

The following points were made in the discussion of Rossi's and Sereda's papers on Systran at Xerox and at General Motors of Canada.

1. Rossi spoke of the lexical problems, including synonymy and equivalence, and stressed that the quality of the source language affected the output and that the rules specified to the computer must be kept. He noted that users value MT's consistent terminology, whereas human translators may become inconsistent as a result of boredom.

2. Sereda emphasised the speed which MT brings to translation. The need to maintain an up-to-date vocabulary increased the volume of updates. Acceptable terminology could be achieved by cooperating with specialists.

3. Posteditors at Xerox do not rewrite computer programs, but work with programmers. It may be simpler to try to eliminate the need for this by adequate dictionary updates.

4. Studies had indicated that MT improved the Xerox translator's throughput between two-fold and ten-fold.

5. It was felt that feedback from users on the intelligibility, etc., of raw as opposed to postedited output would be desirable, and blind trials of users on raw MT versus postedited MT were called for.