Grammatical Metaphor in English-Chinese Translation

Xianzhu Si, Beijing International Studies University, Beijing, China

Jing Wang, Beijing International Studies University, Beijing, China

ABSTRACT

This paper aims to apply grammatical metaphor (GM) in systemic functional linguistics (SFL) into translation studies. From the concept of functional equivalence in terms of ideational meaning, interpersonal meaning, and textual meaning required of target text (TT) relative to source text (ST) proposed by SFL, it is necessary for the translators to manipulate respectively on the transitivity system, mood system, modality system, and theme system that embody ideational meaning, interpersonal meaning, and textual meaning. Since the same meaning can be expressed in different grammatical structures, the translators, in this process, are faced with a variety of grammatical forms, among which congruent form and metaphorical form are included. To attain the goal of translation prescribed above, the translator has to choose an accurate and appropriate structure. The article then discusses the necessity and effects of GM's application into English to Chinese translation to ensure the quality of the works translated.

KEYWORDS

Functional Equivalence, GM, Modality System, Mood System, Systemic Functional Linguistics, Theme System, Transitivity System, Translation

INTRODUCTION: THE NAME AND NATURE OF GM

It is well known that in the language there exists a common phenomenon that various grammatical structures can be used to express the same meaning. For instance:

1. A: "Have some more wine."
B: "No, thanks."
2. A: "Why not have some more wine?"
B: "No, thanks."

In the two dialogues above, we can see that A invites B to have some more wine. In 1, the semantic function is finished with an imperative sentence while that in 2 with an interrogative structure. According to SFL, among the various grammatical structures available to express the same meaning, there are classified into two types: congruent form and grammatical form, or GM. In other words, there are two modes of realization for a given meaning: the congruent form and the metaphorical form. "For any given semantic configuration there will be some realization in the lexico-grammar— some wording—that can be considered congruent; there may also be various others that are in some respect 'transferred', or metaphorical." (Halliday, 1994: 342).

Then, what are "congruent form" and "metaphorical form"? According to Thompson(1996: 28), the term "congruent" can be informally glossed as "closer to the state of affairs in the external world" and GM can be provisionally defined as "the expression of a meaning through a lexical-grammatical form that originally evolved to express a different kind of meaning". The functional analysis of language structures can be developed from their congruent form and metaphorical form. For example, nouns usually express objects, concepts and things while verbs express action. Grammatically, an interrogative sentence indicates a "question", while a declarative sentence expresses a "statement". When nouns are used to express action, then there appears metaphorical form like nominalization (such as using nouns to express processes). Similarly, when an interrogative sentence is not used for asking a question and demanding answers, the metaphorical form can be seen.

Accordingly, it can be explained that 1 is "congruent form" and 2 is "metaphorical form". In light of function of grammatical structures, an imperative sentence is to indicate offer, demand and invitation, or command and warning while an interrogative sentence is used to ask a question and require an answer. However, in 2, the interrogative sentence is not to ask a question but rather express an invitation, which can be inferred from answer B. Therefore, the function of it is to express "invitation", often indicated by an imperative sentence, though it is an interrogative sentence grammatically. So, 2 is a GM. Comparatively, as an imperative sentence, 1 expresses "invitation" or "offer", which is its basic function, hence it is "congruent form".

It should be pointed out that the terminology "metaphorical form" is not absolute but relative to "congruent form". If there is not congruent form, there will be no metaphorical form. And only if there are two or more grammatical structures available to express the same meaning will we need to distinguish congruent form and metaphorical form.

NOTION OF GM IN TRANSLATION AND THE STATUE QUO

GM Re-Defined in Translation

Because there are two kinds of patterns between grammatical structure and its semantic function, that is congruent form and metaphorical form, this provides a theoretical basis for the discussion of the realization patterns and communicative effects of translation.

According to SFL, language has three meta-functions: the ideational function, the interpersonal function and the textual function. That is to say, text as instantiation of language use has three kinds of meanings: the ideational meaning, the interpersonal meaning and the textual meaning. Thus Hu et al. (1989:188-189) claims that translational equivalence cannot be achieved purely on the basis of one kind of meaning, i.e. the ideational meaning. Instead, it should be realized on the levels of interpersonal meanings (e.g. the speaker's attitude, motivation, judgment, and role) and textual meanings (e.g. media, channel, and rhetoric devices) as well as on the level of ideational meanings between the original text and the translated text. He suggests that a good translation be equivalent to the original text on all the three types of meanings.

Based upon the above notion of translation, to assess the quality of translation is to examine to what extent the translation is equivalent to the original text with respect to the above three meta-functions (or meanings).

