🌽 山華民國計算語言學學會



The Association for Computational Linguistics and Chinese Language Processing 第十七卷第二期

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本期要目

壹. ROCLING-2006Call for Papers

貳. 2006 語音訊號處理研討會

參. 學術活動預告(PACLIC, LPSS, ACL/HCSNet, YRR)

肆. 第三屆語言學卓越營:意義與語法

伍. 專文- 語音人機介面—技術及應用經驗分享(沈家麟)

第二頁 第三~四頁 第五~九頁 第十~十二頁 第十三~十六頁

LSA/ACLCLP 會員互惠辦法

台灣語言學學會(LSA)與本會(ACLCLP) 會員互惠辦法開始實施,互惠辦法適用對象 爲本會有效會員,凡爲本會之會員註冊參加 LSA/ACLCLP 會員互惠活動者,每年應繳交 註冊費,學生會員 250 元,個人(含終身)會 員 500 元, 團體會員 2,500 元。

一、互惠活動者權益:

參加互惠活動之會員,得享有台灣語言學學 會會員之部分權益,包括學術活動會員優 惠,購買出版品(不包括期刊)與語料庫會員 優惠,獲寄台灣語言學學會通訊與其他相關 訊息。

二、注意事項:

- 互惠權益不包含台灣語言學學會之會員 資格,欲取得會員資格者,必須依照該 學會章程規定申請。
- 互惠期限與會員資格有效期限相同(不 論在當年度何時參加互惠活動)。
- 3. 九十五年度加入者享八折優待,學生會 員200元,個人會員400元,團體會員 2,000 元。

三、申請辦法:

請至本會網站下載 LSA/ACLCLP 會員互惠 申請表。

ROCLING-2006

「第十八屆自然語言與語音處理研討會」 謹訂於九月七日~八日假新竹市國立交誦大 學舉行,大會將選出最佳論文,並於本屆會 員大會中頒發獎項;本年度之博碩士論文 獎,亦將於大會中進行頒獎儀式。徵稿啟事 請參閱第二頁,歡迎踴躍投稿及參加。

中文計算語言學期刊出刊

第十一卷第一期《中文計算語言學期刊》 已於三月出刊,並於3/31郵寄與各位會員, 若未收到之會員,敬請聯繫本會秘書處補寄。

獎助學生出席國際會議

COLING/ACL-2006 大會預定於 4/28 公 布接受之論文,凡論文被接受者爲本會之學 生會員者,可向本會申請出席會議獎助金:

申請期限:論文接受發佈日起兩週內。

獎助名額:一~二名。

獎助金額:每名上限美金 1,000 元。

申請手續請參閱本會網站:

http://www.aclclp.org.tw/doc/fundreg.htm。

ROCLING - XVIII

Conference on Computational Linguistics and Speech Processing

第十八屆自然語言與語音處理研討會

September 7-8, 2006, National Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu, Taiwan, ROC http://www.speech.cm.nctu.edu.tw/Rocling2006/index.html

CALL FOR PAPERS

Conference Chair:

Sin-Horng Chen,

National Chiao Tung University

Program Committee:

Yih-Ru Wang, Co-Chair,

National Chiao Tung University

Zhao-Ming Gao, Co-Chair,

National Taiwan University

Claire H. H. Chang

National Chengchi University

Jason S. Chang

National Tsing Hua University

Jing-Shin Chang

National Chi Nan University

Hsin-Hsi Chen

National Taiwan University

Kuang-Hua Chen

National Taiwan University

Lee-Feng Chien

Academia Sinica & Google

Jen-Tzung Chien

National Cheng Kung University

Hung-Yan Gu

National Taiwan University of Science and

Technology

Wen-Lian Hsu

Academia Sinica

Bor-Shenn Jeng Chunghwa Telecom Labs

Sur-Jin Ker

Soochow University

Tyne Liang

National Chiao Tung University

Hsien-Chin Liou

National Tsing Hua University

Wen-Hsiang Lu

National Cheng Kung University

Ren-Yuan Lyu

Chang Gung University

Jeng-Shyang Pan

National Kaohsiung University of Applied

Sciences

Shu-Chuan Tseng

Academia Sinica Yuen-Hsien Tseng

National Taiwan Normal University

Hsiao-Chuan Wang

National Tsing Hua University

Hsin-Min Wang

Academia Sinica

Chung-Hsien Wu

National Cheng Kung University

Ming-Shing Yu

National Chung Hsing University

Shiaw-Shian Yu

CCL/ITRI

Organization Chair:

