

# Attention and awareness in face-to-face dialogues including sight translation

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In a typical face-to-face encounter, speaker and listener employ a range of resources to signal, amongst others, understanding and attention. This is also true for interpreter mediated encounters, where gaze is used as a feedback signal, not only towards the interpreter when speaking, but also to the producer of the original utterance, described as dual – feedback (Vranjes, Brône, and Feyaerts 2018). The listener's position as an addressee in a face-to-face dialogue (Bavelas and Gerwing 2011), changes when introducing a written document into the interaction, there is a shift towards a monologue in the dialogue, where the speaker also attends to reading, and the primary interlocutors become more or less passive. The typical dialogical interactional pattern is affected in various ways, depending on how the interpreter solves the task (Felberg and Nilsen 2017; Vargas-Urpi 2018).

In this poster presentation, I will address some preliminary findings from three strictly controlled experiments. Participants were a public servant, an interpreter and a non-native speaking "client" and the experiments included an act of sight translation. The experiments are a part of my Ph. D project, where I first analyzed the interpreter's mediation of typical written semiotic resources .

When analyzing the communication from a multimodal interactional perspective, with special focus on attention and awareness (Norris 2004), preliminary findings are that the act of sight translating leads to exclusion of the other participants and limits their possibilities to interact, affecting both power balance and possibly cognition/understanding (Havnen 2019). Exclusion can be seen through the interpreter's strong focus on the written document, limited attention to or from the listener and scarce awareness of the public servant during the translation.

## References

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