

Knowledge Mapping of News Translation Studies: A Bibliometric Analysis

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Abstract

To gain an in-depth understanding of news translation studies and provide insights for future research directions, this study conducts a bibliometric analysis using VOSviewer and CiteSpace. Based on 255 journal articles from the Web of Science database, covering all records up to December 31, 2023, influential authors, countries, and journals are identified. CiteSpace is used for evolutionary analysis to track the developmental trajectories of keywords, while VOSviewer performs co-occurrence analysis to reveal associations among keywords and research topic concentrations. Additionally, cited references, authors, and journals are explored to deepen the understanding of the theoretical foundations of news translation studies. The results indicate significant growth in news translation research over the past two decades, particularly after 2010, with Robert A. Valdeón emerging as a highly influential scholar. An enhanced interdisciplinary trend is revealed, and the proportion of core authors is lower than Price's expected 50%, indicating the field is still in its early developmental stage. Furthermore, the application of artificial intelligence and machine translation in current literature remains sparse. The combined results from VOSviewer and CiteSpace enhance comprehension of news translation studies and pave the way for future advancements in both theoretical and practical realms.

Keywords: News translation, knowledge map, bibliometrics, VOSviewer, CiteSpace

1. Introduction

In an era marked by rapid globalization, the role of news translation in bridging diverse languages and cultures as well as facilitating global communication has become increasingly pivotal. News translation, a critical sub-field of Translation Studies, intersects with disciplines such as journalism, media studies, linguistics, intercultural communication and cultural studies. This interdisciplinary nature of news translation research enriches perspectives and methodological approaches in Translation Studies (Davier, Schäffner, & Van Doorslaer, 2018; Valdeón, 2022). Moreover, the globalization trend observed in news translation research over the past few years, spanning diverse regions globally, provides extensive opportunities for comparative analysis (Valdeón, 2020). Both trends facilitate nuanced examinations of how news translation practices vary across cultures and languages, thereby offering profound insights into the complexities and impacts of translated news content on global information dissemination (Valdeón, 2023). News translation involves not only linguistic transfer but also cultural negotiation, ideological framing, and the construction of global narratives, highlighting its rich significance for academic inquiry (e.g. Bielsa & Bassnett, 2009; Schäffner, 2012b; Wu, 2017; Kamyans, 2020, 2022; Valdeón, 2005, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2023; Valdeón & Li, 2024). Over the past decades, the domain of news translation has advanced significantly through numerous studies that have undertaken top-down qualitative analyses and systematic reviews, with notable contributions from Schäffner (2012a), Valdeón (2015, 2020, 2022), among others. However, there still lacks a sufficient number of studies that delve into the quantitative and statistical dimensions of research within this domain, a gap identified by Ping (2021).

This study offers an extended examination of the present state and evolutionary trends within the realm of news translation research. A detailed review of 255 articles sourced from the Web of Science database (WoS), covering records up to the end of 2023 was conducted. Using bibliometric indicators from WoS, the publication landscape was charted, the most impactful journals were identified, seminal publications and authors were highlighted, and the leading countries in the domain were mapped. Additionally, through data analysis with VOSviewer, the network of co-citations among cited references, authors, and journals was visualized. Utilizing CiteSpace, the development of news translation studies was investigated and future trends in this field were predicted based on

the analysis.

By tracing a thorough intellectual trajectory, this bibliometric analysis not only highlights the scholarly contributions that have significantly impacted the field but also uncovers the interdisciplinary dialogues that enrich it. The findings of this study are expected to offer valuable insights for scholars, guiding further research and fostering a deeper understanding of the complexities involved in translating news for a global audience.

The subsequent section revisits previous systematic reviews on news translation studies. Following that, the bibliometric methods and data underpinning the analysis are detailed. Next, the findings from the bibliometric examination are disclosed. Finally, the implications, contributions, and constraints of the investigation are discussed.

2. Systematic Review on News Translation Studies

The systematic review of news translation studies encompasses diverse scholarly efforts, from foundational terminological discussions like Christina Schäffner's (2012a) examination of "trans-editing", through Valdeón's (2015, 2020, 2022) traditional overview of publications on news translation studies, to advanced bibliometric analyses by Zheng (2020) and Ping (2021) that chart the intellectual development and thematic trends within the domain.

Schäffner (2012a) not only delved into the nuanced evolution of terms within news translation, focusing particularly on "trans-editing" as proposed by Stetting (1989), but also carried out an extensive review of the existing literature within the field of news translation studies. She presented a critical analysis of Stetting's original arguments and supplemented this with a wide-ranging exploration of research in the field, highlighting the primary methodologies, findings, and conceptual frameworks that have been employed. Valdeón (2015) provided an extensive review of the emergence and growth of news translation studies over the past fifteen years and beyond. It emphasized the recognition of news translation as a distinct sub-field within Translation Studies, acknowledging its historical impact on journalism from the seventeenth century in Europe to its influence within news agencies and independence movements across the Americas. Valdeón (2020) later reviewed the state of news translation studies, focusing on the period from 2015 onwards. He outlined the significant contributions made to the field, including monographs, edited collections, and articles, demonstrating a growing interdisciplinary interest. A more recent review conducted by Valdeón (2022) surveyed key publications, delved into debates around terms like "translation" and "trans-editing" and discussed concepts such as "gatekeeping" and "cultural translation" that have been productive in both translation and journalism disciplines. He highlighted the evolution of news translation research, noting the increased interest and complexity in the field, particularly regarding its interdisciplinary nature.

