



Documentational approach to didactics

The multilingual project

Translating Issues Report, concerning both the translator and the reviewer

Second version (June 2020)

Language: Greek

Translator: Giorgos Pscharis

Reviewer: Chronis Kynigos

Sources: English version and other linguistic versions?

Date:

1. In a few lines, could you describe the main issues that emerged when translating the DAD entry or when interacting with the reviewer?

- issues linked to the context (social, cultural, or curricular);
- issues linked to the concepts at stake;
- issues linked to the vocabulary

The main issues were related to the vocabulary, as specified below.

DAD is not widely known as a framework in the Greek education and research community. However, the number of studies (e.g., projects, doctoral theses/dissertations) using it has been increased over the last years. The instrumental approach is established as a theory of mathematics education in the Green didactic and research context and this is expected to facilitate the presentation of DAD in the national communities of teachers and researchers.

After reading the translated text we feel that it is a new mixed/hybrid ‘document’ based on the original one but also characterized by adaptations to meanings and terms so as to align the language to the local audience. We feel that the original text and the theory itself include technical/scientific terms that are not easily transformed to the Greek language by only a simple word. On the other hand the translation of terms ‘word-by-word’ often does not lead to a meaningful outcome.

The first challenge we met was how to translate the term DAD in Greek as it refers to an approach (that correspond to a rather general/vague word in Greek) while DAD is considered to be a theory in the area of mathematics education. Thus we discussed our dilemma with Luc who confirmed that the term ‘theory’ used in the entry of the Encyclopedia is related to the need to underline the potential of DAD for designing a relevant methodology allowing to analyse teachers’ interactions with resources. This provided a basis for interesting reflections between us on the kind of theory that DAD represents according to current categorizations of theories in the educational research or on the need to pay specific attention to the sensitivity of DAD to address ‘conceptualizing teacher’s interactions with resources’ as a process. This is only an example of the kind of reflection in which we were engaged in the process of DAD translation in Greek. Other challenges we met are presented in the next section.

2. Certain concepts, or processes raised difficulties, or discussions between the translator and the reviewer. We suggest that you explain these difficulties, and the choices you have made, for the notions of *resource*, *document* and for about three other notions, which seemed more particularly complex (e.g., scheme, operational invariant, instrumentation / instrumentalisation, documentational genesis, resource system, reflective investigation...)

	The word designing the concept of <i>Resource</i>
Possible translations, and associated definitions (in English)	We had in mind two possible translations that are close to the meaning of the term resource. The first one (i.e. πηγή) indicates an origin (place/object) that provides something. For instance in the everyday language the term is used to refer to the spring from which water is sourced. Also researchers in historical research use the same term to refer to original texts that they use

	<p>in their research work.</p> <p>A second translation (i.e. πόρος) describes – among others – the means (e.g., materials) that are essential for human survival and for preserving and expanding life (e.g., food, water, shelter).</p>
Final choice, and motivation	We selected the second choice as over the last years the term has been used for digital resources available in repositories and digital platforms in Greece (e.g., the national repository of educational material developed by the Ministry of Education).
Scientific references using this word in the targeted language	See above.

	The word designing the concept of <i>Document</i>
Possible translations, and associated definitions (in English)	The term document in Greek actually describes a text file (digital or not). As this meaning is far from the way the term is used in DAD, we had in mind two other possible translations. One is 'τεκμήριο' that is used to indicate a thing/object that helps to prove something else. For instance, the term is used in justice/law to indicate elements of innocence or guilty. However, this term seems to be closer to the original meaning of the term in DAD (of after adaptation to the context of teaching). A second choice was 'μονάδα διδασκαλίας' (teaching unit). This choice is closer to the didactic world but far from the original use of the term in DAD.
Final choice, and motivation	We selected the first choice by adding the expression 'for teaching' in the end to underline that we refer to elements of 'proving' the existence of something (e.g., some kind of design) for teaching. Thus, our final choice can be translated more or less as 'document for teaching' (τεκμήριο διδασκαλίας). We hope that this term is meaningful in the Greek context indicating a balance between its original use in the theory and the research/educational use (i.e. when preparing a lesson or doing research).
Scientific references using this word in the targeted language	

