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A bibliometric overview of Translation-Studies research in Spanish-speaking countries

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This contribution attempts to provide an overview of (the history and state of the art of) research in Translation Studies (TS) in Spanish-speaking countries through an examination of the pertinent bibliography in our interdisciplinary, which already comprises no less than 15,000 references in Spanish, Catalan, Galician and Basque. With this aim in mind, we will focus on central bibliometric issues, including the evolution of TS publications written in languages spoken in Spain, the TS journals, publishers and authors in Hispanic America and Spain, the main research hubs in the area, and the thematic distribution of all this research as compared with TS as a whole.

Thus, apart from the central aim of providing a general bibliometric presentation of TS in Spanish-speaking countries, the other great objective of this chapter is to discover whether research in languages spoken in Spain presents some sort of systematic differences as compared with the rest of publications on the same subject.

1. Introduction

In 1990 there were in Spain three minor university degrees in translation and interpreting. Ten years after there were about 20 full BA degrees. Currently, this country, which is still under 50 million inhabitants, features no less than 29 BA degrees in Translation Studies (TS). After performing a manual search for Hispanic America, we have discovered there are at least 85 TS BA degrees more in this part of the world, with at least 60 universities involved, and with 41 undergraduate degrees only in Argentina or 14 in Chile (cf. Appendixes 1 and 2 for further details). These odd 100 BA degrees and the corresponding MA's and doctoral programs have brought about dozens of specialized university departments and hundreds of lecturers who in

¹ Both authors are equally responsible for the contents of this essay. Javier Franco directed the writing and the coordination of information, whereas Sara Rovira-Esteva was especially responsible for obtaining and analyzing data. Both authors revised and complemented each other's work in a dialectic process. The order in which our names are presented responds to an agreement to alternate them in our academic collaborations to avoid any kind of precedence.

their professional lives essentially deal with translation and interpreting. It is only logical that this shows in research. Indeed, the two existing holistic bibliographical databases in TS place Spanish as the second most used publication language in our interdisciplinary. Catalan features the 7th position in these same productivity rankings, with over 1% of all collected research, whereas Galician and Basque tend to lag behind but are still placed over their nominal ranking given their respective number of speakers and corresponding shortage of BA degrees (two in Galicia, and one in the Basque Country).

TS is thus extensively and intensively furthered in Spanish-speaking countries, and it seems worthy of a close examination in order to establish its main characteristics. Indeed, the approximately 15,000 TS publications in Spanish, Catalan, Galician and Basque, plus the 22 specialized TS journals published only in Spain need to be described and explained in order to better know where we stand and what -if anything- distinguishes TS in Spanish-speaking countries.

In order to do this, we will proceed to draw relevant data from all available bibliographic and bibliometric resources, paying special attention to BITRA (Bibliography of Interpreting and Translation). BITRA is an open-access annotated bibliography compiled in Spain which comprised over 68,000 records as of November, 2016. BITRA also mines citations within TS, with close to 100,000 collected by the end of 2016, thus allowing us to combine all types of bibliometric research, especially in the fields of productivity and impact². Whenever possible, data have been triangulated with other databases and indexes, especially John Benjamin's TSB, the other holistic bibliography in TS, and RETI, a website devoted to TS journals and their international visibility³. It is also important to state here that although the samples we are working with are really big, almost 70,000 TS publications, they are still samples, and do not include everything ever published in TS. Thus, when we affirm that there are a given number of publications meeting whichever conditions in such period or language, we are always saying that those are the ones we have knowledge of, something it would be very tiresome to repeat all the time. In this sense, absolute numbers are always interim in living bibliographies, whereas ratios for past periods should be quite stable.

2 A historical perspective

2.1 TS research in languages spoken in Spain before 1900

Generally speaking, research in translation was very scarce before the veritable boom that took place in the second half of the 1980s, with the birth of TS as an autonomous research discipline and the creation of scores of new university degrees in Translation and Interpreting all over the

² Further information on BITRA can be obtained at: < <https://dti.ua.es/en/bitra/introduction.html> >.

³ Further information on RETI can be obtained at: < <http://www.uab.cat/libraries/reti%20%3e> >.

world. In BITRA there are 8,694 entries for publications prior to 1986, i.e. a meagre 12.9% of everything collected on TS, as can be seen in Table 1.⁴

Table 1 - The evolution of languages spoken in Spain in TS (all years) (Source: BITRA, November 2016)

	1-1900	1901-1970	1971-1985	1986-2000	2001-2015
Total BITRA	434 (100%)	2,992 (100%)	5,262 (100%)	22,870 (100%)	35,854 (100%)
Spanish	129 (29.7%)	266 (9.0%)	436 (8.3%)	4,080 (17.8%)	7,989 (22.3%)
Catalan	0	45 (1.5%)	38 (0.7%)	288 (1.3%)	666 (1.9%)
Galician	0	4 (0.1%)	3 (0.1%)	128 (0.6%)	247 (0.7%)
Basque	0	0	2 (0.1%)	68 (0.3%)	139 (0.4%)

Until 1900, there are hardly 129 entries with Spanish as a language of publication in BITRA. About 50 (38.8%) of these publications are really modern translations of old foreign TS classics, reflecting, all in all, the very scarce autonomous interest translation aroused in Spain or Hispanic America in the past. This abundance of translations also goes a long way towards explaining the surprisingly high 29.7% of Spanish in TS for this period. Indeed, the total (434) of detected works in any language dealing with TS in this period is scarce, and a good part of these classics are also available in Spanish, so that this language's presence is quite higher than what its original output would justify. Actually, among the 24 most cited entries in Spanish included in BITRA for this period, only two (Menéndez Pelayo 1876 and Pellicer y Saforcada 1778) were originally written in Spanish, whereas 22 of the most cited are available in Spanish thanks to translation.

Out of the 129 entries in Spanish for this period, we have only detected one originally published in Hispanic America, a preface on literary translation by the Argentinian Bartolomé de Mitre (1889), very probably one of the first (although brief) Spanish essays on translation written in South America.

From a thematic perspective, it is especially interesting to note that issues such as scientific and technical translation or interpreting are completely nonexistent in Spanish research in this period, whereas others such as teaching are very scarce and never meta-theoretical, i.e. we find a few textbooks purporting to teach how to translate but no reflection whatsoever on the teaching of translation. On the contrary, almost all of the publications originally dealing with translation in this period do so with a historical and/or literary approach. These leanings give a fair idea of the kind of social image translation was subject to, as something secondary, basically unproblematic of itself, and of secondary research interest, and then only as an ancillary tool in philological queries.

2.2 TS research in languages spoken in Spain (1901-1970)

⁴ TSB focuses on recent research, starting its most systematic coverage in the 1990s. Thus, this database collects 515 records (1.8%) prior to 1986.

In 1901-1970 we still have a very poor production, both in TS in general and in Iberian TS in particular. Basque and Galician are virtually negligible as publication languages in this period, whereas Catalan reaches its current ratio (1.5%), with almost 50 publications (c. 85%), mainly case studies analyzing Catalan translations of literary classics.

Spanish research in translation-related issues reaches 9% for this period, with 266 entries in BITRA. Once again, about 50 of these publications are really translations into Spanish of essays written in other languages, but now they only represent 18.7% of the total production in Spanish, which begins to have some autonomous weight. Authors such as Borges Acevedo (1932, 1936, 1939) and Ortega y Gasset (1937) publish very important pieces of work on translation in this period, being also the first Spanish-speaking authors to be broadly disseminated in multiple languages. Both authors are good representatives of how theoretical reflection on translation had a very marked literary and philosophical slant in this period, quite different from modern TS.

The scenario for Hispanic American scholarship on translation also seems to start to wake up now, with 35 publications launched in this region. Apart from the abovementioned Borges, there are also a few Hispanic American authors who seem to show more than a passing interest in translation, with three works detected by the Venezuelan Pedro Grases or four by the Argentinian Ernest Krebs. Argentina (18 works detected) and Mexico (10) seem to clearly be the most active American countries producing TS research in 1901-1970.

