
EMPIRICAL DESIGNS IN STUDIES OF PUBLIC SERVICE INTERPRETING AND TRANSLATION. / DISEÑOS EMPÍRICOS EN LOS ESTUDIOS SOBRE TRADUCCIÓN E INTERPRETACIÓN EN LOS SERVICIOS PÚBLICOS.

Jaana Vuori

University of Eastern Finland, Finland

jaana.vuori@uef.fi

Sari Hokkanen

Tampere University, Finland

sari.hokkanen@tuni.fi

Abstract: This article examines the types of research designs used in empirical studies on public service interpreting and translation (PSIT). Our data consists of 81 journal articles, articles published in collected volumes, and doctoral dissertations published in English or German in 2009-2018, derived from the Translation Studies Bibliography. Our analysis is structured according to the main data used in the research design (interactional data, interviews, textual data, questionnaires, ethnographic observations, and multi-data designs). We describe what kinds of research questions are posed, which data are used, and how the analysis is portrayed. The objects of study are categorized on a methodological metalevel into (1) facts, (2) views, (3) cultural meanings and practices, (4) experiences, (5) social relations, and (6) interaction. In addition, we discuss whether the overall aim of the studies is to analyze the researched phenomenon from a factual perspective or from a social-constructivist perspective emphasizing cultural meanings. The most frequent object of study is interpreted interaction, and it seems to be the most nuanced from an analytical perspective as well. The other meta-level objects of study are either more varied in terms of analytical depth or not equally recognized for their possible research value in PSIT. Most studies in our data take a factual perspective, and studies on cultural meanings attached to PSIT seem rare. Our results indicate a need for further development in empirical designs in PSIT research.

Keywords: Public service interpreting and translation; Research design; Research methods; Analytical perspective.

Resumen: Este artículo examina los tipos de diseños de investigación utilizados en los estudios empíricos sobre la interpretación y la traducción en los servicios públicos (TISP) sobre una muestra de 81 obras (artículos de revistas, capítulos de obras colectivas y tesis doctorales) publicadas en inglés o alemán entre 2009 y 2018 y extraídas de la base de datos Translation Studies Bibliography. El análisis se basa en los principales datos utilizados en el diseño de la investigación (interacciones, entrevistas, datos textuales, cuestionarios, observaciones etnográficas y diseños de datos múltiples). Describimos qué tipos de preguntas de investigación se plantean, qué datos se utilizan y cómo se describe el análisis. Los objetos de estudio se clasifican desde un punto de vista metodológico en (1) hechos, (2) puntos de vista, (3) significados y prácticas culturales, (4) experiencias, (5) relaciones sociales e (6) interacción. Además, se discute si el objetivo general de los estudios es analizar el fenómeno investigado desde una perspectiva fáctica o desde una perspectiva socio-constructivista que enfatiza los significados culturales. El objeto de estudio más frecuente es la interacción interpretada, y parece ser el más elaborado también desde una perspectiva analítica. El resto de objetos de estudio son más variados en cuanto a la profundidad analítica o carecen de reconocimiento por su posible valor en la investigación en TISP. La mayoría de los estudios de la muestra adoptan una perspectiva fáctica y, en TISP, los

estudios sobre los significados culturales son más bien raros. Nuestros resultados indican la necesidad de un mayor desarrollo de los diseños empíricos en la investigación en TISP.

Palabras clave: Traducción e interpretación en servicios públicos; Diseño de investigación; Métodos de investigación; Perspectiva analítica.

1. Introduction

What kinds of research designs are employed in empirical studies of public service interpreting and translation (PSIT)? By research design we understand the interplay between the research problem, the choice of data, and the analytical approach taken in the study. The research design may be understood to include the theoretical framework and central concepts as well, but in this article, we focus on the empirical design and refer to theoretical and conceptual underpinnings only occasionally. The theoretical and empirical frameworks cannot always be separated, however, since in the human sciences they may be closely interrelated in the form of theoretical-methodological frameworks that simultaneously carry both propositions for theoretical understandings and typical kinds of data and analysis.

In this article, our aim is to describe the current methodological choices in studies of PSIT. Our research questions are: (1) What kinds of methodological choices have PSIT researchers made in creating their research designs? (2) Which objects of study have been central in the field and which are less used? Even though we present some of our results in a quantitative format, our analysis is qualitative and may be called descriptive content analysis. In the conclusions, we also discuss the shortcomings in current PSIT research and try to uncover underused research potential in the field.

We analyze as our data a total of 81 empirical studies published in English or German between 2009 and 2018 (journal articles, articles published in collective volumes, and doctoral dissertations). The studies in our dataset are referred to with numerical identifiers (e.g., #1) and they are listed in the appendix.¹ The studies were retrieved from the Translation Studies Bibliography.

Our analysis is structured according to the data used in the studies. We start with studies examining interactional data, typically audio or video recordings from interpreted encounters. Second, we examine studies that analyze individual or group interviews, mainly conducted with interpreters or their professional service users and sometimes also with lay service-users, usually the clients of the public service institutions. Third, we analyze studies having diverse texts as their research materials, in this case typically different documents framing PSIT or self-reflexive texts written by interpreters or interpreter students. We then move on to analyzing studies using questionnaires, typically composed of a set of structured questions but often also utilizing open-ended questions. As the fifth category, we discuss studies based on ethnographic field observations as their central research materials, typically combining them with other kinds of data such as interviews and documents. As the final group, we analyze other designs combining multiple types of data.

While describing the research designs in each data category, we look at the main object of the study on a methodological meta-level. The object can usually be inferred from the

¹ The studies in the appendix are listed according to their object of study, following the same order as in our analysis in Section 4. The numerical identifiers do not form an entirely continuous sequence, because we assigned an identifier to all publications that we deemed to be (potentially) empirical studies based on their abstracts. After this point, a number of publications were screened out, but to keep track of our analysis, we did not re-number the remaining publications. The process of data selection is explained in more detail in Section 3.

research questions or research tasks posed in the publication, and therefore, we begin the analysis with them. We distinguish between the objects of (1) *facts*, (2) *views*, (3) *cultural meanings and practices*, (4) *experiences*, (5) *social relations*, and (6) *interaction* (Vuori and Alastalo, in preparation). There is no straightforward relation between the object of the study and the data used, as we will show, but some data types typically occur with certain objects of study.

Since the research objectives in these studies are sometimes stated unclearly or in a rather long and complicated way, we have needed to clarify and simplify them in our descriptions in order to provide an overall picture of the research designs. While describing the research questions, we also review the research topics. After that we describe the nature and quantity of the research materials, and then discuss how the researchers name their analytical approaches or how they describe their analysis in general. Since specific analytical approaches are not always explicitly mentioned in the studies, we have attempted to infer the type of analysis from other information given in the publication.

At the end of the analysis of each data type, we discuss whether the overall aim of the studies is to analyze the studied phenomenon from a realist, factual perspective or from a social-constructivist perspective that emphasizes the interpretation of cultural meanings. This is a crucial distinction in the human sciences (Alasuutari, 1995: ch. 5 and 6). Although all research should aim at objectivity, not all research attempts to discover facts about how things are in the world, what has happened, or what people think, for example. A large portion of studies in the humanities and social sciences—such as in the hermeneutic and phenomenological traditions—rather attempts to map people’s cultural understandings and cultural practices. This might of course be too simplified a picture of the variety of research orientations or paradigms in the human sciences (cf. Guba and Lincoln, 1994; Denzin and Lincoln, 2008), but the empirical studies of PSIT we have analyzed seem to fall into one of these two categories.

2. Previous maps of the field

The field of research in translation and interpreting studies has been mapped with other divisions in the existing literature, either in translation- and interpreting-specific terms, in terms of specific methods, or by using rather sweeping categories, mostly reflecting a positivist–phenomenological dichotomy, although not always with these labels. For example, Saldanha and O’Brien (2013) divide the field into product-, process-, participant-, and context-oriented studies, thus using a translation-specific conceptualization of potential topics of research. Angelelli and Baer (2016), while generally promoting a post-structuralist (as opposed to a positivist) approach to research, divide the field of research into 11 topics (e.g., agency and role, collaborative and volunteer practices, and the study of reader response and reception) and 13 methodological approaches (e.g., corpus-based studies, ethnography of communication, and survey-based studies). Other well-known divisions include those by Chesterman (2000) and Marco Borillo (2009), who distinguish between different models of research on a more abstract level: the comparative, process, and causal models by Chesterman and the textual-descriptivist, cognitively-oriented, culturalist, and sociological models by Marco. The models put forth by Marco also aim to connect the topic of research with specific methods, theoretical and conceptual frameworks, and neighboring disciplines, while other researchers have promoted a more flexible approach to connecting the topic of research to specific methods or theories (e.g., Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013).

In addition to these maps and models of the wider field of translation and interpreting, a few researchers have also set out to map the field of interpreting. Here we mention two recent mappings. Vargas-Urpi's classification (2012) focuses on community interpreting, and accordingly divides the field into interpreting-related topics of research. These range from ethics, quality, and professionalization to specific PSIT contexts, technology, and training. Vargas-Urpi's map also includes text analysis, but it mainly refers to the analysis of transcriptions of interpreting encounters, whereas our classification treats textual data and studies on interaction (also through transcripts) as different categories (see Sections 4.1 and 4.3). In their conceptualization of the field of interpreting research, Hale and Napier (2013) mainly distinguish between positivist and phenomenological approaches, referring approximately to the same distinction as we draw between the factual and social-constructivist perspectives above. It is important to point out, however, that we do not see that all studies based on a factual perspective rely on a positivist philosophy and all studies using a social-constructivist perspective, on phenomenology.

