

学校编码: 10384

分类号\_\_\_\_\_密级\_\_\_\_\_

学号: 11120051300301

UDC\_\_\_\_\_

厦 门 大 学  
硕 士 学 位 论 文

On the Relationship between the Source Text and the  
Target Text from the Perspective of Deconstruction

解构主义视角下原文与译文的关系初探

黄培清

指导教师姓名: 杨士焯 副教授

专业名称: 英语语言文学

论文提交日期: 2008年5月

论文答辩时间: 2008年 月

学位授予日期: 2008年 月

答辩委员会主席: \_\_\_\_\_

评 阅 人: \_\_\_\_\_

200 年 月

## 厦门大学学位论文原创性声明

兹提交的学位论文，是本人在导师指导下独立完成的研究成果。本人在论文写作中参考的其他个人或集体的研究成果，均在文中以明确方式标明。本人依法享有和承担由此论文产生的权利和责任。

声明人（签名）：

年 月 日

## 厦门大学学位论文著作权使用声明

本人完全了解厦门大学有关保留、使用学位论文的规定。厦门大学有权保留并向国家主管部门或其指定机构送交论文的纸质版和电子版，有权将学位论文用于非赢利目的的少量复制并允许论文进入学校图书馆被查阅，有权将学位论文的内容编入有关数据库进行检索，有权将学位论文的标题和摘要汇编出版。保密的学位论文在解密后适用本规定。

本学位论文属于

- 1、保密（ ），在 年解密后适用本授权书。
- 2、不保密（ ）

（请在以上相应括号内打“√”）

作者签名： 日期： 年 月 日

导师签名： 日期： 年 月 日

厦门大学博硕士学位论文摘要库

## Abstract

The relationship between the source text and the target text is one of the topics unavoidable in translation research. The source-oriented translation theories, both Western and Chinese, be it the thoughts of the philological school or the ideas of the linguistic school, all propose that the source text and the author are the authority; the target text is subordinated to the original and the translator, who should be “invisible” in translation, and is just the “servant” of the author. On the contrary, the school of translation studies, guided by target-oriented approach, sees translation as the “manipulation”, the “rewriting” of the source text, elevating greatly the status of the target text and the subjectivity of the translator.

Some postmodern philosophers, such as Roland Barthes and Michel Foucault, interrogated the authority of the author and the source text. Deconstructionists, represented by Jacques Derrida, deconstruct Western logocentrism that has dominated the West for centuries. Enlightened by the translation thoughts of Walter Benjamin demonstrated in his essay “The Task of the Translator”, Derrida breaks down the binary opposition of the source text and the target text, seeing that the translation is the “afterlife” of the original, the two are of “symbiotic relationship”, mutually supplementing each other. This thesis conducts an in-depth research on this idea of deconstruction, explores the philosophical roots for the shifts of the relationship between the source text and the target text, and based on that, makes a reasonable, objective evaluation of the deconstructive approach to translation studies.

The first two chapters make a brief review of the opinions held by different schools of translation research on the relationship between the source text and the target text. Chapter Three expounds this issue from the perspective of deconstruction. Chapter Four investigates the philosophical roots and concepts of language for the shifts of the relationship between the source text and the target text. Chapter Five, through case studies of three Chinese versions of Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, strives to prove the plausibility of Derrida’s theory of meaning uncertainty and his ideas on the relationship between the source text and the target text. The last chapter analyzes both

the implications and the possible negative impacts that deconstruction will bring to translation. More importantly, it argues the necessity and urgency of the establishment of translation ethics and offers some suggestions for that.

**Key Words:** source text; target text; deconstruction

厦门大学博硕士论文摘要库

## 摘要

原文与译文的关系是翻译研究中不可避免的话题之一。中西方传统翻译研究是以原语为导向的，不管是语文学派的翻译思想还是语言学派的译学理论，均认为原文、原作者是绝对权威，其地位是高高在上，神圣不可侵犯的；译文只能附属于原文，译者是原作者的“仆人”，是“隐形人”。现代翻译研究派则认为翻译是对原文的“操控”和“改写”，研究方向从而向目的语倾斜，大大提高了译文和译者的地位。译者的主体性也得以彰显。

