

**POLISH TRANSLATION STUDIES AT THE TURN  
OF CENTURIES:  
COMMENTS FROM THE SCIENTOMETRIC  
PERSPECTIVE  
(On the Basis of *Między Oryginałem a Przekładem*  
[*Between Original and Translation*] Series)**

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**ABSTRACT**

The political transformation of 1989 brought, among other things, an increased need for translation as a practical activity – but also raised interest in translation as a subject of research. This is reflected in a growing number of texts whose authors situate themselves in translation studies. This study seeks to chart Polish translation studies by analyzing the inventory of works quoted by authors working in this area. I focus on the corpus of texts collected in the series *Między Oryginałem a Przekładem* (volumes 1–15). Proceeding on the assumption that the most quoted texts are referred to because they identify important questions or provide functional tools, I seek to establish the most influential researchers and findings in Polish translation studies at the beginning of the 21st century. The usefulness of this approach is confirmed by the research of Gile 2006: observing who quotes whom and how often allows to “measure” the significance and contribution of certain works and certain authors in a given period of time.

**Keywords:** Polish translation studies; translation revues; translation researchers; scientometric approach

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**0 Introduction**

**0.1 The status of translation studies in Poland**

In October 2007, the University of Warsaw hosted the conference titled “50 years of Polish translation studies”.<sup>1</sup> The outcomes of this conference, grouped in a lengthy volume (Hejwowski, Szczęsny, Topczewska (eds.) 2009), which includes articles about

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<sup>1</sup> The conference organizers and the editors of the volume regard the year of the publication of *Wstęp do teorii tłumaczenia* [Introduction to translation theory] by Olgierd Wojtasiewicz (1957) as the date of

different translation-related phenomena, presented from various angles and different methods, show the wealth and diversification of Polish reflection on translation. At the same time, they bring to light the indeterminacy or vagueness of the status of translation studies as a new field of interest within the humanities. This is already manifested in the terms used to refer to this discipline; we speak about translation theory (*teoria przekładu*), translatology (*translatoryka, translatologia*), traductology (*traduktologia*), (general) translation studies (*przekładoznawstwo (ogólne)*), translation science (*nauka o przekładzie*) or translation knowledge (*wiedza o przekładzie*) ... This terminological variety is explicitly addressed by Lorenzo Constantino who – in his study included in the volume – sketches the development of Polish translation studies (Constantino 2009: 67).<sup>2</sup> Here, I wish to stress that “officially” (e.g. in the list of academic disciplines and fields of study, within which doctoral and post-doctoral, i.e. habilitation, degrees are conferred) translation studies are still considered to be part of (applied) linguistics or (comparative) literary studies. The list of 25 panels (of disciplines or groups of disciplines) adopted by the Scientific Board of the National Science Centre for the needs of classifying and assessing research projects differentiates comparative studies as well as literary and cultural translatology (*translatologia literacko-kulturowa*) from textology and linguistic translatology (*translatologia lingwistyczna*). This reminds of the postulate that “translation studies oriented towards linguistics only” and “translatology whose tasks would be the analysis of literary texts” should be differentiated (Żmudzki 2009: 45). It is also worth noting that apart from the Chair for Translation Studies and Intercultural Communication (UNESCO Chair until 2015) at the Jagiellonian University, there are no separate university units which would exclusively deal with translation studies and educate translation scholars (as well as translators) although many institutes and chairs of modern languages offer educational specialisations preparing students for the translator’s profession and have departments of translatology (or translation studies, traductology etc.) (cf. Żmudzki 2009). There are also attempts at the institutionalization of translation studies in the forms of regular conferences, publishing series and journals which can be seen as the expressions of the emancipation activities of translation scholars’ circles.<sup>3</sup>

The indeterminacy or vagueness of the status of translation studies is also reflected in the topics of the articles included in the aforementioned volume as well as in the adopted analysis methods; next to genuinely translatalogical studies,<sup>4</sup> there are also articles

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the “birth” of Polish translation studies. This work was the first Polish book whose author formulated the fundamental concepts of the reflection on translation.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Dąbbska-Prokop (2000: 7). In this place it is also worth quoting the critical opinion on the multitudines of names and its negative consequences expressed by Jerzy Żmudzki (Żmudzki 2009: 51). The problems of giving proper names to this discipline are also touched upon by Holmes (1972/2004).

