

Rafał Ludwik Górski

Two Lectures in Prague

We are pleased to announce that Professor Rafał Ludwik Górski has accepted the invitation of the Institute of the Czech National Corpus and is coming to Prague to give two lectures at the Faculty of Arts.

Both lectures are open to the public. Due to limited space, please register for the Tuesday lecture by October 9th (michal.skrabal@ff.cuni.cz).

Translationese and stylometry

Tuesday, October 11th 2016, 1 pm

Institute of the Czech National Corpus (room 5), Panská 7

In the talk I shall present three case studies examining translationese with the tools of stylometry (Stylo package for R): Victorian translations from French to English, modern Polish literature contrasted to translations from English to Polish, and the style of “translations without translations”. Victorian literature exhibits a clear separation of translations and non-translations both on lexical as well as syntactic level. In turn this separation is not as clear in case of modern Polish literary texts. Finally I shall introduce the literary phenomenon of the People’s Republic of Poland, namely novels written by Poles, which aimed at imitating translations of Western European crime stories. Some of them mimic translationese perfectly.



Historical linguistics and stylometry. Can the corpus tell us how to periodize the history of a language?

Wednesday, October 12th 2016, 5.30 pm

Faculty of Arts, Charles University (room 104), Jana Palacha 2

How do we know when, say, Early Modern period of a given language expires and Late Modern commences? Typically coarse-grained periodizations are based on changes of the grammatical system, whereas fine-grained ones take as an evidence some sociolinguistic or philological arguments. Instead we propose a corpus driven approach. Using text categorisation methods, in a stepwise fashion we divide a diachronic corpus into two, as different as possible, subcorpora (Eder & Górski 2016). This allows us for identification of quantitatively different stages in language development. The underlying assumption is that effective categorisation is possible only if two requirements are satisfied: there is a true difference (be it lexical or grammatical) between older and newer texts and the two subcorpora are homogeneous.