Since these three meta-functions (or meanings) are realized by the transitivity system, the mood system(modality system as well), and the system of thematic structure respectively. Translation quality assessment mainly concentrates on translational equivalence to or deviation from the original text in terms of the ideational, interpersonal and textual meanings. Correspondingly, in the translating, the translator manipulates on the above lexical-grammatical systems in the target language to attain the functional equivalence in target text relative to source text.

In view of the structural differences between English and Chinese and the different cognitive environments of the source text readers and the target text readers, in order to achieve the "functional

equivalence", the translator often faces the choice of transplanting or changing the language structure of the source language in the process of manipulation on the above-mentioned language systems. Here, we call the choice of linguistic form in target text different from that in source text as GM in translation. Based on the above working definition, this paper discusses the application and effect of GM in translation from the perspective of the choice of grammatical form in English-Chinese translation, and explores the value of developing the awareness of GM in translation in relation to the translation quality and effects.

A Sketch of Studies of GM in English-Chinese Translation

Huang (2009) is one of the earliest Chinese scholars that apply the theory of GM to translation studies. He believes that in the process of translating, the translator has to make a choice between the congruent forms or the metaphorical forms against a particular context of situation, which is composed of the communicative purpose, register, contents, and the interpersonal relationship between the participants. The two modes of meaning expression may fulfill quite different communicative functions. Similarly, Deng & Cao (2010) find that the subjectivity of the translator and his cultural identity have a great impact on the choice of the congruent and metaphorical forms in English-Chinese translation. GMs, they argue, can reveal the character's social identity and personal characteristics. Thus they provide the translators with the criteria of choosing linguistic equivalents, which in turn may improve the quality of translation.

Zhu & Zhang(2015) begins with an account of a high-profile political speech event centering on a Chinese slangy expression '[we] bu zheteng' when it was used by the then Chinese President Hu Jintao in a 2008 speech, of which the Chinese government preferred a zero translation despite the existing translations and various choices already available in Chinese-English dictionaries. The paper then discusses from the perspective of GM how and why an innocent-looking pragmatic usage has given rise to a series of ideologically charged debates over its translation.

Zhang Junfeng (2011) in his PhD thesis and his journal article(2012) addresses the issue of implicitness and its translation in diplomatic discourse. Taking the 2001 Hainan Air-Collision Incident as the case corpus, he argues that when a congruent coding is packaged into a GM, it works both as a major implicitness-creating mechanism in the making of diplomatic discourse and a significant translation strategy or method.

Many scholars have also applied the theory of GM to the study of technical translation. Nominalization, among many others, is characteristic of technical texts. It may contribute to the simplification of grammatical structure, the enhancement of lexical density, and the expansion of information capacity.

Yu (2006) and Xu & Wu (2008) both have discussed the working mechanisms and functions of ideational metaphors in technical texts with respect to the transformations of process, functional elements, and lexico-grammar. They believe that ideational metaphors can help to improve the formality, conciseness and objectivity of technical texts. Hence, any translators cannot afford to neglect these significant functions of ideational metaphors in technical translation. Chen (2012) investigates the translation strategies of GM in scientific language, suggesting that the metaphorical forms can be translated at the same or higher ranks, which specifically will be based upon the degree of difficulty.

Besides, Yang (2013) discusses the role of nominalization for cohesion in technical English. He points out that the translator should choose the right parts of speech on the basis of the characteristics and idiomaticity of the English and Chinese languages so as to achieve equivalent transformations and coherence.

In sum, it is relatively new to apply the theory of GM to the choice of different expressions in translation,particularly in English-Chinese translation. The notion of GM proves useful for achieving the functional equivalence between the source text and the text translated. However, the past studies have largely tackled the issues at the macro level, lacking detailed in-depth and comprehensive explorations. For example, an all-round inquiry of GM inclusive of all three types of GM (ideational

GM, interpersonal GM, and textual GM) in English-Chinese translation is scarcely found out in the literature of the field. More studies need to be done in the application of GM to English-Chinese translation practice.

TRANSITIVITY(IDEATIONAL) METAPHOR IN ENGLISH-CHINESE TRANSLATION

Transitivity Metaphor

In terms of semantic functions, GMs can be divided into three main types: ideational metaphors, interpersonal metaphors and textual metaphors.

Generally, ideational metaphor includes transitivity metaphor in semantic function and nominalization and verbalization in lexical-grammar.