<sup>3</sup> However, this state of affairs does not seem to be “restricted” only to the situation of translation studies in Poland, which can be evidenced by the following Yves Gambier’s words: “On est donc témoin à la fois d’une expansion de la traductologie et d’une certaine fragmentation dans son organisation. Cette fragmentation est en partie due à des contraintes et à des motivations d’ordre linguistique et culturelle [*sic!*]. Elle est aussi en partie due aux différences dans le développement de la traductologie selon les zones géo-linguistiques. N’empêche, les défis ne sont plus exclusivement locaux: ils se recoupent partout, que ce soit les défis de la formation, les défis de la visibilité et de la reconnaissance (accréditation), les défis de la communication multilingue, les défis des retombées de la recherche, les défis de la technologie sur les modes et les divisions du travail, etc.” (Gambier 2005).

<sup>4</sup> What I consider translatalogical works is such works which are part of the research field defined by James S. Holmes: “As a field of pure research – that is to say, research pursued for its own sake, quite

which may be situated outside the mainstream of or on the borders of translation studies and contrastive linguistics or (less frequently) of translation studies and literary history/theory.

Similar observations were recently made by Małgorzata Tryuk (Tryuk 2011). On the basis of the contents of the two volumes (published in 2005 and 2007), which contained the conference proceedings with the Polish words *przekład* [translation], *tłumaczenie* [translation], *teoria przekładu* [translation theory] in their titles, Tryuk, professor of translation studies at the University of Warsaw, attempted at defining the directions and courses of the development of Polish translatology. The analysis of the contents, references and quotations included in the articles under examination let her formulate the conclusion that these works are rarely of translatalogical character; instead, the analysis of the phenomena occurring in translation are frequently used in these works as a research tool of comparative linguistics or literary comparative studies. Generally speaking, the papers studied by Tryuk present a critical analysis of a given translation which is typically concluded with the statement that this translation is bad (because it is “unfaithful” with this criterion being left undefined). Those articles contain no generalisation or do not embed the discussed problem within broader phenomena which could be presented on the theoretical level. The cited literature points to the selection of the linguistic approach as the underlying methodology whereas the issues of social, cultural and historical conditions of translation activity are left undiscussed.

Searching for the causes of these phenomena, Tryuk formulates her conclusions against the broader background provided by the observations of Lefevere (Lefevere 1993), in which he lists the “childhood diseases” of the young discipline. The author states:

The first of them means that in translation works, the authors still make attempts at devising a circle; the second disease, which results from the first one, comes down to the fact that the authors do not read what has been written in this field (Tryuk 2011: 340).

This last Tryuk’s observation seems to corroborate the statement made by Jerzy Żmudzki who is of the opinion that as a result of concentration on the research carried out in Poland within a specified foreign philology and its language, “we deal, for instance, with translation research which is only Romance language-, English- German- or Russian-profiled” and this leads to “the limitation of the receptive sensitivity of such translation studies to the achievements of this discipline in Poland within general translation studies” (Żmudzki 2009: 51).

Nevertheless, the contribution of Polish scholars to the development of translation studies is substantial, which is reflected by the recently published anthology entitled *Polska myśl przekładoznawcza* [Polish translatalogical thought] (de Bończa Bukowski, Heydel (eds.) 2013). The authors’ primary assumption was “stressing [...] the complexity and interdisciplinarity of the translation research conducted in our country” (de Bończa

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apart from any direct practical application outside its own terrain – translation studies thus has two main objectives: (1) to describe the phenomena of translating and translation(s) as they manifest themselves in the world of our experience, and (2) to establish general principles by means of which these phenomena can be explained and predicted” (Holmes 1972/2004: 176). (Cf. Gambier 2007: 205 on the object of translation studies.)

Bukowski, Heydel 2013: 38). Hence, the volume contains the contributions of not only specialists in modern languages but also Polish language specialists, linguists and literary scholars, who are – so to speak – “naturally” interested in translation, as well as an ethnologist and philosophers who are frequently practising translators. Representing a variety of research approaches (structuralism, cognitivism, literary history and literary theory, hermeneutics, anthropology, semiotics *etc.*), the texts gathered in the anthology show not only the individuality of the author’s proposal but also the novelty of the author’s thoughts, manifesting themselves not only in the author’s contemporary context but also against the background of the present-day, not only “Polish”, knowledge of translation. Furthermore, in the introductory paper *Polska myśl przekładoznawcza. Badacze, teorie, paradygmaty* [*Polish translationological thought. Scholars, theories, paradigms*], the works have been situated in a broader context and the contributions of other Polish translation scholars have also been referred to (de Bończa Bukowski, Heydel 2013: 7–38); their collection is further supplemented by *Bibliografia polskiego przekładoznawstwa. Teoria przekładu. Wybór* [*Bibliography of Polish translation studies. Translation theory. Selection*] which additionally reveals the significance of the achievements of Polish translation studies. It also allows for something more: it brings to attention the fact that despite the impression of methodological and thematic dispersion connected with the (institutionally and formally) undetermined status of the discipline, which has been referred to above, we can speak about a group of Polish scholars who participate in the shared scholarly efforts of examining a certain phenomenon which translation is. This sociological aspect of the emergence of a new scholarly discipline, which functions as its constitutive element (next to the subject and research methods) is emphasized by Daniel Gile (Gile 2006: 23).<sup>5</sup>

