

April 4, 2011

# 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?

```
graph TD; Strategy[Strategy] --- ManageTerminology[Manage Terminology]; Strategy --- ControlAuthoring[Control Authoring]; Strategy --- DeploySolution[Deploy a Small-scale MT Solution];
```

**Strategy**  
Machine translation for  
smaller businesses

**Manage Terminology**

**Control Authoring**

**Deploy a Small-scale MT Solution**

**Uwe  
Muegge**



**Currently**

CSOFT  
Director, Chief Terminologist

ISO  
Member, TC 37

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

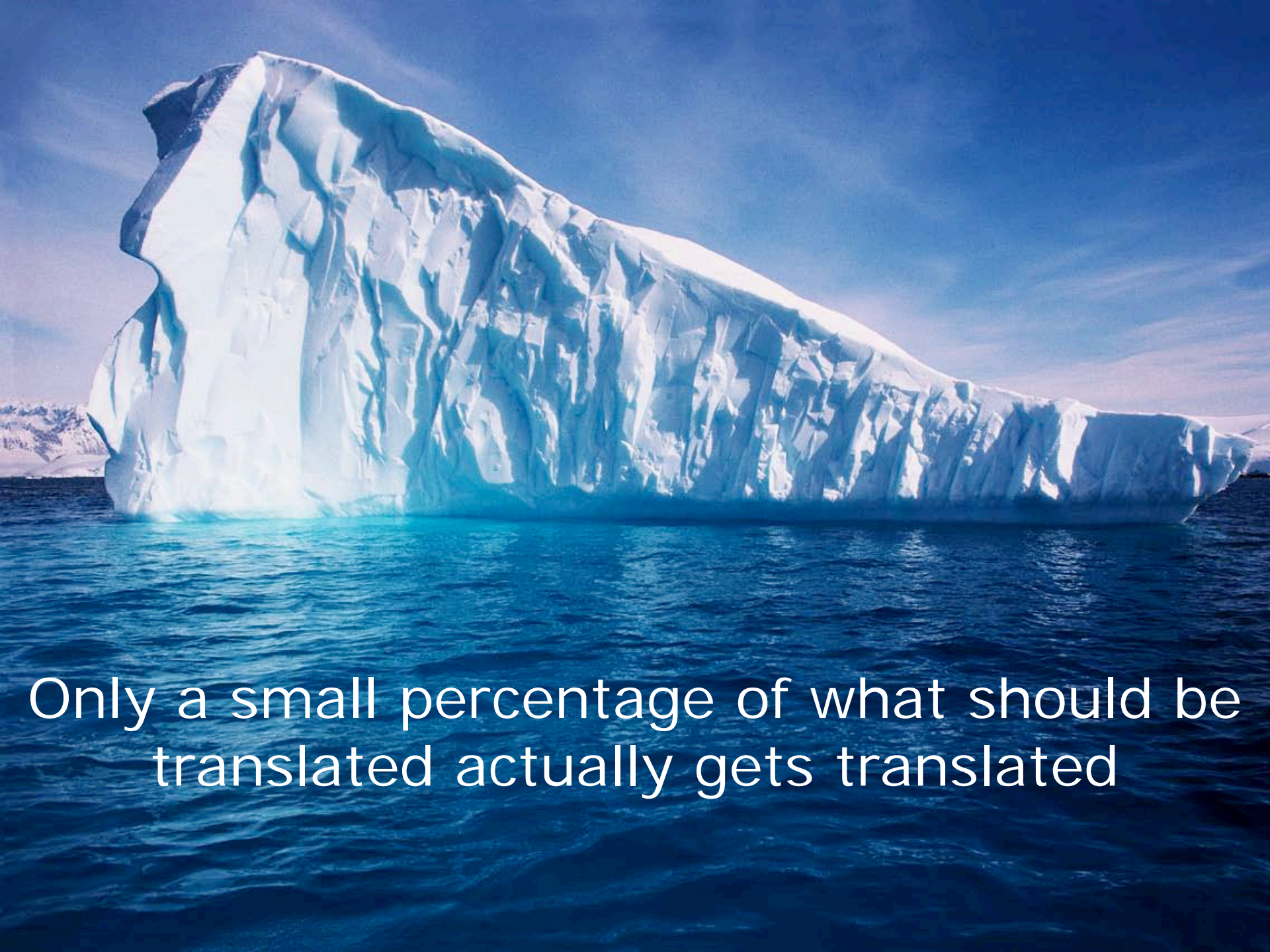
**Previously**

Medtronic  
Corporate Terminologist

J.D. Edwards  
Localization Specialist

Why should you be using  
machine translation?



