]</sup>; (2) the use of feminist translation theories to study the translation goals and strategies of Gladys Yang's translation<sup>[7-10]</sup>, studies of the translation strategies in Gladys's translation from the perspective of rewriting theory<sup>[11]</sup>; (3) research on translators' subjectivity and translator's narrative style<sup>[12,13]</sup>, comparative study of translator behavior<sup>[14]</sup>. Although *Heavy Wings* has a wide range of social influence, most studies payed more attention on its social impact and literary value. There have been few studies on its English translation since the 1980s. The above studies provided many inspirations for this study, but most of the studies on the translation of political texts were based on the method of case study, and corpus-based approaches are still lacking.<sup>[15]</sup> In terms of research objects, these studies took some issues such as translation methods,

strategies, and styles as object. Ideology in translated texts is only their research perspective. Some comparisons based on multiple linguistic features of two English translations are relatively lacking. In terms of research methodology, there is also a relative lack of corpus-based quantitative research and motivational analysis research. The realisation of ideology in the process of translation is closely related to the course of events, participants and environment.

Multidimensional Analysis, an important method proposed by Biber in 1988, is based on the comparative analysis of multiple linguistic features, which can effectively distinguish the register features of different texts and reveal the overall stylistic differences of the text.<sup>[16-18]</sup>

The method is now widely used to study learners' linguistic features<sup>[19-21]</sup>, specialised English linguistic features<sup>[22,23]</sup>, and the comparison of linguistic features of translation of literature and ephemeral studies of the dynamic development of discourse features. Political discourse is a category of genres restricted by the social domain, especially the political domain, and is an institutional discourse type that accompanies political behaviour in a political context. At a time when the international political situation is constantly changing, the translation of political discourse is increasingly becoming an extension of the construction of political discourse in various countries<sup>[24,25]</sup>, and there is a relative lack of research in this area.

Therefore, this paper adopts a multidimensional analysis to comparatively examine the differences in the linguistic dimensions of the two English translations of *Heavy Wings* and the factors affecting them, and to answer the following questions: (1) What are the differences between the two translations in terms of the overall linguistic dimensions? What are the specific linguistic dimensions? (2) What are the motivations that cause the differences in the register?

## **2. Ideological Markers in Translated Texts**

As a special kind of conceptual system, ideology profoundly influences translation.<sup>[26-30]</sup> Beginning in the early 1990s, Puurtinen et al. began to explore a new paradigm for extending ideology in terms of a lexical perspective, namely ideological markers. Ideological markers are some key

linguistic elements extracted from System Functional Linguistics, embedded with ideology and suitable for measured linguistic forms.<sup>[31-33]</sup> Such markers link the surface lexico-grammatical features of the text to its main semantic functions and interpersonal meanings, indicating the linguistic choices made by the translator, which ultimately solidify into the linguistic form of the translated text. When making lexical choices and syntactic representations, translated discourse not only identifies specific types of syntactic and lexical modifications, but determines uniform linguistic representations to match the expectations of the target readers, leading to the manipulation of the source text's ideology.

Previously, ideological markers have been used mainly in the study of discourse translation. Thompson<sup>[34]</sup> focused on the mode of operation of reification and the three related markers of passivisation, nominalization, and pre-modifier participial attribute constructions. Fowler<sup>[35]</sup> argued that specific linguistic forms of discourse analysis, such as nominalisation, passive structures, and connection systems can be used as specific labels to measure ideology. Puurtinen<sup>[36]</sup> explored the syntactic translation norms of Finnish children's literature translations. Laviosa<sup>[37]</sup> provided ideological message examination and decoding for the translation text collocations of two mainstream British newspapers. Hunston<sup>[38]</sup> argued that ideology implicit in speech can be revealed through the analysis of linguistic forms, such as verb phrases, infinitives and other specific linguistic markers. Olohan<sup>[39]</sup> explored how keywords can be used to examine the lexical choices made by translators and explores the ideological motivations behind such lexico-grammatical choices. Gumul, with the help of a corpus tool, analysed 22 Polish translations of texts about the 2003 Iraq war in order to examine the translational transfer that occurs in translations of lexical and syntactic markers with ideological significance. Studies of domestic scholars mostly focused, on the one hand, on the influence of modal labels in literary translations and political discourse on translators' choices<sup>[40,41]</sup>, and on the other hand, on the comprehensive use of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to analyse the conceptual metaphorical patterns used in political discourse.<sup>[42,43]</sup>