## 0.2 Research objective, object and assumptions

In the present study, I would like to touch upon the last topic discussed by Tryuk which concerns the familiarity with the state of research in translation studies or – precisely speaking – to subject the inventory of the works quoted by authors situating themselves in this discipline to a scientometric analysis. Starting from the assumption that the most frequently cited works are used because they point to significant questions or provide functional tools, I will make an attempt at outlining the interaction of texts and the influences of particular scholars visible in the Polish translation studies at the turn of centuries. Strictly speaking, I am interested not in the productivity of particular authors but in the references to their publications made by other scholars. As indicated by Gile, observing who quotes whom and how often allows to “measure” the significance and contribution of certain works and certain authors in a given period of time (Gile 2006: 26). However, I will limit my study to the quantitative observations, highlighting that only the qualitative analysis of citation manners and functions can show what actually the influence and contribution of the cited works are.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Cf. Gambier 2005; Gambier 2007; Simeoni 2005.

<sup>6</sup> Such study of the use of the cited works made by the quoting authors is suggested by Neveu 2010, who – in an interesting way – presents the differences of the frequency and function of quoting

Obviously, I would like to stress that it is not possible to focus on all quotations in all the works which have been published in Poland, for example, after 1989. For the needs of this paper, I have analysed the quotations by the authors publishing their articles in *Między Oryginałem a Przekładem* [*Between Original and Translation*] – a publication series initiated by Jadwiga Konieczna-Twardzikowa who collected the materials presented at the annual conference of translation scholars (the first conference was held in 1994, and the first volume of the series was published in 1995).<sup>7</sup> However, due to the fact that the conference and series initiator's personality (deceased in 2009) had a remarkable influence on the contents and character of the articles, the analysis has been restricted to the materials included in the first fifteen volumes.<sup>8</sup>

The conference organised at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, each year with a different title determining the detailed issues of the presentations,<sup>9</sup> quickly became the event which gathered both experienced and novice scholars (there were also sections exclusively for debuting doctoral students and other students giving them an opportunity to present their *communiqués*) representing different Polish (and sporadically foreign, for instance, French or Spanish)<sup>10</sup> academic centres and, what is of utmost importance, various disciplines: foreign language studies, Polish studies, sociology, philosophy *etc.* Thanks to this, the conference was an event which supported the integration of translation scholars beyond the abovementioned translation research “profiles” as well as beyond the diversified methods and assumptions of translation studies.

It is this open character of the meetings in Cracow, reflected in the materials published in the conference proceedings in the series *Między Oryginałem a Przekładem* (hereafter referred to as *MOaP*) that is the justification for selecting it as the source of the data which have been subjected to the analysis. This analysis will pertain to: (a) the quoting authors (their “discipline membership”), (b) the authors of the cited works and the discipline they represent, (c) the cited works.

The data used in the analysis were collected for the needs of writing an M.A. thesis titled *Les inspirations polonaises et étrangères des auteurs de la collection Między Orygi-*

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Bourdieu's works by the authors (sociologists and linguists) who publish in the French journal titled *Mots. Les langages du politique en France* and the English one – *Discourse & Society*.

<sup>7</sup> At present *Między Oryginałem a Przekładem* [*Between Original and Translation*] has the status of a journal. Cf. <http://www.akademicka.pl/moap>. Undoubtedly, the change of the publication formula, its detachment from the conference which is no longer organized as well as the changed composition of the editorial board have their influence which manifests itself in the contents of the articles published in the journal. However, due to the space limitation imposed on the article, I will not refer to this issue.

<sup>8</sup> Issued in 2009, the volume titled *Obcość kulturowa jako wyzwanie dla tłumacza* [*Cultural otherness as a challenge for the translator*] was the last one, to the creation of which the conference *spiritus movens* – Jadwiga Konieczna-Twardzikowa had indirectly contributed. Cf. Filipowicz-Rudek 2009, Brzozowski 2009.

<sup>9</sup> For instance: *Czy zawód tłumacza jest w pogardzie?* [*Is the translator's profession in contempt?*]; *Polska literatura w przekładzie* [*Polish literature in translation*]; *Przekład jako promocja literatury* [*Translation as culture promotion*]; *Stereotyp a przekład* [*Stereotype and translation*]; *Czy istnieją szkoły przekładu w Polsce?* [*Are there translation schools in Poland?*]; *Głos i dźwięk w przekładzie* [*Voice and sound in translation*]; *Wzniosłość i styl wysoki w przekładzie* [*Solemnity and high style in translation*]; *Obcość kulturowa jako wyzwanie dla tłumacza* [*Cultural otherness as a challenge for the translator*].

