



seriss

SYNERGIES FOR EUROPE'S
RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES
IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES



www.seriss.eu
[@SERISS_EU](https://twitter.com/SERISS_EU)

Managing translations for cross national surveys

Maurice Martens (CentERdata,
Tilburg/Netherlands)

3mc Conference
26 July 2016
Chicago



This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 654221.



TMT

- TMT is a tool that helps managing a translation process
- Source questionnaires are uploaded
- It detects and gives statuses to translatable elements
- Assigns tasks to actors in the process
- Applies a workflow for each actor
- And it can export translations in various formats
- We want it to easily integrate into existing questionnaire development processes

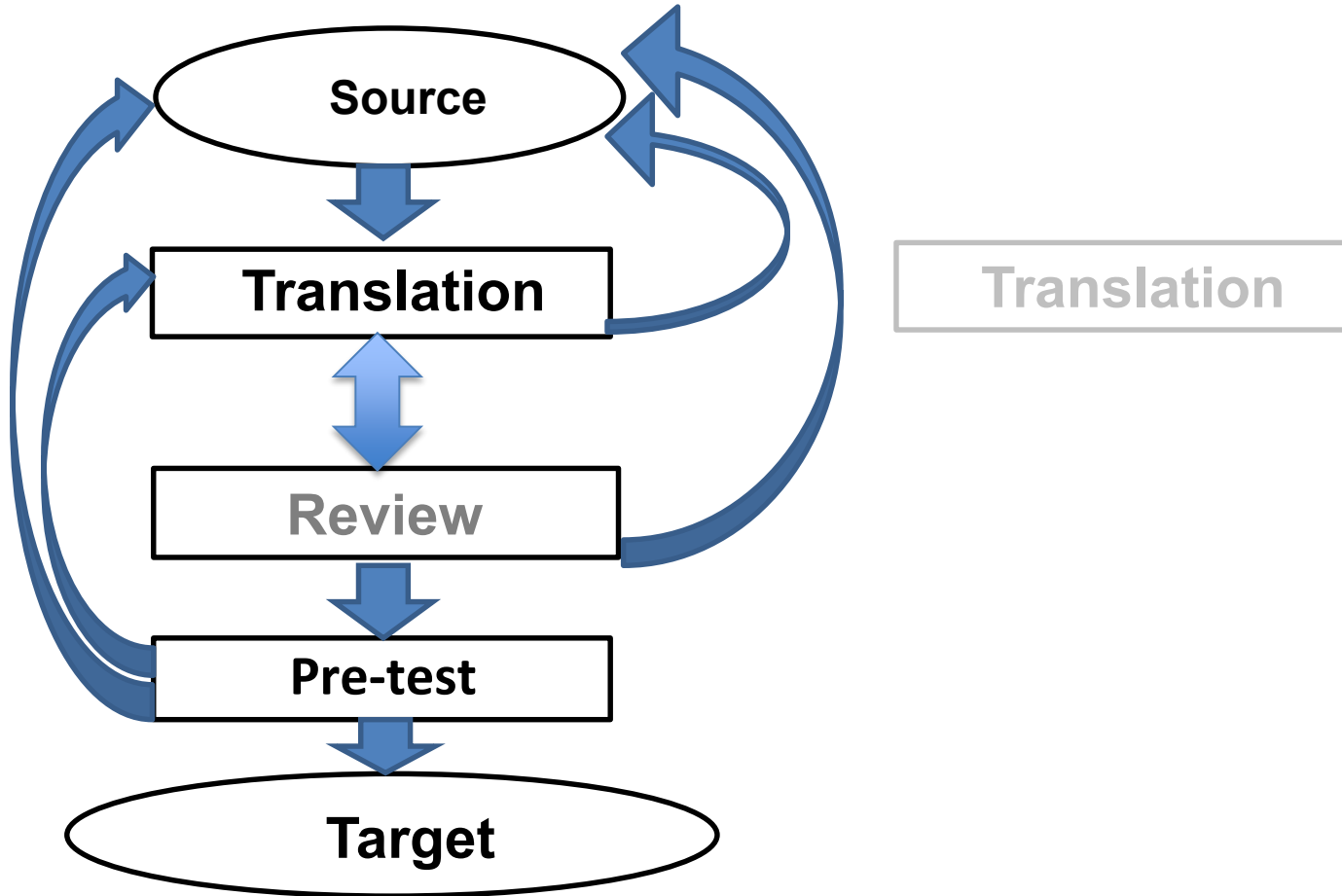




TMT

- Identify translatable elements in surveys
- Import into web system
- Present translatable items in context
- Translate, check, validate, compare, adjudicate
- Export as questionnaire or external for further processing







