Objectives:
To present interdisciplinary analyses between Cognitive Linguistics and Translation Studies by using multiple translations from Japanese to English.
To describe the zero-encoding subject in Japanese in a comparison of multiple translations in terms of ‘Subjectivity’ and ‘Construal Alternative’. Japanese is a SOV and topic-prominent language.

Zero-encoding subject in Japanese:
(a) I am Jun Nakamura.
(b) 0 Nakamura Jun desu.

Cognitive Linguistics and Translation Studies:
Three major assumptions of Cognitive Linguistics (Ceredi and Cruse 2004:1):
(I) Language is not an autonomous cognitive faculty
(II) Grammar is conceptualization
(III) Knowledge of language emerges from language use.

Translation Studies: a contrastive analysis between two or more different languages in terms of what is retained and what is lost from a source text to a target text. Two main streams of key concepts in Translation Studies:
- Word for Word --- Foreignization --- Formal equivalence --- Category shifts
- Sense for Sense --- Domestication --- Functional equivalence --- Cultural Norms

Subj ectivity and Contr a st Alternatives in a Cognitive Linguistic approach:
The notion of ‘Subjectivity’ and ‘Objectivity’ proposed by Langacker:
(1) Vanessa is sitting across the table.
(2) Vanessa is sitting across the table from me.
(3) Vanessa is sitting across the table from Veronica.

The cline of the construals is: from (3) to (2) to (1) from subjective to objective.
The “construal alternatives” is a notion related to the speaker’s construal of referents, and it asks how the speaker assigns the same referent with different construals (the speaker is a conceptualiser to construe the situation).

Considering a situation of the above examples, the speaker is talking about a photo which shows the speaker and Vanessa sitting across the table, (1) and (2) are construal alternatives, one of which is selected based on more or less the speaker’s subjectivity (subjective conceptualisation).

Subjectivity
Objectivity

Student 1
Let’s walk looking up
So your tears won’t fall
Remembering those spring days
And the lonely nights
Let’s walk looking up
I count the stars with tearful eyes
Happiness lies beyond the sky
Happiness lies above the sky
Student 2
I hold my head up as I walk
So no one sees you crying
I remember those happy spring days
On this lonely night
I hold my head up as I walk
Counting the stars through my teary eyes
Happiness lies above the sky
Happiness lies above the clouds

Subjectivity
Objectivity

Source Text Domain
Target Text Domain
Shifts of Subjectivity

Concluding Remarks:
This case study demonstrates that the zero-encoding of the grammatical subject in Japanese can be reanalysed in terms of ‘subjectivity’ and ‘construal alternatives’ in multiple translations, instead of finding various types of equivalences used in a standard model of Translation Studies.

Previous research of Translation Studies has used a linguistic approach to analyse relationships between a source text and target text. Therefore, the main field of translation analyses are often considered as applied linguistics or construative literature.

However, the analysis of translation also has a plenty of potential for examining various linguistic hypotheses and concepts.
As a future direction, this case study demonstrates that Translation Analysis is not just for teaching language but can also be used for teaching linguistics.

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UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND
The contrastive analysis of multiple translations: Sukiyaki song from Japanese to English

Nakamura, J

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