Bibliometric analyses, as employed by scholars like Zheng (2020) and Ping (2021), represented a methodological advancement, offering a macroscopic and diachronic insight into the evolving, influential authors, trends, and seminal works through statistical analysis of publications of news translation studies. However, the urgency for a more encompassing bibliographic analysis within this field becomes apparent when considering the constraints of existing research. For instance, Zheng (2020) utilized CiteSpace to perform a comparative bibliometric analysis of English and Chinese journal articles on news translation, drawing from WoS Core Collection (SSCI, A&HCI and SCI), as well as China National Knowledge Infrastructure's (CNKI) core journal database, this approach was limited to articles published between 2000 and 2018. However, the period from 2019 to 2023, in particular, has witnessed significant developments in digital media, social networking platforms, and the role of artificial intelligence in news production and translation as highlighted by Popel et al. (2020), necessitating a fresh examination of how these innovations are reflected in academic research. On the other hand, Ping (2021) conducted a bibliometric analysis using Sketch Engine, focusing on the TBS database, which includes significant publications in translation and interpreting studies up to 2019. However, this database primarily concentrates on translation studies and overlooks the interdisciplinary nature of news translation, which spans journalism, cultural studies, communication studies, history, natural language processing, politics, sociology, and ethnographic research, as noted by Zheng (2020) and Valdeón (2022). Therefore, the current study undertakes an extended bibliographic analysis of on the topic of news translation, leveraging the extensive WOS database without any prior time constraints up to the end of 2023.

3. Data and Methodology

3.1 Methodology

Bibliometric analysis employs a quantitative approach, utilizing publications, citations, and textual data to characterize and assess the development and dynamics within a specific discipline or research area (Van Raan, 2019). Noyons, Moed and Luwel (1999) noted bibliometric analysis primarily involves two key processes:

performance analysis and the creation of knowledge maps. Performance analysis involves evaluating the quality and quantity of scientific output pertaining to various entities such as authors, journals, countries, and institutions/universities within the dataset relevant to the researched field (Öztürk, Kocaman, & Kanbach, 2024). Furthermore, the average number of citations per paper serves as an essential index within performance analysis, indicative of the impact associated with papers, authors, journals, and countries. Consequently, this study incorporates this quantitative metric into its performance analysis (Ding & Yang, 2020; Chen, Wang, & Tang, 2022). Knowledge maps facilitate the examination of the structure and evolution of a targeted research domain (Klavans & Boyack, 2006; Cobo, López-Herrera, Herrera-Viedma, & Herrera, 2011). This study employs methods such as keyword co-occurrence, co-citation, and evolutionary analyses. Keyword co-occurrence analysis identifies instances where two keywords are mentioned together within a paper, with frequency indicating the strength of their association. By analyzing keyword co-occurrences, the central themes or “hotspots” within a field of study can be pinpointed (Chen et al., 2022). Co-citation analysis of cited authors is designed to discern prominent scholars based on their citation records (White & McCain, 1998). Co-citation analysis of cited journals helps to identify related scientific journals in a specific field (McCain, 1991). Co-citation analysis of references reflects the significance accorded to a cited work by the academic community (Danvila-del-Valle, Estévez-Mendoza, & Lara, 2019). Evolutionary analysis offers insights into the developmental trajectory and emerging trends within a research field (Ding & Yang, 2020; Baminiwatta & Solangarachchi, 2021). VOSviewer and CiteSpace are frequently employed as tools in bibliometric analyses for their efficacy in data visualization and analysis (Pan, Yan, Cui, & Hua, 2018). Consequently, VOSviewer (Version:1.6.20, developed by Van Eck and Waltman) and CiteSpace (Version:5.7.R2, developed by Chen C) were used to construct a knowledge map specifically for news translation studies. Specifically, VOSviewer was utilized for conducting keyword co-occurrence and co-citation analyses, facilitating the visualization of the study’s intellectual framework. Additionally, an evolutionary analysis was conducted using CiteSpace to explore the development and progression within this research area.

3.2 Data Source

The current study selected the WoS Core Collection (SSCI, A&HCI and SCI) as its data source. Acknowledged as a premier digital literature database, WoS has gained wide acceptance among researchers and is considered one of the most suitable database for bibliometric analysis (Ding & Yang, 2020). Additionally, WoS encompasses a broad spectrum of publications across various fields, further establishing its utility and relevance for comprehensive research (Merigo, 2017). Furthermore, WoS offers a comprehensive dataset, including titles, authors, institutions, countries, abstracts, keywords, references, citation counts, impact factors, and other relevant information, making it a reliable resource for bibliometric studies (Carvalho, Fleury, & Lopes, 2013; Gaviria-Marin, Merigó, & Baier-Fuentes, 2019).

Given that research on news translation encompasses numerous key concepts such as journalism, translation, and media, there exists considerable variation in the terminology used in English, with no clear distinctions made among terms like “news translation”, “journalistic translation”, “media translation” and “press translation” in the literature of many scholars. To ensure the comprehensiveness of the data sample, the search formula was set as $TS = ((\text{“news translat*”} \text{ OR } \text{“journalistic transla*”} \text{ OR } \text{“media transla*”} \text{ OR } \text{“press transla*”}) \text{ OR } (\text{“news” AND } \text{“translat*”}) \text{ OR } (\text{“media discourse” AND } \text{“translat*”}) \text{ OR } (\text{“journalis*” AND } \text{“translat*”}) \text{ OR } (\text{“transedit*” OR } \text{“trans-edit*”}))$ with the time frame set to “all years” initially. Subsequently, publications from the year 2024 were excluded, ensuring that the dataset covers the period from no previous limit up to the end of 2023. Given the interdisciplinary nature of news translation, the study did not filter by research fields. Instead, the database was refined solely based on “document types = articles” and “languages = English”, ultimately creating a database that encompasses 1,063 publications. However, it is important to acknowledge that the data collected through this search process may potentially contain issues such as duplication or inconsistency with the research topic. The data review and screening process was conducted manually on the WoS website by two researchers. Initially, papers were examined independently by reviewing titles and abstracts, excluding those not relevant to the research topic, and removing duplicates. Findings were then compared, and controversial papers were identified for further discussion. These papers were downloaded and reviewed in full to assess their relevance. After screening, 255 articles were retained. Finally, CiteSpace was used to verify the repeatability of the data, confirming that no articles were overlooked during manual checks. Consequently, a total of 255 valid documents were obtained.