TMT – workload overview

Module	Under development	Awaiting translation	Translated, ready for check	Check failed	No translation needed	Imported	Check ok
All Modules		20	222				820
Section_CM							1
Section_DN1							36
Section_SN							
Section_DN2		1					10
Section_CH							48
Section_PH							39
Section_BR							16
Section_CF							33
Section_MH		3					20
Section_HC		1					41
Section_LI							5
Section_EP		1					91
Section_IT			5				
Section_GS							14





TMT - dashboard

Navigate

- All Modules
- Global Fill Array
- Answer types
- Showcards
- Unfolding Brackets
- Capi texts
- SMS texts
- Section_CM
- Section_DN1
- Section_SN
- Section_DN2
- Section_CH
- Section_PH
- Section_BR
- Section_CF
- Section_MH**
- Section_HC
- Section_LI
- Section_EP
- Section_IT
- Section_GS
- Section_BS
- Section_PF
- Section_SP
- Section_FT
- Section_HO
- Section_HH
- Section_CO
- Section_AS

MH001_Intro

Earlier we talked about your physical health. Another measure of health is your emotional health or well being – that is, how you feel about things that happen around you.

Start of a **Non-proxy** section. No proxy allowed. If the respondent is not present or not capable to give consent to participation on her/his own, please select '5'.

1. Continue

Bulgarian (Bulgaria)

По-рано говорихме за физическото Ви здраве. Друг показател за здравето е Вашето емоционално здраве или благосъстояние – тоест как се чувствате относно нещата, които се случват около Вас.

Начало на **Секцията без упълномощено лице**. Не е позволено присъствието на упълномощено лице. Ако респондентът не присъства или не е в състояние да даде своето съгласие за участие лично, моля, изберете „5“.

1. Продължете

MH002_Depression

In the last month, have you been sad or depressed?

If participant asks for clarification, say 'by sad or depressed, we mean miserable, in low spirits, or blue'

1. Yes 5. No

Bulgarian (Bulgaria)

През последния месец колко често сте били тъжен/а или депресиран/а?

Ако участникът помоли за разяснение, кажете „под тъжен или депресиран имаме предвид нещастен, унил или потиснат“

1. Да 5. Не

MH003_Hopes

Routing

Bulgarian (Bulgaria) (350 words)

1. 3
20

Bulgarian (Bulgaria)

Search

- MH001_Intro
- MH002_Depression
- MH003_Hopes
- MH004_WishDeath
- MH005_Guilt
- MH006_BlameForWhat
- MH007_Sleep
- MH008_Interest
- 1. MH009_KeepUplnt
- MH010_Irritability
- MH011_Appetite
- MH012_EatMoreLess
- MH013_Fatigue
- 1. MH014_ConcEnter
- MH015_ConcRead





Why is questionnaire translation special?

- A translatable question is a set of texts within a domain that have different roles and are connected to each other
- We intent to measure a concept, translations are 'interfaces' for doing this
- Translating a questionnaire is part of the questionnaire design process





Why is questionnaire translation special?

- A questionnaire translation should give feedback to the source questionnaire formulation and can force a revision.