到了后现代，罗兰·巴尔特和米歇尔·福柯等哲学家对原文及作者的权威性提出了质疑。以雅克·德里达为代表的解构主义者对西方传统逻各斯中心主义进行解构，借鉴沃尔特·本雅明在《译者的任务》一文中的翻译思想，打破了传统原文与译文的二元对立，认为译文是原文的“再生”，二者是互补“共生”关系。本文对解构主义译学理论的这一见解进行了深入的探讨，追溯原文与译文关系嬗变的哲学根源，并在此基础上对解构主义译学理论进行了全面、客观的评价。

论文前两章分别回顾了原语中心论和译语中心论中原文与译文的关系。第三章详细阐述了解构主义对原文和译文关系的界定。第四章探讨二者关系嬗变背后的哲学根源及语言观基础。第五章则通过莎士比亚《哈姆雷特》三个中文译本的比较研究，以实例来论证德里达意义不确定论、原文与译文互补“共生”思想的合理性。论文最后一章就解构主义翻译思想对翻译研究的利弊进行了全面、客观的分析，指出建立翻译伦理学的必要性和紧迫性，并对此提出了一些建设性的意见。

**关键词：**原文；译文；解构主义

## Contents

<b>Abstract</b> .....	i
<b>Introduction</b> .....	1
01 Research Background.....	1
02 Research Significance and Possible Contributions.....	2
03 Structure of the Thesis.....	3
<b>Chapter One A Brief Review of Source-oriented Translation Theories---the Subordination of the Target Text to the Source Text</b> .....	5
1.1 Translation as an Imitation of the Source Text—the Main Ideas of the Philological School of Translation Research.....	5
1.2 The Concept of Equivalence Proposed by the Linguistic School of Translation Research.....	7
1.3 Traditional Chinese Translation Theories Based on the Concept of “Faithfulness”.....	9
<b>Chapter Two Target-oriented Translation Theories—the Elevation of the Status of the Target Text</b> .....	11
2.1 The Shift of translation Research from the Source-oriented Perspective to the Target-oriented Perspective.....	11
2.2 Translation as Rewriting---the Manipulation of the Source Text.....	12
2.3 The Shift of Translation Research from Source-centeredness to centeredness Goes to Another Extreme.....	14
<b>Chapter Three The Relationship between the Source Text and the Target Text from the Perspective of Deconstruction</b>	



— Symbiotic Relationship.....	15
3.1 “The Death of the Author” in the Context of Postmodernism —Deconstructing the Authority of the Author and the Source Text.....	15
3.2 Walter Benjamin’s Understanding of the Relationship between the Source Text and the Target Text—the Metaphor of the Fragments of a Vessel.....	18
3.3 The Relationship between the Source Text and the Target Text from the Perspective of Deconstruction.....	20
3.3.1 Jacques Derrida and His Neologism <i>Différance</i> .....	20
3.3.2 Jacques Derrida’s Redefinition of Translation.....	24
3.3.3 Jacques Derrida’s Meditation on the Original/Translation Relationship...	25
 <b>Chapter Four An Investigation of the Philosophical Roots and     Concepts of Language for the Shifts of the Relations     between the Source Text and the Target Text.....</b>	 <b>28</b>
4.1 The Philosophical Basis and Concept of Language for Source-oriented Translation Theories.....	28
4.2 The Philosophical Basis and Concept of Language for Target-oriented Translation Theories.....	31
4.3 Philosophy of Deconstruction: Deconstructing Western Logocentrism —Unmaking the Binary Opposition of the Source Text and the Target Text..	32
 <b>Chapter Five A Case Study of Some Chinese Versions of William     Shakespeare’s <i>Hamlet</i> from the Perspective of     Deconstruction.....</b>	 <b>35</b>
5.1 A Brief Introduction to the Textual Characteristics of <i>Hamlet</i> and Its Translation in Chinese.....	35
5.2 Case Studies of Three Chinese Versions of <i>Hamlet</i> —the “Symbiotic Relationship” of the Original and the Translation.....	37
5.3 The Significance of the Argument about the Relationship between the Source Text and the Target Text Proposed by Deconstructionists for Translation Studies.....	48

