Machine Translation versus Human Translation with Reference to Pronouns: A Study of Agreement Errors in English –Arabic Texts

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Abstract


This thesis deals with the phenomenon of agreement focusing on rendering six types of pronouns: personal pronouns, possessive pronouns, relative pronouns, demonstrative pronouns, interrogative and reflexive pronouns in addition to the dual phenomenon through comparing and contrasting two kinds of translation: machine translation (MT) and human translation (HT). The data of this study consist of (84) sentences, most of which have been designed to achieve the goal of this study; the rest of the sentences (20 sentences) have been taken from different English grammar books. These sentences have been used as input testing data for both MT and HT. The data analysis has shown that MT has more mistakes than HT. Besides, MT output reflects many deficiencies and problems in MT system and it is not good enough to be published without human intervention whether in post- editing, or pre- editing or some times both of them. Nevertheless, these shortcomings and defects in MT do not mean that HT is perfect. This emphasises that human has more power to understand, think and produce natural language (NL) than MT.