How does this relate to the TMT

- Translation for surveys, is part of survey design
- TMT is not a translation tool
- Import/export to translation tools work, but we lose the questionnaire context
- TMT wants to present the questionnaire in context, hide programming code





Multilingual, multinational, and *multimodal*

- Multimode questionnaires present new challenges for translations
- Question-translations in various languages in multiple modes
- Iwer instructions, dynamic texts, showcards, interfaces





Multilingual, multinational, and *multimodal*

- Again, we want to measure a concept.
- If a questionnaire is fielded in multiple modes:
 - There often already is a ‘old’ version developed in a ‘source’ mode
 - While translating the full context should be provided





How does this relate to the TMT

- TMT wants to present the questionnaire in context, this means that for multimode questionnaire translations we should provide an interface to translate several modes at once.
- Multimode Questionnaire translation experiment, insightful

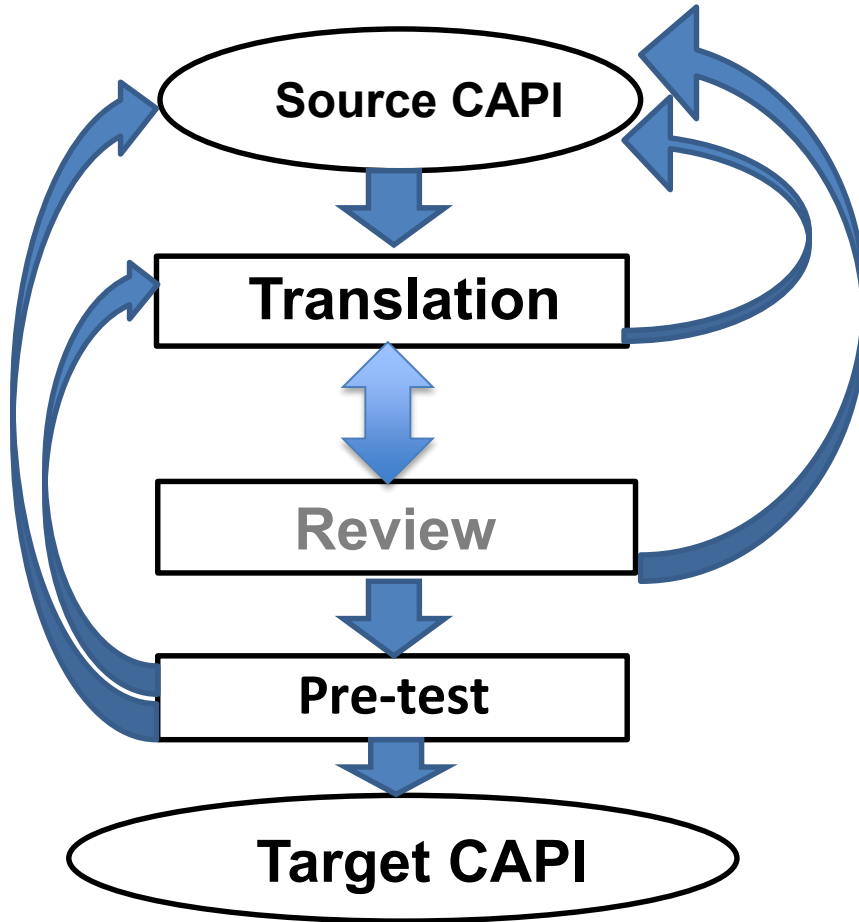


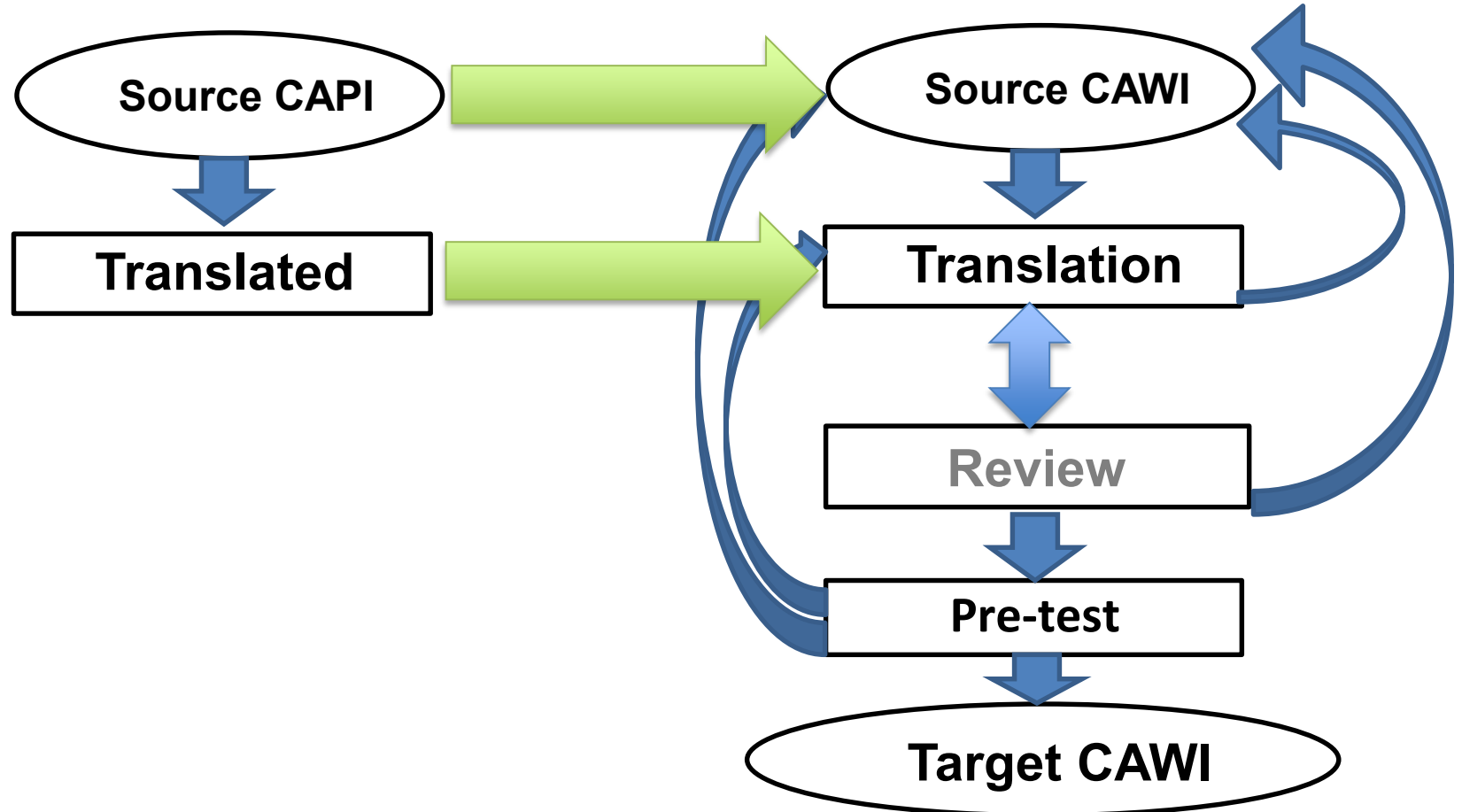


Multi-mode translation experiment

- Start with CAPI source questionnaire
- Translate CAPI source
- Adapt CAPI source questionnaire to CAWI source questionnaire
- Translate CAWI source questionnaire, show other three versions in context





