英汉同声传译中译员的自我修正

Interpreter's Self—repairs in English—Chinese
Simultaneous Interpreting

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作者简介

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ABSTRACT

This research presents a comprehensive description and discussion of interpreters' self-repairs produced in English-Chinese simultaneous interpreting. Interpreters are generally assumed to be able to produce flawless and fluent delivery in any given situations, but what happens in authentic situation of SI has proved to the contrary that interpreters' utterances also share features of impromptu speech of which constant self-repair is one of the features.

The objectives of this research are to fully describe and explain self-repairs of interpreters in simultaneous interpreting. To this end, four research questions are raised for description and analysis of levels, initiation techniques and repair strategies of interpreters' self-repairs and investigation into repair triggers and factors governing interpreters' repair behavior.

To answer these research questions, the research adopts an observational approach to depict how interpreters start and finish a self-repair of their utterances in SI process. To this end, a bilingual corpus consisting of authentic speech recordings of five professional interpreters at different conferences has been built. To answer *what* repairs interpreters produce, repairs at different levels from the corpus are categorized and calculated. To understand *how* repairs are produced, different

initiation techniques and repair strategies are identified and calculated. To investigate *why* interpreters produce self-repairs in SI tasks, the research probes into triggers of repairs and offers an explanation of interpreters' repair behavior within the boundaries of interpreting norms.

Based on description of all repairs totaling at 411 in the corpus, the research discovers that interpreters repair their utterances at three levels, namely phonetic, lexical and syntactic levels. The research identifies five categories of initiation techniques in the corpus, including direct cut-offs, word search markers, filled pauses, silent pauses and lengthened syllables. The research also finds out eight repair strategies, namely completion, substitution, repetition, re-start, reconstruction, insertion, restatement and explanation. Based on analysis of repair triggers and influence of interpreting norms over interpreters' repair choice, the research claims that interpreters' self-repair is solution to troubles and problems in interpreting while they pursue highest degree of ST-TT consistency, maximal rendition of ST and best acceptable TT delivery for the audience concurrently. That's why interpreters are found to correct their utterances and to repair themselves for appropriateness or other purposes.

Key words: English-Chinese simultaneous interpreting, self-repair, initiation technique, repair strategy, interpreting norms

摘 要

本研究对英汉同声传译过程中译员译语产出的自我修正现象进行了详尽描述与分析。通常认为，在任何场合下译员都应能够进行完美、流畅的传译，但真实同传场景中出现的情况说明译员的译语产出同样具备即兴发言的特征，其中之一即是对产出的自我修正。

本研究的研究目的是对同声传译中译员的自我修正进行充分描述与合理解释。为此，本研究将研究目的细化成四个研究问题，对译员自我修正层次、自我修正时运用的引导手法和修正策略进行描述和分析，并在描述的基础上探讨同传中译员自我修正的诱发因素以及制约译员自我修正行为的因素，以进一步探索译员在英汉同传过程中的修正行为。

为回答本研究提出的研究问题，本研究采取观察性研究方法对译员在同传中如何开始并完成自我修正进行描述。研究搭建了双语语料库，所用语料来自五位职业译员在不同会议场合中的会议录音。为了回答译员自我修正的层次问题，本研究对语料库中不同层次的自我修正进行了归类和计算；为了回答译员如何产出自我修正的问题，本研究对不同的修正引导手段和修正策略进行了分类和统计；为了了解为什么译员在同传任务中会做出自我修正的

选择，本研究探讨了自我修正的诱发因素，并试图在口译规范的框架范围内分析译员的自我修正行为。

在对语料库中全部 411 个自我修正数据进行描述的基础上，本研究发现译员在三个层次修正自己的产出，分别为语音层面、词汇层面以及句法层面。本研究确认了五大类修正引导策略，包括直接切断、词汇搜索标记、有声停顿、无声停顿和延长音。本研究还发现了八种修正策略，分别为完成、替代、重复、重组、插入、重述以及解释。在分析修正诱发因素以及口译规范对译员修正选择的基础上，研究认为译员的自我修正是对其在口译过程中遇到困难或问题的解决方式，而在口译过程中译员寻求同时实现源语—译语最高一致性、源语信息最大程度传递以及译语产出可接受程度的最大化这三大目标。正是在此目标指引下，译员不仅会更正自己的产出，而且会出于恰当性或其他原因对自己的译语产出进行修正。

关键词：英汉同声传译，自我修正，引导手段，修正策略，口译规范

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CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 The origin of the research

Interpreting as a form of "mediating" (Pöchhacker & Shlesinger, 2002: 1) across cultures and languages was seen existing since the earliest period of human civilizations. In the west, evidence of interpreting activities was found in Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome (Bowen et al, 1995; Hermann, 2002). In China, a nation with the longest history of translation in the world (陈福康, 1991: 57), low-ranking officials named *sheren* (literally tongue-man, 舌人, people who can speak several languages) who were designated to interpret for *Rong* (戎), *Di* (狄) and other barbarians from the North in diplomatic activities were reported in Zhou Dynasty (1100-221B.C.) literature *Discourses of the Zhou State* from *Discourses of the States* (国语·周语) (胡安江, 2010: 115).

Though interpreting as a multi-lingual and multi-cultural activity could be traced back to ancient times, it was only recognized as a profession in the 20th century (Kurz&Bowen, 1999: 2). Before World War I, French was the only official diplomatic language used in international community (Phelan, 2001: 1-2). Since the founding of the League of the Nations after the War, other languages were recognized as official diplomatic languages used at international conferences,