On the Subjectivity of Interpreter in Press Conference CI in Mainland China: An Appraisal Approach

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Abstract—**Press conference interpreting is a relatively formal setting of interpreting in which consecutive interpreting (CI) is often employed. The author chooses to study the subjectivity of the interpreter in the press conference given by the Information Office of the State Council in Mainland China. The topic is not only of theoretical importance but also sheds some lights on real-life interpreting scenario. By studying the subjectivity of the interpreter in consecutive interpreting from the parameters of Attitude, Engagement and Graduation under the Appraisal Theory, the author believes it will help explore the extent to which the interpreter manifests his/her subjectivity in press conference setting, and enable the interpreter to have a better understanding about his/her stance and the strategies he/she might adopt, thus improving the overall quality of consecutive interpreting.**

Index Terms—**Subjectivity, consecutive interpreting, Appraisal Theory, interpreting strategies.**

I. INTRODUCTION

Recent decades have witnessed a surge of research on translator's subjectivity thanks to the cultural turn, and studies on interpreter's subjectivity is also catching up these years as a result of an increased interest in interpreting training and researches. Scholars have started to recognize that interpreters, instead of being a mere "echo machine", do play a critical role in the communication process. And contrasted to their marginalized and invisible status in the past, interpreters' professional status has been recognized recently and attracted increasing attention. The present study on the interpreter is done against the backdrop of re-examining the subjectivity of press conference interpreter from the Appraisal theoretical approach and greater interest to view interpreting as an interpreter-coordinated communicative process.

As an extension of Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), Appraisal Theory was advanced by Martin and White in the book *The Language of Evaluation – Appraisal in English*. Appraisal theory is "a particular approach to explore, describe and explain the way language is used to evaluate, to adopt stances, to construct textual personas and to manage interpersonal positioning and relationships" (White, 2001a:1) [1]. It consists of three subsystems: Attitude, Engagement and Graduation. The Appraisal Theory mainly studies how the author expresses subjective attitude in the discourse. Its theoretical interpretation has been tested in different fields. This paper attempts to use the Appraisal Theory as an analytical tool to explore the presentation of the interpreters' subjectivity and the interpreting strategies used in the context of the consecutive interpreting in press conference, in order to improve the quality of interpreting and highlight the interpreter's subjectivity.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Interpreters' Subjectivity

For a long period of time, the emphasis has always been given to words and texts rather than human being in the translation process. From Cicero's "word for word" and "sense for sense" to Dryden's division of "metaphrase", "paraphrase" and "imitation", theorists have invariably focused on words, language and the text, or namely, whether the translated version is equivalent to the original text, what techniques can be adopted. Subjectivity of translator has rarely been touched upon.

When it comes to interpreting, for a long time, the traditional view regards faithfulness as the highest standard for interpreting and believes that interpretation should be a perfect transformation of the original text, without any readjustment, addition or deletion, therefore interpreters used to be labeled as a "conduit", "echo machine", "microphone", "voice box", "language modem", "language converter", "mouthpiece", "bilingual ghost", "non person"(Ren, 2011, p.62-72) [2]. Whereas now, scholars start to realize that interpreters' subjectivity is actually a kind of initiative, creativity or even manipulation, and subjectivity is closely associated with interpreters' stance, perception, experiences and background knowledge etc. For example, Mo (2010) [3] once elaborated that one way to represent interpreter's subjective awareness is the interpreter's adaptation to the making of linguistic choices in the target discourse. Bai (2010) [4] pointed out that "creative treason" embodies the essence of interpreting, it requires interpreters to give full play to their subjectivity during interpreting, and it is by no means a denial of "faithfulness", which was regarded as a golden criterion in interpreting, but instead "creative treason" aims to achieve "faithfulness" better. Lv (2005) [5] explained that just like translation, interpretation is also a creative activity in which interpreter will inevitably manifest his or her subjectivity, including his or her independent character, value orientation and historic existence. Zha and Tian (2003) [6] mentioned that interpreters' subjectivity means interpreters should give full play to their initiatives so as to realize the goal of interpreting based on full respect of the source speech. The basic features of interpreters' subjectivity

are their self-conscious cultural awareness, humanistic characters as well as cultural and aesthetic creation. According to Feng (1994) [7], in the real interpreting scenario, interpreter can choose his/her own way to interpret in terms of the choice the words, tone, interpreting strategies, and interpreters may even choose to be unfaithful to the original meaning in order to control the interpreting environment or to better convey the meaning of the original text. By drawing insights and inspirations from previous studies, the author defines interpreter's subjectivity as the initiative and creativity the interpreter manifests to make the output more comprehensible for the listeners and better control the interpreting environment based on full respect for source language.

