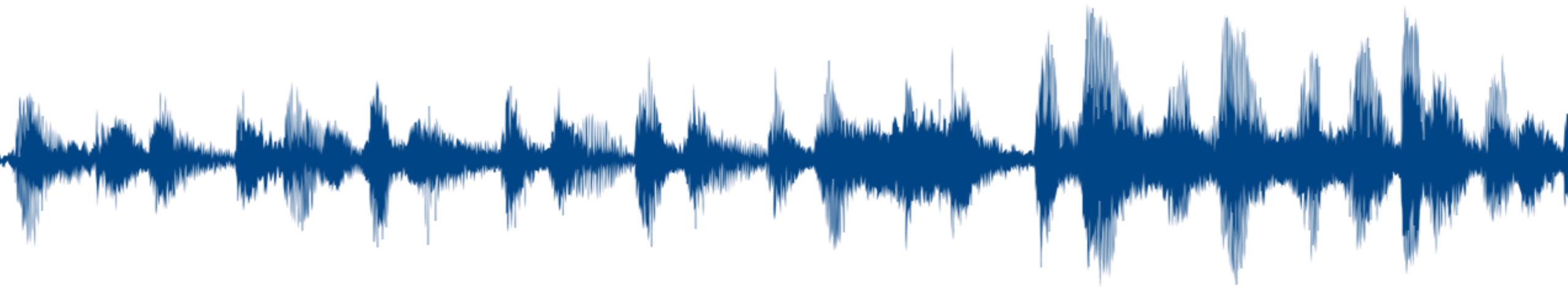


The use of speech technologies in translation, revision, and post-editing machine translation (PEMT)



Raluca Chereji, Claudia Wiesinger, Justus Brockmann, Alina Secară, Dragoş Ciobanu

