

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an overview of the study. It consists of the background of the research, research questions, research purposes, research significances, conceptual framework, and previous studies.

A. Background of the Research

The phenomenon of using machine translation in today's world is characterized by the widespread adoption of automated language translation systems. It is driven by advances in AI and natural language processing, enabling computers to translate text or speech from one language to another with increasing accuracy and speed. This phenomenon has transformed global communication, making it easier for individuals and businesses to overcome language barriers and interact across linguistic divides. Machine translation is integrated into various forms, from language translation apps and websites to instant messaging platforms and e-commerce websites, facilitating cross-cultural exchanges, international trade, and cross-border collaborations. Thus, the phenomenon of machine translation continues to shape the way we communicate and collaborate in our increasingly interconnected world.

Machine translation offers several benefits, making it a valuable tool for its speed, availability, consistency, and efficiency. Machine translation allows users to quickly understand foreign-language content without significant delays. It can be more cost-effective than hiring human translators, especially for large volumes of text or routine translation tasks. Moreover, machine translation is available 24/7, making it accessible whenever needed, regardless of time zones or working hours. Not only that, machine translation ensures consistent terminology and style throughout a translation, which can be challenging to achieve with multiple human translators. It also increases productivity by automating the translation process, reducing the time and effort required for manual translation.

Machine translation like DeepL Translate, Google Translate, Bing Microsoft Translator, Systran Translate, and Amazon Translate have now achieved general acceptance in the market, being a lifesaver for things that need to obtain consistently accurate translations in the most efficient way possible. But DeepL is one of the most widely recognized and frequently used machine translation services globally. DeepL Translate has a large user base, making it a relevant choice for research as it reflects real-world usage. DeepL Translate needs no introduction, a German business that focuses on developing machine translation technology through deep learning that was launched in 2017 and extensively studies and learns the best translation options from reliable linguistic sources.

However, despite its widespread use, according to Lopez (2008), machine translation also has some undeniable drawbacks. Machines have difficulty understanding context, leading to errors in translations, especially when a word has multiple meanings depending on context. Translating complex sentences, technical documents, or literary texts can be challenging for machine translation systems, resulting in inaccuracies and loss of readability. The thing that should be highlighted the most is that machine translation often struggles to capture the nuances and cultural context present in human languages. As a result, translated text can sound awkward, unclear, or culturally inappropriate.

Legal documents pose unique challenges for machine translation due to their specialized nature, complex terminology, and the importance of precision and nuance in legal language. Several characteristics also make them difficult to translate accurately using tools like DeepL Translate. Legal documents are filled with highly specialized terminology that may not have direct equivalents in the target language. Legal terms and concepts can vary significantly from one legal system to another, making it challenging for machine translation systems to accurately identify and translate them. Legal language often involves nuanced and context-dependent meanings. Words or phrases may have different interpretations in various legal contexts, and machine translation systems may struggle to discern

the intended meaning without a deep understanding of the specific case. This has also been confirmed by several studies that have been conducted previously.

1. *“Comparative Evaluation of Online Machine Translation Systems with Legal Texts”* by Kit and Wong.
2. *“Vocabulary Accuracy of Statistical Machine Translation in the Legal Context”* by Jeffrey Killman.
3. *“Machine Translation in the Field of Law: A Study of the Translation of Italian Legal Texts into German”* by Eva Wiesmann.
4. *“Assessing Neural Machine Translation of Court Documents: A Case Study on the Translation of a Spanish Remand Order into English”* by Francisco J. Vigier-Moreno and Lorena Pérez-Macías.
5. *“Is Machine Translation Reliable in the Legal Field? A Corpus-Based Critical Comparative Analysis for Teaching ESP at Tertiary Level”* by Patrizia Giampieri.

The five studies differ in their specific objectives and methodologies within the context of using machine translation in the legal field. The first study by aims to compare the performance of various online machine translation systems with legal texts, providing a broad assessment. The second research focuses on assessing the accuracy of vocabulary and terminology in statistical machine translation within the legal context. The third study narrows down to the translation of Italian legal texts into German, examining the challenges within this language pair. In contrast, the fourth study assess neural machine translation for a specific type of legal document - a Spanish remand order translated into English. Finally, the last study explores the reliability of machine translation in the legal field with a focus on its applicability for teaching English for Specific Purposes at the tertiary level, combining an educational perspective with a critical comparative analysis.

Some of the problems of in this research is quite similar with the previous research, which is mainly about machine translation and legal documents. However, it is different because this research talks about the accuracy

acceptability of the translation of legal document. Nababan's (2012) theories on Translation Quality Assessment (TQA) can be a theoretical basis that can be used to discuss the problem of accuracy and acceptability.

