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# Beyond Google Translate: The future of machine translation

Uwe Muegge



# Beyond Google Translate

## The Future for Machine Translation



**Uwe Muegge**  
**CSOFT International**

# *Definition*

## **machine translation**

type of software application where the program performs the task of creating a target text in another language without human intervention

How can smaller businesses benefit from machine translation?



**Uwe  
Muegge**



**Currently**

CSOFT  
Director, Chief Terminologist

ISO  
Member, TC 37

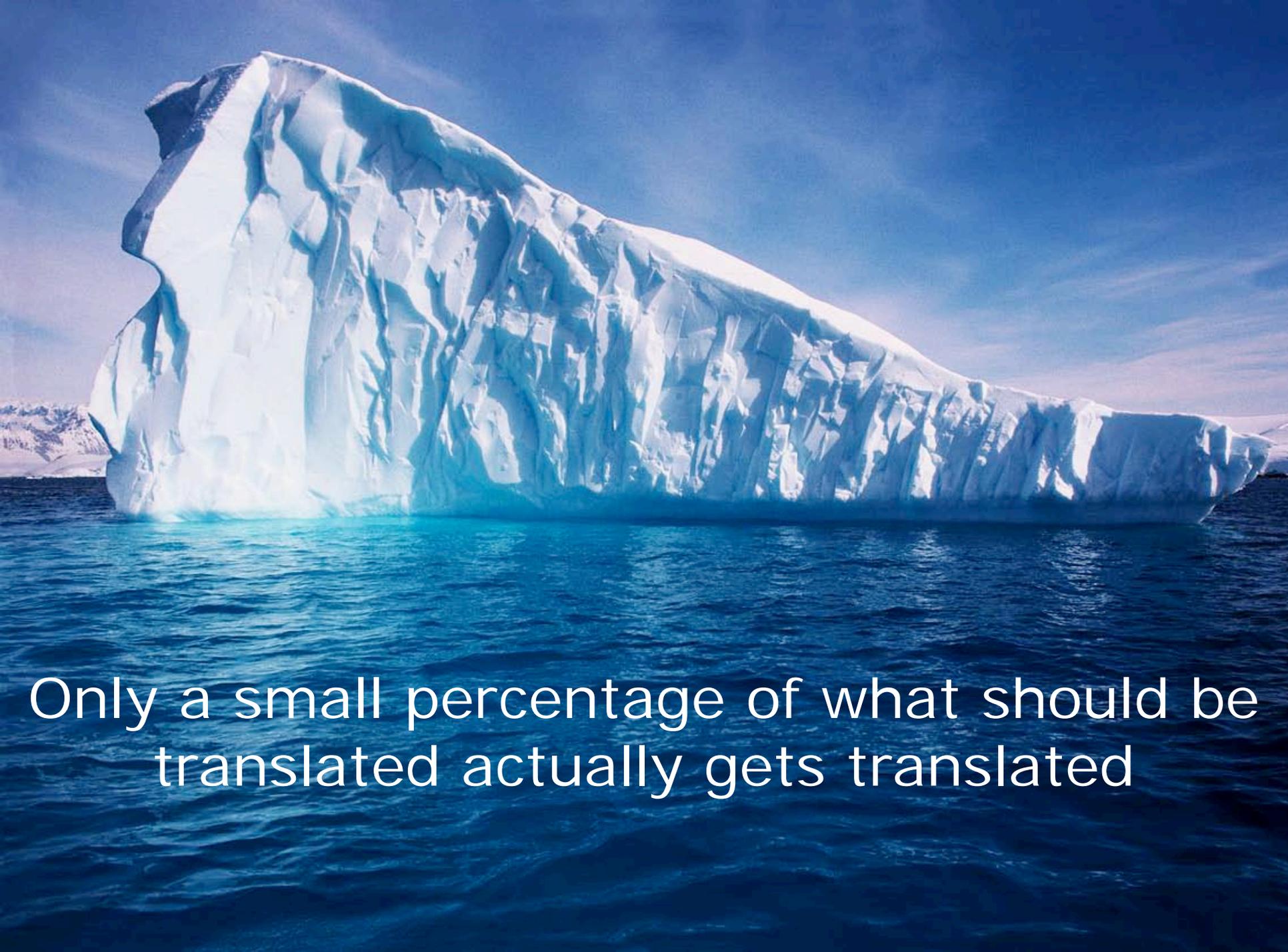
Monterey Institute of Int'l Studies  
Prof., Computer-Assisted Translation

**Previously**

Medtronic  
Corporate Terminologist

J.D. Edwards  
Localization Specialist

Why should you be using  
machine translation?



Only a small percentage of what should be translated actually gets translated



How do you determine if a project is suitable for machine translation?

