



Human vs. ChatGPT in translating some English love poems into Vietnamese: A mixed method corpus study

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, AI has received increasing attention due to its significant impact on human life, especially in literary translation field. Therefore, the current study aims at comparing some English-Vietnamese love poems translated by human translators and AI to examine the similarities and differences between human and AI translations of English love poems into Vietnamese in the field of literary translation. The corpus of the research includes 30 English love poems along with their 30 Vietnamese human translations and 30 Vietnamese AI translations. The study used a qualitative method to analyze and compare human and AI translations in quality of meaning, cultural adaptation, accuracy and emotional expression. Besides, the quantitative method was applied to count the translation techniques in each version. A three-dimensional evaluation rubric was set to make the findings more reliable and precise. Finally, the results show that both AI and humans can adapt basic meaning in love poem translations and utilize some fundamental translation techniques. However, AI translations are good accurate in structure and vocabulary. In contrast, human translation (HT) presents emotional depth as well as cultural sensitivity. The findings indicate that machine translation can serve as a supportive tool for human translators in love poem translation help humans save time and improve accuracy. The results contribute additional knowledge, data, and new perspectives to this field. These are good for translation learners, trainers, as well as programs.

1. INTRODUCTION

First, AI has some positive influences on efficiency and enhances the accuracy in life fields from healthcare to education, transportation, and finance over the world. Simultaneously, the world has been considered a global community ruled by information and knowledge (Rogers, 2015). "Because translation has become a method to overcome the barriers of multi-cultural and global communication". Without translators, people from different nations might have difficulties in communicating comfortably through their daily interactions or certain contexts such as educational, political or business communication.

Therefore, some tools like Google Translate, DeepL, and ChatGPT use progress in neural networks to translate a large range of text at with fast speed and impressive fluency have been used widely (Christiano, 2024). The rapid development of AI and MT tools raises the question that can AI replace human translators in capturing the emotional and artistic depth of love poetry? While numerous comparative studies have focused

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on specialized texts, such as legal or scientific translation, there remains a notable lack of attention to poetry. This leads to the formulation of the problem that this research seeks to address, as outlined in the following section.

Therefore, the research tries to investigate the similarities and differences between human and AI translations of English love poems into Vietnamese. The study tries to provide insights into the current capabilities of AI in literary translation, especially in the context of emotional and poetic language.

To achieve the aims mentioned above, the study attempts to answer following two research questions:

1. What are translation techniques mainly used by humans and AI?
2. What similarities and differences exist between AI and human translations in their use of translation techniques?

This study, which examines the similarities and differences between human translations (HTs) and AI-generated translations of selected terms, has been undertaken for several reasons. First, it aims to contribute to the knowledge on translation technology and literary translation in Vietnam, thereby encouraging more high-quality research in the field of AI-assisted translation. Second, the findings can serve as valuable educational resources for students and instructors in English translation studies, supporting classroom discussions on the role of AI in translation. These insights may enhance understanding of the strengths and limitations of AI translation or stimulate critical reflection on the importance of human involvement in preserving artistic intent and emotional nuance. Finally, this research may also be beneficial for professional translators and general users who rely on machine translation tools.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Translation

First, it is necessary to clarify one of the key concepts used in this research, the term “translation”, which is a foundation for us to have a deeper sight. According to Cambridge University Press (2025), translation is the process of translating something from one language to another. In other words, translation is a piece of writing or speech that has been translated from a different language (HarperCollins Publishers, 2025). Hatim and Munday (2004) also define translation as “the process of transferring a written text from source language to target language. From Newmark’s (1981) point of view, he indicates that “translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the writer intended the text”.

According to Vinay and Darbelnet (1995), there are two main strategies: direct and oblique translation, covering eight translation techniques: borrowing, calque, literal translation, adaptation, transposition, modulation and equivalence. To compare translation versions, we also need to have some criteria. Harrache (2022) points out that House’s model of quality assessment can be divided into four procedures including textual analysis, comparison, description of the type of translation, and application of a cultural filter. For example, *Tôi phải gửi email cho sếp trước 7 giờ sáng.* (I have to send an email to my boss before 7am). This is borrowing. The word “email” is borrowed directly from English without any phonetic or morphological modification. Super: *siêu* + market: *chợ/thị* = supermarket: *siêu thị*. This is calque. The phrase is translated component by component from English to Vietnamese. *Tôi muốn ăn gà.* (I want to eat chicken). This is literal translation. The sentence is translated word-for-word with structure and meaning preserved. *Cấm hút thuốc.* (Smoking is prohibited). This is transposition. The noun “smoking” in English is changed into the verb “hút” in Vietnamese without changing meaning. *Hoàn toàn có thể giảm cân và tránh khỏi bệnh tật.* (It’s not impossible to keep fit and avoid disease). This is modulation. The negative expression “not impossible” is converted into a positive expression to make the sentence more natural. *Trời mưa như trút nước.* (It’s raining cats and dogs). This is equivalent. An idiom in Vietnamese is used to convey the same meaning as the English idiom. *Lễ hội hóa trang được tổ chức hàng năm vào ngày 31 tháng 10.* (Halloween is celebrated every year on October 31st). This is adaptation. The cultural reference “Halloween” is replaced with a culturally familiar term for Vietnamese readers. From the translation quality assessment frameworks proposed by House (1977), Nida (1964) and Jakobson (1960), each translation in this study will be analyzed on a rubric by employing annotation and coding methods. There are three criteria in this rubric including fidelity, poeticity, and naturalness. Fidelity will examine the meaning and emotional tone. Poeticity will examine the poetic elements. Naturalness will examine how smoothly and idiomatically the translation reads in the target language.

