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# Differences in Hindi-English Language Pairs and Machine Translation

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## Article Info

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*Abstract* One important aspect of translating across languages is divergence. When there is a structural difference between the source and target sentences in a translated text or document, a divergence issue occurs. The issues of divergence across languages are something that machine translation has to address. While many machine translation researchers have considered this issue, it remains challenging to create universal solutions applicable to all language pairs. Thus, the area of translation divergence for many language pairings requires further research. This article has examined a distinct pattern of divergence in translation between two languages, namely the Hindi-English language pair. In order to pinpoint where the Hindi English language pair differs, we have detailed the many constructs for both languages. By doing so, we may devise plans to deal with such scenarios and arrive at accurate translations. Bonnie J. Dorr's (1994) categorization provides the basis for this paper's methodology, which is based on the work of Sinha and Thakur (2005). Since there are many different types of differences between the Hindi and English languages, this study will concentrate on them.

*Keywords:* Language, Linguistic Divergence, Machine Translation.

## I. INTRODUCTION

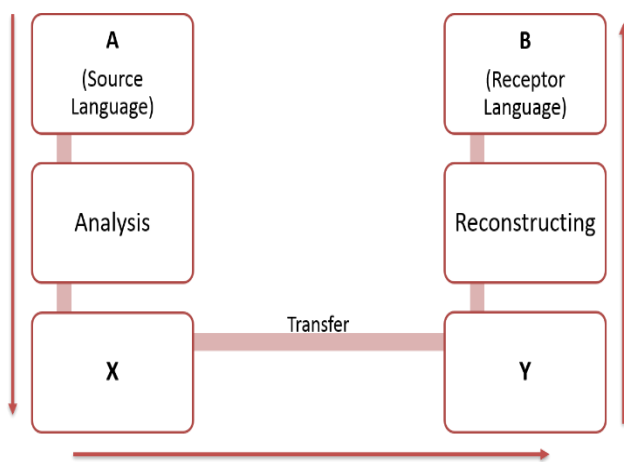
A complex system of human activity, language has many facets. In human interaction, it is crucial for communication. Just as every human being shares similar signs and codes that make up a language, every human being may share thoughts, sentiments, emotions, and beliefs with every other human being. Winks, flags, nods, short-hand, horns, Braille, the alphabet, grins, mathematical symbols, drawings, morse code, dancing, miming, acting, maps, and many other ways exist for humans to communicate. The aforementioned methods, however, have certain limitations and also rely on language alone. They lack the breadth, depth, perfection, and adaptability of language. We find it hard to imagine life in a society where language is not used. Language has a crucial role in human communication since it shapes and directs people's ideas, thoughts, and actions. Philosophy and human ideas are passed on from one generation to another via the medium of language. The fact that it permeates every aspect of human life makes it really global. As essential as breathing, it is the most valuable possession a person may own. Modern society has bestowed onto every individual the gift of language, which is uniquely human.

"Talking animals" (*homo loquens*) is the term used to describe humans. due of the terminology used.

Animals also possess a linguistic system,

however it is severely restricted to conveying basic needs such as hunger, thirst, rage, fear, etc. When it comes to people, however, things change drastically. There is no limit to the amount of communications that humans may exchange with one another. The ability to communicate verbally allows us to pass on our wisdom and experience to future generations. Everyone utilizes language to communicate with others; it's like a universal code. The number of languages spoken by humans ranges from about 6,000 to over 7,000. Nonetheless, dialects and languages impact any particular estimate. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing are the four main ways in which language is expressed. Learning the fundamentals—the system's structure, norms, and conventions—is necessary for active participation in school and society. Language is formed in the human mind via the cognitive process. Transforming, reducing, elaborating, storing, recovering, and using sensory information is what it's all about. Language is used in many aspects of social life. There is absolute certainty on the link between language and society. There is an enduring bond between the two. The other will suffer if the first one becomes extinct. We rely on language to maintain the peace and order in our society. It is the principal means of expression, expression of power and authority, and accomplishment of aims and objectives. However, it has the potential to destroy civilization if misused. It

must follow the consistency prevailing in the society to avoid divergence and to meet the boundary of individual differences, as each one of us has our own perception and point of view. Society however controls our languages by giving preferences as to what kind of language is acceptable and what not. We human beings must know how and where to use a particular kind of language. It might be possible that a certain kind of language is acceptable by a particular group and the same language is not acceptable by another group. This affects values in ways that have not been accurately understood. Language incorporates social values. However, social



values are only the same as the linguistic values when the society is an unchanging one. Once society starts changing, then language changes produce special effects. Some of the most commonly approved definitions of language given by the experts in the field of linguistics are given below: Edward Sapir (1921) says: “Language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desires by means of voluntarily produced symbols”.