As regards the other languages spoken in Spain, it is necessary to take into account that there was a 40-year nationalist dictatorship –which tried to suppress the public use of any language other than Spanish– that did not end until 1975, and that the current democratic constitution was not approved until 1978. It is then only normal that until the 1980s hardly any TS research was performed in any of the languages spoken in Spain apart from Spanish.

As to impact, it is noteworthy that works from this period tend to receive many more citations than the oldest ones (145 works from 1901-1970 cited 5 times at least vs. 24 before 1900). A likely explanation would be their higher pertinence and closer wavelength to modern TS. The most cited Spanish publications from this period are all the work of persons of letters (Borges and Ortega), not of translation scholars, a figure which was then still waiting to be created.

Thematically, 57.5% (154 publications, which become 69.8% if we exclude translations) of everything published in Spanish between 1901 and 1970 deals with Spain or Spanish, denoting a very marked interest in local issues. Although somewhat more diversified, with new subjects such as interpreting or technical translation getting into Spanish academia through translation, the picture is once again dominated by historical and literary objects of study, making it very similar to the previous period.

2.3 *TS research in languages spoken in Spain (1971-1985)*

The third historical period we have established prior to the effective consolidation of modern TS is 1971-1985. Things surrounding translation are now obviously beginning to lose its proverbial phlegm, with over 5,000 publications detected in this interval, and the launching of seminal works that are usually considered to mark the birth of modern TS as an autonomous interdisciplinary (Holmes 1972; Toury 1980; Reiss and Vermeer 1984; Holz-Mänttari 1984). This scholarly pursuit will skyrocket in the next thirty years, as we will presently see.

For the moment, we can state that TS research in Spanish (436 entries in BITRA) once again almost doubled its figures in this period, whereas the other languages spoken in Spain did not grow, perhaps partly because of the repression exerted by the Spanish dictatorship and partly due to the lack of any consolidated university network in TS in the corresponding areas of Spain yet.

We have detected about 60 translations for this period, implying a further percentage decrease of translation of foreign-language essays within Spanish TS (13.8%), and the corresponding growth of research originally performed in Spain. Unlike TS in other languages, the most cited among the approximately 400 Spanish original publications launched in these 15 years do not yet show clear signs of the changing times. Thus, we find magnificent swan songs still in line with the past literary-oriented approach to translation (Paz 1971), shy attempts at renewing the linguistic approach (Vázquez Ayora 1977), or philological and historical overviews containing the first modern sparks of TS (García Yebra 1982, 1983; Santoyo Mediavilla 1983a, 1983b, 1984).

Although we will devote a whole section to TS journals published in Spain and Hispanic America, it should be noted that it is in the 1980s when the first TS specialized journals⁵ are born in the Spanish-speaking area, bearing the seed of a currently very fertile “club” of journals with Iberian languages as their main means of publication. The list of pioneers is comprised of three journals published in Spain - *Cuadernos de traducción e interpretación/Quaderns de traducció i interpretació* (1982-1992), *Babel: Revista de los estudiantes de la EUTI* (1984-1986) and *Senez* (1984-...).

In Hispanic America we have found 32 different publications for this period. Argentina (with a special issue of the journal *Sur* in 1976) and Mexico continue to be central players in Latin American TS, joined now by a very powerful contribution by Puerto Rico (mainly but not only from a conference whose proceedings were published in 1982) and Cuba, with several books on the matter. No Hispanic American scholar seems to show a keen interest in our interdiscipline in 1971-1985, and we find none with more than two essays dealing with translation. All in all, Hispanic American TS publications seem to dwindle in spite of staying relatively stable, keeping a rather low profile while the rest of the world embarks on a keener and keener interest in translation and interpreting.

As regards the other languages, Catalan (38 publications, i.e. 0.7% of BITRA) is the only one with a visible presence, albeit smaller than in the past period. As in the previous interval, during 1971-1985 the thematic nature of these publications in Catalan is mainly local, with about 85% dealing with Catalonia or the Catalan language.

Considering again the 436 publications in Spanish from this period, we see that 46.6% of them deal with local issues. Although with a very low presence at first, nonexistent topics in the literary- and historically-oriented past begin to find their way to the academic surface, with 12 publications in Spanish on interpreting (2.8%) or 16 (3.7%) on technical and scientific translation. Rather more slowly than in the rest of the world, but modern TS with its interest in translation such as it is and in all its modes was now beginning to wake up also in Spanish-speaking countries.

2.4 TS research in languages spoken in Spain (1986-2016)

⁵ By “specialized journal” we mean any journal regularly devoting $\geq 50\%$ of its contents to TS.

The turn of the 21st century brought about an unprecedented boom in TS in many parts of the world. The less than 500 publications on TS detected in the approximately 25 centuries of Western theoretical reflections before 1901, became some 8,000 publications in 1901-1985, and about 60,000 publications detected in 1986-2015, a thirty-year period (cf. Table 1). This exponential growth is almost a cliché in our discipline, but it is really hard to exaggerate the momentum TS acquired in the 1990s as compared with the previous lack of scholarly interest.

The growth in TS academic texts using Spanish, Catalan, Galician or Basque for publication is equally (or even more) dramatic: from 129 recorded before 1900, to 700 in the 1901-1985 period, and to 12,000 publications in 1986-2015, as detected in BITRA for Spanish. In Catalan, we go from none before 1900, to 80 in 1901-1985, and end up with almost 1,000 publications in 1986-2015. Both Galician and Basque, move from virtually no TS publications found before 1985 to almost 400 (Galician) and 200 (Basque) in the last thirty years.

In proportional terms, Spanish reaches in the 21st century 22% (BITRA) and 11% (TSB) of the total TS production, occupying the second place after English in both databases, well ahead of languages with a much more consolidated academic tradition, such as French, German or Italian. If we consider that BITRA is compiled in Spain, whereas TSB is a Dutch-Belgian product, it would probably be reasonable to estimate the current overall presence of Spanish in TS to be somewhere in between, around 16%. In their last report on bibliometric indicators of Spanish research (FECYT 2016:18), the academic authorities estimated that Spanish scientific articles for 2014 amounted to 3.25% of the world's total. The ratios drawn from the two existing holistic TS bibliographies only for Spanish, Catalan, Galician and Basque –i.e. discounting TS performed in foreign languages in Spain– place Spanish quota in our interdiscipline well over 10%. Clearly, Spain and its languages are central stakeholders in modern TS, and much more so than in other fields of study.

Given its number of speakers (approximately 10 millions), Catalan also reaches a surprising 1.9% (BITRA) and 1.4% (TSB) in current TS production, taking 7th place in both bibliographies, while the much fewer speakers of both Galician (three millions) and Basque (one million) explain their lower presence in TS, with 0.7%-0.3% (Galician) and 0.4%-0.1% (Basque), although they both have enjoyed in these last decades powerful academic containers in TS, allowing them to keep a visible profile.

However, taking a closer look, the evolution of the languages spoken in Spain within TS is not so promising. In Table 2 we provide a detailed examination of the evolution of all Iberian languages (except Portuguese) as means of publication in the 21st century.

Table 2 - The evolution of languages spoken in Spain within TS - 21st century. (Source: BITRA, November 2016)

	2001-2004	2005-2008	2009-2012	2013-2016
Total in BITRA	10,341	10,856	9,986	5,391
Spanish	2,624 (25.4%)	2,451 (22.6%)	1,975 (19.8%)	1,028 (19.0%)
Catalan	195 (1.9%)	214 (2.0%)	171 (1.7%)	92 (1.7%)
Galician	84 (0.8%)	91 (0.8%)	57 (0.6%)	15 (0.3%)
Basque	13 (0.1%)	25 (0.2%)	59 (0.6%)	42 (0.8%)

Given the normal rate of compilation in databases of this nature, it is only normal that academic production in the last years seems to dwindle. This does not (necessarily) reflect any actual diminution in TS production, and it is most probably just a consequence of the need to wait some years before (most) existing contributions for those last years are detected and included in the bibliographical databases. Exactly the same provisional lowering of absolute figures for the last three-year period takes place in English (from 5,408 records in 2009-2012 to 3,373 in the last interval), thus proving that this decrease cannot be attributed to any particular language. However –apart from systematic gaps in compilation–, there is no reason why the ratios for recent periods should substantially change in the future. By systematic gaps we mean the regular exclusion of research from a given language or geographical area, normally for operative reasons. This is the case with both BITRA and TSB in different degrees for languages which do not use the Latin alphabet.