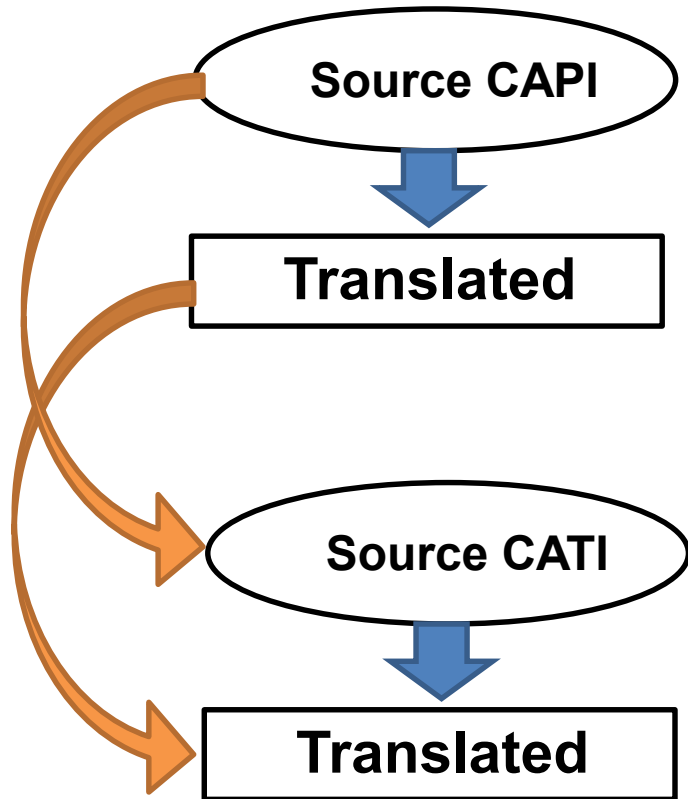




Multi-mode translation experiment

- Then all of a sudden we have to add CATI







Multi-mode translation experiment

- Starting with CAPI, we mainly had to move interviewer instructions to another format:
 - Rephrasing
 - Removing
 - Introducing respondent instructions
 - Introducing CATI interviewer instructions
- Numeric labels to answers not commonly used in CAWI
- Showcards move to interface

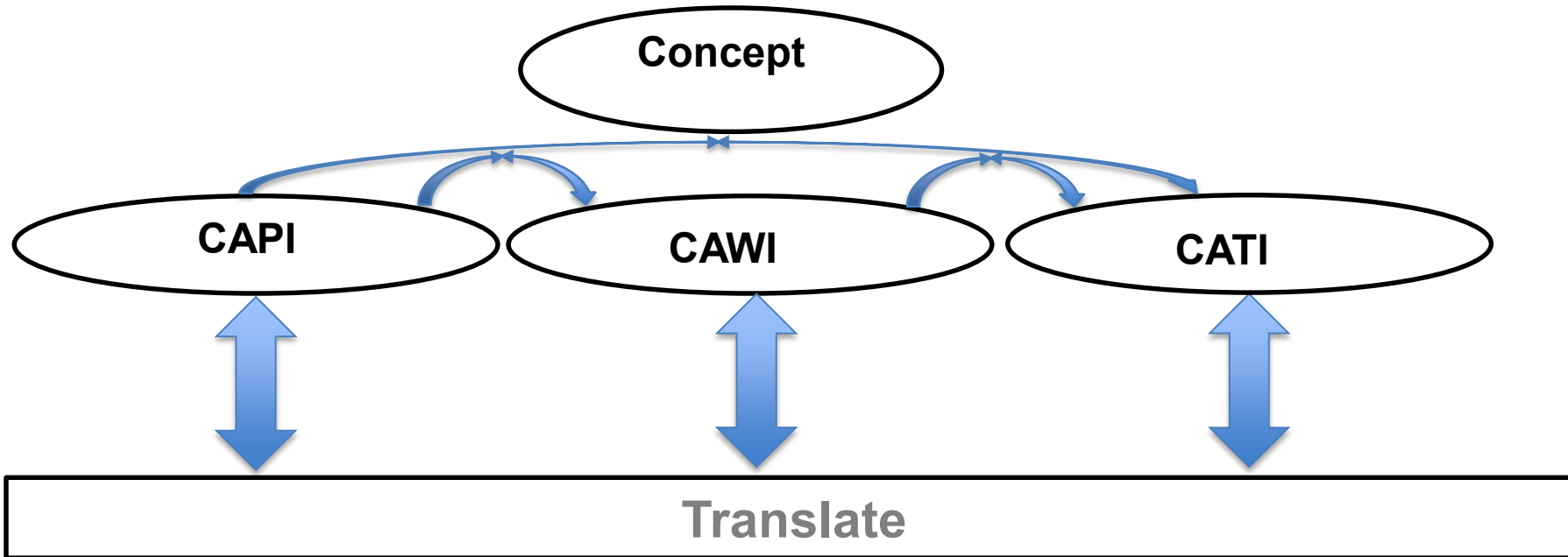




Multi-mode translation experiment

- Not reviewed yet
- Propose to experiment with a more 'holistic' approach







Testing

- Translators should see questions in context, TMT does its best to provide this context, but we want to push further.
- Ideally the translator could generate questionnaires themselves and review their own work in context.





Working on

- Need to further integrate instrument testing in translation process
- Export/ provide interface on PAPI, CAWI and CAPI questionnaires
- Link to cApStAn tools





seriss

SYNERGIES FOR EUROPE'S
RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES
IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES



www.seriss.eu
[@SERISS_EU](https://twitter.com/SERISS_EU)

THANKS !

Maurice

m.g.j.martens@uvt.nl



This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 654221.