Yuan-Fu Liao

National Taipei University of Technology

The 18th ROCLING Conference will be held at National Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu, on September 7-8, 2006. Sponsored by Association for Computational Linguistics and Chinese Language Processing (ACLCLP), ROCLING is the most historied and major conference in the broad field of computational linguistics, speech processing, and related areas in Taiwan. ROCLING XVIII will be hosted by the Department of Communication Engineering, National Chiao Tung University. The two-day conference will feature invited talks, paper and poster sessions, and Student Workshop

ROCLING XVIII invites the submission of original and unpublished research papers on all areas of computational linguistics, natural language processing, and speech processing, including, but not limited to the following topic areas.

- (a) cognitive/psychological linguistics
- (b) discourse/dialogue modeling
- (c) information extraction/text mining
- (d) information retrieval
- (e) language understanding/generation
- (f) lexicon/morphology
- (g) machine translation/multilingual processing
- (h) named entity recognition
- (i) NLP applications/tools/resources
- (j) phonetics/phonology
- (k) question answering

- (1) semantic web
- (m) semantics/pragmatics
- (n) speech analysis/synthesis
- (o) speech recognition/understanding
- (p) spoken dialog systems
- (q) spoken language processing
- (r) syntax/parsing
- (s) text summarization
- (t) web knowledge discovery
- (u) word segmentation/POS tagging
- (v) others

Paper Submission:

Prospective authors are invited to submit full papers of no more than 25 A4-sized pages in PDF or Microsoft Word format. Papers will be accepted only by electronic submission through the conference website. Prospective authors without Web access should contact the Program Committee Co-Chair (yrwang@mail.nctu.edu.tw) before the submission deadline. The submitted papers should be written in either Chinese or English, and in single column, double-spaced format. The first page of the submitted paper should bear the items of paper title, author name, affiliation and email address. All these items should be properly centered on the top, with a short abstract of the paper following.

Best Paper Award:

The best paper will be selected and announced at ROCLING XVIII.

Important Dates:

Preliminary paper submission due: July 1, 2006

Notification of acceptance: August 1, 2006

Final paper due: August 10, 2006

Sponsors:

Association for Computational Linguistics and Chinese Language Processing (ACLCLP) Department of Communication Engineering, National Chiao Tung University

2006 語音訊號處理研討會 Speech Processing Using Prosodic and Semantic Information

會議時間: 2006年4月21日(星期五)

會議地點:國立台灣師範大學公館分部綜合館國際會議廳

主辦單位:國立台灣師範大學資訊工程研究所、中華民國計算語言學學會

會議主旨:

語音訊號處理研討會是中華民國計算語言學學會一年一度的盛事,本次研討會由國立台灣師範大學資訊工程研究所與學會共同主辦。會議以 Speech Processing Using Prosodic and Semantic Information 為主題,邀請國內知名學者專家發表專題演講,並就語音處理技術的新研究方向舉辦座談會。敬邀各位先進共襄盛舉,分享與交流此領域最新的研發成果,以提昇國內語音訊號產業技術水準。歡迎各界人士踴躍參加。

議程:

