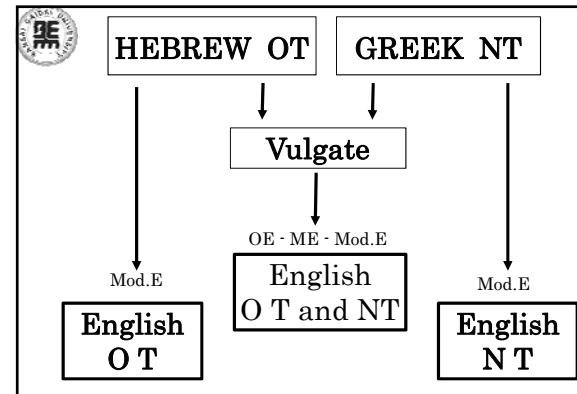




The Influence of Biblical Hebrew on English

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1



Earlier Translation Methods

Source Language

Target Language

RECEPTORS

Reproduction · Calque · Blending

3



Example of Calque
And Its Going into Common English

20 My bone ^k cleauerth to my skin & to my flesh, and I haue escaped with the ^l skinne of my teath.
Geneva Bible 1560 Job 19:20



HB: me-of-teath-of skin-in/by/with/at

שְׁנִי

בָּעֵר

4



Receptoes

1. Current expressions
2. Archaisms
3. New and rare expressions



Receptors in KJB

1. Current expressions

High frequency of *and*

5

6

KJB (1611) Genesis 14:13-21

13 And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew, out to meete him, (after his returne for hee dwelt in the plaine of Damre from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of the Kings that were with him at the valley of Sauth , which is the Kings dale.)
 14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captiue, he armed his seruants borne in his owne houle, three hundred and eightene, and pursued them unto Dan.
 15 And hee diuided himselfe against them, he and his seruants by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobo, which is on the left hand of Damasus:
 16 And hee brought backe all the goods, and also brought againe his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the neare.

17 And the king of Sodome went to meete him, (after his returne for hee dwelt in the plaine of Damre from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of the Kings that were with him at the valley of Sauth , which is the Kings dale.)
 18 And * Melchizedek King of Salem brought forth bread and wine, and he was the priest of the most high God.
 19 And hee blessed him, and said, Blessed bee Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth,
 20 And blessed bee the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemis into thy hand: and hee gaue him tithes of all.
 21 And the King of Sodome saide unto Abram, give me the persons, and

Receptors in KJB

2. Archaisms

the living is my son, and the dead החי
is thy son המת

(1 Kings 3:22)

8

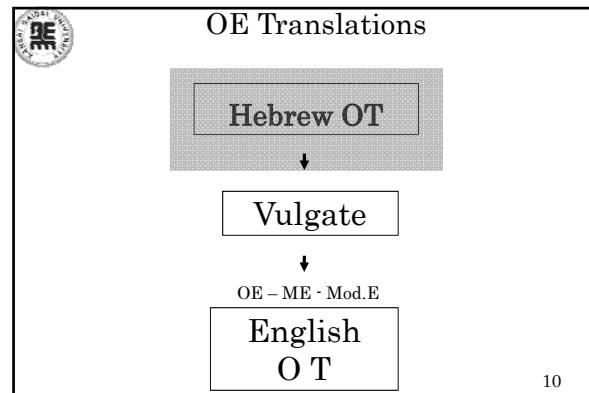
Receptors in KJB

3. New Expressions

Ioseph being seuenteene yeeres old, was feeding the flocke with 'היה רעה'
 his brethren

(Gen. 37:2)

9



Frequent Use of *AND*

11 OE Heptateuch Gen.1

10. 1 God gecygde ða drignyssse eorðan 1 ðæra wætera gegadrungas he het sæ. God geseah ða ðæt hit god wæs.
 11. 1 he cwæð: Sprytte seo eorðe growende gær 1 sæd wyrconde 1 æppelbære treow wæstm wyrconde æfter his cynne, ðæs sæd sy on him sylum ofer eorðan. Hit wæs ða swa gedon.
 12. 1 seo eorðe forðteah growende wyrta 1 sæd berende be hyre cynne 1 treow wæstm wyrconde 1 gehwilc sæd hæbbende æfter his hiwe. God geseah ða ðæt hit god wæs.
 13. 1 wæs geworden æfen 1 mergen se ðridda dæg. [fol. 3⁸, picture.]
 14. 1 God cwæð ða soðlice: Beo nu leoht on ðære heofenan fæstnysse, 1 todælan dæg 1 nihte, 1 beon to taenum 1 to tidum 1