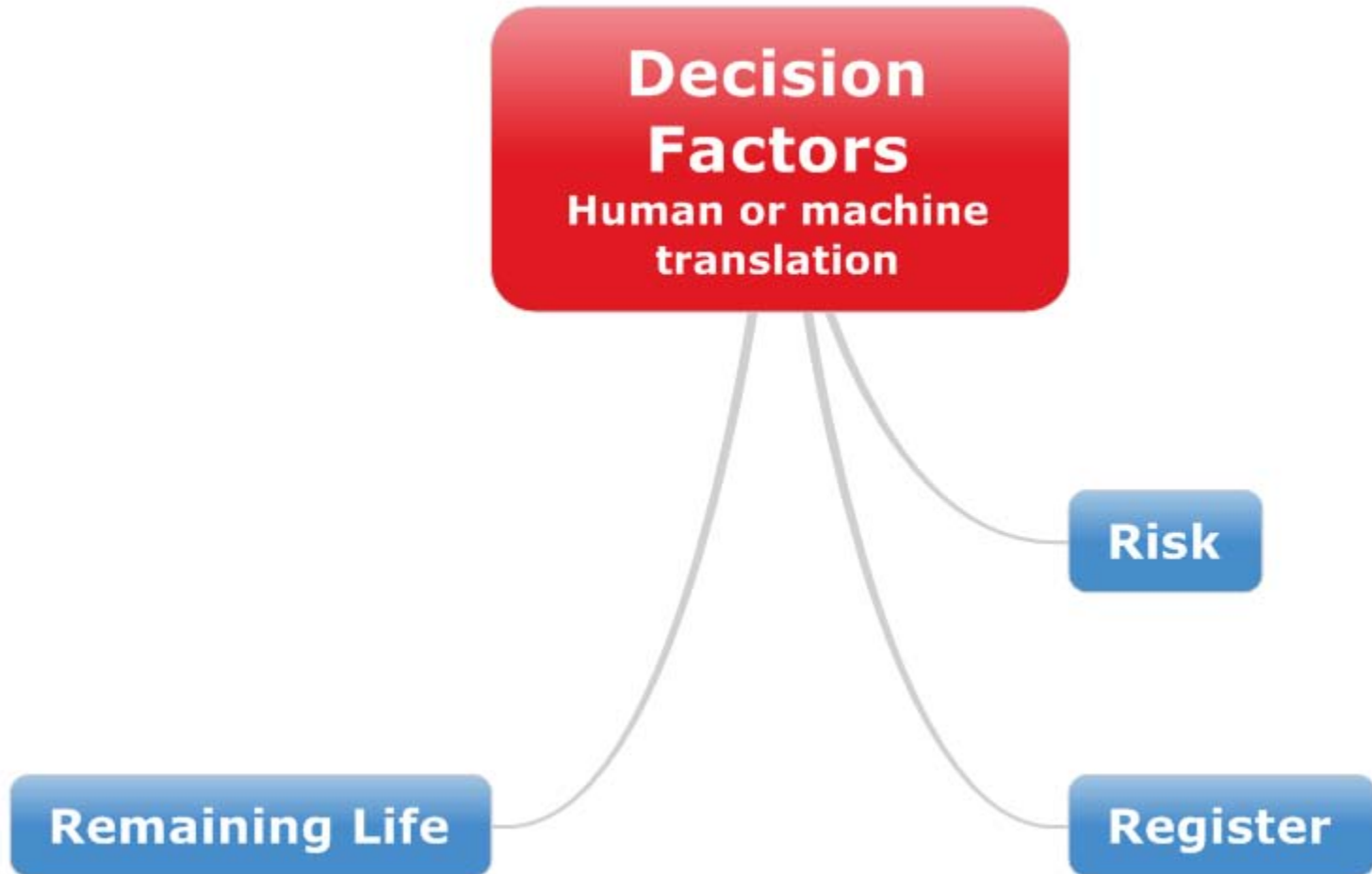


Only a small percentage of what should be translated actually gets translated





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





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

The background of the slide is an abstract, high-tech pattern. It features a dense network of blue and purple lines, resembling circuit traces or data pathways, set against a lighter blue background. The pattern is complex and layered, giving it a three-dimensional feel.

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

What are the strengths and weaknesses of Google Translate?