時間	講題	主講人	
09:20-09:30	報 到		
09:30-09:40	開幕致詞	郭義雄校長 (台灣師範大學)	
09:40-10:40	口語篇章韻律「由上而下管轄」 的證據與語音科技發展的反向思維之研究	鄭秋豫教授 (中央研究院)	
10:40-11:00	Coffee Break		
11:10-12:00	強健式語者辨認以先驗知識爲基礎之話筒補 償與潛性韻律特徵分析	廖元甫教授 (台北科技大學)	
12:00-13:10	午餐		
13:10-14:10	Efficient Navigation across Multimedia Archives Based on Spoken Document Understanding	李琳山教授 (台灣大學)	
14:10-15:10	一個噪音強健性自動語音辨識系統 特性參數處理方法	陳嘉平教授 (中山大學)	
15:10-15:30	Coffee Break		
15:30-16:30	座 談 會		

2006 語音訊號處理研討會

Speech Processing Using Prosodic and Semantic Information 報名表

會議時間:2006年4月21日(星期五)

會議地點:國立台灣師範大學公館分部綜合館國際會議廳

主辦單位:國立台灣師範大學資訊工程研究所、中華民國計算語言學學會

姓	名		單位			
電	話		E-mail			
聯	絡地址					
收	【據抬頭					
報	名費	一般人士: □ 會員 學生: □ 會員 (報名費包含講義、午餐	200元	□非會員 600 元 □非會員 300 元		
1. 2. 3.	2. 報名截止日4/14日(現場報名加收 100 元)					
	信用卡持有人:					
	卡號:□□□□-□□□-□□□-□□□有效期:					
	卡片後三碼:簽字:					
4.	□ 午餐	請備素食				
5.		專真或郵寄至: 訂汀州路四段 88 號 國立台灣	師範大學到	資訊工程研究所		

許庭瑋 小姐收 電話:(02)2932-2411 ext 209 傳真:(02)2932-2378

The 20th Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC 20)

November 2~4. 2006

Huazhong Normal University, Wuhan, China

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC) series is an annual meeting of scholars in theoretical and computational linguistics mainly from the Pacific Asia region. It aims to provide a forum where researchers in different fields of study can exchange and share the ideas about language, information and computation.

Recent PACLIC have been held in Tokyo, Japan (2000 and 2004), Hong Kong (2001), Jeju, Korea (2002), Singapore (2003), and Tapei (2005). The 2006 Conference will be the 20th gathering.

PACLIC 20 will be held in Nov. 2006, organized under the auspices of PACLIC Steering Committee, in the famous tourism resort, Wuhan, China. Following the long tradition of PACLIC conferences, PACLIC 20 emphasizes the integration of language processing – from linguistic understanding to computational modeling and computation. Prospective authors are invited to submit original and unpublished papers with topics on theoretical and empirical analysis of languages, automatic processing of linguistic information and their computational modeling. The topics of the conference include, but are not limited to, the following:

Topics

(1)	phonology and phonetics	(7)	typology
(2)	morphology	(8)	formal grammar theory
(3)	syntax	(9)	corpus linguistics
(4)	semantics	(10)	natural language processing
(5)	pragmatics	(11)	cognitive linguistics
(6)	discourse analysis	(12)	applications and systems

Important Dates

July 1, 2006
Aug.15, 2006
Sep. 15, 2006
Oct. 1, 2006
Nov. 2~4, 2006

Local Organizing Committee Co-Chairs

He Tingting, Huazhong Normal University, China

Cao Youqi, Chinese Information Processing Society of China

Organized by

Huazhong Normal University, Chinese Information Processing Society of China For the detailed information, please refer to the conference Website at http://paclic20.ccnu.edu.cn.

For any other questions regarding PACLIC 20, please contact the secretariat Po Hu at paclic20@mail.ccnu.edu.cn.

International Symposium on Linguistic Patterns in Spontaneous Speech

November 17-18, 2006 Centre for Academic Activities, Academia Sinica, Taipei Organized by Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica

We would like to draw your attention to the International Symposium on Linguistic Patterns in Spontaneous Speech, which will be taking place on November 17-18, 2006 in Academia Sinica, Taiwan. This symposium will focus on research results on the processing, analysis and understanding of the linguistic characteristics of spontaneous speech. And it will also provide an excellent opportunity for linguists, speech engineers, and practitioners of natural language processing and system developers to share with each other the latest thinking and results on spontaneous speech. With no restriction on the languages under investigation, we are interested in contributions concerned with phenomena in all languages. Selected papers from the symposium will be published in a book in the *Language and Linguistics* Monograph Series by the Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica. For further details about this symposium, please visit our website at http://www.lpss.sinica.edu.tw.

