

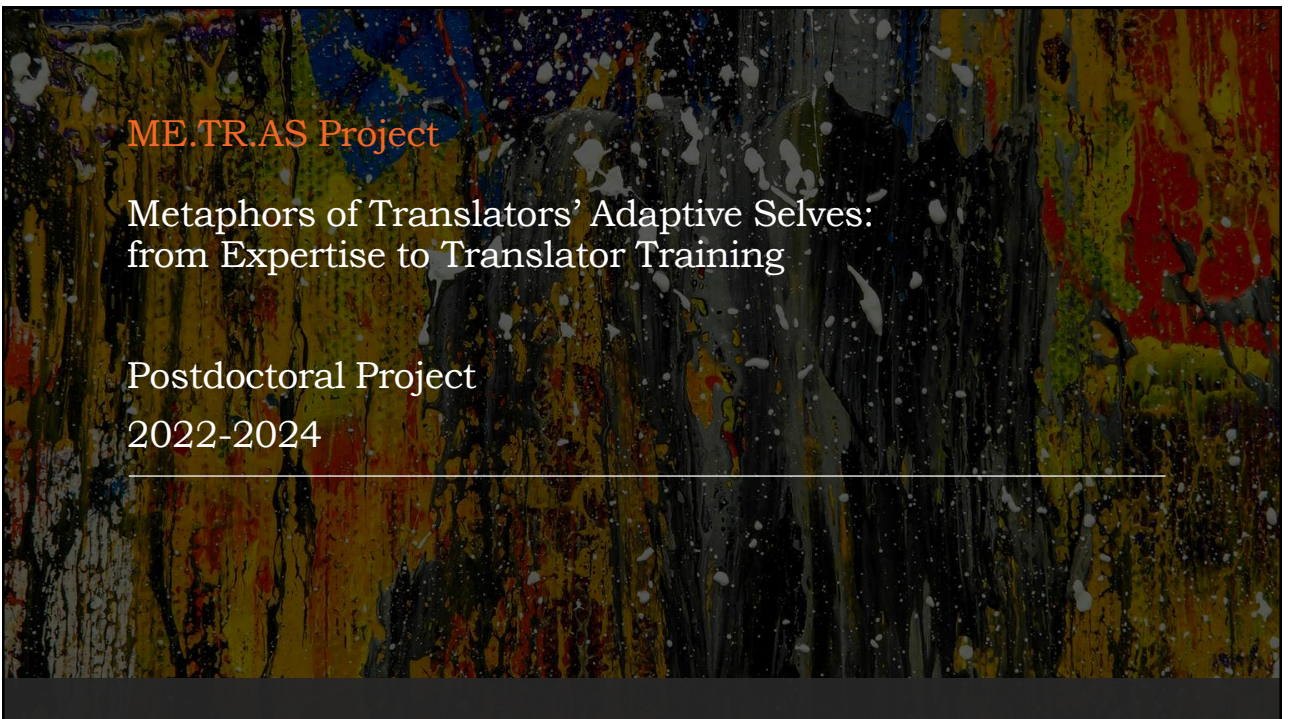
Translators' Personal Metaphors
&
Adaptive Expertise