Halliday has divided transitivity into six processes, namely, material process, mental process, relational process, verbal process, behavioral process, and existential process. Here, transitivity metaphor is referred to transfer of varied processes. For instance:

1. Great changes have taken place in China for the past several decades.
2. The past several decades have witnessed great changes in China.

Here, the two sentences are expressing the same meaning, "There were great changes that took place in China in the past several decades", but they fall into different grammatical structures. 1 adopted "taken place" that express "action", while 2 used "witnessed" that indicates a "static" meaning. In terms of "closer to the state of affairs in the external world", 1 is closer to the state of affairs in the external world because the meaning of "great changes that took place" is expressed by a material process "take place", a verb that indicates an action. But for 2, it used "witness", a verb that expresses static meaning, to indicate a mental process, altering the great changes in real life into the object of "witness", which is an existential "phenomenon". Therefore, it is fair to say that in expressing the meaning that "There were great changes that took place in China in the past several decades.", 1 can be regarded as a congruent form while 2 a GM. Because the differences of 1 and 2 are achieved by distinct processes in transitivity of ideational meta-function, the GM like 2 can be called transitivity metaphor.

Transitivity Metaphor in English-Chinese Translation

In the translation of an English sentence or text into Chinese, a translator usually will make three choices: (1) choosing a process type, namely, a process from the six ones, (2) choosing functional components of transitivity system in line with the process, including participant, sensor, phenomenon, (3) choosing the word class reflecting the function like verbal phrase, noun phrase and adjacent phrase. The different choices of processes by a translator inevitably leads to the emergence of GM. To be specific, when a process is congruent in expressing a meaning, it becomes metaphorical when it is transferred into another. But no matter how the process is transferred, the basic meaning the translator wants to express remains the same, in other words, the translator makes choices between relative "equivalents".

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen chats the romantic stories of five girls of the Bennet. The comedy of the writing lies in the depiction of manners, education, and marriage and money in the British Regency. There are numerous classic dialogues in the story.

Based on the theory of process types, the following two examples are taken from the novel and its translations for the discussion related to GM.

- **Example 1**

- ◦ **ST**: It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.
- ◦ **TT1**: 有钱的单身汉总要娶位太太，这是一条举世公认的真理。(Translated by Sun Zhili) (Austen, 1813/2010)
- ◦ **TT2**: 谁都知道，单身汉有了钱，第一件事儿就是娶个媳妇。(Translated by Zhang Xiaoyu)(Austen, 1813/2006)

In this example, TT1 retains the original relational process and mental process respectively, translating "It is a truth universally acknowledged" into "这是一条举世公认的" and "be in want of" into "总要". For TT2, it translates "It is a truth universally acknowledged" into "谁都知道", changing original relational process into mental process, the choice of GM, with the effect of enhancing people's understanding of the truth that "a man in possession of a good fortunate must be in want of a wife."

- **Example 2**

- ◦ ST: This was invitation enough.
- ◦ TT1: 这句话足够鼓励她讲下去了。(Translated by Wang Keyi) (Austen, 1813/1980)
- ◦ TT2: 既然他这样回答，她便劲头十足地往下说了。 (Translated by Yi Hai) (Austen, 1813/1994)

The original sentence is a relational process. For TT1, "这句话足够鼓励" is a mental process, showing that Mrs. Bennet was inspired by her husband's words to continue to tell him how Netherfield Park was leased in detail. For TT2, "她便劲头十足地往下说" is a verbal process indicating that Mrs. Bennet's desire to continue talking about that Netherfield Park was ignited and further enhanced by what Mr. Bennet said, which is a vivid portrayal of her susceptible character that brings a humorous note to Chinese readers. To attain the ideational equivalence, both translators have changed the process type of ST, adoption of transitivity grammar.

The following example is from another classics: *Gone with the Wind,* and its translations.

- **Example 3**

- ◦ ST: Now, her emotions were sharpened by her long dreams of him, heightened by the repression she had been forced to put on her tongue.(*Gone with the Wind*, Chapter 15)
- ◦ TT1:现在经过两年多的离别，她的情绪因对他的长久的梦想而越发尖锐化了，因一直闷在肚里不能说出口而越发高涨了。 (Translated by Fu Donghua) (Mitchell, 1936/1980)
- ◦ TT2:如今尝过了常年累月的相思滋味，她的感情才真是如火如炽，况且一直强压在心头，不得一吐为快，所以其势越发如火上加油了。 (Translated by Shu Xin) (Huang, 2020)

In ST, "her emotions were sharpened" and "heightened" are mental processes. TT1 retains the mental process, putting them into "越发尖锐化" and "越发高涨了". For TT2, it turns the processes into relational processes by translating "sharpened" and "heightened" as "真是如火如炽" and "如火上加油", which compares Scarlett's excitement with a burning fire, a vivid evidence of Scarlett's love for Ashley. In this way, TT2 is more precise in expression of the ideational meaning in ST.