2.2 Love poem

Loyal Poetry (2025) points out love poem is “a form of poetry that expresses deep affection, passion, or admiration for someone. It can be sweet, intense, sad, or even playful but at its core, it always speaks from the

heart. These poems often use vivid imagery, metaphors, and rhythm to enhance the emotional impact.” Thus, the linguistics features of love poems translated by humans and AI are special and different. A recent study by Rafat al Rousan, Jaradat, and Malkawi (2025) quantifies this distinction: human translations scored 94.5% in accuracy, compared to 77.9% for ChatGPT, though AI was rated slightly higher in fluency (97.2% vs. 96.6%). It means that AI may generate smooth texts in grammatical terms, but it often lacks fidelity, nuance, and poetic integrity qualities essential in the translation of love poems.

When translating love poems, translators might face some challenges. These start from the linguistic and cultural intricacies, the symbolic richness of the language, the structural features of poetry, and the emotional depth embedded within each verse. And a successful love poem translation needs not only technical skill but also artistic sensitivity and cultural awareness. As a result, we have many translation techniques to apply with this genre such as paying attention to the rhythm and tone of the original poem, balance form and meaning, use metaphor, cultural references, strategic addition or even omission of words (Mirora, 2025). Besides, the translators must have a deep understanding about love poems.

2.3 AI translation and Human translation

Human translation is an ancient human practice that aims to bring the world together by celebrating cultures and knowledge. It involves the conversion of the intended meaning of a text from one language to another by a human translator (Munday, 2004). Due to its extensive and significant history in comparison to Machine Translation (MT), Human Translation (HT) serves as a benchmark for evaluating the effectiveness of any MT tool (Kenny, 2022). Rendall and Benjamin (1997) highlight that unlike MT systems, the work of a translator is easily recognizable due to its distinct and creative nature. Translators strive to convey the original work's intended meaning to produce a reflection of the source text (ST) in the target text (TT) (Rendall & Benjamin, 1997). While HT demonstrates clear advantages in terms of quality and cultural sensitivity, it still exits many drawbacks. These things AI translation can surpass human capabilities in translation. According to Dam and Zethsen (2016), translators must possess in-depth knowledge of languages and cultures to deliver creative translations. The process of HT is intricate, and it is included in many stages. Consequently, HT is more time-consuming than MT. While AI translation was created by AI tools like ChatGPT, Google Translate and so on, HT was created by professional translators. As a result, there are many differences between machine translation (MT) and human translation (HT) as you can see as the example below:

For example, the English sentence *“I love you more than words can say”* is translated by AI as *“Tôi yêu bạn hơn những từ có thể nói”*. AI translation is accurate but feels rigid and literal. In contrast, human translation (HT) translates to *“Anh yêu em hơn tất cả những gì lời nói có thể diễn đạt”* maintains the rhythm, emotional nuance, and natural flow in Vietnamese. Or the difference between AI and human translation is also expressed in the following example. The phrase *“Spill the beans about your feelings”* is translated to English by AI as *“Đổ đậu về cảm xúc của bạn”*, however, human translates it as *“Tiết lộ hết cảm xúc của bạn”*. In this case, human translation can effectively convey the intended meaning in a culturally appropriate way while AI translation is confusing and nonsensical in Vietnamese.

2.4 Previous studies

Recent scholars reveal a nuanced picture of how AI compares to human translators in the realm of poetic translation. Porter and Machery (2024) showed that non-expert readers preferred AI-generated poems over those by famous human poets often rate AI versions as more emotional, creative, and accessible unless they were informed of the poems' true origin, which led them to judge AI poems more harshly. In a similar experiment conducted by Köbis & Mossink in 2020, it revealed that participants had difficulty distinguishing between AI-generated poetry and human-written poetry when there was human curation involved. However, the ability to detect AI-generated poems improved when the poems were selected by AI without any human change.