<sup>10</sup> We also need to note that among the authors from Poland there are foreign authors affiliated to Polish institutions. Although – for obvious reasons – the list is dominated by the authors from Cracow tertiary schools, we also find there scholars from Łódź, Wrocław, Poznań, Lublin *etc.*

*nałem a Przekładem* (Kosta 2013). I wish to express my gratitude to the author of this thesis for letting me use the data.

## 1. What do the data under analysis show?

### 1.1 *MOaP* authors

The fifteen volumes of *MOaP* include 390 articles written by 219 Polish authors and 19 foreign authors.

**Table 1.** The number of articles published by particular authors

The number of <i>MOaP</i> authors	1	1	2	1	4	9	20	341
The number of articles published by each of them in <i>MOaP</i>	13	11	7	6	5	4	3	1–2

Table 1 presents the correlation between the number of the authors and the number of the articles published by these authors in *MOaP* volumes. What emerges from it is that the great majority of the authors appear only once or twice; there are nine “faithful” authors – such scholars whose articles were published in at least five *MOaP* volumes whereas the group of “moderately faithful” authors – with their articles in from three to four volumes – encompasses 29 people.

The authors whose articles were published in at least three *MOaP* volumes represent various foreign language studies (French, Spanish, Italian, English, Russian, German, Slavic, Oriental Studies) as well as Polish studies. Among them are linguists, literary scholars, comparatists or theatrologists. With reference to the works of some authors (Elżbieta Tabakowska, Urszula Dąbmska-Prokop, Jerzy Brzozowski, Anna Bednarczyk, Marzena Chrobak *etc.*) published within the last twenty years, one may state that these scholars deal with – among others – translation studies. However, it is rather difficult to indicate a person who deals solely with the discipline, which bears witness to the fact that Polish translation studies – at least in the version reflected by the analysis of *MOaP* – is a scientific domain of “immigrants”<sup>11</sup> and that this field is of interdisciplinary character.

### 1.2 Cited works

#### 1.2.1 Interdisciplinarity

The analysed list of the titles cited by the authors of the papers published in the fifteen volumes of *MOaP* includes 746 items.<sup>12</sup> These items are the outcomes of the research carried out by their authors so there are both books as well as studies published in journals and collective volumes. What has not been taken into account in the analysis is language dictionaries, press articles and – most of all – the works which are the analysis objects.

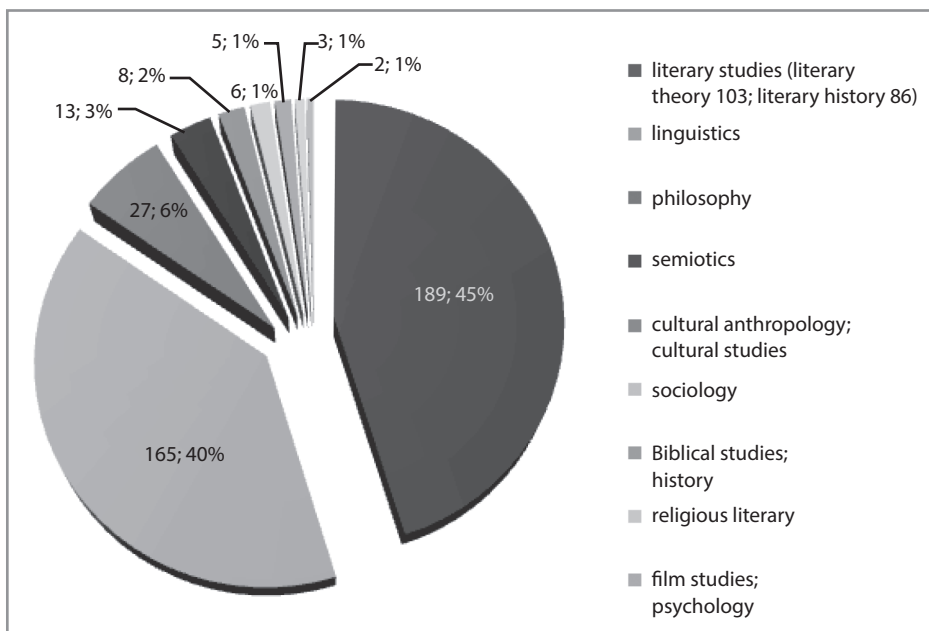
<sup>11</sup> The designation used by Gile (2006: 24). Cf. also Lemaine 1976.

<sup>12</sup> It should be noted that the list includes the works cited in at least one article and not all references of a given work. Self-citations have not been included in the analysis.