B. Appraisal Theory

The appraisal theory consists of three subsystems: Attitude, Engagement and Graduation. The system diagram of the Theory is as follows:
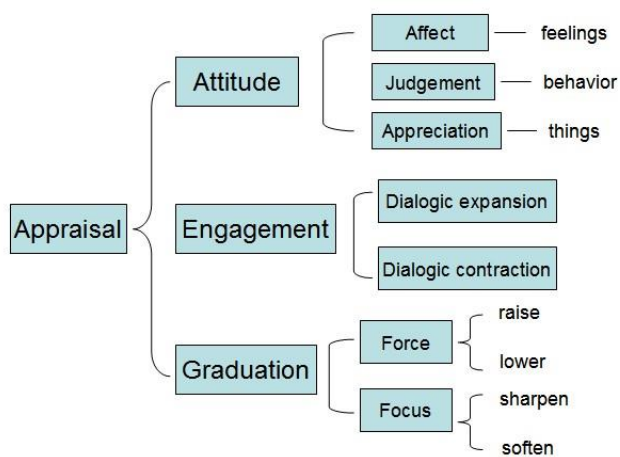
a) Attitude

Attitude system is concerned with "values by which speakers pass Judgment and associate emotional/affectional responses with participants and processes" (White, 2001b:1) [8]. When it comes to Attitude, we are concerned with those utterances which can be interpreted as indicating that some person, thing, situation, action, event or state of affairs is to be viewed either positively or negatively. Within Attitude system, there are three kinds of attitude we have identified – Affect (people's feelings), Judgment (people's character) and Appreciation (the value of thing).

Affect, Judgment and Appreciation are termed as the linguistic resources to express emotions of the appraiser, judge the features of the persons and value the worth of things respectively. Affect is concerned with appraiser's emotions, with positive and negative emotional responses and dispositions. Values of affect provide one of possibly the most obvious ways that a speaker or writer can adopt a stance towards some phenomenon (White, 2001b:3) [8].

b) Engagement

In a broad sense, Engagement is concerned with resources for positioning the speaker/writer's voice with respect to the various propositions and proposals conveyed by a text, as well as meanings by which speakers either acknowledge or ignore the diversity of view-points put at risk by their utterances and negotiate an interpersonal space for their own

positions within that diversity (White, 2001b) [8].

Under Engagement, we are concerned with dialogic resources by which speakers/writers represent themselves as engaging in a dialogue by quoting, acknowledging, responding to, challenging or rejecting actual or imagined prior utterances from other speakers/writers or by anticipating potential responses from other speakers/writers.

Engagement system can be divided into two broad categories according to whether they are "dialogically expansive" or "dialogically contraction" in their intersubjective functionality, namely Dialogic Expansion and Dialogic Contraction.

c) Graduation

The third dimension within Appraisal framework is Graduation. Within this semantics of scalability and gradability, we are concerned with values which scale other meanings along two possible parameters — that of grading according to intensity or amount of interpersonal Force which the speaker/writer attaches to an utterance, and that of grading according to prototypicality and the preciseness by which category boundaries are drawn. These two dimensions are variously labeled as "Force" (variable scaling of intensity) and "Focus" (sharpening or blurring of category boundaries).

C. Relations between Interpreter's Subjectivity and Appraisal Theory

Appraisal Theory provides us with an analytical tool to better understand the evaluation capabilities and uses of language. It focuses on Affect, Judgments, Appreciation, Engagement, and Graduation. These parameters are directly related to people's attitudes and stances, which belong to the category of subjectivity research. Although the Appraisal Theory does not take the interpreter's subjectivity as the direct research object, it still provides valuable analytical tools and a new theoretical perspective for the interpreter's subjectivity research.
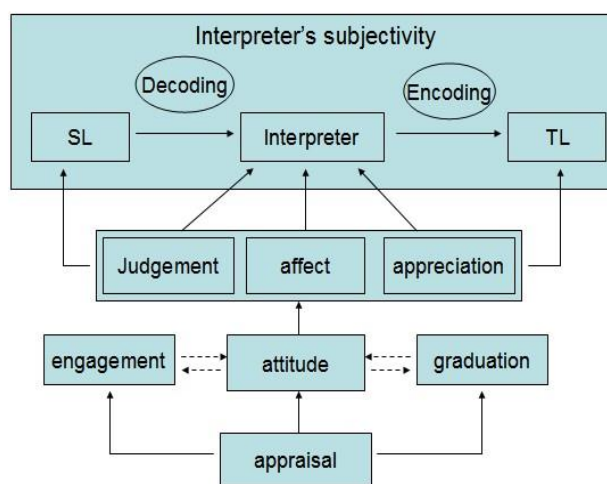
III. ANALYTIC FRAMEWORK