## **Chapter Six An Evaluation of Deconstructive Approach to Translation**

<b>Studies</b> .....	49
<b>6.1 Some Misunderstandings of Chinese Scholars about Deconstructive Approach to Translation Studies</b> .....	49
<b>6.2 The Implications of Deconstruction for Translation Studies</b> .....	53
<b>6.3 The Limitations of Deconstruction and Its Possible Negative Impacts on Translation</b> .....	56
<b>6.4 The Establishment of an Ethics of Translation—the Integration of Ethics into Translation Studies</b> .....	57
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	64
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	66
<b>Acknowledgments</b> .....	69

摘要.....	i
绪论.....	1
0.1 研究动机.....	1
0.2 研究意义及预期贡献.....	2
0.3 论文结构.....	3
第一章 原语中心论——译文对原文的从属地位.....	5
1.1 西方早期翻译语文学派的“模仿论”.....	5
1.2 翻译语言学派的“对等论”.....	7
1.3 中国传统译论的“忠实论”.....	9
第二章 译语中心论——译文地位的提高.....	11
2.1 翻译研究从原语向度向译语向度的转变.....	11
2.2 翻译“改写论”对原文的操控.....	12
2.3“中心”的转移走向了另一个极端.....	14
第三章 解构主义视域下原文与译文的关系——“共生”关系.....	15
3.1 后现代语境下“作者之死”——对作者及原文权威性的解构.....	15
3.2 沃尔特·本雅明对原文与译文关系的阐释——“陶罐之喻”.....	18
3.3 解构主义视域下原文与译文的关系.....	20
3.3.1 德里达与“延异”.....	20
3.3.2 德里达对翻译的重新定义.....	24
3.3.3 德里达对原文与译文关系的思考.....	25

<b>第四章 原文与译文关系嬗变背后的哲学根源及语言观探讨</b> .....	28
4.1 原语中心论背后的哲学思想及语言观.....	28
4.2 译语中心论背后的哲学思想及语言观.....	31
4.3 解构主义哲学对西方逻各斯中心主义的解构——消解原文译文的二元对立.....	32
<b>第五章 从解构主义的视角看莎士比亚《哈姆雷特》的汉译</b> .....	35
5.1 莎剧《哈姆雷特》的文本特征及汉译状况概述.....	35
5.2 原文与译文的互补“共生”——实例分析.....	37
5.3 解构主义译论对原文与译文关系的界定对翻译研究的意义.....	48
<b>第六章 对解构主义翻译理论的评价</b> .....	49
6.1 当前翻译研究对解构主义的误解.....	49
6.2 解构主义译论对翻译研究的指导意义.....	53
6.3 解构主义译论的不足之处.....	56
6.4 翻译伦理学的建立——翻译研究同伦理学的结合.....	57
<b>结论</b> .....	64
<b>参考文献</b> .....	66
<b>致谢</b> .....	69

## Introduction

### 01. Research Background

The theory of deconstruction, as a critical, anti-traditional theory in such academic fields as philosophy, psychology, literary criticism, translation studies, etc., gained its birth in the 1960s and witnessed its flowering ever since, first in France and later in America. Its repercussions in the academia are widespread and accumulating. Over the past two decades, the word “deconstruction” has become a buzzword in Chinese academia. Many scholars embraced this theory lovingly, accepting it as panacea in academic research, while some others made a severe criticism of it, arguing that this theory would put people into confusion since it breaks down the traditional conventions, yet not establishing a new set of rules to follow at the same time.

The deconstructive approach to translation studies opens up new avenues of thought for translation theorists. Its ideas about language, the nature of translation and the relationship between the source text and the target text in particular are creative and enlightening. However, by searching the key words “deconstruction and translation” in CNKI<sup>①</sup>, the most comprehensive and authoritative periodical journal collections in China, the author finds that an overwhelming majority of research papers focus on evaluating the theory, such as the challenges it brings about to traditional translation theories, its ideas about meaning uncertainty, as well as its impacts on translation studies. Few papers conduct in-depth researches on the relationship between the source text and the target text proposed by deconstructionists, which the author thinks is rather insightful. Most scholars point out in their papers the weak points of the translation theory of deconstruction and the possible negative impacts it will bring about to translation, yet no satisfactory suggestions have been provided as to how to modify this theory and how to avoid any possible bad influences.

Given that situation, this thesis attempts to explore the relationship between the

---

<sup>①</sup> Searched on 8 January, 2008.