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ME.TR.AS Project

Metaphors of Translators' Adaptive Selves:
from Expertise to Translator Training

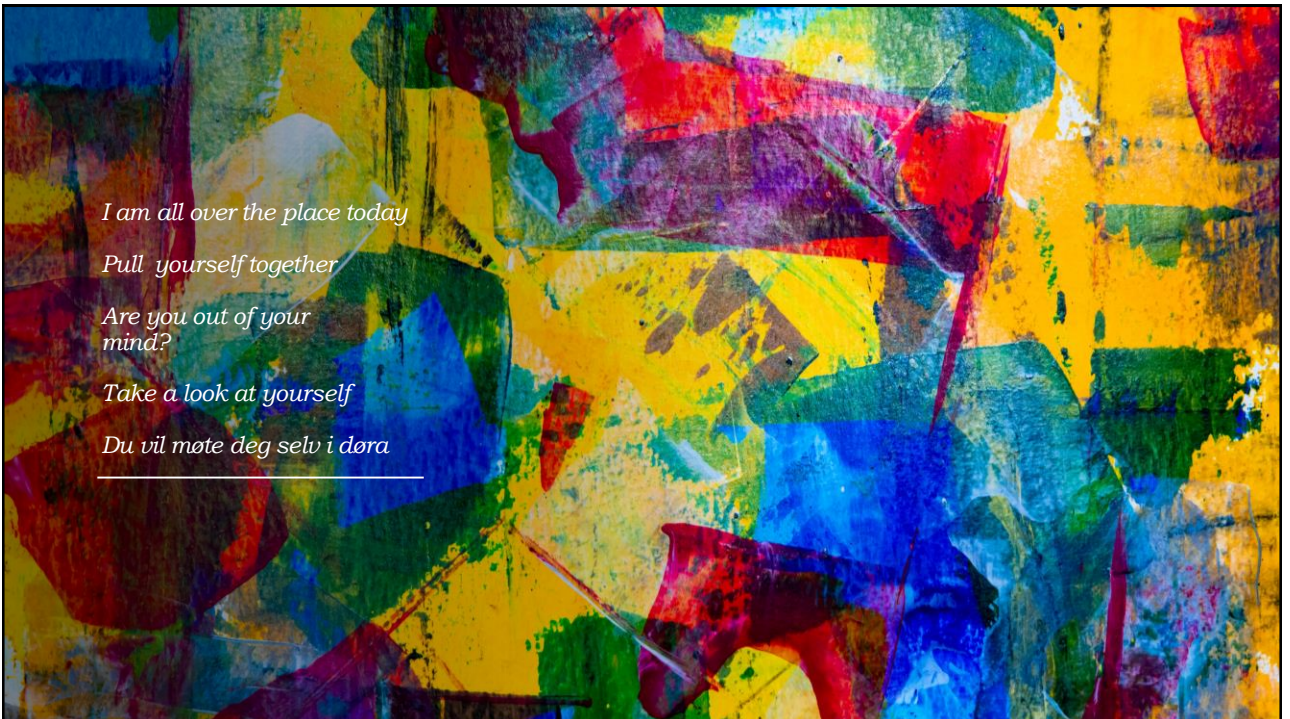
Postdoctoral Project
2022-2024

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The symbolization of the self is
intrinsically metaphorical
(Ortony, 1993; Moser, 2007)

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*...Do I contradict
myself?*

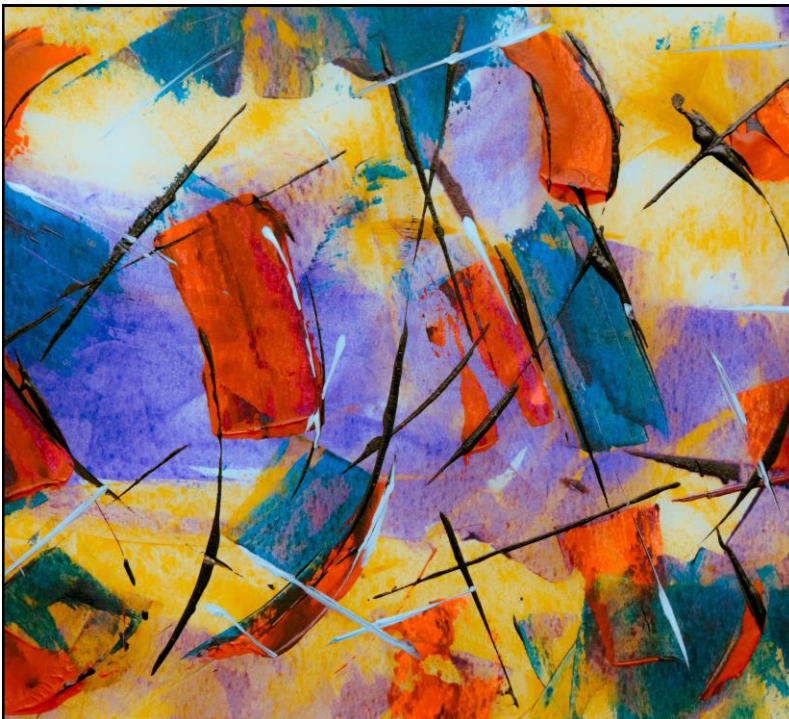
*Very well then I
contradict myself,
(I am large, I contain
multitudes.)*

...

