eTerminology applications for translators and interpreters

Gerhard Budin

Overview

- Why are translators and interpreters interested in terminology?
- What is translation?
- Which terminology resources do translators need?
- What is eTerminology and which eTerminology services have been developed?
- How can we use them as translators and interpreters in our work?

Why are translators and interpreters interested in terminology?

- In technical translation, there is a constant need for "real-time" terminology management - as new terms evolve in source languages, appropriate terms are need in target languages
- translators and interpreters are cultural mediators and knowledge messengers
- In language planning environments translators have a special role

What is Translation?

- Transfer of content from the expression in one language (source I.) to the expression in another language (target I.) for certain purposes (functional aspect) and certain audiences (interlinguistic type)
- Due to cultural diversity of language communities, this transfer is more often than not quite difficult, due to the asymmetries of conceptual structures of each culture and of their lexicalizations in each language.
- Other types of translation:
 - intralinguistic: between registers, between social groups (patient-doctor, etc.), between corporate languages/cultures
 - Intersemiotic: between different types of knowledge representations (text (spoken, written), picture, video)
- Translation is a kind of Creative Transformation

Roles of Translation in Society

- Distinction of Specific Contexts, Goals, Functions, and Roles is crucial in order to fine-tune translation processes
 - These contexts, goals and roles may change (over time, for the same text in different target languages), sometimes multiple functions are fulfilled
- Knowledge Transfer
 - Technical Translation, Science Translation, etc.
 - Closely related to technology transfer, localization, and language development
 - Education, Training
 - Translation as pre-requisite of and sometimes also as part of the teaching/learning process
 - Access to societal services (law, health/medicine, etc.)
 - Artistic expression, cultural roles

New Challenges and Trends

- Increase in speed, size, and complexity of translation needs and the resulting translation services
- Increasing degree of commercialization
- Increasing degree of automation, and use of Information and Communication Technologies
- Increasing role of service economy
- Increasing economic pressure (return on investment)
- Increasing professionalization, different professional profiles
- Increasing role of corpora and corpus-analysis
- Stereotypes about what translation is and what it isn't

Translation Management

- Management of a complex workflow with specified goals, time-lines, resources (human, infrastructure/ technologies, language resources and other information resources, financial)
- The translation process proper is only a small part of such complex processes
 - Project management
 - Resource Management
 - Workflow management
 - Terminology management
 - Revision, Quality Management
 - Customer Relationship Management

Translation Technologies

- Different degrees of automation
 - Fully automatic (machine tr.)
 - Partially automated (computer-assisted human tr.)
 - Basic technology support (Internet, term look-up, etc.
 - Multimodal forms (speech to speech, speech to text, etc.)
- Different roles of technologies
 - Enhancement of speed, productivity
 - Carrying out specific processes
 - Interactive modes (e.g. translation memories)

Translation Technologies

- Different kinds of technologies
 - Machine translation (different types of technologies)
 - Translation memory technologies, corpus technologies
 - Terminology management, term formation, lexical resource processing
 - Data bases, information repositories
 - ICT, tele-translation, tele-interpretation
 - Group work, computer-supported cooperative work, etc.

Translation Resource Management

- Information management
 - Databases, repositories, technical issues
- Knowledge management
 - Human resource management
 - Who knows what, who needs knowledge from others
 - Knowledge sharing
- Language resource management
 - Terminologies, lexical resources
 - Texts (different modalities)
 - other resources

eTerminology services for translators

- Electronic dictionaries
- Terminology databases
- Web-based access to terminology resources (from simple, monolingual glossaries in HTML form to sophisticated online database retrieval
- Market developments translation services + eTerminology services
- Emerging web services (Semantic Web), where eTerminology plays a crucial role (product catalogues, taxonomies, ontologies, meta-data registries, etc.)

