

GNMT vs Ontology-based DNN Machine Translation

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Introduction & Motivation

Ontology and Neural Networks in Machine Translation

- Main goal: Explore how ontologies can enhance neural machine translation (NMT).
- Primary sources
 - Wu et al., 2016 – Google's NMT system
 - Tian et al., 2021 – Ontology-based DNN translation framework
- Importance
 - MT still struggles with semantics, context, and domain adaptation
 - Ontologies encode structured semantic knowledge → potential synergy with NMT

First paper

Google NMT (Wu et al., 2016)

- Architecture: 8-layer encoder–decoder with attention (residual connections in deeper layers); trained end-to-end on parallel corpora.
- Highlights
 - Wordpiece modeling (handles rare words)
 - Layer-normalized LSTMs
 - Multilingual zero-shot translation
- Impact
 - Major BLEU improvements on WMT benchmarks (En→Fr, En→De); established neural MT dominance
- Limitations
 - Data-driven → lacks explicit semantic grounding or world knowledge

Example 3: Sentence with a variation of a known word

Sentence: “*The quickness of the brown fox surprised the lazy dog*”

Tokenization: ['the', 'qu', '<h>ick', '<h>ness', 'of', 'the', 'brown', 'fox', '[UNK]', 'the', 'lazy', 'dog']

Table 10: Mean of side-by-side scores on production data

	PBMT	GNMT	Human	Relative Improvement
English → Spanish	4.885	5.428	5.504	87%
English → French	4.932	5.295	5.496	64%
English → Chinese	4.035	4.594	4.987	58%
Spanish → English	4.872	5.187	5.372	63%
French → English	5.046	5.343	5.404	83%
Chinese → English	3.694	4.263	4.636	60%

Second paper

Ontology-Based DNN MT (*Tian et al., 2021*)

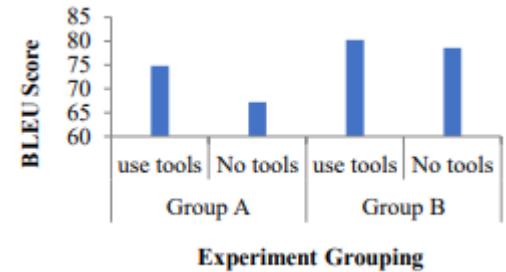
- Idea: Integrate ontology (domain knowledge model) into DNN translation.
- Highlights
 - Knowledge management + translation + user interface subsystems
 - Use of ontology as a domain knowledge source
 - case library / case pattern library component that matches input sentences to stored patterns (example patterns) as part of the translation pipeline
 - a hybrid of rule/pattern matching + neural components
 - Uses GRU/LSTM + attention within translation subsystem
 - Complex overall structure
 - (part-of-speech tagging, lexical analyzer, pattern matching) + prototype
- Evaluation (English-Chinese experiments)
 - Performance of human translators when using/not using the tool
 - Junior translators: translation time -34 %, BLEU +7.59
 - Senior translators: time -11 %, BLEU +1.67
- Conclusion
 - Ontology support mainly helps less-experienced translators

Translator Number	Translation time	BLEU score
A-1	1:02:30	88.40
A-2	0:50:30	77.90
A-3	0:30:09	67.70
A-4	0:54:32	76.90
A-5	0:52:40	71.40