In this part, we have analyzed two translated versions of the same original text as far as transitivity(ideational) metaphor is concerned and distinguished congruent form and metaphorical form. From the perspective of ideational equivalence required of TT relative to ST, the choice of congruent form and grammatical structure is a projection of a translator's stance on the construction of meaning. Hence, just as Thompson(1996) said that "More metaphorical words are inherently neither better nor worse than more congruent wordings: they are simply doing different jobs." Nevertheless,

to develop the awareness of GM in translation is definitely significant to the attainment of ideational equivalence in TT against ST.

INTERPERSONAL METAPHOR AND ITS ENGLISH-CHINESE TRANSLATION

Interpersonal Metaphor: Mood Metaphor and Modality Metaphor

Interpersonal metaphor originated from interpersonal meta-function in systemic functional linguistics, is mainly related to Mood metaphor and Modality metaphor.

According to Halliday, in line with differences of speech roles and exchanges in a communication process, a communication falls into four functions: offer, statement, command and question. Except for "offer" which is not reflected in mood, "statements" are most naturally expressed by declarative clause; "questions" by interrogative clauses; and "commands, requests" by imperative clauses.

Very often, verbal functions are reflected by typical mood. Nonetheless, the relation between verbal function and mood system is very complex rather than simply correspondent, for one verbal function may be expressed by more than one kind of mood. For instance:

1. You should come to my office right now.
2. Can you come to my office right now?
3. Come to my office right now.

Semantically, the three sentences are all to express command, among which 3 is an imperative clause, or a congruent form of command, while 1 and 2 are declarative clause and interrogative clause to express the same meaning. Likewise, one type of mood can express one more verbal functions as declarative clause can indicate question and command in various contexts.

The mood variation, or the transfer of one mood to another, is called mood metaphor, which reflects variation of speech function. Obviously, in mood metaphor, grammar is not fully in line with semantics for one mood can represent two or more speech functions. Metaphor is a reflection of the combination of two verbal functions.

According to Halliday, the meanings of modality include subjective and objective orientations, in other words, components of modality can express a speaker's subjective attitude or willingness to a proposition or show some possibility or certainty that is objectively existent. Modality orientations fall into four types: explicit subjective, implicit subjective, explicit objective and implicit objective. Distinct modality orientations lead to different forms of modality types. For example:

1. I think Mr. Li knows. (explicit subjective)
2. Mr. Li will know. (implicit subjective)
3. It's likely Mr. knows. (explicit objective)
4. Mr. Li probably knows. (implicit objective)

In general, in an English text, implicit modality orientation is reflected through modal adverb, modal verb or other extensions of predicate while explicit orientation through clause.

Mood Metaphor in English-Chinese Translation

In translation from English into Chinese, a translator has to manipulate on the forms of mood (congruent or metaphorical form) to supplement interpersonal meaning.

In English, many implied meanings can be expressed indirectly by different moods. In translation, if we adopt the same mood such as translating English interrogative sentence into Chinese equivalent one, then although the translation achieves formal equivalence, sometimes the implied meanings of a sentence cannot be expressed explicitly, the readers may not be able to grasp the meaning owing

to language and culture differences. Hence, in appropriate context, the adoption of mood metaphor is a satisfactory strategy in translation.

- **Example 1**

  ◦ ST: Jack: Well, Rose. We've walked about a mile around this boat deck and chewed over how great the weather's been and how I grew up, but I reckon that's not why you came to talk to me, is it? (*Titanic*)
  ◦ TT1:杰克:喂,露西,我们绕着这甲板走了快要一英里地了,天气,我的身世,我们也说得差不多了。不过我觉得你找我来不是讲这些的吧?(Translated by Crazy English)
  ◦ TT2:杰克:噢,露丝。我们绕甲板走了半天了。就谈这些蓝天和大海,还有我的身世,恐怕你找我还有别的是吧。 (Translated by Movie Storm)

This is an example from the romantic movie *Titanic*. Rose invited Jack for a walk on the deck. Jack told Rose how he grew up, but he knew that this was not what Rose really wanted to know, so he said, "But I reckon that's not why you came to talk to me, is it?". Although it is an interrogative sentence, it is Jack's rhetorical question to ask Rose what she really wanted him here for. TT1 transplants the interrogative sentence of ST. For TT2, it adopts an exclamation sentence, hence, the mood metaphor adopted. By comparison, we can see that TT2 is more direct in showing Jack's understanding of the situation by stating that he knew he was summoned by Rose here for reasons other than weather and upbringings. Thus, TT2 is more efficient in communicating the character's real intentions to translation readers and viewers of the movie.