The important and apparently hard fact we can draw from the available data is that Spanish as a language of publication within TS seems to have reached its apex and to be clearly on the decline, with a series of 25.4%, 22.6%, 19.8% and 19.0% in BITRA for 2001-2016 in three-year intervals, and 13.9%, 11.1%, 10.4% and 8.1% in TSB for the same period and intervals. There are three main possible explanations of this decrease –a comparatively bigger growth of TS research in other languages, a general decline in production by Spanish-speaking authors, and/or a significant growth of their production in other languages, especially English as the scientific lingua franca affording the highest visibility. There is no space in this contribution to analyze these three possibilities but this matter does seem to merit some research in the future.

Regarding the other languages, Catalan seems to be on a much slower decrease: 1.9%, 2.0%, 1.7% and 1.7% in BITRA for 2001-2016, and 1.9%, 1.4%, 1.3% and 0.5% in TSB for the same period. Galician as a language of publication in TS seems to be suffering a severe decline (0.8%, 0.8%, 0.6% and 0.3%), probably derived from some listlessness in its most important containers. Finally, Basque seems to keep and even increase its modest but visible profile (0.1%, 0.2%, 0.6% and 0.8%)⁶ thanks to the good health of the journal *Senex*, almost its only container in TS. Incidentally, this shows the great importance the initiative of a small group of people may have in establishing the scientific dimension of less-spoken languages.

As regards impact, the most cited Spanish publications from this period are for the first time the work of TS scholars (not historians, literary authors or philosophers). This could be considered a sign of the consolidation of TS as a scholarly pursuit in Spain. Indeed, among the 20 most cited TS works originally written in Spanish, all but two (Ortega y Gasset 1937 and Paz y Lozano 1971) were published after 1980 and written by university instructors.

Thematically, the use of Spanish to address local issues is still quite intense but continues to diminish (39.6% in 1986-2015 vs. 46.6% in 1971-1985). It is only logical that a language other than the scientific lingua franca is predominantly used for this kind of issues, and it is probably a sign of good academic health that the same language is also frequently used to address many other and more universal issues. Although the presence of literary translation and historical matters is still very high (40.0% vs. 49.9% in the past period), all kinds of modes and concerns associated to translation now crop up with great force, e.g. scientific and technical translation (16.9%), didactics (14%), professional issues (8.6%) or audiovisual translation (6.3%), all of them virtually nonexistent or with a very poor presence in the past.

⁶ Data for both Basque and Galician in TSB for the last few years are virtually nonexistent, probably waiting to be included.

As regards the thematic distribution of Catalan, a great part (52.9%) of the almost 1,000 publications in the last thirty years revolve around local issues and do so in a lower proportion than before, very much in line with the academic consolidation shown by Spanish. In this same vein, the topical gamut is really broad and every issue seems to merit research in Catalan contemporary TS. Apart from the usual preeminence of literary and historical topics (56.3% for the combination of both), many other daily and technical matters are consistently cultivated: professional issues (16.5%), scientific and technical translation (11.3%), didactics (11.1%), or audiovisual translation (8.1%), to mention the same as in Spanish. The most cited Catalan works are quite recent (even more than in Spanish) and were systematically written by university teachers.

Galician and Basque also present a marked local thematic approach, with 58.9% for Basque publications and 56.5% for Galician contributions, very much in the line of Catalan. Once again, literary and historical issues (46.9% for both in Galician, and 42.5% in Basque) are dominant, but these last thirty years have opened the doors to frequent research in many diverse topics also in these languages. To mention the same issues as in Catalan and Spanish, professional matters represent 8.0% in Galician and 21.3% in Basque, scientific and technical translation take 12.8% in Galician and 10.6% in Basque, didactics represent 7.2% in Galician, and 4.8% in Basque, whereas audiovisual translation takes 4.5% in Galician, and 3.4% in Basque. It must also be noted that there are some very notable and intriguing differences in some of these fields depending on the language of publication. They probably depend on the academic framework of TS in each language community, and should be examined more closely and analyzed in detail in the future. Finally, it must be noted that all the most cited works originally written in Galician are quite recent, and systematically performed by university teachers who are also scholars specializing in TS. In Basque, our universe of potential citers is too small and the citations available too few to establish any reliable regularities in this regard.

3. A global overview of TS in languages spoken in Spain

In the preceding sections, we have provided a general overview of the historical development of languages spoken in Spain in TS. Now, we will attempt to give a general outlook of the ways these languages are part of TS as a whole. In order to attain this objective, we will pay special attention to four facets which are central in the bibliometric portrait of any area: thematic distribution, academic containers (journals and book publishers), productivity and visibility (in terms of impact).

To start with, it will be useful to see the respective global position of each of our languages in the international scenario, as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 - Language distribution within TS for all times (Sources: BITRA & TSB, November 2016)

	BITRA (Ranking – Qty. - %)	TSB (Ranking – Qty. - %)
English	1 st - 34,489 (50.7%)	1 st - 17,834 (64.9%)
Spanish*	2 nd - 12,995 (19.1%)	2 nd - 3,041 (11.1%)
French	3 rd - 8,420 (12.4%)	3 rd - 2,626 (9.5%)
German	4 th - 6,004 (8.8%)	4 th - 1,407 (5.1%)
Italian	5 th - 2,046 (3.0%)	6 th - 388 (1.4%)

Portuguese	6 th - 1,993 (2.9%)	5 th - 782 (2.8%)
Catalan*	7 th - 1,043 (1.5%)	7 th - 323 (1.2%)
Chinese	8 th - 959 (1.4%)	9 th - 151 (0.5%)
Galician*	9 th - 382 (0.6%)	10 th - 80 (0.3%)
Russian	10 th - 342 (0.5%)	12 th - 37 (0.1%)
Dutch	11 th - 319 (0.5%)	8 th - 309 (1.1%)
Polish	12 th - 279 (0.4%)	11 th - 66 (0.2%)
Basque*	13 th - 209 (0.3%)	14 th - 14 (0.0%)
Arabic	14 th - 88 (0.1%)	13 th - 32 (0.1%)

The global figures confirm what we saw before only for the 21st century. English plays very clearly the role of lingua franca within TS, and Spanish occupies a solid 2nd place in the ranking of productivity within TS, ahead of languages with a greater academic tradition such as French or German.

The presence of Catalan and, especially, Galician and Basque logically presents a lower profile given their respective numbers of speakers, as compared with the approximately 550 millions who speak Spanish, almost 50 millions of them only in Spain. Thus, the 7th place Catalan takes in both TS bibliographies is remarkably high as compared with its geolinguistic spread. The 9th-10th place of Galician is no less commendable, and speaks of a consolidated “critical mass” in the institutionalization of TS in Galicia, at the same time that it is necessary to mention the great importance of the journal *Viceversa* in the making of TS in Galician. Finally, current Basque TS essentially depends on its almost sole means of academic communication, the journal *Senex*.

3.1. *The thematic distribution of research in languages spoken in Spain*

In the past sections, we used the name of the geographical area and its language in order to gauge the evolution of the degree of localness of concerns in research performed in each language. We will consider this same parameter from a global, time-independent perspective now, adding Hispanic America as a whole and its countries to the count.