4. Result and Discussion

This section presents the results of analysis in the field of news translation studies, covering descriptive statistics of authors, journals, and countries, along with keyword co-occurrence and evolution analysis. Additionally, co-citation analysis of cited references, authors, and journals is conducted to highlight influential works and

contributors.

4.1 Descriptive Statistics

The study analyzed 255 papers authored by 292 individuals from 50 countries, published across 80 journals. These papers cited a total of 8,015 references sourced from 5,366 publications (see Table 1).

Table 1. Summary of descriptive statistics

Criteria	Quantity
Publications	255
Authors	292
Journals	80
Countries	50
Cited references	8015
Cited publications	5366

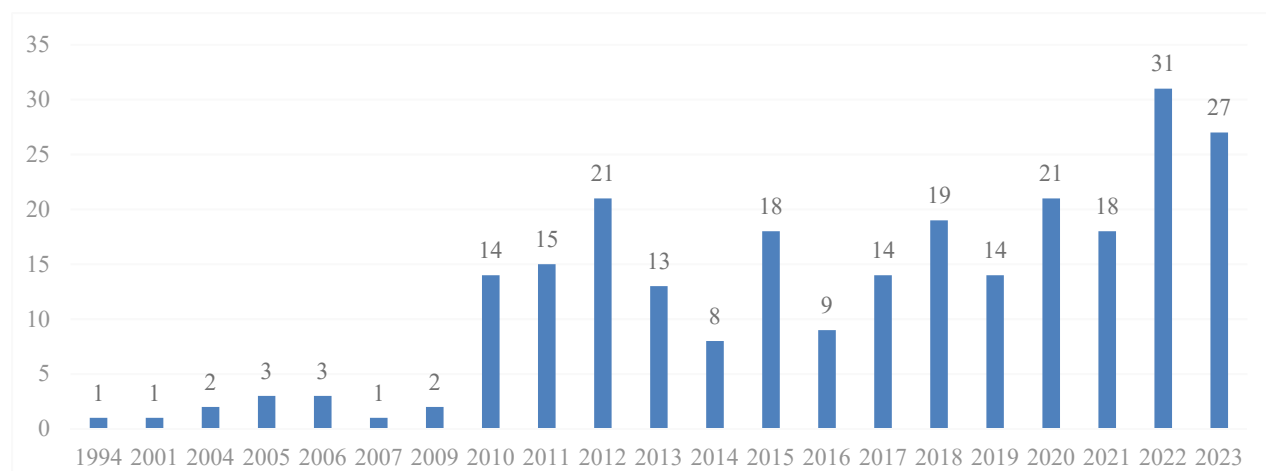


Figure 1. Time trend of publications on news translation studies

Figure 1 illustrates the temporal distribution of publications in the field of news translation studies. The earliest identifiable article in the field from this database was published in 1994. Between 1994 and 2009, the number of publication was relatively low, with no more than three articles published each year, suggesting that the research field was either in its nascent stages or receiving limited scholarly attention. A significant increase in publication numbers began in 2010, with 14 papers published that year, followed by a continued growth in subsequent years, notably in 2011 (15 papers), 2012 (21 papers), and 2015 (18 papers). This surge in publication activity roughly coincided with the influence of the seminal work *Translation in Global News* by Bielsa and Bassnett, published in 2009. Stemming from their three-year project, this foundational book has significantly contributed to the growing interest and research intensification in news translation studies. Between 2016 and 2018, the number of publications experienced some fluctuations but remained at a relatively high level. There were 9 publications in 2016, which rose to 14 in 2017, and further increased to 19 in 2018. From 2019 to 2023, the number of publications sustained at a high level, especially in 2020 and 2022, reaching peaks of 21 and 31 papers, respectively, with a slight decrease to 27 papers in 2023. This indicates that research activity in news translation studies has remained vigorous in recent years, with an upward trend. Overall, this time series demonstrates a transition from slow to rapid growth in the number of publications in the field from 1994 to 2023, particularly after 2010, showing a significant increase in research interest and activity.

4.2 Quantitative Analysis of the Author

By analyzing the number of papers published by each author, the prominent scholars and the key research areas within news translation studies can be discerned. Price (1963), a prominent figure in the field of bibliometrics, proposed that within a research topic, approximately half of the papers are authored by a subset of prolific authors, whose number equals the square root of the total number of authors involved. Specifically:

$$\sum_{m+1}^I n(x) = \sqrt{N} \tag{1}$$

where $n(x)$ denotes the number of authors who have authored x papers. $I = n_{max}$ represents the total number of papers authored by the most prolific author in this field (from the statistics by VOSviewer, $n_{max} = 17$ here). N represents the total number of authors, and m signifies the minimum number of papers published by the core author. According to Price’s law, the minimum number of papers by core authors in this field is:

$$m = 0.749 * \sqrt{n_{max}} \tag{2}$$

Through calculation, it was determined that $m \approx 3.09$. Consequently, authors with three or more articles (including three) were classified as core authors in this field, following Price’s (1963) method. Thus, a total of 23 core authors were identified. Due to space constraints, Table 2 only displays pertinent details of the first 12 core authors in this field, comprising their names, document count, and average citations per paper.

Table 2. Most important authors in the news translation studies

Rank	Author	Documents	Citations	Average Citation Per Paper
1	Valdeón, Robert A	17	294	17.29
2	Van doorslaer, Luc	6	184	30.67
3	Davier, Lucile	6	67	11.17
4	Conway, Kyle	6	61	10.17
5	Koroly, Krisztina	6	44	7.33
6	Schäffner, Christina	4	129	32.25
7	Harding, Sue-ann	4	71	17.75
8	Van Rooyen, Marlie	4	31	7.75
9	Hernandez Gurrero, Maria Jose	4	26	6.5
10	Palmer, Lindsay	4	31	7.75
11	Sidiropoulou, Maria	4	20	5.00
12	Li Dechao	4	10	2.5

Table 2 reveals Robert A. Valdeón as a pivotal figure in news translation studies, with his 17 publications garnering 294 citations, highlighting his significant impact in the field. He explores how translation shapes news dissemination and production across diverse cultures, enhancing the understanding of its crucial role in journalism. Valdeón advocates for collaborative efforts between translation and journalism to refine research methodologies within news organizations, thereby enriching the dialogue on the complexities of translation in media contexts (e.g. 2005, 2008, 2015, 2020, 2022, 2023). When it comes to the average citation per paper, Christina Schäffner and Luc Van Doorslaer rank first and second, respectively, also indicating their influential status in this research field. Schäffner’s scholarship on political discourse and translation, including the translation of political texts, intersects with the translation of news (e.g. 2012a, 2012b, 2017). Van Doorslaer’s extensive research significantly enhances the understanding of how news translation shapes national and cultural images through the selection and omission of information in news production (e.g., 2010a, 2010b, 2016, 2021). These works delved into the intricate relationship between journalism and translation, examining how translation influences the dissemination of news across various languages and cultures.