- **Example 2**

  ◦ ST:
    Rose: Look, I know what you must be thinking! "Poor little rich girl. What does she know about misery?"
    Jack: No. No, that was not what I was thinking. What I was thinking was, "What happened to this girl to make her think that she had no way out?" (*Titanic*)
  ◦ TT1:
    露丝:我知道你在想什么, "这个可怜的富家女,她怎么会知道什么是悲惨。"
    杰克:不,不。我没这么想。我想的是 "这姑娘到底遇上什么事了,让她觉得无路可退?" (Translated by Crazy English)
  ◦ TT2: 露丝:听着,我知道你是怎么想的!你这个可怜的阔小姐,身在福中不知福。
    杰克:不,不,我没这么想。我是在想,这个姑娘出了什么事?为什么会感到绝望?
    (Translated by Movie Storm)

This is a conversation between Jack and Rose when they were dating on the deck. Rose thought that Jack judged her for trying to jump into the sea not knowing the real misery in this real world. The underlined sentence is interrogative, by analysis, it can be seen that in this context, "What does she know about misery?" is only an expression of what Rose thought Jack would think of her, thus it demands no answer. Therefore both versions of the translation have changed the mood of ST, adopting mood metaphor of declarative structure, which are more appropriate in delivering Rose's mimicking of Jack's tone of judgment in her imagination.

- **Example 3**

  ◦ ST:

> Roy: (to Myra) What do dancers eat?
> Myra: Oh, dull things mostly. Nutritious yet nonfattening.
> Roy: Oh, no, not tonight. (to waiter) What could you suggest that would be particularly rich and indigestible? (*Waterloo Bridge*)

- ◦ TT1:
  罗依：(对玛拉)舞蹈演员吃些什么？
  玛拉：啊，大多是些没味的东西。有营养，但脂肪少的。
  罗依：啊，不，今晚不这样。(对侍者)你们这里有什么脂肪既丰富而且又特别不好消化的菜吗？ (Translated by Liu Mei and Wang Qinxue)(Yang, 1995)
- ◦ TT2:
  罗依：舞蹈演员吃什么？
  玛拉：哦，多是些无味的，有营养但不会让人发胖。
  罗依：不行，今晚不行。(对侍者)请推荐一种特别油腻、不易消化的食品。 (Translated by Shu Yongzhen)(Nanjing Liaohua, n.d.)

This example is from an excerpt of *Waterloo Bridge*, which tells the romantic story between Lieutenant Roy and ballet dancer Myra. They were seated at table. Roy learned that as a ballet dancer, Myra usually ate dull things that were nutritious yet nonfattening. To give her some surprise, he decided to invite her to eat something different. The interrogative sentence, "What could you suggest that would be particularly rich and indigestible?" showed that Roy wanted some advice from the waiter. For TT1, it followed the original mood, thus, it is the congruent form. For TT2, it has transferred the interrogative mood into an imperative mood, mood metaphor is used, indicating an order of Roy to the waiter. At the first glance, the form seems inappropriate for it shows some kind of rudeness to the waiter and the restaurant by ordering rather unhealthy food in a fancy restaurant. On the other hand, the interrogative mood of Roy's question will help the waiter to sense the humorous tone behind Roy's request, and every party involved, Roy, Myra and Roy will probably laugh about it and hence Roy's real intention of leaving a good impression on Myra will be realized. Therefore, the use of mood metaphor in TT2 is better in realization of interpersonal equivalence in TT, with the effects of showing Roy's politeness and humor to the waiter and Myra.

By comparing various translations reflecting characters' words, it is demonstrated that translations do not have to follow exactly the forms of ST so that different moods can be adopted in a flexible way. Appropriate transfer of mood in a clause will enable translation to show the hidden intentions or tones of ST, assisting readers in having a better understanding and grasping of characters of figures in the original text.