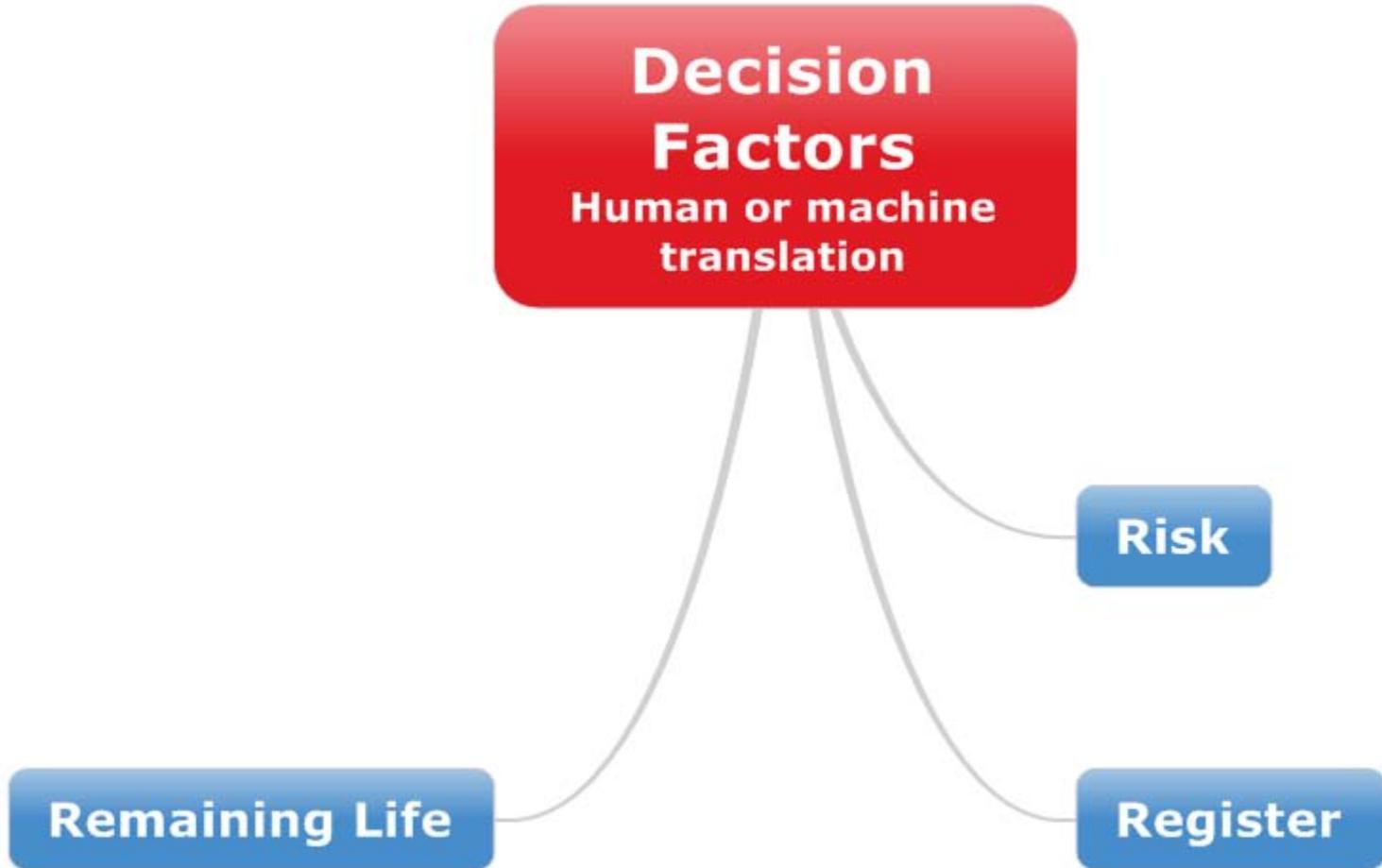
# Decision Factors

Human or machine translation

Risk

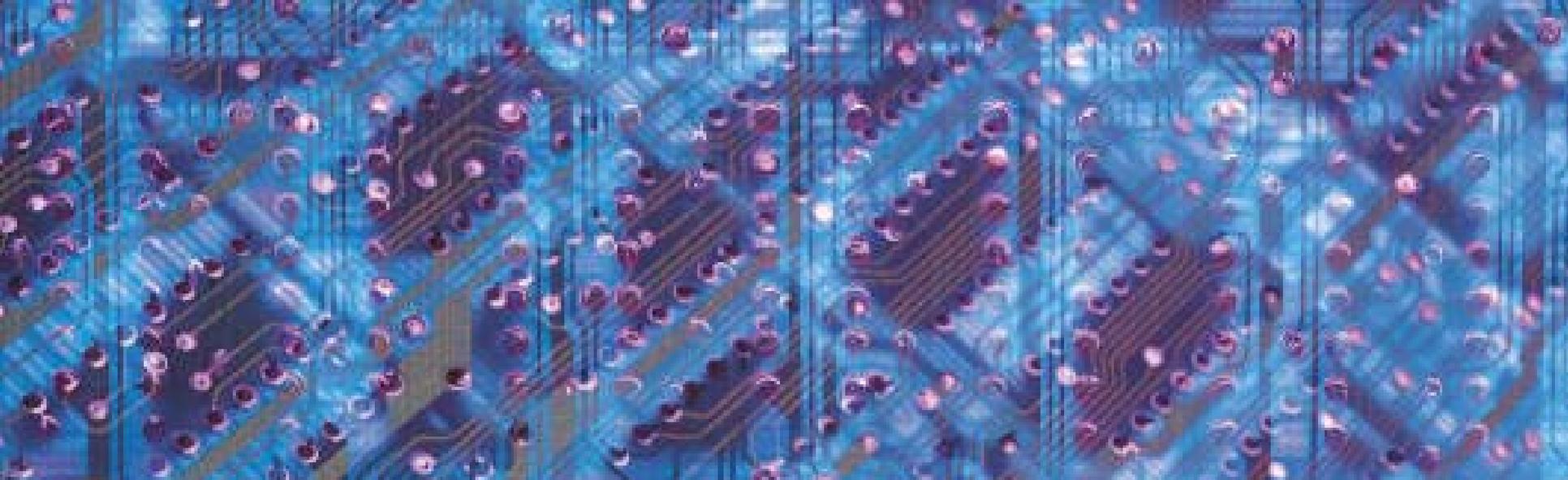
Remaining Life

Register

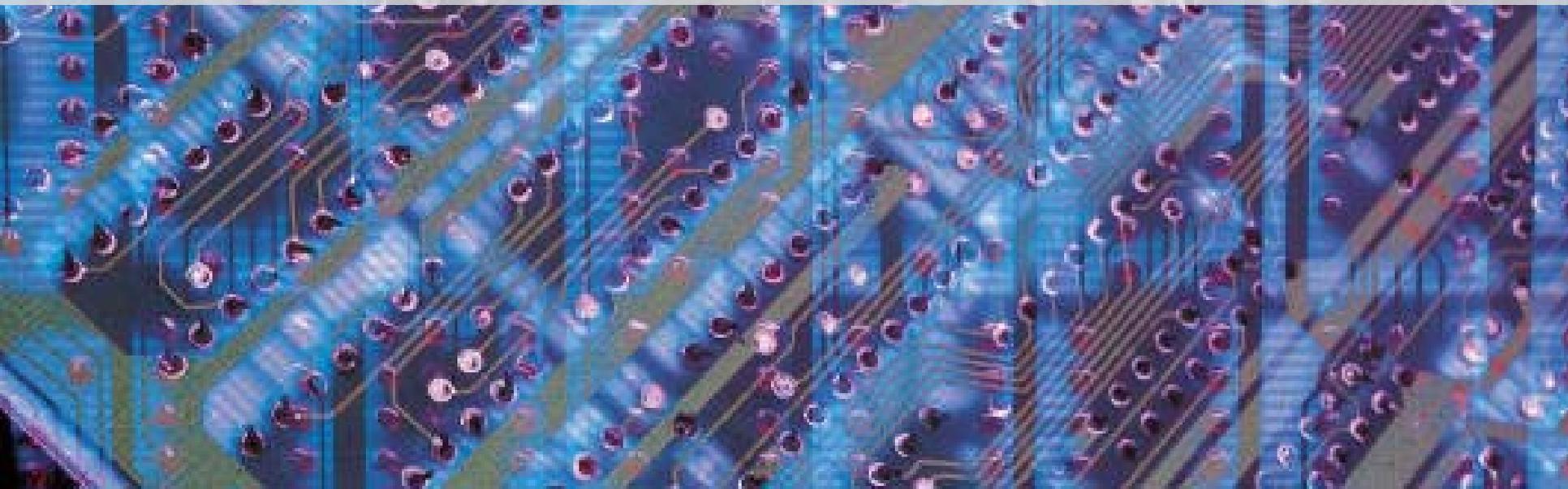




Leave to humans: Marketing collateral,  
corporate websites, regulatory filings, etc.



Consider machine translation: Newsletters, knowledge bases, training materials, etc.