Fig. 1. Analytic framework of the present study.

According to Pöchhacker (2003, p.11) [9], interpreting is a form of translation in which a first and final rendition in another language is produced on the basis of a one-time presentation of an utterance in a source language. Interpreting is actually an information processing process from source

language (SL) to target language (TL), comprising decoding and encoding of the interpreter. Decoding refers to the comprehension of the SL while encoding refers to the restruction of the TL. Interpreter will inevitably manifest his/her subjectivity throughout the interpreting process. As the author aforementioned, interpreting is not a mechanical or robotic activity, but one that calls for initiative responding and coping strategies of the interpreter. That explains the top part of the framework.

In this study, the subjectivity of the interpreter is analyzed from an Appraisal theoretical view, under which there are three subsystems, namely Attitude, Engagement and Graduation, and if we continue to break them down into smaller parameters, we can identify Affect, Judgment, Appreciation, Dialogic Expansion, Dialogic Contraction, Force and Focus. The author mainly singles out three parameters under Attitude to work with, namely Judgment, Affect and Appreciation, because those three parameters combined represent people's evaluation towards behavior, feelings, products and things, which have a direct impact on the speaker (SL) as well as interpreter's stance, thus affecting the interpreter's choices of wording, linguistic and grammar representation, tendency to play up or tone down the matter and corresponding interpreting strategies, namely the output of interpreter (TL). So Affect, Judgment and Appreciation are the ideal points for the author to approach interpreter's subjectivity, since those three parameters, to a large extent, explains why interpreter takes the initiative to deviate from the original speech. That accounts for the middle part of the framework.

Out of the three subsystems of Appraisal theory, subjectivity is most closely related to Attitude. But that does not mean Attitude is the only factor that matters when it comes to interpreter's subjectivity. Attitude involves gradable meanings, which have the potential to be intensified and compared. Feelings have depth, in other words, a feature we can perhaps interpret as affording their tendency to spill out and sprawl over a phase of discourse (Martin & White, 2005, p.44) [10]. Therefore Attitude usually overlaps and interacts with Engagement system and Graduation system. Attitude affects how the interpreter will position him/herself (Engagement) and to what extent will him/her align him/herself with the speaker (Graduation). So Engagement and Graduation will also be introduced as parameters to the analysis of the following case studies to some degree, and that explains the bottom part of the framework.

IV. Example Analysis

In the following example analysis, AF=Affect, J=Judgment, AP=Appreciation, DE=Dialogic Expansion, E=Engagement, DC=Dialogic Contraction, G=Graduation, FR=Force, FC=Focus.

A. Attitude
Example 1

SL: I'm with German newspaper, there will be, next year, lot of very important anniversaries (AP), like the 60 years of the People's Republic of China, but there will be also lot of tragic events and remembrance (AP, negative), as the 4ᵗʰ of June,

1989, 20 years, and of course Tibet with the 10ᵗʰ of March. So will we have access (AP, negative) to all these questions?

TL: 你好，我是德国一个报纸的记者。2009年我们将会看到有一些大事发生(AP)，其中包括建国60周年纪念，当然还有一些过去的事件也到了周年的时候(AP, neutral)，比如说89年的风波也是到了20年的一个阶段。那么还有就是关于西藏的一些重要阶段的日子（AP, neutral）。那么我想问一下，您对于这些问题是怎么看的？(AP, neutral)