Over half of the cited works (56%; 418 items) are the studies in disciplines other than translation studies whereas 44% (328) of the quoted titles can be classified as belonging to this discipline. This is another indication showing the strongly interdisciplinary character of translation studies. Similar observations were made by Gile 2006.<sup>13</sup>

Graph 1 presents that in their papers *MOaP* authors most frequently make use of the works of literary studies (45% of the cited works) and linguistics (40%). While referring to literary history and theory in the analysis of the translations of literary works (they dominate in the corpus under scrutiny) can easily be understood, discovering the manners and objectives of using linguistic tools would require detailed quantitative analyses, as has already been mentioned.

However, apart from those “traditional” disciplines represented by (modern) language scholars, there are works (15%) situated in various disciplines of the humanities and social sciences. It might prove that these fields of science also provide the tools which help to understand the functioning of translation as a certain form of activity (artistic work) or to shed other than “philological” light on certain issues.



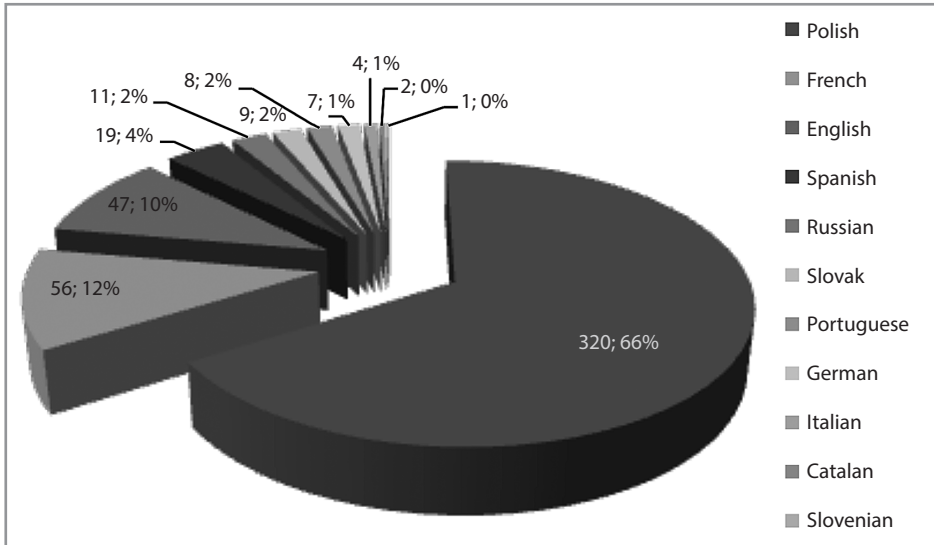
**Graph 1.** The number of works cited according to the discipline

<sup>13</sup> Let us remind that in his scientometric analysis, he examined the works collected in two collective volumes: Chesterman Andrew, Gallardo San Salvador Natividad, Gambier Yves, *Translation in Context: Selected Contributions from the EST Congress*, Granada, 1998, John Benjamins, 2000) and Snell-Hornby, Mary, Franz Pöchhacker and Klaus Kaindl (eds.) 1994. *Translation Studies. An Interdiscipline*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.



### 1.2.2 Relative multilingualism: foreign authors

What seems essential is that next to the works in the Polish language (originals and translations), the corpus under analysis includes papers in foreign languages which – to a certain extent – reflect the “philological membership” of the quoting authors. They also allow to point to the fact that they reach for publications not only in the language of their (modern) language specialisation (mostly French and English) (cf. Graph 2).



**Graph 2.** The number of the cited works representing different disciplines, depending on their language

However, this suggestion is weakened by the data concerning the cited works on translation studies. In the collection of 314 items, 239 of them (76%) are the papers written by Polish authors and – apart from six items in English (five published in Poland and one in Germany) – all of them are in Polish.<sup>14</sup>

Foreign scholars’ works on translation constitute less than one fourth (75) of the cited works.<sup>15</sup> Among the latter, the most frequently cited authors are: Antoine Berman, Marianne Lederer, George Steiner, Gideon Toury, Lawrence Venuti (references in eight articles), Eugene A. Nida (references in seven articles), Peter Newmark, Christiane Nord (references in five articles), Andrew Chesterman, Mona Baker, Susan Bassnett, E. A. Gutt, Katarina Reiss, Danica Seleskovitch (references in from five to four articles).

<sup>14</sup> At this point, it needs to be explained that the work published in Germany is the book written by Elżbieta Tabakowska titled *Cognitive linguistics and poetics of translation* published in 1993 by Gunter Narr Verlag; its Polish translation appeared eight years later (*Językoznawstwo kognitywne a poetyka przekładu*, Universitas, Kraków) and ever since this work has been quoted in this version.