Studies conveying poetry machine translation provided valuable insights. Humblé (2019) examined how Google Translate translated the works of Dickinson, Whitman, and Bukowski. It shows that the AI translations were quite simple and more literal than HT. But AI translation was found to lack stylistic nuance and sometimes met errors in gender agreement. Further research in translation as Neural Machine Translation systems surpass generic models and can achieve human-like quality in around one-third of instances. However, they still struggle with metaphors, rhythm, and emotional nuances (Chakrabarty et al., 2021).

Further study is comparative studies classical Arabic with other languages. It finds that AI translations often struggle to convey cultural nuances and poetic elements while HT excel beyond the capabilities of machines (Ahmed & Yousef 2024). The study of Al Rousan, Jaradat and Malkawi in 2025 also concludes that readers

cannot completely believe in ChatGPT because it is not a fully reliable tool for translating Arabic literature. The findings of Raghad and Mona in 2025 show that HT is more accurate, with an average accuracy score of 94.5%, compared to 77.9% for ChatGPT. However, ChatGPT produces fluent translations, scoring 97.2% in fluency versus 96.6% for HT. Despite its fluency, ChatGPT struggles with design-related elements and often introduces superfluous content (Al Rousan et al., 2025).

However, the present study is significant because of the following points. First, it examines a larger dataset of 30 English-Vietnamese love poems compared to Rafat al Rousan's 12 excerpts. Second, the previous studies just analyze prose or audience reception, while this present study focuses on love poetry. This genre allows the study to evaluate how AI manages subtle stylistic and emotional elements. Third, the study employs a mixed-methods approach that combines qualitative analysis of stylistic and emotional features with quantitative categorization of translation techniques. In this way, it can be a more comprehensive evaluation of AI and human translation.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research method

The study incorporates a combination of both quantitative and qualitative approach. The mixed method is ideal to seek answers to research questions. Qualitative approach helps the researcher to conduct close textual analysis of the original English poems and their translated versions which is based on literary translation theories and poetic translation techniques. The translations are also compared side by side to the way each version captures the original poem's aesthetic and emotional effects. Quantitative approaches are used to count the translation techniques used in each version. From these researcher can give some exactly findings.

3.2 An overview of the generated corpus's properties (E-V Corpus of love poems)

First of all, the generated corpus in this study is a specialized parallel corpus consisting of English love poems aligned with their Vietnamese translations. Each English poem is followed by two corresponding Vietnamese versions one translated by a human and the other by an AI system. As a corpus compiled for the study of poetic translation, it is restricted to a specific literary domain: romantic love poetry, encompassing works from both classical and modern periods.

The AI-generated love poem translations were produced by using ChatGPT-4 Because it is the most modern AI system of OpenAI. There was a consistent prompt used for all translations: "*Translate the following English poem into Vietnamese. Please preserve the poetic form, emotional tone, and figurative language as much as possible.*" Moreover, it should be noted that each prompt was run only once. Since ChatGPT can produce different outputs for the same prompt, this single-run approach limits the reproducibility and stability assessment of the AI-generated translations. The reaseacher tried to keep as much as possible the AI's output in order to keep all contents for comparing purposes. The following table summarizes the generated corpus' properties:

Table 1. Summary of the Generated Corpus' Properties

No	Category	Corpus properties
1	Corpus type	Specialized parallel corpus
2	Size	30 poems and 60 translation versions
3	Domain	Couple of love
4	Directionality	Mono-directional
5	Languages	English and Vietnamese
6	Time	Humans and AI

3.3 Data collection and processing procedures

Within the scope of the present study, a number of 30 pairs of original English love poems and their corresponding Vietnamese translations were collected from differently reliable and publicly accessible sources including:

The researcher first selects articles that are relevant to the research topic. Next, the researcher copied the entire content of the original article into the word file. In addition to directly copying content from online sources, some texts particularly those published in digital literary magazines were available only in PDF format. In such cases, the researcher utilized PDF-to-Word conversion tools (iLovePDF) to extract. The next step is to delete unnecessary information in the file, known as word elimination. This involves removing words that are not content words from the corpus, based on the corpus' goals and learners' needs (Toriida, 2016).

Examples of what can be omitted include reference sections, citations, repetitive textbook headings, figure, and table headings, contact information, the image caption, etc. The same steps are taken to gather all the 30 English famous love poems and HT of them. The researcher gathers all the 30 English famous love poems and HT of them in one file and save as in one file only.