Foreign journalists can sometimes be difficult to deal with for spokesperson in a press conference, because they may come up with some thorny and sensitive issues for spokesperson to handle, therefore, interpreters have to be extra cautious about his/her wording. In this case, the foreign journalist mentioned that the year 2009 will be the anniversary for lot of tragic events and remembrance, and he singled out the 1989 event and Tibet. The interpreter, knowing his/her stance clearly, should not interpret those Appreciation resources in the SL in such an aggressive and outspoken manner, so the interpreter rendered it as "过去的事件也到了周年的时候，比如说89年的风波也是到了20年的一个阶段。那么还有就是关于西藏的一些重要阶段的日子" which literally means "some past events will observe anniversaries this year, for example, it's been 20 years since the 1989 event, and Tibet will also come to an important stage", by blurring some sensitive issues, the interpreter managed to convey all the key information without upsetting or offending the spokesperson. And the journalist also asks will they have the access to those questions. While the interpreter, long been trained in this regard, knows clearly the policy regarding the reporting activity of foreign journalists. So instead of translating the question literally, the interpreter rendered it as "那么我想问一下，您对于这些问题是怎么看的", which means "what's your take on this issue", a question still relevant but will not put the spokesperson in a difficult position.

Example 2

SL: 二是，我们重大突发事件和活动的新闻发布(AP)有新突破(AP)。大家可以看到(E, DC)今年像汶川特大地震(AP)以及其他重大事件之后，我们的新闻发布是非常及时的(AP)。地震第二天我们就在这里举行了发布会，在一个月内举行了20多场，几乎是(G, Force)一天一场，给大家及时地提供信息(J)。

TL: Secondly, we have done a better job (AP) in releasing information in the wake of major emergencies and unexpected events (AP). For example, we were hit by the unexpected devastating earthquake (AP) in May and a number of other disasters, in the wake of such emergencies, we acted immediately to provide authoritative information (J), for example, on second day, just the day after (E, DC) the earthquake, we started to host press conferences, within a period of one month, we hosted over 20 press conferences, almost (E) one per day. In that way, we are able to (J) provide

credible information (AP) in an authoritative and timely way (J).

The interpreter uses "in the wake of" to link "information release" and "major emergencies and unexpected events" to make it more seamlessly connected, which also foregrounds the sequence of things. When rendering "新闻发布是非常及时的 (press conference is very timely)", the interpreter translates it as "we acted immediately to provide authoritative information", first, by using the dialogic contraction resource "we", which refers to the Information Office of the State Council who holds press conference on a regular basis, we can see that the interpreter is strongly aligned with the Office and trying to solicit acknowledgement from the audience. "Authoritative" is added by the interpreter as an Appreciation resource to describe the nature of information provided by the Information Office. When it comes to the translation of "给大家及时地提供信息 (we provide information in a timely way)", the interpreter uses "we are able to provide credible information in an authoritative and timely way", again, "credible" and "authoritative" as Appreciation resources are added to emphasize what tells press conference held by Information Office and other sources apart is its authority and authenticity. Therefore, through the trace of subjectivity manifested by the interpreter, we can feel the interpreter's stance and strong sense of identity, which motivates the interpreter to make such linguistic choice and representation in interpreting.

B. Engagement

Example 3

SL: 另外一个问题请问苏宁行长，今年上半年以来，整个(G, Focus)货币供应以及贷款规模都(E, DC)保持了快速增长(AP)，从年初政府报道的(E, DE)五万亿贷款规模来看，今年上半年贷款达到了七万亿，很多人在议论会不会(E, DC)引起通胀，这个问题请解答一下，谢谢。

TL: My second question goes to deputy governor Sun Ning, in the first half of this year, the total (G, Focus) supply of currency and the lending of loans in our country have maintained rapid growth (AP), as I remembered (E, DE), in the beginning of this year, it was announced that (E, DE) 5 trillion RMB yuan loans would be given this year, yet (E, DC) so far this year, 7 trillion RMB yuan has been lent. Do you worry about (AF) the possibility of (G, Force) inflation in the future? How big is the chance of (G, Force) inflation?

