Enhancing Localization Workflows

A Deep Dive into Automated Post-Editing with GenAl

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NMT Systems: The Industry Standard in MT

- NMT Systems:
 - Leveraging MTPE (Machine Translation Post-Editing) for optimized workflows
 - rawMT
- Addressing Key Challenges in NMT
- Maximizing the Impact of Large Language Models (LLMs)
- Hybrid MT workflows
 - NMT-based workflows augmented by LLMs-based components
 - Use of Quality Estimation (QE) models



Limitations of Neural Machine Translation Systems

Challenges with Out-of-Domain Scenarios

Handling unfamiliar content & Maintaining quality Model Robustness

Incorporating Specialized Terminology Adapting to client-specific terms

Using specialized glossaries

Handling Language Nuances Idiomatic expressions Formal vs. informal language

Contextual understanding

LLMs enable paragraph-by-paragraph translations

Addressing Ambiguity and Bias

Managing bias Cultural nuances



LLMs address limitations of NMT systems





Automated Post-Editing (APE)

"Automated Post-Editing (APE) is the process of refining MT content by sending the source text and the initial NMT output (hypothesis) to a Generative AI engine for linguistic review."



APE Prompt

You will act as an Engine for Automated Post-Edition, specializing in the [domain_name] domain. You will receive {len(x)} source segments in {source_language} and {len(y)} machine-translated outputs in {target_language} from a custom, domain-adapted NMT engine.

Your task is to:

- Improve the fluency and translation quality of the output.
- Ensure 100% accuracy without introducing any new facts.
- Retain all relevant information.
- Match the capitalization of the source text.

Your final output must be in the target language: {target_language}.



Case 1: APE in out-of-domain scenario

- Use APE to post-edit an out-of-domain test set
- Test Data Set:
 - Khresmoi Summary Translation Test Data 2.0
 - Medical domain
 - Language pair: ENG-DEU
 - 500 segments



Case 1: APE in out-of-domain scenario

• BLEU scores:

	Big Language generic model	Google Translate	DeepL
Regular Translation	32.3	30.8	32.6
After APE with GPT-4o	34.3 (∆+2.0)	34.2 (∆+3.4)	33.7 (∆+1.1)

• Average BLEU improvement: +2.15 BLEU



Case 1: APE in out-of-domain scenario

• COMET-20 and COMET-22 scores:

	Big Language generic model	Google Translate	DeepL
Regular	COMET-20: 0.6340	COMET-20: 0.6977	COMET-20: 0.6958
Translation	COMET-22: 0.8626	COMET-22: 0.8808	COMET-22: 0.8797
After	COMET-20: 0.6968	COMET-20: 0.7037	COMET-20: 0.7023
APE (gpt-4o)	COMET-22: 0.8810	COMET-22: 0.8824	COMET-22: 0.8819

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Case 2: APE with a fine-tuned NMT system

- Perform APE on the output from a fine-tuned NMT system
- Training data size: 60k segments
- Test Data Set:
 - True Hold-Out Test set (not used in training)
 - Domain: Healthcare
 - Language pair: ENG-SPA-US
 - 1000 segments



Case 2: APE with a fine-tuned NMT system

• BLEU and COMET scores:

	Big Language fine-tuned model	Google Translate
Regular Translation	BLEU: 72.8 COMET-20: 0.9675 COMET-22: 0.9119	BLEU: 49.9 COMET-20: 0.8238 COMET-22: 0.8835
After APE (gpt-4o)	BLEU: 63.5 COMET-20: 0.9218 COMET-22: 0.9066	BLEU: 51.5 COMET-20: 0.7961 COMET-22: 0.8730

> APE doesn't bring any improvement for fine-tuned NMT systems!



- Idea: Identify worst translations from fine-tuned NMT system with an in-domain, reference-free OE model
- Perform APE only on those segments



Total Count: 1000

- Identical test data set as in Case #2
- Evaluation metrics for 50 worst translations (out of 1000 segments):

	Big Language fine-tuned model	Δ	
Regular Translation	BLEU: 52.2 COMET-20: 0.5307 COMET-22: 0.8372	BLEU: -1.8	
After APE (gpt-4o)	BLEU: 50.4 COMET-20: 0.5834 COMET-22: 0.8612	COMET-20: +0.053 COMET-22: +0.024	



- Human Evaluation for the 50 worst performing segments
- APE-enhanced translation is preferred:
 - Translation 1: Regular Translation
 - Translation 2: APE-output
 - Linguist's review: "In my opinion, [Translation 2] was a better translation, because, even though, glossary terms were not translated as per glossary like in Translation 1, there were no missing words, or issues with Spanish style, or inaccurate translations. Additionally, Translation 2 was more natural sounding and clear."



• Example for translation improvement:

Source	Division of Neighborhood Health Research	
Reference	División de Investigación Sanitaria del Vecindario	
Fine-tuned NMT model	División de Investigación Médica orientada a los vecindarios	Ref-free QE score: 0.5140
After APE	División de Investigación de Salud en los Vecindarios	Ref-free QE score: 0.5690

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• Edit Distance Report

	Regular Translation	APE-output	Δ
Edited Segments	26/50	20/50	-23%
Absolute Edit Distance	783	655	-16%
Normalized Edit Distance	0.196	0.125	-36%
Total PE Time [in mins]	35	20	-43%
TTE[words/s]	6,84	3,91	



Conclusions

- 1. APE Effectiveness
 - i. Enhances baseline translation quality in out-of-domain NMT systems.
 - ii. Identifies and corrects issues that commonly arise in these systems.
- 2. In-Domain Scenarios:
 - i. APE may not always improve results; potential for performance decline.
 - ii. Despite this, APE benefits approximately 5% of the worst translations.
- **3.** Optimization Strategy:
 - i. Use in-domain QE model to identify problematic segments.
 - ii. Targeted APE application reduces post-editing time by 40% for these segments.
- 4. Use of GenAl engine interchangeable
 - i. Use a fine-tuned LLM for APE for better results

