

# MACHINE TRANSLATION

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# WEAVER

Cryptography experts can decipher code but language can be a huge barrier to communication

Weaver believed that languages although different had commonalities and wanted to bridge the gap between them faster

There were many spectators critical of this idea but he also had supporters and moved forward with the project

Programing every word, in every language, in every combination, is unrealistic but we can program something that will mimic sentence structure

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Some early translation programs Weaver encountered would translate words in their basic word forms leaving out conjugations

Others word-for-word programs would more accurately translate single words but could not handle sentences

According to Zeldner “Translation is like kissing your partner through the veil”  
You can get the jist of it but it isn't perfect

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It was later discovered that translations with multiple meanings were decipherable but would perhaps take a long time to perfect

Early Context Computing logic:

With “N” being the word or variable

The more words surrounded by “N” the different the meaning “N” would have

This process has proven to be ineffective



# HACKING CYBERSPACE CH.4 (PART 1)

The modern man has reversed the effects of the tower of babble through the significance of the computer

Computers are typically thought of mathematically but programming is in fact a language and a machine of language is thus perfect for translation

The tower of babble was essentially an ancient literary account of the first translators and computers complete this process instantly with little to no human interaction

# HACKING CYBERSPACE CH.4 (PART 1)

One of the first machine translation software was “Bableware” it was the first text based system developed in the 1950’s

Did not translate English languages but code to common language and therefore created the first computer interface

Typically designed to be interactive with one or 2 language sets but the goal was to make it interactive for every language



# HACKING CYBERSPACE CH.4 (PART 1)

Given that language is the technology of human expression today technology can use that tool and translate it time and time again

Because having barriers of communication severally limits understanding so the tower of babble story is considered an apocalypse of expression

Biblically speaking the phenomenon of “speaking in tongues” or different languages that vastly differed from your place of birth was considered both mystical and godlike

# HACKING CYBERSPACE CH.4 (PART 1)

Perfecting instant translation:

The babble fish in “The hitchhikers guide to the galaxy” also portrays perfect translation in a fictional way by placing a fish in your ear and instantly being able to understand any language

Al Gore in “The digital declaration of independence” imagined a world where you could pick up a phone and have a conversation in real time no matter what language was spoken with perfect understanding. -1999

Today there's an app for that.

# HACKING CYBERSPACE CH.4 (PART 1)

1995 programs could more clearly negotiate the differences between languages

Today google translate is one of the better features for this

One of the major issues still to be concerned today is linguistic variations so perfect translation has not been achieved

In the realm of translation, The tower of babble not only represents multiple languages but the notion that language is incomplete and ever changing