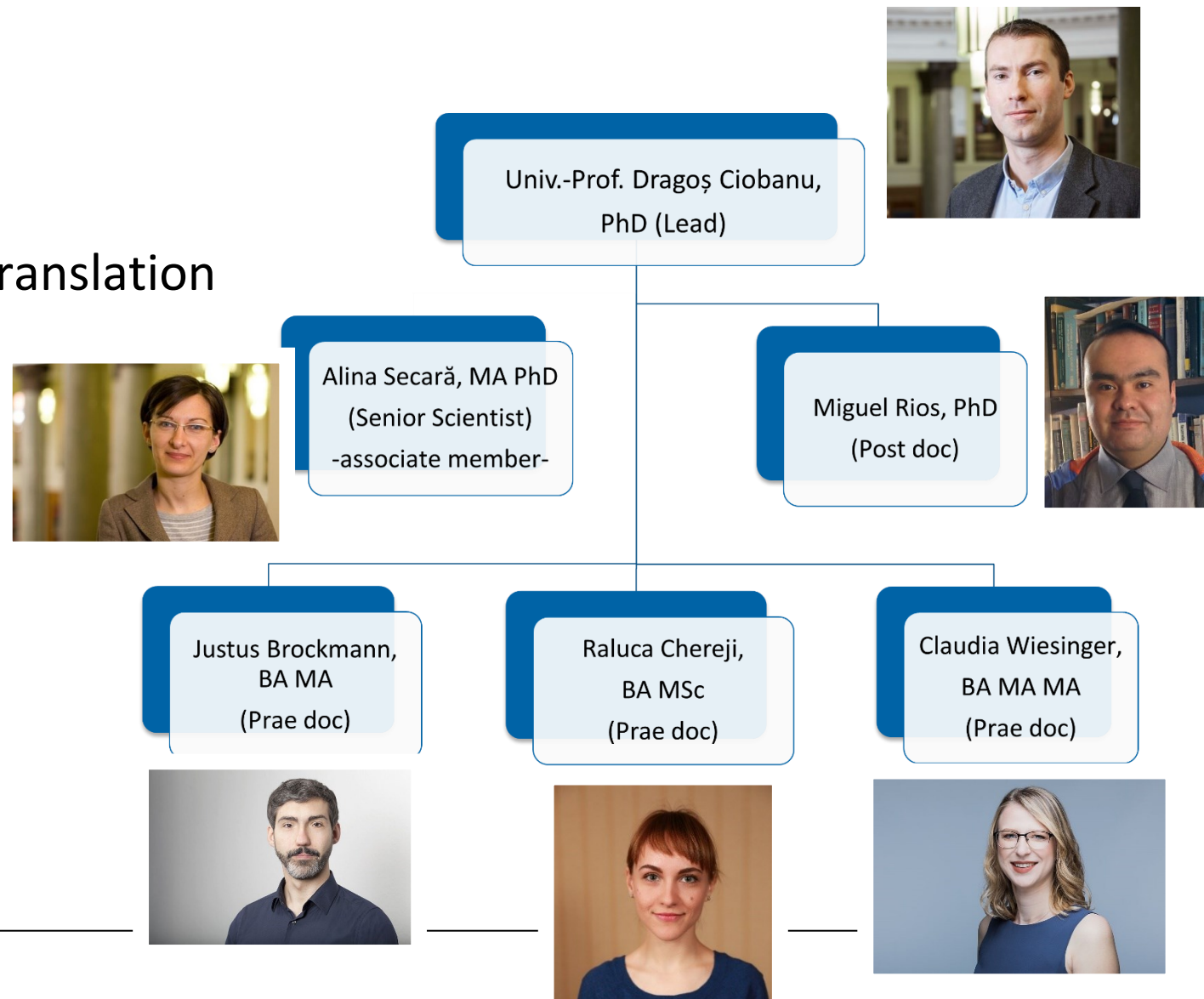
Outline

1. HAITrans research group
2. Speech recognition technology
3. Speech synthesis technology
4. HAITrans research projects

HAITrans research group

- Human and Artificial Intelligence in Translation
 - Zentrum für Translationswissenschaft (ZTW)
 - University of Vienna
- Focus on translation technologies
 - Education
 - Industry
 - Research

<https://haitrans.univie.ac.at/team/>



HAITrans research group

- Education



- Industry



HAITrans research group

- Research

R1



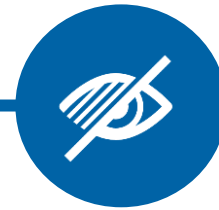
Speech technologies
in translation,
revision and
post-editing (PEMT)

R2



Technology-
supported
translation, revision
and PEMT

R3



Translation
technology for
accessibility

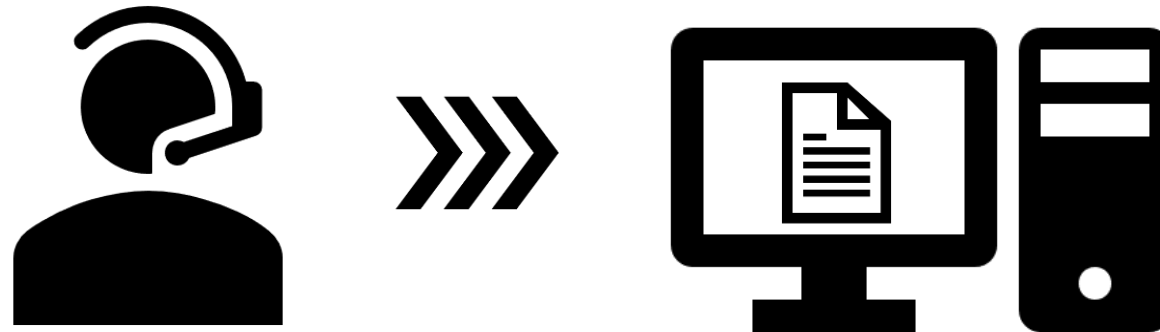
R4



Translation
technology
didactics

Automatic speech recognition (ASR)/Speech-to-text (S2T)

“allows a computer to take the audio file or direct speech from the microphone as an input and convert it into the text”



(Malik *et al.*, 2021: 9412)

