Technologies in translation

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Abstract: Technologies in translation, is the use of software tools that support the process of converting written text from one language to another. As is the case of most work aided by technology, translation technology tools can increase productivity, accuracy and overall effectiveness.

Keywords: Technology tools, translators, machine translation, translation process, artificial intelligence, history of translation.

Today, technologies in translation allows to: Ensure quality by checking for spelling and grammar errors. Increase consistency across content by storing previous translation that can be reused or consulted in future projects. Improve operational efficiency by automating translation management tasks.

Accelerate time-to-market by enabling the production of more content in less time.

The history of translation technology. Some of the techniques used in modern translation technology can be traced back to the 9th century when Arabic cryptographer developed the method of frequency analysis that is still used today. However, it was not until the mid-20th century, when computer became available and affordable that translation technology truly began to take shape. According to analysis:

1950s: Georgetown University introduced the world's first machine translation system. The approach was rule-based and lexicographical, which means that it relied on pre-programmed rules and dictionaries.

1970s: The United States Department of Defense advanced Research Project Agency started developing speech recognition technologies that paved the way for voice-to-text technologies.

1980s: the arrival of electronic dictionaries and terminological databases during this decade was another major point. these tools helped to make translation more accessible by providing translators with instant access to information that could be used during the project.

Early 1990s: IBM researchers introduced statistical machine translation. These systems were word-based and trained to translate one language into another by comparing large amounts of parallel texts in both languages. For example: they would analyze how often the German phrase "das auto" was translated as "the car" or "the vehicle" or "the automobile" and choose the most frequent for the text.

Late 1990s: A new version of IBM's statistical translation engine, this time phrase-based instead of word-based was released. It became the commercial standard for years to come until Google entered the fray in 2006 with their neural machine translation technology.

Early 2000s: the first cloud-based TMS solutions appeared in the market, enabling translation teams to work more flexibly and collaborate with other company members regardless of location.

2006: Google launched Google Translate-still statistical-which took the world by storm. The system first translated the input text into English before translating it into the target language. The system used predictive algorithms, which would guess which words should come next, based on the words and phrase it had "learned" before. These guesses often resulted in poor grammatical accuracy.

Modern translation technology is constantly evolving, with new innovations coming every year. Machine translation has now achieved general acceptance in the market, being a lifesaver for international businesses that need to obtain consistently accurate translations in the most efficient way possible. Even professional translators adopt automated translation technology to streamline and accelerate the translation process. Here are some benefits of machine translation:

Easy to use: with machine translation software being so simple to operate, you will not need a tech background to use it like a pro. Fire up platform, paste your target language and you'll get the translated text in real-time.

Faster results: machine translation can translate text in seconds. On the other hand, human translation can take hours or even days, depending on the volume of text that need to be translated.

Reliable: while the accuracy of translations produced by different machine translation software may vary, these translations are generally reliable. That's because such software is typically vetted by expert translator and native speakers before being released. Great value for money: it will definitely cost a lot to invest in machine translation software than to hire a professional translator especially if you are looking to translate uncommon language pairs or need translation within a short turnaround time. Seamless operation: some machine translation software can integrate with other platforms for smooth translation workflows.

Translation technology allows companies to go global quickly, easily and affordable by enabling them to streamline the entire localization process. It provides them with scalable, efficient solutions that can help them reach new markets faster and more effectively than ever before.

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