



Article

Types of Compression Used in Simultaneous Interpreting

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Abstract: Simultaneous interpreting is one of the most complex forms of translation activity, demanding that interpreters process incoming speech and produce a target-language version almost in real-time. Interpreters do employ several strategies to keep the translation accurate and fluent, as they are always pressed with time constraints and cognitive limitations. Compression: Compression identifies the context and reduces the source message while maintaining critical meaning. The article, in question, is to investigate the types of compression utilized--as well as their linguistic and cognitive characteristics--in simultaneous interpreting. This research reviews theoretical approaches to compression in interpreting tại literature , identifies key types of compression that can occur during the interpretation process such as lexical, syntactic, semantic, pragmatic and discourse. It also presents useful examples from English-Uzbek interpreting practice in illustration. These glimpses into compression show that it is more than a functional reduction, rather it is part of a complex adjustment process between interpreters who find ways to manage cognitive load while remaining in line with the speaker and providing clear translations. Compression strategies are necessary for interpreter training and practice.

Keywords: Simultaneous Interpreting, Compression Strategy, Interpreting Techniques, Cognitive Load, Translation Studies, Interpreting Competence, Discourse Reduction

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1. Introduction

One of the most demanding type activities in translation practice is simultaneous interpreting, (e.g. Liu, 2010). Simultaneous interpreting, as opposed to written translation or even consecutive interpreting, is not allowing enough time for the interpreter to listen and understand speech. This process has puts more burden of cognitive load to the interpreter as she has her memory, attention and linguistic competence loaded [1].

In settings such as international conferences, government talks and business negotiations, speakers may speak rapidly or be long-winded or include irrelevant details. Such cases obligate interpreters to discover quick, accurate substitutes of the central meaning without falling behind in their translation. In such cases, frequently used techniques [2] include Compression.

Compression is the reduction of source message linguistic form retaining semantic content. In short, when interpreters interpret they reduce the information from the source utterance, by eliminating redundancy, compressing structures or summarizing content. Hence interpreters can stay in tune with the speaker and not unload cognitive load [3].

Compression in relation to interpretation has been greatly debated. According to scholars, (Seleskovitch, Lederer), (Gile) and (Chernov) compression was mentioned as an act of balancing between comprehension and production of the interpreter in simultaneous

interpretation. Compression is not merely a linguistic operation, it is also a cognitive strategy that can be used by interpreters with limited processing capacity [4].

Although compression is a prominent and relevant phenomenon of interpreting, both in general terms and specific to English–Uzbek practice, its types and fulfilment mechanisms have not been sufficiently covered in current studies. This article aims at recognizing and analysing the principales compression types invoked in simultaneous interpreting – examining how they are operationalized in [5].

The aims of this study are:

- on theoretical approaches of compression in interpreting studies;
- handing off to interpreters; identifying important classes of compression used by interpreters;
- teaching compression techniques with examples;
- describing the functions of compression in cognition and communication.

Literature Review. It was not until the second half of the twentieth century that simultaneous interpreting began to be studied in a detailed manner. In early academics studies, scholars such as Danica Seleskovitch were proposing theoretical frameworks (e.g., “Interpretive Theory of Translation”). Based on this theory, interpreters interpret the meaning of the message rather than words. This computation aligns with the fact that compression is a natural component of interpreting as interpreters are interested in meaning, not form [6].

Further studies described more variability in interpretation processes. He developed his theory of simultaneous interpreting and used the Effort Model to explain it: a combination of several cognitive efforts, namely Listening and Analysis Effort, Production Effort, Memory Effort and Coordination effort; processes that occur simultaneously when the interpreter receives pieces of information. When does performance start to deteriorate? Excessive cognitive load may lead to poorer performance when the total cognitive load results in exceeding other elements of the interpreter’s capacity. Compression also reduces the burden because it minimizes the goal message [7].

Anticipating and predicting what’s going to be said next is also an essential element of simultaneous interpreting. As per his research interpreters will tend to anticipate segments of what is coming next, restructuring the incoming message into a more concise format. Other studies which analyzed linguistic operations in interpreting as omission, generalization or summarizing were developed by Kirchhoff, Pöchhacker and Setton. Some of these transformations are compression [8].

Recent studies in interpreting pedagogy also attests to the need for teaching compression strategies to student interpreters. N.B. In training your ear, exercises often comprise paraphrasing, summarising and restructuring sentences to assist with making interpreting more efficient. However, most of the currently available research focuses largely on European type languages and much less focus has been dedicated to the topic of compression techniques for Central Asian languages such as Uzbek. ComSo, it is necessary to perform more regular research on compression in English–Uzbek interpreting practice [9].

