IMPLEMENTATION OF MACHINE TRANSLATION AND CAT-TOOLS INTO TRANSLATION PROCESS

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Abstract: the article examines the inclusion of modern technologies into translation process, particularly machine translation and CAT-tools. The paper addresses the benefits and drawbacks of the implementation of innovations and proposes possible ways to avoid negative consequences of machine intervention into translation.

Keywords: machine translation; pragramtics; communication; speech situation; post-editing; cultural differences.

Аннотация: в данной статье рассматривается внедрение современных технологий, в частности, машинного перевод и CAT-систем. Статья охватывает как положительные, так и отрицательные результаты в ходе использования инноваций и предлагает пути урегулирования негативных последствий машинного вмешательства в процесс перевода.

Ключевые слова: автоматизированный перевод; прагматика; коммуникация; речевая ситуация; постредактирование; культурные различия.

The introduction of modern technology and innovative ideas has had impact on a variety of scientific fields and areas, and the process of translation is not an exception. Translation process, despite being dependent mostly on human professionals and experts, still experienced the intervention of innovative ideas, therefore, the field has undergone several changes as well.

One of the most significant innovations in the field of translation is the development of machine translation and engines that provide this service. The technology provides instant conversion of information from one language to another, and can solely operate without human intervention [Chapman, Routledge, 2009: 14].

One of the advances created to aid human translators is the computer-assisted translation tool. The tool itself is a special computer programme or even an online-service that helps the translator to combine both human and machine translation to get the final product – that is, generally speaking, the innovation the tool proposes to the field.

The innovation certainly has several positive effects on translation process. Apart from the most evident ones, such as the speed of translation and saving time with no need in looking unknown words up in a dictionary, CAT-tools facilitate consistency in the documents as well, especially in formal letters and texts, where the preservation of terminology and consistency in the wording plays a huge role. Moreover, CAT-tools offer the feature of creation of glossaries – for a certain field or document individually, so a human translator does not have to constantly search for the expression he previously used.

The CAT-tool becomes a part of the entire work of a human translator as well – due to the presence of in-built translation memory, which gets expanded by every document processed via the programme. This feature makes the CAT-tool unique for every human translator, therefore,

focusing more on narrow specializations that translators choose to work in, and leading to the enriched and enlarged vocabulary set saved in the memory for further usage.

At the same time it is fair to note that all the advances come in hand with drawbacks that have to be mentioned as well. There is no doubt that with the help of machine translation and CAT-tools the translation gets improvements in various aspects such as the speed, the consistency of chosen vocabulary and more precise wording in terms of professionalisms and words attributed to a specific field a human translator works in, however, cultural and emotional aspects get lost in the process, since they are not related to language only, but on people, realia and society as well, in other words, they are reliant on outside factors that are currently hard to be implemented into technology.

The first thing to note is the emotional response that a translator has to convey via right wording. The range of synonyms in any given language is impressive and, despite having the same denotational meaning, can have the slightest differences in the way how people perceive them.

As an example, words describing the same phenomena – an action of a person moving one's legs to reach certain destination – can be used differently. The words that fit the definition might be as follows: *go, tread. walk, march, run, rush* and etc. While the machine might view the words as somehow interchangeable, a human translator, and the people who they translate for, will undoubtedly identify the slight distinguishing features: 1) *go* – casual, simple action that does not convey any additional emotion along; 2) *tread* – moving majestically, or, even proudly, pretty slowly and calmly; 3) *walk* – casual, simple action that implies not being in a hurry; 4) *march* – the action is more structured and rapid, rhythmical; 5) *run* – faster action that might imply fear, worry, anxiety and other emotions, so-called stimulus for the speed-up; 6) *rush* – the action implies that the agent is in a bustle and might be quite nervous because of that. In some cases machine translation feature built into CAT-tools is able to identify the range, but it would be wrong to rely on machines all the time. Apart from these easiest examples, there can be plenty of others mentioned, for instance, the register might be different in translation of a word "mate" – "приятель" and "кореш" – and these small details are to be corrected not by a machine, but a human translator.

Not only wording, but syntax would also need adjustment during the process because sometimes the construction of a sentence and word order evoke certain emotional responses [Chapman, 2011: 27] from people as well. For example, technologies might skip the difference between sayings *"Она так танцует! Посмотрите на неё!"* and *"Она так танцует! Вы только посмотрите на неё!"* – the first case implies mere appreciation, while the second one might probably show distaste and disdain towards the dancer. These peculiarities are to be worked through by humans as well.

Due to the abovementioned information, there is a suggested approach to benefit from the use of CAT-tools and machine translation without losing the quality of the final product. The approach is called "post-editing" [Holmes, 2018: 208] and is a rather new method of processing translation. Generally, the process of post-editing consists of several stages: firstly, the original source text is being worked through and converted by the machine, and afterwards it is analyzed by a human professional to get rid of the possible inaccuracies and adapt the text, or some segments of it, to meet the requirements of the culture and society the material is translated for.

The main advantage of this innovative approach is saving up time and energy of the human translator by making him skip the creation of the first raw draft of the text. The first draft itself

does not necessarily conveys everything that has to be conveyed in the end, but can serve as a good basis for further creative work.

Another positive side of the method is the proposal of alternative way of structuring the sentences. Every translator has his own idiolect, that is, individual way of wording and verbalizing thoughts [Meyerhoff, 2011: 32], therefore, the structures that machine suggests might be different from how a human translator would initially write a sentence. Having another option to consider and, probably, even to adopt, is a good feature that might influence the final result positively.

Implementation of modern technologies into translation process is unavoidable and can be helpful depending on the approach applied to them. The statement that the professionals have to constantly keep in mind is not to view the *tools* as the *core* of the process – despite the facilitation to translation and saving time, the result should still be analyzed by the human professional. The reason for it is that translation itself is much more than language – it is about "human-being, translating for a human-being", therefore, machine translation and advanced tools can certainly be used to ease the process, but human intervention is still necessary for high-quality result, and the adequate level of reliance on the innovations, that is, *tools*, combined with understanding of human translator being *the lead* [Kornacki, 2021: 125], can help the entire field of translation thrive and develop further.

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