

# **The fitting theory: A dynamic symbiosis between human and AI translation**

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## **Abstract**

In the age of AI, the field of translation is witnessing a significant paradigm shift. This paper introduces the Fitting Theory, a novel principle that articulates the symbiotic relationship between AI-driven and human translation. Rather than functioning as separate entities, these two approaches dynamically complement each other based on the specific context. Drawing on polysystem theory, the relationship between them is allegorically represented by overlapping circles, illustrating their fluidity, interdependence and evolution. In contexts such as news and social media, AI-driven translation offers efficiency and scalability. However, in scenarios demanding deep comprehension and an understanding of cultural nuance, the expertise of human translators take precedence. By weaving in elements of human-computer interaction, such as command prompting and plug-in, the overarching significance of context emerges as a pivotal force shaping these interactions and carving out a novel translation paradigm. The Fitting Theory not only offers insights into the optimization of machine translation but also reaffirms the irreplaceable role of humans in intricate translation situations. This principle serves as a blueprint for translators in this new AI-centric age, underscoring the potential of harnessing the strengths of the two methodologies and expanding the horizons of both translation and translation studies.

## **Biography**

Mr. Zhilu TU holds a Master degree in translation and is currently a PhD student in the Department of Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies, the Hong Kong Baptist University. His research interests lie primarily in Translation Studies and the area of Digital Humanities. His research aims to use digital methods to explore different questions within translation studies. At present, he is working on visualizing translation on social media such as Twitter and Weibo. The web-scraping and parallel sentence-mining techniques introduced in his research have also been adapted to explore the ‘dark matter’ in Wikipedia translation.