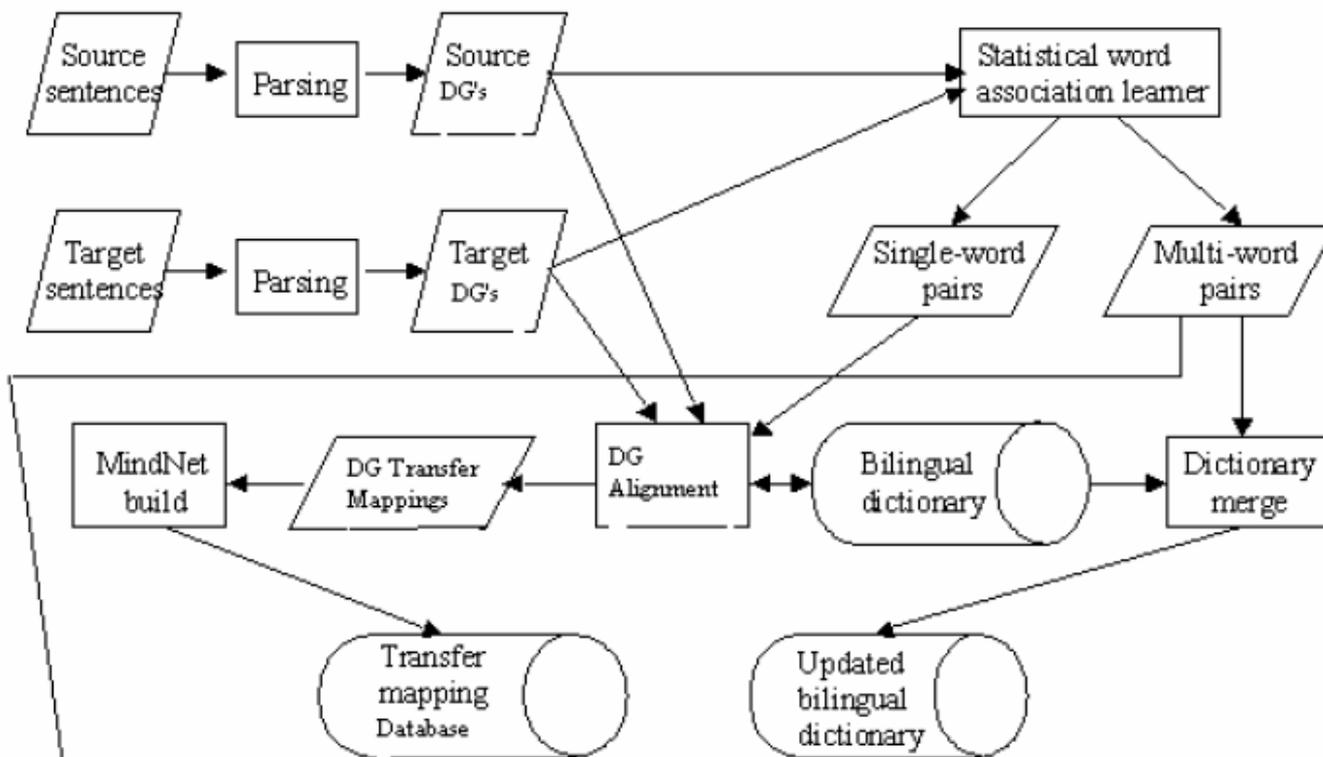
What are the strengths and weaknesses of Google Translate?

## *Definition*

### **statistical machine translation**

type of machine translation that uses statistical models, which are based on the analysis of large bilingual corpora, to generate sentences in the target language

