

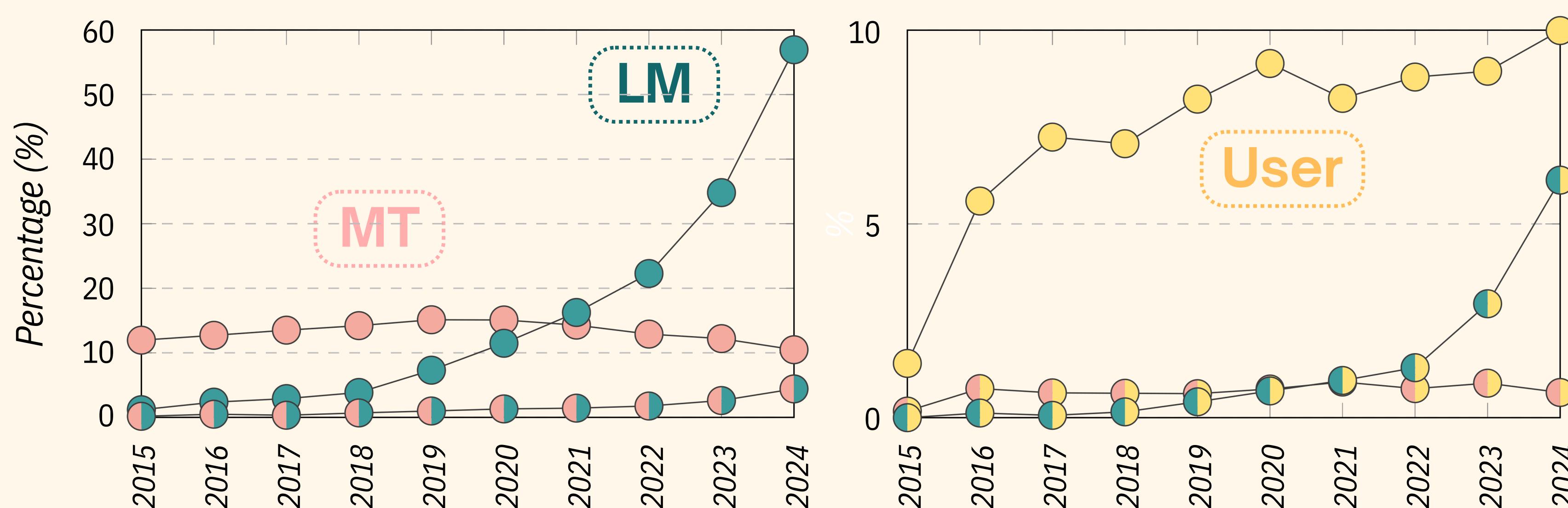
Translation in the hands of many

Centering Lay Users in Machine Translation Interactions



EMNLP 2025
Suzhou, China | 中国苏州

Trends of interest in the ACL anthology

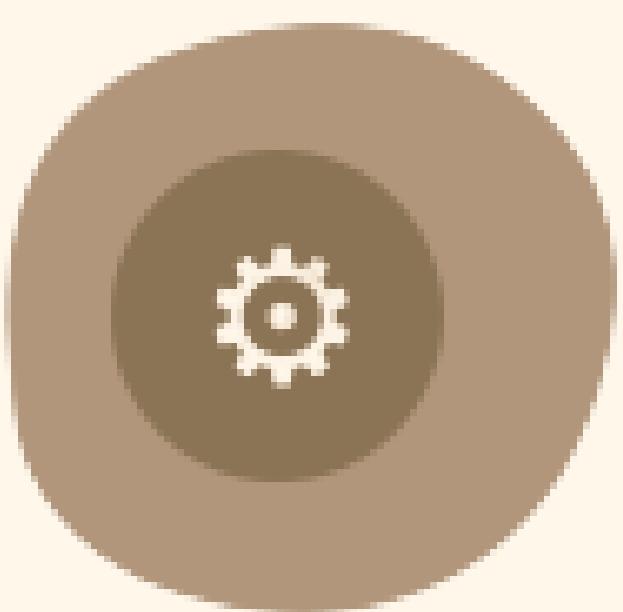


MT is a global tool, with LLMs now powering multilingual needs...

Yet, research on lay users and their interactions with the technology remains limited.