The approach used in the research is translation approach. The research involves collecting a dataset of English sentences, likely sourced from a Study Completion Reference. This dataset serves as the basis for evaluating the translations generated by DeepL Translate for the selected sentences into English. The contribution of this research lies in its comprehensive analysis of the accuracy and acceptability in the translation of legal document by DeepL Translate. While previous studies may have explored aspects of legal text translation or evaluated machine translation tools, this research combines both aspects to provide a holistic assessment of the translation quality of legal document.

B. Research Questions

Based on the background of the research, it can be formulated into the research questions as follows:

1. What level of accuracy does the DeepL application translate a type of Indonesian legal document into English?
2. How acceptable is the DeepL Translate in translating a type of Indonesian legal document into English?

C. Research Purposes

Based on those two research questions, the purposes of this research are:

1. To assess the accuracy of DeepL Translate in translating Indonesian legal document into English: This research aims to evaluate the degree to which this translation tool provide accurate translations of Indonesian legal document into English.
2. To evaluate the acceptability of DeepL Translate in translating Indonesian legal document into English: This research seeks to determine how

acceptable the translations of Indonesian legal document into English are when produced by DeepL Translate.

D. Research Significances

This research has two significances: theoretical and practical. Theoretically, the study's findings should be valuable as (1) an enrichment to linguistic research, particularly in the translation branch; (2) advancing theoretical understanding; (3) a bibliographical variation for readers; and (4) a resource for the next relevant sort of research. The theoretical significances of this study can be elaborated as follows:

1. Enrichment to linguistic research, particularly in the translation branch: By examining the accuracy and acceptability in translating legal document, the research expands our understanding of the challenges and complexities involved in legal text translation.
2. Advancing theoretical understanding: By applying Nababan's (2012) theories on Translation Quality Assessment, this research expands the theoretical framework for discussing the problems of accuracy and acceptability in translating legal document.
3. Bibliographical variation for readers: By focusing on the accuracy and acceptability of DeepL Translate in translating legal document, the research presents a fresh perspective and analysis that can diversify the available literature.
4. Resource for the next relevant sort of research: This research becomes a stepping stone for further investigations and advancements in the field, encouraging continuous improvement in machine translation technology and translation practice.

Practically, this study is expected to: (1) Inform translation practice; (2) provide an authentic source of the study related to legal text translations and machine translation tools; (3) provide a deeper understanding for readers in translating legal document based on accuracy and acceptability; and (4) inspire

other researchers to develop and conduct other research in the same scope with different subjects. The practical significances of this study can be elaborated as follows:

1. Informing translation practice: By examining the accuracy and acceptability in translating legal document, translators can gain insights into the specific challenges posed by legal text and enhance their own translation strategies.
2. Providing an authentic source of study related to legal text translations and machine translation tools: This study provides valuable insights into the strengths and limitations of these machine translation systems.
3. Providing a deeper understanding for readers in translating legal document based on accuracy and acceptability: By examining the translations produced by DeepL Translate, the research sheds light on the specific issues that arise when dealing with legal texts.
4. Inspiring other researchers to develop and conduct research in the same scope with different subjects: The research serves as a starting point for expanding the knowledge base and conducting further investigations into the translation of legal texts.

E. Conceptual Framework

The aim of the research is to investigate the accuracy and acceptability of legal text translations of DeepL Translate, specifically focusing on their translations from Indonesian into English. The research aims to assess how this machine translation tool performs in translating English sentences in a legal document and identify any differences in their accuracy and acceptability. The theoretical basis for the study titled "Accuracy and Acceptability of DeepL Translate in Translating Legal Document" is based on a theoretical foundation: Nababan's (2012) theories on Translation Quality Assessment.

To answer the first research question, Nababan's (2012) theories provide a theoretical basis to discuss the problem of accuracy in legal text translation using DeepL Translate. According to Nababan (2012), any texts should focus on

accurately expressing the meaning of the source text in the target language. Accuracy is a term used in translation evaluation to refer to whether the source language text and the target language text are equivalent or not. The concept of equivalence refers to the similarity of content or message between the two.

A text can be called a translation if it has the same meaning or message as the other text. Therefore, attempts to reduce or add to the content or message of the source language text in the target language text should be avoided. Such attempts are betraying the original author of the source language text and at the same time deceiving the target reader. In a broader context, subtraction or addition can have fatal consequences on the people who use a translated work, especially in high-risk translated texts, such as translated texts in the fields of law, medicine, religion and engineering.