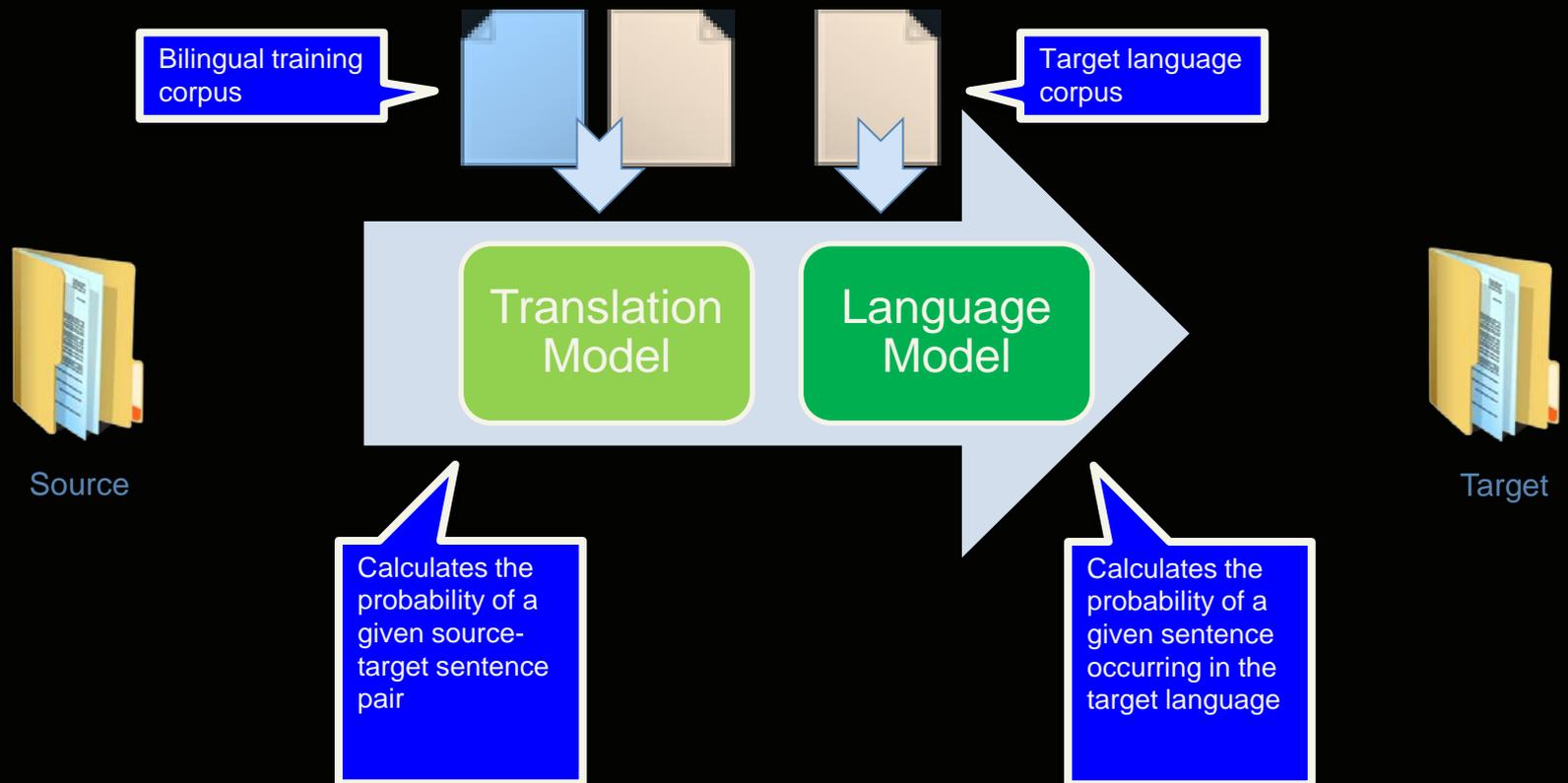
## Training

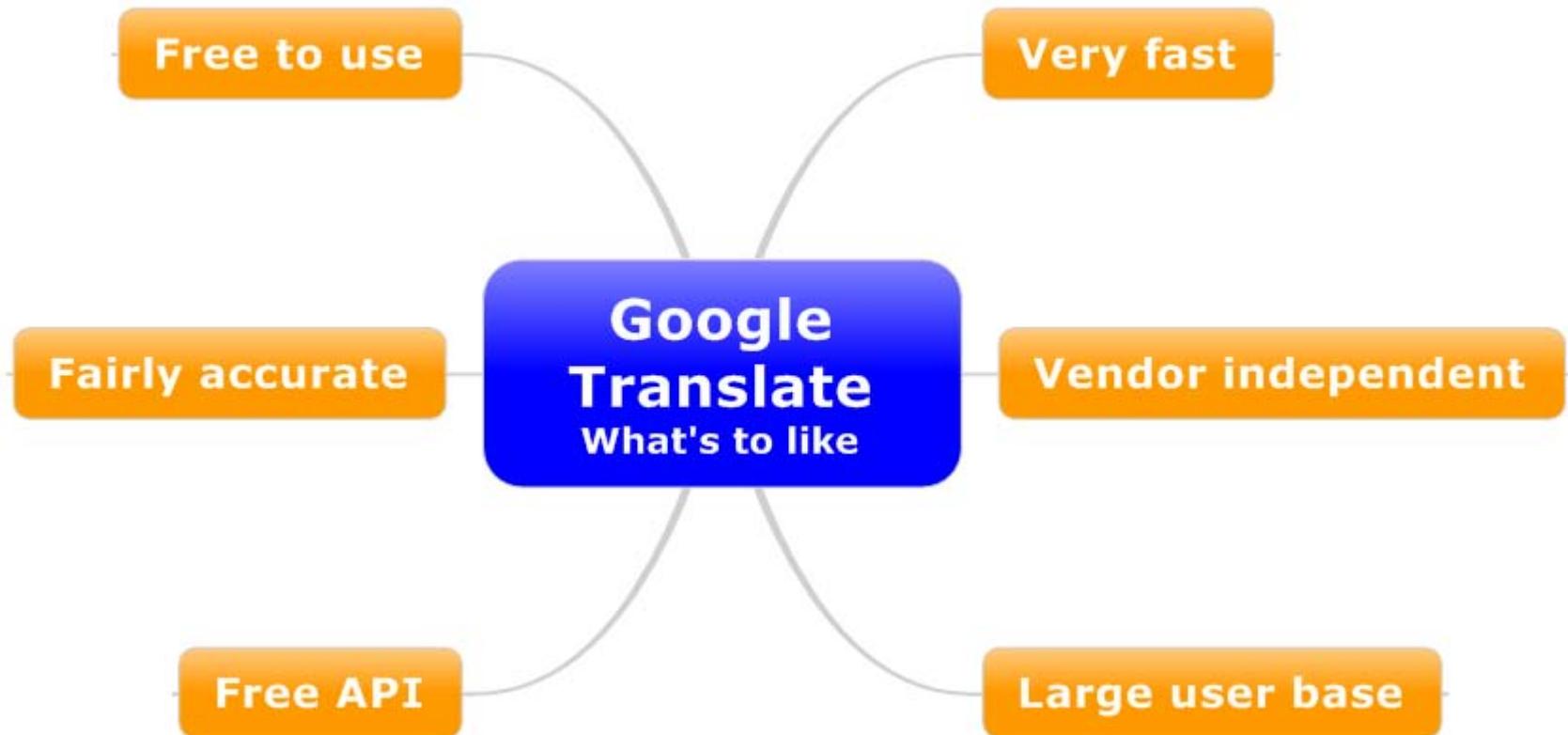


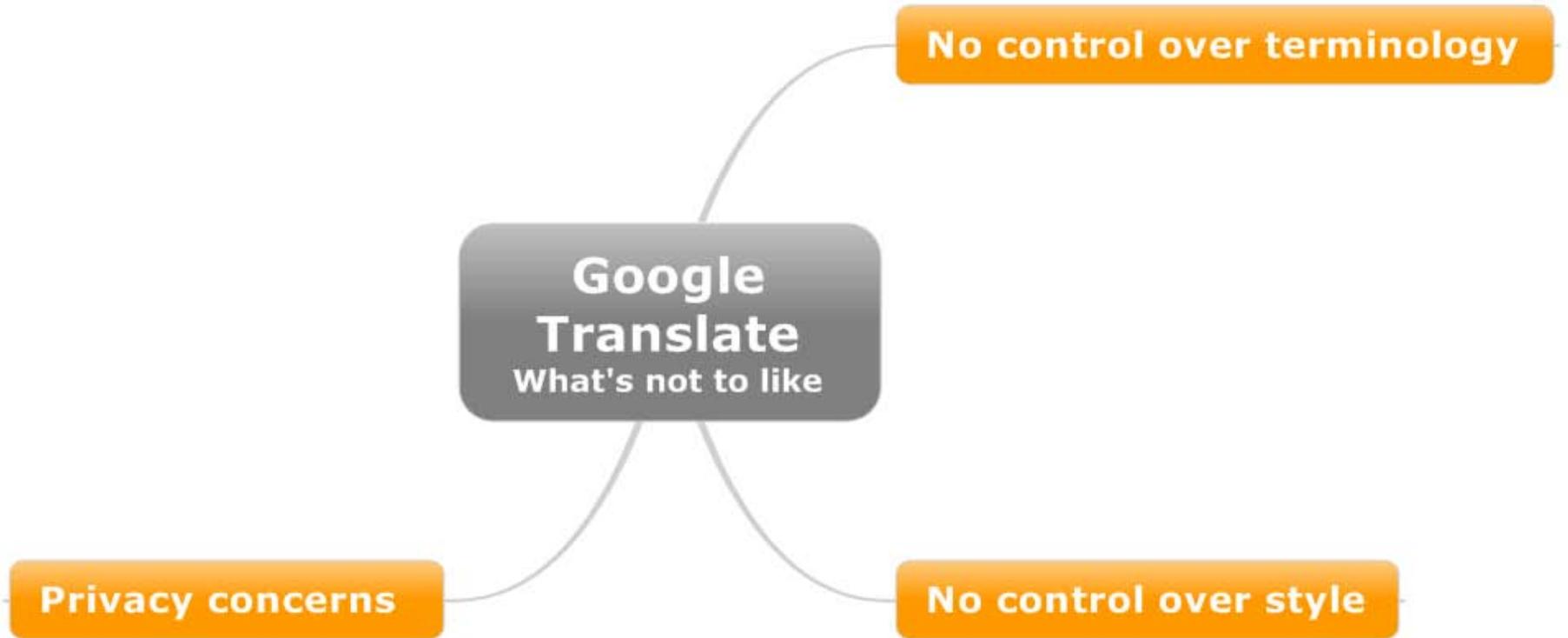
## Runtime



# Statistical Machine Translation







### Translated search

Type a search phrase in your language. Google will find results in other languages and translate them for you to read.