ASR applications

- **Wide variety of domains and industrial use cases:**



Healthcare
& medical
assistance



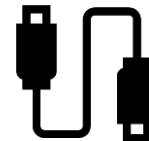
Telecom-
munications
industry



Forensics
and law
enforcement



Defense
and
aviation



IT and
consumer
electronics



Home
automation
and security



Education
and
accessibility

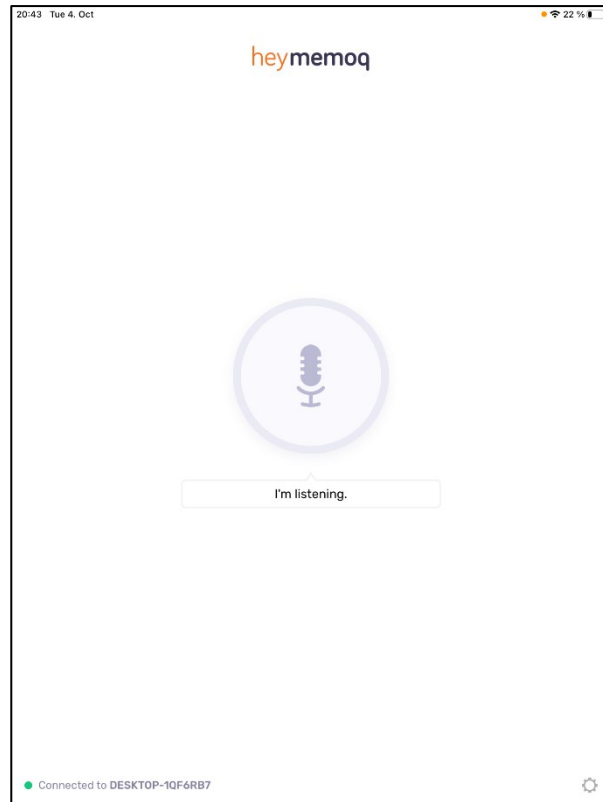
(Vajpai and Bora, 2016; Kanabur, Harakannanavar and Torse, 2019; Ibrahim and Varol, 2020)

ASR applications

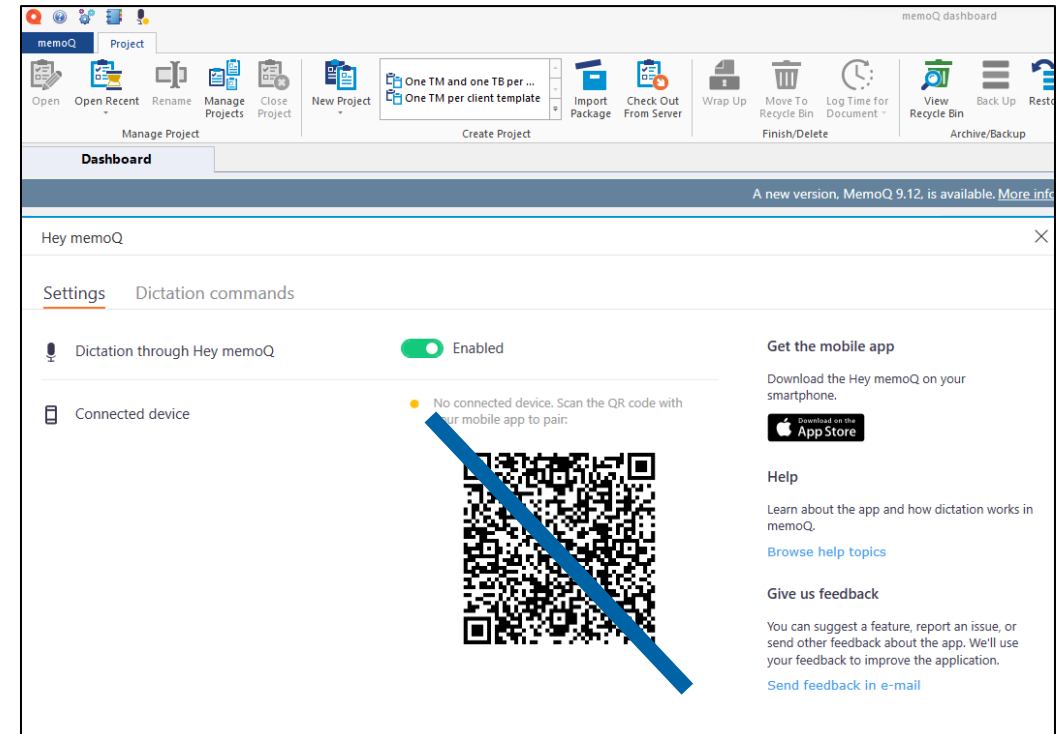
- In a translation context:
 - **Translation Process Research** on translation dictation and post-editing
 - (Ciobanu, 2014, 2016; Mesa-Lao, 2014; Zapata *et al.*, 2017; Tzoukermann and Miller, 2018; Liyanapathirana, 2021)
 - **ASR for interpreting**
 - (Defrancq and Fantinuoli, 2021; Gaber and Corpas-Pastor, 2021)
 - **Respeaking** in audiovisual translation
 - (Romero-Fresco, 2020)
 - **Multilingual corpora building**
 - (Di Gangi *et al.*, 2019; Iranzo-Sánchez *et al.*, 2020; Salesky *et al.*, 2021)