Table 2. Details of the source materials used for collecting English-Vietnamese love poem translations

	Name	Website	Number of collected documents
Personal websites and blogs of translators	Hoàng Nguyễn Chương	https://thohoangnguyenchuong.weebly.com	1
	Phan Quỳnh Trâm	https://phanquynhtram.com	1
	Thịnh Đại Lộc	https://thinhdailoc.blogspot.com	2
	Thivien.net	https://www.thivien.net	16
Reputable online poetry archives	Tkaraoke Poetry Site	https://poem.tkaraoke.com	1
	ZIM.vn	https://zim.vn/tho-tieng-anh-hay	4
Digital magazines / cultural media	Cỏ Thơm Magazine	https://cothommagazine.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/NhaVan-NhaTho-Tac-Pham.pdf	3
Social media platforms	Tôn Thất Minh Đạt (Facebook)	(11) DỊCH THƠ: NÀNG ANNABEL LEE (Thơ: của Edgar... - Tôn Thất Minh Đạt Facebook	1
Contemporary literary blogs	Hoàng Hạnh Nôm	https://hoanghannom.com	1
Total quantity	9	9	30

The researcher first selects articles that are relevant to the research topic. Next, the researcher copied the entire content of the original article into the word file. In addition to directly copying content from online sources, some texts particularly those published in digital literary magazines were available only in PDF format. In such cases, the researcher utilized PDF-to-Word conversion tools (iLovePDF) to extract. The next step is to delete unnecessary information in the file, known as word elimination. This involves removing words that are not content words from the corpus, based on the corpus' goals and learners' needs (Toriida, 2016). Examples of what can be omitted include reference sections, citations, repetitive textbook headings, figure, and table headings, contact information, the image caption, etc. The same steps are taken to gather all the 30 English famous love poems and HT of them. The researcher gathers all the 30 English famous love poems and HT of them in one file and save as in one file only.

Then reasearcher use ChatGPT to translate English source texts into Vietnamese. To guide ChatGPT toward producing translations with a standard prompt. The prompt used in most cases was: “*Translate the following English poem into Vietnamese. Please preserve the poetic form, emotional tone, and figurative language as much as possible.*” After inputting the prompt, ChatGPT immediately gives results about AI translations. Next, researchers can copy one by one the AI translations to the file containing 30 original English love poems and their human translations files. Finally, researcher create a *Final Aligned Poem Translations Human - AI* file. Each poem’s alignment was clearly labeled with its title, and consistent formatting was applied throughout the document to ensure readability and ease of navigation.

3.4 Data coding and rubric for evaluation

A data coding system was created in this study to easily label translation titles. Thirty pairs of translation were assigned in a specific code with three main parts: the translation types, the poem titles and example number. Two elements are separated by an underscore “-” to make the code easy to read.

This study set a rubric having three core aspects: fidelity, poeticality, and naturalness to evaluate the quality of human and AI translations. There are three levels from low quality to high quality in each aspect. High is three points, medium is two points, low is one point. The total score for each translation is equaled fidelity + poeticality + naturalness.

4. FINDINGS

4.1 The similarities of love poems translated from English into Vietnamese by humans and AI

4.1.1 Similarity in conveying basic meaning

Despite being generated by two different kinds - human and AI, translations of English love poems tend to

share several main commons. Both have ability to preserve the central themes, emotions, and basic meaning of the Vietnamese source poems. In both types of translations, the essential matter is suitably conducted in the Vietnamese target language. For example, in the poems “When you are old”, “How do I love thee” many common nouns such as beauty, sorrow, grief, death, smile, and faith, some verbs like love, dream or even adverbs are preserved as original version by specific word.

4.1.2 Use of some common translation techniques

Both the human translators and AI flexibly employ common translation techniques such as literal translation, borrowing, calque, modulation, and equivalence. For instance, in the first stanza of “A red red rose”, both the human translation and AI translation utilize various translation techniques, including literal translation, modulation, calque, and adaptation as readers can see as the following figure:

Figure 1. Comparison between PTH-5 and PTAI-5.

