

which could be used to find the equivalent of any word in another language. Troyanskii's proposals, on the other hand, were more solid in which he predicted three stages of mechanical translation. To As-Safi (2004), Astrouni's work is of paramount importance as it consists of the key principles which recent MT systems heavily depend on.

A British cryptographer Warren Weaver and Andrew D. Booth discussed the possibility of using computers in translation. Booth collaborated with Richard H. Richens of Cambridge in the field of MT. In 1949, Weaver issued a memorandum which highlighted the idea of MT and suggested methods and talked about prospects.

A few years later, the USA enrolled in the research through its reputable universities (Washington University in Seattle, University of California at Los Angeles, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) among others). The first MT researcher was appointed at the MIT in 1951 and a year later it hosted a conference on MT, attended by 18 individuals interested in the field. At that time, it was obvious that a full MT system is far-fetched without rigorous research. In addition, it was expected that human intervention is indispensable by preparing texts to be translated (pre-edit) or revising output (post-edit). Georgetown University witnessed the first MT system in January 1954 which was the outcome of the collaboration of Leon Dostert with IBM. The system could translate 49 Russian sentences into English using 250 words and 6 grammar rules. Although simple and scientifically insignificant, their work was of great importance in stimulating more funds in MT research.