We are looking for papers on the following topics:

- Corpora of spontaneous speech
- Linguistic analyses on spontaneous speech
- Characteristics of disfluency in spontaneous speech
- Understanding spontaneous speech in dialogue systems
- Automatic speech recognition of spontaneous speech
- Automatic or manual labelling of spontaneous speech data and
- Any other topics related to spontaneous speech

Important dates:

Deadline for full-paper submission
Acceptance notification to authors
Deadline for camera-ready paper
Symposium dates

July 31, 2006
September 15, 2006
October 15, 2006
November 17-18, 2006

Invited speakers:

Dafydd Gibbon Universität Bielefeld

Kikuo Maekawa National Institute for Japanese Language

Elizabeth Shriberg SRI and ICSI

Organization: Shu-Chuan Tseng

ACL/HCSNet Advanced Program in Natural Language Processing

University of Melbourne, 10-14 July 2006

http://www.acl2006.mq.edu.au/school

The Australasian Language Technology Association is pleased to announce the ACL/HCSNet Advanced Program in Natural Language Processing, to be held at the University of Melbourne in the week prior to the COLING/ACL meeting.

This event will consist of advanced tutorials on major topics of current research Interest in NLP. The material will be organized around four themes: NLP/IR; probabilistic parsing; lexical semantics; and discourse & dialogue. Presenters for each theme are currently being finalised.

The goals are two-fold: to encourage international students to come to Australia for the COLING/ACL by providing a second week of NLP content, and to give Australian students the benefit of extended interaction with researchers who will be attending the COLING/ACL. Places are strictly limited.

STUDENTSHIPS:

Thirty ACL Studentships will be available on a competitive basis, covering the cost of registration and accommodation. Preference will be given to students who have a paper accepted at the COLING/ACL conference or a satellite event. Applicants must provide a curriculum vitae, letter of reference from their advisor, and a statement to explain how the program relates to their research. Please see the website for the application form.

VENUE:

The University of Melbourne is one of Australia's premier research universities. The event will be held in the Department of Computer Science, which has state-of-the-art lecture theatres and laboratory facilities. The city of Melbourne has been ranked as one of the world's most liveable cities, on account of its infrastructure, access, education levels, low crime rate, focus on the environment, culture and events, its diversity and connectedness with the rest of the world.

SPONSORSHIP:

This event is funded by the Association for Computational Linguistics, and the ARC Network in Human Communication Science. It is also supported by the Australasian Language Technology Association.

IMPORTANT DATES:

1 May: deadline for early registration, studentship applications

26 May: scholarship notification

1 June: deadline for registrations, discount student accommodation

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Steven Bird, Nicola Stokes, James Curran (co-chairs)

Timothy Baldwin, Lawrence Cavedon, James Curran, Nicola Stokes (theme conveners)

The Young Researchers' Roundtable on Spoken Dialog Systems-2006

YRR-2006: Call for participation

http://www.yrrsds.org/

Workshop topic

The Young Researchers' Roundtable on Spoken Dialog Systems will bring together students, post docs, and junior researchers from different countries, different research institutions, and different disciplines who share an interest in applied dialog systems research. It will provide a setting in which participants can discuss their own research and work and obtain feedback from others who are at a similar level and who are working on similar problems. The discussions will have an eye toward (1) solving the problems participants currently face in their work and (2) identifying issues that are likely to be important in the coming years. And, perhaps most importantly, (3) the event will help to create a more permanent international network of young researchers working in spoken dialog systems. We hope to continue the success of last year's Young Researchers' Roundtable on Spoken Dialog Systems