Generally speaking, as we have already seen, all TS publications in languages spoken in Spain tend to primarily deal with local matters, although this leaning tends to be lower as we move forwards in time, in what could be termed as a maturing process of these languages as academic vehicles valid for all sort of objects of study. Logically, since Spanish is a language spoken in many different countries and shared by scholars who have other mother tongues, it is the one with a lower share (43.6%) of local matters (including Spain, Hispanic America and their countries and regions in this concept). Basque (58.4%), Catalan (58.0%) and Galician (56.8%) show very similar ratios, supporting the hypothesis that the more internationally extended a language is the less local its academic interests will be, and vice versa.

In terms of the interest aroused by the different geopolitical areas in TS publications written in any language, this distribution closely corresponds to what we have been discussing

until now. In Table 4 all Spanish-speaking regions and languages as topics discussed in at least 20 entries each in BITRA are shown.

Table 4 - Spanish-speaking regions or their languages as objects of study (Source: BITRA, November, 2016)

Spain (including all regions and excluding Spanish)	6,466 (9.5%)
Spanish (the language, as an object of study)	2,039 (3.0%)
Hispanic America (including all countries)	1,424 (2.1%)
Catalonia	875 (1.3%)
Galicia	372 (0.5%)
Argentina	313 (0.5%)
Mexico	234 (0.3%)
Catalan (the language, as an object of study)	202 (0.3%)
Basque Country	200 (0.3%)
Chile	97 (0.1%)
Colombia	90 (0.1%)
Peru	81 (0.1%)
Galician (the language, as an object of study)	79 (0.1%)
Basque (the language, as an object of study)	35 (0.1%)
Venezuela	34 (0.1%)

Perhaps the most noteworthy novelty of this ranking is the combined strength of Hispanic America, which emerges as a powerful object of interest to researchers, with almost 1,500 TS publications dealing with this geolinguistic area as a whole or with any of its countries in particular. In the light of this fact, it could be said that Hispanic America is not a central producer of autonomous TS research yet, but it is a central topic in our interdisciplinary. The 26 most productive authors with TS publications (both on their own and as co-authors) on Hispanic America or any of its countries are shown on Table 5, together with the countries and the last universities they have worked in.

Table 5 - Most productive TS researchers addressing Hispanic America as a subject (Source: BITRA – November, 2016)

Name	Last university	Country	Pubs.
1. Arencibia Rodríguez, Lourdes B.	No regular teaching found	Cuba	26
2. Bastín, Georges L.	Montréal	Canada	22
3. Payàs Puigarnau, Gertrudis	Salamanca	Spain	20
4. Willson, Patricia	Buenos Aires	Argentina	18
5. Alonso Araguás, Iciar	Salamanca	Spain	14

6. Pulido Correa, Martha L.	Antioquia	Colombia	14
7. Vega Cernuda, Miguel Angel	Alicante	Spain	13
8. Gargatagli Brusa, Ana	Autònoma de Barcelona	Spain	11
9. Pagni, Andrea	Erlangen Nürnberg	Germany	11
10. Munday, Jeremy	Leeds	U. Kingdom	9
11. Weller Ford, Georganne	CIESAS	Mexico	9
12. Arrojo, Rosemary	Binghampton	USA	8
13. Levine, Suzanne J.	California in Santa Barbara	USA	8
14. Stratford, Madeleine	Québec	Canada	8
15. Valdivia Paz-Soldán, Rosario	Ricardo Palma	Peru	8
16. Clavijo Olmos, Bibiana	EAN	Colombia	7
17. Foz, Clara	Ottawa	Canada	7
18. Guzmán, María Constanza	York	Canada	7
19. Pagano, Adriana Silvina	Minas Gerais	Brazil	7
20. Diéguez Morales, María Isabel	Pontificia U. Católica	Chile	6
21. Fossa, Lydia	Arizona	USA	6
22. Milton, John	São Paulo	Brazil	6
23. Montoya Arango, Paula Andrea	Antioquia	Colombia	6
24. Waisman, Sergio	George Washington	USA	6
25. Bradford, Lisa Rose	Nacional de Mar del Plata	Argentina	5
26. Valdeón García, Roberto A.	Oviedo	Spain	5

The most interesting piece of news associated with this list is that TS now has definitely got real specialists who are primarily interested in Hispanic American matters. The list of the working places of the most productive authors blends local and external research, although it still places the bulk of research in non-Hispanic American countries having a long historical contact with the region: Spain (5), Canada (4), United States (4), Colombia (3), Argentina (2), Brazil (2), Chile (1), Cuba (1), Germany (1), México (1), Peru (1) and United Kingdom (1). There does not seem to be any specific university gathering a large list of specialists, and there are only two centers which are included twice: the U. of Antioquia (Colombia) and the U. of Salamanca (Spain).

The regions or their languages are obviously not the sole object of study in TS. In Table 6 we can see the global thematic distribution in TS for all keywords with at least 1% in the corresponding language and in BITRA as a whole. The idea now is to compare the other thematic interests shown by research in TS in all languages with those featured by TS research in Spanish, Catalan, Galician and Basque.

Table 6 shows this information. We have organized the data in 4 categories to enhance comparability: the thematic distribution of BITRA as a whole, of all TS publications in Spanish, of only those published in (any language in) Hispanic American journals, and of only those published in Spanish journals, also in any language. We have included all languages for Hispanic American and Spanish journals because the idea here is to provide a picture of research as published in both regions, regardless of the publication language. Thus, we have information about both research in Spanish (2nd column) and research in Spain or in Hispanic America (3rd and 4th columns). Given the shortage of TS specialized journals in Hispanic

America, for this corpus we have used all TS articles from all journals, whether active or extinct, published in this area and having more than 10 TS articles. We are then talking of seven journals: *Mutatis Mutandis* and *Ikala* (Colombia), *Traduic* (Mexico), *Revista de la Facultad de Lenguas Modernas* (Peru), *Onomazein* (Chile), *Letras* (Costa Rica) and *Núcleo* (Venezuela). For the Spanish corpus, we have used the 17 TS specialized journals (over 50% of articles dealing with TS), published in Spain, whether active or extinct, with more than 50 TS articles. This list is thus made up of: *Cuadernos de traducción e Interpretación*, *ENTRECULTURAS*, *Estudios de Traducción*, *Hermeneus*, *Hieronymus Complutensis*, *Hikma*, *Livius*, *MonTI*, *Panace@*, *Puentes*, *Quaderns*, *Revista de Traducció*, *Revista Tradumàtica*, *Sendebarr*, *Skopos*, *TRANS*, and *Vasos comunicantes*. As before, it includes all publication languages, since this column attempts to represent all research published in Spain and not only in Spanish. This way, too, we can include Basque, Catalan and Galician in this thematic comparison, since their individual study would need more space than we can use in this contribution.

Table 6 - Global thematic distribution of TS research in Spain and Hispanic America vs. BITRA in general, ordered by their frequency in BITRA (November, 2016)

	All BITRA	All publications in Spanish	Only Hispanic American Journals (any language)	Only Spanish journals (any language)
Total entries	68,050 (100%)	12,995 (100%)	446 (100%)	2,795 (100%)
Literature	17,229 (25.3%)	3,940 (30.3%)	136 (30.5%)	1,020 (36.4%)
History	9,489 (13.9%)	2,658 (20.4%)	62 (13.9%)	525 (18.8%)
Teaching	8,640 (12.7%)	1,805 (13.9%)	73 (16.4%)	288 (10.3%)
Specialized tr.	8,009 (11.8%)	2,085 (16.0%)	39 (8.7%)	519 (18.5%)
Interpreting	7,081 (10.4%)	913 (7.0%)	22 (4.9%)	195 (7.0%)
Profession	5,704 (8.4%)	1,086 (8.4%)	36 (8.1%)	369 (13.2%)
Machine tr.	4,344 (6.4%)	451 (3.5%)	7 (1.6%)	132 (4.7%)
Linguistics	3,728 (5.5%)	606 (4.7%)	21 (4.7%)	91 (3.3%)
Audiovisual	3,723 (5.5%)	781 (6.0%)	13 (2.9%)	166 (5.9%)
Religion	3,215 (4.7%)	332 (2.6%)	15 (3.4%)	61 (2.2%)
Legal	2,954 (4.3%)	701 (5.4%)	10 (2.2%)	129 (4.6%)
Quality/Assess.	2,464 (3.6%)	314 (2.4%)	13 (2.9%)	80 (2.9%)
Documentation	1,924 (2.8%)	541 (4.2%)	4 (0.9%)	114 (4.1%)
Ideology	1,907 (2.8%)	286 (2.2%)	10 (2.2%)	54 (1.9%)
Research meth.	1,757 (2.6%)	237 (1.8%)	6 (1.3%)	52 (1.9%)
Process	1,698 (2.5%)	156 (1.2%)	8 (1.8%)	51 (1.8%)
Medical	1,575 (2.3%)	456 (3.5%)	6 (1.3%)	197 (7.0%)
Terminology	1,275 (1.9%)	345 (2.7%)	6 (1.3%)	63 (2.3%)
Corpus	1,211 (1.8%)	144 (1.1%)	2 (0.4%)	22 (0.8%)
Interference	1,036 (1.5%)	299 (2.3%)	5 (1.1%)	48 (1.7%)

