1. Introduction

The language corpora available today has made a significant contribution to the research in Linguistics and other disciplines that base their research on various aspects of language. The benefits provided by the corpora lies in the fact that a researcher can retrieve data by specifying few parameters that are in line with his research question, thus saving time in collecting his own data. However, the process research in Translation studies has not been able to harness the benefits of conventional corpora as the basic information stored is in the form of parallel corpora that contains source and Target texts which does not provide information on the events occurring from the beginning of reading the source text till the completion of the target text.

This research attempts to suggest a corpus model for investigating the translation process by examining the possibility of integrating the existing corpus methods that enable storage and retrieval of data; with the data that is desired by the process researchers. Applying the corpus methods to the data suited for process studies may immensely benefit the qualitative and quantitative studies on translation process in the same way as they have done in the case of linguistic and other language related research. The objective of the model is to provide comprehensive insights into the process while minimizing the amount of cross referencing between files storing data in different formats. The study assumes that application of corpus methods is possible with regard to the data meant for translation process research as this as well as conventional corpus deal with textual data and therefore can be tagged using eXtensible Markup Language (XML).
1.1. General Introduction
Translation has always been important in the history of written languages and has played a crucial role in the historical development of many languages, literatures and cultures. Triggered by globalization, texts ranging from mythological to technical writings of the recent times have been translated and made available to new readers in various forms. With the increasing volumes of translated literature, Translation Studies has attracted the attention of research scholars from various fields.

The field of Translation Studies, more importantly Descriptive Translation Studies, as an independent field of study came into existence in 1980s prior to which the theories of translation were mostly prescriptive or normative in nature and sought to establish guidelines for good translation (Williams and Chesterman, 2002: 18) focusing on issues like how a translation should be i.e. “word for word” or “sense for sense”. Process Oriented Translation Studies, as per the framework suggested by J.S. Holmes, locates itself under the Descriptive Translation Studies along with Product Oriented and Function Oriented Translation Studies.

1.2. Introduction to the Area and Sub Area of Research
Process Oriented Studies deals with the study of actual process of translation. Research in Process Oriented Translation Studies has gained importance in the past three decades (since 1980s) owing to the growing professionalization of the job of translators, as well as its diversification into other specialties, such as Subtitling and Localization etc. An increasing number of people are engaged as professionals in such work, and with the expansion of university education in most countries, this has resulted in the establishment of a variety of translator and interpreter training programs.
Traditionally, translation till early 20th century was used as a pedagogical tool for teaching fields like Language, Literature and Philosophy etc. Even though Translation Studies as an independent field of enquiry was established in 1980s, it was felt that not much has been done to evolve theories from within the field. In this regard Paul Kussmaul says:

> It was felt that in order to complement the hitherto predominantly deductive and often also normative models of the translation process, empirical and inductive methods should be developed.  

(Paul Kussmaul, 1995, p. 177-199)

The models presented until then usually described what ideally happened; or, rather with a pedagogical aim, as to what should happen while translating. It was people like Krings, Königs and Lörscher in Germany, Dechert and Sandrock in Britain, Jääskeläinen and Tirkkonen-Condit in Finland, to name but a few, who have expressed their discontent over the state of affairs in Translation Process research. They began to ask what actually happens when people translate.

Kussmaul notes:

> […] there has always been a kind of empirical research: translation criticism and error analysis, but this was by nature product- and not process-oriented.  

(Paul Kussmaul, 1995, p. 177-199)

In support of his statement, he cites an example where he says that the inference drawn could point at translator’s skill related issue in the foreign language, while the actual case could have been that the translator was unable to find an appropriate alternative expression in the Target Language (TL).
Process Oriented Studies attempt to investigate cognitive aspects like translator’s decision making, translator’s behaviour etc. and the translator’s thought process during the translation. Since the thought process of the translator is not directly accessible to a researcher through physical observation, translator’s mind is often called the “Black Box”. Preliminary studies in this area suggests that Process Oriented Studies employs “Think Aloud Protocols” (TAP) as a commonly used method of data collection combined with other methods like direct observation, interviews, computer logging, screen recordings, and cue-based (while replaying the recordings) retrospective verbalizations etc.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

Researchers engaged in Process Oriented Studies have documented the process while focusing on various aspects such as translator competence and strategies e.g. problem solving measures, decision making etc. which will be discussed in detail in the chapter 2 Review of Literature.

Documenting the process of translation, though difficult, plays a crucial role in understanding various factors that condition and constrain the process of translation. Researchers till now have attempted to study the process of translation by studying the translation strategies and problem solving methods adopted by the translators. The researchers for their studies have largely relied on data created through their own experiments. However, these results have not been made accessible to other researchers in the form of corpus. As a result, the findings cannot be verified validated by replication of results by other researchers. Corpus has played a significant role in linguistic researches in the past few decades.

This research attempts to study the possibility of integrating the corpus methods in the study of translation process. The focus will be on rendering the data
pertaining to the Translation Process Research while using the conventional corpus methods. A brief introduction about the field and the objective of this research will be given while stating the relevance of the study will be given in the first chapter. In the second chapter, the literature will be reviewed to study the kind of researches that have been carried out while looking at the form of the data and the type of methods that the researchers have employed to investigate the process of translation.

The third chapter deals with the role of corpus in research, the methods used while storing, the retrieval of the data and the kind of corpus available specifically aimed at translation research. This may be helpful in comparing the findings of the review of literature and understand how the available corpus is similar to or different from the data sought by Translation Process researchers.

In the fourth chapter, the available technologies and software that maybe required to store and render the data as sought by the process researchers will be evaluated. In the fifth chapter, a suggestive model of corpus that uses technology while using the traditional corpus methods for making the data sought by process researchers shareable and accessible will be proposed. For the purpose of demonstrating the model five pages of a Japanese novel will be translated into Telugu. Subsequently, the proposed model will demonstrate the nature of the data stored and the kind of information that the corpus is capable of providing.

1.4. Relevance of the Study
The proposed model may provide access to raw data for the research community, who may want to validate findings by means of reproducing the results; or may wish to study a completely different aspect of translation process. For example, a research that proposes to study and understand the factors that affect the process of translation; or a study that is aimed at investigating the factors that facilitate the
process besides those that hinder the process. The outcome emanating from the resulting researches may contribute to the didactics and pragmatics in Translation Studies.