The above studies provided many inspirations for the study of ideology in this paper, but most of the scholars mostly start from single dimensions such as passive structure and affective system, and seldom adopt multi-factor analysis. Also there are even fewer quantitative studies based on corpus on the systematic reconstruction of ideological manipulation during the conversion from source language to translation in political translation. Therefore, based on systemic functional grammar, this paper draws on the studies of Gumul and Halliday to evaluate the ideological differences in translation activities through the three dimensions of ideology. While most of the previous studies focused on

pragmatic translation and less on theoretical modelling through linguistics. The three dimensions of ideology taking a multidimensional perspective, emphasis the combination of interpersonal and discourse systems, so as to explain more comprehensively the cultural differences and value transformations of translated texts.

### 3. Research Design

#### 3.1 Research Corpus

Based on the two English translations of *Heavy Wings*, this study established a Chinese-English parallel corpus of *Heavy Wings*. The total corpus capacity is 640, 350 words. See Table 1 for details.

**Table 1. Construction of Chinese-English Parallel Corpus of *Heavy Wings*.**

Version	Author/Translator	Publication time	Publication Press	Capacity
Chenzhong De Chiabng	Zhangjie	1981	People's Literature Publishing House	270, 000
<i>Leaden Wings</i>	Gladys Yang	1987	Virago Press	58, 654
<i>Heavy Wings</i>	Howard Goldblatt	1989	Grove Weidenfeld	108, 289
Reference corpus	BBC Political Corpus	/	/	203, 407
Total	/	/	/	640, 350

#### 3.2 Research Tools

In this study, a multidimensional annotation developed by Nini (2015) and analysis tool developed by Tagger 1.3.1 (MAT), were used to automatically annotate, extract features and count data from the text. The tool uses Biber's<sup>[44]</sup> eight register categories, 67 linguistic features and six functional dimensions, which can automatically identify and count the frequency of the text's 67 linguistic features in the text and the normalised frequency per thousand words, and summarise the six dimensions according to their co-occurrences in the corresponding registers, and finally, through multivariate linear regression, determine the factors affecting each dimension.

#### 3.3 Research Steps

Firstly, according to the statistical results of the multidimensional analysis, the test of significant difference will be conducted on the different dimensions of the translated texts to observe the differences between the source and target texts in the dimensions of information expression and narrativity.

Secondly, the factors affecting the dimensional differences between the two translations will be visualised and analysed in which the top

twenty linguistic features with large differences will be focused on to observe the effect of the linguistic feature scores on the dimensional differences.

Then, drawing on Fowler's<sup>[45]</sup>, Gumul's and Halliday's studies, significance tests will be conducted on the translations' ideological labels for the different dimensions, i.e., (1) nouns ending in -tion, -ity, -ism, and -ness; (2) passive constructions; (3) modal verbs; and (4) subordinating conjunctions and prepositions. Next, we can observe the differences between the two translations in interpersonal and discourse dimensions.

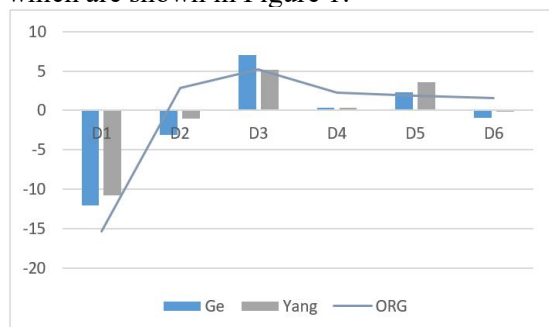
Finally, based on Systemic Functional Grammar, we can analyse the relationship between linguistic representations and socio-cultural interactions.