<sup>15</sup> To be more precise, we need to add that among the quoted titles, there are fourteen statements of translators, mostly from the anthology edited by Balcerzan (1977) titled *Pisarze polscy o sztuce przekładu. 1440–1974. Antologia* [Polish writers on the art of translation. 1440–1974. Anthology], Poznań: Wydawnictwo Poznańskie.



Interesting are also the results of comparing this list with the results of the quotation analysis conducted by Gile. In 32 papers gathered in the conference proceedings published after the EST Congress in Granada in 1998 (Chesterman *et al.* 2000 – *cf.* footnote 12), the following authors were quoted: Susan Bassnett, Gideon Toury, Christiane Nord, Eugene A. Nida, Katarina Reiss, Peter Newmark, Lawrence Venuti whereas there were no references to the works of Berman, Lederer or Seleskovitch. Interestingly enough, *MOaP* authors do not cite André Lefevere or Douglas Robinson. However, the primary core of quotations includes the same surnames, which might be interpreted as the indication of familiarity with the major trends in the world's literature on translation studies.

Albeit slightly surprising, another aspect of this comparison is the presence of three French-speaking authors (Berman,<sup>16</sup> Lederer, Seleskovitch) on the *MOaP* list since they are absent from the “Gile’s list”. This may be partially accounted for by the fact that quite many specialists in French studies participated in *MOaP* conferences. However, it is quite difficult to justify their total absence from the EST volume (they are also not present among the most frequently quoted authors in the second volume analysed by Gile) unless we might claim that the English character of the volume and the preceding conference might have “deterred” the French-speaking scholars. Another possible explanation may be the specificity of the translation studies in France – also quite dispersed.

### 1.2.3 Polish authors

The above observations constitute the background for further analyses which have to achieve the major aim of this study – to make an attempt at outlining the intertextual and inter-authorship relations, visible in the Polish translation studies at the turn of centuries.

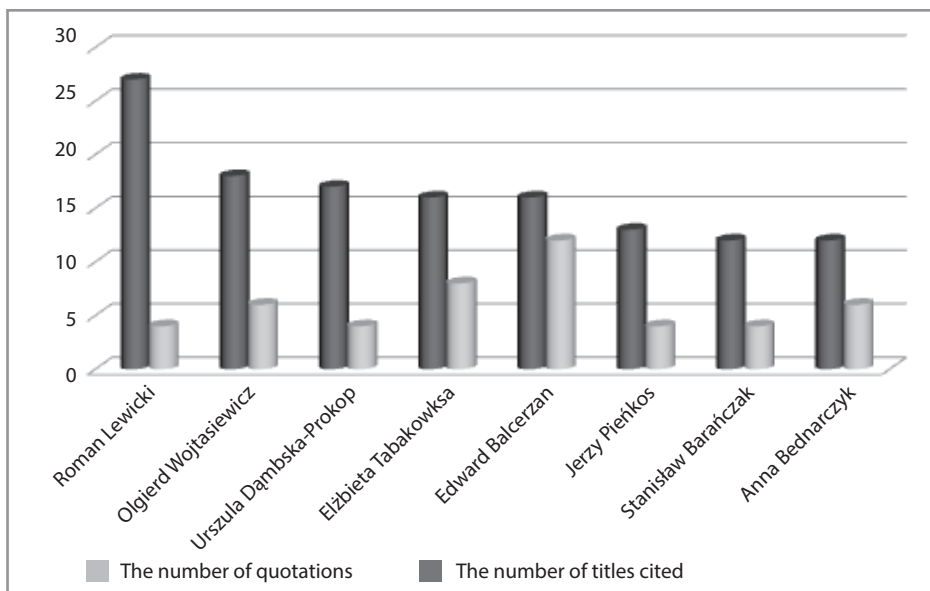
Let us remind that the analysed corpus of the works cited by *MOaP* authors includes 239 works written by Polish authors. Among them, 132 items are the publications (books or articles) authored by one of the 33 people whose surname appears on the list at least three times. The biggest number of references (39) and – at the same time – the biggest number of the titles of the quoted works (34) are assigned to Zygmunt Grosbart. However, the achievement of this scholar from Łódź is described in one article and the majority of references are included just in this study and therefore they are not presented in Graph 3.

Graph 3 brings to attention the fact that among the most frequently quoted authors (more than ten times), we need to distinguish those who are quoted due to the big number of their works (Balcerzan – sixteen references of twelve works) from those who are quoted frequently although the number of their works is small (Lewicki – 27 references of four works). This phenomenon is more distinct in the group of ten authors who are quoted moderately frequently (in from five to ten articles): the number of the cited titles ranges from one to five.<sup>17</sup> This is related to the type of publication – books are read and are available differently from articles in scholarly journals whose contents require more

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<sup>16</sup> One of his works is cited in the English translation.