Gender	953 (1.4%)	144 (1.1%)	11 (2.5%)	60 (2.1%)
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A perfunctory glance at Table 6 tells us that there is a basic similitude among all these research domains, and at the same time that there are a few notable and intriguing differences, each of which would deserve a detailed study of its own. Unfortunately, we do not have here the space we would need to address them all, and we will just briefly comment on the most striking.

To start with, the relative weight of literary and historical issues in Spain is remarkable. Figures here are consistently much higher (the difference exceeds 25%) than the ones for BITRA as a whole. Professional issues are also much more pursued in Spain than in TS in general, thus suggesting a marked local tendency, since these three topics are the most liable to be focused on local culture. It is also very interesting to note that the increase in these same topics is much more modest for the Hispanic American domain, suggesting a more practical approach here, and this is in turn backed up by a sharp increase of the interest in didactics only in Hispanic American production.

Interpreting as a research subject seems also to be lagging behind in our three domains, but very especially in Hispanic America, where it does not even represent half the global ratio it has in BITRA. Machine translation is another topic with a very low presence in the three domains, and only the important contribution of an exception, *Revista Tradumàtica*, goes some way towards restoring “balance” in Spanish journals.

In this same line of exceptions brought about to a great extent by the crucial contribution of a small group of committed researchers we have the journal *Panace@*, with its almost 150 articles on medical translation, making by itself Spain into one of the most productive research hubs in this field.

3.2. *TS Journals in Spain and Hispanic America*

The distribution of TS publications in Spanish-speaking countries in the last thirty years places Spain as the great scientific stakeholder for this language in TS. A balance between the two holistic bibliographical databases in TS (BITRA and TSB) allotted Spanish around 16% of TS research, and this figure clearly tallies with the fact that 22 (17%) of the 130 TS living journals we know of are published in Spain, whereas there seems to be only one (the Colombian *Mutatis Mutandis*) in Hispanic America devoting at least 50% of its contents to TS.

This situation merits a detailed examination in countries such as Argentina (some 30 TS books detected in the last 30 years), with a long history of translation programs (no less than 41 BA degrees in translation as of 2016) but no stable printed or digital academic journal in TS, although it must also be said that there have been several attempts (three that we know of) at creating a TS journal in this country. Probably one of the main reasons for this lack of interest in TS as a field of academic research lies in the very practical nature of the approach to translation in Hispanic America, as the general lack of MA’s and doctoral programs in TS in this part of the world seems to suggest. In Spain there are at least 60 MA’s programmes in different TS areas and 10 specific PhD programs including the word “Translation” (or a synonym) in their titles. In this connection, it must also be said that a recent change in postgraduate legislation promoting interdisciplinary doctoral programs has reduced the number of specific PhD courses in all fields in Spain, so that TS is now often blended with other branches of Arts and Humanities. In the whole of Hispanic America we have found scores of

BA's in TS but only 19 postgraduate courses and one specific TS doctoral program (in Argentina). There is no room here to elaborate on this issue, but the direct relationship between postgraduate, especially doctoral, courses and research productivity in a discipline is an interesting hypothesis that probably deserves to be tested for TS in the future.

Table 7 shows all active journals specialized in TS and published in Spanish-speaking regions. As before, we understand that a journal is specialized in TS when at least 50% of its regular contents deal with our interdiscipline.

Table 7 - List of the 23 TS living journals published in Spanish-speaking countries and main languages of publication (Source: RETI & BITRA, November 2016)

Name	Birth year	Publisher	Main language of publication	2 nd . Language
<i>Senez</i>	1984	EIZIE (Basque translators)	Basque (93.5%)	Spanish (6.5%)
<i>Sendebarr</i>	1990	U. Granada	Spanish (91.7%)	English (6.5%)
<i>Vasos comunicantes</i>	1993	AceTT (Assoc. Spanish book translators)	Spanish (100%)	-----
<i>Viceversa</i>	1995	U. Vigo + Association of Galician translators	Galician (100%)	-----
<i>Trans</i>	1996	U. Málaga	Spanish (82.5%)	English (15.6%)
<i>Quaderns</i>	1998	U. Autònoma de Barcelona	Catalan (56.7%)	Spanish (26.7%)
<i>Hermeneus</i>	1999	U. Valladolid	Spanish (81.0%)	English (13.7%)
<i>Panace@</i>	2000	MedTrad (Assoc. Spanish medical translators)	Spanish (88.9%)	English (7.9%)
<i>Revista Tradumàtica</i>	2001	U. Autònoma de Barcelona	English (42.9%)	Spanish (40.3%)
<i>Hikma</i>	2002	U. Córdoba	Spanish (88.9%)	English (6.9%)
<i>La linterna del traductor</i>	2002	ASETRAD (Assoc. Spanish translators)	Spanish (100%)	-----
<i>Transfer</i>	2006	U. Barcelona	Spanish (76.1%)	English (12.7%)
<i>Visat</i>	2006	Pen Català	Catalan (100%)	-----
<i>1611</i>	2007	U. Autònoma de Barcelona	Spanish (75.8%)	Catalan (12.1%)
<i>Doletiana</i>	2007	U. Autònoma de Barcelona	French (63.4%)	English (26.8%)
<i>Mutatis Mutandis</i>	2008	U. Antioquia	Spanish (64.1%)	English (20.4%)
<i>Entreculturas</i>	2009	U. Málaga	Spanish (88.3%)	English (8.3%)
<i>MonTI</i>	2009	U. Alicante, Jaume I & València	English (98.0%) ⁷	Spanish (48.0%)
<i>Estudios de Traducción</i>	2011	U. Complutense de Madrid	Spanish (85.7%)	English (5.7%)

⁷ Practically all articles in journal *MonTI* are translated into English in its electronic version.

<i>Anuari TRILCAT</i>	2011	U. Pompeu Fabra	Catalan (88.5%)	Spanish (11.5%)
<i>Skopos</i>	2012	U. Córdoba	Spanish (92.1%)	English (6.3%)
<i>FITISPos</i>	2014	U. Alcalá de Henares	English (54.5%)	Spanish (45.5%)
<i>CLINA</i>	2015	U. Salamanca	English (66.7%)	Spanish (33.3%)

As seen in Table 7, journal publishing activity in Spain is almost frenetic for a country of its size and scientific tradition (cf. Franco Aixelá 2012). If we added the extinct 18 Spanish and 3 Hispanic American TS journals to this list, we would have 43 specialized periodicals from 1982 to the present. In other words, since 1990 there have been very few years in which some Spanish or Hispanic American TS journal was not created⁸. One of the ways (especially the most recent) Spanish journals have developed to cope with this overpopulation is to tend to some kind of further specialization within TS, something which is not so frequent in the international scenario. Thus, we have journals specifically dealing with interpreting, medical, machine, or literary translation, together with others showing strong historical or regional leanings.