Workshop format

This workshop will be a full-day event consisting of multiple small-group discussions of topics that will be chosen based on suggestions submitted by the participants themselves. Potential roundtable discussion topics could include:

- Use and usefulness of user simulation: What are the best practices for building and evaluating user simulations?
- Dialogue and question answering: How can dialogue research help with interactive question answering?
- Multimodality: Today spoken dialog systems are common in call centers, mobile phone, and cars, but multi-modal systems are much less widely deployed. Why is this so? Can multimodal dialogue systems play a useful/fun role in gaming/virtual reality?
- Para-linguistic and non-linguistic phenomena: How should dialogue systems account for and respond to affect (e.g., user frustration)?
- Bridging the gap: How can research on spoken dialogue systems benfit from other fields? What techniques from other fields (such as operations research, ergonomics, data mining, or others) might be borrowed and extended to advance spoken dialog systems? What can linguistic theories and psycho-linguistic research tell us?

After the small-group discussions, each of the groups will present a summary to the rest of the participants. We hope that the discussion format will foster creative thinking about current issues in spoken dialog systems research, setting the stage for the co-located INTERSPEECH-2006(http://www.interspeech2006.org/)

Submission process

We invite participation from students, post docs, and junior researchers who are currently working in applied spoken dialog systems research. We also invite participation from those who are working in related fields such as human factors, speech recognition, artificial intelligence, or speech synthesis, as applied to spoken dialog systems. Potential participants should submit a

2-page position paper following the template provided on the webpage. The paper will include a statement of research interests with a short overview of past, current and future work. Furthermore a discussion on the following questions:

- What is the next killer application for spoken dialog systems?
- What sort of impact could that application have?
- What questions need to be answered before we can realize that * application?

This discussion should be followed by an enumeration of three possible discussion topics for the event itself. Finally the authors are asked to provide a short biographical sketch. Accepted papers will be collated and distributed to participants in CD-ROM and/or paper format. We also plan to publish the position papers and presentations from the workshop on the web, subject to sponsor or publisher constraints.

Further information concerning the submission format is provided on the web-page.

Important Dates

Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis starting March 30th, 2006, until the maximum number of participants for the workshop (45) is reached, or until the submission deadline (July 20th, 2006) is reached.

Open for submissions: March 30th, 2006 Submissions deadline: July 20th, 2006 Registrations begin: August 1st, 2006

Registration deadline: TBD

Workshop: September 16th, 2006

Registration fee:

Student registration fee: TBD (< USD 100) Non-student registration fee: TBD (< USD 100)

2006 Taiwan Summer Institute of Linguistics

第三屆語言學卓越營:意義與語法

2006 第三屆卓越營研究課程以五場講習課程串連而成,五場活動分別在不同的時間舉行。 五場講習課程全程參與的學員,可獲得結業證書一紙,但不能轉換學分。本系列活動除講 座授課外,另安排授課老師與學員互動,討論研究議題。課程內容及報名方式如下。

一、課程內容

場次	時間	地點	主講人	主題
	5月19日	中研院史語所文物 陳列館地下室	Christiane Fellbaum	詞彙網路 詞彙的意義與結構
=	7月10日	福華文教會館	Sally McConnell-Ginet	語境與語意之互動
11	7月11日	輔仁大學 百鍊展演中心	連金發教授 畢永峨教授 賴惠玲教授	構式語法: 本土語言之分析
四	8月30日	福華文教會館	Adele E. Goldberg	構式語法(Construction Grammar)理論最新發展
Ŧī.	10月14日	中研院語言所	連金發教授 蘇以文教授 黃居仁教授 畢永峨教授 賴惠玲教授	心得整合與研究創新: 追求卓越

註明:7月12-13日,全國語言學研討會(NCL)假輔大百鍊展演中心舉行,歡迎同時參加。

二、報名與註冊(會員優惠費用適用於台灣語言學學會及參與跨學會優惠之中華民國計算語言學學會會員)