According to Hall (1969), language is “the institution whereby humans communicate and interact with each other by means of habitually used oral-auditoryarbitrary symbols.”

In the words of Noam Chomsky (1957), language is “a set of (finite or infinite) sentences, each finite in length and constructed out of a finite set of elements. (Syal&Jindal, 2011 p.4). As we all live in global world there is a huge demand for translation of texts/documents from one language to another language and especially in such a large multilingual society as India. Translation is the gist of a text and the following production of a subsequent text, similarly called a translation, which communicates the equivalent message in another language. The text

that is translated is known as source text, and the manuscript into which it is translated is known as the target text. Translation is eventually a human action which enables individuals to swap information and feelings in spite of the various languages used. Linguistic diversity is reflected in more than five thousand languages existing in the world. It is trick for human beings to know and be familiar with all the languages of humankind. Thus, the method of translation has been adopted to converse the messages from one tongue to another. According to Munday (2016), “The English term translation, first attested in around 1340, derives either from Old French translation or more directly from the Latin *translatio* („transporting“),itself coming from the

participle of the verb *transferre* („to carry over“) (Munday, 2001p.7). The human translation process, for instance, may be described as:

- a. Decoding the meaning of the source text.
- b. Re-encoding the meaning in the target language”

There are many linguists who have defined translation in many ways and also described the process of translation. Nida and Taber (1969) in Munday (2001) have given the three stages of translation. The fig. given below shows the

translation process.

**Fig.1: Diagram of the Translation Process**  
(Munday, 2001p.63).

From the above figure, it is clear that source language is analysed the relationship based on grammar and the meaning of words and how they combine with each other. It can also be seen how it transfers the meaning from source language into target language. The structuring phase is the stage where the translator re-arranges or re-writes the text in

such a way that the target product still remains meaningful and it can be read by everyone and the rules and styles of the target language are also maintained.

## II. TYPES OF TRANSLATION

Different kinds of translations exist. These are what Brislin claims to be:

a. **Pragmatic Translation**—This approach to translation focuses on presenting the message accurately in its original SL (source language) form without adding any additional meaning or ideas. b. **Aesthetic-Poetic Translation**—The second kind of translation pays as much attention to the original work's emotional feeling and beauty as it does to its intellectual content. c. **Ethnographic Translation**—This approach to translation explores the cultural background of both the source and destination languages via visual representations. In order to accurately translate culturally significant terms, translators need to be familiar with their original context and know how to fit the words into their target language.

d. **Linguistic Translation**- The last one deals with the equivalence of meaning in the SL and TL (Target language). It deals with morphemes of the SL and grammatical form (yayang345.blogspot.com).

“Jakobson has also mentioned three different kinds of translations and they are as follows:

- a. Intralingual translation, or 'rewording': 'an interpretation of verbal signs by means of other signs of the same language'.
- b. Interlingual translation, or 'translation proper': 'an interpretation of verbal signs by means of some other language'.
- c. Intersemiotic translation, or 'transmutation': 'an interpretation of verbal signs by means of signs of non-verbal sign systems'.

When we reword a statement or text inside the same language to make something more clear or understandable, that's an example of intralingual translation. A case of intersemiotic translation would be the adaptation of a written work into another medium, such as visual art, cinema, or music. The conventional, though far from exclusive, emphasis of translation studies has been on translation across languages. According to Sunday (2001, p. 9), []. Translating from one language to another is the act of conveying ideas and information from one language to another. Even within the same language, from one dialect to another, translation is possible. But in the

poetry world, translation is a widespread practice. The poets think that translation is an act of metamorphosis and interpretation. Everyone might agree that there are several ways to describe translation, but the truth is that every translation process involves making meaning of something. A translated text may seem different from the original, but the meaning or message must remain the same.

One analogy that comes to me while thinking about translation is how two individuals may wear the same kind of clothing to the same event in quite different ways.

Depending on the nature of the papers that require translation, the procedure might be either straightforward or difficult. When translating a document, it's more easier to stick to the original wording, grammatical rules, and sentence patterns than when working with a text or document. The effectiveness of a translation depends on how well it meets the requirements of the intended readers in terms of sense, structure, and meaning. To provide an accurate translation, it is important for the translator to be fluent in both languages. A translator must pay close attention to the original text in order to capture its essence, culture, and meaning. When rearranging and rewriting the original material, the translator must rely on her or his own inventiveness. The individual's cultural background and unique character will shine through in the work of art that he or she creates. The translator maintains an eye on the language and sentence structure of both texts as they work to translate them. The most important point to keep in mind is the cultural context of the source text so that the translator understands the meaning of the text in an accurate manner and is able to translate the language and its proper contextual and cultural connotations and denotations too. In order to preserve the original meaning of the source text, translators adhere to these criteria. It is critical for a translator to provide the most accurate translation of a particular content. You can become a better translator with only a little amount of practice. A good translation should be able to put themselves in the shoes of the original

author. A good translator should always keep in mind that the essence or meaning of the original text should not get vanished from the text; the target text should look as similar as the original text or it should be very close to it. A good translator has experience of translating texts, and also has the knowledge about the necessity of knowing the contents/socio-cultural context of a text to make changes accordingly. The ability to make the translated text seem identical to the source material is a hallmark of a reliable translator. A good translator should have an organized personality with little flexibility, and should have the knowledge of how to use technology so that s/he can pay attention to each and every point very closely and know what is there to adapt from the original text and what not. And the most important thing a translator should have is the detailed and clear knowledge of both the languages and the subject which s/he is working upon. If a translator is working on the life of any great personality and is translating a biography, s/he should have deeper knowledge about the life of that person. It is very important for a translator to have good language skills and command on vocabulary so that s/he can make good choice of words. The translators who have experience know how to use technical words in a proper way including the use of monolingual dictionaries, bilingual dictionaries and encyclopaedias etc. A translator should make use of these resources as soon as s/he starts writing or translating any text or document so that after a few attempts it will become easy for the writer/translator to use these glossaries /terms in a more effective way and it will also consume less time. Creativity is the most important thing a translator should have. The translator who is experienced will carry source text into target text with much more creativity and will make it possible that the target audience should enjoy the text the same way as the audience of the source text would have enjoyed. And though translators use different structures from the original text yet they are used in such a way that they look appealing to the target audience. There is always an important point for a translator related to how serious

s/he is towards the work s/he is doing. A good translator should have in depth knowledge of the source text so that s/he can do justice with the source text and translate it most effectively in the target text. A translator should keep the habit of reading newspapers, journals, classics, digital material in routine as these may help to have a greater command on the language. Another important part of translation is linguistic competence. A translator should have the knowledge of grammar and linguistic levels such as syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features. A translator has the right to convey an idea in her/his own way that is different from the source text but it's not that s/he can use her/his own idea or personal opinion in the target text. Moreover, the translator should keep in mind the style being used for the target text should sound natural and appealing to the audience of the translated text. For the translators it is also important that they should have knowledge about the latest developments of words and phrases of the source text because every now and then new terminology keeps emerging. To sum up, it can be said that the act of translation is not as easy as it sounds and one should have patience and full dedication towards the work one is doing. A translator should go through the work many times before submitting the final. There should be an assurance in the mind of the translator that the quality which s/he is finalizing is the best one for the target audience ([osou.ac.in/eresources](http://osou.ac.in/eresources)). So, the above discussion makes it clear as to what qualities a good translator should have and also the importance of translators in contemporary times.

Recent years have witnessed the development of new type of translators called the machine translators, where the work of the human translators is done by a machine. Machine Translation can be defined as the learning of scheming of the systems which translate one individual tongue into a different one. These systems take results in one natural tongue and translate it into a new human tongue. In this compound method, it is mandatory for the translators to collect a cluster of things into cognizance. As for illustration, an individual is able to evaluate a translation

value that how universal and easy it sounds in the target language. Translation should be done in such a way that the reader may not even think that the source work was written in a different tongue and was translated. The original sense of the source must be preserved. The tone of the manuscript, contextual references, slang,

cultural and specific expressions are some of the few elements that are taken into account by the translators for good results. Machine translators first analyse the construction of each and every phrase or term of the source manuscript.

They this arrangement is split down into elements that can be easily translated and is recomposed in terms of a similar structure in the target language. The machine translated texts are poor in quality than an individual's translation and this is for the reason that the formation of every tongue is unlike and it's not taken into account by most of the translators. Word to word translations by some translators, in some cases, provide terrible results. The translation may not sound natural and it may comprise of many grammatical mistakes, lose its original meaning and may not be well structured. Moreover, depending on the context, some words can have different possible meanings in the target language. Due to this fact, human analysis is incomparable. Since the machine translators don't have a global vision, the perfect understanding of machine text becomes inevitable. Most often, the human translators are the native speakers of the target language. This is the reason why, unlike machine translators, human translators are well versed with all the subtleties, expressions, specificities, grammar, slang, cultural connotations and other such aspects of a language which allow them to keep the sense and the quality of the source text and give the finest, most precise and suitable translation. Most human translators may concentrate on a particular field of

knowledge in which they have a translation degree and may have a qualified background. The understanding of human translators in the area of assignment expedites the translation process and provides them an edge over machine translators which are unable to provide accurate translation of specific technical terms. The source text is sometimes left as it is if the machines are unable to provide equivalent terms. Thus, for non-crucial projects which do not require perfect translation but only a general understanding, machine translation can be used. On the contrary, for significant assignments, which will be presented before universal audience, human translation is much more reliable and indispensable to provide and to ensure the ideas an individual wants to convey and can be absolutely understood by the audience. Translation of the texts can be processed by several tools that are free as well as paid and people belonging to all kind of fields of study and professions can now access them very easily. As we all know, machine translation is also important in our day- today life, but there is an important issue or we can say a problem that restricts MT systems to obtain correct translation and that is Translation Divergence. Translation Divergence is a complex topic in MT. When syntactically and lexically similar sentences of L1 do not completely translate into the sentences that are similar in syntactical and lexical structures in the target language L2, then language divergence comes into being. The qualities of translations are affected at different levels according to the degree of complexity involved in a particular language pair. If we talk about the language pair Hindi-English, it is important to know that Hindi and English differ in many aspects and hence translation in this language pair presents a rich source for the study of translation in Machine

Translation. These languages also show differences from the point of view of syntactic and lexical perspective that need to be properly examined. The language divergence between Hindi and English can be considered as SOV (subject-object-verb)

and SVO (subject-verb-object) classes of languages.

### III. METHODOLOGY

The research delves into the several instances where machine translation from Hindi to English differs from human viewpoints. Starting with Dorr's (1994) categorization of translation divergence, we investigate the subject of divergence in the Hindi and English language pairs.

As cited in Sinha and Thakur [2005:245-264] by Dorr (1994), seven categories of translation divergences have been established. These courses include:

(a) Thematic Divergence: This kind of divergence happens when two sentences in two languages have verb structures that are distinct from each other. It happens when a verb's subject in one language becomes the verb's subject in another following translation.

For example, Manisha thinks Kaveri is cute. As we can see from the above example, the word "kaveri" is used as the subject of the primary verb in Hindi, but as an object of the verb in English.

b. The second of the seven divergences, Promotional Divergence (or Head-Swapping Divergence) is important to note. Dissimilarities in syntactic structure give rise to this kind of divergence. Furthermore, a language's grammatical structure may influence another language. So, one definition of promotional divergence is when an adverbial phrase or element from one language becomes the main verb in another, whereas the converse is known as demotional divergence. The music was playing as an example of emotional divergence.

The verb "बजाया एया" is transformed into the adverb "turned on" in English in the previous phrase.

d. On the topic of divergence between the English and Hindi languages, there are several research that have been conducted on the subject. Some of these studies are Jindal [2014], Sinha&Anil [2005], Dorr [1994], and Gupta& Chatterjee [n.d.]. While all of these research have touched on the topic of promotional and emotional divergence, they have all provided instances of the former and none of the latter. As compared to the English-Hindi language pair, the Hindi-English language pair exhibits demotional divergence rather than promotional divergence. As a result, case studies of promotional

difference between Hindi and English have become scarce.

d. an adjective phrase in a different language.

"It was a pleasant morning," for example.

In the above sentence it is seen that in the Hindi sentence

„सुहानी सी सुबह“ is a PP and when it is translated to English it becomes NP in English „a pleasant morning“.

e. Inflational Divergence and Conflational Divergence—the former occurs when a single word in one language may convey the meaning of two or more words in another, while the latter describes the inverse situation.

For example, हड़बड़ा कर वो अद बैदे।

Sitting up, he was perplexed.

In the above sentence it is seen that हड़बड़ा कर are the two words in Hindi but when it gets translated into English it becomes one word that is „perplexed“.

f. Divergence according to Category—This difference pertains to the category. It occurs when the category of a word gets changed. To rephrase, it's when a predicate functions as an adjective in one language but a verb in another. Eg. राजा को ईर्ष्या होने लगी।

Jealousy began to grip the monarch.

In the above sentence „ईर्ष्या होने रगी“ is verb but when it gets translated into English it becomes adjective that is „feeling jealous“.

g. Lexical Divergence- This is the last category of divergence and it occurs when there is a lack of exact words to translate an idea/concept or a phrase from one language to the other. The mother of Rohit burst into tears.

So, here in the above sentence it is seen that the Hindi „रो पड़ी“ gets translated to “broke into” which means, „ज़बरदस्ती घुस आना“ but for translation the word “broke into” has been used.

### IV. CONCLUSION

So, we've covered the seven main differences; from what we've seen, it's clear that translating from Hindi to English, whether by human translators or by machines, is no simple feat; the task becomes even more daunting when dealing with literary translations. Accurate translation

between the Hindi and English languages is a challenging task. A translator working in both Hindi and English must pay close attention to the subtle differences in syntax, semantics, and sociocultural contexts between the two languages.

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