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AI-Powered Translation: Advancements, Challenges, and Future Prospects

Dr. Jitendra B. Patil

Associate Professor of English, Pratap College Amalner Dist.-Jalgaon (M.S.)-425401 Mail: jitendrapca@gmail.comMob: 9421655091

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Abstract:

Translation, basically a complicated job, involves an ample amount of decision making, and accessing diverse sources has now come under the impact of AI. Machine translation is not new to this domain but with AI now suddenly a great help has emerged for the field to make great advancement. It is a help but with some hidden challenges. The present research paper aims to explore advancements of AI-Powered Machine Translation. In addition to this, it attempts to highlight the challenges faced by AI-Powered Machine Translation by underscoring its shortcomings. It also has been an attempt to find out what are the future prospects for AI-Powered Machine Translation.

Keywords: Machine Translation (MT), Rule-Based Machine Translation (RMBT), Statistical Machine Translation (STM), Example-Based Machine Translation (EBMT), Neural Machine Translation (NMT)

Introduction:

Artificial Intelligence is a buzzword of the present time. It has nearly occupied every sphere of human transactions. The sphere of language and literature is not an exception to this. Rather, AI has revolutionized the use of language in all aspects of human life. Translation is a crucial linguistic process that enhances the orbit of communication in a significant manner. It has been the oldest and most widely used aspect of linguistic activity. Many have come along with various theories of translation across time and space in the world. Art of translation gradually evolved over the times out of academic arguments and theories of translation. In the modern period translation got mechanized. With the advent of the idea of Machine Translation the entire scenario changed drastically.

Machine translation gradually evolved over the times which ultimately culminated in the present-day AI-Powered translation. To understand the advancements that have taken place due to AI-Powered Translation and the challenges it faces as well as the future prospects before it, it is necessary to map out its evolution. The idea of computer-based translation was put forward in 1949 by a famous mathematician Warren Weaver of Rockefeller Foundation. In 1954, the Georgetown-IBM experiment brought the idea of

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Machine Translation into reality. The evolution of machine translation falls into some important phases of development which themselves denote the advancements in Machine Translation:

Rule-Based Machine Translation (RMBT) (1960-1970)

Rule-Based Machine Translation was the first crucial development in machine translation in the latter half of the 20th century. It primarily relies on bilingual rules, bilingual grammatical structures and the bilingual dictionaries. SYSTRAN was a Rule-Based Machine Translation founded by Dr. Peter Toma. Like other RBMT systems it has also prominently employed extensive linguistic knowledge codes. It amalgamated the knowledge from the domains like Computer Science and Linguistics through Computational Linguistics. The system was used by USAF.

Statistical Machine Translation (STM) (1980-1990)

It (STM) revolutionized the field of language translation from 1990 to 2010. It worked on different models than RBMT. It was essentially based on statistical models that analysed the larger bilingual corpora. In addition to Computational Linguistics, it employed Corpus Linguistics for better and faster results to obtain higher accuracy in translation. It was a data-driven approach to translation.

Example-Based Machine Translation (EBMT) (1990-1996)

It was a paradigm shift in machine translation in late 1990. It works on a repository of bilingual sentence pairs by matching them for translation. It manifested as an alternative to Rule-Based Machine Translation (RMBT) and Statistical Machine Translation (STM). It works on an extensive database created in both source and target language. It provides flexibility and adaptability in multilingual machine translation. Later it got overshadowed by Neural Machine Translation (NMT).

Machine Translation on World Wide Web (1996-2012)

Before the direct use of artificial intelligence in machine translation there is one more transitional stage in which machine translation underwent some significant advancements on the World Wide Web. In this stage, to bring improvements in machine translation the integration of Statistical Machine Translation and neural network played an important role in the emergence of online translation services such as Google Translate in 2006. This integration of machine translation with the World Wide Web was an advancement that aimed at accuracy and fluency of translation. It facilitated multilingual translation that made it an integral tool for global communication using translation.

Neural Machine Translation (NMT) (2010-2015)

It is Neural Machine Translation (NMT) that started to use artificial intelligence to enhance the accuracy and fluency of machine translation. It is prominently based on the deep-learning method that marks its departure from traditional machine translation methods like Rule-Based Machine Translation (RMBT) and Statistical Machine Translation (STM). It relies on remarkable improvements in context, syntax and semantics. It translates a passage from source language to target language that brings in more accuracy and consistency in translation output. It smartly leverages deep-learning techniques like Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM). Its basic unit of translation is not a sentence but a paragraph hence it becomes more context-aware machine translation

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systems.