<http:210.34.4.5/kns50/Brief.aspx?ID=1 & classtype=& systemno=& NaviDatabaseName=& NaviField=>

source text and the target text from the perspective of deconstruction in an all-round manner, and as such, it aims at offering an objective, reasonable evaluation on deconstructive approach to translation studies.

It should be made clear that, in terms of the theory of deconstruction, although it has had many proponents, especially in Europe and the United States, this thesis would mainly focus on the ideas of Jacques Derrida, who coined the term “deconstruction” and who produced most of the books or papers concerned with deconstruction.

## **02. Research Significance and Possible Contributions**

The relationship between the source text and the target text has always been an important topic in translation research. The attitude of the translator over this issue inevitably influences the strategies he adopts in real-life translation practices. In the history of translation theories, different schools hold differing opinions about the relationship between the original and the translation. Generally speaking, traditional translation theorists, both Western and Chinese, propose a superior original and an inferior translation, while modern translation theorists, especially the school of translation studies, seem to reverse the hierarchy, elevating greatly the status of the target text. The translation theory of deconstruction, with its most renowned representative Derrida Jacques, argues that the translation is the “afterlife” of the original, the two are of “symbiotic relationship”, mutually supplementing each other (Gentzler, 2001: 147). This ground-breaking idea breaks down the traditional hierarchical binary opposition of the source text and the target text.

This thesis, by comparing the different opinions about the relationship between the source text and the target text proposed by different schools of translation research, and investigating their philosophical basis respectively, aims at proving the originality and plausibility of the thoughts given by deconstructionists over the issue in question. Based on that, this thesis strives to make an objective evaluation of deconstructive approach to translation studies. Most importantly, the author argues that it is necessary and urgent to integrate ethics into translation research. A tentative theoretical framework for the establishment of an ethics of translation, which the author thinks will possibly reduce the weak points of deconstruction translation

theory, is also offered in the thesis.

### **03. Structure of the Thesis**

Apart from introduction and conclusion, the thesis is divided into the following six main parts.

Chapter One provides a brief review of source-oriented translation theories, including the main ideas of the philological school of translation research, which sees translation as an imitation of the source text, the theories of the linguistic school of translation research centered around the concept of “equivalence” (Nida, 1964: 157), and Chinese traditional translation theories characterized by “being faithful to the original”. This chapter draws a conclusion that the target text is subordinated to the source text in source-oriented translation theories.

Chapter Two explores target-oriented translation theories, in which the status of the target text as well as the translator is largely elevated. This chapter discusses in detail the paradigm shift of translation research from the source-centered perspective to the target-centered one by introducing the main ideas of the school of translation studies, which view translation as rewriting, manipulation of the source text. This paradigm shift broadens the horizon of translation research, but seems to go to another extreme.

Chapter Three proceeds to introduce the relationship between the source text and the target text as proposed by deconstructive approach to translation studies—symbiotic relationship. By analyzing some key concepts and ideas proposed by deconstructionists, the author argues that the idea that the source text and the target text are of “symbiotic relationship” helps to free us from the limitations of the thinking mode of seeing the original and the translation as opposites, opening up new avenues of thought for translation research.

Chapter Four, by investigating the philosophical roots and concepts of language for the shifts of the relationship between the source text and the target text, aims at providing the reader with a better understanding in terms of the evolution of the relations between the original and the translation from the philosophical perspective.

Chapter Five conducts a case study about some Chinese versions of William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* to prove the plausibility of Derrida’s theory of meaning

uncertainty and his ideas on the relationship between the source text and the target text.

Based on the previous five chapters, Chapter Six attempts to make an objective evaluation of deconstructive approach to translation studies, including the implications of deconstruction for translation research, the possible negative impacts deconstruction will bring to translation. To avoid any possible bad impacts, the author argues that it is necessary to establish an ethics of translation. A tentative theoretical framework for the integration of ethics into translation studies is also put forward in this chapter.



Degree papers are in the "[Xiamen University Electronic Theses and Dissertations Database](#)". Full texts are available in the following ways:

1. If your library is a CALIS member libraries, please log on <http://etd.calis.edu.cn/> and submit requests online, or consult the interlibrary loan department in your library.
2. For users of non-CALIS member libraries, please mail to [etd@xmu.edu.cn](mailto:etd@xmu.edu.cn) for delivery details.

厦门大学博硕士学位论文摘要库