3. Data and methods

To compile a set of empirical research publications on PSIT from the past 10 years, we searched the Translation Studies Bibliography (TSB) with "dialogue interpreting" or "community interpreting" set as keywords.² A further search criterion was the date of publication, which was set to include all publications between 2009 and 2018. These search criteria yielded 233 publications. Our process of identifying analyzable, empirical publications from these 233 is illustrated in Figure 1.

Based on the abstracts of the publications, we first screened out results that did not seem relevant for our study. These included two studies that were not about interpreting and 18 collected volumes, since we could not treat the latter as single empirical studies. Furthermore, individual papers published in these collections were already included in the search results. After screening out these 20 non-relevant results, we proceeded to screen out non-empirical studies based on the information given in the abstracts. A total of 85 publications were identified as non-empirical at this point. These included pedagogical, theoretical, and policy-related publications as well as country-specific reviews on the state of PSIT training and profession, among others. The remaining 128 publications included a number of uncertain cases, and we could not be sure whether they were empirical based on the information given in the abstract.

We set out to acquire the full texts of these 128 publications and gave them a numerical identifier (e.g., #1). We were able to find the full texts of all but four studies. These four had to be screened out from further analysis, because the information given in the abstract alone did not allow us to analyze their research designs. At this point, we also decided to focus only on English and German publications due to our own language skills and because we needed to be able to skim the entire publication in many cases, again, due to a lack of information in the English abstracts. Thus, we had to disregard eight publications (five in Spanish and one

² "Public service interpreting" was not used as a separate search word, because TSB treats it as a synonym to "community interpreting". While the term "dialogue interpreting" may also refer to cases unrelated to PSIT, we examined the abstract or full text of each result to verify that such studies were not included in our analysis. These results mostly concerned pedagogical publications that were not considered to be empirical studies of PSIT.

each in Catalan, Slovak, and Korean). Based on the full texts, we further screened out 33 publications that were not empirical studies.

Thus, we analyzed a total of 81 publications in terms of their research design. We examined the research questions posed, the types of data used, and the type of analysis carried out in the studies. We then categorized the studies in terms of their object of study: (1) *facts*, (2) *views*, (3) *cultural meanings and practices*, (4) *experiences*, (5) *social relations*, and (6) *interaction*. The distribution of the publications into these categories are illustrated in Table 1 in Section 4.

Our dataset allows us to examine the research designs and methodological choices in a selection of studies on PSIT from recent years, but it is not without its limitations. Due to time constraints, we were only able to conduct our search in one database. Optimally, this search would have been complemented with others to ensure that studies appearing in publications outside the field of translation and interpreting studies would also have been included. As it stands, our dataset includes a very limited number of such studies. Furthermore, even though we aim at describing the *current* state of PSIT research, our results do not include the most recent publications (from 2019 onwards). Finally, an important limitation has to do with our selection of languages. As mentioned above, we limited our analysis to studies published in English and German due to the limitations in our language skills and in the quality of the English abstracts of some of the publications. Our analysis cannot therefore be said to represent the entire field of PSIT research, as significant work is also published in other languages.

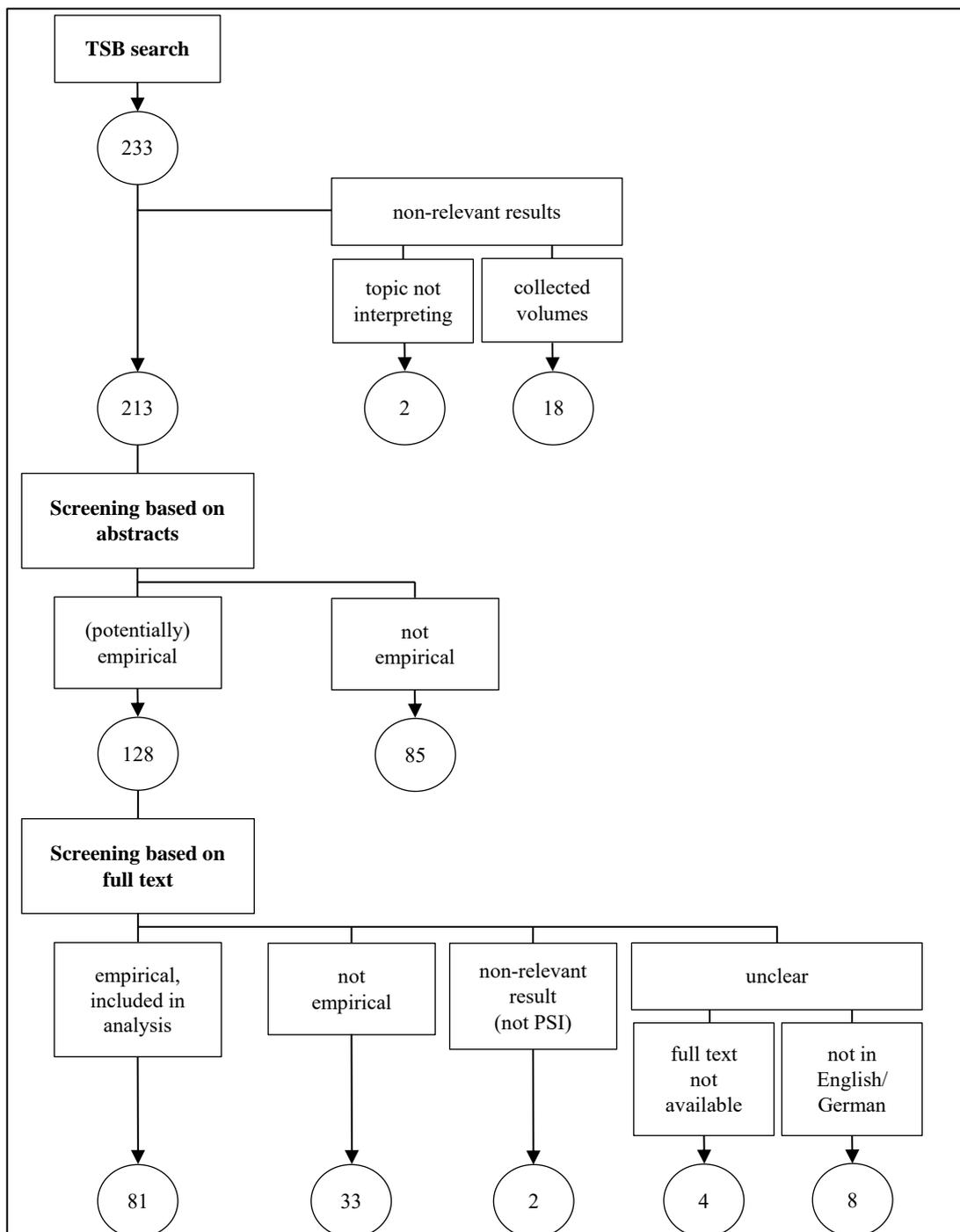


Figure 1. Process of data selection

4. Findings

The results of our analysis are presented in separate subsections for each type of data. First, we examine the main meta-level object of each study. We then describe the data in more detail as well as the methods of analysis applied in the studies. Table 1 below provides a quantitative illustration of our findings, presenting the distribution of the studies in terms of

the types of data and the objects of study. It is worth noting that we could not separate between the meta-level research objects by only looking at the research questions or tasks as we first anticipated. Instead, we often had to examine the ways that the analysis and the results had been described as well. Our analysis demanded a fair amount of interpretation, and thus, the table should be taken as suggestive rather than definitive. Sari Hokkanen was mainly responsible for analyzing the interactional data and Jaana Vuori for analyzing the other settings, but we discussed our analysis together.

Type of data	Object of study								Total
	Facts	Views	Cultural meanings and practices	Experiences	Social relations	Interaction	Combination	Unclear	
Interactional data	1	0	0	0	0	30	2*	0	33
Interview data	0	15	2	0	1	0	0	0	18
Textual data	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	7
Questionnaires	4	4	0	0	0	0	2**	2	12
Ethnographic observations	0	0	2	0	0	0	1***	3	6
Multi-data designs	0	3	0	0	0	0	1**	1	5
Total	7	24	7	0	1	30	6	6	81

* 1 study combining facts and interaction, 1 study combining cultural meanings/practices and interaction
 ** combination of facts and views
 *** combination of views, social relations, and interaction

Table 1. Distribution of analyzed publications in terms of their type of data and object of study

4.1 Interactional data

A total of 33 publications in our dataset studied interpreted interactions with interactional data. By interactional data, we refer to audio or video recordings of interpreted encounters, typically processed into detailed transcriptions. Most often, such interactional data is gathered from real-life everyday or institutional conversations (e.g., Drew and Heritage, 1992; Wooffitt, 2005; Lindholm, Stevanovic, and Peräkylä, 2016: 10-12), but our dataset also includes other than such naturally-occurring data: a few used scripted simulations or role plays. Naturally occurring data are typical for studies on interaction in general and have also been prominent in PSIT research, especially in the “dialogic discourse-based interaction” paradigm that gained momentum after the seminal works of Roy (2000) and Wadensjö (1998), as argued by Pöhhacker (2004: 78-79). Some researchers have even maintained that, for the study of interactional aspects in dialogue interpreting, “simulated data are of limited value” (Mason, 2012: 180).