5. A Red, Red Rose:			
English source text	Vietnamese human translation	Vietnamese AI (Chat GPT) translation	
My Luve 's like a red, red rose That 's newly sprung in June; My Luve 's like the melodie That's sweetly play'd in tune!	Ồi! Người yêu như hoa hồng đỏ thắm	Tình anh như đóa hồng thắm	NN Nguyễn Ngân Modulation
	Vừa nở ra trong tháng sáu diệu kỳ.	Vừa nở rộ giữa tháng Sáu hồng.	NN Nguyễn Ngân Literal + Calque
As fair art thou, my bonnie lass, So deep in luve am I: And I will luve thee still, my dear, Till a' the seas gang dry.	Ồi! Người yêu lời du dương êm ái	Tình anh như khúc nhạc êm	NN Nguyễn Ngân Literal + Equivalence
	Như điệu đàn gây đắm kẻ tình si.	Em đắm ngân giữa điệp trùng âm.	NN Nguyễn Ngân Literal + Poetic adaptation
Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear, And the rocks melt wi' the sun; I will luve thee still, my dear, While the sands o' life shall run.	Này em gái sắc hương đầy quyến rũ.	Em xinh đẹp, hỡi giai nhân,	NN Nguyễn Ngân Modulation
	Trong tình yêu sâu thẳm của tâm hồn	Lòng anh yêu thắm không ngần;	NN Nguyễn Ngân Calque
And fare thee weel, my only Luve, And fare thee weel a while! And I will come again, my Luve, Tho' it were ten thousand mile.	Em có biết, anh sẽ yêu mãi mãi,	Và anh sẽ mãi yêu em,	NN Nguyễn Ngân Adaptation
	Cho tới ngày cạn hết nước trùng dương.	Cho đến khi biển cạn dần.	NN Nguyễn Ngân Modulation + Adaptation
Robert Burns	Cho đến khi biển cạn khô,	Cho đến khi biển cạn khô,	
	Và đá tan dưới nắng lò;	Và đá tan dưới nắng lò;	
Tạm biệt em người anh yêu duy nhất Có chia tay cũng ngán ngùi thôi mà! Anh nhất định sẽ vì em trở lại Dẫu bên trời vạn lý cách rời xa.	Anh còn yêu mãi em đó,	Anh còn yêu mãi em đó,	
	Khi cát đời vẫn còn trôi.	Khi cát đời vẫn còn trôi.	
Hoàng Nguyên Chương dịch	Tạm biệt em, người yêu ơi,	Tạm biệt em, người yêu ơi,	
	Tạm biệt em một thời thôi!	Tạm biệt em một thời thôi!	
Chat GPT	Anh sẽ quay lại, em hỡi,	Anh sẽ quay lại, em hỡi,	
	Dù xa muôn vạn dặm trời.	Dù xa muôn vạn dặm trời.	

4.2 The differences of love poems translated from English into Vietnamese by humans and AI

4.2.1 Differences in emotional depth and nuance

One of the most core differences between humans and AI is in the emotional depth and nuance conducted in Vietnamese translations. Human translators are able to capture deeper emotion, cultural references, and context-specific meanings due to the fact that man can effectively make sense of linguistic knowledge as well as emotion and cultural when translates love poems. Professional translations often convey a deeper emotional richness, nuanced meaning, and better resonance with the target audience compared to AI translations. In contrast, AI-generated translations tend to lack the emotional resonance and natural flow. The output may lack emotional depth. It is difficult for readers to fully engage with the content, especially in love poem where tone and mood play a significant role.

As you can see in “Love's philosophy”, Hoàng Tâm uses “trộn” instead “hòa” Which are rich and strong emotional word to match the romantic yearning of the original.

Figure 2. Comparison between PTH-8 and PTAI-8 example 1.

Vietnamese human translation	Vietnamese AI (Chat GPT) translation
Núi kia muốn trộn với sông	Suối hòa cùng dòng sông chảy,
Sông thì muốn chảy vào lòng đại dương	Sông hòa vào biển bao la;
Gió Trời trộn với ngàn hương	Gió trời mãi mãi hòa quyện,

Besides that, in the poem “Lord of my love, to whom in vassalage” the human translator Ngọc Châu

skillfully navigates Vietnamese pronouns by using the delicate and emotionally resonant pronouns “anh”, “Nữ Hoàng” and “nàng” to reflect the speaker’s references instead of “tôi”, “ta” and “Chúa tể”. This tender elevates the tone of devotion and subtly reflects the social-romantic dynamic between a man humbling himself before a woman he loves comparing to the AI translation. These uses the more formal and emotionally distant which tone that is feel cold and have far distance.

Figure 3. Comparison between PTH-27 and PTAI-27.

Lord of my love, to whom in vassalage Thy merit hath my duty strongly knit, To thee I send this written embassy, To witness duty, not to show my wit:	Gửi tới Nữ Hoàng lòng anh Người đánh giá sự trung thành, công lao Vần thơ gỗ mộc chưa bào Không khoe tài cán, cốt sao tỏ lòng.	Chúa tể tinh ta, người khiến ta thể, Công đức người gắn kết ta trung thành; Tôi gửi lời này, bằng chữ nghĩa thể, Chúng lòng trung, chứ không khoe trí nhanh.
Duty so great, which wit so poor as mine May make seem bare, in wanting words to show it, But that I hope some good conceit of thine In thy soul's thought, all naked, will bestow it;	Việc nặng tài hèn, chỉ mong không bị dè bủ những dòng vụng, thô Mong manh hi vọng bất ngờ Nàng ban áo đẹp cho thơ trụi trần	Nghĩa vụ lớn, trí ta sao mà vụn, Lời nói nghèo khiến ý chưa trọn vụn; Nhưng tôi mong trong tâm người sâu thẳm, Ý ta hiện rõ, không cần che giấu thêm.