Search for:

- Search pages written in:
- Automatically selected languages
  - Specific languages

My language: [English](#) ▼

- Example:
1. Search for [Bern tourist information](#).
  2. We translate your query into French and German, and find French and German results.
  3. Finally, we translate the French and German results back into your language.

### Translate text

Google Translate allows you to specify only two things:

- 1) text
- 2) language direction

Spanish >> English

### Translate a web page

Spanish >> English

### Use the Google Interface in Your Language

Set the Google homepage, messages, and buttons to display in your selected language via our [Preferences](#) page. Google currently offers the following interface languages:

- |                             |                             |                               |                                       |  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| • <a href="#">Afrikaans</a> | • <a href="#">Esperanto</a> | • <a href="#">Kannada</a>     | • <a href="#">Norwegian</a>           | • <a href="#">Spanish</a>                  |
| • <a href="#">Akan</a>      | • <a href="#">Estonian</a>  | • <a href="#">Kazakh</a>      | • <a href="#">Norwegian (Nynorsk)</a> | • <a href="#">Spanish (Latin American)</a> |
| • <a href="#">Albanian</a>  | • <a href="#">Faroese</a>   | • <a href="#">Kinyarwanda</a> | • <a href="#">Occitan</a>             | • <a href="#">Sundanese</a>                |
| • <a href="#">Amharic</a>   | • <a href="#">Filipino</a>  | • <a href="#">Kirundi</a>     | • <a href="#">Oriya</a>               | • <a href="#">Swahili</a>                  |
| • <a href="#">Arabic</a>    | • <a href="#">Finnish</a>   | • <a href="#">Klingon</a>     | • <a href="#">Oromo</a>               | • <a href="#">Swedish</a>                  |

If you want more control over your MT system, what are the options?

# Google Translate Alternatives

```
graph TD; A[Google Translate Alternatives] --- B[Deploy a rule-based (e.g. Systran) MT system]; A --- C[Deploy a commercial (e.g. Language Weaver) statistical MT system]; A --- D[Deploy a free (e.g. MOSES) statistical MT system];
```

User friendly, inexpensive

Deploy a rule-based  
(e.g. Systran)  
MT system

Tool expensive

Deploy a commercial  
(e.g. Language Weaver)  
statistical MT system

Staff expensive

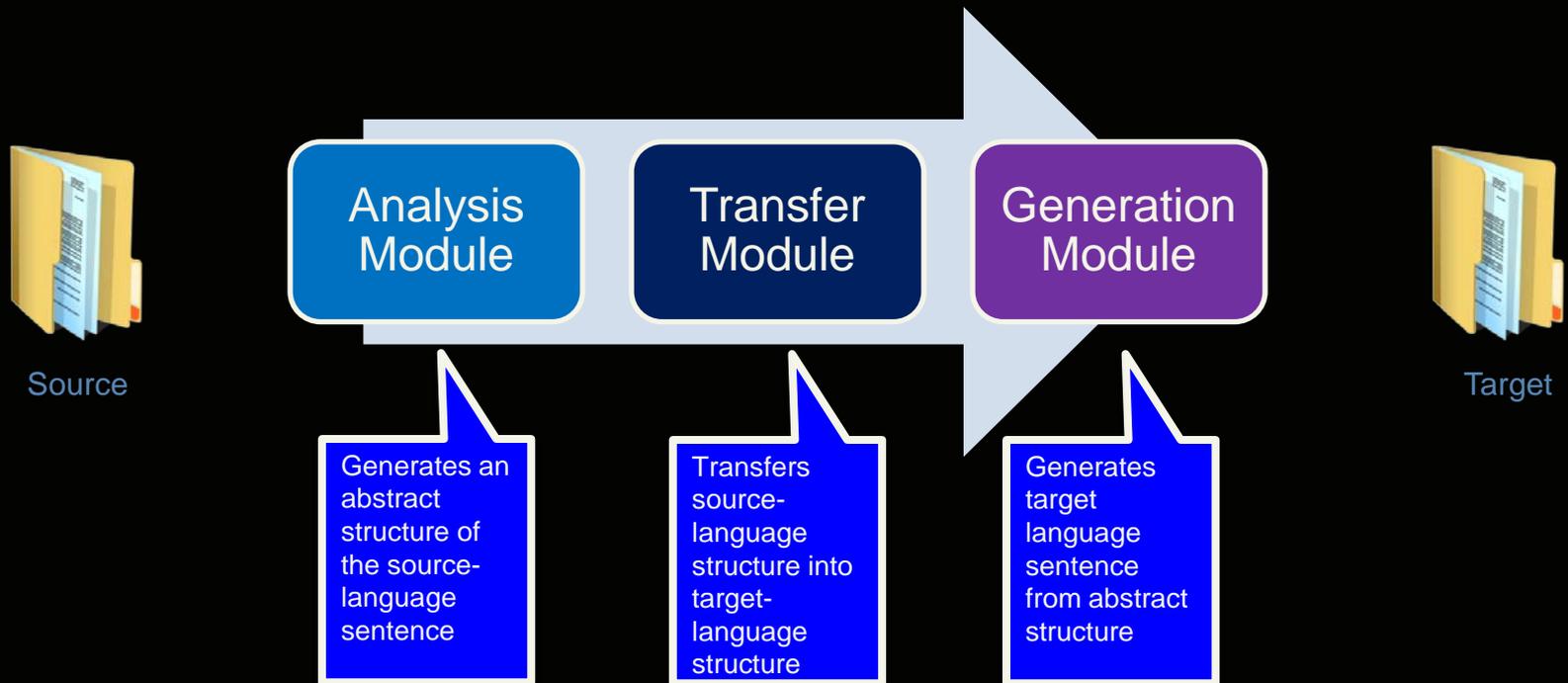
Deploy a free  
(e.g. MOSES)  
statistical MT system

