

IS1404 E-READ: Evolution of Reading in the Age of Digitization

Position paper

Name: Monika Płużyczka

WG(s): WG3 or WG1

Short biography:

Monika Płużyczka, PhD, is an assistant professor at the Institute of Specialized and Intercultural Communication (formerly: Institute of Anthropocentric Linguistics and Culturology) at the University of Warsaw. She received her doctorate (2009) from the University of Warsaw for her PhD thesis on psycholinguistic aspects of translation teaching. She is head of the Eye-Tracking Experimental Linguistics Laboratory, deputy director of students and international affairs at the Institute of Specialized and Intercultural Communication, editor-in-chief and founder of *Debiuty Akademickie*, deputy editor of *Lingwistyka Stosowana/ Applied Linguistics*, a member of the editorial team of *Studi@ Naukowe* and *Kwartalnik Neofilologiczny*, and a member of the *Polish Association of Applied Linguistics*, *Internationale Vereinigung für Germanistik* and *Modern Language Association of Poland*. Her research interests include translation studies, especially eye-tracking analyses of translational processes, translation and interpreting teaching. She is currently involved in some international research projects on translation, including heading the *Eye Tracking Analysis of Sight Translation Project*. She has also been visiting assistant professor at Universities in Moscow, Bologna, Salerno, Verona and Pavia. She was awarded a scholarship, presented to outstanding young academic researchers by the Minister of Science and Higher Education, a scholarship to the best young academic researchers by the University of Warsaw and a post-doctoral research fellowship by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD); she has also been the recipient of several other post-doctoral research scholarships in foreign universities (The Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, The University of Konstanz, Saarland University, Free University of Berlin). She is the author of many publications on translation studies.

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1.

My research interests include eye-tracking experiments. Since 2012, I have been the Head of the Laboratory for Experimental Eye-Tracking Linguistics.

I carry out eye-tracking experiments that are focused on the sight translation process, especially on the specificity of reading and comprehension during sight translation. In my research, I compare ‘reading with understanding’ and ‘translation-oriented reading (as regards

sight translation)'. In both cases, texts are presented on the computer screen, not on paper, which enables both to compare these two kinds of text perception and to measure the cognitive load in these two processes.

Recently, I have applied for a new research grant. It is aimed at comparing the process of reading a text in a foreign language on paper with the process of reading a text in a foreign language on such digital devices as: e-book readers, tablets, smartphones and computer displays. I want to conduct an eye-tracker measurement of the reading strategy, attention and distraction (are people distracted by digital devices or not?), the speed of finding information (how fast can we find information we are looking for?), the cognitive load (and at the same time – the cognitive effort), specific visual features of reading texts on digital devices and on paper and information retention. The results thus obtained are supposed to show the differences between digital reading and reading in print, as well as the influence of digitization on cognitive processes (cognitive load).

2. Interest in

A.

I am interested in participating in a short-term scientific mission that is focused on the influence of digital reading on the cognitive load, attention and perception (eye movements), taking into account various purposes of such reading, including translation.

B.

I am interested in participating in a Training School that involves the use of the experimental equipment in studying the process of reading, like EEG, fMRI, etc.