*Song of Myself, 51
Walt Whitman*



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*"Being a
translator is
like wearing
many hats"*

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Preliminary insights on in-service translators

50 Podcasts, blogs 14037 words

IDEAL SELF

METAPHORS OF PHYSICAL CONTACT:

COLLABORATION IS PHYSICAL CONTACT

A TRANSLATOR IS A SOCIAL DANCER



- TENNIS PLAYER
- BUILDING RELATIONSHIP
- RESONATING WITH THE AUDIENCE

Distributed
Self

WORKING SELF

METAPHORS OF DEMATERIALIZATION

A TRANSLATOR IS A DATA SPLITTER



COPIER
ECO CHAMBER

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Empirical Goals

What are the **personal metaphors** that translators use to talk about their role?

Are **complex, multiple metaphors of the selves** related to **adaptive expertise** and, therefore, to an increased translation performance?

How can we bring **adaptive expertise** in translator training?

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Expertise (Angelone & Marín García 2019) VS. **Competence**

Deliberate Practice

Automaticity

Proceduralization

Problem-solving

TRANSLATION AS A SKILL

Timeliness

Proactivity, Accept changes, Task awareness

Interactivity

Retrospective self-evaluation

Adaptability

TRANSLATION AS A PROFESSION

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Expertise from Cognitive Psychology to Translation Studies

-A **maximal adaptation** to task constraints (Ericsson & Lehmann, 1996)

-Only *adaptive* expertise—characterized by **the ability to develop new strategies to cope with novel situations**—can be deemed full translation expertise (Muñoz Martín, 2014)

-Expertise in translation, then, might involve a capacity to cater **to different levels of quality demands** based on **task awareness**, while remaining **optimally productive in the process**. (Angelone & Marín García 2019)

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Expertise: Self-concepts

--changes in the translator's initially **static self-concept** that is abandoned for a more **dynamic, complex** and **adaptive** one (Sonnetag, Niessen, & Volmer, 2007; Shreve, 2020).

-as an **adaptive component** to achieve a "superior performance" that can **operationalize expertise** (Muñoz Martín, 2014)

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Research Design: verbalizing the unconscious

Comparative study

Goals: how the **labor context/ educational setting** in Norway shapes self-concepts;

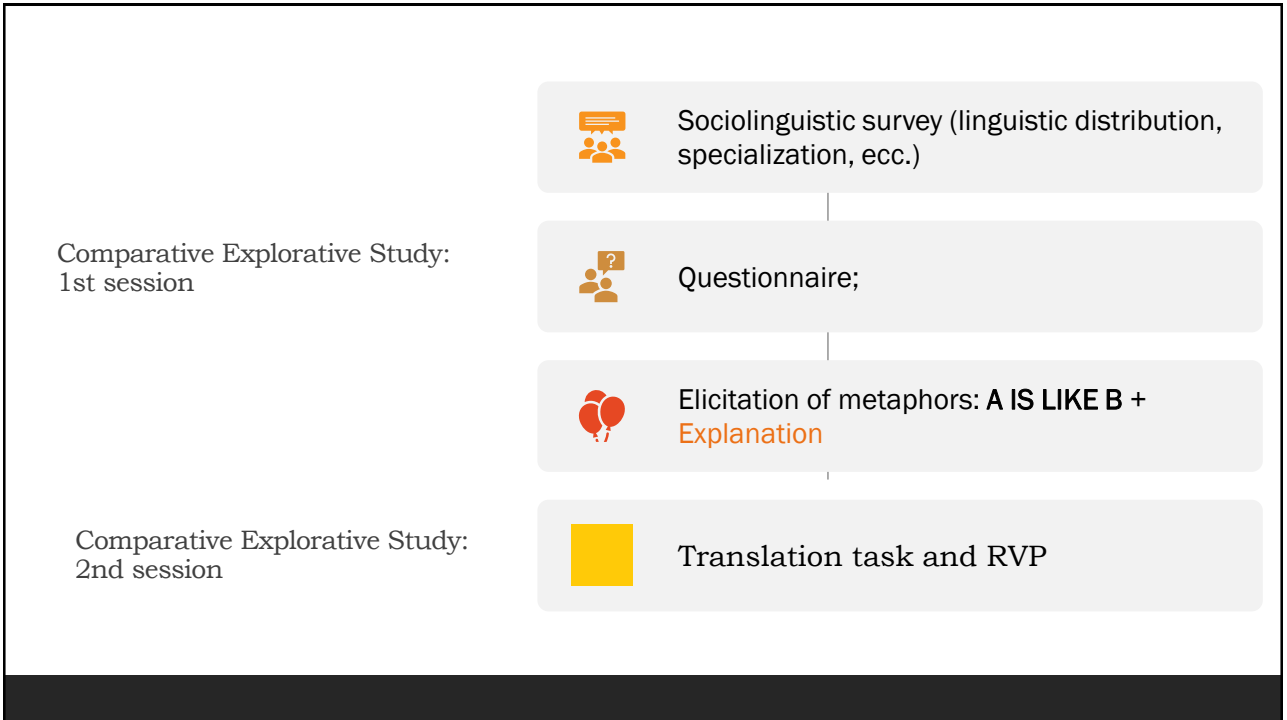
TRANSLATION IS WEARING MANY HATS

VS.