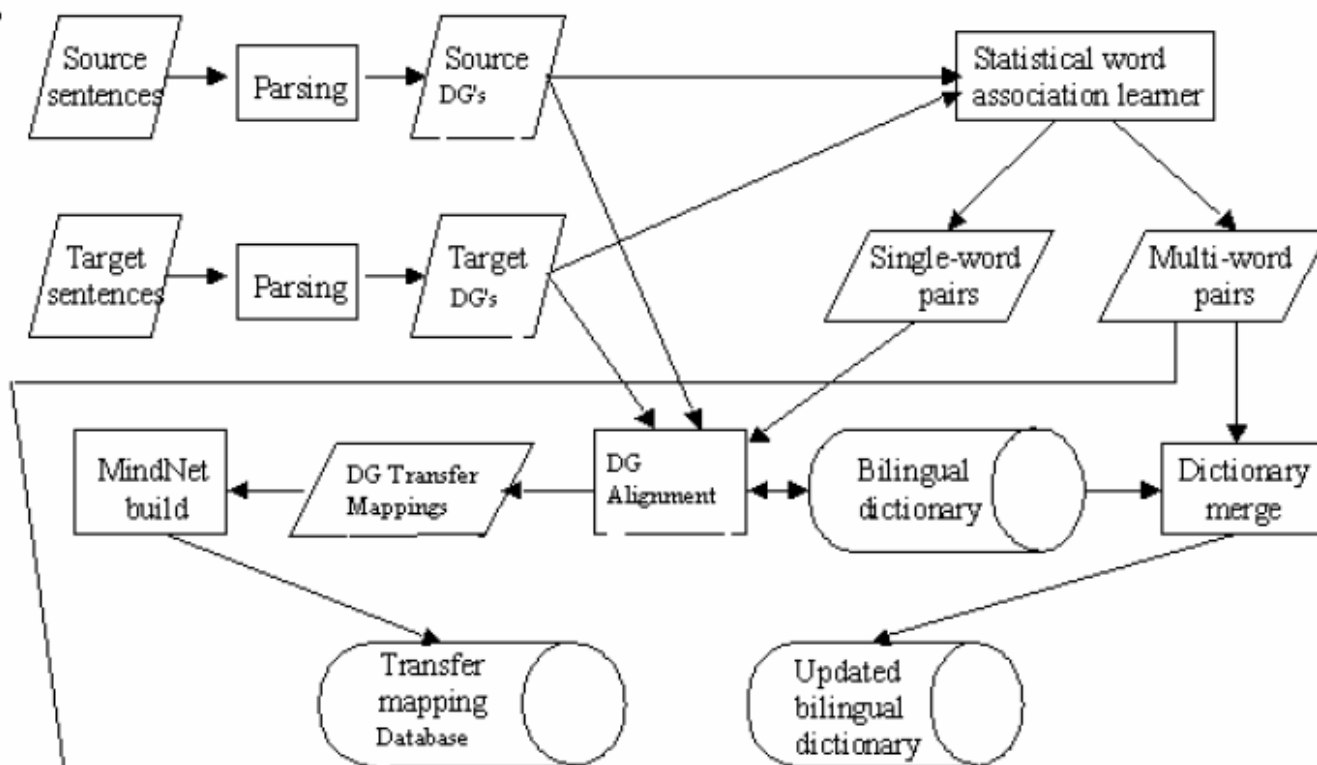
## *Definition*

### **statistical machine translation**

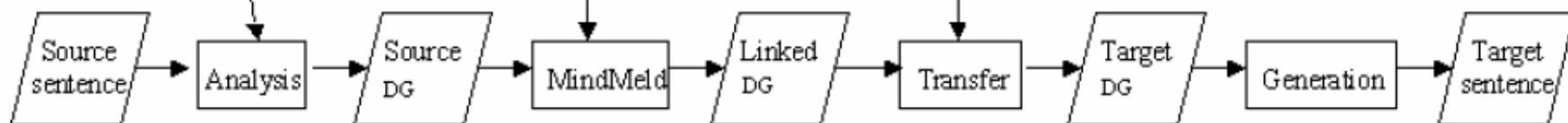
type of machine translation that uses statistical models, which are based on the analysis of large bilingual corpora, to generate sentences in the target language