## *Definition*

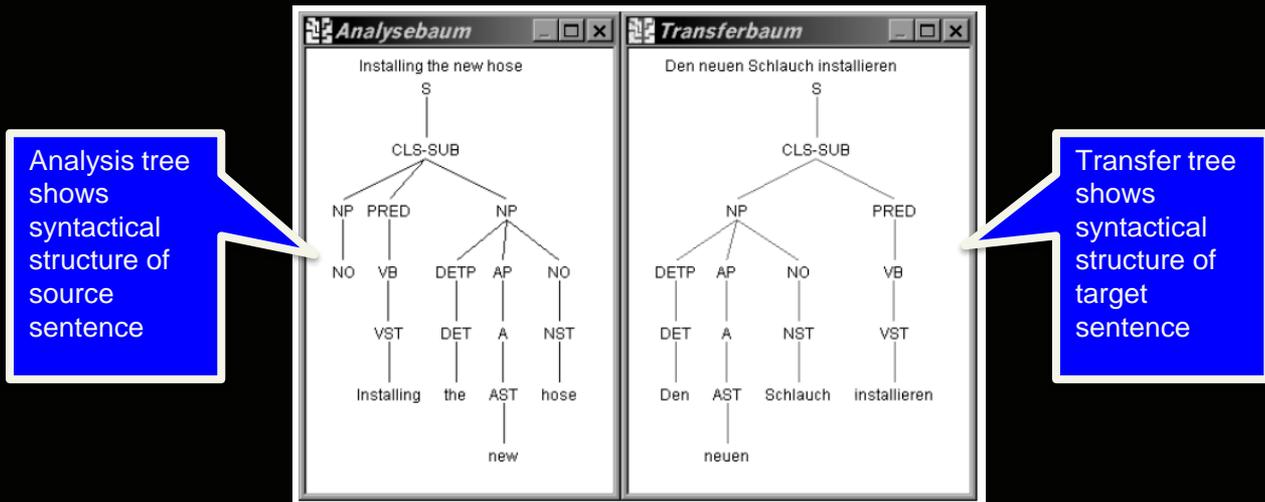
### **rule-based machine translation**

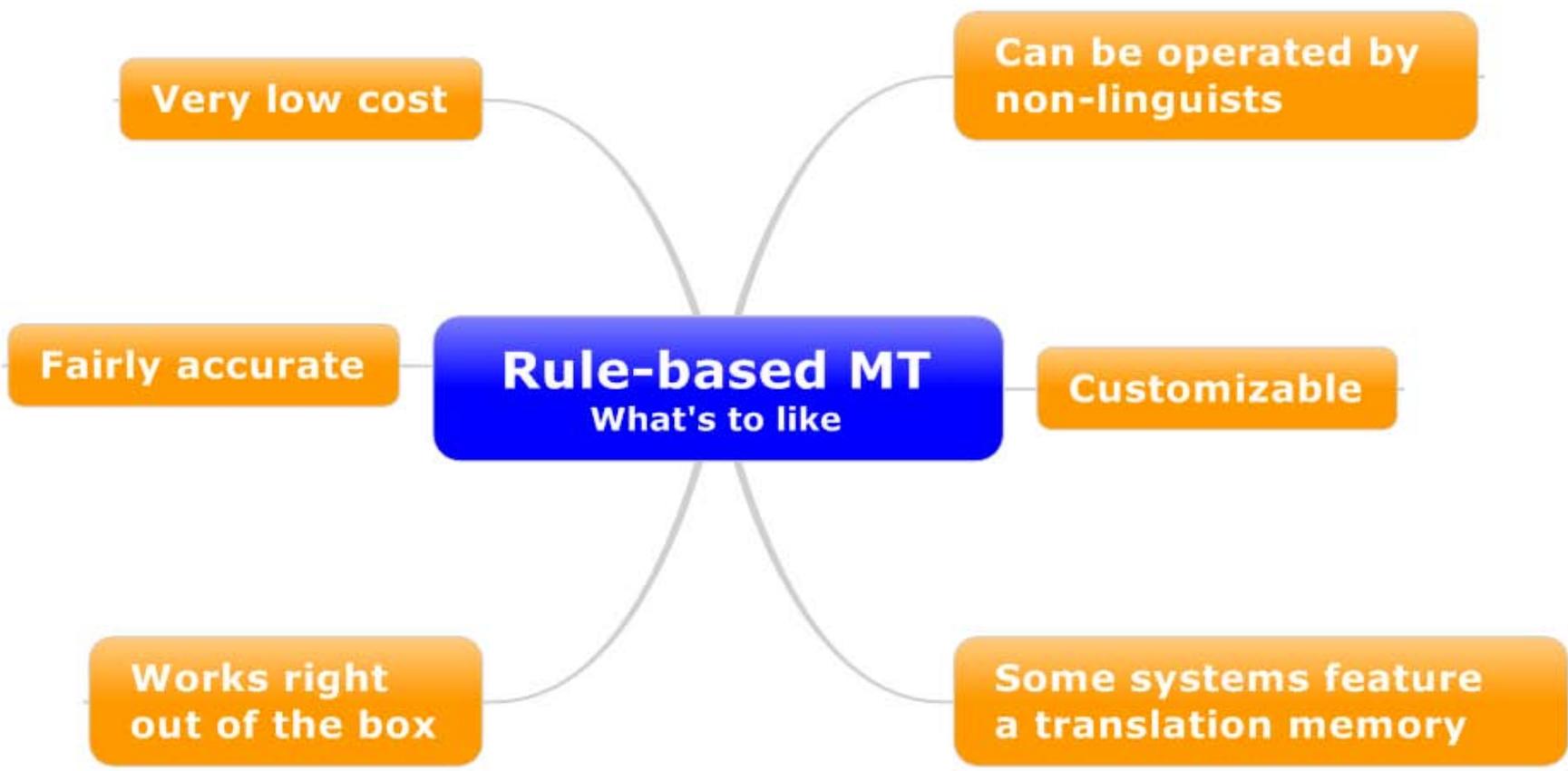
type of machine translation that uses syntactical rules for analyzing sentences in the source language and for generating sentences in the target language

# Rule-based Machine Translation



# Rule-based Machine Translation





How can you customize a rule-based machine translation system?