### 4. Research Findings

By examining the six dimensions and influencing factors of the two translations, this paper found that there are significant differences between the two translations in the overall register dimension, and the specific results are shown below:

#### 4.1 Comparative Analysis of the Overall Domain Dimension of the two Translations

Register dimension refers to the fact that co-occurring linguistic features with similar communicative functions are distributed on a continuum in the same dimension. In this paper, we firstly counted the register dimensions of the two translations and the original English, which are shown in Figure 1:



**Figure 1. A comparison of the Dimensions of English Register between the Two Translations and the Original**

**Table 2. The Significance Test of the Two Translations' Register Dimension**

Dimension	Yang		Ge		P
	AVG	SD	AVG	SD	
Dimension1	-19.218	3.337	-18.617	2.677	0.497
Dimension2	-4.276	1.512	-4.204	1.125	0.853
Dimension3	10.891	2.298	8.982	2.515	0.010
Dimension4	-2.033	2.620	-1.072	1.830	0.148
Dimension5	-0.281	1.523	1.378	1.770	0.001
Dimension6	-3.073	0.267	-2.889	0.373	0.061

As can be seen from Table 2, there are significant differences between the two translations in dimension 3, "clarity of reference and context-dependent reference", and dimension 5, "degree of abstraction and concreteness of information" ( $p < 0.05$ ). Gladys's translation has a higher degree of clarity of reference and abstraction of information than Goldblatt's translation.

**Table 3. 20 Linguistic Features of Significantly Difference between the Two Versions**

Num	linguistic features	P	Num	linguistic features	P
1	PIN	0.002	11	BYPA	0.000
2	DEMO	0.162	12	NOMZ	0.000
3	PHC	0.195	13	ANDC	0.012
4	SERE	0.144	14	TOBJ	0.000
5	PASS	0.000	15	VPRT	0.001
6	RB	0.001	16	PASTP	0.011
7	VBD	0.003	17	CAUS	0.787
8	PIRV	0.509	18	OSUB	0.000
9	TPP3	0.402	19	NN	0.000
10	PRIV	0.017	20	CONJ	0.000

As can be seen from Table 3, there are significant differences between the two translations in 31 linguistic features, with

As shown in Figure 1, there are significant differences between the two translations and the original English corpus on the six register dimensions. Gladys's translation shows higher informativeness and narrativeness, while Goldblatt's translation presents higher non-narrativeness and a more constrained form of admonitory discourse. The dimensional scores of the two translations in terms of narrativity and denotational clarity converge roughly with those of the original English, suggesting that the two translations conform to the translation norms of political texts in the target language.

This paper then conducted an independent samples T-test on the two translations to examine the parameters on which there are significant differences between the two translations, and the specific results are shown in Table 2:

#### 4.2. Overall Analysis of Factors Influencing the Dimensional Differences between the Two Translations

In order to better observe the differences between the linguistic features of the two translations, this paper proceeded to test the significance of 67 linguistic features. The details are shown in Table 3:

higher values for the following 15 differences, namely, PIN (prepositions), DEMO (indicative), OSUB (other subordinate clauses),

RB (adverbs), PHC (co-ordinating phrases), BYPA (passive), NOMZ (nominalisations), ANDC (parallel clauses), TOBJ (object-relative clauses), SERE (relational clauses), CONJ (conjunctions), CAUS (causative-type subordination), VBD (past tense of verbs), PRIV (private verbs) and NN (nouns).

### 4.3 Quantitative Analysis of Specific Linguistic Representations in the Two Translations

**Table 4. Differences in Frequency and Manifestation of Linguistic Features between the Two Versions**

Dimension	Linguistic representation	Yang						LL	Sig
		Total	Explicitation	%	Total	Explicitation	%		
Ideational	Verb cluster	583	214	36%	405	145	35.8%	53.17	0.00
	Nominalization	686	173	25%	944	372	39.4%	-18.77	0.00
	Prepositional phrase	204	71	35%	295	147	49.8%	-8.65	0.00
Interpersonal	Modal verb	44	14	32%	70	31	44.2%	-3.61	0.06
Textual	Subordinating conjunction	65	24	37%	72	37	51.3%	0.00	0.99

As can be seen from Table 4, where the difference in nominalisation labels as well as passive constructions is  $\text{sig} < 0.0001$ , both translations have significant differences in morphology and nominalisation. As far as the linguistic representations of the analysed statistics are concerned, Gladys's translation expresses the information more figuratively, with less nominalisation. Goldblatt's translation uses more nominalisation and is more abstract in describing various economic reforms. Gladys's translation uses more passive constructions and has a more ambiguous attitude towards the allocation of responsibility for events. Goldblatt's translation focuses more on the clarity of responsibility and expresses a clear standpoint on the reforms.