We conceive of *interaction* as a meta-level object of empirical research. Interactional data could be used for studying other phenomena as well, for example, to acquire knowledge about social relations or the construction of cultural meanings and practices, but according to our analysis, interactional data in the PSIT studies examined here were mainly used for studying *interaction*: 32 of the 33 studies had *interaction* as their object of study, but, according to our interpretation, one combined this with the study of *facts* and one with the study of *cultural meanings and practices*. The research questions posed in these studies focused on issues such as the linguistic challenges faced by interpreters in a specific language

pair and setting (#44), the discursive functions of interpreters' minimal responses (#65), the effects that interpreters' conduct has on primary participants' ability to participate in the interpreted encounter (#74, #128), and the pragmatic shifts taking place in an asylum interview through interpreting (#123). The study investigating *facts* in addition to *interaction* looked at gatekeeping and the different "gates" in interpreter-mediated encounters that may hinder migrant clients' access to public services (#75). The study identified a number of institutional practices and factual processes that could have such an effect and analyzed how they influenced sequences of interpreter-mediated interaction. The study combining the study of *interaction* and *cultural meanings and practices* (#60) examined the ways in which pain is understood in different cultures and how this affects interpreting in medical settings. Finally, we categorized one publication as exclusively studying *facts*. This study (#44) investigated possible translation solutions of statements and questions relevant to medical consultations into American Sign Language.

As mentioned, the types of interactional data in these studies comprised of video or audio recordings, usually with the help of transcripts or in combination with other methods. The two studies that did not mention an analysis of transcripts relied exclusively on video-recorded data: one studied the management of metalinguistic references by American Sign Language–English interpreters (#4) and the other examined gaze shifts in immigration interviews (#70). In addition, seven studies combined audio- or video-recorded data with interviews. Three of these were retrospective semi-structured interviews (#4, #7, #73), two exclusively with interpreters (#4, #7). Furthermore, one study (#12) used interactional data together with data from two semi-structured group interviews. The final two studies combining recorded interactional data with interviews used in-depth interviews with service providers and members of migrant communities (#17, #75). These interviews aimed to elicit both internal and external viewpoints on interpreters' work, but the main focus of the analysis was on interpreters' strategies (#17) or the effect of institutional practices on interpreted interactions (#75).

Only three studies focusing on interaction explicitly mentioned having combined audio or video recordings with observations, even though ethnographic and other fieldwork-based methods are sometimes seen as an obvious choice for interactional studies (Lindholm, 2016). One study (#73), focusing on the interpreted interaction in a single assessment session at a speech therapy clinic, utilized the available training facilities and had a group of 37 senior students observe the interaction through a one-way mirror. These observers were asked to comment in writing on the activities and participation dimensions of the session, and their comments were included in the analysis. Another study combined 14 audio-recorded asylum review hearings with researcher observations and informal interviews with the participants (#120). The researchers' observations proved crucial in determining a key point of interest in the study: the way the presence and the processes related to the written record of the asylum hearing affects the interpreted interaction. The third study explicitly identifying observation as a data collection method analyzed 29 audio-recorded medical consultations with the aim of determining the different functions that the interpreter's visibility may have (#23).

One-third of the studies using interactional data (11 of 33) identified conversation analysis as their method of analysis, sometimes in combination with other methods such as thematic content analysis or multimodal communication analysis. Other methods of analysis identified in the studies were discourse analysis (#71, #75, #99, #107, #128), grounded theory (#17, #75), discourse-based analysis (#120), multimodal analysis (#12, #72), and the analysis of linguistic features (#1, #44, #80). Furthermore, three studies identified gaze as a key component of the analysis (#48, #70, #71), and one named ethnography of communication as

its analytical framework (#60). Only one study (#128) used quantitative methods in the analysis of audio-recorded and transcribed interactions in addition to qualitative and discourse-analytical methods. In this study, the quantification mainly referred to the categorization and counting of the types of questions asked by an official in an asylum interview, the types of responses given by the interviews asylum-seeking child, and the accuracy of the renditions given by the interpreter. A more detailed statistical analysis of the types of utterances and their renditions was apparently not carried out.

A few of the studies (8 of 33) did not apply a clearly defined or established method of analysis but either developed an analytical framework or approach for the purposes of the study or used qualitative methods of analysis without specifying them in more detail. Among the latter were coding of interpreting strategies with the help of video-analysis software (#4) and categorization of interpreted renditions and strategies used by interpreters to solve translation- or interaction-related problems (#7). Other qualitative approaches were used in the study of the functions of utterances partly or entirely owned by the interpreter (#23), of the relationship between interpreters' monitoring and their professional self-concept (#24), and of the functions of the mediator's expansions in a medical consultation (#61).

Three studies developed novel analytical frameworks. In a study on code switching, the researcher developed a heuristic framework focusing on aspects such as types of shift and their sequential position (#59). Another study developed a multi-level analytical framework for the study of the interpreter's participation, based on conceptual analysis (#74). A third analytical approach was developed on the basis of Goffman's construct of role (#27).

Almost exclusively, the PSIT studies in our data examining interaction took a factual rather than a social-constructivist perspective, that is, they attempted to analyze generalizable features of interpreted interaction rather than socially constructed interpretations of the cultural understandings at play in interaction situations. The study (#60) examining the ways in which pain is understood in different cultures and how this affects interpreting in medical settings was the only one taking a more social-constructivist perspective.

4.2 Interview data

Interpreters, interpreting students, professional clients, and foreign-language-speaking clients were interviewed in 18 studies either separately or in two or even three groups in the same research design. The range of topics was wide. The publications in which the analysis concentrated solely on interviews are discussed in this section, even though some of them have been conducted in a wider ethnographic frame.

Generally, interviews are mainly conducted in order to acquire knowledge about respondents' *views*, and these were the main object of study in 15 of the 18 analyzed publications with interview data. This object of study might be formulated as a research question, for example, "how institutions perceive CLB [child language brokering] as a means to interface with adult migrants" (#105) or as a research task, stating that the study aims to "explore the difficulties and possibilities in the communication between non Swedish-speaking patients/clients and Swedish authorities, particularly healthcare providers and social welfare professionals" (#127). The research interest goes a bit further in studies focusing on *cultural meanings and practices* (#50, #104): they aim to combine the analysis of what is said in the interviews to an interpretation of how statements are connected to different culturally shared ways of understanding, speaking, and acting (e.g., discourses or subcultures). What people say in the interviews is taken more as accounts that need interpretation than as

transparent views that may be reported as such. One of the studies formulated its interest in cultural meanings as follows:

The purpose of this paper is to explore the role of the interpreter in a changing landscape, and especially explore what it means to serve as a cultural broker from a point of view of the interpreter. The aim is also to analyse the term “cultural broker” from a broader perspective. What is the meaning of culture on cultural competence in this context? What does it mean to be a broker? The paper is thus a contribution, from a culture-analytical point of view, to a wide-ranging and ongoing discussion – both within academia and among practitioners within the field of interpreting – about what limitations there should be to the role of the interpreter and professional ethics. (#50)

One study (#15) differed from all other studies in our sample in the sense that it focused on *social relations* between interpreters. The study asked whether community interpreters form a community. It mainly looked at how the interpreters (in the interviews and in a seminar context) described the situation of PSIT in the country in question, combining this with contextual information. The accounts of the interpreters were also analyzed in light of the cultural distinctions they made in relation to different groups of interpreters regarding education and ethnicity, and thus, this study might also be categorized as a combination of *social relations* and *cultural meanings*.

None of the interview studies of PSIT in our sample examined *facts* or *experiences* as their main research objects, even though interview data may well be used to also examine these objects of study. We will return to the issue of rare research objects in the discussion (Section 5).

Next, we turn to the specific research topics in the studies using interview data. Public service interpreters were interviewed about their role (#26, #76) and about their views on possibilities and challenges in interpreted communication (#127). Some studies included more specific questions: who takes control of the communication flow (#58), what it means to act as a cultural broker (#50), who is responsible for the quality of interpreting (#102), how bodily issues are perceived in health care settings (#66), and what kind of ethical conflicts court interpreters had encountered related to video-conference interpreting (#10). The state or quality of services (#28, #102) and the need for training (#110) were also discussed. In four studies, interpreters were asked about their working conditions or professionalization more generally (#15, #28, #67, #109). In one small study, interpreter students were asked about their experience of interpreting simulations (#6). Some studies used interviews with both professional and lay interpreters (#26) or exclusively with lay interpreters (#66, #76).

Foreign-language-speaking clients were asked about their perceptions of the interpreter’s role (#26), interpreting services (#76) and of the challenges and possibilities in interpreter-mediated communication (#127), while professional clients were asked about a variety of issues, often the same topics as those asked of interpreters: the interpreter’s role (#26, #76), their working conditions and state of professionalization (#28, #67, #109), the quality of interpreting (#102), the state of the services (#28), and control of the communication flow (#58). In addition, public-service professionals were also interviewed about their experiences of using interpreters (#101, #104, #127) and child language brokers (#105). In one study, also the need for interpreter training was discussed (#110).

Interviews were individual interviews (in 17 studies) and/or group interviews (in four studies). They were mainly described as semi-structured or open-ended; the interview thus resembles a conversation and the questions are not identical in every interview but formulated flexibly to investigate a certain theme (Kvale and Brinkman, 2009; King and Horrocks, 2010). On one occasion, the interviews were described as structured (#2), which in

this case refers to the fact that the same six questions were posed to all participants. Some of the interviews were rather short and contained only a limited number of interview questions (or a limited number of discussion topics was reported in the publications). Thus, it seems to us that the interviews rarely resembled a narrative interview (Jovchelovitch and Bauer, 2000), which avoids a predetermined interview structure and encourages the informants to speak freely about the topic.