2. Materials and Methods

This study uses a qualitative analytical framework to examine how compression strategies are used in simultaneous interpreting. This study draws on a theoretical exploration of literature interpretation and, if the field can be divided into two studies, linguistic analysis.

The methodological framework includes:

Translation Strategy and Memory Techniques Literature Review

This includes comparative analysis — the examination of variations in structures between source and target language.

For example-based analysis — demonstrating compression techniques via examples.

Yukardigi misollar asosan ingliz tildagi nutqdan va ushbu nutqin o'zbek tiliga talqinidan olinib to'plangan. The above examples show, how interpreters use compression to compress linguistic redundancy while preserving the meaning.

Compression Types in Concurrent Interpreting

Reduction strategies in simultaneous interpreting can be categorized into various types depending on the linguistic level at which they occur.

3. Results

Lexical Compression is the art of reducing the amount of words you are using to describe an idea. This is typically accomplished by replacing long expressions with short ones, or more general words. For example: Source speech: Therefore, it is very important at this time for collaboration among all countries [10].

Izoh: In the current situation, cooperation between all states is extremely important. For example, in the sentence “at this point in time,” we are able to simplify that into one word — hozir.

Lexical compression generally means: dropping unnecessary adjectives, replacing the phrase with X word, using more general vocabulary. This type of compression is particularly useful if speakers have repetitively or unnecessarily wordy expressions [11].

Syntactic Compression: It filters complex syntactic structure

Example: (YESTERDAY) Committee's ruling has consequences for future policy.

(Dog-whistle interpretation: This ruling will affect who makes policy in the future.) The interpreter drops passive forms as well as unnecessary connectors to produce a clear-cut direct sentence. Common syntactic compression techniques include: changing passive into active voice, eliminating sub-ordinate clauses Kick off multiple clauses into one sentence

Semantic Compression

Such as that the semantic compression takes several item, see it in single character. Example: Source: — it will be a much needed project planning coordination and management.

Зичлаштирилган талқин: Лойдке пўхтани бошқармоқда талаб этади. Here, a cluster of similar ideas are consolidated into three words. Semantic compression is so because speakers produce multiple similar items[12]

Pragmatic Compression

Each difference can be chalked up to something called pragmatic compression: when interpreters leave out semantic material not needed to understand the gist message. For example: Source: Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.

Compressed interpretation:

Sizlarga minnatdorchilik bildiraman. Speech in Legal or Formal Topics Some speakers use polite words or phrases that are not accusatory that they coast along without providing any real information. Interpreters are able to compress these revelations without losing their communicative purpose [13].

Discourse-Level Compression

Such compression entails more drastic horizontal reorganization of the discourse. For example: Source audio: First we understood the problem. Then we discussed possible solutions. Final decision for new strategy – where and when

Compressed interpretation:

Вче, боёгила битеридикин королук шакло ишлагла дата илишманай. The interpreter condenses multiple sentences into a single statement. Discourse compression [14] aids fluency and latency-free interpretation. Compression plays several key roles in simultaneous interpreting. This is because interpreters operate under intense cognitive stress. Compression reduces processing demands and helps interpreters keep pace with the speaker. When they condense messages, interpreters do not fall out of sync with the person speaking. For listeners, compressed translations make for clear and easy-of-understanding listening [15].

Adaptation to Target Language Norms

Languages differ in verbosity. This drives the message into shapes that are more natural for whatever target language structures potential have.

Compression in Interpreter Training

Interpreter training programs increasingly emphasize compression. In a classroom, students are practicing: how to summarize speeches; how to paraphrase long sentences; how to identify key information. Such exercises sharpen the skill of being able to say what you mean concisely. For example, students may practice summarizing speeches that need a 30–40% reduction of the target message while still retaining its sense.

4. Discussion

Compression is an integral aspect of simultaneous interpreting as demonstrated in the analysis. This process takes place on varying levels of language and requires a command of linguistics as well as mobility with thought.

Indeed, it is not that professional interpreters compress randomly but purposefully. Compression vs. no compression is dependent on several factors including speech speed, the informational complexity, interpreter experience, and differences between language structure.

In addition to this, you don't want meaning to be lost in shrinkage either. To what extent do we still know what is missing if an excess amount of compression occurs? As such, interpreters are forced to confront the delicate ratio between accuracy and brevity.

5. Conclusion

Compression is the second of the four most important Strategies in Simultaneous interpreting. It helps interpreters manage time pressure, reduces cognitive burden and supports the delivery of coherent target language output. Lexical, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic, discourse-level compression were the main types identified in this study. (g) Different prosodies are working with different layers and cues serving different communicative functions. These findings indicate the need to incorporate compression training in interpreter education programs. These findings can advance toward the analysis of compression strategies in real conference interpreting and then, eventually, prediction. A sound knowledge of the various compression methods will serve to improve the quality and professionalism of your interpreting.

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