However, upon analysis, it is worth noting that 23 core authors have collectively contributed to 102 documents. Despite this significant output, it only represents 40% of the total publications within the domain of news translation studies. This discrepancy from Price’s expected 50% indicates that the field lacks a cohesive network of author collaborations, suggesting its status as a relatively young subfield in Translation studies but under rapid development in the past two decades (Ping, 2021).

4.3 Quantitative Analysis of Countries

To identify the countries contributing most to news translation research, this study analyses publication output from 50 countries. Table 3 presents the top six contributors in this field. As can be seen in Table 3, China leads the field with 57 papers and 573 citations. Spain and South Africa ranked second and third, with 28 (457 citations) and 21 papers (296 citations), respectively. China’s strong research output and high citation count indicate a significant impact in this field. However, when looking at the average citations per paper, China is at 10.05, which is on the lower end compared to some other countries in this list. This suggests that while China’s research is prolific, each paper may not be as influential on average as some of the others. Overall, if the average citations per paper is considered as an indicator of the impact or quality of the research, then England and Belgium stand out

as the countries whose research has the highest impact. In contrast, China and the USA have a larger quantity of research output, but with a lower average impact per document. South Africa and Spain find a balance between output and impact, with fewer documents but a high number of average citations.

Table 3. Top 6 countries in the news translation studies

Rank	Country	Documents	Citations	Average Citation Per Paper
1	China	57	573	10.05
2	Spain	38	457	12.03
3	South Africa	21	296	14.10
4	England	22	459	20.86
5	Belgium	20	405	20.25
6	USA	25	260	10.40

4.4 Quantitative Analysis of Journals

Journals are pivotal for disseminating high-quality research papers. Dzikowski (2018) highlighted that the more published the articles, the more frequently their papers are cited, and the greater their impact in a particular field. Hence, the current study analyzed ten journals on news translation studies, with the highest number of published papers. Additionally, the average citations per paper were computed (Table 4).

Table 4. Top 10 Journals in the News Translation Studies

Rank	Source	Documents	Citations	Average Citation Per Paper
1	<i>Perspectives</i>	41	471	11.49
2	<i>Meta</i>	24	304	12.67
3	<i>Across Languages and Cultures</i>	16	181	11.31
4	<i>Journalism</i>	23	152	6.61
5	<i>Target</i>	20	405	20.25
6	<i>Translator</i>	25	260	10.4
7	<i>Language and Intercultural communication</i>	10	41	4.1
8	<i>Babel</i>	13	43	3.31
9	<i>Journalism Studies</i>	5	44	8.8
10	<i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i>	5	15	3.0

The realm of news translation studies, pivotal for understanding the interplay between language, culture, and media, is richly served by a selection of leading journals. Among them, *Perspectives*, with 41 documents and 471 citations, and *Meta*, with 24 documents and 304 citations, stand out for their significant contribution to the news discourse on translation methodologies and intercultural communication. These journals not only lead in volume but also in influencing the academic conversation, as indicated by their robust citation metrics, signaling the importance and relevance of their published work in shaping the field. Furthermore, *Target* distinguishes itself with an impressive average citation rate of 20.25, highlighting its pivotal role in disseminating research that garners substantial attention within this research field. This underscores the journal's excellence in publishing cutting-edge research that resonates with scholars and practitioners alike. Additionally, the rise of journals like *Journalism* and *Journalism Studies* reflects the growing intersection between news translation and journalism, indicating an expanding scope of research interests that include the impact of translation on news dissemination and public perception. The proliferation of research in these areas, supported by the aforementioned journals, exemplifies the dynamic evolution of news translation studies. It underscores a global consensus on the significance of exploring and understanding translation's role in a multilingual and multicultural world. This collective scholarly deepens our understanding of how news and information traverse linguistic and cultural barriers, shaping the global discourse.

4.5 Co-Occurrence Analysis on Keywords

The keywords of a paper signify its focal points, with high-frequency keywords indicating prominent areas within a given field. Price's Law can be utilized not only to analyze core authors within a specific field but also to identify high-frequency keywords (Wei et al., 2019). High-frequency keywords can be identified by the following formula:

$$M = 0.749 * \sqrt{N_{max}} \quad (3)$$

Where N_{max} is the keyword with the highest frequency. From the data from VOSviewer, $N_{max} = 81$, then $M \approx 6.74$. Therefore, keywords with an occurrence frequency more than 7 are high-frequency keywords in news translation studies. A co-occurrence analysis on keywords using Vosviewer is manifested through Figure 2 and keywords with a frequency of over 7 times are also listed in Table 5.

In Figure 2, the size of each node corresponds to the frequency of occurrence of keywords. Larger nodes indicate higher frequency of a particular keyword. Node colors represent distinct clusters or research topics. Additionally, the connecting lines between nodes depict varying degrees of correlation, with thicker lines indicating more frequent co-occurrence of the two keywords in the literature.