4.2.2 Differences in translation techniques and creativity

Human translators tend to employ a wide range of translation techniques such as modulation, adaptation, literal translation, and equivalence. In contrast, AI translations rely mainly on literal translation and direct methods and rarely utilize more expansive strategies. The poems: “So We’ll Go No More A Roving” is randomly taken to analyze. As a result, human uses almost all techniques translations While AI just use literal translation and modulation only. It seems that AI-generated translations often lack naturalness and emotional expressiveness whereas, human translators can convey meaning creatively and in a way that aligns with the cultural and contextual nuances of the target language.

Human translators have a great ability to capture deeper emotion, cultural references, and context-specific meanings. Because man can make sense of linguistic knowledge as well as emotion and cultural when they translate love poems. The output of AI may lack emotional depth. It is difficult for readers to fully engage with the content, especially in love poems where tone and mood play a significant role. Through the process of data analysis, the author found that human translations averaged 2.97 but, AI scored 2.3 as table 3.

Table 3. Average results PTH and PTAI

Code PTH	Fidelity (3)	Poeticity (3)	Natural-ness (3)	Code PTAI	Fidelity (3)	Poeticity (3)	Natural-ness (3)
PTH Average	2.9	2.97	3	PTAI Average	2.93	2.3	2.73

Another noticeable difference is that AI tends to use expanded compound words when translating emotional or descriptive vocabulary. For example, single adjectives like “deep” or “high” in the source text are often rendered as “sâu xa” (profound), “sâu thẳm” (deep and vast), or “cao rộng” (lofty and vast) in AI-generated translations. This technique aligns with amplification or modulation, and is likely used to maintain rhythm, enhance emotional tone, or increase poetic resonance in Vietnamese. While this approach helps the AI preserve some level of lyrical quality, it can occasionally result in overused poetic clichés or make the text feel redundant or overly embellished.

Figure 4. Comparison between PTH-3 and PTAI-3 example 2.

English source text	Vietnamese human translation	Vietnamese AI (Chat GPT) translation
How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.	Em yêu anh như thế nào? Để cho em đếm	Em yêu anh bằng những cách nào chẳng?
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height	Em yêu anh tới tận cùng sâu, cao, rộng	Để em đếm tình yêu trải thên thàng
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight	Của những gì hồn với tới khi mắt chẳng thể nhìn,	Từ sâu thẳm, cao xa, rộng vô tận
For the ends of Being and ideal Grace.	Cho tới tận cùng Tồn tại và lý tưởng Ân trên.	Nơi hồn em với tới giữa mệnh mang
	Em yêu anh như những gì cần cho cuộc sống	Tim ý nghĩa của Đời và Ôn Thánh.

4.2.3 Handling of cultural and figurative language

While AI version lacks consistent rhyme and reads more like translated prose than poetry. The flow and rhythm translation are smooth and inherently Vietnamese in poetic form in “Love’s philosophy” by Hoang Tam - a professional translators. For example, rhymes such as “đại dương - ngàn hương”, “trong ngần - một thân”, “thế gian - hòa chan”, “tươi xanh - em anh”, “trên đường - được thương”, “anh trai - đất hoài” demonstrate deliberate attention to poetic aesthetics.

Figure 5. Comparison between PTH-8 and PTAI-8 example 2.

the river And the rivers with the ocean, The winds of Heaven mix for ever With a sweet emotion; Nothing in the world is single, All things by a law divine In one spirit meet and mingle Why not I with thine? See the mountains kiss high	Sông thì muốn chảy vào lòng đại dương Gió Trời trộn với ngàn hương Là niềm cảm xúc du dương trong ngần, Không gì đơn lẻ một thân Luật thiêng vũ trụ xoay vần thế gian: Linh hồn muốn được hoà chan Kết thành một thứ huy hoàng tươi xanh Vì sao không thể em-anh?	Sông hòa vào biển bao la; Gió trời mãi mãi hòa quyện, Mang theo cảm xúc dịu dàng tha. Trên đời chẳng có điều đơn, Mọi vật theo luật thần linh, Một linh hồn hợp, hòa chung Sao anh lại không hòa cùng em?
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The human translator demonstrates deeper understanding of figurative speech in Vietnamese. For example, in “Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day” the human by translating “heaven” as “vùng hồng”, “gió hè khô” as “gió tháng Năm” win AI in apply some figurative speech in translation. In this case, “vùng hồng” is a figurative speech because it is a metaphor used to express the image of the sun “heaven”. And “gió hè khô” does not describe a specific type of wind but rather serves as a metaphorical image evoking a sense of dryness and harshness, corresponding to the quality of “rough winds” in the original poem. The AI translation in this case shows decent structure and accuracy phrase as “trời” and “gió tháng năm”.

