Abstract

This diploma thesis focuses on machine translation (MT), which has been studied for a relatively long time in linguistics (and later also in translation studies) and which in recent years is at the forefront of the broader public as well.

This thesis aims to explore the quality of machine translation outputs and the way it changes over time. The theoretical part first deals with the machine translation in general, namely basic definitions, brief history and approaches to machine translation, then describes online machine translation systems and evaluation methods. Finally, this part provides a methodological model for the empirical part.

Using a set of texts translated with MT, the empirical part seeks to check how online machine translation systems deal with translation of different text-types and whether there is improvement of the quality of MT outputs over time. In order to do so, an analysis of text-type, semantics, lexicology, stylistics and pragmatics is carried out as well as a rating of the general applicability of the translation.

The final part of this thesis compares and concludes the results of the analysis. With regard to this comparation, conclusions are made and general tendencies stated that have emerged from the empirical part of the thesis.