As we can also see in Table 7 the language distribution suggests a very marked trend towards the use of local languages for publication. Only five out of the 23 journals of our list place a foreign language (almost always English) before local ones, thus seeming to indicate an equally local readership. Nevertheless, it should also be said that four out of the five journals placing foreign languages first in their lists were created in the last decade, possibly signaling a change of course and a greater international ambition in this respect. It is also noteworthy that only journals from bilingual regions publish articles in Basque, Catalan or Galician. In this connection, the existence of local TS journals specializing in publishing articles in these three languages appears essential for their continuity in TS research. Practically all TS research in Basque and Galician depends on one specialized journal each, whereas in Catalan there are half a dozen journals regularly publishing TS articles, even if *Quaderns* is the great and traditional TS provider in this language.

The data also tell us that Spanish journals tend to be very young – almost two thirds were born in the 21st century. Indeed, the data speak both about their youth (which matches the youth of modern TS and tallies with the 1990s boom in the creation of translation degrees in this country) and about their frailty, with 5.6 years as the mean duration of the 18 extinct TS journals in Spain.

As regards geographical distribution, the great hub of Spanish TS living journals is Catalonia, with seven in the list, four of them published by the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Andalusia is the second great producer (five TS journals), with the universities of Málaga and Córdoba featuring two each. The existence of several TS journals within the same university is normally justified by the presence of active research groups which publish specialized academic periodicals. TS research groups working from Spain are indeed another very interesting object of study given their importance. For instance, Li (2015: 192) states that: “Of the 39 TS groups listed on the website of the European Society for Translation Studies, 15 (38.5%) are Spain-based”. The notable interest in journal publishing shown by Spanish

⁸ See RETI for an updated list of TS journals from all over the world, including extinct ones:

<http://www.bib.uab.cat/human/acreditacions/planes/publiques/revistes/eti.php?area=eti&menuidioma=eng>

professional associations of translators is also very noteworthy, with no less than five (21.7%) journals fostered by them.

The journal publishers in Spain, now and in the past, are systematically non-commercial, with public universities and professional associations as their sole responsible agents. This is probably a good part of the reason why currently all living TS journals in Spain are published on open access in a world in which still more than 50% of TS journals require subscription.

It is also very important to state here that TS was and remains very attractive to other neighboring disciplines. Thus, apart from the 43 living and extinct TS journals, there have been and still are thousands of TS articles being published in all kind of journals specializing in other disciplines, including linguistics, literary studies, computing, history and philosophy. To be more specific, we have located no less than 629 different journals publishing at least one article in Spanish about TS. This means that about 550 non-TS journals have published at least one article in Spanish dealing with TS. Individually, these non-specialized journals do not tend to be great TS publishers in quantitative terms, but all together they are central to TS, since they are collectively responsible for about 2,000 TS articles in Spanish, i.e. close to half of all detected TS articles in this language. In Hispanic America they play an even more crucial role, since no less than 30 journals published in that region have included some article on TS, thus providing an academic niche for reflection on our interdiscipline and partially compensating for the shortage of specialized periodicals in this area.

As regards the visibility of living journals published in Spain and Hispanic America, their marked tendency to foster local languages does not favor their promotion in the English-oriented international indexes. TSB, the other TS holistic bibliography, was trying as of 2016 to systematically cover 56 TS journals, eight of which (including *Mutatis Mutandis*) were from our areas. Table 8, with data collected from RETI, shows the (non-)presence of our living 23 journals in the most important international indexes.

Table 8 - Presence of TS Spanish and Hispanic American journals in international indexes for 2015 (Source: RETI. November, 2016)

Journal	AHCI	SCCI	IBSS	LLB A	SCOPUS	SJR	ERIHPLUS	GSM h-index
<i>1611</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Anuari Trilcat</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>CLINA</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Doletiana</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Entreculturas</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Estudios de Traducción</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	2
<i>FITISPos International Journal</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Hermeneus: revista de traducción e interpretación</i>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	0.101 (Q3)	YES	NO
<i>Hikma: estudios de</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

<i>traducción = translation studies</i>								
<i>Linterna del traductor</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>MonTI= Monographs in translation and interpreting</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
<i>Mutatis mutandis: revista latinoamericana de traducción</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	3
<i>Panace@: boletín de medicina y traducción</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	0.101 (Q4)	NO	NO
<i>Quaderns: revista de traducció</i>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	0.100 (Q4)	YES	5
<i>Revista Tradumàtica</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Sendebar</i>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	0.101 (Q4)	YES	4
<i>Senez</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Skopos</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Trans: revista de traductología</i>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	0.101 (Q3)	NO	NO
<i>Transfer: revista electrónica sobre traducción e interculturalidad</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Vasos comunicantes</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Viceversa: revista galega de traducción</i>	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Visat</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

There is no TS Spanish or Hispanic American journal in the two most prestigious international indexes, i.e. Thompson Reuters' Arts and Humanities Citation Index (AHCI) and Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), neither in the International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBBS). As far as other important indexes are concerned, only five journals can be found in Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts (LLBA) and Scopus, six in ERIH Plus and Google Scholar Metrics (GSM). In those indexes with a ranking, Spanish or Hispanic American TS journals tend to be in the lowest quartiles. Although these values change over time and the situation seems to have improved in the last few years, in terms of overall visibility there is a huge amount of ground to make up still.

3.3. TS book publishers in Spain and Hispanic America

Out of the 1,445 TS books published with at least part of their contents in Spanish, 74% were published in Spain, whereas 19% were launched in countries in which Spanish is not an official

language, and 7% were published in Hispanic America. Thus, the picture drawn by journals is to a great extent repeated in books.

This unbalanced situation is, if anything, increasing. For the pre-1985 period, before modern TS, we have 207 TS books with at least some chapter in Spanish. In this period, 55% of these books were published in Spain, 29% in non-Spanish speaking countries and 16% in Hispanic America. Out of the 1,238 TS books published with at least part of their contents in Spanish in 1986-2015, we have detected 6% published in Hispanic America, as against 16% published in countries where Spanish is not an official language, and 78% published in Spain during the last 30 years. Even if the location of BITRA management in Spain makes it reasonable to suppose that it will be easier for publications from this country to get into the database, the difference is too huge not to accept that TS in Hispanic America has still a long way to go. Actually, BITRA has detected over 120 TS books published in Portuguese and in Brazil during the last 30 years (as against 70 published in all the countries of Hispanic America in the same period), and Brazil is culturally and linguistically farther from Spain than any Spanish-speaking country.

Table 9 - TS publishers with ≥ 10 books with at least part in languages spoken in Spain
(Source: BITRA, November 2016)

Rk.	Publisher	Spanish	Basque	Catalan	Galician	Total
1	Comares	88	-----	-----	-----	88
2	Peter Lang	68	1	6	3	78
3	Universitat Jaume I	40	-----	14	-----	54
4	Universidad de Alicante	40	-----	3	-----	43
5	Universidade de Vigo	21	-----	-----	17	38
6	Universitat de València	29	-----	5	-----	34
7	Universidad de Valladolid	29	-----	-----	-----	29
8	Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria	28	-----	-----	-----	28
9	Universidad de León	27	-----	-----	-----	27
10	PPU	18	-----	6	-----	24
11	Atrio	23	-----	-----	-----	23
12	EUMO	2	-----	20	-----	22
13	Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha	20	-----	-----	-----	20
14	Universidad de Salamanca	20	-----	-----	-----	20
15	Universidad de Málaga	19	-----	-----	-----	19
16	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	14	-----	5	-----	19
17	Universidad de Granada	17	-----	-----	-----	17
18	Cátedra	15	-----	-----	-----	15
19	Diputación provincial de Soria	15	-----	-----	-----	15

20	Universidad de Murcia	13	----	----	----	13
21	Ariel	12	----	----	----	12
22	CSIC	12	----	----	----	12
23	ENCASA	12	----	----	----	12
24	Abadia de Montserrat	----	----	11	----	11
25	Bienza	11	----	----	----	11
26	Gredos	11	----	----	----	11

All the most productive publishers with at least 10 TS books in some language spoken in Spain but one (the Swiss Peter Lang) are Spanish. Also, it is especially noteworthy that out of 26 publishers, there are only seven commercial ones. As we saw above, this is also much the case with TS journals, none of which is published for profit, thus indicating that our interdiscipline in Spanish-speaking countries is essentially a matter for academics, not especially attractive to commercial publishers, although there are some exceptions.