Integrating ASR into medical translation workflows – a demo

Set-up:



hey memoQ interface on iOS



memoQ desktop dashboard

memoQ

Project

Documents

Preparation

Translation

Review

Edit

View

Quick Access

Concordance

Look Up Term

memoQ Web Search

Confirm

Add Term

Quick Add Term

Add Non-Translatable

Mark Text

Comments

Copy

Cut

Paste

Copy To Target

Format

Tag Insertion

Copy Next Tag Sequence

Inline Tags

Split/Join

Find

Find Next

Replace

Advanced

Project home

ICF_en_source.docx

Source

Target

Sort

No sorting

Translation results

1.	What is the purpose of this form?		0%		
2.	You are being asked if you would like to join a research study (also called a clinical trial).		0%		
3.	This consent form explains why the study is being done, possible risks and benefits to you, your rights, and what you will have to do if you join.		0%		
4.	The choice is up to you, and you do not have to join the study if you do not want to.		0%		
5.	If you decide to join, you will be asked to sign and date this form, stating that you understand what was explained to you and that you agree to be in the study.		0%		
6.	This is called informed consent.		0%		
7.	The informed consent form may be delivered and signed in paper format.		0%		
8.	It may also be delivered and signed electronically (eConsent) if local laws, regulations, and study site policies allow this.		0%		
9.	Please read this form carefully.		0%		What is the purpose of this form?
10.	Ask the study doctor or staff any questions you have about the study.		0%		
11.	You can take an unsigned copy to review with your personal doctor, family, and friends.		0%		
12.	If you agree to join, you will be given a signed and dated copy.		0%		
13.	No tests will be done until this form is signed.		0%		
14.	If you decide not to join, you will not be penalized or lose any benefits that you would otherwise be entitled.		0%		

Changed

Ralu 04-Oct-22 9:35 PM

P (rum): 3%

D: 3%

TR: 0

R1: 0

R2: 0

Ed: 4

Rej: 0

Empty: 10

Pre: 0

Frag+MT: 0

Errors: 0

Ready

Ins

33 / 0

Automatic speech recognition (ASR)/Speech-to-text (S2T)



Advantages

- Increased **productivity**
 - (Dragsted *et al.*, 2011; García Martínez *et al.*, 2014; Zapata *et al.*, 2017; Liyanapathirana and Bouillon, 2022)
- Improved **ergonomics**
 - (Ehrensberger-Dow and O'Brien 2015; Ehrensberger-Dow and Hunziker Heeb, 2016)
- Improved **accessibility**
 - (Lewis, 2015; Ciobanu and Secară, 2019; Lucía *et al.*, 2020)
- Improved output **naturalness**
 - (Ciobanu, 2016)

Automatic speech recognition (ASR)/Speech-to-text (S2T)