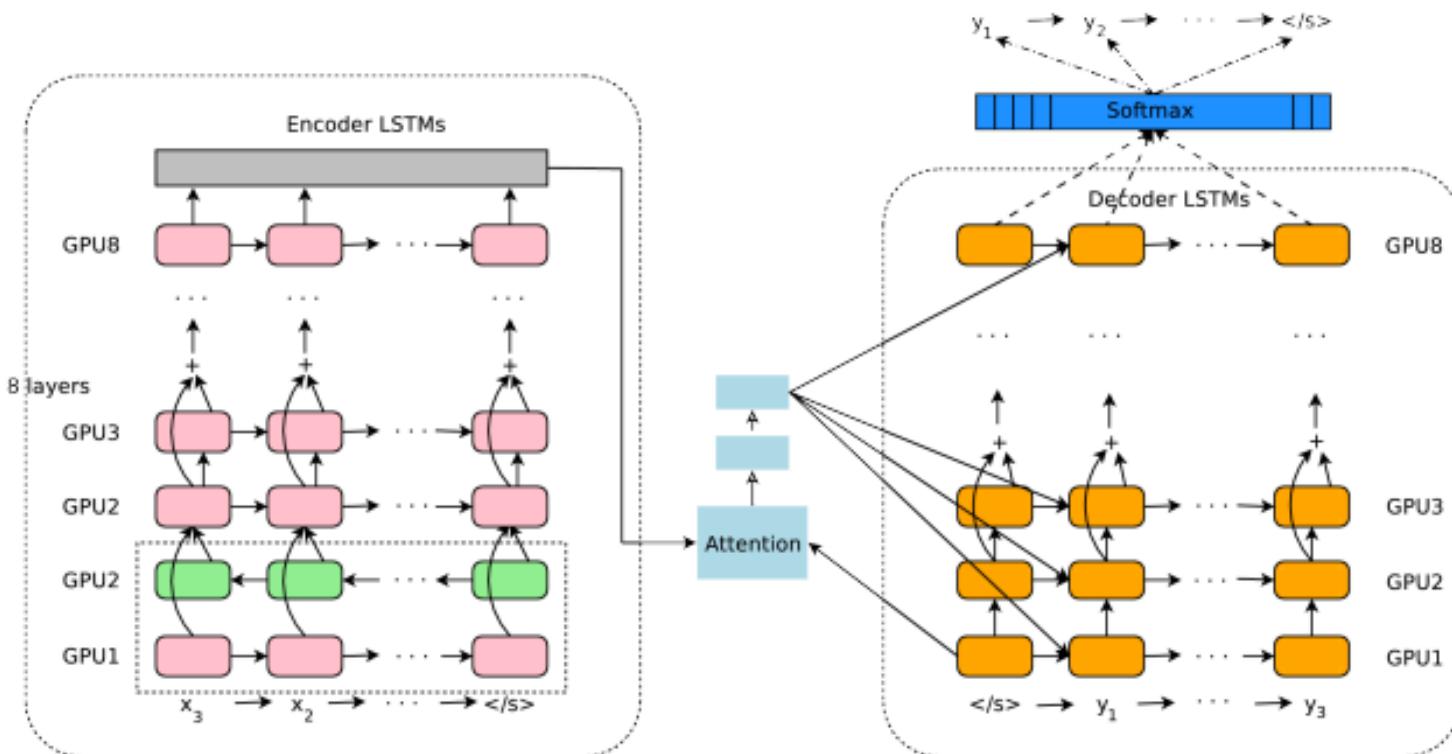
Table 2: Experimental results of tools used by junior translators.

Translator Number	Translation time	BLEU score
A-11	0:59:15	50.05
A-12	1:20:10	74.00
A-13	0:49:05	69.20
A-14	1:05:53	70.90
A-15	1:30:26	72.90

Table 3: Experimental results of junior translators not using tools.



System design (GNMT)



System design (Ontology-based NMT)

