



Technische
Universität
Braunschweig

Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik
Sprachwissenschaft

Linguistisches Kolloquium

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12. Juli 2021

11:30 Uhr – 13:00 Uhr



Planning ahead:

**Interpreters predict source language in
consecutive interpreting**

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Monday, 12 July 2021

11:30-13:00 hrs.

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Abstract

Interpreters are hypothesized to anticipate source language (SL) in comprehension and target language (TL) in production to facilitate timely interpreting delivery.

In three experiments, we examined whether interpreters predict lexico-semantic content to a greater extent in SL comprehension in consecutive interpreting than in regular language comprehension and whether such enhanced prediction (if any) is constrained by cognitive resources. Participants were quicker at reading a predictable than unpredictable critical word and/or the following regions (*Without the sunglasses/hat, the sun will hurt your eyes on the beach*), and the prediction effect was when they read to later interpret (into Chinese) than to later recall. The enhanced prediction in reading to interpret disappeared when the cognitive load was high, suggesting that SL prediction in interpreting requires cognitive resources.

In all, our findings suggest that, when cognitive resources allow, interpreters make extra use of linguistic prediction in SL comprehension to facilitate interpreting delivery.

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