This is a question raised by a Chinese journalist, and it touches upon a relatively sensitive issue – a possible inflation against the backdrop of a massive stimulus package plan introduced by the Chinese government following the international financial crisis. While translating those statistics mentioned by the journalist, the interpreter adds a dialogic expansion resource "as I remembered" to distance herself from the stance adopted by the journalist, when dealing with "政府报道的五万亿贷款(according to the government, the 5 trillion RMB yuan loans…)", interpreter translates it into "it was announced that 5 trillion RMB yuan loans…" Passive

voice and Dialogic expansion linguistic resource are resorted here to play down the role of the "doer", because there is a mismatch of information later in the journalist's question that may appear to be negative to the Chinese government. When saying "许多人在议论会不会引起膨胀，这个问题请解答一下" which literally means "many people are discussing weather this will lead to inflation, please answer this question", the journalist is intentionally beating around the bush, while the interpreter explicitly renders this question as "do you worry about the possibility of inflation in the future? How big is the chance of inflation?" A close examination of the way the interpreter handles negative publicity for the government may reveal that interpreter sometimes serves as a gatekeeper for the press conference, and it cannot be achieved through a thorough faithful interpreting, thus he/she has to make some subtle and politically-correct modification without changing the meaning of the original utterance, and that is where interpreter's subjectivity come to play.

Example 4

SL: 刚才我们注意到(E, DC)，王主任特别提到(E, DC)互联网的建设情况，但是(E, DC)最近有报道称(E, DC)，在奥运会期间，中国对互联网实行了开放政策(AP)，而现在又(E, DC)加强了控制(AP)。请问，王主任对此有何评论？谢谢。

TL: I have noted (E, DE) that in your opening remarks, you mentioned that the Chinese government will continue to promote the healthy development of the internet (AP). There are some reports mention that (E, DE) although during the Olympic Games, China opened all (G, Focus) the internet, however (E, DC) after the Olympic Games, there is a trend (E, DE) that the Chinese government may (E, DE) tighten the control over (AP) the internet, how do you comment on that？

As the author mentioned in literature review that Dialogic resources enable speakers/writers to present themselves as more strongly aligned or less strongly aligned with the value position being advanced by the text and thereby to locate themselves with respect to the communities of shared value and belief with those positions (Martin & White, 2005:94) [5]. The interpreter renders "我们注意到 (we have noticed that)" as "I have noted that" to distance herself as well as the stance of the authority from the journalist's viewpoint and the interpreter translates "而现在又加强了控制 (and now the government tightens the control)" as "there is a trend that the Chinese government may tighten the control over the internet". The interpreter adopts two dialogic expansion resources "there be" and "may" to done down the matter and solicit other interpretations.

C. Graduation

Example 5

SL: 但从我们实际采访当中看(E, DC)，很多电话都(G, Focus)没有人接(J, negative)，像是一纸空文放在那儿只是做一个摆设(AP, negative)，或者有一些电话干脆(G, Focus)转为传真，你只能(G, Focus)发传真，但是你的问

题永远都没有(E, DC)人来回答。我想问未来一年国新办将如何推动这项工作？谢谢。

TL: <u>However, in reality, (E, DC)</u> a lot of phone calls that we made <u>are not answered</u> (J, negative), some phone calls have been forwarded to fax. You <u>have to (E, DC)</u> send fax, and some questions <u>went unanswered</u> (J). I want to ask what are you going to do to deal with this problem?

This, again, deals with negative charges of the authority. In normal circumstances, those highly trained and competent interpreters working for these press conferences can effortlessly convey almost all the source information faithfully into English, including tones and modality. But for a strong accusation like the above case, the interpreter intentionally plays down the tone and modality, especially for words like "像一纸空文放在那儿只是做一个摆设(it's a mere scrap of paper, just like a decoration)", "干脆转为传真"(or might as well just be forwarded to fax), "只能发传真"(one can only send fax), "永远没有人来回答"(no one will ever answer it), the interpreter chooses to scale down the intensity, soften the tone or leave those Dialogic contraction or Graduation resources uninterrupted, thus safeguarding the image of the authority. Therefore, a close study of the extract of bilingual record reveals that the stance of the interpreter plays a big part in the representation of tone, modality and attitude.

D. Comprehensive analysis

Example 6

SL: <u>中方已经多次重申(E, DC)</u>中方的立场，我们对中美之间保持良好的<u>多种形式的对话渠道(AP)</u>的同时，美方将这一问题<u>诉诸(G)</u>到WTO争端解决机制<u>表示遗憾(AF)</u>，<u>但是(E, DC)</u>我们按照相关的规定进行了<u>双边的磋商(AP)</u>，中方<u>尽最大的诚意(AP/G, Force)</u>向美方<u>介绍</u>了中国相关的立法，认为中国的相关立法，<u>特别是(E, DC)</u>近几年来所采取的法律法规方面的建设是<u>完全符合(G, Force)</u>世贸组织TRIPS协议的，我们也<u>很遗憾地注意到(AF)</u>，美方<u>仍然(E, DC)</u>向世贸组织提出建立专家组的建议，中方<u>秉承一贯的立场(AP)</u>，将同美方<u>奉陪到底(J)</u>，谢谢！