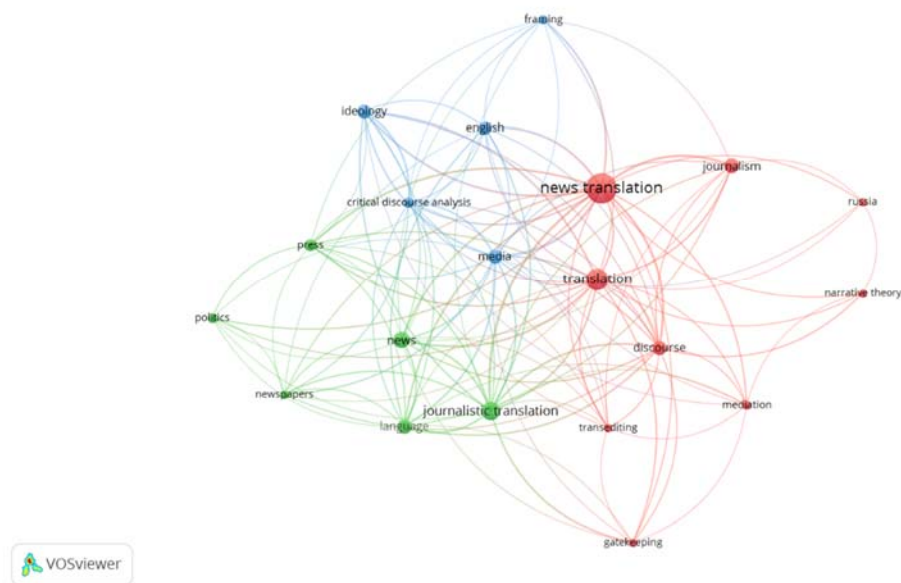


Figure 2. Co-occurrence of keywords

Table 5. High-frequency keywords in news translation studies

Keywords	Frequency	Keywords	Frequency
News translation	81	Press	13
Translation	43	Critical discourse analysis	11
Journalistic translation	30	Politics	9
News	25	Framing	8
Journalism	21	Mediation	8
media	19	Newspapers	7
Discourse	19	Gatekeeping	7
Language	19	Narrative theory	7
Ideology	19	Trans-editing	7
English	15	Russia	7

Figure 2 illustrates that “news translation” emerges as a pivotal theme within the scholarly literature, demonstrating close affiliations with concepts such as “translation”, “journalism”, “media”, and “journalistic translation”. From the size of the node, a prevalent usage of the term “news translation” over “journalistic translation” can be observed within this research domain, suggesting a nuanced convergence between these concepts. The term “journalistic translation”, frequently employed by scholars such as Valdeón (e.g., 2015, 2020, 2022, 2023), highlighted the fundamental connection between translation practices and journalistic processes within the domain of news translation studies. Additionally, the prominence of terms like “language”, “politics”, and “press” also points to the inherently interdisciplinary nature of news translation studies, which are demonstrated by contributions of scholars such as Esperança Bielsa and Susan Bassnett (2009), Schäffner (2012b), Pan and Huang (2021), and Daghigh and Amini (2022) who enrich the understanding of the intricate interplay among language, politics, and

the press within news translation contexts. The exploration of “media”, “framing”, “ideology” and “critical discourse analysis” further delves into the critical aspects of news translation, highlighting editorial influence and ideological shaping as explored by Pan (2015), Wu (2017), Valdeón (2021) and Ping (2022). Terms such as “gatekeeping”, “mediation” and “trans-editing” are interconnected as they all relate to the processes through which information is managed, modified, and disseminated in the media as seen in articles by Van Rooyen (2011), Schäffner (2012a), Zhang (2013), Song (2017) and Valdeón (2021). Other terms, like “narrative theory” indicate the conceptual and theoretical frameworks intersecting with news translation, as demonstrated by scholars such as Baker (2006), Liao and Pan (2020) and Zeng and Li (2021). Moreover, references to “English” and “Russia” signal specific linguistic and regional focuses, underscoring the global breadth of news translation research, as evidenced in the works of Kamyans (2020, 2022). This overview suggests that news translation studies not only encapsulate a fusion of disciplines but also embody a critical examination of the roles of language and ideology within media and journalistic practices.

4.6 Temporal Keyword Analysis: Thematic Evolutions

Cluster analysis on keywords can reveal the basic status of various research topics within a certain research field. Organizing the keyword co-occurrence map in a chronological series enables the visualization of the distribution of research hotspots over time, thereby facilitating the identification of thematic evolution.

The data filtering is based on the *g*-index ($k = 15$), with node type set to Keywords, and the time range constrained from January 1994 to December 2023, with a time slice unit of 3. All other parameters are processed by default settings. Running CiteSpace generates the temporal map. Keywords are displayed as circular nodes, with the size of the circles representing the frequency of keyword occurrences. The network consists of $N = 236$ nodes and $E = 743$ edges, with a network density of $D = 0.0268$. In other words, the graph comprises 236 nodes and 743 edges, indicating a strong interrelation among the keywords.