4.2.4 Accuracy and fluency of language

The AI’s translation often lacks fluency and naturalness. The human translations sometimes deviate from the literal meaning but these may demonstrate greater linguistic fluidity, expressiveness, and cultural sensitivity which makes it more engaging and accessible to Vietnamese readers.

Figure 6. Comparison between PTH-28 and PTAI-28.

28. Love:

English source text	Vietnamese human translation	Vietnamese AI (Chat GPT) translation
Yes, love indeed is light from heaven A spark of that immortal fire With angels shared, by Alla given. To lift from earth our low desire. Devotion wafts the mind above But heaven itself descends in love; A feeling from the Godhead caught To ear from self each sordid thought; A ray of Him who formed the whole A glory circling round the soul!	Vâng, thưa đúng thể thưa người Tình yêu là ánh sáng trời anh linh, Một tia lửa tự lửa tình Muôn đời bất diệt trời dành vẹn nguyên, Những con mê vọng thấp hèn Thiên thần chia sẻ vượt trên cõi trần. Lòng tin hướng thượng tin thần Nhưng Trời lại tự xuống gần nhân duyên; Cảm thông ý Chúa Bề Trên Xin từ bỏ những cuồng điên tục trần; Xin nhờ ánh sáng hồng ân Hào quang vinh dự sáng ngàn hồn ta!	Tình yêu thật là ánh sáng trời, Tia lửa bất diệt, vĩnh hằng thiêng liêng Chia sẻ cùng các thiên thần nơi đời Đấng Allah ban, nâng cao lòng hiền. Lòng thành kính nâng tâm ta bay lên, Trời cao cũng xuống qua tình thương đây; Cảm xúc linh thiêng từ Thần Tối Cao Xua tan mọi bụi trần vẩn đục mây. Tia sáng Người tạo nên vạn vật, Hào quang rạng rỡ vây quanh hồn ta!
Lord Byron	Hà Bình Trung dịch	Chat GPT

However, the human version wins in fluency of emotional tone and poetic fidelity in appreciating poetry as an art form. At table 4 “the average results PTH and PTAI table”, human translations get high scores in fidelity and naturalness with averages of 2.9 and 3. In contrast, AI translations had a higher average for fidelity 2.93 but a lower score for naturalness 2.73.

Table 4. Average results PTH and PTAI

Code PTH	Fidelity (3)	Poeticity (3)	Natural-ness (3)	Code PTAI	Fidelity (3)	Poeticity (3)	Natural-ness (3)
PTH Average	2.9	2.97	3	PTAI Average	2.93	2.3	2.73

5. CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

After comparing between English - Vietnamese love poems translated by humans and AI, there are some conclusion existed as follow. Firstly, both human translators and AI use a variety of common techniques such as literal translation, modulation, calque, borrowing, and equivalence. However, human translators tend to demonstrate many types of techniques like adaptation, modulation as well as equivalence. While AI-generated translations always choose literal translation techniques. Translators frequently employ modulation, amplification, adaptation, and equivalence to preserve emotional nuance, poetic rhythm, and cultural relevance but AI often produces results that are structurally accurate. Secondly, regarding some findings of comparing some English - Vietnamese love poems translated by humans and AI, readers can understand the differences between AI and human translations. AI translations may excel in accuracy at a lexical and syntactic level, but they often lack emotional depth, poetic structure, and cultural nuances. Human translators usually translate intentionally and creatively because humans know how to incorporate relevant cultural metaphors and traditional rhythmic patterns to preserve the essence and soul of the original poem. Although there are many prominent differences, AI and human versions still preserve the basic meaning and central themes of the original English poems. They often maintain key vocabulary, imagery, and poetic structure to a certain extent.

As in any research work before, backside are always included. First, the researcher was not able to explore the topic of love in all its various dimensions, such as familial love, friendship love, natural love as well as self-love due to the limited time and scope of the study. The study only focused on a couple of love poem aspect, which may restrict the generalizability of the findings. Due to the narrow scope of the study limited to only 30 poems focusing on romantic love between couples, it should be emphasized that the findings cannot be generalized beyond this specific dataset. Moreover, the result of ChatGPT depends on prompts that we input while we just use one or two types of prompts. Therefore, a slight change in word use can create differences in output. It is exceedingly difficult to have one hundred exact outcomes. Last but not least, AI is a modern topic therefore it is hard to find some academic materials to compare, analyze or organize, especially with limited experience as a researcher. Because these limitations, it is good for the researcher had put an extra effort as well as time into this study in order to accomplish this thesis with the best quality. Therefore, future studies should carry down with using the suggested methodology in this study but the topic is different such as: friendship love, natural love, familial love and self-love. For example, familial love might not require a different cultural sensitivity than couple love. Therefore, researchers can generate more comprehensive insights into the capabilities of AI translation and how it compares to human translators in conveying diverse emotional and cultural nuances in poetry. Moreover, other researchers may consider collecting data by changing prompts that inputs ChatGPT to collect translation. This research helps to know how AI can adapt to different registers and stylistic expectations as well as allow to analyze the way prompt impact on the translation quality.

