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对话口译中的话轮转换：从语篇分析角度探究 译员角色

Turn Taking in Dialogue Interpreting --- A Discourse Study of Dialogue Interpreters' Role

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Abstract

Discourse analysis is an overall term for several approaches in analyzing written, spoken or sign language use. Discourse, writing, conversation or other communicative events are some of the major objects of discourse analysis. They have been defined in several different ways in terms of coherence of utterances, propositions, speech acts or speaking turns. Different from traditional linguists, discourse analysts not only examine language use which is 'beyond the boundary of sentence', but also emphasize the importance of 'naturally occurring' language use. This thesis applies linguistic approaches of discourse analysis to the analytical study of dialogue interpreting, a process of conversational exchanges between two primary speakers and through a dialogue interpreter. It will examine dialogue interpreters' role and how a dialogue interpreter manages the discourse process between two dialogue participants who do not speak the same language.

The thesis is composed of five chapters, including an introduction and a conclusion.

Chapter one is an introduction to the thesis, including the purpose and methodology of the thesis. During the process of an interpreted event, dialogue interpreters play an engaged role in managing the flow of talk in the cross-cultural interaction. Turn-taking can be studied and examined in the discourse process in order to see how the exchange of information actually takes place in dialogue interpreting.

Chapter two begins with a brief review on the definition and approaches of discourse as well as discourse analysis applied in the thesis. Then, turn-taking in a discourse process is introduced. Last but not least, the reason why dialogue interpreting is seen as a discourse analysis process is also discussed.

Chapter three offers an investigation into conduit metaphors for interpreters' role. Merits and demerits of the conduit metaphor are discussed. Gap between interpreting practice and interpreting codes of practice is also examined.

Chapter four is a reexamination of dialogue interpreters' role through the study of turn-taking in dialogue interpreting. Normally dialogue interpreters act as a relayer of regular turns during the interaction. However, it is also dialogue interpreters' responsibilities to mediate and coordinate through turn-taking timely when communication is in danger of breakdown for the reason that interpreting meaning is a process of contextualization, analyzing conversational styles of interlocutors and managing cross-cultural communications as well. How should dialogue interpreters mediate and coordinate through turn-taking in situations when silences, lags and overlapping talks occur and situations when dialogue participants talk directly to interpreters are also discussed.

Chapter five is a conclusion, reviewing crucial viewpoints in the thesis and suggesting potential directions for further research as well.

Key words: discourse analysis; dialogue interpreting; turn-taking;

摘 要

语篇分析的核心是通过收集真实对话数据、研究分析对话中的重复模式，从而探究对话参与者如何进行对话，分析影响人们对话中说什么和怎么说的社会文化因素。单语对话语篇已经有 30 年的研究历史，它的研究成果为双语对话语篇提供了借鉴。对话口译员翻译的则是双语对话中的语篇，我们可以借鉴单语对话语篇的研究成果，通过对口译语篇进行录音、描述和分析，研究不同语言的对话者如何沟通、交换信息。

对话或语篇的一个基本特征是对话者的话轮交换。话轮转换是探究译员如何控制语流的一个基本的且至关重要的系统，是研究人们对话方式的核心。

在对话口译中，译员的主要任务是在理解对话者的语义和真实意图的基础上，将它忠实地传达给另一位对话者。对话口译中的语义表达和传递受对话者意图、语篇主题、社会背景及文化等因素的影响。这些关系构成了语篇及口译过程的复杂性。所以，可以说译员就是语篇分析员，对话口译过程则是语篇过程。

本文试图从语篇视角探究对话口译，描述真实情境下对话口译语篇中的话轮转换，并讨论译员在对话口译过程中扮演的角色。

论文一共有五章。第一章介绍论文的研究背景及目的。第二章回顾语篇及语篇分析的定义及研究方法，介绍了语篇中的话轮转换。第三章通过分析对话语篇中的话轮，重点讨论译员在对话口译过程中扮演的角色。第四章介绍译员通过话轮转换调整对话的方向、协助对话顺利进行的策略。第五章为结语。

关键词：语篇分析；对话口译；话轮转换

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Chapter I Introduction

Interpreting for people who speak different languages is a linguistic and social act of communication. In this process, the interpreter acts an engaged role under the guidance of professional knowledge and his/her understanding of the whole communicative event. Language fluency, the ability to use each language in an appropriate way, and the ability to manage the flow of talk in the cross-cultural communication are indispensable for interpreters. Since last decade, researchers have started to study the process of interpreting as inset in a process of oral interaction, which is also known as a discourse process, a conversational process of people communicating with each other under the assistance of interpreters. It is a rather new empirical insight into interpreting by studying turns in an interpreted conversation because it sees dialogue interpreting as an interdependent, exchange process that has unique and complicated features. Primary dialogue participants take turns with the dialogue interpreter and that they take part in creating turns. Moreover, the dialogue interpreter also take part in the process by producing and resolving turn phenomena, including silences, pauses, as well as overlapping talk. In other words, dialogue interpreters are full-scale participants in face-to-face interpreted interaction. They are required to participate in organizing and managing the exchange of turns in the process. And their interpretation has an influence on both the direction and outcome of interpreted events. An interpreted conversation as a linguistic and social act ruled mainly by social roles and goals during the process of communication should be explored.

Turn-taking is a discourse process by which how the exchange of messages actually takes place can be studied and examined. Turn-taking can also be analyzed both structurally and functionally for it is a feature of discourse.

The author of this thesis ventures to achieve three goals. Firstly, the thesis examines the turn-taking system and process of interpreted interactions as a discourse

system. Secondly, it demonstrates how these interpreted interactions is a process in which every participant engages with others. Thirdly, it shows how the role of a dialogue interpreter is a result of making interpreting decisions which are communicative in essence.

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