Phrase Table Support for Human Translation

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Translation Variability

Heavy

... use \(\mapsto\) intensive Nutzung

... traffic \(\mapsto\) starker Verkehr

... investment \(\mapsto\) große Investition

Lexical choice using bilingual lexicons? (context!)
Phrase Tables

- Bilingual list of corresponding word sequences from parallel corpora (plus statistical information)
- Context size adaptable
- ... but not prepared for easy interpretation by human translators

Faster and better translation through presentation of these?
Experiment Setting

Task:

- translate attributive adjective in context (into native language)
- ... and control variability

Support Conditions:

- none — adjective unigrams — adjective–noun bigrams

Measure:

- translation time
  (quality of translation: follow-up human judgements)

Note: Domain difference

(sentences from BNC, phrase table from Europarl)
**Expectations**

- Highly variable adjectives: more difficult to translate, so translators will profit more from the support for these.

- Contexts: treated as random effects on translation speed.

- Support Conditions:
  - Unigrams: faster translation
  - Bigrams: most appropriate, but might be slower (due to reading)
Thank you.