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Corpus based translation studies

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Abstract: *Recently there has been noticeable growth of corpus based studies which came to light in mid 1990s. Corpus- based linguistics paved the way for better translation studies, broadened the scope of research and introduced learning-friendly patterns for translation scholars. Baker, who first coined the copus-besed study theory, made an assumption about availability of large corpora of both the authentic and translated versions of texts, together with the development of corpus-driven methodology, would enable translators to discover (1993_243) “The nature of translated text as a mediated event of our communication. In this research paper I would point out the types of corpus-based translation studies and its potential benefits for future translation. The term corpora was introduced into the Latin language meaning human body. Now this term is related to collection of written texts or transcribed speech which can serve as a basis for linguistic analogy and description. However, we should not forget compora had long tradition dating back to medieval times when scientists were curious about its potential benefits for their research.*

Key words: *Corpus linguistics, translation sources, methods, scholars, source material , software tools.*

Introduction: *Studies in the field of translation which was considered to be as a separate scientific discipline in the mid 20s, was able to estimate potential of corpora and Corpus studies. This so-called marriage between descriptive and corpus translation studies is now known as corpus based translation studies. (Laviosa, 2011). This study is focused on determining the core of translation as a product and a process by means of corpora based on the statistics of features of translated texts in relation to non-translated texts(Hu,2016). Baker’s paper named Corpus Linguistics and Translation studies: Implementation and application (1993) is thought to be the core of this study. Baker insisted that this method could lead to more improvements in the field of translation. The term corpus was introduced into the Latin language meaning human body. Now this term is related to collection of written texts or transcribed speech which can serve as a basis for linguistic analysis and descriptive translation. Moreover, we should not forget compora had long tradition dating back to medieval times when scientists were curious about its potential benefits for future translation services.*

Advancement of new technology set a new type of corpora-electronic one(Hoffman, 2004) which present systematic,planned and structured collection of texts stored in electronic database , compiled for language analysis. In the case of electronic corpora, unlike the previous one, the research is carried out at an incredibly speed, electronic corpora provide total accountability, accurate replicability, statistical reliability and ability to manage huge amounts of data (Kennedy, 1998). All existing corpora are not of the same type depending the purposes they have been made fo as we distinguish between two types of corpora general and specialized ones. General corpora is used for unspecific language research, containing texts from different genres, while specialized corpora deals with one big aspect of language.

Methodology

Bernardini(2003) dintinguishes several distinct types of corpora compiled and used for the purposes of translation studies :

Parallel corpora *involve source texts of a language and it's target texts in another languages, which are aligned at a certain level. As for number of languages involved parallel corpus could be categorised as a bilingual or multilingual language corpus. From direction point parallel corpora could be divided unidirectional, bidirectional and multidirectional language corpus. A unidirectional parallel corpus includes source texts of one language and their target texts into another language. A bidirectional parallel includes the source texts of language A and their target texts in language B.and source of texts of language B and their target text in language A. Multidirectional includes the source texts of a language combines with their translations of 2 or more languages.*

Comparable compora *involve texts which could be compared at different levels. It could be monolingual, bilingual and multilingual. Monolingual comparable corpus is consisted of non translated texts and translated ones in the same language. The remaining 2 comparable corpus contains texts in 2 or more languages which are comparable but not in translation relationship.*

Translational corpora *contains texts translated from one or more languages into a certain language. Obviously, translational corpora is compiled for the investigation of features of translations, norms, style.*

Interpreting corpora *involve texts transcribed orthographically from video or audio files with the purpose to investigate interpreting strategies, linguistic features of interpreted texts, norms, cognitive process of interpreting. Irrespective of the specific type of a corpus, as Hu (2016) remarks, the usage of corpora into translation teaching, has 2 major advantages:*

- 1) Automatic extraction and analysis of data
 - 2) Automatic presentation of abundant translation examples
- Both features are crucial for advancing and enhancing

Results

It goes without saying, that most translators use computers in their work and process texts electronically, they should be good it for their specific reasons. According to Hu, corpora are valuable aids not only for translators but also for their trainees. Beeby (2009) states corpora presents repositories which can help students fill knowledge gaps, and it could be used in translation training and second language acquisition either as a means of autonomous learning or a source of materials for classroom use. According to Zennatin (1998, p 618-621) the functions of comparable corpora in translation would be seen in three aspects:

- 1) *Translators can evaluate the behavior of similar textual units in respective languages and choose proper target language equivalents for the source language words*
- 2) *Comparable corpus can be used to inform translators of related expressions, terminology in specific subjects*
- 3) *Comparable corpus helps translators to testify interrelationships between languages, carry out linguistic comparison, find out similarities between different languages*

Conclusion

As a way of cross-cultural communication, translation serves a bridge for people who speak different languages. Over the last year, with the increase of global trade, immigration, translation activities has been evolving more than ever. Translators should find the right alternative or choice of words as quickly as possible in a short period of time. For these reasons translation teaching should be based on corpora since it relieves most of the burden. We should accept the facts that this type of study relies on the use of software tools and and teachers should be fully equipped with ICT skills. Involvement of corpora in translation teaching promises not only objective or efficient but also more independent and autonomous way of translation.

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Application