The difference in prepositional phrase labelling in the discourse system is  $\text{sig} < 0.001$ , showing a significant difference. And the two translations focus on the linguistic representations in the discourse system. Goldblatt's translation makes more use of subordinate conjunctions and prepositional phrases, which directly expresses the importance that language users attach to the time, place, cause, and conditions of events, thus indirectly explaining the relationship between people and situations through environmental factors. However, Gladys's translation favours the use of process factors, such as verb phrases, which can enable readers

In this study, with reference to Othman's<sup>[46]</sup> and Hu Kaibao and Zhu Yifan's<sup>[47]</sup> classification of linguistic manifestation, frequency statistics and log-likelihood ratio tests were conducted on the linguistic forms with anomalies in the two translations including verbal phrases, nominalisations, prepositional phrases, and subordinate conjunctions, in order to further explore the differences in manifestation. The specific results are shown in Table 4:

to perceive revolutionary events directly.

## 5. An Analysis of the Motivation of the Differences in the Linguistic Features of the Translated Texts

Differences in the use of linguistic features are to a large extent influenced by the results of the interaction between linguistic representations and behavioural events and social culture in the translated texts, mapping out different cultural values.

### 5.1 The Effect of the Interaction of Ideological Markers and the Transitive System

In order to maximise the fidelity to the source language, enhance the readability of the translation as well as satisfy the readers' needs, the translators explicitly indicate the implied actor and goal of the events in the source text in their language-processing, and then comprehensively, objectively and faithfully present the facts of the economic reform. The high frequency of noun and verb phrases is directly related to the differences between the two translations regarding the attribution of events. Gladys's translation's preference for verb phrases and explicit of the actor means that the translator does not conceptualise and abstract the conflict of events in the source language, but rather expresses the hopefulness of women's thinking in the reform process with the stance and attitude of a participant.



Goldblatt's translation, on the other hand, tends to use nominalisation, downplaying the actions in the translated text, and tends to be a direct translation, objectively stating the facts and presenting a bystander's stance towards the reform process in China. The extensive use of passive constructions makes the originator of the action unclear, blurring its responsibility or obligation. Gladys's translation is clearer about the responsibilities or obligations of the actor and goal of the events in the source text,

ST:历来的习惯是，只有那些犯了错误的干部才会连撙几级。平白无故，哪有从干部变工人的不往上升，至少也得保持原有地位不变，才说得过去吧。不论怎么说，老吕头还那么称呼他，在精神上多少给了他一些安慰。  
(张洁，1981：131)

**Figure 2: Example (1)**

TT: In the old days only cadres who had committed serious mistakes were demoted some grades. The rest, if not promoted, should at least retain their posts. Whoever had heard of a Party secretary becoming a workman? He took comfort from being addressed as Secretary.

TT: By now it has become accepted that only cadres who have made a serious blunder are demoted. Who ever heard of a cadre who hadn't actually done something wrong being demoted to worker? Den ying a promotion is one thing; not allowing him to keep his position is something else altogether. It's sort of comforting to hear Lao Lu greet him as Secretary.

Goldblatt's translation uses the noun "promotion", which is far away from its giver, the secretary, in terms of word order, to some extent blurring the responsibility of the giver. Whereas Gladys's translation uses the verb "promoted", which connects the giver and the recipient directly, clearly revealing the responsibility of the subject. To a certain extent, this makes the "promoted" a specific and temporary act, not a regular or customary one.

## 5.2 Interaction between Behavioural Events and the Interpersonal Discourse System

Both translations choose other forms of words (modal verbs) as a narrative mode to alter or slightly modify the source language. The difference in their language use affects the effect of expression in both English and

and shows a participatory attitude towards the various reform voices in the source text. Goldblatt's translation makes extensive use of passive structures and has a weaker clarity of responsibility, which shows that the translator presents an observational stance towards the conflict between the conservative and reformist struggles in the source text.

Try the following column (as shown in Figure 2).