Distributed terminology management on the web

- Open source-based: wiki
- Commercial products
- Requires well-defined workflows
- Offers new opportunities for heterogeneous user groups with different perspectives and information interests



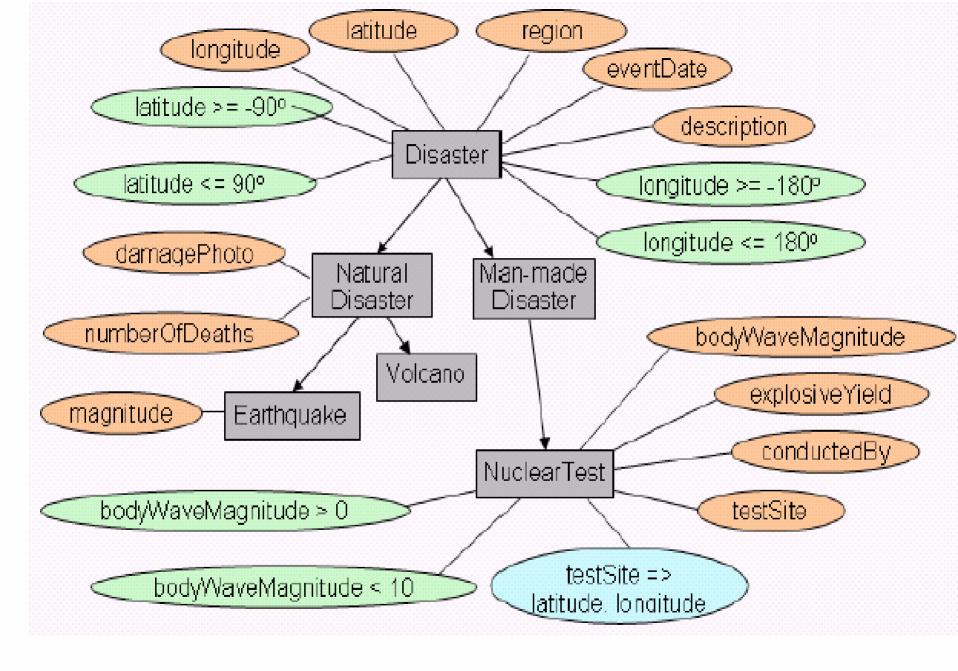
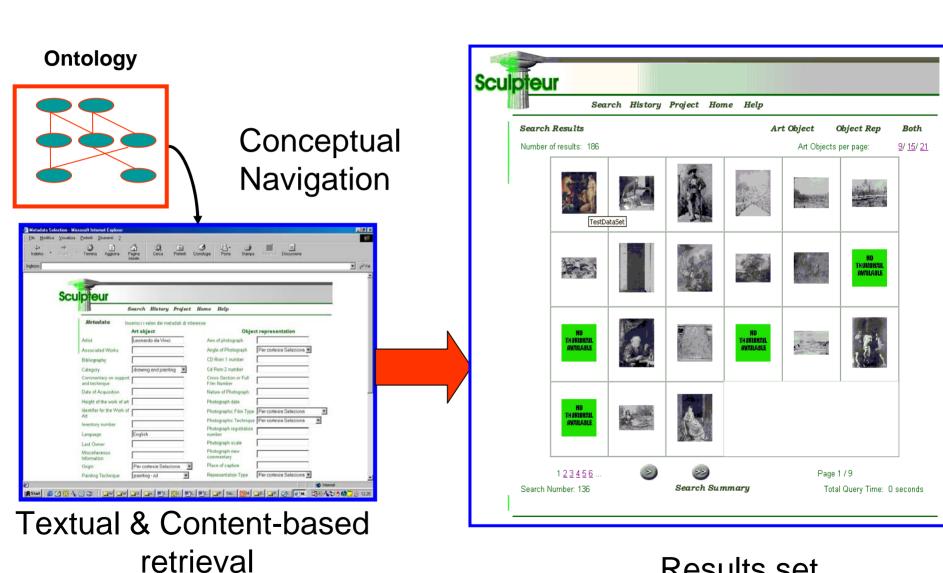