Modality Metaphor in English-Chinese Translation

As a part of the interpersonal metaphor, modality metaphor can be expressed with various forms, including modal verbs, adjectives, adverbs and nouns, etc. For Halliday, the expression of modality function is not restricted to modal verbs, it can also be expressed through nouns, adjectives, adverbs, prepositional phrases and correspondingly different structures like clause (Hu et al., 1989). The meanings of modality are mainly expressed by modal verbs, modal adverbs and extended parts of predicates, but this is not the only method to express the meanings, they can also be expressed by clauses, which is called "modality metaphor" by Halliday. Modality metaphor is manifested in the case that modal meanings that are reflected by modal verbs can also be expressed by other forms in the level of lexico-grammar. For instance:

1. a. Probably that pudding never will be cooked.
   b. I don't believe that pudding ever will be cooked.
2. a. Tom probably doesn't know.
   b. I don't think Tom knows. / In my opinion Tom doesn't know.

Table 1. Typical realization and metaphorical realization of English modality

Typical realization	Metaphorical realization
Hopefully, you'll leave.	I hope that you will leave. It is hoped that you will leave.
Gladly, you're leaving.	I'm glad that you are leaving. It is good that you are leaving.
Regrettably, you are leaving.	I regret that you are leaving. It is regrettable that you are leaving.

Within the two sentences, in terms of modality meaning, version a and b represent its congruent form and metaphorical form (modality metaphor) (Table 1).

In both English and Chinese, there are numerous modality metaphors. For metaphors in English, there are always same equivalent expressions in Chinese. For example:

He probably has heard the news.

他多半已经知道了。

However, this is not always the case. In some circumstances, when English is expressed in congruent form and modality is expressed by mood, there is a need to add modality components in the translation to make explicit of the modality. The added components of modality metaphor are more consistent with style of subjective evaluation implied in the original texts by means of modal verbs. Let us look at the following examples:

- **Example 1**

  ◦ ST: "The world is blinded by his fortune and consequence, or frightened by his high and imposing manners, and sees him only as he chooses to be seen."
    "I should take him, even on my slight acquaintance, to be an ill-tempered man." (*Pride and Prejudice*, Chapter 16)
  ◦ TT: "他的有钱有势蒙蔽了天下人的耳目,他那目空一切、盛气凌人的气派又吓坏了天下人,弄得大家只有顺着他的心意去看待他。" "我虽然跟他并不太熟,可是我认为他是个脾气很坏的人。"(Translated by Wang Keyi) (Austen, 1813/1980)

Elizabeth was talking with Wickham about Mr. Darcy. Darcy did not leave a good impression on people around him due to his arrogance. Out of curiosity, Elizabeth wanted to know more about Darcy from Mr. Wickham who was an old acquaintance of Darcy. Wickham's slander of Darcy aggravated Elizabeth's bad impression of Darcy. So, she said, "I should take him, even on my slight acquaintance, to be an ill-tempered man." For translation, the subjective metaphor of modality "我认为" was added, which fully reflects Elizabeth's subjective prejudice on Darcy.

- **Example 2**

  ◦ ST: "He seems to be a most conscientious and polite young man, upon my word; and I doubt not will prove a valuable acquaintance, especially if Lady Catherine should be so indulgent as to let him come to us again."(*Pride and Prejudice*, Chapter 13)

- ◦ TT："他倒是个很有良心、很有礼貌的青年，一定是的；我相信他一定会成为一个值得器重的朋友，只要咖苔琳夫人能够开开恩，让他以后再上我们这儿来，那就更好了。"(Translated by Wang Keyi) (Austen, 1813/1980)

Mr. Collins was assigned by Lady Catherine as the next entail of Mr. Bennet's house. He wrote a letter to Mr. Bennet, being very polite and even sorry for being the next entail. Mr. Bennet thought that Mr. Collins was "to be a most conscientious and polite young man". The original sentence is expressed in congruent form. In the translation, the translator has adopted metaphorical form of modality by adding "我相信"，which indicates Mr. Bennet's good impression on Mr. Collins.

- **Example 3**

  - ◦ ST: They were in fact very fine ladies; not deficient in good humour when they were pleased, nor in the power of being agreeable where choose it; but proud and conceited. (*Pride and Prejudice*, Chapter 4)
  - ◦ TT: 事实上，她们都是非常好的小姐；她们并不是不会谈笑风生，问题是在要碰到她们高兴的时候，她们也不是不会待人和颜悦色，问题在于她们是否乐意这样做。可惜的是，她们一味骄傲自大。(Translated by Wang Keyi) (Austen, 1813/1980)

Jane was so excited that Bingley sent an invitation to her to attend a ball, so she shared her happiness with Elizabeth. Jane thought that Mr. Bingley's family were nice, including his sisters. However, to Elizabeth, they were not. She thought that they were too proud and conceited. The translator fully understood Elizabeth's negative view on the sisters, so he added "可惜的是". By adding the modality components, the translation has fully reflected Elizabeth's sarcastic comments of Mr. Bingley's sisters.