Table 1.1 Instrument for Assessing Translation Accuracy

| Translation Category | Score | Qualitative Parameters |
|----------------------|-------|---|
| Accurate | 3 | The meaning of source language words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or texts is accurately transferred into the target language; there is absolutely no distortion of meaning. |
| Less accurate | 2 | Most of the meanings of source language words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or texts have been accurately transferred into the target language. However, there are still distortions of meaning or double-meaning translations or omitted meanings, which disrupt the integrity of the message. |
| Inaccurate | 1 | The meaning of source language words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or texts are inaccurately transferred into the target language or omitted. |

The instrument assesses the accuracy of the translation on a scale of 1 to 3. The higher the score, the more accurate the translation. Conversely, the lower the score given to the translation, the lower the accuracy of the translation.

To answer the second research question, Nababan's (2012) theory still provides a theory for analyzing the acceptability in legal text translation using DeepL Translate. The second aspect of a quality translation is related to the issue of acceptability. The term acceptability refers to whether a translation has been expressed in accordance with the rules, norms and culture prevailing in the target language or not, both at the micro level and at the macro level. The concept of acceptability is very important because even if a translation is accurate in terms of content or message, it will be rejected by the target readers if the way of expression is contrary to the rules, norms and culture of the target language.

The concept of acceptability is a relative concept. What is considered polite in one society may be considered impolite in another. It has been explained above that one of the parameters of the concept of acceptability is whether a translation has been expressed according to the rules of the target grammar. A translation in Indonesian expressed according to English grammatical rules, for example, will make the translation unnatural and in many cases will be difficult to understand. Similarly, a translation of a research abstract as a form of scientific text will be rejected by the target audience if it is expressed in slang.

Similarly, a translation of a literary work will be unacceptable to the target audience if it is expressed with standard grammar rules. A technical term may have an accurate equivalent in the target language. However, the translator should not necessarily use the equivalent because it may result in the translation being unacceptable to the target readers. In the field of medical science, for example, there is the term vagina. Although the term has a Javanese equivalent, translators usually do not use the Javanese equivalent because it is considered impolite.

Table 1.2 Instrument for Assessing Translation Acceptability

| Translation Category | Score | Qualitative Parameters |
|----------------------|-------|---|
| Acceptable | 3 | The translation feels natural; the technical terms used are common and familiar to the reader; the phrases, clauses and sentences used are in accordance with the rules of the target language. |
| Less acceptable | 2 | In general, the translation felt natural; however, there were a few problems with the use of technical terms or a few grammatical errors. |
| Unacceptable | 1 | The translation is not natural or feels like a translation; the technical terms used are not commonly used and not familiar to the reader; the phrases, clauses and sentences used are not in accordance with the rules of the target language. |

Acceptability assessment instrument The translation acceptability assessment instrument is a guideline for the assessor in determining the level of acceptability of the translation. The scale provided ranges from 1 to 3. Each score given is a reflection of the given is a reflection of the level of acceptability of the translation.

By applying Nababan's (2012) theory on Translation Quality Assessment, the conceptual framework provides a comprehensive approach to assess the accuracy and acceptability of DeepL Translate in translating Indonesian legal document into English. The framework enables the study to examine the machine translations from multiple perspectives, considering both the accuracy of conveying the intended meaning and the acceptability of expression in the target language.

F. Previous Studies

Since the development of Translation Quality Assessment (TQA), there have been several studies related to machine translation systems and its use in legal matters, including the first study conducted by Kit and Wong (2008). This study explores the appropriate utilization of existing online machine translation (MT) technologies for users of law libraries. Additionally, the authors conduct a comparative assessment of several prominent online MT systems, evaluating their performance in translating legal texts from diverse languages into English. The evaluation is based on a substantial corpus of legal texts, employing BLEU/NIST scoring—a widely accepted method for assessing translation quality in the field of MT. This approach offers an objective perspective on the effectiveness of these systems in legal translation across various language pairs.

The second previous research was conducted by Killman (2014). This study investigates the precision of Google Translate, a free online Statistical Machine Translation tool, particularly in the challenging domain of legal translation. The research focuses on analyzing English translations generated by Google Translate for a substantial selection of Spanish legal terms derived from a comprehensive text of judgment summaries produced by the Supreme Court of Spain. Before this investigation, the same text underwent translation into English without the use of machine translation. The findings revealed that a significant portion of the chosen translation solutions for the mentioned vocabulary items could be manually selected from predominantly European Union databases with versions available in both English and Spanish. The paper contends that the utility of machine translation in legal translation is justified if the output consistently delivers a substantial number of accurate translations for the specific vocabulary items that translators in this context frequently research before effectively translating. Notably, a significant portion of the translated text currently used to train Statistical Machine Translation is sourced from international organizations like the European Union and the United Nations, which extensively address legal subjects. Furthermore, Statistical Machine Translation leverages the immediate

co-text of vocabulary items to attempt identifying accurate translations within its database.