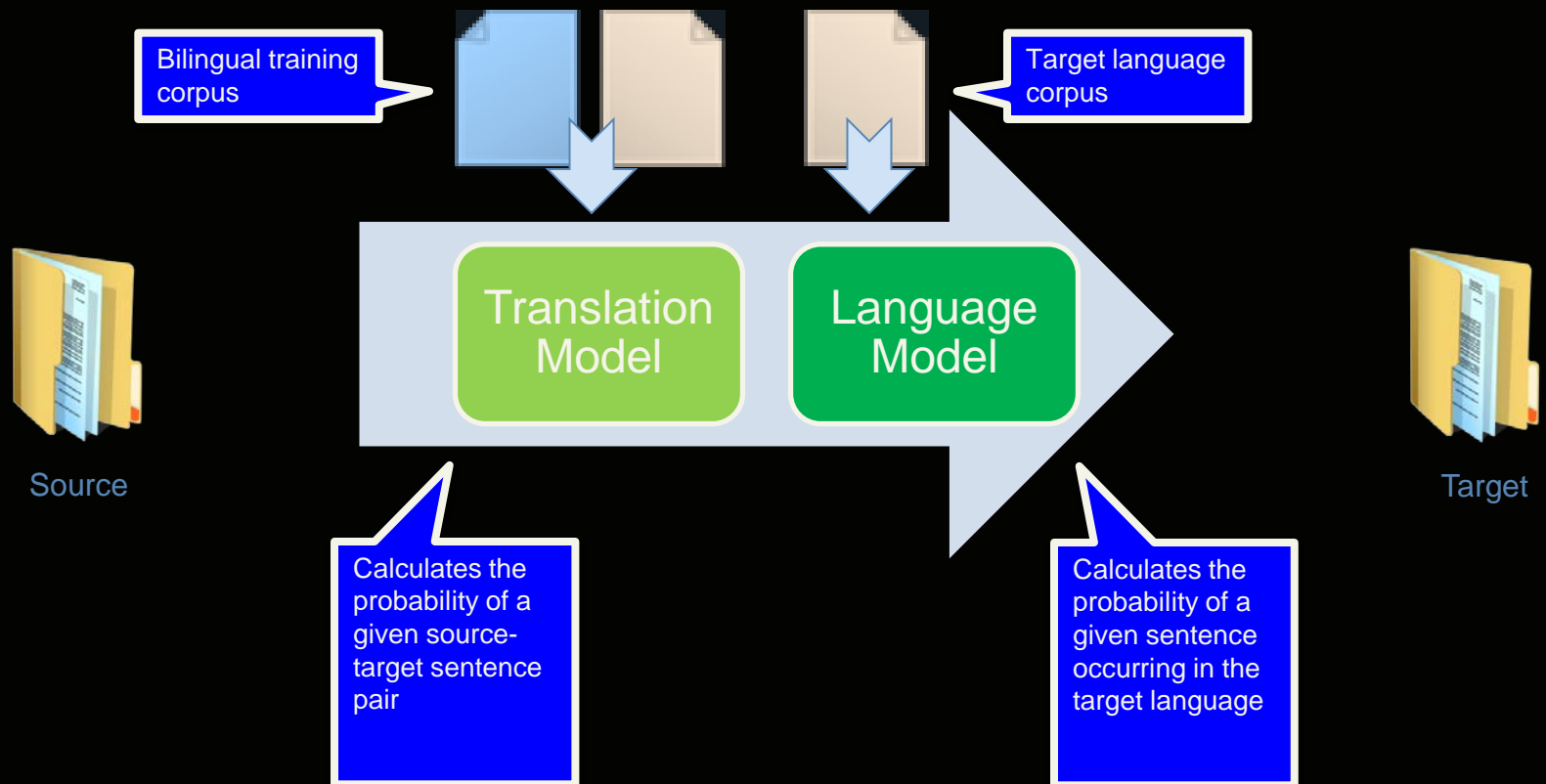
## Training

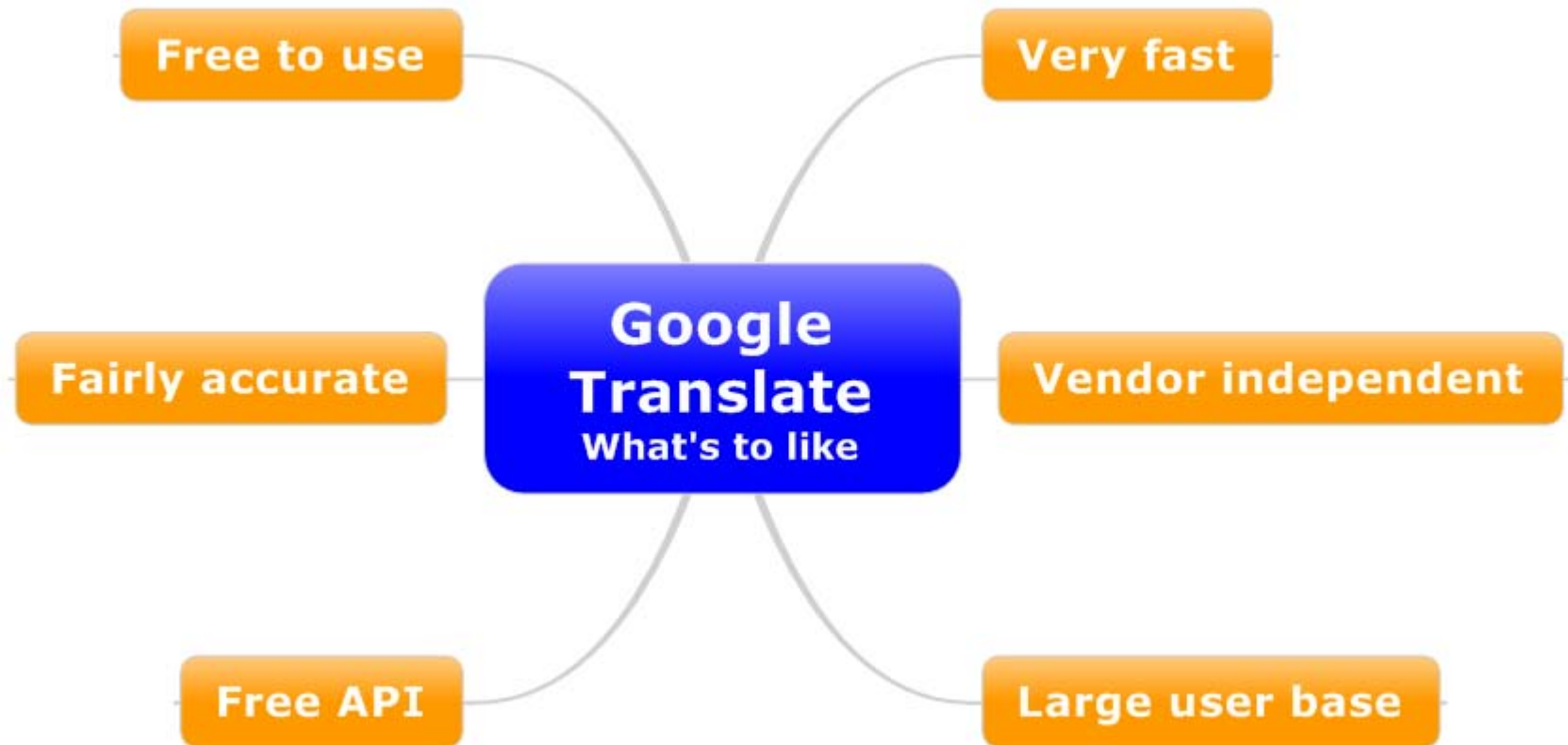


## Runtime



# Statistical Machine Translation





```
graph TD; A[Google Translate] --- B[What's not to like]; A --- C[No control over terminology]; A --- D[No control over style]; A --- E[Privacy concerns];
```

