

Jesse Egbert and Paul Baker (eds), *Using Corpus Methods to Triangulate Linguistic Analysis*. New York & London: Routledge, 2020; xiv + 286 pp. \$155.00 (hbk).

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An important safeguard against bias in research is triangulation, the strategic use of multiple or various sources or methodologies to address one question. In this volume Jesse Egbert and Paul Baker attempt to show how to effectively triangulate corpus linguistics with other methods to enhance rigor in empirical research as well as theoretical understanding of linguistic phenomena and their variation.

The introductory chapter of the volume justifies triangulation between corpus linguistics and other linguistic methods, since corpus evidence is rarely used on its own. The rest of the collection features nine empirical studies that combine corpus and non-corpus methods to explain their applications in areas as discourse analysis (Chapters 2–4), applied linguistics (Chapters 5–7) and psycholinguistics (Chapter 8–10).

Chapters 2–4 investigate the triangulation of corpus and discourse studies. Schnur and Csomay tests different ways of triangulation by combining two text segmentation methods (manual and automatic) and two text-analytical approaches (qualitative and quantitative) to identify discourse units in a corpus of academic lectures; while the manual approach best identifies cohesive discourse units, a corpus one is more helpful for investigating text structures. McEnery and colleagues employ concordance geoparsing to identify droughts in the nineteenth century in the UK using the British Library Nineteenth-century Newspaper Corpus, allowing them to identify previously unrecorded droughts that would have escaped single-method approaches. Baker analyzes representations of obesity in a newspaper corpus, in which manual examination of concordance lines showed that the sense of disgust captured through collocates was limited to a very small number of cases. All in all, corpus linguistics and discourse analysis are complementary at uncovering counter-intuitive findings, enabling a better understanding or even refining initial research questions.

Chapter 5–7 turn to the triangulation of corpus methods with other methods in applied linguistics. LaFlair and colleagues demonstrate triangulating assessment and Multi-Dimensional Analysis in writing and speaking tests in order to re-evaluate, revise and even refine the representation of constructs of language in the rubric. Gablasova investigates word acquisition from academic reading in first and second language by two groups of students, which shows the students tend to trigger more superordinate words and high-frequency words during vocabulary acquisition. Egbert and Davis study the semantic relationships in Noun + Noun sequences and their diachronic changes in the Corpus of Historical American English to show methods for addressing historical change.

Chapter 8–10 move to triangulate corpus methods with psycholinguistics. Hughes and Hardie explore collocation by combining corpus data with experimental work, showing that there is a neurophysiological difference in the way that the brain processes collocational bigrams versus non-collocational ones. Gries examines the dative alternation between ditransitives and to-datives and structural priming effects on learners' choices of verb construction. Ellis investigates the processing of abstract verb-argument constructions and verb-preposition collocations in an experiment. The results suggest that a combination of corpus linguistics and psycholinguistics

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increases ecological validity.

In the last chapter, the editors conclude by describing the benefits and drawbacks of triangulation and explore the degree to which the triangulation was successful in these nine individual studies. Triangulation helps the researchers establish the ecological validity of constructs or findings, and complement and benefit from inter- or crossdisci- plinarity so that the limitation of any single approach can be significantly reduced. However, it can be a challenge to establish and justify the relationship among the wider range of concepts involved in triangulating approaches, and contradictions in results might occur.

Overall, this edited volume provides a macro-level overview and detailed empirical case studies of triangulation in corpus linguistics that are an important step forward in enhancing the methodological rigor of the field. However, this emphasis on methods might leave readers wondering where the identity of corpus linguistics lies and what role its own theoretical frameworks can play. Methodological triangulation in linguistic research relies on multiple data sources, measurements and even observational units (human participants, vs corpus texts). The methodology itself should not only be self- discovery, transparent and capable of being replicated and repeated, but it must be gen- eralisable as well; thus, generalisation of the new paradigm or framework of convergence in research methodology is essential, as well as a clear system of measures to evaluate or assess the contribution of triangulation.

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