五場全部參加

身份	5/5 以前	5/5 以後
學生會員	\$500	\$700
一般會員	\$1,500	\$1,800
非會員	\$3,000	\$3,500

單場參加

場次	報名截止日期	身份	費用
		學生會員	\$200
	5月15日	一般會員	\$500
		非會員	\$1,000
		學生會員	\$200
	7月3日	一般會員	\$500
		非會員	\$1,000
=		學生會員	\$200
	7月3日	一般會員	\$500
		非會員	\$1,000
四		學生會員	\$200
	8月24日	一般會員	\$500
		非會員	\$1,000
五		學生會員	\$200
	9月30日	一般會員	\$500
		非會員	\$1,000

附註:第一場(5月19日)爲計算語言學會與台灣語言學會共同主辦。兩會會員均享有報名費優待。

三、繳費辦法

郵政劃撥:劃撥至帳號 19441335,戶名:台灣語言學學會;劃撥後請將收據影本傳真至:中研院語言所 **02-27856622**,註明「卓越營報名」。

四、報名表

報名表(請至http://linguist.tw/下載)填妥後,請以e-mail傳回 language@gate.sinica.edu.tw或傳真至 **02-27856622**(註明「卓越營報名」)。

「詞彙網路與詞彙語意關係」研習課程

Christiane Fellbaum (Princeton University)

會議時間:95年5月19日 會議地點:中研院史語所

費格心 Christiane Fellbaum 教授是 WordNet 的主要負責人。WordNet 由 George Miller 首倡,把詞彙庫中所有的概念與概念關係完整呈現。是認知與計算語言學研究的重要理論架構。WordNet 的架構,也是跨語言分析與處理的最重要基礎架構。此次 Fellbaum 教授應交大之邀,擔任 CLSW7 之主旨講席,也應邀順道對相關研究作深入介紹。本次活動由台灣語言學會與中華民國計算語言學會共同主辦。對象包括理論語言學(詞彙語意學),計算語言學,英語教學,與認知心理學。

暫訂議程:

9:30 Registration

9:45 Opening Ceremony

10: **00**∼**12**: **00** Lecture I: Semantic Relations: Design Features of WordNet

This talk discusses the design of, and the assumptions behind, the lexical database WordNet. In particular, WordNet's verb component will be critically examined. We address the following questions:

- What is the linguistic and psycholinguistic evidence for the semantic relations?
- How do noun and verb relations differ?
- How well do the existing relations account for the semantics of verbs?
- Are there other possible relations?
- Do the semantic relations account for the syntactic behavior of verbs?

 $12:00\sim13:30$ Lunch

13:30~15:00 Lecture2: Constructing WordNetPlus: Reflecting Human Evocation of Synsest

This is recent and still ongoing work on automatically constructing a completely connected WordNet with weighted, directed arcs. The work has an empirical foundation: human ratings of "evocation" among synsets

 $15:00\sim15:30$ Closing Session and Break

 $15:30\sim17:00$ Coffee Hours and Face-To-Face Discussion

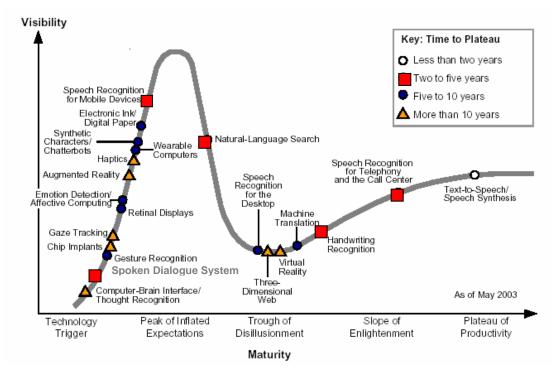
Informal Discussion with Dr. Fellbaum, restricted to a small number of students and scholars doing WordNet related work.