TL: <u>I think you must also have taken note of (E, DE)</u> the <u>repeated position of the Chinese side (AP)</u> on this issue, that is to say, in parallel to a sound as well as <u>multiforms of dialogue mechanism (AP)</u> between China and United States, the US <u>still unilaterally filed the case (AF)</u> to the WTO, which is <u>indeed a regrettable thing (AF)</u>, <u>however (E, DC)</u>, according to the rules and stipulations of the WTO, China has conducted <u>several rounds of consultations (AP)</u> with United States, and explained to the United States <u>in its utmost sincerity (AP/G, Force)</u> the legislations and relevant laws in China, <u>in particular(E, DC)</u> the legislations of China in this regard in recent years are <u>in full conformity with(G, Force)</u> WTO TRIPS regulations, <u>however (E, DC)</u>, <u>regrettably (AF/E, DC)</u>, the US, <u>again, or still (E, DC)</u>, made its request to establish a penal at the WTO GSB, and the <u>Chinese position remains the same (AP)</u> on the topic, and <u>we will accompany on the United States to the end (J)</u>.

When it comes to the Sino-US trade disputes, it is natural that the Chinese government usually defenses that it has done everything possible to maintain a sound and win-win bilateral trade relations with the US and abided by WTO rules and regulations. Interpreters sometimes demonstrate his/her subjectivity through strengthening the stance he/she relates to. In the above discourse, the interpreter adds "unilaterally" as a Affect resource to describe the attitude of the US side, when rendering "对…表示遗憾"(it's a pity that…), the interpreter translates it as "which is indeed a regrettable thing", "indeed" as a dialogic contraction resource is added to strengthen the degree, thus making a strong statement. "进行磋商" (conduct consultation) is rendered as "conduct several rounds of consultations", "several rounds" is added as Appreciation resources to the original information to showcase China's utmost sincerity. "美国仍然…" (the US still…) is translated as "the US, again, or still…", by using dialogic contraction resources like "again" and "still", the interpreter manages to emphasize how regrettable and disappointing it is for the US to keep charging against China and how unreasonable that is. All of those additions, which are a reflection of the interpreter's subjectivity, help to intensify the attitude of the speaker.

Example 7

SL: 在奥运期间实行的国务院"477号令"到期之后，国务院<u>及时（J）</u>颁布了"537号令"，延续了奥运期间<u>对外国记者开放的一个</u><u>重要的方针和政策(AP)</u>，这已经表明了我们<u>中国的态度(E, DC)</u>。《条例》公布以后，<u>应该说(E, DC)</u>有关的部门和不少的地方做了<u>大量的工作(AP/G)</u>，为外国记者的采访<u>提供便利(AP)</u>，就是说很多地方做得<u>应该还是(E, DC)</u>好的。<u>但是(E, DC)</u>，一个新条例贯彻过程中会有一个<u>适应、磨合的过程(AP)</u>，所以<u>有些地方也出现了一些刚才那位联合早报记者所说的(E, DE)</u><u>不愿意接受采访(AP)</u>或者<u>其他方面的新情况(AP)</u>。对提到的这些问题，我们将在今后的工作当中，着力<u>加以推动、加以解决(AP)</u>。

TL: After the directive No.477 expired, the State Council <u>immediately (J)</u> issued No.537, <u>this is a new regulation.</u> This is an <u>extension</u> of the <u>consistent policy (AP)</u> of China to <u>continue to</u> <u>open itself to the outside world (J)</u>. And that is the <u>best demonstration (AP)</u> of an <u>open up posture (AP)</u> of China. After the introduction of this new regulation, relevant department and local authorities have done <u>a great deal of work (AP)</u> to provide facilities for foreign journalists in their report activities. <u>And in order to implement this new regulation,</u> <u>I should say</u> (E; DC) most of them have done <u>a good job</u> (AP), <u>however (E, DC),</u> since this is a new regulation, it takes time for it to <u>be comprehensively implemented (J/G)</u>, <u>people need time to get used to this new regulation, and there is a period for fine-tuning</u> (J). <u>So there are areas that</u> <u>things can be improved as you said (E, DE),</u> <u>there are some problems and we recognized those problems (E, DE).</u> And those are the areas that we are going to <u>focus our efforts</u> (J) in the future.

