Operability of Computer-Assisted Translation Software in Translating Practice

Zelin Liu*

Bozhou University, Bozhou, China
*Corresponding author

Keywords: Translation, Communication, Translation Software, Computer-Assisted Translation (CAT), Operability

Abstract: China today is playing an increasingly important role in the international community. International business and exchanges are becoming more and more regular and universal. As a result, the communication needs between countries have become larger, and the society and the self have improved their requirements on individual ability, and further requests have been come up with individual and foreign language translation group work. In this paper, through the analysis and understanding of the requirements of CAT and its software, as well as the investigation of the current situation of application and the prediction of future development, the application defects of CAT are understood, so as to know the operability of CAT in practical translation work.

1. Introduction

In recent years, there are mainly three kinds of translation software. The first one is a dictionary, which explains simple words and short sentences.the next one is machine translation. Its translation quality is not high, and the sentence structure of different languages is often disorder.The version via machine translation has distinct translation traces; what's more, its semantic meaning is rigid, and often needs to be checked and corrected manually in the end. The third one is computer-assisted translation software. Compared with the previous two, the language understanding and knowledge of computer and human are combining through the powerful role of the Internet, which shortens the translation process and improves the translation quality.

2. About Computer-Assisted Translation(CAT)

CAT refers to a type of science of applying scientific knowledge to practical problems in the course of human translation[1]. It is human-oriented and helps achieve translation goals with the help of electronic and information-based computer functions. Computer-assisted software is a kind of computer device to assist translators to attain translation objectives in translation work, which may involve spoken language discerning, text handling, immediate-time online exchanging mechanism, translating software system and so on. In order to be able to use a tool to achieve the interaction among speakers of divers native languages, the earliest emergence of computer-assisted translation was in age-old Greece. Then, from the seventeenth century to the beginning of 20th century and again

to 1940s, the idea of machine translation was proposed. The mid-1960s was a inflection point, when American communities decided that exploring machine translation should stop and machine aids should be studied instead. From then on, computer-assisted translation turns into the component of studying language transfer devices. Between about 1985 and 1990, with the progress of corpora and the idea of CAT systems, mechanical translating systems had great improvements in performance and velocity, and in the meantime, blossomed very quickly[2]. By the end of 20th century, CAT came into the vision of the people in China, and Chinese people started to obtain and strive to improve associated software, such as Yongli, Chuansheng etc.. The improvement of CAT is also reflected in the church. Junior college, university and research students have all been involved in the CAT course, which has laid a solid foundation for the practical operation of applying CAT software in their future work.

3. Demand Analysis

3.1. Internal and External Environment

In the era of the Internet and great information, countries are increasingly closely connected, information in different languages is pouring in, and the means of processing information need to be strengthened. With the development of computers and the Internet, the environment, form and tools of translation work have also changed, which promotes the continuous upgrading and iteration of corresponding software. Human and computer technology cooperate with each other, so that translation work will be more efficient and accurate development. For different individuals, the society, the company and the sense of self have stronger requirements on personal ability. In the face of a large amount of information, we should learn to receive and process it quickly and give feedback, so as to meet the individual's expectations on ability and the enterprise's requirements on employees. For foreign language professionals, they may not know how to start on professional issues. As for non-foreign language professionals, the English level will restrict their further improvement. If you know a foreign language and have professional ability, the combination of the two will produce the effect of $1+1 > 2$. An excellent person in a professional position should be more competitive, so as to meet higher demands of self and employers[3]. Whether professional or non-professional translators, as long as they need to carry out translation work, they must master the requirements of The Times the product: CAT Technology will also be one of the important abilities of individuals in the workplace.

3.2. Operability of Computer-Assisted Translation Software

There are many studies on operability both at home and abroad. In this paper, the usability of computer-assisted translation software is considered as follows: the evaluation criteria can be roughly divided into four categories: learn ability, efficiency, error rate and satisfaction. It is extremely important for any tool to be learned and used easily and quickly. In practice, it is also helpful to the time and quality of the translation task. Low software error rate is also important, if there is a problem, timely feedback will not have a significant impact on the actual work. In terms of details, the general habits of users should be taken into account to improve user satisfaction and dependence. In the design and use of CAT software, users need to receive feedback to improve product functions and their experience, so as to maintain long-term vitality and not be replaced by competitors. Optimizing the overall layout constantly, distinguishing modules clearly, and the contents contained in the modules need to be detailed; Perfect functions meeting the needs of different groups or users can provide personalized services[4].

4. Translation Procedures

4.1. Before Translating

Translation objects may be in different formats, including not only common simple TXT, XLS, DOC, PDF or PPT, but also HTM, ODT, MIF or CSV. The first task is to make these data available for human translation. Memoq, Trados and other software now support opening these file formats. In the electronic information age, if a translation software can't even open a certain format file, the follow-up work will be empty talk. After the original translation is obtained, each person will get part of the translation task, and mainstream CAT software can complete the task work[5].

4.2. During Translating

When the translation work is very large, such as the content of hundreds of thousands of words or more, it is difficult for one person to complete the translation, and many people need to cooperate with the translation. When many people translate, they will get different translation results due to their personal style and understanding reasons. The first thing to do is to unify the terms. One person can summarize and maintain the terms. This is done by taking the terms out of the translation and compiling them into a glossary which can then be used by all translators online. This work can be easily accomplished with the help of CAT software. It is also one basic function of Memoq, Trados, Deja and other software. Second, the key of CAT lies in memorization. Computers can store large amounts of data based on existing translations, forming databases or memory banks. When translating into long and short sentences similar to the contents of the database, you can search for and choose to use the previously used translation, or simply modify the existing translation. There is no need to repeat work, which saves a lot of labor time.e.g. These are some blue trousers.is translated into "zhe xie shi yi xie lan se de ku zi". The translation will be memorized. When These are some red trousers is encountered, the software will remind the meaning of this sentence, and just change the blue to red. It should be noted that translators can reorganize the language on the basis of their understanding rather than following the content prompted by the software. This content will also be recorded in the database, so that the contents of the memory bank will be more optimized and efficient. These two aspects are the two main advantages of computer-assisted translation, and they also show the advantages of using CAT technology.