English is a synthetic language characterized by frequent and systematic use of inflected forms to express grammatical relationships, including various modal verbs used to express mood of characters. However, as an analytic language, moods in Chinese are usually expressed through modal particles, which can express subjective views, orders and requirements in an implicit way. Hence, in the translation of English into Chinese, the appropriate adoption of modal particles can guarantee that modal meanings are expressed in a complete and accurate fashion.

- **Example 4**

  - ◦ ST: "Come on, Darcy," said he, "I must have you dance. I hate to see you standing about by yourself in this stupid manner. You had much better dance." (*Pride and Prejudice*, Chapter 3)
  - ◦ TT:"来吧，达西，"宾利先生说，"我一定要你跳。我可不愿意看见你一个人傻乎乎地站来站去的。还是去跳吧。"(Translated by Sun Zhili) (Austen, 1813/2010)

Bingley invited many people to the ball in his house and most of the participants were dancing, but Mr. Darcy was an exception. Mr. Darcy was so proud of his knowledge, tastes and wealth that he did not want to dance and even talk to the guests except for Bingley's family whom he had known for a long time. However Mr. Bingley as a nice host and Mr. Darcy's close friend, hoped that Mr. Darcy could be part of the party, so he said, "You had much better dance." This is a declarative sentence, but it did not mean an order but a suggestion. To reflect this mood, the translator adopted the Chinese imperative sentence whose tone was softened by a modal particle "吧"to show Bingley's hospitability and affection for Darcy.

To sum up, in English to Chinese translation, for the realization of interpersonal equivalence between ST and TT, the major strategies of supplementing modality include transfer of moods,

addition of modality components. As for the transfer of mood, translators need to transfer various moods accordingly to make the meaning of a sentence explicit and thorough. In line with implied modality meanings in ST, a translator can reveal related modality meanings by adding mood markers in modality system and adopting modality metaphor.

TEXTUAL METAPHOR AND ITS ENGLISH-CHINESE TRANSLATION

Textual Metaphor

Textual metaphor derives from textual meta-function in systemic functional linguistics. Textual meta-function refers to how people organize information with language to make it semantically coherent and indicate the relationship between one information to the other. The structures(systems) in realization of textual meta-function include theme structure, information structure and cohesion structure. Textual GM is mainly referred to the embodiment of theme in "theme structure" (Huang, 2009). For theme structure, it involves theme and rheme system.

According to Halliday, theme is the element which serves as the point of departure of the message; it is that which the clause is concerned. The remainder of the message, the part in which the theme is developed, is called rheme. (Halliday, 1985) Later, he also points out that "The theme is the element which serves as the point of departure of the message. The theme can be identified as that element which come first position in the clause."

Halliday does not include textual metaphor in his survey of GM, but Thompson does in his *Introducing Functional Grammar*. Thompson believes that just as transfer of transitivity reflects ideational metaphor, transfer of theme-rheme structures indicates textual metaphor. He also points out that thematic equative and predicated theme are both related to transfer of grammar and rank, thus regarded as textual GM.

Textual Metaphor in English-Chinese Translation

Let us look at some examples of the application of textual metaphor in English-Chinese translation.

● **Example 1**

    ◦   ST: … (My holiday afternoons were spent in ramble about the surrounding country.) I made myself familiar with all its places famous in history or fable. I knew every spot where a murder or robbery has been committed, or a ghost seen. I visited the neighboring villages, and added greatly to my stock of knowledge, by noting their habits and customs, and conversing with their sages and great men…(Washington Irving: *The Author's Account of Himself*)
    ◦   TT: …(每逢假日下午,我总到附近乡村去漫游)。有些地方是有神话传说的,我都亲加勘察,把它们摸熟了。什么地方发生过盗案或者凶杀案的,什么地方有过鬼混出现的,我都知道。邻近各村我常去观光,当地的耆老硕德我总去踵门求教,因此我的智识也大为增加… (Translated by Xia Ji'an) (Yu, 2005)

In terms of theme structure, the original one is developed as "I" →"I" →"I". For translation, in accordance with Chinese textual arrangement, the thematic progression pattern of Chinese discourse is changed to "some places" → "where" → "where" → "nearby villages" → "local old shuodei", which is quite different from the original text and is a typical textual metaphor. This arrangement, typical of Chinese discourse organization, is in line with the habit of changing topics and putting important information at the end of the sentence and after the text. The translation is thus fluent and fascinating, attaining the effect of functional equivalence in terms of textual meaning. .