Chinese, as well as the effect of image construction (national/personal image) in interpersonal interactions. Modality tends to refer to an ambiguous region between the two polar meanings of affirmative and negative meanings. So any quantitative value of modality is weaker than the polar form in judging the possibility of propositions, which is used to indicate the degree of the speaker's responsibility for the truth of the proposition, the commitment to or obligation for the future behaviour, reflecting of the social distance and the power relationship between the two parties of the communication.<sup>[48]</sup> At the same time, different graded quantities of English modal verbs are best suited to show the level of expectation that language, which gives an insight into the perspective of the speaker and the expresser. In order to present the narrative effect faithfully and accurately, the translators maintain consistency in language use, but with differences. The translators' explicit or implicit treatment of the modal system has a cumulative effect on the text. The source text is a novel on the subject of reform, which involves a great deal of depiction of political and economic policies. As a result, Goldblatt's translation makes more use of modal verbs which draws the reader closer to the text more often and increases the polyphony or heterophony of the translation in an attempt to adapt to the reading habits and aesthetic requirements of the target readers. (as shown in Figure 3)

ST: 老喽！落后喽！除了迫击炮，还能知道什么呢，肯定这是陈咏明的主意。前不久他才从日本考察回来，准是从那儿趸来的洋货。（张洁，1981：136）

**Figure 3: Example (2)**

TT: No doubt Chen Yongming had picked up these notions during his recent visit to Japan.

TT: It's all Chen Yongming's doing, no doubt about that. Probably a notion he brought back from his recent trip to Japan.

Gladys's translation refers to Chen Yongming's attitude towards the "visit to Japan" without using any modal system, and objectively states the confrontation between the conservatives and the reformists, which deliberately distances the social distance between the two parties, thus indicating the translator's neutrality towards the reform. In contrast, Goldblatt's translation uses "probably", showing a negotiating tone in attributing responsibility for the "visit to Japan", which increases the heteroglossicity of the translation.

Overall, the co-occurring differences between the translations affect the ideological construction of the translations. From the point of view of the transitive system, Gladys's translation does not conceptualise, universalise and normalise the conflict of events in the source language, and holds a participant's stance and attitude towards the conflicts in the source language, while Goldblatt's translation uses more nominalisation to downplay the behaviour in the translated text. In terms of the interpersonal system, in order to indicate the translator's neutral attitude towards reform, Gladys's translation deliberately distances the social distance between the communicating parties. Goldblatt's translation uses more modal verbs, drawing the reader closer to the text more often which provides more evaluation space for the reader to adapt to the reading habits and aesthetic requirements of the target readers. From the perspective of discourse system, Goldblatt's translation tends to make readers directly perceive the resistance of economic reform, and indirectly explains the relationship between people and situations and the contradiction of reform through environmental factors.

### **5.3 The Interactions between Cultural Label and Social Culture**

The important motivations for the two translations' different emphasis on the course of events, participants and situations in the source text are mainly reflected at the levels of thinking style, language and culture, society and translators. Linguistically, Chinese focuses

on parataxis and prefers the use of parallel structures, thus readers need to read to appreciate the logic and meaning implied in the sentences. But English mostly uses logical connectives and emphasizes hypotaxis. Goldblatt's translation mostly emphasises environmental components to achieve explicit coherence, while Gladys's translation prefers process components. In terms of thinking, traditional Chinese thinking is characterised by subjective intentionality.<sup>[49]</sup> Although Gladys is British, she is relatively familiar with Chinese culture because she and her husband have lived in China for many years. Therefore, her translation concepts are also influenced by our country's political, economic and other social factor. Thus her translations are more faithful to the original works, showing the characteristics of subjective intentionality. Goldblatt's translation pays more attention to the environment in which the events took place, showing the characteristics of objective intentionality.

Translation, as a rewriting activity, projects the image of the original author and his or her work into the target-language culture. The rewriter creates an image of the author, the work, the period, the genre, and even the literature as a whole. The publication of the translated version benefits from the efforts of the sponsors as well as the translators themselves. In spite of the difficulties and challenges, they still found a balance between academic and political construction, and tried their best to make the translation faithfully present historical events and characters and restore the original appearance of China's political and economic reform. As China embarked on the path of reform and opening up, the political atmosphere in China has become more relaxed, and the policy on literature and art has been gradually eased since 1978. Chinese and Western cultural exchanges have become increasingly active. *Heavy Wings* was born in the fervour of reform and opening up, and the translation activities of its two English editions were carried out in China's relatively loose and free political environment.<sup>[50]</sup> The Gladys's translation was printed and distributed by Virago Press in the UK. As the first publisher in the world dedicated to female readers, it had a very good market response. This distribution channel allowed the translation to make a clear feminist

mark from the very beginning of its journey towards circulation, drawing readers' expectations towards a concern for female topics in the text, which made the edition more readable for the average Western reader. But it also inherently altered its original quality and reduced the emotional intensity of the source text.<sup>[51]</sup> According to Gladys, the arguments about political and economic policies have gone on for too long, and an in-depth understanding of the Chinese economy around 1980 is required if these arguments are to be understood. Consequently, the extensive depiction of political and economic policies in the source text is rewritten by the translator with varying degrees of deletion, focusing on describing the feminist overtones of the text. Goldblatt's translation, on the other hand, is a response to the American readers' expectation to see a real China through literature and to understand the situation of China's industrial and other constructions during the reform and opening-up period, and thus *Heavy Wings* fulfills this expectation of American readers.