From this temporal zone map, the progression of research keywords in news translation studies from 1994 to 2023 is delineated. The timeline is segmented into ten distinct periods, each representing a span of three years, and highlighting the key terms relevant to the research conducted within those intervals. From 1994 to 1999, no significantly prominent keywords emerged, leading to a gap in the visualization that reflects a lack of concentrated research questions during the early two phases. Years between 2000 and 2002 marked the onset of more focused academic attention and “English” was highlighted with significant prominence, which might suggest a focus on the English language in news translation studies during that time. From 2003 to 2005, new keywords emerged and increased in prominence, such as “news translation”, “translation”, “news”, “media”, “ideology”, “discourse”, “critical discourse analysis”, suggesting an analytical and theoretical approach in the field. These terms seem to form the core subject matter during this period and are heavily interconnected, indicating a complex relationship between these concepts. In the period from 2006 to 2008, the keywords “journalistic translation”, “journalism” and “recontextualization” have become prominent, indicated by their larger font size and central positioning. It is noted that the term “journalistic translation” began to gain traction and was acknowledged as a subfield within Translation Studies (Van Doorslaer, 2007; Valdeón, 2015) and this term is favored by Valdeón (e.g. 2015, 2020, 2022, 2023) due to that “it is a broader term that cover not only informative texts, but also interpretative and argumentative ones”. This period of time reflects a specific interest in how news is recontextualized across different languages and the implications of these translations for journalism, such as demonstrated by Kang (2007). The period of 2009 to 2011 was characterized by the prominence of the keyword “language”, indicating a specialized research focus on linguistic aspects, which could be a response to shifts in global communication, the emergence of new media platforms, or evolving linguistic theories. From 2012 to 2014, research in “narrative” and “trans-editing” suggests an interest in story construction and adaptation in journalism and the mention of “Russia”, which might point to a specific geographical focus or case study during this time. For 2015 to 2017, the keywords “trans-cultural journalism” and “framing” suggest a period of research focused on how journalism transcends cultural boundaries and the ways in which news is framed to influence audience perception. This indicates a scholarly interest in exploring the dynamics of global news dissemination and the strategic presentation of news stories to shape public understanding. During 2018–2020, the emphasis on “coverage”, “politics”, and “discourse analysis” signifies a scholarly inclination towards understanding the nuances of how political events and ideologies are represented in translated news content. Researchers delve into how the coverage of political topics is influenced by and impacts discourse across cultures, employing discourse analysis as a tool to dissect the linguistic and ideological underpinnings of translated news. The emergence of “headline” in the latest period (2021–2023) indicates that these years might have seen the importance of headlines in the dissemination of information as demonstrated by Qin and Zhang (2020), Liu and Li (2022) and Kamyans (2022). Throughout the visualization, it can be seen that an expansion in the diversity of concepts and a move towards a more nuanced

understanding of news translation studies, suggesting that the field has become increasingly interdisciplinary and complex over time, which can be shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3. Map of time-zone view in news translation studies

4.7 Co-Citation Analysis of Cited References

To gain a clear and comprehensive understanding of the structure of cited references in news translation studies, VOSviewer is used to generate a co-citation map of literature references. The threshold value for the minimum number of citations of a cited reference was set to 20, resulting in 17 papers for co-citation analysis of the cited publications. The resulting co-citation relationship map is presented in Figure 4. Additionally, for clarity, the top 5 most cited references are listed in Table 6.

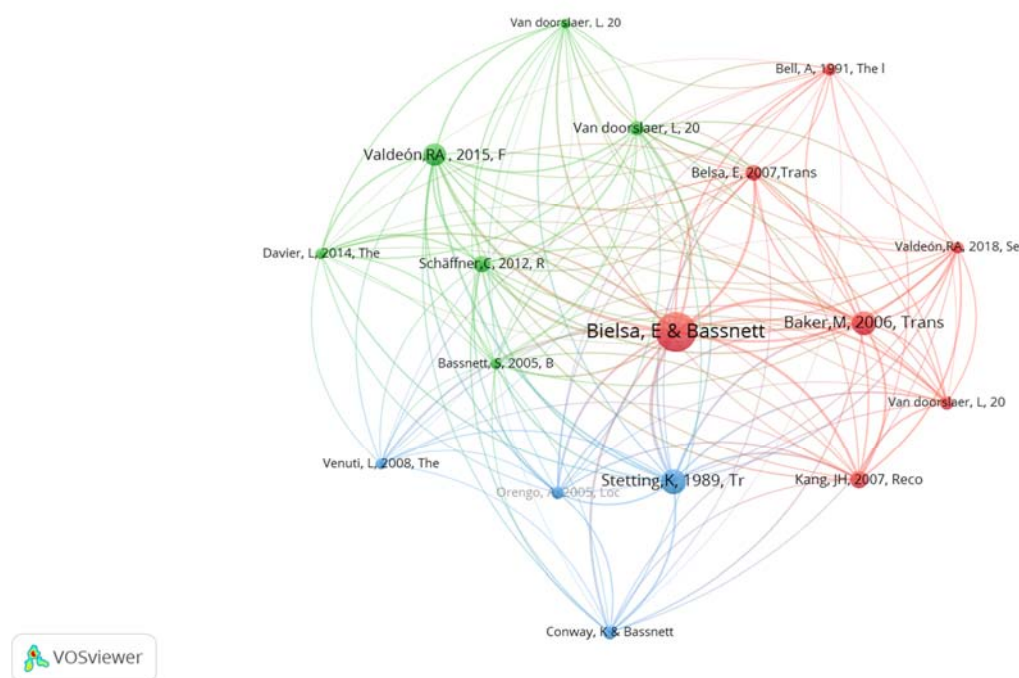


Figure 4. Co-citation of cited references

Table 6. Top 4 Most Cited References in News Translation Studies

Rank	Title	Year	Author(s)	Citations
1	Translation in Global News	2009	Bielsa, E & Bassnett, S	95
2	Trans-editing—A new term for coping with the grey area between editing and translating	1986	Stetting, K	56
3	Translation and Conflict	2006	Baker, M	54
4	Fifteen years of journalistic translation research and more	2015	Valdeón, RA	49
5	Recontextualization of News Discourse	2007	Kang, JH	36

The most cited reference is a book entitled *Translation and Global News* written by Bielsa and Bassnett published as the results of their three-year project on news translation. This seminal work integrated perspectives from translation studies, journalism and media studies, and globalization research. It examined translation activities throughout the process of international news events, from their occurrence, through news production, to dissemination. By conducting field investigations into the global news dissemination practices of international news agency professionals, this monograph has laid an important foundation for news translation research. Its publication in 2009 marks a pivotal year for news translation studies, as noted by Valdeón (2015). The second most cited work in this research field introduces the term “trans-editing”, originally proposed by Stetting (1989) to describe the nuanced boundary between translating and editing. Stetting’s concept was presented in the Proceedings from the fourth Nordic Conference for English Studies in Elsinor, Denmark, which attracted scholars from English departments with interests spanning language, literature, and civilization (Stetting, 1989; Zettersten, 2002). This concept has garnered attention for its ability to capture the complexity of translation and editing in news production. The third most referenced work is *Translation and Conflict: A Narrative Account* by Mona Baker (2006), a renowned scholar in the field of translation studies. Baker’s work, situated within the framework of narrative theory, analyzed the role of translation activities on the conflict-ridden international stage and within social constructs. The high citation rate of Baker’s book reflects the significant impact of narrative theory on news translation research, aligning with Valdeón’s (2015) commentary on the importance of narrative theory in this domain. The fourth most cited article by Valdeón (2015) provided a broader overview of the field of journalistic translation research, covering various topics and methodologies that have been explored over a fifteen-year period, underscoring the importance of journalistic translation as a subfield within translation studies and its relevance to understanding global news production and dissemination. It calls for further interdisciplinary research and