The third previous study was conducted by Wiesmann (2019). Given the inherent complexities of legal texts that present substantial challenges to machine translation, there arises a crucial question regarding the capability of machine translation to effectively translate legal texts, or specific types thereof, into another legal language with sufficient quality, thereby minimizing the need for postediting. This prompts an exploration of whether targeted integration into translation pedagogy is plausible. To address this inquiry, an evaluation was conducted on DeepL Translator, a machine translation system, and MateCat, a computer-assisted translation (CAT) system incorporating machine translation. The assessment involved translating various legal texts of diverse types using both systems at different intervals, without specific translation memories. Subsequently, errors were systematized, and translation results were evaluated based on two criteria: 1) clarity and coherence of the target text; and 2) alignment between the source and target text, considering the unique translation context. Overall, the findings suggest that postediting of machine-translated legal texts should not play a prominent role in translation pedagogy, as the correspondence between source and target text was notably poorer than the assessment of the meaningfulness of the target text. In response, translation pedagogy should focus on increasing awareness of disparities between machine translation output and human translation in the legal domain, refining translation approaches, and bolstering legal expertise.

The fourth previous study was conducted by FJ Vigier-Moreno and L Pérez-Macías (2022). The demand for court translation services is experiencing significant growth, driven by an increasing number of legal proceedings involving individuals who do not speak the language employed by authorities. This trend is particularly notable in the European Union, where recent legislation has affirmed the right to translation of essential documents in criminal proceedings. Despite the potential time-saving benefits and advantages in terminological, phraseological, and syntactical aspects offered by machine translation, there is a lack of optimism

regarding its application in legal text translation due to its apparent disregard for the translation's purpose and intended audience. This article aims to explore whether translators can derive benefits from machine translation in the challenging yet highly sought-after field of court translation. The evaluation focuses on the quality of English translations of a Spanish remand order generated by three different Neural Machine Translation (NMT) systems (DeepL, eTranslation, and Google Translate), utilizing TAUS evaluation guidelines.

The last previous research was conducted by Giampieri (2023). This study seeks to investigate the feasibility and effectiveness of relying on machine translation in legal contexts. The study involves translating clauses from a distribution agreement written in Italian to English using the DeepL platform. To evaluate the accuracy and quality of the translation, a corpus of distribution agreements in English, both as a first language and as a lingua franca, is compiled from the OneCle.com platform. The reference corpus is semi-automatically generated using the BootCaT software solution. Advanced search techniques are employed to retrieve documents written in international English, validated by international legal or business professionals. The corpus is then analyzed using the AntConc offline concordancer, and the machine translation output is compared with the corpus evidence. The paper's findings reveal deficiencies in machine translation, particularly concerning legal expressions. Incorrect word order and a lack of specificity in addressing the legal language nuances in the target text are identified. The paper advocates for future enhancements in machine translation software and emphasizes the importance of legal language familiarity and writing conventions for translators and translation students.

In conclusion, The five previous studies share a common focus on evaluating machine translation systems in the realm of legal translation, examining various language pairs and employing distinct methodologies. While each study has its unique emphasis, such as Italian legal texts translated into German or the translation of Spanish detention orders into English, they collectively contribute to understanding the challenges and capabilities of machine translation in legal contexts. In contrast, the research titled "Accuracy

and Acceptability of DeepL Translate in Translating Legal Document" stands out by specifically scrutinizing the DeepL machine translation platform's accuracy and acceptability in legal document translation. This study, distinctively, broadens the evaluation criteria to include acceptability, potentially introducing a fresh perspective to the field. The focus on a specific tool, DeepL, adds nuance to the broader discourse on machine translation for legal texts, offering insights that could shape discussions on the use of machine translation in legal settings.

G. Clarification of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding about the key terms used in this paper, the followings are the definition or the clarification of each term.

Accuracy in this paper refers to the degree to which the translated text produced by DeepL Translate aligns with the original content of the legal document. It involves assessing whether the translated text effectively conveys the intended meaning, nuances, and legal terminology of the source document without significant errors or mistranslations (Nababan, 2012).

Acceptability refers to the subjective evaluation of the quality and usability of the translated text by readers, particularly those familiar with legal terminology (Baker, 2018). It encompasses factors such as readability and adherence to legal conventions. A translated document may be considered acceptable if it meets the expectations and standards of its intended audience .

DeepL Translate is an online neural machine translation service developed by DeepL GmbH. It utilizes artificial intelligence and deep learning techniques to translate text from one language to another. DeepL is known for its ability to generate high-quality translations quickly, particularly in the context of technical and specialized content.

Legal documents are documents that hold legal texts, such as contracts, agreements, or other legal materials, from one language to another. Study Completion Reference is chosen as a type of legal document used in this paper. It requires not only linguistic proficiency but also a deep understanding of legal terminology, concepts, and conventions in both the source and target languages.