When the facts of the source text conflict with the dominant ideology of the target language, translators tend to use free translation rather than word by word in order to make their work more acceptable. The image differences caused by the translation process are closely related to the historical, social and cultural contexts in which it is produced, and are the result of the mutual view and scrutiny of the self and others in a particular social context. The publication of the two translations spanned two important points in time, and the differences in the image construction of the translations somehow reflected the social ideology or socio-historical and cultural context of the time. In the 1980s, under the leadership of Margaret Thatcher, the United Kingdom was undergoing reforms in its economic policies. At the same time, the United States was undergoing macroeconomic policy adjustments. Both countries were in a critical period of rapid economic development, and the economic situation of both countries coincided perfectly with that of China. With the increasingly active cultural exchanges between China and the West, western countries naturally paid more attention to China's economic construction and reform and opening-up policy. The changes in political ideology during this period had a significant impact on the translation and publication of the

source texts. Gladys had been living in China since she married Yang Xianyi, and she was both British and familiar with Chinese culture. Therefore, her concept of translation is also influenced by our country's politics, economy and other social factors, resulting in a translation that is more faithful to the original, in order to spread the great Chinese culture. As a result, the translation pays more attention to the responsibilities and obligations of the actor. In contrast, Goldblatt's translation in 1954 was in a very different social ideology. Since China's reform and opening up in 1978 and the official establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States in 1979, the other countries including the United States has always been curious about China which is a large country that has moved from closure to openness. American readers expect to see a real China through literature, and to understand the situation of China's industrial and other constructions during the reform and opening-up. Thus *Heavy Wings* fulfills this expectation of American readers. As a result, the political character of the translation has become more and more obvious, with the translator vividly depicting the reform process and conflicts as a bystander, and highlighting the contradictions and conflicts of the reform factions with the interpersonal function of language.

## 6. Conclusion

Based on the self-constructed Chinese-English parallel corpus of *Heavy Wings* as well as the original English reference library, this study adopted a multidimensional analysis method to mine the ideological markers in four dimensions namely nominalisation, transitivity, modality and cohesion. And then it analysed the reasons for the differences at the levels of the text, language and culture, the translator and the society. It was found that (1) Gladys's translation is more concrete in its expression of information, while Goldblatt's translation is more abstract in its description of various economic reforms; (2) Gladys's translation pays more attention to the process of events than Goldblatt's translation, while Goldblatt's translation is more detached from the power relations of events in the source text; (3) Goldblatt's translation indirectly explains the relationship between human beings and the situation through the contextual factors, while



Gladys's translation tends to focus on the processual factors so that readers can directly perceive the revolutionary events. This paper argued that the two translations' different focus on the process, participants and situation of the events in the source text, which reflects the interaction between the ideological markers and the events themselves in the translations, mapping out different cultural characteristics, and to a certain extent, is the result of the interaction between the translators, culture and society.

Due to the complexity of the relationship between ideology and translation, an examination of the translation of the four ideological markers in the text alone cannot comprehensively cover its content, and therefore there is an urgent need to explore a comprehensive theoretical framework for translation. (1) Such a theoretical framework must fully integrate existing theoretical resources and have a fairly wide range of accommodation. (2) It must be able to put forward a series of theoretical assumptions and express them in the form of very clear concepts or categories. (3) It can develop a certain number of descriptive features and categories exclusive to this study. (4) It can raise the level of analysis beyond the lexical into the semantic and discursive level. (5) It can design a more complex search method, or develop special search software to enhance the level of analysis. In view of this, the analytical framework proposed in this paper integrated the discourse analysis in Halliday's System Functional Grammar as well as other translation theoretical resources, which raised the level of analysing discourse items and increased the examination of semantic understanding. At the discourse level, this study considered the introduction of such analytical items as discourse articulation and cohesion or narrative structure. Since the 21st century, corpus translation studies have gradually shifted to cultural studies. Strengthening the exploration of the relationship between translation and ideology can promote the synergy and efficiency of cultural and linguistic studies in translation studies, which is expected to truly realise the interdisciplinary connotation of translation studies.