collaboration to fully explore the complexities of news translation in a rapidly changing media landscape. The fifth cited paper written by Ji-Hae Kang (2007) from South Korea focused on how the translation of news discourse undergoes a process of recontextualization, where information is not just transferred but transformed as it crosses language, culture, and institutional boundaries. This study highlighted the intricate interplay between translation, institutional practices, and the portrayal of international relations, suggesting that translated news often presents a renegotiated version of events that reflects the translating institution's stance and the target audience's expectations and biases.

4.8 Co-Citation of Cited Journals

The co-citation mapping of journals was conducted using Vosviewer, with the threshold for the minimum number of citations per cited source set at 20. By excluding publishing houses and focusing solely on journals, the analysis was narrowed down to 20 journals. The resultant co-citation relationships among these journals are depicted in Figure 5. The top cited journals are *Perspectives* (290 citations), *Meta* (260 citations), *Target* (188 citations).

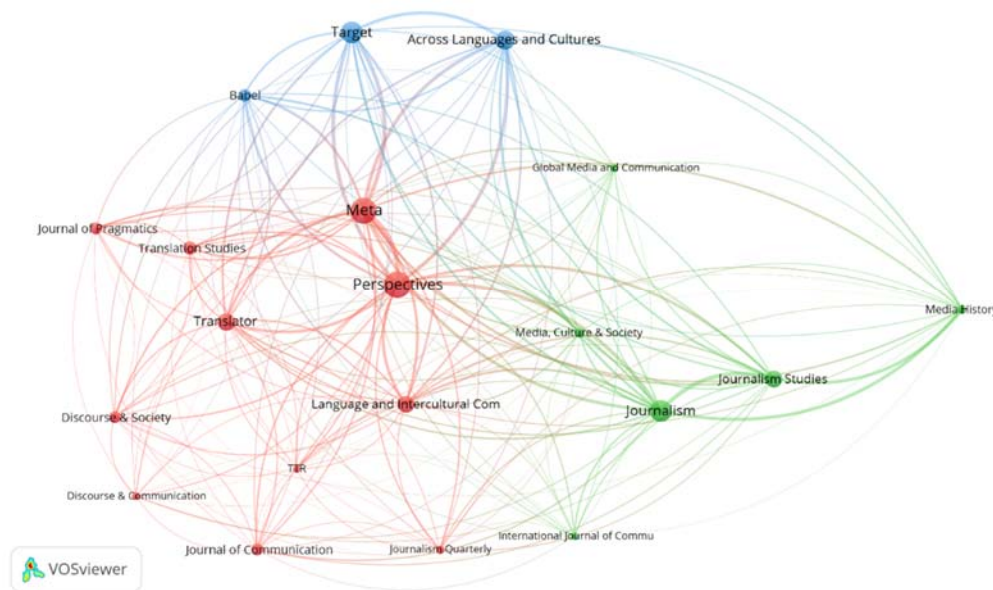


Figure 5. Co-citation of cited journals

Figure 5 illustrates a network visualization organized into three distinct clusters, each denoted by a unique color. Cluster 1, colored red, seems to revolve around communication in its various forms and the exploration of language as it functions within society and intercultural contexts. This cluster encompasses journals such as *Discourse & Communication* and *Discourse & Society* which likely delve into the nuances of how language shapes social interaction. *Journal of Communication* and *Journal of Pragmatics* contribute to understanding language use in various communication media and practical contexts, respectively. *Journalism Quarterly* suggests an examination of media practices and journalism. *Language and Intercultural Communication* focuses on the complexities of communication across cultures. This cluster is enriched by *Meta* and *Perspectives*, which bring in the translation and interpretation perspectives to the communication and linguistic discussion, emphasizing the significance of cross-cultural and multilingual discourse in the modern world. Journals like *Translation Studies* and *Translator* likely discuss the theoretical and empirical aspects of translation as a practice and discipline, while *TTR* adds to the scholarly discourse within translation studies.

Cluster 2, colored green, appears to concentrate on the broader impact of media on society and culture, with journals like *Global Media and Communication* and *International Journal of Communication* highlighting the role of media in a globalized context. *Journalism* and *Journalism Studies* with rankings of 4th (187 citations) and 8th (109 citations) respectively, underscore the intricate connection between news translation and the field of journalism. *Media History* could trace the development of media over time, while *Media, Culture & Society* interrogates the interplay between media, cultural dynamics, and social change. This cluster reflects a multidisciplinary approach, considering the sociocultural, historical, and communicative aspects of media and

journalism.

Cluster 3, in blue, is the smallest and appears to focus on the cross-cultural aspects and challenges in translation, as evidenced by journals like *Across Languages and Cultures*, *Babel*, and *Target*. These journals cover topics related to multilingual communication, translation theory and practice, and the cultural dimensions of language transfer. This cluster underscores the scholarly pursuit of understanding translation and cultural mediation in a multifaceted and interconnected world.

4.9 Co-Citation of Authors

To comprehend the most cited authors in the field of news translation research, a threshold of a minimum of 20 citations for a cited author is applied, resulting in 35 authors for co-citation analysis. The resulting co-citation relationship mapping is depicted in Figure 6.