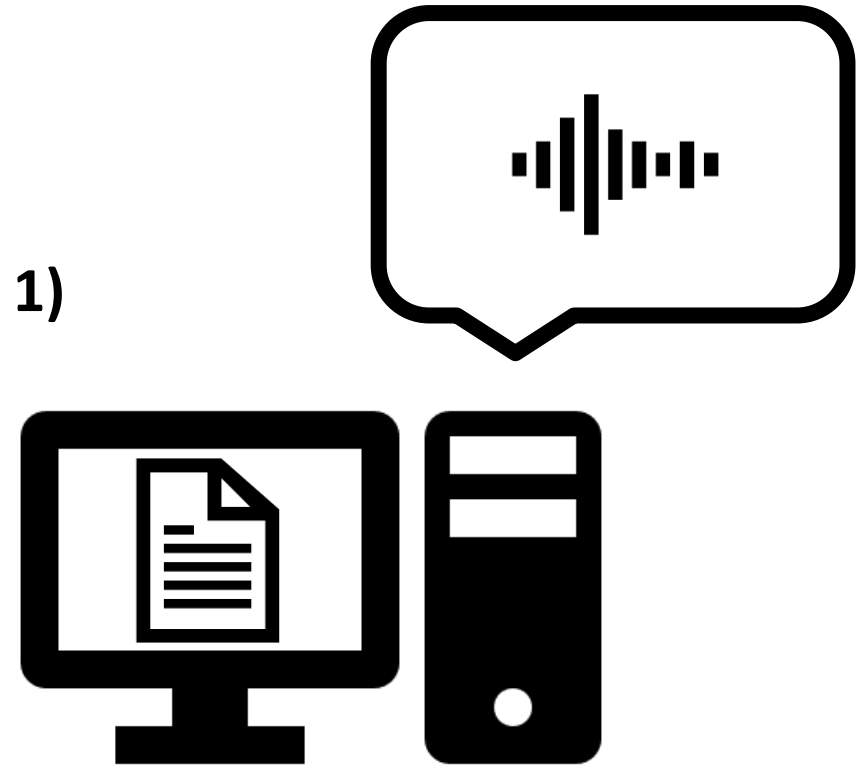
Challenges

- Risk of **introducing errors**
 - ‘Speakos’ over typos (Ciobanu, 2016), e.g., homophones (Dragsted *et al.*, 2011)
- **Accessibility** issues
 - (Tobin *et al.*, 2022)
- Potential **increase in cognitive load**
 - (Ciobanu, 2016)
- More **colloquial and informal** translation choices
 - (Ciobanu, 2016)

Speech synthesis/Text-to-speech (T2S)

“getting computers to read out loud” (Taylor, 2009: 1)

“automatically converting natural language text into speech” (Georgila, 2017: 257)



Applications

- **Variety of scenarios, including:**
 - automatic call-centre dialogue systems, announcements of travel directions (Taylor, 2009)
 - voice user interfaces in vehicles (Chen *et al.*, 2010)
 - accessibility solutions (Freitas, 2010)
 - personal assistants (e.g. Google, n.d.)

Graphical User Interfaces

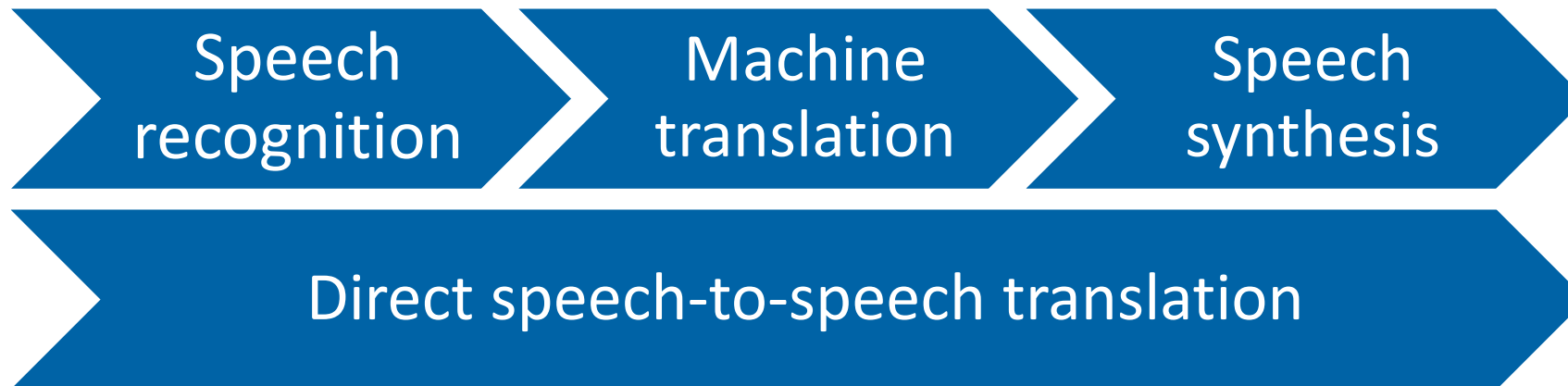


Natural User Interfaces

(cf. Olohan, 2019)

