

A THEORY OF TRANSLATION AND TRANSFORMATION  
 OF LANGUAGES

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The aim of this paper is to introduce several points of approach for the study of colloquial and artificial languages in the hope that they open the road for the construction of a *general theory* for their translation and transformation.

A careful observer of the widespread activities aimed at the construction of a fully automatic high quality translation (FAHQ) may ask the following questions: Where is the general theory of the foundation of languages (and similar interpretation bound formal structures) justifying the efforts put into the construction of complicated machinery? How dare we hope to succeed and arrive at a highly efficient automation as long as the machines are based on sporadic partial theories *unconnected by the framework of a general theory*? How dare we start with only the partial understanding of the logically uncomplete systems acting within any single language and with practically no knowledge at all of the mechanism of the evolution, the natural development of the colloquially used linguistic systems?

Let us start with the following three properties of all colloquial languages, fundamentally important when we regard a language as a totality from an external, *metalogical* point of view:

1) The point of view given by the evolutionary approach:

Any colloquial language represents the momentary state of a long process of development, a process in which one may detect some influence of causality, but quite often taking a very haphazard way with no causality detectable.

2) The two-domain point of view:

We regard "language" on any of its possible levels of development as a construction erected over the coordination of two domains, i.e. *being constructed over a coordinative-domain*, whereby

2a) the first domain consists of sign vehicles, the *rules* governing the combinatorics of sign-vehicles and affronting us, according to the level of