As in qualitative interview research in general, interviews were conducted with a rather limited number of people, ranging from a modest three to a large group of 20-30 people. In one study, interpreters were interviewed several times (the same data was used in publications #50 and #67).

The nature of the interviews was seldom described in any detail, which weakens the methodological rigor of the studies in question. One exception to this occurred in a study about the interpreter's role perceived by different participants after the interpreted situations. The nature of the interviews was described as follows:

By avoiding direct questions about role and simply asking participants their opinion of how the CI [Community Interpreter] performed, insight into their perception of role can be obtained without any skewing of data by confusion between what the interpreter actually did and what s/he should (or should not) have done. (#26)

The analysis in most interview studies was based on descriptive qualitative analysis, which was also named as qualitative content analysis, thematic analysis, thematic coding or thematic content analysis. One study (#127) stated having used phenomenography as a method of analysis. In some cases, the analysis was not described at all—and in all such cases, the findings were reported in rather simple descriptive terms.

No references were made to specific social-constructivist analytical approaches that are relatively common in interview studies in general, such as narrative or discourse analysis. In one study, the analytical approach was named broadly as culture-analysis (# 50), which points to social-constructivist analysis. Another study (#104), focusing on the socio-cultural norms of trust in interpreter-mediated encounters, also did not name any specific analytical approach, but the theory-laden discussion based on group interviews with different social work professionals conveyed that the focus was on analyzing cultural meaning-making practices of 'doing trust' rather than describing what is done in the encounters or what professionals' views or opinions are. Thus, it represents the social-constructivist perspective. In contrast, the overall lens in one study could be described as factual. The methodological approach employed in the study was named as theory-based description (#66). The theory in this case referred to the linguistic theory of register, and thus the analytical focus was on the interactional mode of the interpreted encounters. Furthermore, the previously mentioned study analyzing interpreters' community building (#15) might be seen as being between factual and social-constructivist perspectives.

In sum, interviews were in most cases taken as a rather direct lens to the factual reality, not as a co-production between the interviewer and the interviewee in an interactional situation (Have, 2004; Ruusuvuori and Tiittula, 2017) or as sites where cultural meanings are mediated and different interpretative repertoires or discourses constructed (e.g., Alasuutari, 1995: 63-69).

4.3 Textual data

For our analysis (based on 7 studies), texts used as research materials are divided into three types of data: texts written by the research participants to describe their experiences and viewpoints, documents produced in different official and institutional settings in order to govern social realities, and documentation of interpreted encounters.

The first group comprises studies that describe the professional identity of student interpreters (#57), professional knowledge and identity of students and their teachers (#18), and narratives of more experienced interpreters (#112). In the same manner than in the case of interviews, most studies here may be divided between those having people's—in this case, interpreters'—*views* as their object (#57, #112) and those having *cultural meanings and practices* constructed in interpreters' accounts as their object (#18). The next quote is a representative example of studies examining people's *views*:

We sought to understand what it is that the interpreter brings to a health care encounter that makes a difference for those involved, and how quality is achieved from an interpreter's point of view (#112)

The second group includes codes of ethics and other similar documents (#8) and ethical content materials used in interpreter training (#38). The datasets in these studies combine a variety of different texts. Instead of describing how these texts document or reveal facts of the social reality, these analyses rather aim at understanding which kinds of *cultural meanings* they construct as formulated in the research questions of the study on ethical codes. The production and circulation of diverse texts is looked at as a cultural practice:

How do ethical codes (try to) change social realities? What kind of change do they strive for? Do they mirror a clear image of the profession? How do they depict it? What specific elements do they refer to in order to shape the context where professional practice takes place? (#8)

Although research designs within legal science are very different from those in the social sciences and humanities, we have included here a study of legislation concerning the professionalization and training of interpreters (#35). According to our interpretation, this study aims at analyzing *facts* that are prescribed in legislation and thus different realities in different states in the US.

The third group includes only one study. A case analysis using official records about an interpreted police witness hearing and a court case is interpreted as aiming at studying *facts* (#98), because the focus is on how written documentation without audio or video recording may have serious consequences for the case in court.

Texts as a data type are thus very versatile, and the amount of texts used as data varies a great deal in the studies we have examined here. For example, in the study analyzing only one legal case (#98), the amount of the text material is very limited, while in some other studies, the amount of short texts has accumulated into a large set of data over the span of several years. This group comprises studies that describe the professional identity of student interpreters in an interpreter course (#57), chat log dialogues between students and their facilitators about professional knowledge and identity (#18), and narratives of more experienced interpreters in the context of a research-and-development program with staff members in an interpreter center (#112).

Because the text materials used in these studies are diverse, also the analytical approaches are manifold. The studies usually identify an analytical framework, even if some smaller-scale studies use qualitative description without defining the method of analysis. The

analytical approaches named are thematic analysis, content and theme analysis, in-depth analysis, grounded theory, and discourse analysis. However, neither the analysis nor the results are described at length, which weakens their analytic value.

To summarize, texts are analyzed from both factual and social-constructivist perspective: thus they are taken both as a means of revealing how people think, how things are organized and what is happening “out there” as well as socially constructed representations of realities that also have cultural power to affect how we understand the world and how we act in it.

4.4 Questionnaire data

A total of 12 studies in our dataset used questionnaires as their main data. Here we have included both questionnaires with mainly structured questions as well as questionnaires using open ended questions.

Questionnaires are typically used in surveys to research either *facts* or opinions, attitudes, and values—as people’s *views* are typically conceptualized in surveys (Bergman, 1998)—of a certain group of people. Survey questionnaires usually measure research-problem-specific issues from several angles, and they thus contain a large number of questions. Survey studies use statistical methods of analysis, which usually requires a large number of respondents. Survey methodology also requires theoretical thinking when formulating the questions and when analyzing the results (e.g., Joye et al. 2016). In our sample, however, questionnaires were rather often used for more modest purposes: in order to describe answers to direct questions about what people think and what they do.

In survey research in general, it is usual to combine both *facts* and *views* as objects in the same study, as was done in the following example, which we have categorized as a combination of the two objects:

1. Do community interpreters and conference interpreters differ with respect to five variables: their attitude toward technology; their propensity to adopt technology; self-reported technology use; communication apprehension; and visibility?
2. What is the strength of the correlations among the previously-mentioned variables?
3. Do the community interpreters included in the study differ on these variables depending on the domain in which they predominantly work – i.e., court and medical settings? (#3)

Four studies had *facts* as their main object. They investigated whether interpreters alert their professional clients about possible cultural understandings (#40), or, more widely, what the current activities of a group of trained emergency and disaster interpreters were (#63). Surveys were also distributed to public service professionals or civil servants in addition to interpreters to ask about the need and use of language services in a specific local setting (#49, #68). In one study, interpreters and foreign-language-speaking clients belonging to the same ethnic-linguistic community were asked about their practices on the use of lay and professional interpreting (#91).

Four studies had *views*—or opinions, attitudes and values—as their main object. Questionnaires were distributed to interpreters to ask about their perceptions of their professional position (#13) and of their role more generally; specific interest was on topics such as language register, the practices of offering cultural explanations, the expansion and omission of information, and the use of specialized terminology (#111). One study (#89) focused on community interpreters’ job satisfaction. In addition, interpreters were asked what kind of seating arrangements they prefer to use (#16).

The number of respondents varied between 62 and 286, but in one study targeted to a small group, the number of respondents was not disclosed. Interpreters and their users seem to be difficult to reach with surveys and thus the number of respondents remains moderate. Most of the questionnaires consisted of a rather limited number of questions, or only a few taken from a larger question set were analyzed in the publications. Many studies combined both structured and open-ended questions, but some questionnaires only consisted of open-ended questions, a couple on a very limited number of open-ended questions regarding participant feedback on a small-scale interpreter training initiative.

The open-ended questions were mainly analyzed by only describing their contents. The structured questions were also analyzed in most cases in a purely descriptive way by displaying the direct distribution of answers in percentages. The modest nature of the analytical grasp is emphasized by the fact that only one study included a clear description of the statistical analysis (#3), when first community interpreters and conference interpreters and then community interpreters in court and medical settings were compared.

In addition to the studies described in this section, questionnaires were also used in the context of some larger studies as a part of data collection, along with ethnographic observations and interviews (#88, #29, #25). However, the publications do not provide detailed descriptions of the analysis of survey data.

As in survey research in general, the perspective in PSIT studies using questionnaires is factual; a social-constructivist perspective is possible but very rare.

4.5 Observational ethnographic data

We have categorized all studies (6) that are based on participant or non-participant observations (often called fieldwork) as ethnographic, even though all did not explicitly name their research design as ethnography. The studies combined fieldwork or observations with other kinds of data, especially interviews with interpreters and other stakeholders, and, in some cases, also documents or questionnaires. In ethnographic studies in general, it is typical to combine many kinds of research materials (Hammersley and Atkinson, 1995[2007]).

It was not very easy for us to analyze the main object of the study in these publications. In three cases we saw the object as very unclear (#51) or complicated (#20, #88). A case study about an organization (#20) posed the research questions as follows, suggesting an analysis of *facts* as its main object, but the analysis was more nuanced:

- To what extent and in what ways do professional and non-professional volunteer interpreting services support/hinder the process of converting capabilities into effective participation in social life?
- What evidence exists of service users' ability to influence the initial contract position between the organisation and the language support services it employs?