**Google Translate**  
What's not to like

**No control over terminology**

**No control over style**

**Privacy concerns**

## 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

Spanish » English

## Translate a web page

Spanish » English

Google Translate allows you to specify only two things:

- 1) text
- 2) language direction

## 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]; E[User friendly, inexpensive] --- B; F[Tool expensive] --- C; G[Staff expensive] --- D;
```

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

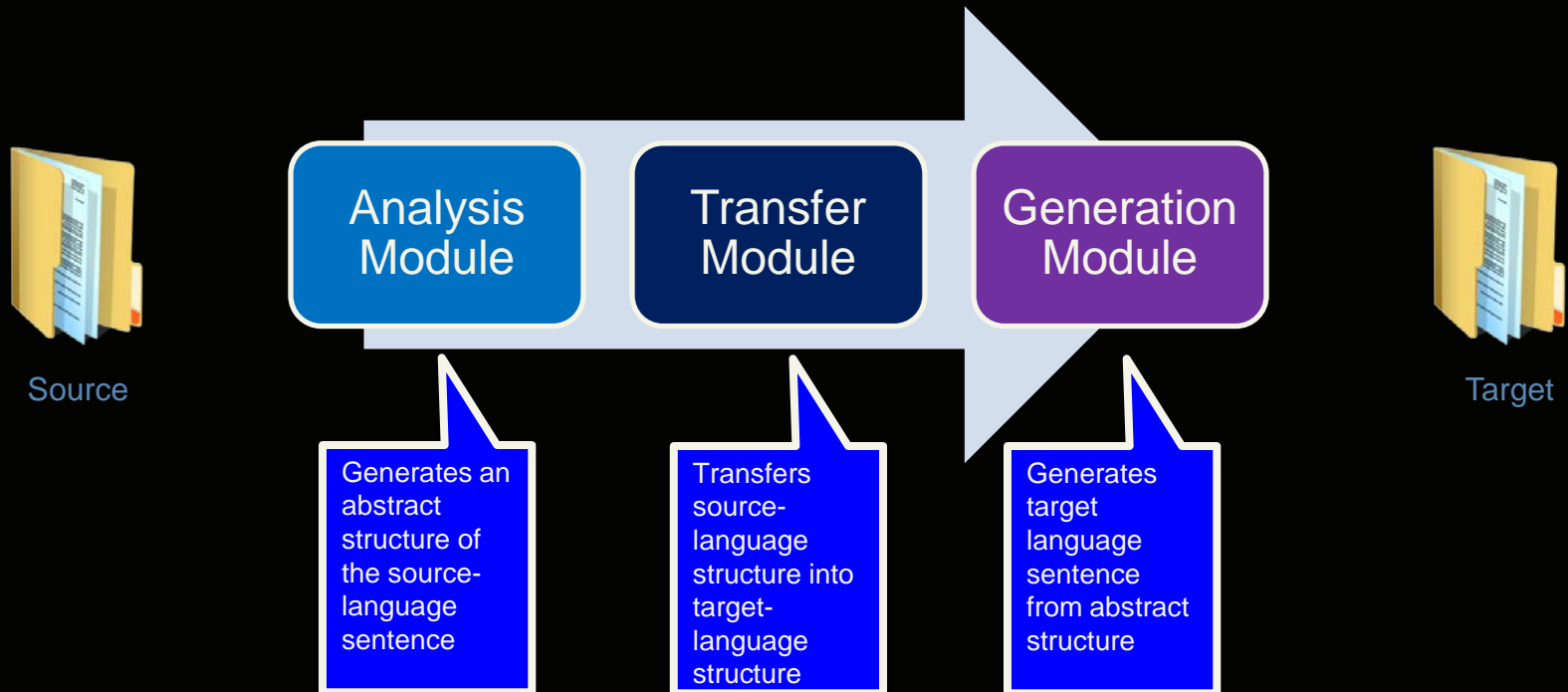


## *Definition*

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

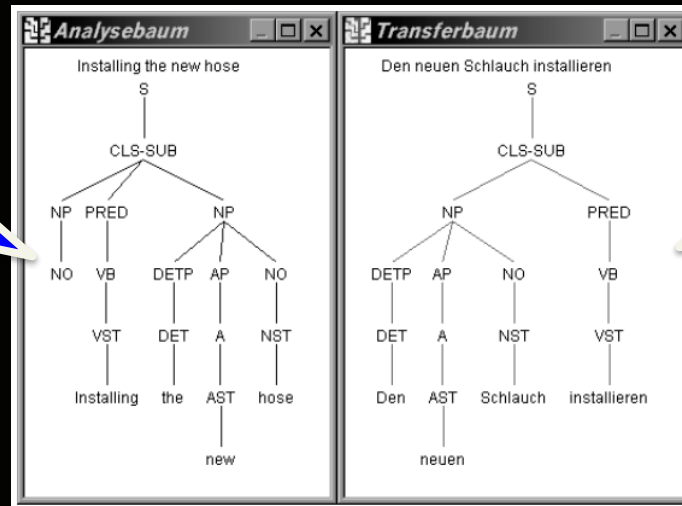
type of machine translation that uses syntactical rules for analyzing sentences in the source language and for generating sentences in the target language

# Rule-based Machine Translation

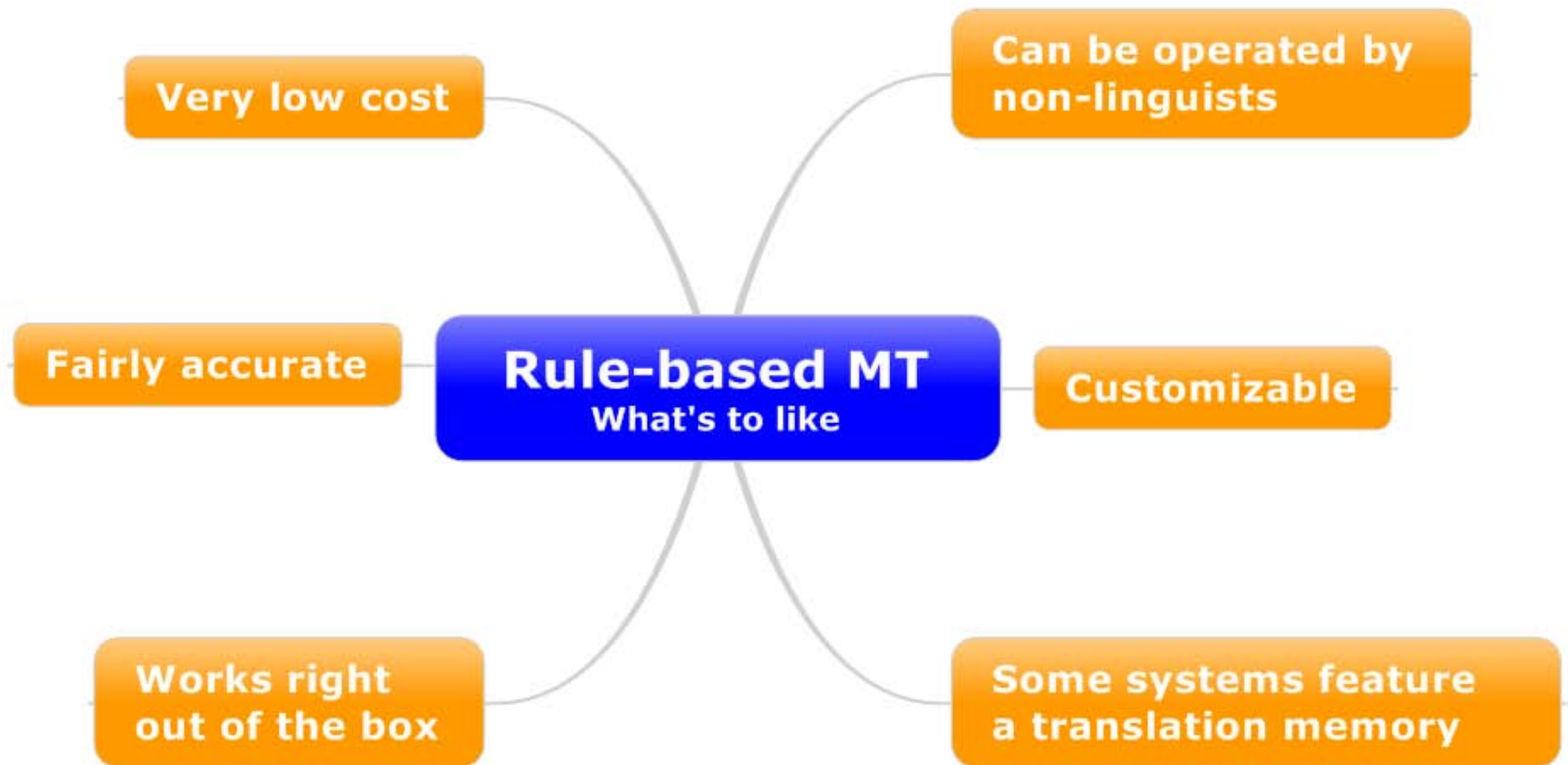


# Rule-based Machine Translation

Analysis tree shows syntactical structure of source sentence



