

# **Machine Translation: An Unsolved Problem for over 60 Years**

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Statistical machine translation (SMT) advances very fast since the beginning of this century. For certain language pairs and special applications, SMT output has reached an acceptable level, especially in the domains where abundant parallel corpora are available. More and more commercial corporations, such as Google, Microsoft, Baidu and so on, have provided free online SMT service. However, SMT is still seldom adopted in the professional translation circle because its outputs are usually poor and far from satisfactory.

In this talk, the typical flow of machine translation will be first sketched. Why this problem is so hard is then explained. Afterwards, we will briefly introduce various approaches and their problems. Finally, possible future directions will be pointed out to conclude the talk.