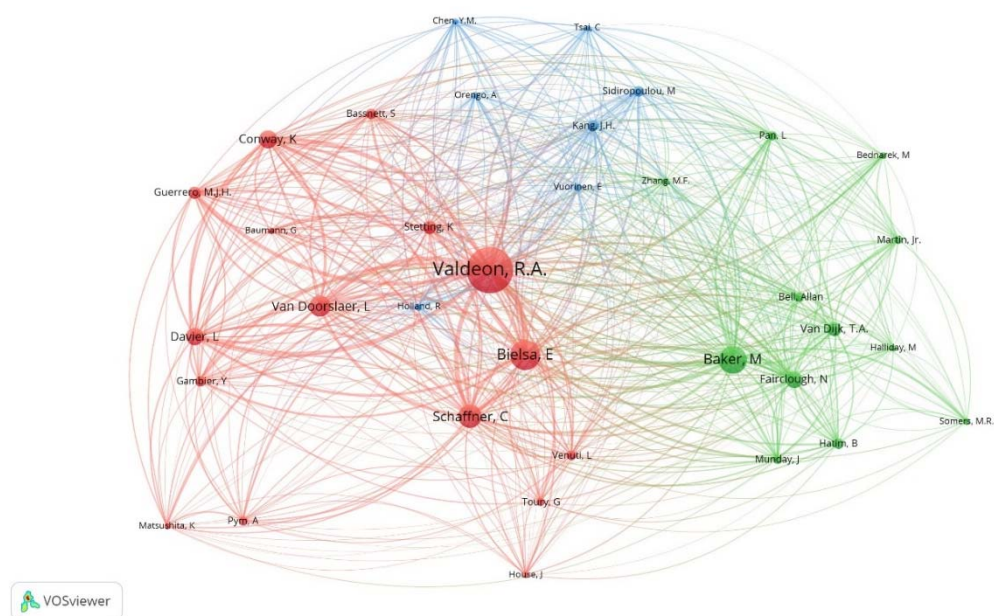


Figure 6. Co-citation of cited authors

Central to this network is the prominent author Valdeón, R.A., who emerges as a pivotal node with extensive citations, indicative of his significant influence in the discipline. Additionally, Figure 6 distinctly presents three clusters, each differentiated by unique colors, highlighting the categorization within the data. Cluster 1 marked as red brings together prominent figures in news translation studies, including cultural translation impact (e.g., Susan Bassnett, Esperança Bielsa), translational journalism (e.g., Gerd Baumann, Luc van Doorslaer), and media policy (e.g., Lucile Davier). It features experts in translation strategies and pedagogy (e.g., Yves Gambier), as well as political translation and discourse (e.g., Christina Schäffner, María José Hernández Guerrero). Key theoretical insights are offered by scholars focused on translation ethics and quality assessment (e.g., Anthony Pym, Juliane House, Lawrence Venuti). The cluster is anchored by Roberto A. Valdeón, who bridges translation studies with journalism, underscoring the global adaptability of news across cultures and languages.

Cluster 2 marked as green unites distinguished scholars in translation studies, critical discourse analysis, and systemic functional linguistics, focusing on the intricate ways language influences social narratives and power dynamics. This group includes pioneers in analyzing media discourse and societal impacts of language (e.g., Norman Fairclough, Teun A. van Dijk), foundational theorists in linguistic function and evaluative language (e.g., M.A.K. Halliday, J.R. Martin), and leading figures in the ethical and narrative considerations of translation's role in cross-cultural communication (e.g., Mona Baker, Jeremy Munday). Their collective work delves into how linguistic choices shape, and are shaped by, societal structures, identities, and global discourses, offering profound insights into the power of language across diverse social contexts.

Cluster 3 marked as blue unites scholars in the translation of news and media discourse from Chinese Taiwan (e.g.,

Ya-mei Chen, Claire Tsai), exploring the ideological dimensions of translation (e.g., Kang Ji-Hae, Maria Sidiropoulou) and its impact on intercultural communication (e.g., Robert Holland, Erkkka Vuorinen). Their research addresses the complexities of conveying news across cultural and linguistic boundaries, focusing on how translation shapes and is shaped by institutional identities, global-local dynamics, and the representation of diverse ideologies in the media.

5. Conclusion

The present study has offered an extended bibliometric analysis of news translation studies, mapping out the intellectual landscape and identifying key trends, influential works, and prominent scholars in the field. Utilizing the WoS database and employing Vosviewer and CiteSpace as visualization tools, the current research has spanned the period from the inception of scholarly interest in news translation to the end of 2023, revealing a dynamic and evolving field of inquiry.

The findings underscore the significant growth in news translation research, particularly post-2010, with a marked increase in publication output and scholarly engagement with Robert A. Valdeón being the most productive and influential scholar in this field. The results have also revealed the enhanced interdisciplinary nature of the field, drawing from and contributing to areas such as journalism, media studies, linguistics, and intercultural communication. The keyword and co-citation analyses provided a lens through which to view the thematic and intellectual trajectories within news translation studies, showcasing the evolution from initial focuses on linguistic aspects to more nuanced explorations of ideology, politics, and the digital transformation of media landscapes. The results also show that the proportion of core authors is lower than Price's expected 50%, highlighting its early development stage and underscores the need for enhanced academic collaboration to deepen theoretical understanding and knowledge integration in this rapidly evolving sub-domain of translation studies. Besides, current literature concerning artificial intelligence and machine translation in news translation remains sparse. This scarcity may reflect the challenges and opportunities presented by rapid technological advancements.

While this study has provided valuable insights into news translation research, it is important to acknowledge several limitations. The focus solely on articles indexed in WoS databases (SSCI, A&HCI, SCI) may have led to the exclusion of relevant contributions from non-indexed sources. Additionally, the restriction to English-language articles may introduce language bias, potentially overlooking important research published in other languages.

To further advance this domain, future studies should investigate how technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine translation influence both the practical applications and theoretical underpinnings of news translation studies. Additionally, fostering broader and deeper interdisciplinary collaboration will help explore the complexities of news translation and provide deeper insights into global communication practices.

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Authors' contributions

Lingyan Mao was responsible for the study design, data collection, and writing the paper. Dr. Wan Rose and Dr. Chow provided guidance and revisions. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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No additional data are available.

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