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UNIT 3A. EASY-TO-UNDERSTAND (E2U) AND SUBTITLING

ELEMENT 3. TECHNICAL ASPECTS

SUBTITLING SOFTWARE

Video Lecture Transcript

Slide 1

This is unit 3, E2U and subtitling; element 3, Technical aspects; videolecture, Subtitling software.

Slide 2

I am Luis Alonso, from Universidade de Vigo, Spain, and in this short video lecture I will give you a quick overview of the software required for subtitling.

Slide 3

The preparation of subtitles requires software, and there are some powerful professional subtitling software, such as EZTitles, FAB Subtitler, Screen Subtitling, Swift, Spot or Wincaps.

These tools, however, are quite expensive. This fact favoured the appearance of free, and often more simple, software, for instance, Subtitle Workshop, Aegisub or Subtitle Edit.

The latter are profusely used in academia, as well fansub and crowdsourced subtitling.

Slide 4

Traditionally, all the software was desktop-based. Nowadays, more and more of it is cloud-based and accessed through the Internet browser, rather than having it installed on the computer.

Slide 5

Some platforms such as Amara, TED or Youtube offer free cloud-based subtitling tools and encourage volunteers to create crowdsourced subtitles. Others, such as Zoosubs, iMediaTrans or OOONA, provide professional cloud-based subtitling tools.

Many companies in the subtitling industry have their own proprietary software, which can be either desktop-based or cloud-based, and it is only available in-house.

Slide 6

Subtitling technology is continually adding new features to ease the subtitling process. These include, for example, automatic detection of shot changes or an audio wave indicator that visually shows where subtitles start and end. Both of them make the process of spotting easier.

Slide 7

Another feature based on automation that helps subtitlers is the synchronization of the transcription with the soundtrack and the video, which can be made thanks to speech alignment technology.

Automatic speech recognition technology also facilitates the subtitling task, generating a rough transcription of the audio and creating a subtitle draft. This technology can be found in YouTube, which allows to generate automatic subtitles in many languages; and in Web Captioner, a free real-time subtitling app.

Finally, the subtitle draft can be translated using machine translation technology.

Slide 8

Some computer-aided translation tool companies have introduced features for subtitles, making it possible to incorporate translation memories in the field of audiovisual translation.

For example, MemoQ supports subtitle formats, and the video with its subtitles can be previewed in the tool itself.

Slide 9

Finally, only some of the professional subtitling software allows the production of live subtitles (for instance, FAB Subtitler Live or Wincaps Q-Live).

Slide 10

This video lecture has been prepared by Ana Pereira and Luis Alonso, from Universidade de Vigo. You can reach us at pereira@uvigo.es and lalonso@uvigo.es.

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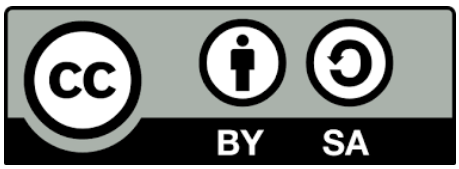

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