Usability

Align with Users



Trust

Calibrate Reliance

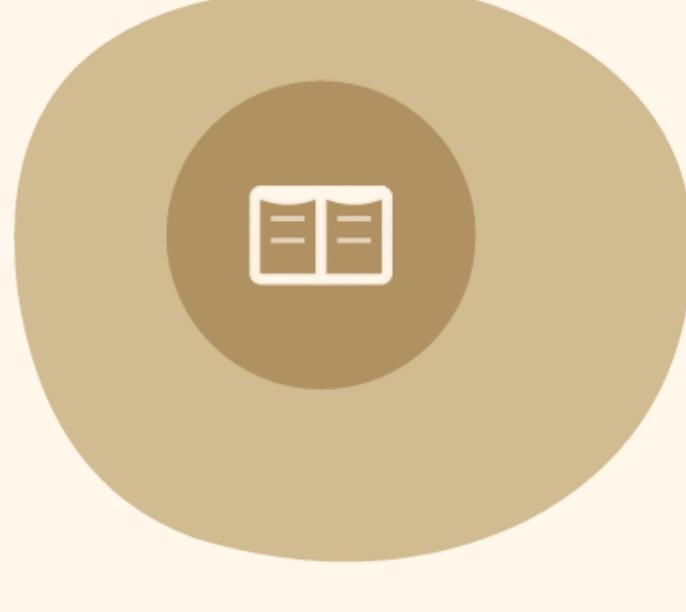


We optimize what we measure—but generic performance scores miss usability in achieving goals.

Fluency can mask critical errors—transparency and uncertainty can help calibrate appropriate trust.