Applications

- **In a translation and interpreting context:**
 - Mainly focused on automatic speech-to-speech translation
(Ehsani *et al.*, 2010; Hashimoto *et al.*, 2011; Tan, 2014; Seligman *et al.*, 2017)



Applications

- **In a translation context:**
 - Speech synthesis used to support revision process/quality checks of dictated text (Ciobanu, 2016)
 - Practice of reading aloud in (self-)revision (Allain, 2010; Scocchera, 2017)
- **But: No default integration with CAT tools (yet)**



Anonymous

now ...

Translator and copyeditor

I like 'prooflistening'. There comes a point where you are so sick of the sight of a particular text, when you can't even remember translating a particular segment (even though you've translated it, checked it twice and proofread it twice), that the only option is to listen rather than read.

[See translation](#)

Like | Reply



Anonymous

now ...

Traduction français-anglais et allemand-anglais

I think as translators we are so used to skim-reading that we sometimes find it hard to slow down enough when checking a text - especially if it's our own work.

[See translation](#)

Like | Reply

SDL Trados Studio - EDPR_EN-DE

File Home Review Advanced View Add-Ins Help

SDL AppStore Configuration Plug-ins Trados TTS Trados TTS

Editor

EDPB_EN.docx IATIS_2022_de

Messages (0)

0 Errors 0 Warnings 0 Notes Show Messages for Active Document Only Show Ignored Messages

Sever Message Origin Document

Translation Results - EDPR Fragment Matches - EDPR Concordance Search Comments TQAs (0) Messages (0)

EDPB_EN.docx.sdlxliff [Translation]* IATIS_2022_demo.docx.sdlxliff [Translation]*

IATIS_2022_demo.docx

Segment	Source	Target	Quality	Actions
1	European Data Protection Board	Europäischer Datenschutzausschuss	99%	
2	The European Data Protection Board (EDPB) is an independent European body which shall ensure the consistent application of data protection rules throughout the European Union.	Der Europäische Datenschutzausschuss (EDPB) ist ein unabhängiges europäisches Gremium, das die einheitliche Anwendung der Datenschutzvorschriften in der gesamten Europäischen Union sicherstellen soll.	99%	
3	The EDPB has been established by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).	Der EDSB wurde durch die Allgemeine Datenschutzverordnung (DSGVO) eingerichtet.	99%	
4	The EDPB is composed of the representatives of the national data protection authorities of the EU/EEA countries and of the European Data Protection Supervisor.	Der EDSB setzt sich aus den Vertretern der nationalen Datenschutzbehörden der EU-/EWR-Länder und dem Europäischen Datenschutzbeauftragten zusammen.		
5	The European Commission participates in the activities and meetings of the Board without voting right.	Die Europäische Kommission nimmt an den Aktivitäten und Sitzungen des Ausschusses ohne Stimmrecht teil.		
6	The secretariat of the EDPB is provided by the EDPS.	Das Sekretariat des EDSB wird vom EDSB geführt.		
7	The secretariat performs its tasks exclusively under the instructions of the Chair of the Board.			
	The EDPB tasks consist primarily in providing general guidance on key concepts of the GDPR and the Law Enforcement Directive, advising the European Commission on issues related to the			

Term Recognition

No results available.

Termbase Search

Wellcome Projects Files Reports Editor Translation...

Advanced Display Filter 2.0 Useful Tips

All segments INS 42.04% 55.41% 2.55% Chars: 200 0/893

Trados TTS plug-in in Trados Studio 2021

Applications

- Initial investigations of applications in human-centred revision and post-editing workflows
 1. **Speech synthesis in revision (2019)**
 2. **Speech synthesis in post-editing performed by students (2021)**
 3. **Speech synthesis in post-editing performed by professional translators (forthcoming)**



Experimental design



5 professional translators,
6 trainees
(MA level)