語音人機介面一技術及應用經驗分享

沈家麟

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人機介面的發展歷程簡而言之就是從人去適應機器(Machine-centered)到機器不斷去適應人 (Human-centered)的過程,從最早期的以鍵盤作爲互動介面的命令列介面(Command-line Interface, CLI), 到 1963 年由 Dr. Douglas Englebart 發明滑鼠,以及 Xerox、Apple、Microsoft 等公司在圖形 介面的成就,發展到現在最常用的圖形化介面(Graphic User Interface, GUI),再到目前逐漸演化中 的自然化介面(Natural User Interface, NUI),結合了人的感知,如語音(Speech)、手寫(Hand-writing)、 眼球追蹤(Eye-tracking)、手勢(Gesture)、表情(Emotion)等,而機器也不再侷限於俗稱的電腦,包含 愈來愈多有計算的功能的裝置,同時這些裝置從也不再侷限於靜止狀態,不斷的有各種移動式裝置 (Mobile Device)推陳出新,例如 Notebook、Tablet PC、PDA、Cellular Phone 等。在這新一代的人機 介面(NUI)中,與機器互動的主導權逐漸轉移到人的手中,而其中語音人機介面(Voice User Interface, VUI)無疑是被高度期許的,在這幾年中,語音人機介面從被商業上的高度期待到失望,再到目前 被成功的應用於某些地方(Specialty Niches),例如聽寫機在醫學業、法律業及倉儲業等的應用,簡 單的對話系統在電信服務上的應用,以及行動裝置或資訊家電的應用如手機聲控撥號等。圖一顯示 各種不同的人機介面技術目前的成熟度,以 VUI 為例,Telephony 的應用算是比較成熟的,而行動 裝置的應用正慢慢的走向高峰,至於 PC 端的應用目前在谷底;以技術的角度來看,語音合成算是 相對成熟的技術,而對話系統的技術成熟度還在很初期的階段。在這篇文章中,我們嘗試用不同的 角度來看如何讓語音人機介面走向實用性,特別是在輸入(語音辨識)這端,希望這些觀點能激發出 更多好的想法,不管在技術及應用上給這個領域更多的活水。



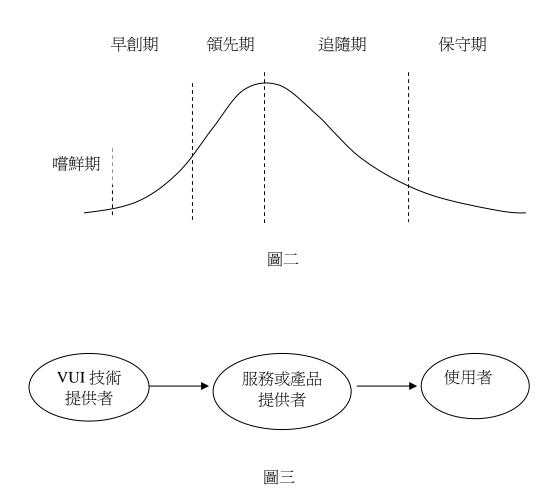
Source: Gartner Research

圖一

一個可用的語音人機介面,我想是多數還在或是憧憬進入這個領域中的人所奮鬥的目標,不過很遺憾的,目前很成功的案例並不多,一個新的技術或是產品都有他的生命週期(如圖二),不同型態的人會在不同的時期(嚐鮮期--早創期--領先期--追隨期--保守期)進來使用這項技術或產品,我們看到的是目前語音人機介面還無法突破"嚐鮮期"(約 5%),但是它的市場到底大不大?打個比喻來說,有人看到非洲很多人沒有穿鞋子,悲觀的人說這個地方沒有鞋子的市場,樂觀者卻認爲等待開發的市場非常大;又有人說這個技術並不成熟,舉個例子,液晶電視的畫質相較於一般的傳統電視在大多數使用於觀看有線電視上仍有一段差距,但是仍有很多人願意忍受這個較差的品質,因爲液晶電視提供了使用者其他部分美好的體驗—大尺寸及輕薄等裝飾的美感;再舉個例子,Google 或其他的搜尋引擎所找出來的結果並不理想(範例如下),

