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A pilot study of highly comparable scientific texts in English and Norwegian demonstrate a significant difference in use of a number of text conventions. Of particular interest is the use of event nominals/nominalizations, English showing a markedly higher frequency of use than Norwegian (an excerpt of about 250 words in each sample). Yet a multitranslation corpus of Norwegian translations of the English excerpt, collected by Øverås and Johansson (1998) shows that Norwegian professional translators demonstrate strong leanings towards the English text conventions in their translations, deviating from text conventions used by Norwegian professionals in the same scientific field. The present article makes a closer study of event nominalizations in a larger, more representative excerpt of the texts. If the preliminary findings are verified, it means that translators follow a different/(foreign) strategy of scientific text production than professional scientists in the field. The differences will be illuminated with the aim of establishing recommendations for alternative translation strategies that may improve text readability.


Johansson, Stig. 2007. Seeing through multilingual corpora. J. Benjamins