## Analyzing Chinese-English Essay Translation from the View of Relevance Theory —a Case Study from Three Essays

从关联理论视角解读中英散文翻译——以三篇散文为例

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Abstract: The relevance theory has developed and grown a lot in the world, which has a promising future. Globalization is becoming increasingly close in every way, and translation becomes indispensable. Many researchers have found other results, linking relevance theory with translation. The research content of this thesis is the application and function of relevance theory in prose translation. The thesis chooses two essays from English to Chinese and one essay from Chinese to English in the Anthology of Chinese and English Prose. This thesis first reviews the previous research on the relevance theory, and then describes the relevance theory in detail. Sperber and Wilson give an explanation of cognitive principles, communicative principles. They defines communication is an ostensive-inference process which involves informative intention and communicative information. Then their student Gutt, also a linguist, matches the relevance theory to translation in 2004, which opens a new paradise for all linguists involve into different fields. The principles of relevance include: cognitive principles, that is, human cognition tends to coincide with the greatest degree of relevance, and the communicative principles, that is, every discourse (or other behavior of inferential communication) should be conceived as having the greatest relevance of discourse or behavior itself. Many scholars devote themselves into the field pertaining to the relevance theory of translation, such as advertisements, foreign comedies, poems, work report and

so on. But the relevance theory of translation related to prose is rare. This thesis' study purpose is to provide a brand new vision of the relevance theory of translation. That is, in order to solve this problem, the thesis hopes to study prose translation. The thesis may at best be able to inspire more scholars and English major students to more properly understand the relevance theory and the relevance theory of translation. Through the research results, it is found that relevance theory plays a force that should not be underestimated in the process of translation of Chinese and English prose.

Key words: Relevance Theory; Relevance Theory of Translation; Prose; Essay

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