

March 18, 2006

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- **Conceptual Introduction**
 - **Current TT Methods**
 - **TT Issues** (outline only)
 - **Demand & Supply for TT Services** (outline only)
 - **Two-Prong Solution to TT Issues**
 - **TT Ensemble Software Proposal**
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Current TT Methods

hardware

cassette tape, micro cassette tape, videotape, CD;
cassette player, headphones & speakers,
cassette transcriber with foot pedal

software

converting audio materials from analog to digital;
Express Scribe, FTR Gold 2.2

Use of AltTab

Audacity, CoolEdit / Adobe Audition, Speech Analyzer
Microsoft Word, WordPerfect

Keyman

Toolbox

bilingual transcript formats

COVER PAGE:

- (1) identify audio source material (cassette tape/videotape/VCR; markings: date/time/number)
- (2) “Transcription And Translation Disclaimer” identifies TT equipment and techniques used
- (3) “Legend” explains abbreviations and special notations used

monolingual English single-column transcripts

bilingual two-column transcripts

TT Issues

Disclaimer: what information and language to include?

format standards

time reference- how to find audio associated with transcript/ translation?

duration-how to indicate duration of pauses, overlap, [UI], [IA]

simultaneous utterances/sounds – how to indicate exact segments which overlap; mismatch between one-track (uni-linear) transcript representation of multi-track event

inefficiencies

time reference – takes time, could be done by software

duration – takes time, could be done by software

simultaneous utterances/sounds – manual indication of overlap is difficult and time consuming, could be done by software into an agreed-upon format

formatting:

working with column format – difficulties moving from one-column transcript to two-column transcript/translation, maintaining alignment between corresponding transcript/translation, whether working with tables or columns, pagination problems

expansion of translated text – translations tend to require more words than source texts
syntax-dictated reordering – especially in interrupted speech, it may not be possible to maintain sequential correspondence between segments

non-Roman script – other orthographies often require different point-size or line spacing than corresponding English text; some orthographies do not have wordbreaks, so do not automatically linewrap to adjust to different margins; some world languages have right-to-left orthographies; many orthographies are not fully Unicode-compliant; many software programs are not fully Unicode-compliant, so user cannot enter, display or print certain orthographies

footnotes by transcriptionist & translator – ongoing discussion re:

what is allowable

role of transcriptionist/translator

qualified to testify?

voice and sound identification – ongoing discussion re:

what is allowable

role of transcriptionist/translator

qualified to testify?

Demand & Supply for TT Services

Two-Prong Solution to TT Issues

- (1) redefine bi-/multi-lingual forensic transcript
- (2) create software specifically designed for use with redefined bi-/multi-lingual forensic transcripts

TT Ensemble Software Proposal

AUDIO CASSETTE TAPE LABELED:

"TAPE #3 SIDE B"

TAPE TRANSCRIPTION AND TRANSLATION DISCLAIMER

The transcription and translation of the contents of this audio tape-recorded material are based upon the recording as heard on the particular transcribing equipment used (Boselony Model No. 123ABC Cassette Recorder, Dellshiva Sputnik59 computer using both standard speakers and OptiPro-80 Stereo Headphones, and TT XYZ software), the quality of the recording provided, the speaking speed and upon the content of the conversation as understood by the translator. During first listen through to tape, the material was recorded to hard disk for subsequent work at 44.100 Hz sample rate, mono channel, 32-bit float resolution, and saved in MPEG-3 Fraunhofer IIS format sound file

LEGEND

DV – Detective voice [Transcriber did not distinguish between DV1 and DV2]

IV– Interpreter voice

WV – Witness voice

MV? – Unable to identify male voice

[OV] – Overlapping voices

[UI] – Unintelligible, duration indicated where > 0.5 seconds

[IA] – Inaudible, duration indicated where > 0.5 seconds

[PAUSE] – Pause: duration indicated for all pauses noted

[sp?] – Uncertain of spelling

[sic] – Indicates an error in the original speech in terms of pronunciation, vocabulary, syntax or grammar, or that phrasing is unclear. These errors cannot always be translated and are therefore not necessarily reflected in the translated version.