In a study on interpreting provided for minors having migrated to the country without a guardian, the discussion on the interpreter's role drew on observations and interview data to construct a prescriptive understanding of what the interpreter's role *should* be (#88). Observations and interview statements were understood as describing *facts*, and the complicated relationship between describing participants' opinions and constructing moral orders was not analyzed.

Ethnography in general —especially as a typical methodology in anthropology, ethnology, or cultural studies— is a specialized approach to the study of *cultural meanings and practices*: as ways to understand more deeply the cultural logic of participants' actions

and understandings (Agar, 1986; Hammersley and Atkinson, 1995[2007]) or the embeddedness of their perceptions and actions in larger social-cultural frames (e.g., Goffman, 1974; Gardner and Martin-Jones, 2012). According to our interpretation, this was the case in two studies on PSIT, even though they described the *views* of the participants as well (#5, #29). The first study (#5) examined how a third-sector organization, the interpreters working there, and its service users construct multilingual spaces and how the role of interpreting is conceptualized in those spaces. The study further analyzed how these constructs affected the service users' participation in this organization. The other study (#29) examined how the role of an interpreting agency in organizing interpreters' work was perceived by both interpreters working for the agency and its managers. It further explored how these perceptions shape professionalism in this context.

Finally, we mention a study which employed a theory-oriented analysis of the major trends in the conceptualizations of bilingual health communication. It focused on a combination of *views* (e.g., interpreters' perceptions of their role), *interaction* (e.g., the effect of participants' communicative behavior on interpreting performance), and *social relations* (e.g., the effect on interpreting of the relationships between healthcare providers and service users). However, it was rather a synthesis of several empirical studies than a separate study (#41).

The types of data in these ethnographic studies were versatile. Some had extensive datasets, including dozens of interviews or extended fieldwork, whereas others had much more modest amounts of data, even a single visit to a police station (#51). Besides observation, several studies included also interviews (#5, #20, #29, #88, #41), three made use of questionnaires (#29, #88) and one of documents (#5). In one study, also "reported experiences" of foreign-language speaking clients was used (#5).

The methods of analysis were not often specified; the reporting of findings in three studies was mainly descriptive (#29, #51, #88), and one involved thematic coding (#5). In ethnographic studies in general, it is not uncommon that the analysis remains unlabeled and the methods of analysis are described shortly or not at all—which is problematic (Jouhki and Steel, 2016). One study identified its analytical approach as sociolinguistic ethnography (#5).

Two ethnographic studies clearly took a social-constructivist perspective and analyzed cultural meanings (the things said by the participants taken more as accounts requiring interpretation than as transparent views). In our interpretation, the others leaned more towards a factual perspective.

4.6 Studies using multiple types of data

As our final category, we identified 5 studies in our dataset that used a multi-methodological approach that was not based on ethnographic observations.

One monograph in our dataset aimed at developing a normative theoretical model that addresses cultural behaviors and participants' perceptions of those behaviors in light of the communicative goals that people have in bilingual healthcare. Here it was difficult for us to determine the object of research in an empirical sense. The study asked:

- (a) how should individuals behave if they wish to achieve desired outcomes and why, and (b) when people behave in a particular way, how will they be evaluated? (#25)

Three of the studies had people's *views* as their main object (#21, #106, #126). An article-based dissertation asked, "How individuals, health care professionals and family members perceive and experience the use of interpreters in healthcare" (#126). A small study

examined students' and instructors' evaluations of a course (#106). One study combined *views* with *facts* in order to analyze the impact of politics on the third sector providing language help for the service users (#19).

The publications in this category differ greatly from one another, and so do their combinations of diverse datasets. For example, a dissertation combined semi-structured individual and group interviews of foreign language speaking clients with texts written by professional clients and documents (incident reports issued by the healthcare center) (#126). Another study used both questionnaires and interviews with immigrant officers in order to find out how they saw the interpreter's role (#21), while a third study combined a desk-top survey of documents to interviews with service providers (#19). One study had a small dataset of interviews and questionnaires (#106).

The analytical approaches mentioned were qualitative content analysis, focus group analysis and phenomenography (#126), and framework analysis (#19). Others used descriptive analysis without naming it in any specific way. In our interpretation, all studies using multiple types of data leaned towards a factual perspective.

5. Discussion

In this article, we have analyzed 81 empirical studies about PSIT listed in the Translation Studies Bibliography. We are aware that the TSB does not include all studies published in PSIT, especially those published in other disciplines than translation and interpreting studies, but due to time constraints we were unable carry out further searches in other databases. The resulting analysis is, furthermore, limited in terms of the language of publication. Our main reasons for selecting English and German have to do with our own language skills and the lack of information given in the English-language abstracts for some of the publications written in other languages. The number of publications we excluded due to language was, however, fairly small: eight in total. Nevertheless, it would be important for researchers working in other language-areas to carry out similar studies in order to create a more comprehensive view of the current field of PSIT research.

We asked what kinds of methodological choices PSIT researchers have made when creating their research designs. Furthermore, we asked which objects of study have been central to the field and which have been less used. By research design we understood the interplay between the research problem, the choice of research materials or data, and the analytical approach taken in the study. Examining the objects of study at a methodological metalevel, we distinguished between (1) *facts*, (2) *views*, (3) *cultural meanings and practices*, (4) *experiences*, (5) *social relations*, and (6) *interaction*. At an even more general level, we made a distinction between factual and social-constructivist perspectives that may be taken in studies within the human sciences (e.g., Alasuutari, 1995). By departing from previous mappings of the field, which have often been exclusive to translation- and interpreting-related phenomena (e.g., Marco Borillo, 2009; Saldanha and O'Brien, 2013), we hoped to offer a fresh perspective to the field of PSIT research.

Empirical research of PSIT during the past decade has been varied and included different kinds of data production methods and analytical approaches. In this sense, researchers have relied broadly on the methodological traditions within the humanities and social sciences. However, the main focus has in most cases been on studying facts rather than studying interpreting-related phenomena from a social-constructivist perspective and understanding data as an example of cultural understandings and practices, experiences or

interactional situations. A focus on facts—for example, knowledge about policies or the factual practices in interpreting and views of interpreters, their clients, and other stakeholders—is important. Equally important would be to study PSIT from a social-constructivist perspective—for example, examining the cultural meanings interpreters, different stakeholders, and the wider society give to interpreting-specific issues and the kinds of interpreting cultures and cultural practices that may exist in the field. Especially the study of the interpreter's roles, which is one of the main topics in PSIT research, would gain greatly from a wider perspective. After all, questions such as what interpreters do and should do are moral issues to which there are no correct or incorrect answers. These are arguable norms that entail culturally and socially specific perspectives (Angelelli and Baer, 2016).

In addition, the understanding of the factual perspective has sometimes been rather narrow in the studies analyzed here; the studies have, for example, only reported what people have said in the interviews, given direct distributions of survey answers, and described what happened in observed encounters. Instead of remaining at the level of such narrow descriptivism, many PSIT studies would benefit from a deeper analysis leaning to some specialized analytical approach.

The study of interpreted interaction is one of the main tasks of PSIT research, and this is well reflected in our data. Accordingly, many studies analyze video or audio recordings and transcripts of interpreted encounters. The research design is usually a case study, which is typical to the analysis of interactional encounters in general. The studies on interaction in our dataset exhibit varied and nuanced analyses, and the researchers are well rooted in the analytical approaches typical to this field: conversation analysis, discourse analysis, and multimodal analysis. We see this as a clear strength of PSIT research, because such a strong footing in this field allows PSIT researchers to offer a unique perspective through the analysis of triadic institutional encounters and multilingual situations.

Another often-used type of data in the PSIT studies analyzed here are individual and group interviews. Several of these studies are extensive, but at times the number of interviewees was rather modest, making it difficult to analyze the interviews more deeply. Both professional and lay interpreters and their clients—usually professional clients—were interviewed. Interviews were mostly semi-structured, and the informants were mainly asked about their views on the interpreter's role and state of the profession as well as about their experiences of providing or using interpreting services. The analysis was usually qualitative content or thematic analysis concentrating on the contents of the discussion and did not consider the interactional nature of the interviews as a part of analysis or the way things are said and the kind of reality that is constructed in the interviews. To summarize, interviewees were mainly asked about their views, and their accounts were analyzed from a factual perspective. Some studies, however, also analyzed cultural understandings at least to some extent.

The few studies with text as their main data used documents governing PSIT (such as ethical materials), texts written by the research participants to describe their experiences and viewpoints, and documentation about interpreted encounters. The quantity of the data varied from a single document to a large set of texts produced over several years. A specific analytical framework was usually identified, even if the publications did not describe their analysis in detail.

Quantitative data used in these PSIT studies mainly consisted of questionnaires, even though some interactional materials were also analyzed quantitatively. The use of questionnaires in our dataset was very limited, sometimes involving only a few questions or even a single question. In most studies, the number of respondents was also too limited to

allow for a more nuanced analysis. The modest nature of the studies is also emphasized by the fact that only one study included statistical analysis, which is the basis of survey analysis. In the other cases, the analysis was purely descriptive and usually only displayed direct answers or percentages.