Based on the findings of this study, there are several implications and recommendations that can be drawn for translation teaching and learning, as well as for institutions training in translation and interpreting in the age of AI. For translation students, this study highlights the importance of developing critical thinking skills when working with AI-generated content. Students should be trained to use AI tools effectively and post-edit machine-generated translations. For translation instructors, there is a need to integrate AI tools into classroom activities as an object of critical reflection. Teachers can design lessons where students compare human and AI translations, analyze differences between AI translation and HT as well as the limitations of MT. At the institutional level, universities and training centers need to revise and update their curricula to reflect the growing impact of AI on the translation profession. Courses on MT, NMT, and AI-assisted translation should be included as part of the core or elective offerings. Workshops, seminars, and programs on AI and translation technologies can also be organized to raise digital awareness among students.

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Con người và ChatGPT trong việc dịch một số bài thơ tình tiếng Anh sang tiếng Việt:
 Một nghiên cứu ngữ liệu theo phương pháp hỗn hợp

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THÔNG TIN BÀI BÁO	TÓM TẮT
<i>Quá trình xử lý:</i> <i>Ngày nhận bài:</i> 08/10/2025 <i>Ngày nhận bản chỉnh sửa:</i> 26/11/2025 <i>Ngày nhận đăng:</i> 27/11/2025 <i>Ngày xuất bản:</i> 20/02/2026 <i>Từ khóa:</i> <i>Bản dịch trí tuệ nhân tạo;</i> <i>Bản dịch bởi dịch giả;</i> <i>Thơ tình;</i> <i>ChatGPT;</i> <i>So sánh bản dịch.</i> <i>Tác giả liên hệ:</i> <i>Nguyễn Bạch Yến Ngan</i> <i>Địa chỉ e-mail:</i> <i>yenngan21072001@gmail.com</i>	Trong những năm gần đây, trí tuệ nhân tạo đã nhận được sự quan tâm đáng kể vì sự ảnh hưởng to lớn của nó đến đời sống con người, đặc biệt là trong lĩnh vực dịch thuật văn học. Do đó, nghiên cứu này nhằm so sánh một số bài thơ tình tiếng Anh được dịch sang tiếng Việt bởi dịch giả con người và AI, từ đó biết được những điểm tương đồng và khác biệt giữa bản dịch của con người và AI trong việc chuyển ngữ thơ tình tiếng Anh sang tiếng Việt ở lĩnh vực dịch thuật văn học. Nguồn dữ liệu nghiên cứu bao gồm 30 bài thơ tình tiếng Anh cùng với 30 bản dịch tiếng Việt của con người và 30 bản dịch tiếng Việt của AI. Nghiên cứu sử dụng phương pháp định tính để phân tích và so sánh các bản dịch của con người và AI về chất lượng ý nghĩa, khả năng thích ứng văn hoá, độ chính xác và biểu đạt cảm xúc. Bên cạnh đó, nghiên cứu cũng sử dụng phương pháp định lượng để thống kê các kỹ thuật dịch được sử dụng trong từng bản dịch. Một bảng đánh giá ba chiều cũng được thiết lập nhằm đảm bảo tính tin cậy và chính xác của kết quả. Kết quả nghiên cứu cho thấy cả AI và con người đều có thể truyền tải được ý nghĩa cơ bản trong bản dịch thơ tình và sử dụng một số kỹ thuật dịch cơ bản. Tuy nhiên, bản dịch của AI có độ chính xác cao về cấu trúc và từ vựng, trong khi bản dịch của con người thể hiện được chiều sâu cảm xúc và sự nhạy bén văn hoá. Những phát hiện này cho thấy dịch máy có thể đóng vai trò là công cụ hỗ trợ hữu ích cho dịch giả trong việc dịch thơ tình, giúp tiết kiệm thời gian và nâng cao độ chính xác. Kết quả nghiên cứu đóng góp thêm kiến thức, dữ liệu và góc nhìn mới cho lĩnh vực này, đồng thời mang lại lợi ích cho người học, người dạy và các chương trình đào tạo dịch thuật.