DV: OK, I understand. [PAUSE 0:00:05.32] Was there any force used or threats or promises made to make you give a statement?

IV: Is there anything that you want to ah num [sic] say further?

WV: All finished. I don't have anything.

IV: [IA 3.45 sec]

WV: Because that's all there is.

IV: That's [UI] happen.

DV: OK. [creak click] This statement ends at ah seven thirty PM on nine twenty-five of two thousand and four.

IV: This statement finished at the time what's that?

DV: [IA] ah seven thirty.

IV: seven thirty o'clock in the evening

DV: nine twenty-five

IV: September, the twenty-fifth, nineteen hundred It's two thousand two hundred four [sic]

[end of recording on TAPE 3 SIDE B at recording counter reading 05:32.345]

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1	DV: OK, I understand. [PAUSE 0:00:05.32]	DV: OK, I understand. [PAUSE 0:00:05.32]
2	Was there any force used or threats or	Was there any force used or threats or
3	promises made to make you give a	promises made to make you give a
4	statement?	statement?
5	IV: ມີຫຍັງແດ່ ທີ່ເຈົ້າຢາກຈະອະນຳ [sic] ເວົ້າເພີ່ມ	IV: Is there anything that you want to ah
6	ເຕີມບໍ່?	num [sic] say further?
7	WV: ຫມົດແລ້ວ. ຂ້ອຍບໍ່ມີຫຍັງ.	WV: All finished. I don't have anything.
8	IV: [IA 3.45 sec]	IV: [IA 3.45 sec]
9	WV: ເພາະວ່າມີແຕ່ທີ່ນັ້ນເດ.	WV: Because that's all there is.
10	IV: That's [UI] happen.	IV: That's [UI] happen.
11	DV: OK. [creak click] This statement ends	DV: OK. [creak click] This statement ends
12	at ah seven thirty PM on nine	at ah seven thirty PM on nine
13	twenty-five of two thousand and four.	twenty-five of two thousand and four.
14	IV: ຂໍ້ຄວາມນີ້ໄດ້ຍຸດຕິລົງນະ ເວລາ what's that	IV: This statement finished at the time
15		what's that?
16	DV: [IA] ah seven thirty.	DV: [IA] ah seven thirty.
17	IV: ເຈັດໂມງສາມສິບຕອນແລງ	IV: seven thirty o'clock in the evening
18	DV: nine twenty-five	DV: nine twenty-five
19	IV: ເດືອນເກົ້າ ວັນທີ ຊາວຫ້າ ພໍເກົ້າ ຮ້ອຍ ສອງ	IV: September, the twenty-fifth, nineteen
20	ພັນຢູ່ນະ ສອງຮ້ອຍສີ່	hundred It's two thousand two
21		hundred four [sic]
22	[end of recording on TAPE 3 SIDE B at recording	[end of recording on TAPE 3 SIDE B at recording
23	counter reading 05:32.345]	counter reading 05:32.345]
24		
25		

TT Resources

Software available:

Express Scribe

www.nch.com.au/scribe

FTR Gold (For The Record)

<http://www.ftrgold.com>

Audacity audio recording and editing software
with

<http://audacity.sourceforge.net>

Keyman keyboard mapping program for
unusual orthographies

www.Tavultesoft.com

Speech Tools 1.5 (free download)

Speech Tools (newest version 2.6, download for
\$19.95)

<http://www.sil.org/computing/catalog/index.asp>

Toolbox

[http://www.sil.org/computing/toolbox/downloads.
htm](http://www.sil.org/computing/toolbox/downloads.htm)

More information about NAJIT Transcription and
Translation Project available as Word and PDF
files at www.NAJIT.org:

NAJIT has nine documents available to the
public for downloading under the heading:
"NAJIT Tape Transcription and Translation
Project"

Sample bilingual transcript formats prepared by
Joaquin Font are available as Word files to
NAJIT members in the www.NAJIT.org Member
Portal – Document Library, listed as "Font – TT
Sample Cover Page" and "Font – TT Sample
Transcript Page."