A few studies in PSIT also used ethnographic data and combined field observations with other kinds of materials such as interviews and documents. Some studies expanded over several years and had extensive datasets, but some were modest pilot studies. Conversely, some studies had extensive data, but the results were reported in the publications through a narrower perspective or with a limited range of data. In article-length studies, this is understandable, because ethnographic analysis often requires more space in the form of a monograph. Ethnographic research may be understood as both a mode of producing data through observations and other methods and as an analytical approach on its own terms, but it is not uncommon that the analysis remains unspecified or rather poorly described in ethnographic research reports, and this was true in our data as well. Even though ethnography in general is a specialized approach to the study of socially constructed understandings and practices, in the PSIT studies analyzed here, the perspective was usually factual.

6. Conclusion

Based on the analysis reported here, the most developed research topic in PSIT research is clearly *interaction*. It is studied widely from several perspectives and with nuanced analytical approaches. In addition, *facts* —issues such as how PSIT is organized or what interpreters and their clients do— seem to be a self-evident object of study. *Views* of different stakeholders around PSIT have also been studied frequently. However, *cultural meanings and practices* are severely under-studied in PSIT research, which we take as the main critical point in our analysis. It is a widely repeated dogma that interpreting is a social practice, but only few researchers seem to design their research projects in a way that takes into account the way this practice is molded by cultural understandings. There also seems to be a lack of studies examining the *experiences* of interpreters and their clients, and while this may not be a central issue in the study of interpreting and translation as a public service, it might nevertheless offer an interesting analytical angle. Finally, we found one study explicitly aiming to examine the *social relations* between interpreters. We suggest that social relations among public service interpreters may be a fruitful object of study to a much larger extent, given that they are a very diverse group of professional and lay actors with varying educational and experiential histories, coming from different gender, generational, and ethnic backgrounds.

Few of the PSIT studies in our dataset stemmed from larger or well-funded research projects, which may partly explain the methodological shortcomings discussed here. Most studies may have derived from individual theses or been single articles written amidst teaching. Furthermore, PSIT as an object of research may not be that popular among scholars from other disciplines than translation and interpreting studies, even if multicultural encounters and policies as well as social, health, and educational services aimed at migrants in general are steadily gathering interest. In studies on interactional encounters, however, PSIT research may already have a good foothold.

As a societally important area of public services, PSIT requires high-quality research and therefore better datasets and a more comprehensive use of approaches. Based on the present analysis, we would hope to see the field develop towards more diversity in terms of

objects of research and analytical perspectives without losing ground in areas where PSIT research is already robust. As a practical recommendation, we could also suggest that training efforts were directed to researchers and doctoral students regarding abstract writing skills, since the abstracts in our dataset did not always provide enough information for distinguishing between empirical and non-empirical studies.

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the two anonymous reviewers as well as Marja Alastalo and Kaisa Koskinen for their helpful comments on an earlier version of this article.

References

- Agar, Michael H. 1986. *Speaking of Ethnography*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.
- Alasuutari, Pertti. 1995. *Researching Culture. Qualitative Method and Cultural Studies*. London: Sage.
- Angelelli, Claudia V. and Baer, Brian James. 2016. (eds.). *Researching Translation and Interpreting*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Bergman, Manfred M. 1998. "A Theoretical Note on the Differences between Attitudes, Opinions, and Values". *Swiss Political Science Review*, 4 (2): 81-93.
- Chesterman, Andrew. 2000. "A causal model for translation studies". Olohan, Maeve (ed.). *Intercultural Faultiness. Research Models in Translation Studies 1: Textual and Cognitive Aspects*. Manchester: St. Jerome: 15-27.
- Denzin, Norman K. and Lincoln, Yvonna S. 2008. "Introduction. The discipline and practice of qualitative research". Denzin, Norman K. and Lincoln, Yvonna S. (eds.). *The Landscape of Qualitative Research*. 3rd ed. London: Sage: 1-43.
- Drew, Paul and Heritage, John. 1992. "Analyzing talk at work: An introduction". Drew, Paul and Heritage, John (eds.). *Talk at Work*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 3-65.
- Gardner, Sheena and Martin-Jones, Marilyn. 2012. *Multilingualism, Discourse and Ethnography*. New York and London: Routledge.
- Goffman, Erving. 1974. *Frame Analysis: An Essay on the Organization of Experience*. New York: Harper & Row.
- Guba, Egon G. and Lincoln, Yvonna S. 1994. "Competing paradigms in qualitative research". Denzin, N. K. and Lincoln, Yvonna S. (eds.). *Handbook of Qualitative Research*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage: 105-117.
- Hale, Sandra B. and Napier, Jemina. 2013. *Research Methods in Interpreting: A Practical Resource*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.
- Hammersley, Martyn and Atkinson, Paul. 1995[2007]. *Ethnography Principles in Practice*. 3rd ed. London: Routledge.
- Have, Paul ten. 2004. *Understanding Qualitative Research and Ethnomethodology*. London: Sage.
- Jouhki, Jukka and Steel, Tytti. 2016. "Analyysin ja tulkinnan ulottuvuuksia etnologiassa". Jouhki, Jukka and Steel, Tytti (eds.). *Etnologinen tulkinta ja analyysi. Kohti avoimempaa tutkimusprosessia*. Helsinki: Ethnos: 13-42.

- Jovchelovitch, Sandra and Bauer, Martin W. 2000. *Narrative Interviewing*. London: LSE Research Online. [Available at: <http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/2633>]
- Joye, Dominique; Wolf, Christof; Smith, Tom and Fu, Yang-chih. 2016. "Survey methodology: Challenges and principles". Wolf, Christof; Joye, Dominique; Smith, Tom and Fu, Yang-chih (eds.). *The SAGE Handbook of Survey Methodology*. London: Sage: 3-15.
- King, Nigel and Horrocks, Christine. 2010. *Interviews in Qualitative Research*. London: Sage.
- Kvale, Steinar and Brinkman, Svend. 2009. *InterViews: Learning the Craft of Qualitative Research Interviewing*. London: Sage.
- Lindholm, Camilla. 2016. "Keskustelunalyysi ja etnografia". Stevanovic, Melisa and Lindholm, Camilla (eds.). *Keskustelunalyysi. Kuinka tutkia sosiaalista toimintaa ja vuorovaikutusta*. Tampere: Vastapaino: 331-348.
- Lindholm, Camilla; Stevanovic, Melisa and Peräkylä, Anssi. 2016. "Johdanto". Stevanovic, Melisa and Lindholm, Camilla (eds.). *Keskustelunalyysi. Kuinka tutkia sosiaalista toimintaa ja vuorovaikutusta*. Tampere: Vastapaino: 9-30.
- Marco Borillo, Josep. 2009. "Training translation researchers". *The Interpreter and Translator Trainer*, 3 (1): 13-35. [Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1750399X.2009.10798779>]
- Mason, Ian. 2012. "Gaze, positioning and identity in interpreter-mediated dialogues". Baraldi, Claudio and Gavioli, Laura (eds.). *Coordinating Participation in Dialogue Interpreting*. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 177-200.
- Pöschhacker, Franz. 2004. *Introducing Interpreting Studies*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Roy, Cynthia B. 2000. *Interpreting as a Discourse Process*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Ruusuvuori, Johanna and Tiittula, Liisa Maria. 2017. "Tutkimushaastattelu ja vuorovaikutus". Hyvärinen, Matti; Nikander, Pirjo and Ruusuvuori, Johanna (eds.). *Tutkimushaastattelun käsikirja*. Tampere: Vastapaino: 46-86.
- Saldanha, Gabriela and O'Brien, Sharon. 2013. *Research Methodologies in Translation Studies*. Manchester: St Jerome.
- Vargas-Urpi, Mireia. 2012. "State of the art in Community Interpreting research: Mapping the main research topics". *Babel: Revue internationale de la traduction/International Journal of Translation*, 58: 50-72. [Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1075/babel.58.1.04var>]
- Vuori, Jaana and Alastalo, M. in preparation. "Empiirisen tutkimuksen perusteet".
- Wadensjö, Cecilia. 1998. *Interpreting as Interaction*. London and New York: Longman.
- Wooffitt, Robin. 2005. *Conversation Analysis and Discourse Analysis. A Comparative and Critical Introduction*. London: Sage.