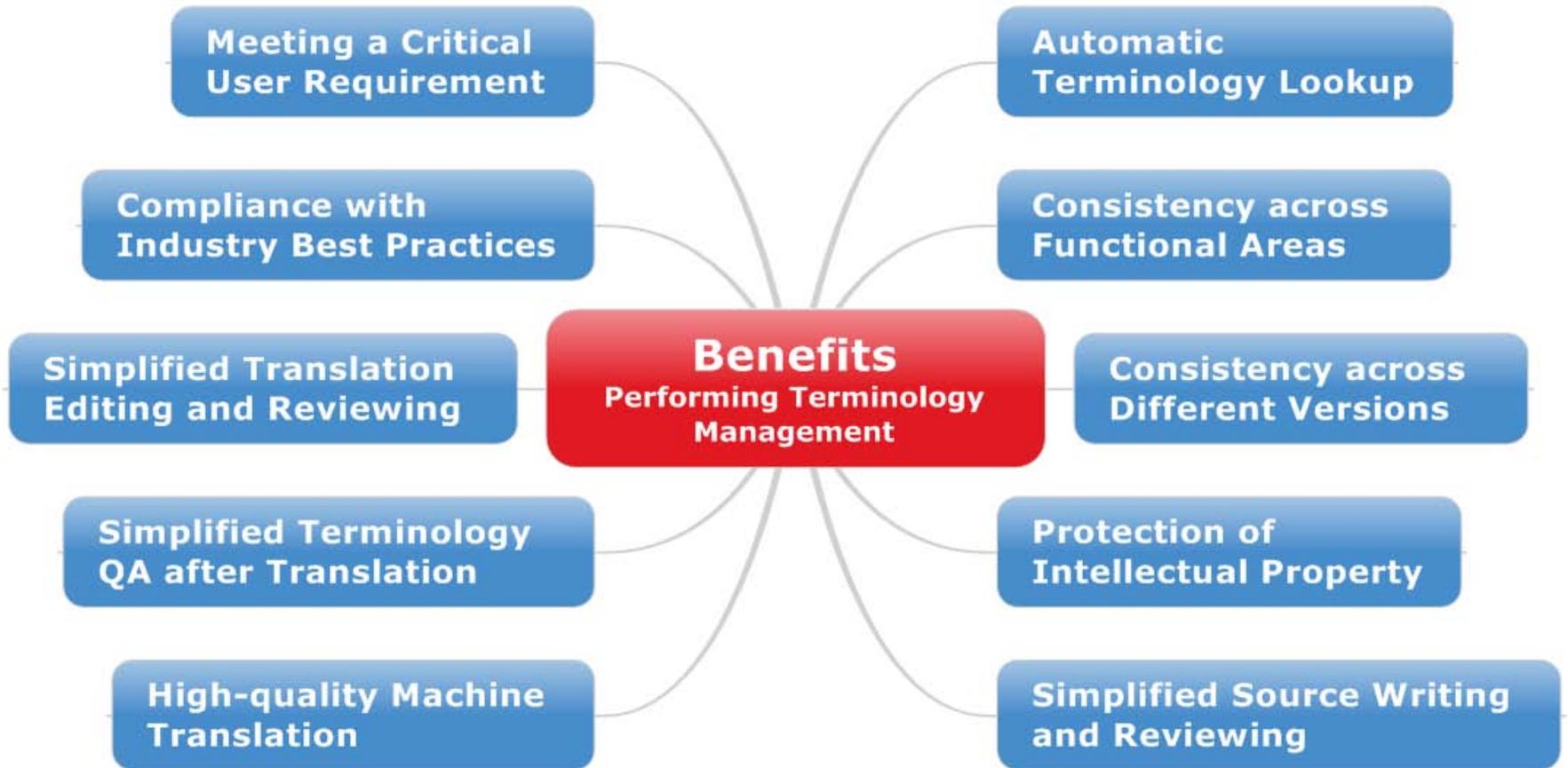


Creating/harvesting project-specific terminology

# *Definition*

**terminology management**

process of controlling key vocabulary





# EN: trautionium

**Definition:** early electronic musical instrument developed in 1929 by Friedrich Trautwein

**Part of Speech:** noun

**Usage Status:** New

**Synonym(s):**

**Sample Image:**

**Pronunciation:**

**Industry:** Musical equipment

**Product Category:** Electric musical equipment

**Product:**

**Company:**

**Related News:**

Free, web-based solutions like TermWiki make terminology management easier than ever



## Image search results for trautionium



## Video search results for trautionium



- Created by Uwe on 11/25, 2010, Last edited by Uwe on 11/25, 2010 -

Home First • Previous • Next • Last | Options

English (EN) • French (FR) • German (DE) • Italian (IT) • Spanish (ES) • Simplified Chinese (ZS) • Japanese (JA) • Korean (KO) Other languages

- home
- Main Page
  - News and Events
  - TermWiki Help

- popular
- My Glossary **New!**
  - Top Contributors 2011
  - TermWiki Toolbar
  - Language Jobs
  - Trendy Terms

search

Go Search

- termwiki
- Dashboard
  - Browse Terms
  - Add a New Term
  - Language Home
  - Industry/Domain
  - Product Category

# Terminology Component of a Rule-based MT System

The screenshot displays the Expert Coding software interface. The main window shows a terminology table with columns for French (Source language) and English (Target language). A blue callout box points to the table with the text: "Adding terminology is as easy as importing a bilingual table".

**Expert Coding**

French (Source language) English (Target language)

Main group

		twig	of	*<FIND0,FR
Category	WordCate...	noun	preposition	undefined
Morphology	Number			
	Inflection			
Semantic	SemanticT...	device		
	EntityNature			
	SemanticC...	countable		
Typography	Hyphen			
Context	SemContext			

