Séminaire de recherche
en Langues de spécialité, analyse de corpus, terminologie et traductologie

Réflexions sur l'impact de la traduction machine sur la formation des traducteurs spécialisés

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Abstract :

The introduction of language technology into translation curricula is a complex task in terms of translation competences and their acquisition. Computer tools and especially Machine Translation (MT) directly affects trainee translators. This study investigates the impact of translation technology on students on a Master's in Specialised Translation and Language Engineering (M2 Pro ILTS) at Paris Diderot, Université de Paris. We present the first results of a teaching project "Traduction de site vers l'anglais" (Website translation into English) which has a strong emphasis on practical application of Machine Translation technologies in translation practice. The aim of the project is to provide students with a semiprofessional work experience that makes them face real life website translation problems. Students are expected to translate, post-edit and revise real-life webpages from French into English using a professional translation platform SystranLINKS.

The first results of our study show that a more equipped translator's workstation results in assisted but also disrupted translation practice and requires additional learning and teaching time. At the same time, intensive practice of MT raises students' awareness of the importance of a revision workflow and gives students a broader understanding of translation/revision processes and translation quality. Future teaching projects will concentrate on potential applications of MT technology to audio/video subtitling (MOOCs, pedagogical contents), as well as teaching and learning challenges dealing with specific translation contents.