Gen. 1:14

OEH: God cwæð ða soðlice:

VUL: dixit autem Deus

H B: **רַיִאמֶר אֱלֹהִים**
said-and

12

 Repetition of the Same Head NP in Genitival Phrases

Drihten þindra fædera God þe ætywde,
Abrahames God ɿ Isaaces God ɿ Iacobes God
(OE *Heptateuch Ex. 4:5*)

King James Bible
the Lord **God of** their fathers, **the God of**
Abraham, **the God of** Isaac, and **the God of** Iacob

13

 14
יְהוָה אֱלֹהִי אֶבְחָם אֱלֹהִי אֶבְרָהָם אֱלֹהִי יִצְחָק
Jacob **God-of** Abraham **God-of** their father **God-of** (Hebrew Bible)
Dominus Deus patrum tuorum Deus Abraham
Deus Isaac Deus Iacob (Vulgate)

Drihten þindra fædera God þe ætywde,
Abrahames God ɿ Isaaces God ɿ Iacobes God
(OE *Heptateuch Ex. 4:5*)

 Influence upon Biblical Texts
PHASE I

Case 1: Frequent occurrence or repetition

Case 2: Syntactical blending

Case 3: Reproduction or calque

Case 4: Hapax legomena

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 Influence beyond Biblical Txts
PHASE 2

Case 1: Generalization

Case 2: Acceleration of a current change

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 Compound Numerals
Twenty-one to Ninety-nine