Transfer tree shows syntactical structure of target sentence



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

A large red and yellow combine harvester is shown from a side-on perspective, moving through a vast field of golden wheat. The harvester's long, black and yellow cutting head is visible, and its red upper body contrasts with the yellow lower sections. The sky above is a deep blue with scattered, light white clouds. The foreground is filled with the texture of the wheat stalks.

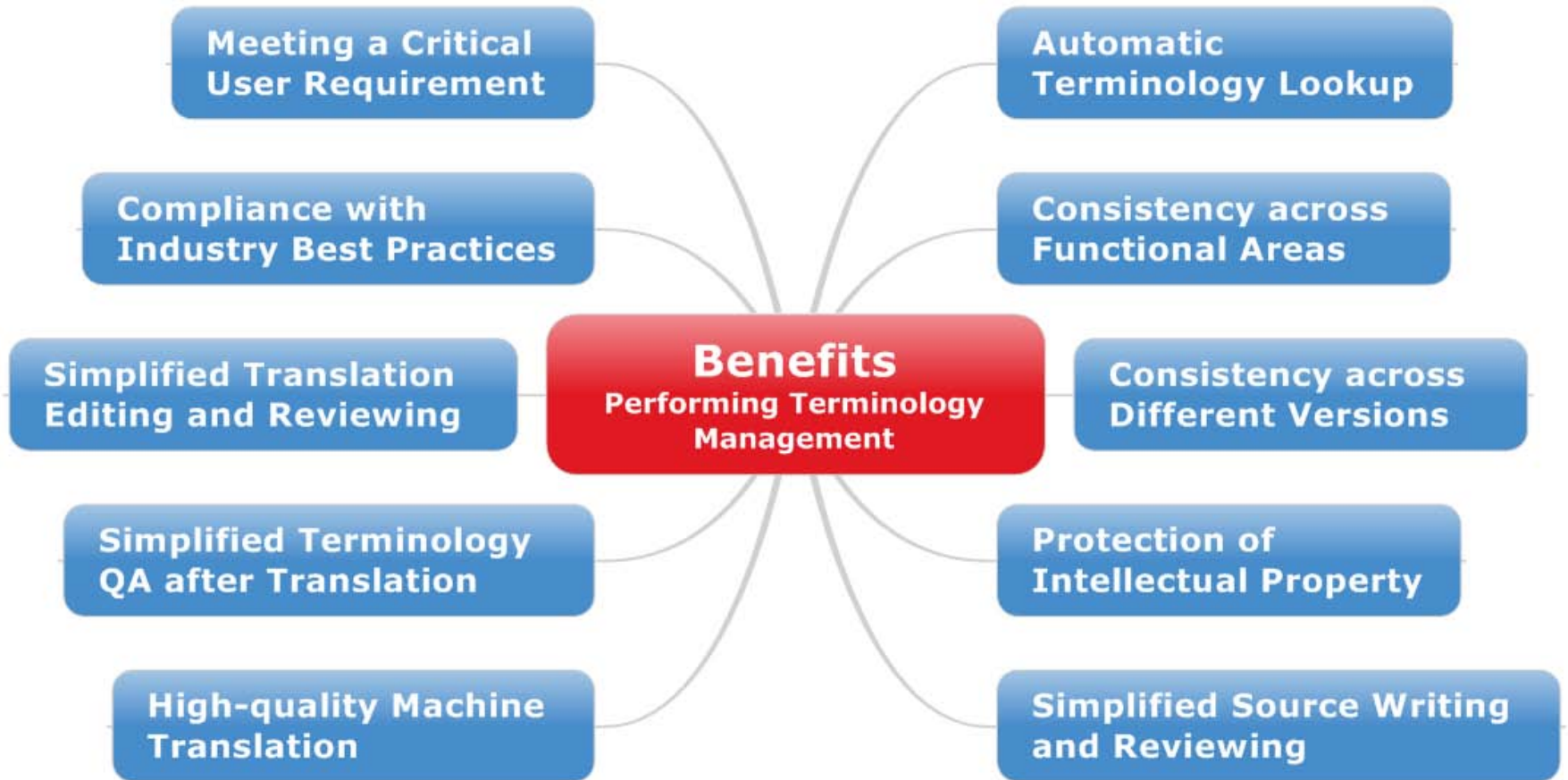
Creating/harvesting project-specific terminology

## *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:**

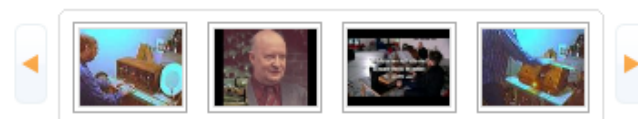
Free, web-based solutions like TermWiki make terminology management easier than ever




## 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 -

 [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

