



International Pragmatics Association  
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# ***ABSTRACTS***



**17<sup>th</sup> International Pragmatics Conference**

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# 17th INTERNATIONAL PRAGMATICS CONFERENCE

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# Interactional dynamics in remote dialogue interpreting

Panel

**Dr. Esther de Boe<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Jelena Vranjes<sup>2</sup>**

1. University of Antwerp, 2. UGent

In a short time, technology has profoundly changed the ways in which we communicate. Especially since the outbreak of the Covid-19 crisis, remote communication has seen a massive increase in all contexts. In dialogue interpreting settings, the use of remote interpreting (RI) by telephone and video link increases accessibility of public services to non-native speakers. Assessing its efficiency is therefore essential to ensure inclusion of all citizens.

When communication is mediated by an interpreter by means of RI, this adds up to the already complex character of the communicative event. Since the interpreter takes a turn at talk after each primary participant's turn, interactional issues, such as overlapping speech, are likely to have an even stronger disruptive effect on the communication than is the case in monolingual events. Evidence-based research on RI indicates that such disruptions are primarily related to the reduced possibility for synchronization of interaction (Wadensjö, 1999). Recent research focusing specifically on interaction management (Davitti, 2018; De Boe, 2020; Vranjes & Brône, 2020) suggests that in remote dialogue interpreting, smoothness of interaction is affected. This is mostly due to reduced visual access, which impinges on the use of nonverbal resources (such as gaze and gesture) to manage the conversational flow. These outcomes call for a more granular, micro-analytical investigation of the ways in which interaction management is accomplished in RI. Since smoothness is a decisive factor in participants' satisfaction with communication, it is of vital importance to further investigate which factors contribute to realising fluent interaction management, as well as the role of visual access in these dynamics.

This panel brings together evidence-based research contributions aimed at examining interaction management (turn transitions, negotiation of meaning, repair, backchannelling behaviour, a.o.) in RI by telephone and video link. All papers use micro-analytical approaches, based on data derived from authentic as well as experimental settings (including simulations and eye-tracking experiments), in various contexts of spoken language remote dialogue interpreting. In sum, the empirically grounded insights from these studies will make a contribution to the burgeoning research on the complex conversational dynamics of remote dialogue interpreting.

## References

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