JALTCALL 2024 Conference



Contribution ID: 183

Type: Research Presentation (30 minutes)

Unveiling Gender Bias in AI Translation: A Corpus-assisted Analysis of Marriage-related Text in The Second Sex

Saturday, 18 May 2024 10:50 (30 minutes)

In the realm of artificial intelligence (AI) translation, concerns regarding gender bias have gained prominence, warranting thorough investigation. This research endeavors to scrutinize the translations of marriage-related texts in AI's English-Chinese translation through the lens of gender. Drawing inspiration from Simone de Beauvoir's seminal work The Second Sex, which delves into the intricacies of gender dynamics, this study aims to compare its translations produced by AI with those crafted by female and male translators. The original book, Le Deuxième Sexe, was first translated from French into English by Howard M. Parshley in 1953, which served as the sole source text for Chinese translators in 20th century. The English version has been translated into Chinese by the female translator Yang Meihui and published in 1973, and later by the male translator Tao Tiezhu and published in 1998. Employing a corpus linguistics approach, this research will meticulously extract and compare texts pertaining to marriage in ChatGPT-generated translations and male and female translations of The Second Sex. By systematically comparing the translations, we aim to uncover potential instances of gender bias inherent in AI translation systems. Through this comparative analysis, we seek to elucidate whether AI translations mirror or diverge from the gendered nuances present in human-authored translations, particularly in the context of marriage-related discourse. This study not only contributes to the burgeoning discourse on gender bias in AI but also offers insights into the implications of automated translation systems on gender representation and perception.

Keywords: AI translation, gender bias, marriage-related text, The Second Sex

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Session Classification: DW 302: Mixed Sessions

Track Classification: Artificial Intelligence CALL: AI & Ethics, Access, Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion