

## ABSTRACT

Studies have shown that readers still prefer human translation (HT), even over translations produced by state-of-the-art Machine Translation systems. Often overlooked when measuring translation quality in machine translation (MT) as compared to HT are lexical and syntactic differences. This paper studies the aspects of *translationese* that are valuable for distinguishing different translation types and whether such unique phenomena can be detected by machine-learning classifiers. In this study, translationese features are defined under the framework of *translation universals* in four aspects - simplification, normalization, explicitation, and interference. We expect that machine-based translation reveals more pronounced translationese than HT. A Support Vector Machine (SVM) classifier is built to conduct three binary classifications of the three commonly available translation types - MT, HT, and post-edit (PE). The results suggest that machine-based translation (i.e., MT and PE) exhibits translationese characteristics which are less present in HT. It is advised that future research should incorporate deeper linguistic representations into the features. Finally, when making cross-comparisons of translation types in future, it is also advised that a single dataset consisting of the same source texts is used, alongside machine-based translations generated from one fixed MT system.