Regarding Catalan and Galician, once again the activity shown by very few agents stands as basic for the academic survival of less-spoken languages. Thus, four public publishers represent about half of Catalan book production in TS, whereas the University of Vigo alone has published almost half of the books on TS with at least parts in Galician. In Basque we only know of 14 TS books at least partly in that language, with no publisher responsible for more than two titles.

It is also very interesting to note that 21 (80.8%) out of these 26 publishers have launched TS books with at least part of them in English. The exceptions are mainly commercial Spain-based publishers. This presence of English is always quite small, reaching about 10% of the other local languages, very much in line with the important but secondary presence of this language in Spain-based journals.

3.4. *The most cited works in Spanish and their authors*

We will next examine the most visible TS works originally published in Spanish. Our aim is to show the main characteristics of the most cited works in Spanish, paying special attention to their subjects, their international dissemination or the languages their authors use for academic communication. In Basque, Galician and Catalan, the number of publications mined for their citations in BITRA is still too small to allow for generalizations of the kind we can make here.

Table 10 - The most cited works⁹ originally published in Spanish listed according to their mean citations per year (Source: BITRA, November 2016)

Rk.	Name	Year	Title	Cits.	Cits. / year
1.	Hurtado Albir, Amparo	2001	<i>Traducción y traductología</i>	186	12.4
2.	Hurtado Albir, Amparo (ed.)	1999	<i>Enseñar a traducir</i>	86	5.1

⁹ For a complete reference and further information about all these publications, please consult BITRA.

3.	Chaume Varela, Frederic	2004	<i>Cine y traducción</i>	56	4.7
4.	Díaz Cintas, Jorge	2003	<i>Teoría y práctica de la subtitulación inglés / español</i>	55	4.2
5.	Rabadán Álvarez, Rosa	1991	<i>Equivalencia y traducción</i>	71	2.8
6.	Gamero Pérez, Silvia	2001	<i>La traducción de textos técnicos</i>	39	2.6
7.	Agost Canós, Rosa	1999	<i>Traducción y doblaje</i>	45	2.6
8.	Kelly, Dorothy Anne	2002	“Un modelo de competencia traductora”	33	2.4
9.	García Yebra, Valentín	1982	<i>Teoría y práctica de la traducción</i>	50	2.1
10.	Díaz Cintas, Jorge	2001	<i>La traducción audiovisual. El subtitulado</i>	28	1.9
11.	Collados Aís, Angela	1998	<i>La evaluación de la calidad en la interpretación simultánea</i>	35	1.9
12.	Vidal Claramonte, María del Carmen Africa	1998	<i>El futuro de la traducción</i>	33	1.8
13.	Gonzalo García, Consuelo & Valentín García Yebra (eds.)	2004	<i>Manual de documentación y terminología para la traducción especializada</i>	20	1.7
14.	Carbonell i Cortés, Ovidi	1998	<i>Traducción y cultura</i>	30	1.7
15.	Vega Cernuda, Miguel Ángel (ed.)	1994	<i>Textos clásicos de teoría de la traducción</i>	38	1.7
16.	Rabadán Alvarez, Rosa (ed.)	2000	<i>Traducción y censura inglés-español, 1939-1985</i>	25	1.6
17.	Ruiz Casanova, José Francisco	2000	<i>Aproximación a una historia de la traducción en España</i>	26	1.6
18.	Vázquez Ayora, Gerardo	1977	<i>Introducción a la traductología</i>	64	1.6
19.	Moya Jiménez, Virgilio	2003	<i>La selva de la traducción</i>	20	1.5
20.	Mayoral Asensio, Roberto	2001	<i>Aspectos epistemológicos de la traducción</i>	22	1.5
21.	Waddington, Christopher	1999	<i>Estudio comparativo de diferentes métodos de evaluación de traducción general (inglés-español)</i>	26	1.5
22.	García Yebra, Valentín	1994	<i>Traducción: historia y teoría</i>	33	1.5
23.	Mayoral Asensio, Roberto; Dorothy Anne Kelly & Natividad Gallardo San Salvador	1986	“Concepto de 'traducción subordinada' (cómic, cine, canción, publicidad). Perspectivas no lingüísticas de la traducción”	44	1.5
24.	Borja Albi, Anabel	2000	<i>El texto jurídico inglés y su traducción al español</i>	22	1.4
25.	Baigorri Jalón, Jesús	2000	<i>La interpretación de conferencias</i>	22	1.4
26.	González Davies, María (ed.)	2003	<i>Secuencias: Tareas para el aprendizaje interactivo de la traducción especializada</i>	17	1.3
27.	Muñoz Martín, Ricardo	1995	<i>Lingüística para traducir</i>	27	1.3
28.	Torre Serrano, Esteban	1994	<i>Teoría de la traducción literaria</i>	29	1.3
29.	García Yebra, Valentín	1983	<i>En torno a la traducción</i>	43	1.3
30.	Mayoral Asensio, Roberto	1999	<i>La traducción de la variación lingüística</i>	21	1.2

31.	Hurtado Albir, Amparo (ed.)	1996	<i>La enseñanza de la traducción</i>	24	1.2
32.	Gutiérrez Lanza, María del Camino	2001	<i>Traducción y censura de textos cinematográficos en la España de Franco: doblaje y subtitulado ingl-español (1951-1975)</i>	17	1.1
33.	Grupo PACTE	2001	“La competencia traductora y su adquisición”	17	1.1
34.	Moya Jiménez, Virgilio	2000	<i>La traducción de los nombres propios</i>	18	1.1
35.	Catelli, Nora & Marietta Gargatagli Brusa (eds.)	1998	<i>El tabaco que fumaba Plinio</i>	19	1.1
36.	Avila Bello, Alejandro	1997	<i>El doblaje</i>	20	1.1
37.	Vidal Claramonte, María del Carmen Africa	1995	<i>Traducción, manipulación, desconstrucción</i>	24	1.1
38.	Tricás Peckler, Mercedes	1995	<i>Manual de traducción: francés-castellano</i>	20	1.0
39.	Hurtado Albir, Amparo	1996	“La enseñanza de la traducción directa general”	20	1.0
40.	Paz y Lozano, Octavio	1971	<i>Traducción: literatura y literalidad</i> (Book)	46	1.0
41.	Lvovskaia, Zinaida Davidovna	1997	<i>Problemas actuales de la traducción</i>	17	0.9
42.	Hurtado Albir, Amparo	1995	“La didáctica de la traducción: evolución y estado actual”	18	0.9
43.	Carbonell i Cortés, Ovidi	1997	<i>Traducir al otro</i>	18	0.9
44.	Merino Alvarez, Raquel	1994	<i>Traducción, tradición y manipulación. Teatro inglés en España 1950-1990</i>	20	0.9
45.	Santoyo Mediavilla, Julio César	1987	<i>Teoría y crítica de la traducción</i>	27	0.9
46.	Ortega y Gasset, José	1937	“Miseria y esplendor de la traducción”	70	0.9
47.	Gallego Roca, Miguel	1994	<i>Traducción y literatura</i>	17	0.8
48.	Santoyo Mediavilla, Julio César	1985	<i>El delito de traducir</i>	24	0.8
49.	Paz y Lozano, Octavio	1971	“Traducción: literatura y literalidad”	24	0.5
50.	Borges Acevedo, Jorge Luis	1939	“Pierre Menard, autor del Quijote”	24	0.3
51.	Borges Acevedo, Jorge Luis	1936	“Los traductores de las 1001 noches”	17	0.2

The first thing to be observed in this list is that, when it comes to citations in the Humanities, there is an absolute preponderance of books (82.3%) and general overviews (98%). The picture is just the same as with TS in general (cf. Franco Aixelá 2013), and it would be good to preface this analysis with an important caveat: this is a list of the most visible, the most influential even, but not of the best (nor the worst) research. Indeed, research quality is not the issue here, as shown by the fact that the majority feature a generalist –often even handbook– approach, nothing to do with ground-breaking research (cf. Franco Aixelá & Rovira Esteva 2015). The analysis of this list should then enable us to gain insights into what fields are of interest to Spanish-speaking researchers and into the persons and centers responsible for the most influential TS research in Spanish, but we are by no means implying that these are the best 51 TS essays ever written in Spanish.