### 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 is titled 'Expert Coding' and shows a bilingual table for terminology. The table has two columns: 'French (Source language)' and 'English (Target language)'. The table is currently displaying the 'Cuisine 19\_7\_09' dictionary. The table content is as follows:

French (Source language)	English (Target language)
brin de	sprig
branche de	twig of
canette	canned drink
caramel de épice	spiced caramel
tige	stem
cercle décalé supérieur	circle with a raised edge

On the right side of the interface, there is a panel titled 'Open Dictionary' which lists several dictionaries, including 'Siemens DE ENG II', 'Siemens DE ENG New', 'Siemens Gamma 07\_08', and 'User Dictionaries'. The 'User Dictionaries' section is expanded, showing 'compliance list', 'Cuisine 19\_7\_09 (Synchronized with Remote Admin)', 'culinary import', 'FR ENG Culinary (Synchronized with Remote Admin)', and 'General not in Systran'.

A blue callout box with white text points to the bilingual table, stating: 'Adding terminology is as easy as importing a bilingual table'.

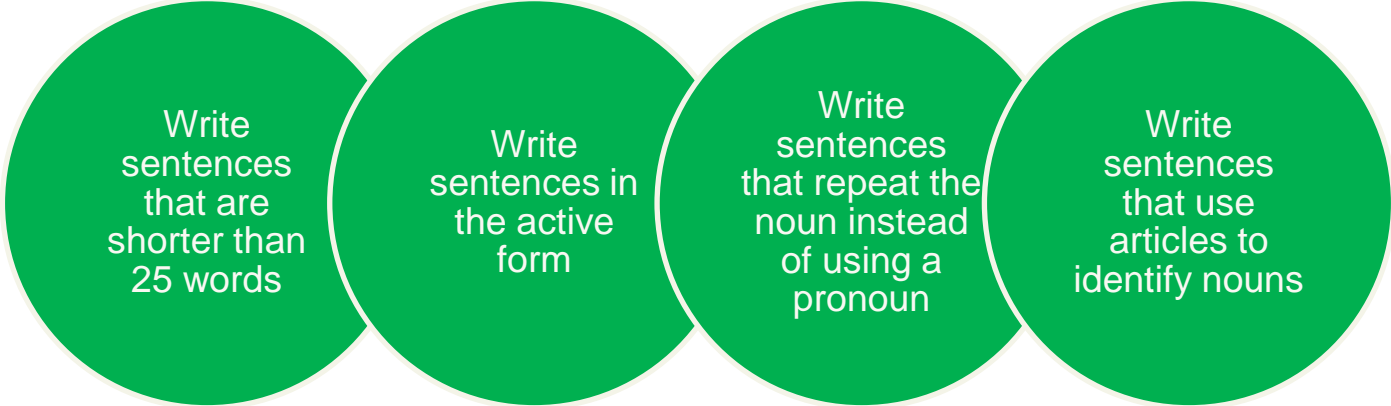
What else can you do to optimize translation quality?