<sup>17</sup> Among them are: Maria Krysztofiak, Anna Legeżyńska, Bożena Tokarz, Teresa Tomaszewicz, Jerzy Ziomek.



**Graph 3.** The most frequently quoted authors (with the number of works cited)<sup>18</sup>

attention and regularity in tracing them.<sup>19</sup> Hence, the next step of the analysis is the examination of the list of the cited works.

Before this examination, however, it should be noted that among the surnames of the most frequently quoted *MOaP* authors, there are five which are included in the anthology *Polska myśl przekładoznawcza* [*Polish translational thought*]. This pertains to a kind of classics of Polish translation science (or – referring to Snell-Hornby’s (2006: 70) division – to “masters”).

#### 1.2.4 The most frequently cited works

The analysis of the data concerning the most frequently cited works has allowed to claim that in the group of those works which are referred to at least by three authors, the great majority are book publications: out of 35 quoted items, there are 27 books whereas the remaining eight are articles – seven in collective volumes and one in the journal *Teksty Drugie* [*Second Texts*]. This last item is a special case because it refers to the essay entitled *Mały lecz maksymalistyczny manifest translologiczny* [*Small but maximalist translological manifesto*] by Stanisław Barańczak which was later republished in the book with the title *Ocalone w tłumaczeniu* [*Saved in translation*] as Part I. In both versions, the text was referred to altogether in ten articles.

Table 2 shows that among the books most frequently cited by *MOaP* authors, there are two textbooks, one (and the only) Polish encyclopaedia of translation studies, the

<sup>18</sup> Tabakowska’s book, referred to in footnote 11, has been included twice – separately for each language version.

<sup>19</sup> It may also result from the fact that in social sciences, in comparison to an article, a book – as a form of publishing research outcomes – is assigned a higher role (*cf.* Auerbach 2006: 75).

small book by Wojtasiewicz referred to in the Introduction to this article (republished in 1992) as well as Barańczak's book which is the outcome of the author's reflection on his own translation works. In this book, Barańczak presents his own theoretical principles. The use of this book in the subsequent volumes of *MOaP* is undoubtedly connected with the fact that its author shows his subjective and personalized (albeit with the aforementioned theoretical component) critical skills. This is also related to the critical approach (oriented towards the discussion with the solutions and their assessment) employed in many of the quoting works.

**Table 2.** The most frequently cited books

Lewicki, <i>Obcość w odbiorze przekładu</i> [ <i>Otherness in translation reception</i> ], Lublin 2000	16
Wojtasiewicz, <i>Wstęp do teorii tłumaczenia</i> [ <i>Introduction to translation theory</i> ], Warsaw 1996	13
Dąbbska-Prokop, <i>Mała encyklopedia przekładoznawstwa</i> [ <i>Small encyclopaedia of translation studies</i> ], Częstochowa 2000	11
Tabakowska, <i>Cognitive linguistics and poetics of translation</i> 1993 (4) / <i>Językoznawstwo kognitywne a poetyka przekładu</i> 2001 (4)	8
Pieńkos, <i>Przekład i tłumacz we współczesnym świecie</i> [ <i>Translation and translator in the modern world</i> ], Warsaw 1993	7
Pisarska, Tomaszewicz, <i>Współczesne tendencje przekładoznawcze</i> [ <i>Modern tendencies in translation studies</i> ] Poznań 1996	7
Barańczak, <i>Ocalone w tłumaczeniu: szkice o warsztacie tłumacza poezji z dołączeniem małej antologii przekładów</i> [ <i>Saved in translation: sketches on the skills of the poetry translator with a small anthology of translations</i> ], Poznań 1992 and further	6
Bednarczyk, <i>Kulturowe aspekty przekładu literackiego</i> [ <i>Cultural aspects of literary translation</i> ], Katowice 2002	6
Lewicki, <i>Konotacja obcości w przekładzie</i> [ <i>Connotation of otherness in translation</i> ], Lublin 1994	6
Krzysztofiak, <i>Przekład literacki a translatoologia</i> [ <i>Literary translation and translatology</i> ], Poznań 1999	5

Among the authors of the articles (of which one was referred to by four quoting authors and the remaining ones – by three) are: Lewicki, Bałuk-Ulewiczowa, Kalaga, Teodorowicz-Hellman, Ziomek.

If we take a look at the topics of the most frequently cited works, we can tentatively state that *MOaP* authors searched for general knowledge (and thus used textbooks and the encyclopaedia), critical analysis tools (Barańczak) and finally theoretical foundations for the examination of cultural otherness and its treatment in translation (Lewicki) as well as linguistic (or – more specifically – cognitive) instruments which would allow to analyse and account for the mechanisms of differences between the original and translation. The reason for the selection of such materials was primarily the topics of the successive conferences and volumes which – to a great extent – depended on the organizers' interests as well as on the very development of (Polish) translation studies. If there are yet no works representing the sociological approach or the approach going beyond the text, this may be due to the fact that although such themes are present in the reflection on translation, it is only the publications edited by Wolf (2006) and Wolf, Fukari (2007) that explicitly draw attention to the “sociological turn” taking place.