Note: The above mentioned selection for the translation of the term document helped us further to proceed with the adaptation of all the other terms involving the words document, documentational or documentation. In particular, the terms documentation and documentational fit well with the word τεκμηρίωση, i.e. a noun indicating mainly the process (and also the outcome) of developing / creating documents (τεκμήρια) based on resources. Thus, the term 'documentational genesis' has been translated as 'δημιουργία διδακτικής τεκμηρίωσης', i.e. 'creation of documents for didactic purposes'. Also the term 'documentation work' has been translated as 'έργο διδακτικής τεκμηρίωσης', i.e. 'a teacher's work for creating his/her documents (τεκμήρια).

	The word designing the concept of <i>Instrumentation</i>
Possible translations, and associated definitions (in English)	The term cannot be translated into Greek by a single word. We needed a term indicating a process (e.g., configuring/formulating) and another one indicating the formation of teacher activity due to his/her interaction with the affordances of the resources / tools.
Final choice, and motivation	We selected the expression 'Διαμόρφωση δραστηριότητας με το εργαλείο', i.e. 'configuration/formation of activity with/through the use of the tool'.
Scientific references using this word in the targeted language	

	The word designing the concept of <i>Instrumentalisation</i>
Possible translations,	Also this term cannot be translated into Greek by a single word. We needed

and associated definitions (in English)	a term indicating a process and another one indicating how the teachers' activity (including knowledge and dispositions) transforms resources / tools and it is transformed by this at the same time.
Final choice, and motivation	We selected the expression 'Μετασχηματισμός δραστηριότητας και εργαλείου', i.e. 'joint transformation of activity and tool'
Scientific references using this word in the targeted language	

3. Other issues that you would like to share

1) The acronyms are different in English version and in the Greek translation.

English	Greek
DAD	ΘΔΤ
SRRS	ΣΑΣΠ
RMRS	ΑΧΣΠ
IMRS	ΣΧΣΠ

2) We provide a list of main terms related to DAD and their translation in Greek.

Term in English	Greek translation
Documentational approach to didactics	Θεωρία διδακτικής τεκμηρίωσης
Resource	Πόρος
Resource system	Σύστημα πόρων
Document	Τεκμήριο διδασκαλίας
Document system	Σύστημα τεκμηρίων διδασκαλίας
Documentational genesis	Δημιουργία διδακτικής τεκμηρίωσης
Instrumentation	Διαμόρφωση δραστηριότητας με το εργαλείο
Instrumentalization	Μετασχηματισμός δραστηριότητας και εργαλείου
Documentational expertise	Ικανότητα διδακτικής τεκμηρίωσης
Documentation work	Έργο διδακτικής τεκμηρίωσης
Teacher documentation	Διδακτική τεκμηρίωση του εκπαιδευτικού
Documentational expertise	Ικανότητα διδακτικής τεκμηρίωσης
Reflective investigation	Αναστοχαστική διερεύνηση
Schematic representation of a teacher's resource system	Σχηματική αναπαράσταση του συστήματος πόρων ενός εκπαιδευτικού
Reflective mapping of teacher resource system	Αναστοχαστική χαρτογράφηση του συστήματος πόρων ενός εκπαιδευτικού
Inferred mapping of teacher resource system	Συναγόμενη χαρτογράφηση του συστήματος πόρων ενός εκπαιδευτικού
Documentation-workmate	Συνεργάτης στη διδακτική τεκμηρίωση
Documentational incident	Περιστατικό διδακτικής τεκμηρίωσης
Methodological contract	Μεθοδολογικό συμβόλαιο