## References

- [1] Zhang Jie. 1981. *Heavy Wings*. Beijing: People's Literature Publishing House.
- [2] Zhang Jie. trans. Gladys Yang. *Leaden Wings*. London: Virago Press, 1987.
- [3] Zhang Jie. trans. Howard Goldblatt. *Heavy Wings*. New York: Grove Weidenfeld, 1989.
- [4] Li Qiaoqiao. 2013. A study on the English translation of *Heavy Wings* from the perspective of grammatical metaphor (Master's Thesis, Xiangtan University).
- [5] Yan Xiaohong. 2019. A study on the English translation of Gladys's *Heavy Wings* from the perspective of ecological translology. *Masterpiece Appreciation*, 9:104-105+158.
- [6] Wang Qianqian. 2023. Chinese Subject Consciousness and English object Consciousness: A Case study of the English version of Goldblatt. *Modern English*, (01): 79-82.
- [7] Fu Wenhui. 2011. An interpretation of the English translation of Daniele under multiple cultural identities. *Chinese Translation*, 6: 16-20.
- [8] Xin Hongjuan, Tang Hongmin. 2019. Interpreting Gladys's translation view from the sub-text: A case study of the English version of *Heavy Wings*. *Foreign Languages and Cultures*, 2: 126-135.
- [9] Zhang Shengxiang, Wang Jiali. 2015. A study on the subjectivity of female translators: An analysis of Gladys's English translation of *Heavy Wings*. *Contemporary Foreign Language Studies*, (8): 63-69+78.
- [10] Zhang Xiaoyun. 2013. A study on feminist intervention strategies in Gladys's English translation. (Master's thesis, Minzu University of China).
- [11] Guo Dai. 2021. A Review of Gladys' Translation Strategy in *Heavy Wings* Based on the Reformulation Theory. Beijing Foreign Studies University.
- [12] Gu Yi, Gao Fei. 2014. A study of the translator's subjectivity in Goldblatt's English translation of *Heavy Wings* from the perspective of rewriting theory. *Journal of Shanxi Agricultural University (Social Science Edition)*, 10: 1060-1063+1073.
- [13] Wang Fangfang. 2017. Reconstruction of character image from the perspective of Narrative stylistics (Master Dissertation,