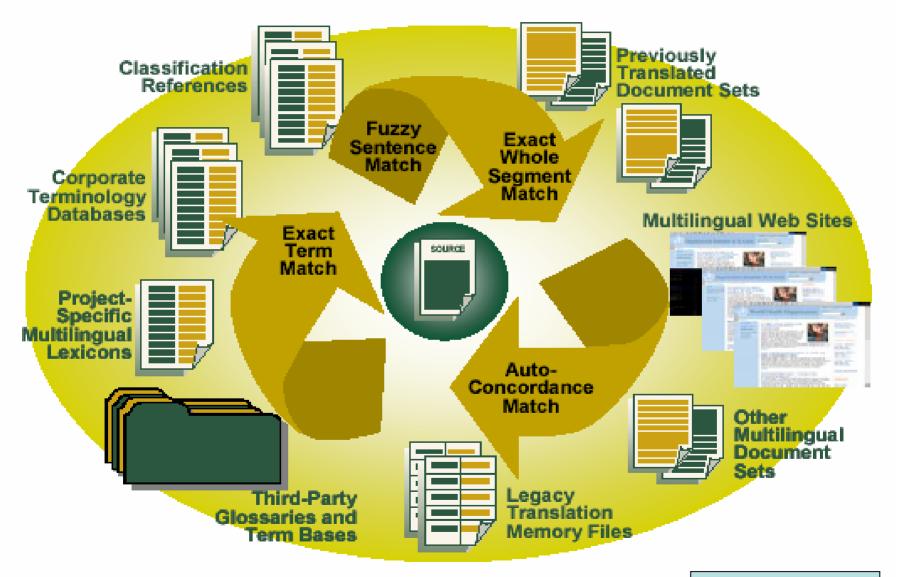
Figure 7: Disaster Ontology

Search & Retrieval

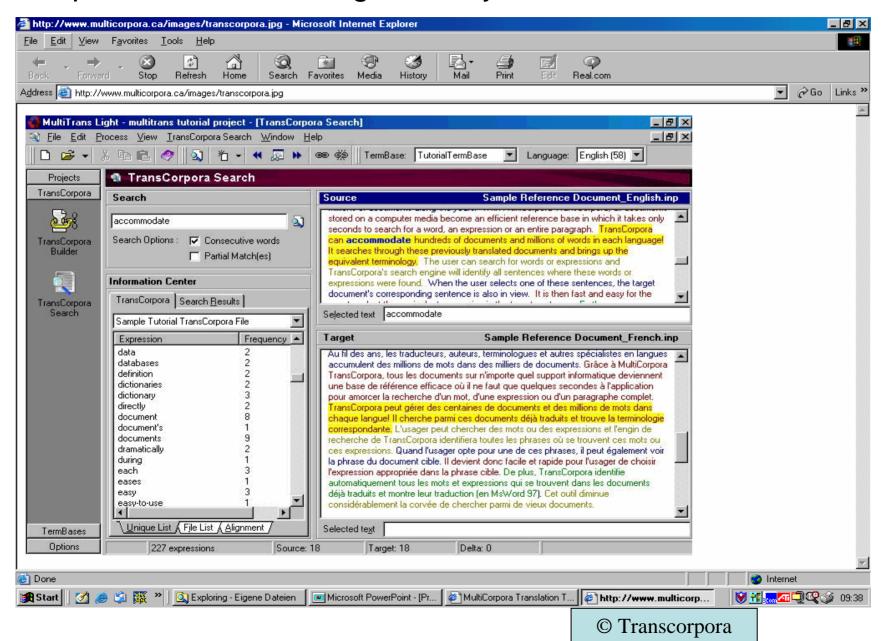


Results set

Interactive Translation Research Agent Aggregation, Automation, Context



Corpus-based technologies – beyond translation memories



Integrated globalization product life cycles