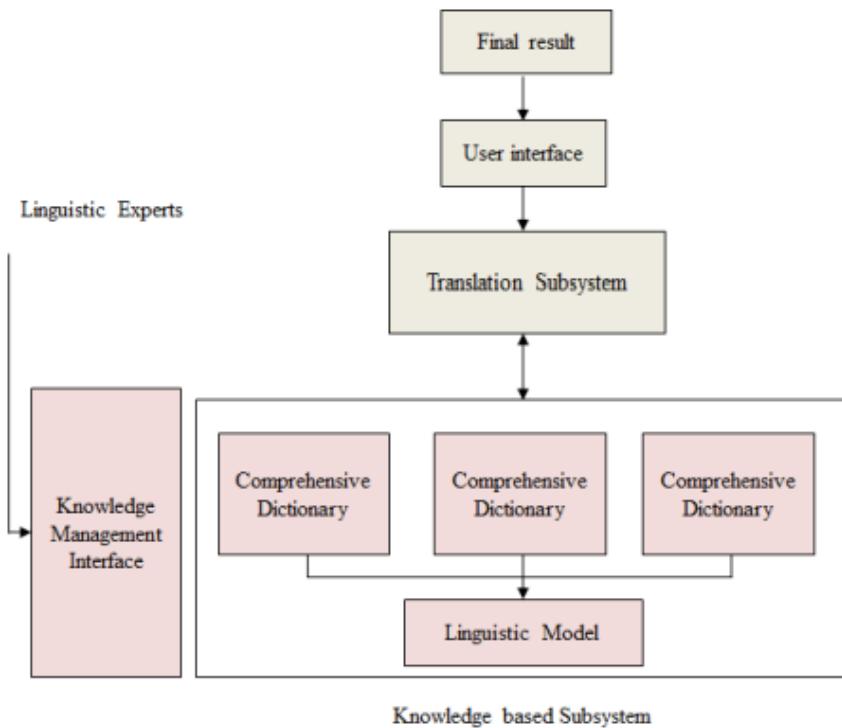


Figure 3: The overall structure of the system.

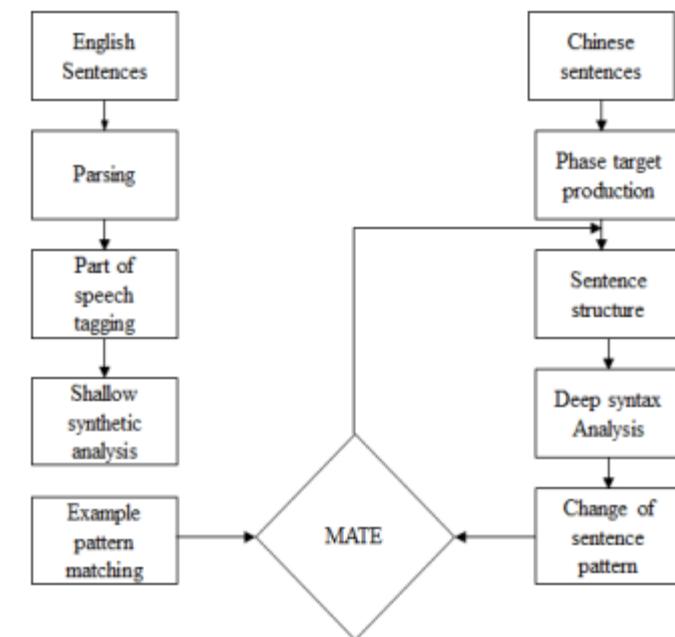


Figure 4: System translation process structure.

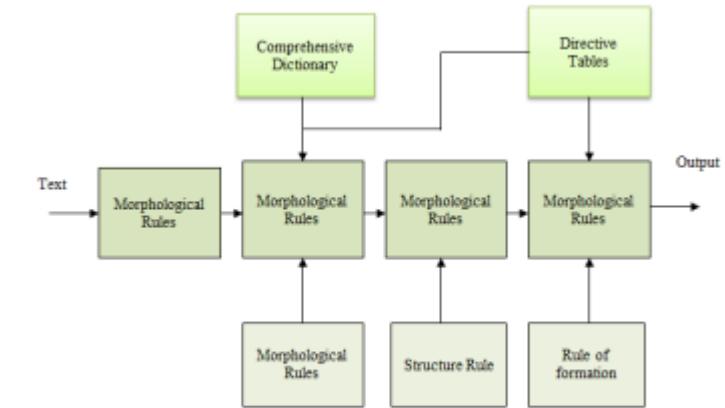


Figure 5: The structural model of the lexical analyzer.

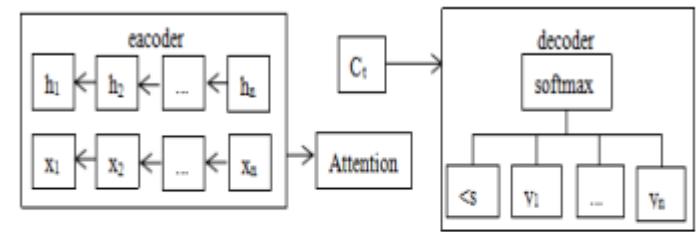


Figure 2: The structure of neural network machine translation.

