

Translation and Corpus Studies in SFL: insights, methods, obstacles

Université de Paris | 10th May 2022

Many contemporary linguistic theories are deeply rooted in data-based analysis, where context and usage are pivotal. Systemic Functional Linguistics (Hereafter SFL) is one such theory, whose underlying system has been formalised (see Teich, 1999; Fawcett, 2010) and widely documented and tested in English and several other languages (cf. for German, Teich, 1999; for Chinese, Li 2007; for Spanish, Lavid et al., 2010; for Japanese, Thompson & Armour, 2013 Ø). It has also been used to explore numerous disciplinary subfields and diverse areas of study (for instance, discourse analysis, Bartlett, 2012; first and second language teaching, Halliday, 2009; language change and specialised languages, Carter-Thomas & Hamilton, 2019; text mining, Kappagoda, 2009; translation studies, Manfredi, 2014).

As a result of this diversity, SFL theory has been perceived as a methodological toolbox (Ebelind, 2015), akin to corpus linguistic methodology applicable to different linguistic schools of thought. In that respect, research has been carried out in areas where corpus linguistics and SFL methodology/theory appear to overlap, giving rise to specific corpus tools with relevant conceptual architecture and novel frameworks. More specifically, SFL corpus tools (whether in text annotation, using the UAM Corpus Tool, see O'Donnell, 2008; or in systemic-functional analysis of lexicogrammatical features, using Sysfan, see Wu, 2000) provide visualisations for SFL-oriented concepts, as well as provide a tool where several competing linguistic models can be integrated and tested.

However, while SFL has made considerable headway in different international linguistic and education circles, it has not crossed the threshold in their francophone equivalents, in spite of introductory work to the theory by Caffarel (2006) and Banks (2017). This one-day conference offers a platform to discuss the relationship between SFL and corpus linguistics and to address the francophone divide. Submissions are invited for, but not limited to, the following topics:

- *SFL and corpus linguistics*
- *SFL & translation*
- *Applying SFL in contrastive/comparative studies*
- *Applying SFL to languages other than English (with particular interest on methods, obstacles, and limitation)*

Guest speaker: Michael O'Donnell, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Title: *Performing corpus studies of English and French with UAM Corpustool*

There will also be a pre-conference workshop on the UAM CorpusTool on Monday 9th May 2022.

Organising committee

Clive Hamilton, Université de Paris

Geneviève Bordet, Université de Paris

Fiona Rossette, Université Paris Nanterre

Shirley Carter-Thomas, Institut Mines-Télécom Business School & LATTICE-UMR 8094

Important dates

Submission deadline 28 February 2022,

Notification of acceptation: 14 March 2022

Submission Guidelines:

Please submit a 300-word abstract and bibliography to aflsf.webmestre@gmail.com, by February 28, 2022

Bibliography

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