To get an idea about the relative popularity of TS in different languages, it might be interesting to say that only the most popular of the works listed here would make it into the 50 most cited works in TS, regardless of language. The second one would take place 87 in the world list, whereas number 51 in our ranking would have some 730 other works ahead. This means that it makes no sense to expect works which are not in English to achieve degrees of popularity comparable with the ones in the lingua franca, something academic authorities should take into account in research assessments.

Nine (17.6%) of these 51 most cited works have been translated in some other language. If we consider that four of them are the work of very famous writers (Borges, Ortega and Paz), and that one was translated only into Catalan, there would remain four (7.8%) TS academic works in Spanish that have merited international recognition via translation. Generally speaking, it seems fair to say that TS research performed in Spanish does not attract great attention abroad, and this matches quite well the tendency to associate local topics with local languages.

In this same connection, it must be said that 75.6% of the TS works by these authors has been published in Spanish, with 27.5% of them also in English and 3.1% in Catalan, whereas French takes 1.8% and three other languages are clear outliers, with 0.2% each¹⁰. Taking a look at this same issue from a different angle, it is interesting to note that only five of these academic authors have other works originally written in English accruing more citations than their most cited Spanish essays. There are of course exceptions, with some much cited TS scholars who work in Spanish universities and publish mostly in other languages, including English and Catalan. Nevertheless and generally speaking, it seems fair to affirm that until 2015 at least, a great majority of TS research performed in Spain and Hispanic America was being done in Spanish. It is also true that most of these authors are senior researchers, and in the future it would be necessary to devise a diachronic analysis of the publication languages used by TS scholars who work in Spain and Hispanic America, in order to check whether this hegemony of Spanish might be losing ground in favor of English or other languages in the works of more junior researchers or even in the most recent production of more senior ones. The search for maximum dissemination and visibility, the favorable assessment of international (i.e. published in English) research by Spanish assessment authorities, and the higher ratio of articles written in English in the most recent Spanish journals seem all to point in this direction. An interesting hypothesis to be tested in this investigation would be whether the matters dealt with by Spanish-speaking authors in foreign languages differ from the ones they address in their local language(s). The opinions expressed by the editors of very prestigious international journals in applied linguistics (Byrnes 2010) seem to confirm that this is necessarily so. Indeed, the chief editors of journals such as *The Canadian Modern Language Review*, *Language Learning*, *Language Learning & Technology* or *TESOL* explicitly pose “concerns of local interest” as one of the main reasons for manuscript rejection in their journals. Incidentally, one of the consequences of this editorial policy is that systematic research on Spanish (including Basque, Catalan and Galician) and Hispanic American matters and languages is only possible in books and journals published locally.

The mean publication date of the most cited is 1992 and the median is 1997, with 45 (88.2%) published after 1980, and 40 (78.4%) after 1990. This seems to show that modern TS has become the source of current classics as regards theoretical approaches. A quick look indicates that, indeed, only about a dozen of these 51 works could be considered to fit into the

¹⁰ The total exceeds 100% due to translations and editions of collective multilingual volumes.

essentialist “pre-scientific” approach to translation, implying that the cultural target-oriented way of considering our interdiscipline is clearly dominant in Spanish academia nowadays.

Thematically, this list mirrors quite well the topical distribution of TS as collected in BITRA. Globally, it presents a broad topical variety in which very different interests – theoretical considerations, literary translation, didactics, audiovisual translation, history, scientific and technical translation, quality issues, post-colonialism, censorship, interpreting, and whatnot– share prominence in our interdiscipline. At the same time, not all topics are equally pursued. History (15.7%), didactics (13.7%) and literature (9.8%) are among the four most popular subject matters, with a remarkable 11.7% of the most cited pertaining to audiovisual translation, which is shown as an especially attractive subject in TS. On the other side of the balance, the small weight of interpreting (3.9%) should be mentioned, reinforcing the scarce presence of this topic in Spanish TS journals.

4. Conclusions

We have tried to give an overview of research in languages spoken in Spain and Hispanic America, and there are some challenging conclusions we would like to underline here.

- The academic presence of Spain and Hispanic America in Translation Studies is central, both from the perspective of translation degrees and from the point of view of research.
- We have located over 100 translation degrees offered in our areas, with notable concentrations in countries such as Argentina, Mexico or Spain which, to our knowledge, find no parallel in any other part of the world. However, the postgraduate offer in Hispanic America seems to be quite lower than in Spain, and this could be part of the explanation of the smaller weight of research in the former.
- Spanish is the second publication language in TS, just behind English, with a quota probably around 16% among Western languages.
- Spain has 22 living journals specialized in TS, all of them published in open access mode, and covering a broad variety of branches and languages, whereas in Hispanic America there is only one. These journals represent about 17% of those existing in TS, thus reinforcing the idea that the share of Spain and Hispanic America within TS is probably around 16%.
- Catalan is also a central presence in TS, with 7th place in its use as a publication language and a solid variety of publishers ensuring a stable future.
- Galician and Basque TS both exceed the ratio they would normally have with respect to their numbers of speakers. Both depend very heavily on one central journal each. The role played by these two journals talks highly of the importance a small group of people may have in a discipline, but at the same time this great dependence on small groups of people poses an important danger to the continuity of the discipline in those languages.
- The growth of languages spoken in Spain within TS is dramatic, but with the exception of Basque, they all seem to currently dwindle in importance. The figures in the 21st century speak at least of a tendency to listlessness in the use of these languages, something that should be checked and explained in the future.

- Thematically, the use of languages other than English seems to bring about a high tendency to pursue local themes in an inverse order, i.e. this tendency is higher the fewer speakers a given language has.
- Hispanic America rises as a central subject in TS, although its most productive specialists tend to come from outside, especially from areas such as Spain, Canada or USA, with a long and intense tradition of contact with this part of the world.
- As regards the rest of usual subjects in TS, research in languages spoken in Spain bears an important although not total resemblance with global research. The most notable differences are the greater importance of literary, historical and professional issues in Spanish research, the higher weight of didactics in Hispanic America, and the relative shortage of research in interpreting and in machine translation both in Spain and Hispanic America.
- The great importance in Spanish TS of articles published in journals from neighboring fields of knowledge must also be stressed, with about half of all article production in those containers.
- The presence of Spanish TS journals in international indexes is much lower than their relative weight would involve, very likely due to the scarce use of English and the abundance of local concerns. At the same time that this may be considered a problem, it seems also clear that local languages and concerns will only survive in TS if “peripheral” journals continue to foster them.
- About 75% of TS books in Spanish were published in Spain, and less than 10% were published in Hispanic America, thus confirming the unbalance already shown by TS journals.
- A great majority of the most productive TS book publishers in Spain are public universities, confirming the relatively low commercial interest of TS published in languages in Spain, as already shown by journals.
- An analysis of the most cited authors in Spanish shows a tendency to publish more in local languages and a poor impact abroad of the most popular research in Spain.
- Also, this analysis of the most cited in Spain shows that books (instead of journal articles) and generalist approaches (instead of case studies) are by definition the most attractive types of publications for scholars.
- All in all, TS in Spain and Hispanic America shows a great vigor, higher than what its demographic weight and academic tradition would imply for the four languages spoken in Spain. This quantitative importance is accompanied by a broad thematic variety which is compatible with a focus on local concerns. There are some important problems to address, especially the imbalance between Spain and Hispanic America, and the poor international visibility of TS research performed in our languages.

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