Literacy

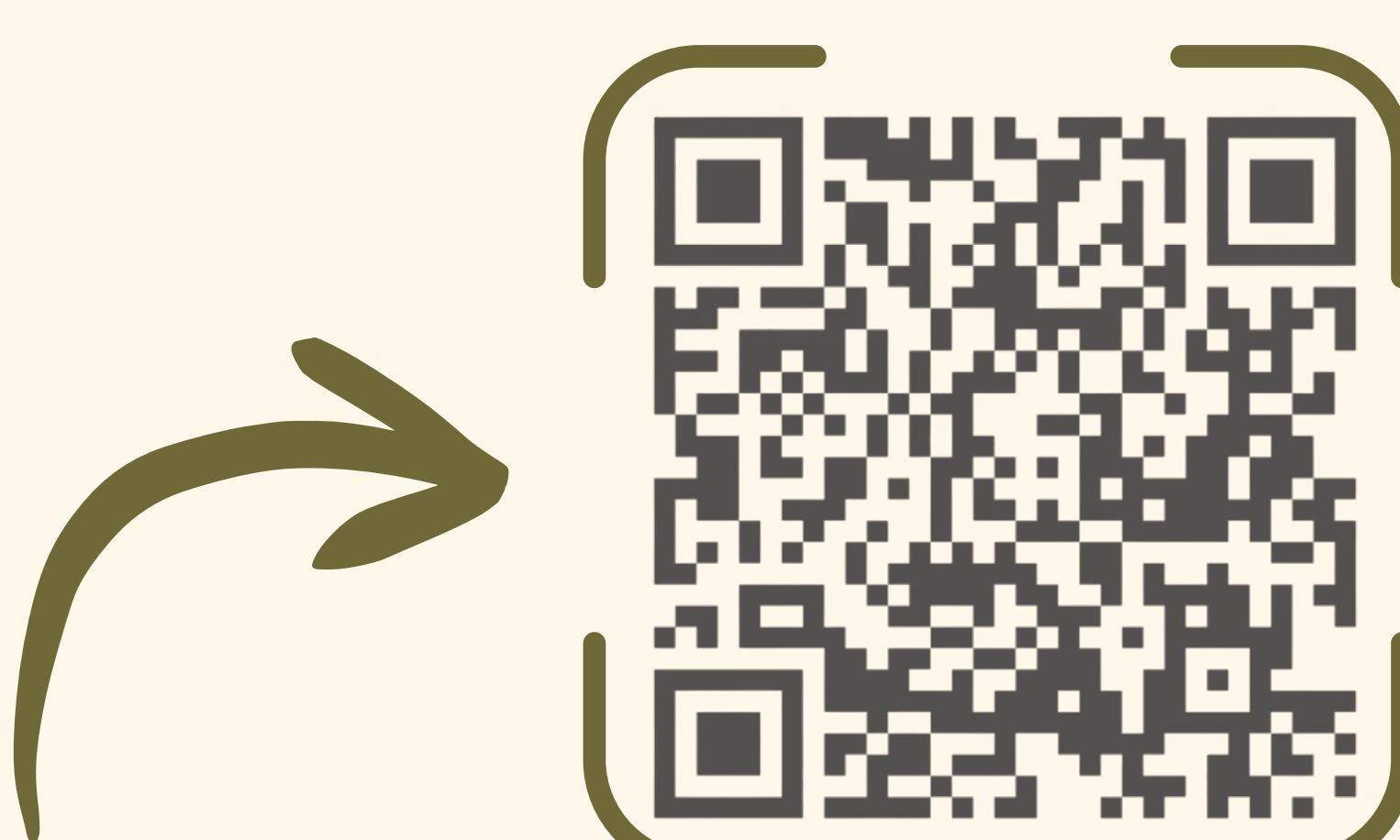
Empower Users



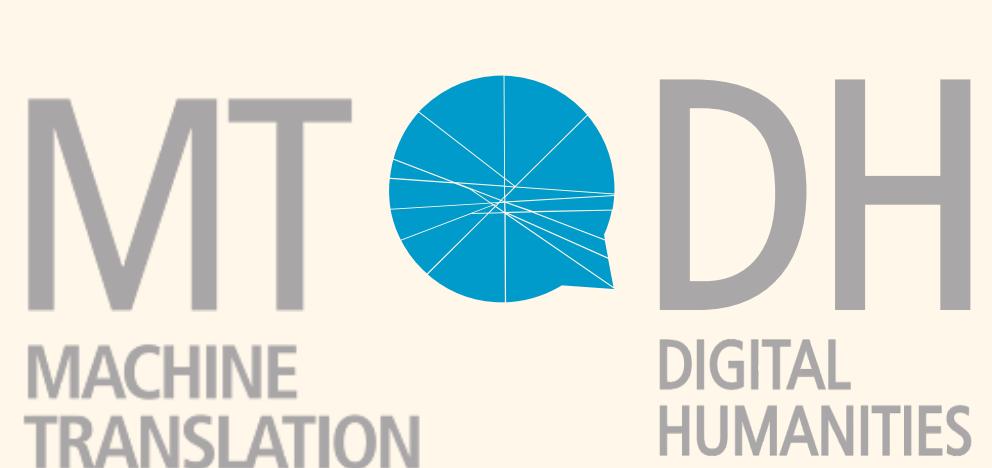
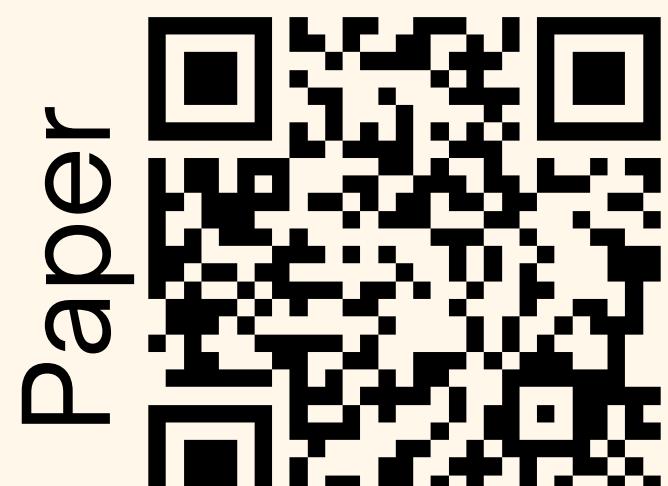
MT is a two-way interaction—literacy equips users to be agentic and with critical engagement.

A call to Action

- Design with users in mind and for utility
- Surface uncertainty and transparency
- Foster user agency
- Bridge disciplines



Curated literature on human-centered MT



Translation in the hands of many:
Centering Lay Users in Machine Translation Interactions

B. Savoldi, A. Ramponi, M. Negri, L. Bentivogli