FR-EN **revision** task
in memoQ

-  in silence,
-  with source text sound



methods

- error counts
- questionnaires
- eye tracking



impact of sound on

- quality
- attitudes
- viewing behaviour

Findings

RQ1 (quality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Source text (ST) sound conducive to better revision quality overall<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Biggest difference in relation to Accuracy errors (66% vs. 37%)
RQ2 (attitudes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Majority of participants (7 out of 11) preferred ST sound to silence
RQ3 (viewing behaviour)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attention distribution (between ST, target text (TT) and external resources) is similar in both conditions• Intensity of reading ST is decreased in ST sound condition

Experimental design



17 trainees
(16 BA, 1 MA)





4 EN-DE **post-editing** /
error annotation tasks
in Microsoft Word



methods



impact of sound on

 in silence,
 with ST sound,
with TT sound,
with ST and TT sound

- error counts
- error annotation analysis
- post-edited words/h
- questionnaires

- quality
- error annotation
- productivity
- attitudes

Findings

RQ1 (quality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On average, the combination of ST and TT sound appeared to be most conducive to correcting errors in line with Gold Standard• Major variation between individuals
RQ2 (error annotation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High disparity in annotations• More ‘preferential annotations’, but also fewer actual errors missed using ST and TT sound, as compared to working in silence• Highest number of Accuracy errors annotated in ST sound condition
RQ3 (productivity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On average, productivity increase from PEMT in silence to PEMT with ST and TT sound• Major variation between individuals
RQ4 (attitudes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perceived benefits of using sound in less strict set-ups

- Imminent Research Grants scheme 2021
- Planned experiment design:



30 professional
translators



4 EN-DE **post-editing**
tasks in Matecat



in silence,



with ST and TT
sound



methods

- eye tracking
- editing log
- error counts
- questionnaires



impact of sound on

- cognitive load
- productivity
- quality
- attitudes

HAITrans doctoral projects

- Applications of speech technology in:



Crisis translation



Institutional translation



Medical translation



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“Timely and accurate communication is essential for crisis management [...]

(Crisis Translation, 2020; own emphasis)

- Suspected widespread use of MT in disasters and crises
(Anastasopoulos *et al.*, 2020)
- Recommendations for MT-assisted crisis translation workflows
(Parra Escartín and Moniz, 2020)
- Difficulties striking a balance between quality assurance processes and timely translations



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Q: Speech-enabled PEMT – a viable solution for crisis translation?



Source: own photograph

In multilingual settings, **institutions govern by translation**
(Koskinen, 2014)

- High quality requirements
(Biel *et al.*, 2017; Prieto Ramos, 2017; DGT, 2020)
- Increasing productivity demands on translators
- Increasing use of MT by institutions



Source: own photograph

Q: Can speech synthesis support the PEMT process in a translating institution?



Source: own photograph

Survey on technology use in institutional translation / revision / post-editing



<https://bit.ly/3TP8okZ>



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Patient-facing medical texts:

- “must be translated intralingually [...] from expert language to plain language”
(Brøgger and Zethsen, 2021)
- “there is a tendency to revert to expert medical language” in translation
(Montalt, Zethsen and Karwacka, 2018)
- ASR-produced translations as more natural-sounding and colloquial
(Ciobanu, 2016)



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Q: Can ASR benefit patient-facing translations and mitigate expert-to-lay bias?

Conclusions

- Potential of **speech technologies**
 - Supported by research results
 - Especially relevant given the growth of NMT deployment
- Investigation of **contexts in which these tools could be integrated** in translators' workflows (doctoral projects)

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Thank you and Q&A

HAITrans - Human and Artificial Intelligence in Translation

HAITrans - Human and Artificial Intelligence in Translation - is a research group based in the University of Vienna Centre for Translation Studies. It investigates the behavioural and cognitive effects which technologies such as machine translation and automatic speech recognition and synthesis have on translators, as well as their impact on the profession, practice, training and society at large.

At present, the core research areas of the Vienna HAITrans Group are:

- 1 Effects of speech technologies (Speech to Text and Text to Speech) on translation, revision and post-editing machine translation (PEMT) tasks (R1)
- 2 Technology-supported translation, revision, and PEMT practices (R2)
- 3 (Translation) technology for accessibility (R3)
- 4 Translation technology didactics (R4)

In our qualitative and quantitative investigations we use data gathered via eye-tracking, questionnaires, focus groups, corpora, and translation environment tool metrics. We also collaborate with academic partners, international organisations, language service providers, dedicated professional associations and cultural-sector partners.

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