Research Interests:

I am a master’s degree holder of French translation studies at Tarbiat Modares University of Tehran. All my life is devoted to foreign cultures and their interactions. Translation, as an ultimate pathway where cultures confront each other, has always been my preferred area of research. To develop an appropriate background for my work, I have particularly focused on French language since it has always exerted a long-lasting influence on Eastern cultures under the shadow of its colonial policies.

**Research background:**

The majority of my work includes analysis of French literature and descriptive analysis of its translation trends into Persian. In this regard, I have chosen *Madame Bovary* of *Gustave Flaubert* as the corpus of my thesis since it highlights essential cultural distances between the two civilizations. Moreover, I have tried to propose a model of meaning-making process in order to apprehend the translated texts. To do so, I have adopted a linguistic approach by means of the componential analysis of *Francois Rastier* and *Pottier* in my master dissertation entitled *Study of afferent and inherent semes and their translation in Madame Bovary of Gustave Flaubert*.

Directed by my supervising professor *Dr. Shairi*, I have also published an article at *Translation Studies magazine of Ferdowsi Mashad university* where I demonstrated that:

**inherent semes** are pure cultural aspects that could be easily transferred into other languages. Lexical resources such as *café[[1]](#footnote-1)*, *mask[[2]](#footnote-2)*, *résumé[[3]](#footnote-3)* or *Ivan The Terrible[[4]](#footnote-4)* (Ivan le Terrible) are all prime examples as the reference of these entities are well-known and, therefore, accessible in the translated text.

**Afferent semes**, on the other hand, are less perceivable cultural aspects in the recipient language as similar but different concepts exist in the target language; for instance, although Christmas is referring to the same concept as Noel (birthday of Jesus) in French, it is clearly different from Nime Shaban[[5]](#footnote-5) (birthday of Imam Zaman) in Persian. In the same vein, Père Noel or Santa Clause are not the same as Haji Firouz[[6]](#footnote-6). Another example of afferent semes is where form changes in favor of the meaning in proverbs, expressions and slang words: *Dickhead* or *tête de gland* and its Persian equivalent *kale khar* (literally translated as donkey head), each are compound-nouns composed of different word-formation referring to the same concept.

**Research results:**

According to my findings, inherent semes are cultural aspects that could be easily translated (borrowing or literal translation). However, translation of afferent semes are more difficult as it may require an intensive search for proper equivalent expressions. The research also implied that teaching of translation should focus more on afferent semes since inherent semes are limited and for learning them, all a translator needs is look up into an encyclopedia while afferent semes require research and studying as they may vary from one French-speaking region to another and may even get modified over time.

**Current projects:**

With regards to my current projects, after finding an employment in Kowsarbaft Novin CO. as a translator, I witnessed how essential it is to be coherent with the interlocutor’s way of thinking. In this regard, I am writing an article under the supervision of Dr. Shairi, my supervisor, in which I am studying business-related afferent semes with an emphasis on phatic expressions and formalities.

According to my findings, it could be concluded that formalities in Eastern countries are more essential in translation. If they are not transferred, there is always a chance for negotiations to fail. That is why European countries tend to have shorter conversations compared to the Middle-East, where extending time by engaging in short talks is an accepted practice. also, it appears that translation of commerce-related correspondence is more deploying of structures related to formalities rather than the pure implying of the message in the target language. Knowing this would absolutely help Eastern merchants avoid the so-called *grooming* *effect* when interacting with European clients as improper deployment of formalities would be considered rude.

**Future plans:**

following my master’s thesis project, I am planning to accomplish a descriptive analysis of translated texts in a chronological order focusing on the impact of time on afferent/inherent semantic features. To do so, I am adopting a semantic perspective, by which I will try to find answers to the following questions:

1. What is the impact of afferent and inherent semes on translation?
2. What should be done for transferring of afferent/inherent semantic features?
3. What major elements affect our understanding of translated afferent and inherent properties?

I will prove that inherent features complete lexical resources while afferent semantic features can cause inadaptability with the recipient culture. Therefore, they may provoke misunderstanding or erroneous implications during the process of translation.

I will also assume that inherent semes should be introduced to the target language by translators while transferring of afferent semes requires creativity and thorough lexical investigation to find the most appropriate equivalent expressions.

Furthermore, I will state that time is a favorable factor for translation first of all because readers’ understanding of afferent and inherent semantic features is directly linked with the growth in communicational technologies over time and abundance of EBooks. Secondly, it should be noted that interculturality, which means introduction of non-indigenous cultures through immigration of non-native intellects, is another essential factor that helps the superstrate civilization get acquainted gradually with imported afferent and inherent cultural values.

**Conclusion:**

As a master’s degree holder of French language translation, I am willing to pursue my education abroad first of all because we do not have the copyright in Iran; subsequently, accessibility to original study materials is somehow impossible, which is the major issue for any research work.

Furthermore, I feel the French Linguistics position offered at the University of Alabama would be an ideal opportunity to bring my translation studies to the next stage with a framework of linguistics.

given the opportunity, in grace of many years of professional and educational experience, I consider myself among the candidates who can work hand-in-hand with peers and professors for raising scientific status of ourselves as well as our department.

1. کافه [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. ماسک [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. رزومه [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. ایوان مخوف [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. نیمه شعبان [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. حاجی فیروز [↑](#footnote-ref-6)