- Hefei University of Technology).
- [14]Hao Xinyu. 2023. A Comparative Analysis of Translator's Behavior in the Translation of Political Factors in *Heavy Wings*. Journal of Handan Vocational and Technical College, 36 (02): 7-11.
- [15]Kim, K. H. 2017. Newsworld discourses on China and their Korean translations: A corpus-based approach. Discourse, Context and Media, 15, 34-44.
- [16]Biber, D., S. Johansson, G. Leech, S. Conrad & E. Fingegan. 2000. Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English. Beijing: Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press.
- [17]Compagnone, A. 2015. The reconceptualization of academic discourse as a professional practice in the digital age: A critical genre analysis of TED talks. Hermes-Journal of Language and Communication in Business, (1): 49-69.
- [18]Zhao Chaoyong. 2020. A corpus-based multi-dimensional analysis of register variation in the fuzzily translated version of *Jin Ping Mei*. Foreign Language Teaching and research, (2): 283-295.
- [19]Hardy, J. & E. Friginal. 2016. Genre variation in student writing: A multidimensional analysis. Journal of English for Academic Purposes, (2): 119-131.
- [20]Jiang Hui.2020. Meta-pragmatic analysis of audience meta-discourse in TED talks. Foreign Languages and Foreign Language Teaching, (4): 25-35.
- [21]Padula, M., Panza, C. & V. Munoz. 2022. The pronoun "this" as a cohesive encapsulator in engineering semi-popularization articles written in English. Journal of English for Academic Purposes, (2): 1-10.
- [22]Friginal, E. & S. Weigle. 2014. Exploring multiple profiles of L2 writing using multi-dimensional analysis. Journal of Second Language Writing, (26): 80-95.
- [23]Jiang JinLin, Xu JiaJia. 2015. A corpus-based multidimensional analysis of business English register features. Foreign Language Teaching and Research, (2): 225-236+320.
- [24]Munday, J. 2012. Evaluation in Translation: Critical points of Translator Decision-making. Routledge.
- [25]Munday, J. 2015. Engagement and Graduation resources as markers of translator/interpreter positioning. Target, 27(3): 406-412.
- [26]Chen Lang. 2014. A study of ideological translation since the new century. Foreign Language, 6: 65-73.
- [27]Lefevere, André. 1992. Translation, Rewriting, and the Manipulation of Literary Fame. London & New York: Routledge.
- [28]Munday, J. 2007. Translation and ideology: A textual approach. The Translator, (2):195-217.
- [29]Sun Zhixiang.2009. Critical analysis of text ideology and its translation studies. Beijing: China Social Sciences Press.
- [30]Tymoczko, M. 1999. Translation in a Postcolonial Context: Early Irish Literature in English Translation. London & New York: Routledge.
- [31]Gumul, E. 2011. Translational shifts of syntactic and lexical markers of ideology: Reporting the Iraqi conflict in Polish reprint press. Meta, 56 (4): 762-763.
- [32]Halliday, M. & Matthiessen. 2014. An Introduction to Functional Grammar. Taylor and Francis.
- [33]Puurtinen, T. 2003. Explicitating and implicitating source text ideology. Across Languages and Cultures, (1):53-62.
- [34]Thompson, J. B. 1990. Ideology and Modern Culture: Critical and Social Theory in the Era of Mass Communication. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- [35]Fowler, R. 1991. Language in the News: Discourse and Ideology in the Press. London / New York: Routledge.
- [36]Puurtinen, T. 1998. Syntax, readability and ideology in children's literature. Meta, (4) :524-533.
- [37]Laviosa, Sara. 2000. TEC: A resource for studying what is "in" and "of" translational English. Across Language and Cultures, (2):159-178.
- [38]Hunston, S. 2011. Corpus Approaches to Evaluation: Phraseology and Evaluative Language. Routledge.
- [39]Olohan, M. 2004. Introducing Corpora in Translation Studies. London & New York: Routledge.
- [40]Hu Kaibao, Li Xiaoqian. 2015. Corpus critical translology: Connotation and significance. Chinese foreign language, (1): 90-100.

- [41]Qin Jing.2014. A corpus-based study on the characterization and translation of A Dream of Red Mansions -- taking the theme-rheme structure of the third cycle as a case. *Journal of Jiangsu University of Science and Technology (Social Science Edition)*, (1): 67-73.
- [42]Zhu Xiaomin, Zeng Guoxiu. 2013. Metaphorical models of modern Chinese political texts and their translation strategies: a study based on parallel corpora of Chinese-English political texts. *Journal of Foreign Languages Institute of PLA*, (5): 82-86.
- [43]Zhu Xiaomin. 2011. A study on the English translation of the Government Work Report from the perspective of critical discourse analysis: a corpus-based study of the plurals of first-person pronouns. *Foreign Language Research*, (2):73-78.
- [44]Biber, D. 1989. A typology of English texts. *Linguistics*, (1): 3-43.
- [45]Fowler, R. 1979. *Language and Control*. London: Routledge.
- [46]Othman, W. 2020. An SFL-based model for investigating explicitation-related phenomena in translation. *Meta*, 65(1): 193-210.
- [47]Hu Kaibao, Zhu Yifan. 2008. A corp-based Study on the Manifestation and its Motivations in the Chinese Translation of Shakespeare's Hamlet . *Foreign Language Studies*, 13 (2): 210-310. (02): 72-80+112.
- [48]Xu Zuohao, Jiang Yue. 2018. Ideological labels in translation: A corpus-based comparison between two English versions of A Dream of Red Mansions. *Foreign Languages and Literature*, (6): 636-649.
- [49]Lian Shuneng.2006. Chinese and Western modes of thinking: Understanding and rationality--a discussion on the common expressions in Chinese and English languages. *Foreign Languages and Foreign Language Teaching*, (7): 35-38.
- [50]Yin Meiqin. 2017. A comparative study of the two English versions of Heavy Wings (Master's Thesis, Shanghai International Studies University).
- [51]Zhang Shengxiang, Wang Jiali.2015. A study on the subjectivity of female translators: An analysis of Gladys's English translation of *Heavy Wings*. *Contemporary Foreign Language Studies*, (8): 63-69+78.