Abs-228

Aleksandar Trklja (University of Birmingham)

Distinct(ive) features of translation equivalents

In this paper I will argue that only through a detailed description of lexico-grammatical similarities and differences between translation equivalences identified in a parallel corpus can we understand under what conditions a translation unit 'a' from a source language is translated as 'x', 'y' or 'z' into a target language. Contrastive language researches, which experienced a rebirth with the advent of large parallel corpora, have shown how meaning becomes visible through translation (Johansson 2007). Single words are usually ambiguous out of context and semantic relationships between a translation unit and its equivalents can be studied only if we focus on units of meaning (Teubert 2002, 2004).

The paper is divided into two parts which are parallel to two methodological phases. Part one describes briefly a procedure for extracting translation units and their equivalents in the parallel English-German corpus through the description of collocation profiles. It builds on the method introduced by Danielsson (2003). In the second part, I will show how the concept of distinctive features can be adopted for the study of similarities and differences between translation equivalences by means of reference corpora. The model will be illustrated on the example of the lexical item 'rise'. This item is used in several units of meaning and in my presentation I will focus only on the expression 'give rise to' and its corresponding German translation equivalents.

Danielsson, P. "Automatic Extraction of Meaningful Units from Corpora", in: *International Journal of Corpus Linguistics*. 2003, Volume 8, No 1 pp. 109-127.

Haliday, M.A.K. and Teubert, W. 2004. *Lexicology and corpus linguistics: an introduction*. London, New York: Continuum.

Johansson, S. 2007. *Seeing through multilingual corpora*. Amsterdam, Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Teubert, W. "Corpus Linguistics and Lexicography", in: *International Journal of Corpus Linguistics*. 2002, Volume 6, Special Issue, 125-154.