TRANSLATION IS A TRANSFER

Samples: **in-service translators** (in-house and freelancers) in Norway and **pre-service translators** at UiA

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Translation Task/ Adaptive vs routinary self



NATURAL WORKING
SETTING



2 SHORTS ILL-DEFINED
TASKS



RETROSPECTIVE
VERBAL REPORT
+ ELICITATION

Comparative Explorative Study:
2nd session

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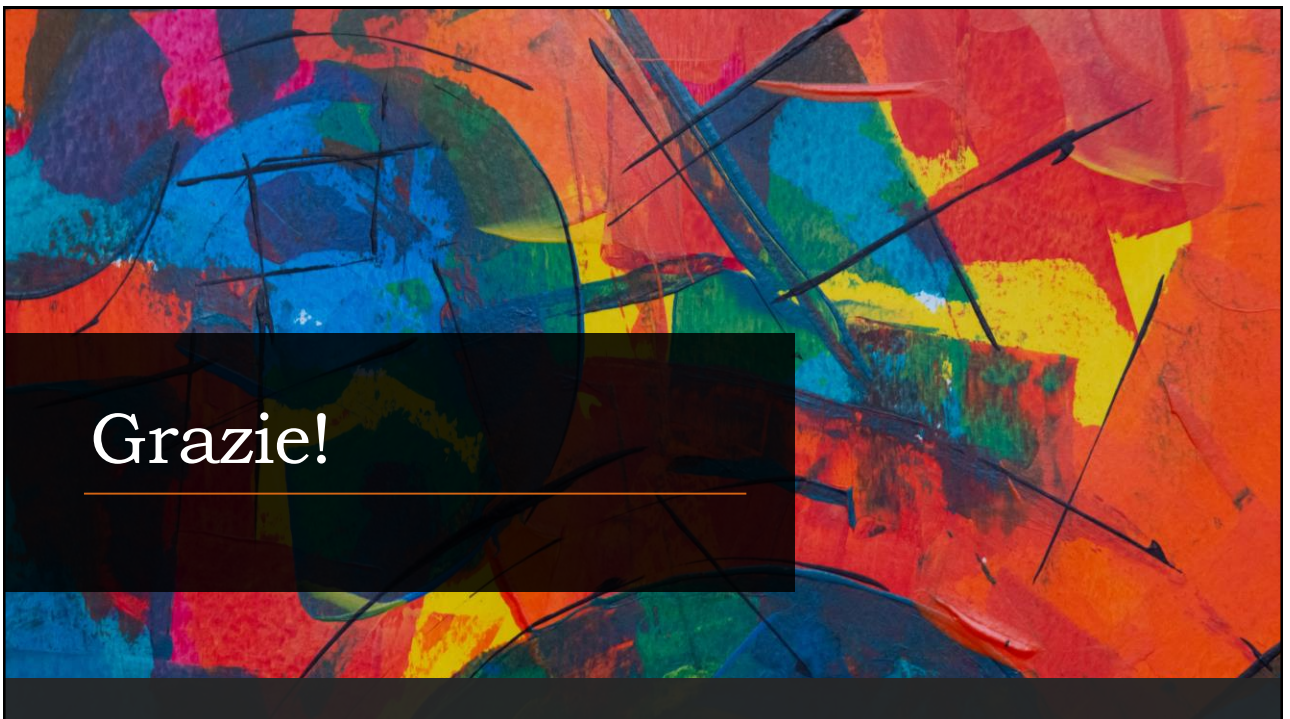


Data
analysis

A TRANSLATOR IS A SOCIAL DANCER
vs.
A TRANSLATOR IS A DATA SPLITTER

Profession-oriented (stakeholder/peer-oriented)
Practice-oriented (receiver-oriented;
material/technology-based),

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Grazie!

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