Appendix: List of publications included in the dataset

#	Details of the publication	Data type	Object
1	Defrancq, B. and Verliefde, S. 2018. "Interpreter-mediated drafting of written records in police interviews: a case study". <i>Target</i> 30 (2): 212-239.	Interactional	Interaction
4	Petitta, G.; Halley, M. and Nicodemus, B. 2018. "What's the sign for <i>nitty gritty</i> ?": managing metalinguistic references in ASL–English dialogue	Interactional	Interaction

	interpreting”. <i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i> 13 (1): 49-70.		
7	Arumí Ribas, M. and Vargas-Urpi, M. 2017. “Strategies in public service interpreting: A roleplay study of Chinese–Spanish/Catalan interactions”. <i>Interpreting</i> 19 (1): 118-141.	Interactional	Interaction
12	Felberg, T. R. and Nilsen, A.B. 2017. “Exploring semiotic resources in sight translation”. <i>JoSTrans</i> 28: 230-249.	Interactional	Interaction
17	Pöllabauer, S. 2017. “Issues of terminology in public service interpreting: From affordability through psychotherapy to waiting lists”. Antonini, R.; Cirillo, L.; Rossato, L. and Torresi, I. (eds.). <i>Non-professional Interpreting and Translation: State of the art and future of an emerging field of research</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 131-155.	Interactional	Interaction
23	Zhan, C. and Zeng, L. 2017. “Chinese medical interpreters’ visibility through text ownership: An empirical study on interpreted dialogues at a hospital in Guangzhou”. <i>Interpreting</i> 19 (1): 97-117.	Interactional	Interaction
24	Englund Dimitrova, B. and Tiselius, E. 2016. “Cognitive aspects of community interpreting: Toward a process model”. Muñoz Martín, R. (ed.). <i>Reembedding Translation Process Research</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 195-214.	Interactional	Interaction
27	Krystallidou, D.K. 2016. “Investigating the interpreter’s role(s): The A.R.T. framework”. <i>Interpreting</i> 18 (2): 172-197.	Interactional	Interaction
32	Turner, G. H. and Merrison, A.J. 2016. “Doing ‘understanding’ in dialogue interpreting: advancing theory and method”. <i>Interpreting</i> 18 (2): 137-171.	Interactional	Interaction
44	Swabey, L.; Nicodemus, B. and Moreland, C. 2014. “An Examination of Medical Interview Questions Rendered in American Sign Language by Deaf Physicians and Interpreters”. Nicodemus, B. and Metzger, M. (eds.). <i>Investigations in Healthcare Interpreting</i> . Gallaudet University Press: 104-127.	Interactional	Facts
47	Böser, U. 2013. “‘So tell me what happened!’: interpreting the free recall segment of the investigative interview”. <i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i> 8 (1): 112-136.	Interactional	Interaction
48	Davitti, E. 2013. “Dialogue interpreting as intercultural mediation: Interpreters’ use of upgrading moves in parent–teacher meetings”. <i>Interpreting</i> 15 (2): 168-198.	Interactional	Interaction
52	Niemants, N.S.A. 2013. “From role-playing to role-taking: Interpreter role(s) in healthcare”. Schäffner, C.; Kredens, K. and Fowler, Y. (eds.). <i>Interpreting in a</i>	Interactional	Interaction

	<i>changing landscape: Selected papers from Critical Link 6</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 305-319.		
59	Anderson, L. 2012. "Code-switching and coordination in interpreter-mediated interaction". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.) <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 115-148.	Interactional	Interaction
60	Angelelli, C.V. 2012. "Challenges in interpreters' coordination of the construction of pain". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.) <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 251-268.	Interactional	Cultural meanings and practices, Interaction
61	Baraldi, C. 2012. "Interpreting as dialogic mediation: The relevance of expansions". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.) <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 297-326.	Interactional	Interaction
65	Gavioli, L. 2012. "Minimal responses in interpreter-mediated medical talk". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.) <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 201-228.	Interactional	Interaction
70	Mason, I. 2012. "Gaze, positioning and identity in interpreter-mediated dialogues". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.). <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 177-200.	Interactional	Interaction
71	Van De Mierop, D.; Bevilacqua, G. and Van Hove, L. 2012. "Negotiating discursive norms: Community interpreting in a Belgian rest home". <i>Interpreting</i> 14 (1): 23-54.	Interactional	Interaction
72	Pasquandrea, S. 2012. "Co-constructing dyadic sequences in healthcare interpreting: A multimodal account". Abou-Bakr, F.; Solano, M.A.; Charlston, D.; Davitti, E.; Kim, K.H.; Meade, R. and Pasmatzki, K. (eds.). <i>IPCITI 2010 proceedings</i> 8: 132-157.	Interactional	Interaction
73	Penn, C. and Watermeyer, J. 2012. "Cultural brokerage and overcoming communication barriers: A case study from aphasia". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.) <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 269-296.	Interactional	Interaction
74	Pöchhacker, F. 2012. "Interpreting participation: Conceptual analysis and illustration of the interpreter's role in interaction". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.). <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 45-70.	Interactional	Interaction

75	Pöllabauer, S. 2012. "Gatekeeping practices in interpreted social service encounters". Lee-Jahnke, H. and Forstner, M. (eds.). <i>La CIUTI, chef de file pour la promotion de l'employabilité et de la recherche / CIUTI: leader in advocating employability and research</i> 57 (1): 213-234.	Interactional	Interaction, Facts
78	Straniero-Sergio, F. 2012. "'You are not too funny': Challenging the role of the interpreter on Italian talkshows". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.). <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 71-98.	Interactional	Interaction
79	Tebble, H. 2012. "Interpreting or interfering?" Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.). <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 23-44.	Interactional	Interaction
80	Zhan, C. 2012. "Mediation through personal pronoun shifts in dialogue interpreting of political meetings". <i>Interpreting</i> 14 (2): 192-216.	Interactional	Interaction
81	Zorzi, D. 2012. "Mediating assessments in healthcare settings". Baraldi, C. and Gavioli, L. (eds.). <i>Coordinating participation in dialogue interpreting</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 229-250.	Interactional	Interaction
87	Gavioli, L. and Baraldi, C. 2011. "Interpreter-mediated interaction in healthcare and legal settings: Talk organization, context and the achievement of intercultural communication". <i>Interpreting</i> 13 (2): 205-233.	Interactional	Interaction
99	Lázaro Gutiérrez, R. and Pena Díaz, C. 2010. "Training interpreters in the healthcare area: guidelines for the pediatrics consultation". del Rosario Caballero Rodríguez, M. and Pinar Sanz, M.J. (eds.). <i>Ways and modes of human communication</i> . Cuenca: Ediciones de la Universidad de Castilla La Mancha: 1269-1276.	Interactional	Interaction
107	Valero-Garcés, C. 2010. "Challenging communication in doctor/non-native patient encounters: Two perspectives, three types of interaction and some proposals". <i>JoSTrans</i> 14: 229-248.	Interactional	Interaction
120	Pöchhacker, F. and Kolb, W. 2009. "Interpreting for the record: A case study of asylum review hearings". Hale, S.; Ozolins, U. and Stern, L. (eds.). <i>The critical link 5: Quality in interpreting: A shared responsibility</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 119-134.	Interactional	Interaction
123	Tillmann, M. 2009. "The pragmatic significance of modal particles in an interpreted German asylum interview". de Pedro Ricoy, R.; Perez, I. and Wilson, C. (eds.). <i>Interpreting and translating in public service settings</i> . Manchester and Kinderbrook (NY): St. Jerome: 156-170.	Interactional	Interaction

128	Keselman, O. 2009. <i>Restricting participation: Unaccompanied children in interpreter-mediated asylum hearings in Sweden</i> . Unpublished dissertation. University of Linköping.	Interactional	Interaction
2	de Pedro Ricoy, R.; Howard, R. and Andrade Ciudad, L. 2018. "Walking the tightrope: the role of Peruvian indigenous interpreters in prior consultation processes". <i>Target</i> 30 (2): 187-211.	Interview	Views
6	Viljanmaa, A. 2018. "Students' views on the use of film-based <i>LangPerform</i> computer simulations for dialogue interpreting". <i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i> 13 (3): 465-485.	Interview	Views
10	Devaux, J. 2017. "Virtual Presence, Ethics and Videoconference Interpreting: insights from court settings" Valero-Garcés, C. and Tipton, R. (eds.). <i>Ideology, Ethics and Policy Development in Public Service Interpreting and Translation</i> . Bristol, UK: Multilingual Matters: 131-150.	Interview	Views
15	Määttä, S.K. 2017. "Community Interpreters in Finland: a heterogeneous community divided by ethnicity". Taivalkoski-Shilov, K.; Tiittula, L. and Koponen, M. (eds.). <i>Communities in Translation and Interpreting</i> (Vita traductiva; No. 9). Les Éditions québécoises de l'œuvre: 183-216.	Interview	Social relations
26	Kaczmarek, Ł. 2016. "Towards a broader approach to the community interpreter's role: On correspondence between role perceptions and interactional goals". <i>Interpreting</i> 18 (1): 57-88.	Interview	Views
28	Lee, J.; Choi, M.; Huh, J. and Chang, A. 2016. "Community interpreting services by marriage migrants for marriage migrants in South Korea". <i>Perspectives</i> 24 (2): 179-200.	Interview	Views
50	Gustafsson, K.; Norström, E. and Fioretos, I. 2013. "The interpreter – a cultural broker?" Schäffner, C.; Kredens, K. and Fowler, Y. (eds.). <i>Interpreting in a changing landscape: Selected papers from Critical Link 6</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 187-202.	Interview	Cultural meanings and practices
58	Zimányi, K. 2013. "'Somebody has to be in charge of a session': On the control of communication in interpreter-mediated mental health encounters". <i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i> 8 (1): 94-111.	Interview	Views
66	Gheorghiu, C.I. 2012. "Bodily perception in female ad hoc interpreting: Romanian immigrants in contemporary Spain". <i>Perspectives: Studies in Translatology</i> 20 (3): 329-343.	Interview	Views