## 2. Concluding remarks

The scientometric observation of the data concerning the cited works, being part of a small sample consisting of fifteen volumes of the series *Między Oryginałem a Przekładem* [*Between Original and Translation*] obviously does not allow to precisely answer the questions about the influence of certain works and certain authors in a given period of time. What would be necessary is a qualitative analysis of the manners and goals of quoting which – as is commonly known – can be used in different ways to support argumentation (e.g. as a way of presenting, confirming or refuting other scholars' views – cf. de Nuchèze 1998: 37). This would help to ascertain whether in the works which make references to particular texts, we deal with “the mimetism of references and strongly consolidated reflections”<sup>20</sup> or with the discussions and attempts at developing the suggested solutions or, in other words, with certain innovative practices understood as preferring

transdisciplinary studies with clear empirical roots [...] strictly connected to a new theoretical conceptualization (well-grounded in the state of research) and leading to the formulation (reinterpretation, solution) of a problem which is of fundamental significance to a given discipline and (as a consequence) to the whole field of science (Nycz 2013: 112).

Such research is still waiting for its realization. The observations of the data presented in this article let us make the preliminary remarks concerning the tendencies or signal the occurrence of the phenomena whose explanation or interpretation are possible provided they are observed in the context of broader processes.

The first observation is related to the interdisciplinary character of the research into translation. It becomes visible both in the thematic specialization of the authors publishing their works in the series as well as in the inventory of the cited works. However, this is not surprising as interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity are – so to speak – the innate features of translation studies as a new field of research whose “contours” or “map” have yet to be clearly marked (cf. Snell-Hornby 2006; Simeoni 2007; Gambier 2005; Gambier 2007; van Doorslaer 2005; van Doorslaer 2007).

The second observation pertains to the place of publishing the cited works (the authors' own books as well as edited collective volumes). This list includes (mainly university) publishing houses located in Warsaw, Cracow, Poznań or Lublin. However, the most numerous are the publications in the Katowice series *Studia o Przekładzie* [*Studies in Translation*] which has been published since 1994 and which in this way emerges to be an essential form of the (early) institutionalization of translation studies in Poland.

However, the analysis of the bibliographic data of the cited works has allowed to notice one more important phenomenon which could be difficult to perceive otherwise. What is striking in the material under analysis is lack of the quotations of the publications in periodicals whereas already at that time such journals as *Przekładaniec* (founded in 1995), *Rocznik Przekładoznawczy* (founded in 2005) or *Recepcja-Transfer-Przekład* (founded 2002) existed. Polish translation scholars also published the results of their studies in the journals issued by universities, both in Polish as well as in foreign languages. On the

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<sup>20</sup> “Mimétisme des références et réflexions bien établies” – the designation borrowed from Gambier 2005.

basis of the materials collected as the analysis corpus, one may think that *MOaP* authors do not find anything useful in those academic periodicals or that – following the already quoted words of Małgorzata Tryuk – “they do not read what has been written in this field” (Tryuk 2011: 340). This may worry especially because the analysed material contains no foreign-language works of Polish authors, which forces us to correct the opinion expressed by Jerzy Żmudzki about translation studies being “only Romance language-, English- German- or Russian-profiled”. This “profiling” is indeed visible but most of all with reference to foreign authors – not the Polish ones (they seem not to exist). This may result from the “limitation of the receptive sensitivity of such translation studies to the achievements of this discipline in Poland within general translation studies” (Żmudzki 2009: 51). However, it may also be seen in a wider context, with reference to Yves Gambier’s observation:

In reality, it looks as if today’s translation research is largely carried out by isolated individuals; that there are numerous publications as if there were more authors than readers whereby the repetitiveness of the undertaken topics, collected data and formulated conclusions is clear.<sup>21</sup>

It may also be stated that this feature of Polish translation studies is shared with the research done in other countries. And – likewise – it should be overcome since “[i]t is not a quantity of publications and conferences that is decisive but their innovative quality and their degree of relevance for our society” (Snell-Hornby 2006: 175).

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<sup>21</sup> “De fait, la masse des travaux traductologiques aujourd’hui semble être menée par des individus isolés, est l’objet de nombreuses publications comme s’il y avait plus d’auteurs que de lecteurs, est souvent répétitive dans les sujets abordés, les données collectées, les inférences et conclusions tirées” (Gambier 2005).

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