Advanced Neural Machine Translation (2016 onwards)

With the advent of Google Translate there came a sea change in Machine Translation based on Advanced Neural Machine Translation that dramatically enhanced the quality of translation. Google Translate is capable of handling idiomatic expressions and complex linguistics structures. Besides Google Translate, Amazon Translate, DeepL, Yandex Translate, and Microsoft Translator also work on Advanced Neural Machine Translation to yield better results. Today, in almost all spheres of human life directly or indirectly Advanced Neural Machine Translation tools are used in every corner of the globe.

Advancements in AI-Powered Machine Translation:

- It leveraged deep-learning techniques for improvements in syntactic precision, idiomatic expressions and contextual understanding making NMT as a solution to overcome language barriers in global communication.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation uses the latest technology, i.e. Neural Machine Translation for more accuracy in translation and to overcome the barriers in handling complex linguistic structures of both source and target languages.
- The most significant advancement in AI-Powered Machine Translation is the integration of speech recognition and Natural Language Processing. It enables it to have seamless and efficient translation
- AI translation tools can process the data in a matter of seconds. AI translation tools can handle large amounts of corpus with accuracy, efficiency, and efficacy.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation tools can handle massive amounts of data and content such as emails, social media posts, and websites. It can translate into multiple languages.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation can prove to be cost effective in comparison with human translators.

Challenges before AI-Powered Machine Translation:

- AI-Powered Machine Translation cannot capture cultural nuances and idiomatic expressions which mark one of the shortcomings in yielding accurate translation.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation struggles to translate homonymic and polysemic linguistic construction as it faces the problem of ambiguity in such cases.
- Similarly it faces some problems with figurative constructions from the source language to the target language as the cultural context changes in such cases.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation can face some challenges while translating metaphoric linguistics constructions as in metaphors there is creative use of language using certain cultural contexts.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation is not proficient in handling highly professional and technical language. To ensure the accuracy and precision in the translation of professional jargons like law, medicine and creative literature, human translators are necessary.
- The quality of AI-Powered Machine Translation relies heavily on the size and volume of corpus on which it has been trained to translate. Hence AI-Powered Machine Translation may not be reliable in case of lesser-known languages from

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certain regions of the world.

- AI-Powered Machine Translation cannot capture tone, emotions, feelings and cultural nuances recorded in creative writing/content. It may fail to convey emotional undertones in the target language with efficacy and accuracy.
- One of the most important challenges before AI-Powered Machine Translation is to maintain consistency with accuracy in translation. Sometimes, it can struggle to capture the tone and context of the original text.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation needs human translators to provide its feedback to the AI-Translation systems. It requires a deep understanding of AI translation technology on the part of human translators.

In this regard Naomi Bleakley, AI and Content Manager at VeraContent rightly remarks: AI doesn't understand tone or nuance—it predicts words based on probabilities. That's why capturing emotional undertones or cultural context still requires human expertise (Bleakley). **Future Prospects of AI-Powered Machine Translation:**

- AI-Powered Machine Translation can be used in a personalized form in future to cater to the needs of its users. By making the use of machine learning algorithms to study user's needs and preferences, it may roll out accurate and reliable translation results.
- In future, AI-Powered Machine Translation may become culturally sensitive to perceive cultural nuances and idiomatic expressions.
- If in future the collaborative model of AI-Powered Machine Translation gets evolved in which human translators may give feedback for its constant evolution and improvement.
- If AI-Powered Machine Translation tool's speed and efficiency is blended with human expertise it may maintain quality, cultural sensitivity and creativity.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation may strengthen itself for domain-specific translation for the fields like law, medicine and creative writing.
- In future AI-Powered Machine Translation may become more in dialects and slang that can result in opening up new avenues of its growth and development.
- The wide use of AI-Powered Machine Translation tools will certainly flourish by leaps and bounds seeing its adoption by the business community. It is suitable and helpful to translate business documents with ease.
- AI-Powered Machine Translation has a better future in the field of education as it helps to overcome language barriers to both students and educators.

Conclusion:

To conclude, it can be stated that AI-Powered Machine Translation has made revolutionary changes in the field of language translation. It has made numerous advancements in Machine translation with the adoption of Neural Machine Translation. However at present it faces certain challenges in translating cultural nuances, idiomatic expressions, tones and emotions of creative text and professional vocabulary from source language to target language. Even though it faces certain challenges still it seems it has a lot of future prospects in the field of language translation.

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