4.3. After Translating

After the translation is completed, computer-assisted software can proofread the translation and check for spelling errors. In this way, it is guaranteed that the final display will be a relatively perfect work, with no low-level mistakes to reduce the quality of the translation, and no manual labor to do repeated work. Parallel corpus can be accumulated, and when a certain amount is reached, part of machine translation functions can be realized[6]. At this point, it can discard some of the original shortcomings of machine translation, and strengthen the advantage part: extremely fast translation speed. Combined with human translation, it greatly saves time cost and personal workload. The final result: Bilingual parallel data will be of great help to future businesses, reducing costs and increasing profits accordingly[7]. And companies such as Lionbridge will benefit by charging for bilingual text to be used by others.

5. Disadvantages of Computer-Assisted Translation

Although some advantages of computer-assisted software are obvious, the language itself is

complex, and due to cultural, contextual and other factors, translation works may still be inadequate.

5.1. Most CAT Software Automatically and Mechanically Divides the Original Translation

The translator in translation conducts sentence-to-sentence translation, who may not be able to make adjustment related. What's more, each interpreter may only to translate part, and he/she cannot be combined with the content before and after, which cause the overall translation inconsistent, rigid, and can't play the interpreter's subjective creation ability[8].

5.2. Computer-Assisted Translation Software Improves the Speed of Translation by Relying on a Large Number of Terms, Memory Banks and Database Information

If a large number of sentences with the same sentence pattern can be matched, it will be easier to translate, for example, instructions, legal texts are more applicable. In the face of translation with low content repetition, especially literary works, there is not much similar content for reference in the memory bank, and it still needs a lot of manual processing, which makes the advantages of computer-assisted translation unable to be highlighted.

6. Future of Computer-Assisted Translation

On the basis of associated statistics, a large number of translators apply CAT software in their translation work, and many of them take relevant courses by themselves or communicate with someone else to control auxiliary translation software, while only a small proportion of them have learned relevant knowledge in school. This speaks volumes about the ubiquity and fashionable of computer-assisted translation software. And in the practical work, there has been a need for a large amount of computer-assisted translation talent resources, but really good at the problem of fewer people. That is the reason that at present, Computer-assisted translation is a relatively new things for Chinese people, and the educational circles are not enough to understood and analyzed the relevant demand of auxiliary translation, leading to a small quantity of associated courses at school. As a result, corresponding talents are not supplied sufficiently. In the years to come, as CAT software and its unique functions continue to develop, improve and expand, computer-assisted translation will certainly turn into an indispensable component of the translating process[9,10]. Accordingly, the educational courses will become increasingly rational. For example, more courses related to computer software will be provided to translating major students taking place of just concentrating on studying more than one languages to satisfy the requirements of translation and market. Desired development foregrounds will attract a great deal learners to study computer-assisted translation courses, and in the meantime, there will be more associated training institution outside school, affording an optional studying channel to Translation practitioner. There will be enough talents for both school and society to conduct computer-assisted translation work.

7. Conclusion

In a nutshell, nowadays we have an explosion of information worldwide, and the translation workload will increase continuously. Different from the former times when only a few individuals completed the translating products, computer-assisted translating software can naturally straighten out the translation process before, during and after the translation in the face of a great quantity of work, thus improving the promptness and veracity of the translating target. During practical translating process, auxiliary translation software can be operable for practical translating, meeting the requirements of the different communities for a wide range of translating products. Thus it

accelerate the speed of translating process, enhance the quality of translating products, and will certainly actuate the whole translation industry to a better development.

References

[1] Kaczmarek M.,(2021) Computer-assisted sign language translation: a study of translators' practice to specify CAT software, Machine translation, 35(03): 305-322.

[2] Lee J., (2018) Designing computer-assisted translation software for trainee translators based on classroom parallel corpora, T&I review, 8(05): 8.

[3] Zhang L., (2017) Exploring on the efficiency influence of computer-assisted translation software to English-Chinese technical translation, Agro food industry Hi-Tech, 28(03): 3534.

[4] Bilic V., (2020) The online computer-assisted translation classroom, Translation and interpreting: the international journal of translation and interpreting research, 12 (01): 10.

[5] Sun M., (2021) Application of computer-aided translation software in business English translation, Application of intelligent systems in multi-modal information analytics, 1384 (02): 142.

[6] Xu C., Li Q., (2021) Machine translation and computer aided English translation," Journal of physics: conference series, 1881 (04): 042023.

[7] Wu X., Zhang S., (2018) Evaluation of computer assisted translation and its teaching application in English translation," Educational sciences: theory & practice, 18 (05): 2003.

[8] Alotaib H. M., (2020) Computer-assisted translation tools: an evaluation of their usability among Arab translators, Applied sciences, 10 (05): 295.

[9] Wang X., (2021) Building a parallel corpus for English translation teaching based on computer-aided translation software,"Computer-aided design & applications, 18 (Special): 181.

[10] Zhai C., (2019) On the prospect of the intelligent computer-aided translation,"International conference on applications and techniques in cyber security and intelligence ATCI 2018, 842: 1056.