● **Example 2**

- ◦ ST: There is no more difference, but there is just the same kind of difference, between the mental operations of a man of science and those of an ordinary person as there is between the operations and methods of a baker or a butcher who weights out his goods in common scales and the operations of a chemist who performs a difficult and complex analysis by means of balance and finely graduated weights.
- ◦ TT: 科学家的思维活动和普通人的思维活动之间存在着差别,这种差别就跟一个面包师或者卖肉者和一个化验师在操作方法上的差别一样。前者用普通的秤称东西的重量,而后者则用天平和精密砝码进行艰难复杂的分析。其差别不过如此而已。(Si, 2012)

The themes of ST is progressed by three "There". For the translation, it adjusts the themes according to the feature of Chinese, or its parataxis, following "科学家的思维活动和普通人的思维活动", "前者" and "其差别". The textual metaphor is adopted in the translation,with the effect of being clear in concept and in organization and easy to understand.

- ● **Example 3**

  - ◦ ST: The water spread out for miles in places in Kenya and Somalia, cutting off villages and forcing herders to crowd with their livestock onto a few patches of dry land.
  - ◦ TT:在肯尼亚和索马里的某些地方,河水漫出河床,宽达数英里。洪水切断了村与村之间的联系,迫使牧民们和家畜挤在一起,困缩在一块块狭小的陆地上动弹不得。(Nan, 2013)

There is only one theme"The water" in the original English, which dominates the whole sentence. The rest of the rheme includes"for miles in places in Kenya and Somalia","cutting off villages and forcing herders to crowd with their livestock on a few patterns of dry land". In translation, according to Chinese custom, some ingredients are extracted from the rheme of the original text, such as "somewhere in Kenya and Somalia". With such arrangement, the structure of the translation is coherent and clear.

- ● **Example 4**

  - ◦ ST: We rounded just such a cape toward sunset, the most easterly point of a continent, dramatically high and lonely, a great purple mountain overhung by a great purple cloud.
  - ◦ TT: 将近日落时分,我们正好绕过这样一个海角。这海角位于大陆最东端,挺拔兀立,引人注目。这是一座紫红色的大山,笼罩在一片紫红色的云雾中。(Zhang, 2011)

The original text is progressed with the same theme "We". It can be noticed that the translation, according to the parataxis and topicality of Chinese texts, the thematical progression has been adjusted to "near sunset" → "this Cape" → "this", (the latter two themes are borrowed from the narrative of the original text and belong to textual metaphor), which is in line with the habit of Chinese texts, and the information flow appears natural and coherent.

In a word, it can be seen that due to the great differences in the text structure between English and Chinese, in order to achieve the functional equivalence of the target text to the source text, the translator often needs to modify the thematic structure or mode of the original text from the organizational characteristics of the target language, so that the target text can not only express the meaning of the original text, but also be coherent and natural.

CONCLUSION

From the perspective of SFL's exposition on the translation, the essence of translation and the judgment of translation quality are whether the translation is functional equivalent to the original in terms of ideational, interpersonal and textual meanings.

To achieve the above equivalence of the translation to the source text, from the perspective of linguistic form in realization to meaning, it is necessary to manipulate on the transitivity system, mood system, modality system, theme system and other lexical and grammatical systems that embody ideational meaning, interpersonal meaning and textual meaning.

In this process, as there are many expressions for the same meaning in the language, i.e. congruent and metaphorical, from the point of view that form is meaning, in order to express the above three meanings accurately, language users must be very careful about the selection of expressions and not at will, otherwise the meaning is beyond the words.

As for English-Chinese translation, due to the huge differences between the two languages and the different cognitive environments between the source text and the target readers, in order to achieve the above three functional equivalence, the translator is often faced with transplanting or changing the language structure of the source text in the process of manipulating on the grammar systems which embody the ideational meaning, interpersonal meaning and textual meaning.

This paper refers to the choice of language form different from the original in translating as GM in translation. Based on the analysis of English-Chinese translation examples, the article has explored the relationship between the choice of structural form of translation and the realization of "functional equivalence" in translation, analyzed the application and effects of GM in translation, and discussed the value of establishing the awareness of GM in improving the quality of translation.

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Si Xianzhu, PhD, is a leading professor in translation studies and linguistics in Beijing International Studies University, China. His main research interests cover translation theory, systemic functional linguistics, and language education. He has published widely in the aforementioned domains and related fields, including over 20 monographs\textbooks\ academic writings, and more than 110 research articles.