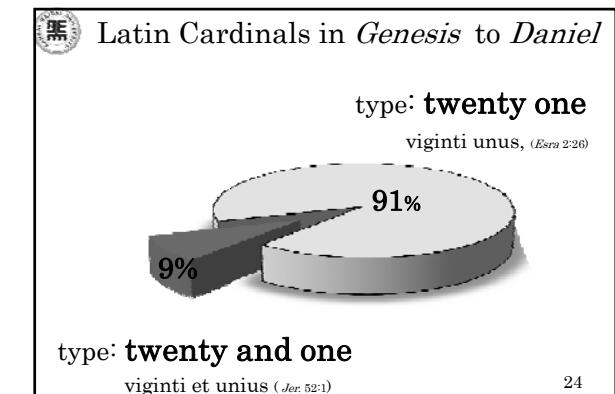
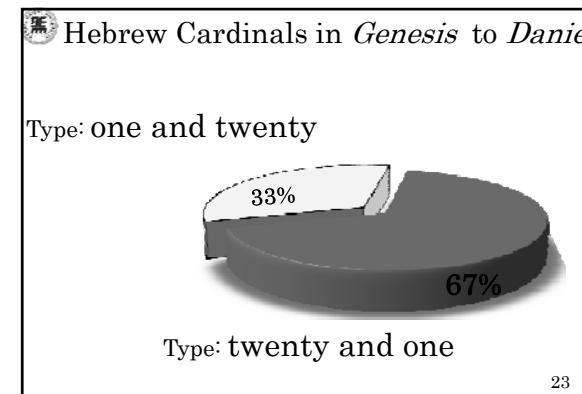
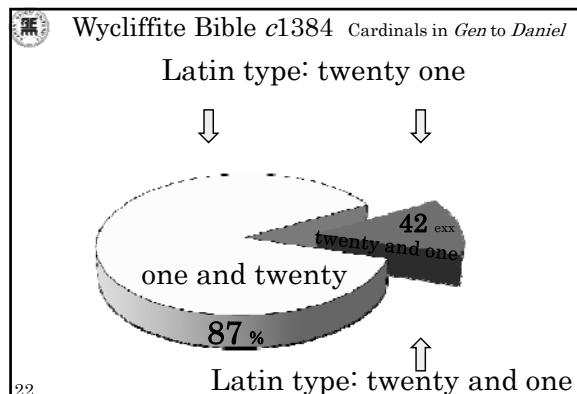
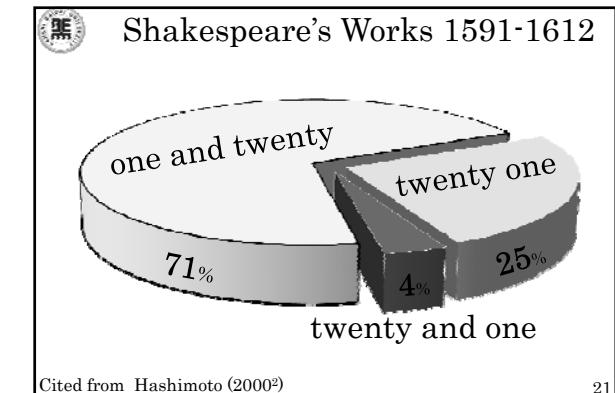
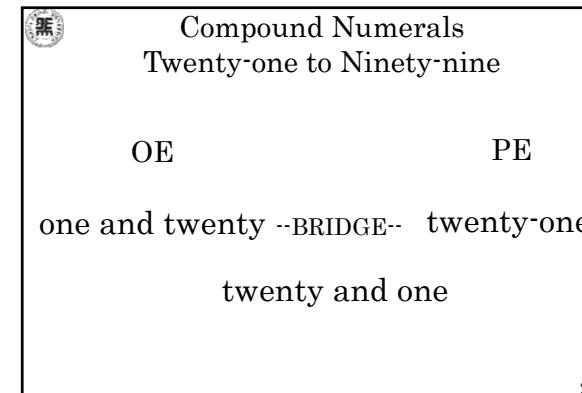
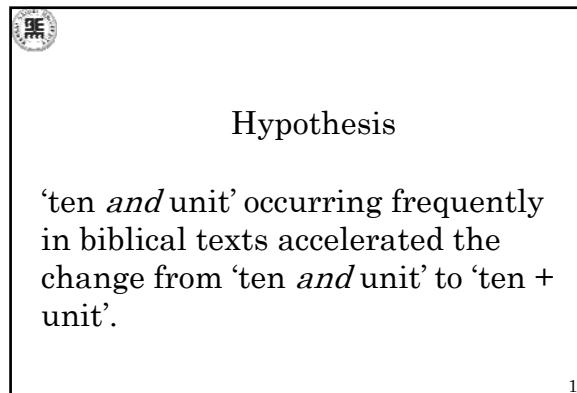
OE	PE
one and twenty	⇒ twenty-one
	?

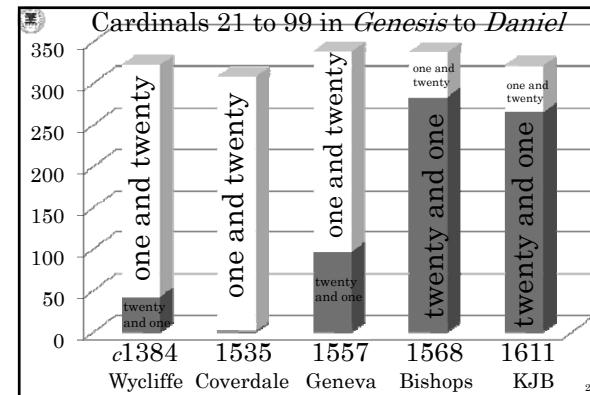
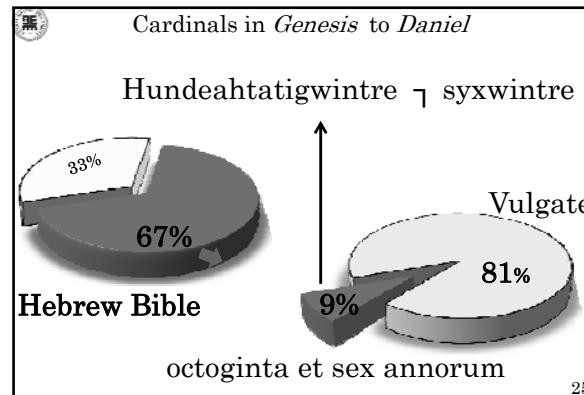
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 Schibsbye (1977)

“The present type appeared at the end of the 15, when French influence was strong”

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