A long-exposure photograph of a city highway at night. The foreground shows multiple lanes of traffic with light trails from cars, appearing as streaks of white and red. The background features several tall, illuminated skyscrapers and a bridge. The text "Control authoring" is overlaid in the center of the image.

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

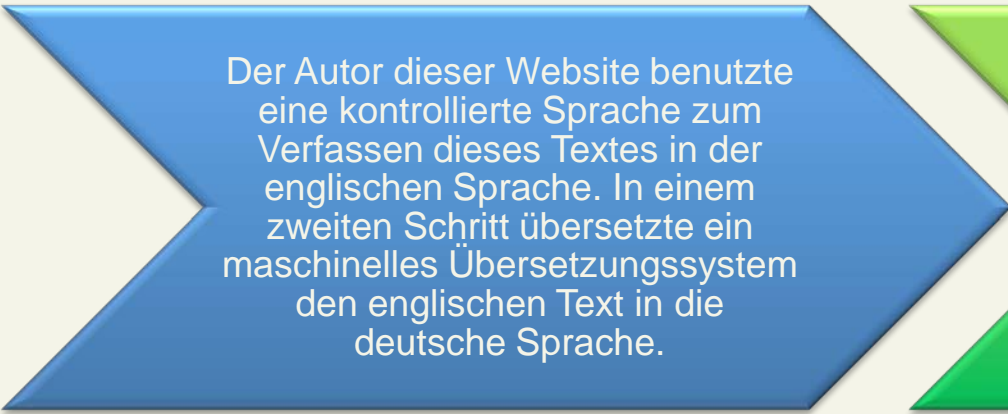


# Quick Demo

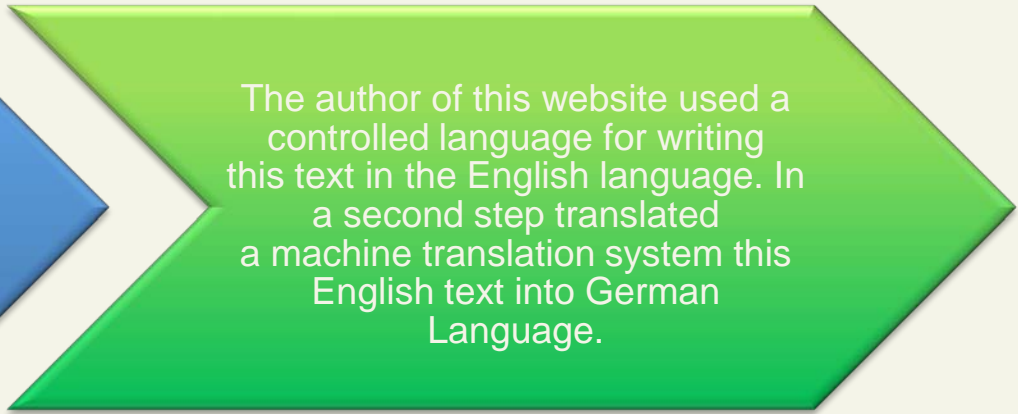




# Sample Translation (Systran)



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.

```
graph TD; Strategy[Strategy] --- ManageTerminology[Manage Terminology]; Strategy --- ControlAuthoring[Control Authoring]; Strategy --- DeploySolution[Deploy a Small-scale MT Solution];
```

**Strategy**  
Machine translation for  
smaller businesses

**Manage Terminology**

**Deploy a Small-scale MT Solution**

**Control Authoring**

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](mailto:uwe.muegge@csoftintl.com)  
Twitter: @UweMuegge