Since interpreters working for the Information Office of the State Council are trained to represent the stance of the Chinese government and promote the image of China to some degree, so their interpreting sometimes inevitably bears

certain personal subjectivity. In the above example of bilingual record of the press conference discourse, the interpreter renders "及时" as a Judgment linguistic resource "immediately" instead of "in time/in a timely manner", which showcases the importance the state council attaches to this directive. Since directive No. 537 is a very important document, the interpreter bends over backwards to add that it is a new regulation and makes certain adjustments thereafter. "延续了…重要的方针和政策" is translated as "an extension of the consistent policy of…" instead of pursuing word-to-word equivalence, the interpreter converts the verb in Chinese into a noun structure in English, foregrounding the formalness and seriousness of this information. "重要的" is translated as "consistent" instead of "important", the specific linguistic choice of Appreciation resources demonstrates opening up wider to the outside world has long been China's foreign policy, thus strengthening China's stance. "表明了中国的态度" is rendered as "is the best demonstration of an open up posture of China", in which the implicit information is translated in a very explicit way, fully reflecting interpreter's subjectivity. When the speaker said "就是说很多地方做得应该还是好的", the interpreter renders as "I should say most of them have done a good job", "I should say" was added, a dialogic expansion indicating they do not see eye to eye on this issue in a very polite way. "一个新条例贯彻过程中会有一个适应、磨合的过程" was interpreted as "since this is a new regulation, it takes time for it to be comprehensively implemented, people need time to get used to this new regulation, and there is a period for fine-tuning", when it comes to certain negative information, the interpreter handled with delicacy and explained them in details to soften the tone and make it more readily acceptable to the receiver.

E. Analysis

Based on the above analysis, we can summarize the three characteristics of the consecutive interpretation of the press conference.

Firstly, in press conference setting, Attitude usually takes up the biggest share among those three linguistic resources; Engagement comes second, and Graduation comes last. Within Attitude system, Appreciation usually takes up the lion share, Judgment follows and Affect comes last.

Secondly, when the SL is interpreted into TL, there are usually some changes of Attitude, Engagement and Graduation resources distribution. The reasons behind those changes can be multifaceted. The rise or fall in Attitude portion could be that the interpreter manifested his/her subjectivity by adding or deleting some attitude linguistic resources, toning up or playing down the matter in discussion.

Thirdly, there is a change in the dialogic expansion and contraction resources portion from SL to TL, the dialogic contraction portion is higher than expansion in SL, while it's the other way around in TL, it's because the speaker is usually more eager to convince the listeners, thus using more contraction resources to discourage different opinions; while the interpreter usually detaches him/herself from the speaker and bears the big picture in mind, so the interpreter uses more expansion resources than contraction. All the changes in the linguistic resources portion once again showcase that

interpreting is not mechanical and interpreter's subjectivity does come to play in press conference.

V. CONCLUSION

In short, the application of Appraisal Theory in various discourse analyses shows that it is a dynamic theoretical framework of SFL. This paper analyzes in detail seven examples of press conferences given by the Information Office of State Council in Mainland China, and comes to the conclusion that the Appraisal Theory is an important discourse analysis tool, which provides a new perspective for the interpreter's subjectivity research. This perspective not only broadens the scope of interpretation research, but also provides a new horizon for customer education and interpreting norms. Interpreting practitioners should let customers realize that 100% loyalty is no necessarily the golden rule of interpreting. Interpreters may sometimes add or delete some information under appropriate circumstances, thus emphasizing or weakening the tone or modality, or do so to achieve effective communication and control the on-site interpreting environment. Therefore, contrary to the principle of overemphasizing precision and loyalty, we should expand more space to accommodate the interpreter's subjectivity.

Though the author has proposed a new perspective to look at the interpreter's subjectivity and has tried to shed light on it by means of theoretic exploration and case analysis, this topic still needs further investigation both in depth and width. It is suggested that for future works, more data of press conference cases be collected with more detailed analysis and more scientific research methodology such as quantitative research including surveys, questionnaires and corpus can be adopted, so that a more comprehensive understanding of the interpreter's subjectivity can be achieved.

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