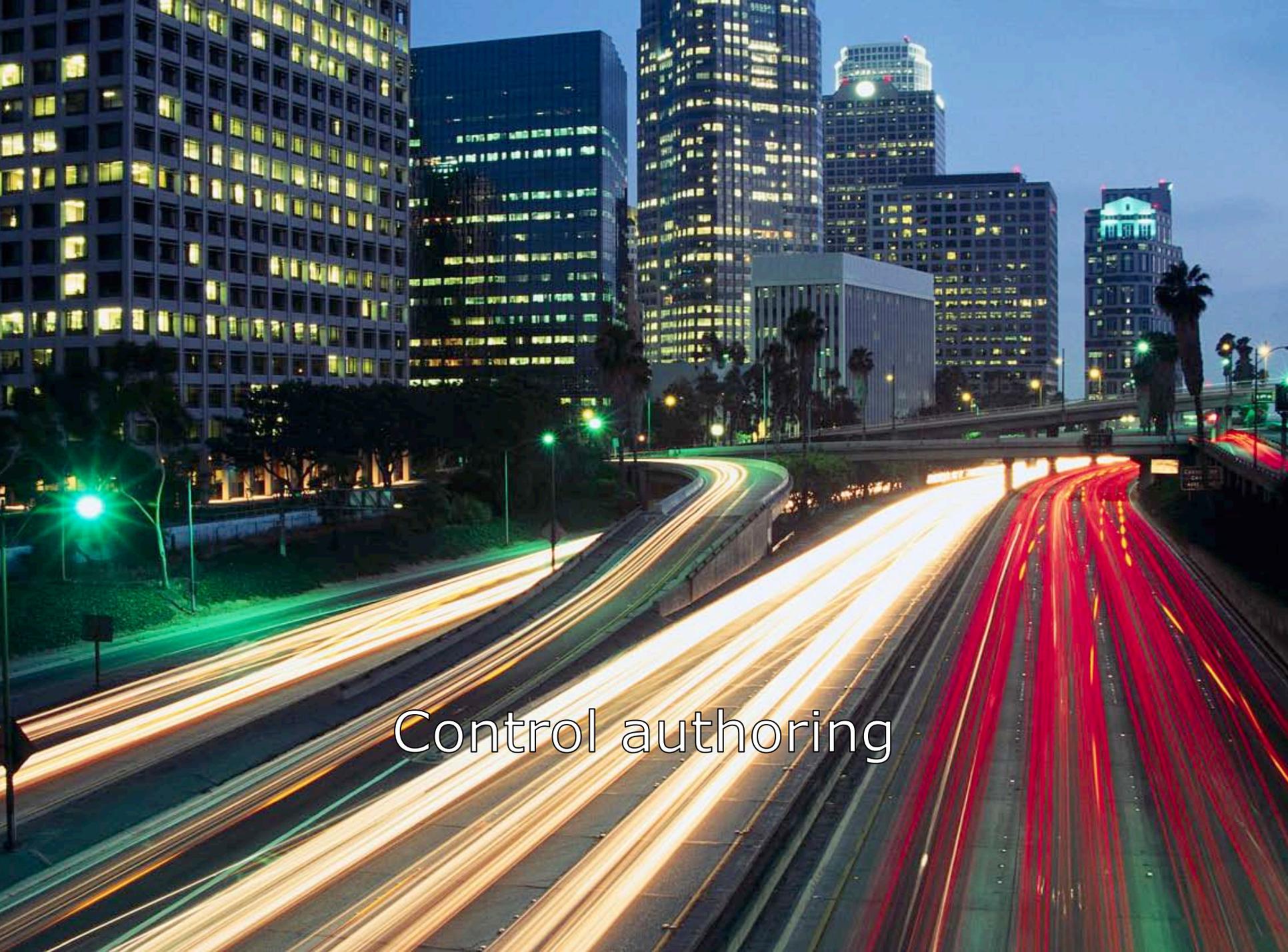
Cuisine 19\_7\_09

	French (Source language)	English (Target language)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	brin de	spring
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	branche de	twig of
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	canette	canned drink
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	caramel de épice	spiced caramel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	tige	stem
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	cercle décalé supérieur	circle with a raised edge

**Open Dictionary**

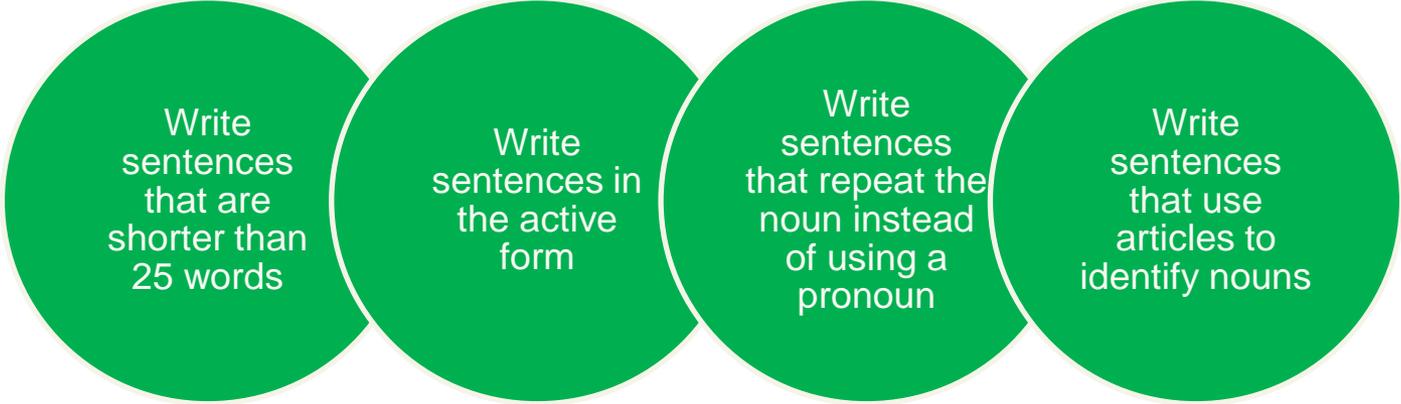
- Siemens DE ENG II
- Siemens DE ENG New
- Siemens Gamma 07\_08
- User Dictionaries**
- compliance list
- Cuisine 19\_7\_09 (Synchronized with Remote Admin)
- culinary import
- FR ENG Culinary (Synchronized with Remote Admin)
- General not in Systran

What else can you do to optimize translation quality?



Control authoring

# Sample Writing Guidelines



Write sentences that are shorter than 25 words

Write sentences in the active form

Write sentences that repeat the noun instead of using a pronoun

Write sentences that use articles to identify nouns

# Quick Demo

The screenshot shows the website **muegge.cc** with a green header containing the text "Maschinenübersetzung", "Kontrollierte Sprache", and "Übersetzungsnormen". Below the header, there are navigation tabs for "Englisch", "Deutsch", and "Französisch". The main content area is divided into three columns:

- Left Column:** A sidebar with a blue background containing links: "Einführung", "Regeln für die Maschinenübersetzung", "Übersetzungspublikationen", "Übersetzungsnormen", "Informationen über diese Website", "Informationen über den Autor", "Google-Anzeigen", "Übersetzer", "Deutsche Sprache", "3 Sprache", "Arabisch Sprache", and another "Google-Anzeigen" section with "Deutschland Überweisung".
- Middle Column:** The main content area. It starts with "muegge.cc" and an "Anmerkung:" section explaining the use of controlled language and machine translation. Below this is a section titled "Produzieren Sie eine virtuelle Version dieser Website in einer anderen Sprache." followed by a list of language pairs: Deutsch > Englisch, Deutsch > Französisch, Deutsch > Italienisch, Deutsch > Portugiesisch, Deutsch > Spanisch, Englisch > Arabisch, Englisch > Chinesisch, Englisch > Deutsch, Englisch > Französisch, Englisch > Griechisch, Englisch > Niederländisch, Englisch > Italienisch, and Englisch > Japanisch.
- Right Column:** A sidebar with a white background containing "Google-Anzeigen" for "Call Germany from USA 3c", "Dirk Vincken Text&Bild", "Beglaubigte Übersetzungen", and "J & M Dolmetschen".

# Sample Translation (Systran)

Der Autor dieser Website benutzte eine kontrollierte Sprache zum Verfassen dieses Textes in der englischen Sprache. In einem zweiten Schritt übersetzte ein maschinelles Übersetzungssystem den englischen Text in die deutsche Sprache.

The author of this website used a controlled language for writing this text in the English language. In a second step translated a machine translation system this English text into German Language.



What are the steps to implementing a rule-based MT program?

**Machine Translation**  
Rule-based pilot

1. Establish a translation productivity baseline

2. Select a suitable source text, determine language pair

3. Deploy an MT system, ideally with translation memory

4. Extract terminology from the source text

5. Have terminology translated and reviewed

6. Import terminology / customize MT system

7. Machine-translate your document(s)

8. Post-edit the machine-generated translations

9. Solicit feedback from readers and post-editors

10. Measure productivity gains, optimize MT system

You can make machine  
translation work  
for you!



# Thank you for your attention!



Uwe Muegge  
uwe.muegge@csoftintl.com  
Twitter: @UweMuegge

