

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Computer is a multifunctional device that can help us in many aspects. One of the aspects is in translation. There is a program called Trans Tool or known better as Machine Translation (MT). This Program is a program which is mainly used to translate a text into another language according to the user's will; it can be English to Indonesian, French to Italian or other language in just a few minutes.

Trans Tool development has started since many years ago. According to Yusuf (1994) the first man to claim inventing this device is Troyansky, a pioneer with Russian nationality. After being acknowledged of its advantages, the development of this device is continued to increase the quality.

In using Trans Tool, the user will get advantages. One of which is that Trans Tool translates faster than manual translation, and it covers up many languages. Thus, the user is bound to complete the translation task in no time, and the translation results are not limited to only a single language.

Despite its advantages, translating using Trans Tool has a certain risk. The problem lies in the Trans Tool itself. Mostly, Trans Tool makes mistakes in Translating an ambiguity, wrong context usage, Sometimes Trans Tool even

translates words that do not even need to be translated, just as stated by Zaharin et. Al (1994) (as cited in Isabelle, 2002):

The problem existing in fully automated MT systems was “most take the sentence as the basic unit for translation with little or no reference to the environment (context) in which the sentence is used

This means that Trans Tool is completely blind when it comes to translating texts which use a special kind of structure or grammar, context, and even ambiguity. These mistakes commonly happen when the Trans Tools are given a task to translate sentences.

Normally, after the flaws are detected, they will be immediately repaired, but it cannot easily be done. Despite its flaws, sometimes the Trans Tool still manages to translate the text correctly into the desirable target language. Based on the problems above, this paper discusses about the effectiveness of Trans Tool. It discusses whether it can translate the text on the sentence level correctly.

1.2 FIELD OF STUDY

This study is in the field of Linguistics

1.3 SCOPE OF STUDY

In this study, the writer focuses on machine translation as one of the studies of Computational Linguistics. Furthermore the writer only focuses on “*Google Translate*” Trans Tool. The translation which will be discussed in this paper is English → Indonesian translation, and on the level of sentences.

1.4 PROBLEM FORMULATION

According to the theory of translation used as the main theory in this study, the writer formulates the problem as follows:

How effective is 'Google Translate' able to translate the sentences from English to Indonesian sentences?

1.5 OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

Considering the problem mentioned above, the writer formulates this study's objective as:

To see how effective 'Google Translate' is able to translate the sentences from English to Indonesian sentences.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

The writer expects that this study could be a feedback to the "Google Translate" machine Translation system users, about the effectiveness of "Google Translate" so that they can be more careful in using "Google Translate". The writer hopes there will be fewer English texts that are translated weirdly because translators rely solely on the Machine Translation System.

In addition, the writer also hopes that the result of this study could contribute something useful for both the lecturers and students in the Faculty of Letters in Soegijaprananta Catholic University.

1.7 DEFINITION OF TERMS

- **Google Translate:** Machine translation service which is provided by the website <http://www.google.com>
- **Machine Translation:** The term 'machine translation' (MT) refers to computerized systems responsible for the production of translations with or without human assistance.
(Hutchins, 2002)
- **Trans Tool:** Indonesian term of Machine Translation