67	Gustafsson, K.; Fioretos, I. and Norström, E. 2012. "Working conditions of community interpreters in Sweden: Opportunities and shortcomings". <i>Interpreting</i> 14 (2): 242-260.	Interview	Views, Facts
76	Zendedel, R.; Ross, J.; Schouten, B. and Meeuwesen, L. 2012. "Informal interpreters in medical settings: A comparative socio-cultural study of the Netherlands and Turkey". <i>The Translator</i> 18 (2): 311-338.	Interview	Views
101	Mooney, E. and Pettigrew, J. 2010. "The experiences of occupational therapists using interpreters". <i>Translation Ireland</i> 18 (2): 75-97.	Interview	Views
102	O'Byrne, M. 2010. "Interpreting in the area of occupational health and safety training for migrant workers in the Irish construction industry". <i>Translation Ireland</i> 18 (2): 43-55.	Interview	Views
104	Tipton, R. 2010. "On trust: Relationships of trust in interpreter-mediated social work encounters". Baker, M.; Olohan, M. and Calzada Pérez, M. (eds.). <i>Text and context: Essays on translation and interpreting in honour of Ian Mason</i> . Manchester & Kinderbrook: St. Jerome Publishing: 188-208.	Interview	Cultural meanings and practices
105	Cirillo, L.; Torresi, I. and Valentini, C. 2010. "Institutional perceptions of child language brokering in Emilia Romagna". <i>mediAzioni</i> 10: 269-296.	Interview	Views
109	Zimányi, K. 2010. "The professionalisation of mental health interpreting in Ireland: Current practice". <i>Translation Ireland</i> 18 (2): 57-74.	Interview	Views
110	Zimányi, K. 2010. "Training for interpreting in mental healthcare in Ireland". <i>International Journal of Interpreter Education</i> 2: 3-13.	Interview	Views
127	Fatahi, N. 2010. <i>Cross-cultural encounters through interpreter: Experiences of patients, interpreters and healthcare professionals</i> . Unpublished dissertation. University of Gothenburg.	Interview	Views
8	Baixaoli-Olmos, L. 2017. "Ethics codes as tools for social change in public service interpreting: Symbolic, social and cultural dimensions". <i>JoSTrans</i> 28: 250-272.	Textual	Cultural meanings and practices
18	Skaaden, H. 2017. "'That we all behave like professionals': An experiential-dialogic approach to interpreter education and online learning". Cirillo, L., and Niemants, N.S.A. (eds.). <i>Teaching Dialogue Interpreting: Research-based proposals for higher education</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 324-340.	Textual	Cultural meanings and practices
35	Rosendo, L.R. and Conniff, D. 2015. "Legislation as backdrop for the professionalisation and training of the healthcare interpreter in the United States". <i>JoSTrans</i>	Textual	Facts

	23: 292-315.		
38	Dean, R. 2014. "Condemned to repetition? An analysis of <i>problem-setting</i> and <i>problem-solving</i> in sign language interpreting ethics". <i>Translation & Interpreting</i> 6 (1): 60-75.	Textual	Cultural meanings and practices
57	Voinova, T. 2013. "From taken-for-grantedness to professional awareness: Self-presentations of student-interpreters in a community interpreting course". González Núñez, G.; Khaled, Y. and Voinova, T. (eds.) <i>Emerging research in translation studies selected papers of the Cetra Research Summer School 2012</i> : 1-24.	Textual	Views
98	Jarmolowska, K. 2010. "Chinese whispers: Taking a witness statement from a Non-English speaker in an Irish Garda Station". <i>Translation Ireland</i> 18 (2): 11-23.	Textual	Facts
112	Blignault, I.; Stephanou, M. and Barrett, C. 2009. "Achieving quality in health care interpreting: Insights from interpreters". Hale, S.; Ozolins, U. and Stern, L. (eds.). <i>The critical link 5: Quality in interpreting: A shared responsibility</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 221-234.	Textual	Views
3	Mellinger, C.D. and Hanson, T.A. 2018. "Interpreter traits and the relationship with technology and visibility". <i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i> 13 (3): 366-392.	Questionnaire	Facts, Views
11	Drugan, J. 2017. "Ethics and social responsibility in practice: Interpreters and translators engaging with and beyond the professions". <i>The Translator</i> 23 (2): 126-142.	Questionnaire	Unclear
13	Gentile, P. 2017. "Political ideology and the de-professionalisation of public service interpreting: The Netherlands and the United Kingdom as case studies." Valero-Garcés, C. and Tipton, R. (eds.). <i>Ideology, Ethics and Policy Development in Public Service Interpreting and Translation</i> . Bristol, UK: Multilingual Matters: 63-83.	Questionnaire	Views
16	Pokorn, N.K. 2017. "'There is always some spatial limitation': Spatial positioning and seating arrangement in healthcare interpreting". <i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i> 12 (3): 383-404.	Questionnaire	Views
40	Hale, S. 2014. "Interpreting culture: Dealing with cross-cultural issues in court interpreting". <i>Perspectives</i> 22 (3): 321-331.	Questionnaire	Facts
49	Foulquié Rubio, A.I. and Abril Martí, M.I. 2013. "The role of the interpreter in educational settings: Interpreter, cultural mediator or both?" Schäffner, C.;	Questionnaire	Facts, Views

	Kredens, K. and Fowler, Y. (eds.). <i>Interpreting in a changing landscape: Selected papers from Critical Link 6</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 203-221.		
63	Dogan, A. 2012. "A study on the volunteers of emergency and disaster interpreting initiative (ARC) in Turkey". <i>Edebiyat Fakültesi Dergisi / Journal of Faculty of Letters</i> 29 (2): 45-58.	Questionnaire	Facts
68	Hannouna, Y.H. 2012. "The need for adequate community interpreting services in healthcare multilingual settings: a case study in Al-Ain, UAE". <i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i> 7 (1): 72-95.	Questionnaire	Facts
89	Hale, S. 2011. "The positive side of community interpreting: An Australian case study". <i>Interpreting</i> 13 (2): 234-248.	Questionnaire	Views
91	Hlavac, J. 2011. "Sociolinguistic profiles of users and providers of lay and professional interpreting services: The experiences of a recently-arrived Iraqi language community in Melbourne". <i>Translation & Interpreting</i> 3 (2): 1-32.	Questionnaire	Facts
103	Szymańska, I. 2010. "Interpreting in a health context: Assessing interpreters' preparedness to undertake assignments in health care: An Australian model of a state-run service". <i>Translation Ireland</i> 18 (2): 143-166.	Questionnaire	Unclear
111	Ortega Herráez, J.M.; Abril Martí, M. I. and Martín, A. 2009. "Community interpreting in Spain: A comparative study of interpreters' self perception of role in different settings". Hale, S.; Ozolins, U. and Stern, L. (eds.). <i>The critical link 5: Quality in interpreting: A shared responsibility</i> . Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins: 149-167.	Questionnaire	Views
5	Tipton, R. 2018. "Translating/ed selves and voices: Language support provisions for victims of domestic violence in a British third sector organization". <i>Translation and Interpreting Studies</i> 13 (2): 163-184.	Ethnographic observations	Cultural meanings and practices
20	Tipton, R. 2017. "Contracts and capabilities: Public service interpreting and third sector domestic violence services". <i>The Translator</i> 23 (2): 237-254.	Ethnographic observations	Unclear
29	Dong, J. and Napier, J. 2016. "Towards the Construction of Organisational Professionalism in Public Service Interpreting". <i>CTIS Occasional Papers</i> 7: 22-42.	Ethnographic observations	Cultural meanings and practices
41	Hsieh, E. 2014. "Emerging Trends and the Corresponding Challenges in Bilingual Health Communication". Nicodemus, B. and Metzger, M. (eds.). <i>Investigations in Healthcare Interpreting</i> . Gallaudet University Press: 70-103.	Ethnographic observations	Views, Social relations, Interaction

51	Molefe, M. and Marais, K. 2013. "The role of language practice in access to public services in South Africa: the case of Philippolis". Cuvelier, P.; du Plessis, T; Meeuwis, M.; Vandekerckhove, R. and Webb, V. (eds.). <i>Multilingualism for Empowerment</i> . Pretoria: Van Schaik: 72-90.	Ethnographic observations	Unclear
88	Gustafsson, K.; Norström, E. and Fioretos, I. 2011. "Interpreters in Sweden: A tool for equal rights?" <i>Gramma. Journal of Theory and Criticism</i> 19: 59-75.	Ethnographic observations	Unclear
19	Tipton, R. 2017. "Interpreting-as-Conflict: PSIT in third sector organisations and the impact of third way politics." Valero-Garcés, C. and Tipton, R. (eds.). <i>Ideology, Ethics and Policy Development in Public Service Interpreting and Translation</i> . Bristol, UK: Multilingual Matters: 38-62.	Multiple	Facts, Views
21	Tryuk, M. 2017. "Conflict. Tension. Aggression: Ethical issues in interpreted asylum hearings at the office for foreigners in Warsaw." Valero-Garcés, C. and Tipton, R. (eds.). <i>Ideology, Ethics and Policy Development in Public Service Interpreting and Translation</i> . Bristol, UK: Multilingual Matters: 179-194.	Multiple	Views
25	Hsieh, E. 2016. <i>Bilingual Health Communication: Working with interpreters in cross-cultural care</i> . New York and London: Routledge.	Multiple	Unclear
106	Tymczyńska, M. 2010. "Assessing community interpreter training in a blended environment". <i>Translation Ireland</i> 18 (2): 109-126.	Multiple	Views
126	Hadziabdic, E. 2011. <i>The use of interpreter in healthcare: Perspectives of individuals, healthcare staff and families</i> . Unpublished dissertation, Linnaeus University.	Multiple	Views

Date of reception/Fecha de recepción: 3 de enero de 2020

Date of acceptance/Fecha de aceptación: 3 de abril de 2020

How to cite this article?/ ¿Cómo citar este artículo?

Vuori, Jaana and Hokkanen, Sari (2020) "Empirical Designs in PSIT Studies". *FITISPos-International Journal*, 7 (1). 110-137.