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**Topic: Advancing Research and Practice in AI-driven Conference Interpreting:
Exploring New Frontiers**

Abstract

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming various domains, including the field of conference interpreting. This keynote speech introduces the latest AI-enhanced interpreting technology and research in interpreting technology, with a particular focus on in-process/in-booth computer-assisted interpreting (CAI) solutions. The speaker examines the current state of AI-driven interpreting systems and discusses their capabilities, limitations and potential for future development. The presentation also addresses the evolving role of human interpreters in the era of AI and emphasises the need for collaboration between human experts and AI systems to enhance the quality and efficiency of conference interpreting services. Furthermore, the speaker explores the ethical considerations surrounding the use of AI in interpreting, such as data privacy, bias mitigation, and the importance of maintaining human oversight. The keynote address concludes by outlining a roadmap for advancing research and practice in AI-driven conference interpreting, and calls for interdisciplinary collaboration, the development of robust evaluation frameworks and the continuous upskilling of interpreting professionals to navigate this new frontier successfully. This address provides insights for researchers, interpreters and language service providers who are seeking to understand and adapt to the transformative impact of AI on the conference interpreting industry.

Biography

Dr ZHAO Nan is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies of Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) and an active member of the International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC). Her academic journey began at the University of Essex, UK, where she served as a lecturer from 2012 to 2019. In 2020, Nan transitioned to HKBU, where she continues to make significant contributions to the field of interpreting studies. Nan holds a PhD in psycholinguistics, specializing in the cognitive processes involved in conference interpreting. Her expertise is further enriched by her training in designing empirical research, particularly in the realm of psycholinguistics and computer-assisted interpreting (CAI). She has a strong commitment to integrating technology into interpreting education and has been actively teaching translation technologies since 2012. Recognizing the transformative impact of digital tools, she began incorporating interpreting technologies into her curriculum in 2020.

Her publications cover a range of topics related to interpreting technology. Nan's most recent research project focused on optimizing computer-assisted interpreting for individual cognitive differences in simultaneous interpreting. This is part of her ongoing efforts to explore how CAI can be tailored to better suit the cognitive profiles of interpreters in order to ensure more effective and personalized use of technology in

professional settings. Her pioneering work in integrating technology into interpreting education is supported by the Fund for Innovative Technology in Education (FITE) from the Hong Kong Government. This project aims to create novel educational approaches that merge traditional interpreting skills with cutting-edge technological tools in order to prepare students for the evolving demands of the interpreting industry.