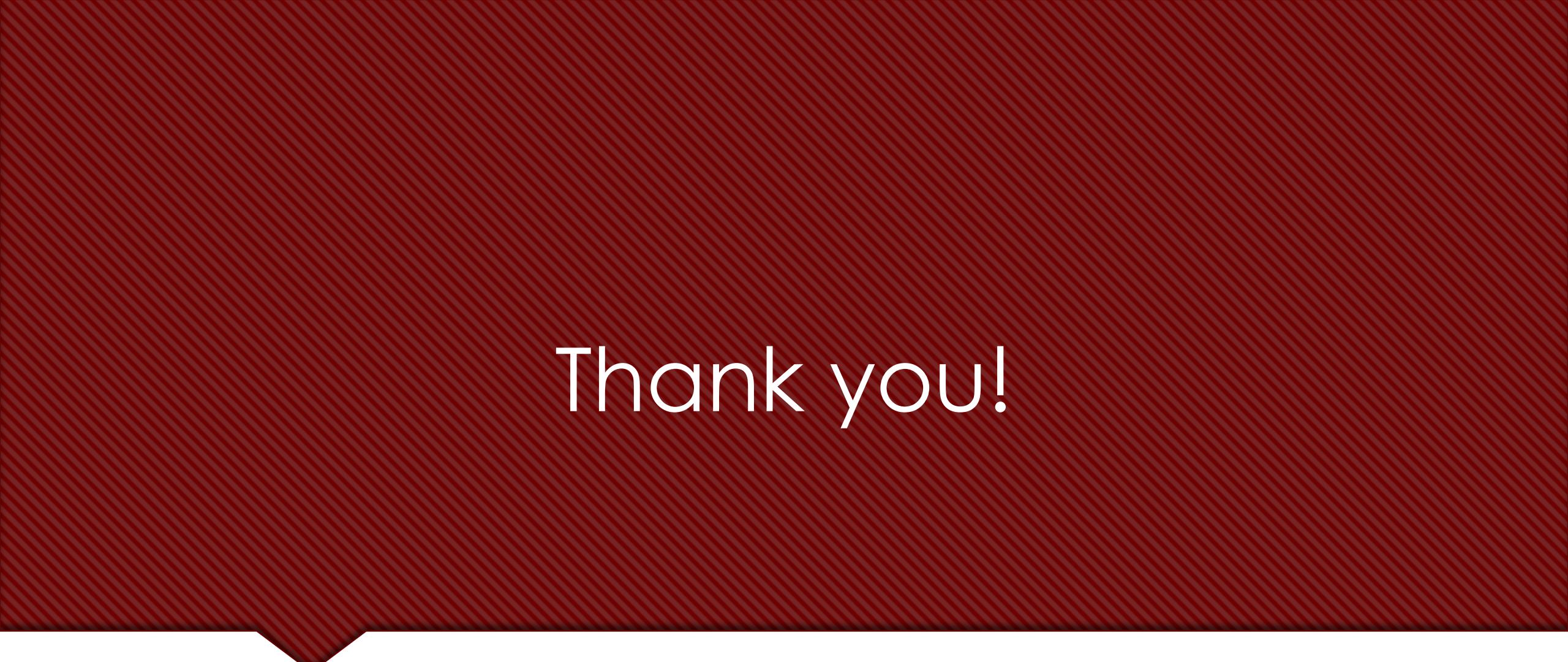
Comparison & Discussion

	GNMT	Ontology-based DNN MT
Focus	Large-scale neural translation	Ontology-guided semantic translation
Knowledge used	Implicit, learned from data	Explicit ontology concepts
Architecture	Encoder-decoder with attention	Hybrid DNN + rule/ontology
Evaluation	BLEU on WMT datasets	BLEU/time with human translators
Key strength	Fluency, scalability	Semantic accuracy, knowledge integration

Ontologies could address GNMT's semantic limitations by providing interpretable domain knowledge

Project proposal

- Objective: Study ontology-enhanced NMT → prototype small-scale example
- Planned tasks:
 - Build a *mini ontology* for a narrow domain
 - Ontology: AMAΛΘΕΙΑ , FoodOn
 - Corpus: Open Parallel Corpus (OPUS)
 - Implement a simple encoder–decoder model integrating ontology constraints or pre-processing
 - Evaluate translation quality vs baseline (BLEU/time)
- Challenges:
 - Ontology alignment & representation integration with neural embeddings
 - Dataset availability & semantic consistency



Thank you!