約有 20,100,000 項符合 voice user interface 的查詢結果,以下是第 1-10 項。 共費 0.28 秒。

但是使用者調適自己去接受,等待有更好的搜尋引擎技術,因爲對於 Internet 上的資料庫有強烈的需求而強迫自己去適應這個不完美的技術。這些都是技術躍過了一定的門檻但還是不夠完美的技術,可是他們提供了其他的"吸引點"(Attractive Point) — 裝飾的美感或是龐大資訊的需求。再回到語音,我個人覺得以目前的技術層次,語音辨識或是語音合成都已經躍過一定的門檻,雖無法全面應用在所有的人機介面上,但是輕薄短小的行動裝置愈來愈普及,在這個趨勢之下,語音人機介面有一定的優勢,問題是使用者的習慣未養成,也未找到"吸引點",因此更加突顯了技術的不成熟度。提供語音技術的人往往不是第一線面對使用者的人,而是利用"降低成本"(Cost Reduction)或是"加值賣點"(Value-added Feature)來吸引服務或產品提供者(圖三),對於使用者則未必有實質的幫助,或是沒有讓使用者有"非用不可"的需求。



舉自然互動公司(Naturaltel Communications)以台達電子(Delta Electronics Inc.)語音技術幫台灣大哥大(包括台哥大、泛亞、東信)開發的聲控鈴聲下載服務爲例,台哥大客戶可透過手機直撥 803,試聽並下載約 35500 首歌曲的鈴聲(30000 國語歌曲、5000 英文歌曲、500 首閩南語歌曲),從 2005年5月至今使用客戶數累積到約 12萬,約佔全部會員數 800萬人的 1.5%,尚未突破"嚐鮮期"的 5%門檻,雖然以音樂爲主的加值服務市場很大,這點在 iPod 的例子可得到證實,而且是除了簡訊之外的最大電信加值市場,足夠成爲"吸引點",但是由於同時有其他的管道(例如從 Internet 下載)可以得到同樣的服務,而且使用者的習慣及初期使用障礙仍需要時間去培養及克服,這些都拉長了從嚐鮮期進入早創期的時間。那麼語音人機介面會在那些地方成功的被運用呢?個人認爲會在以下幾個方面:

- 1. 語音命令:這部分的技術比較成熟,例如人名辨識應用於聲控總機、個人手機、車用系統等; 另外一些資訊家電也嘗試整合聲音控制。雖然技術門檻低,但是要成為制式的介面,需要的是 標準化的制定(Standardization),成為眾多可替代性(Alternative)的人機介面之一,而使用者習慣 也會應標準化而逐漸培養。
- 2. 語音檢索: Internet 資料庫本身就是一個很大的"吸引點",而且在行動裝置逐漸普及的趨勢下,語音檢索絕對是一個很大的需求,如何解決語音到目前的關鍵字輸入這一端將是一個很大的挑戰。另外像 Call Center 以及 Speech Portal 的電信加值應用都是很大的商機。
- 3. 語音輸入:這部分從聽寫機式微以來反而在一些特定的領域獲得很大的成功,例如醫學領域、 法律領域、倉儲業等的輸入。其實這些領域的使用者除了鍵盤使用不易(Hand-busy, Eye-busy) 的特點之外,由於使用者固定要作輸入的工作,因此有機會強迫自己去培養語音輸入的習慣。
- 4. 語言學習:這是一個很大的"吸引點",除了利用語音辨識增加互動性之外,目前的應用主要在於發音矯正。但是語音辨識是希望有更大的"模糊性",也就是讓不同口音、年紀、性別都能成功辨識,而發音矯正則是希望更大的"精準性",也就是精確找出發音的問題,因此目前的語音技術應用於語言學習只能當做配角,需要更多聲學知識的人從不同於模型識別的觀點來思考這個題目。

從"吸引點"中找出或者猜測使用者真正的需求再決定技術研發的方向,比較能找對方向,例如 Google 看到搜尋結果太多,在提高 Precision rate 的前提下開發"Page Rank"技術,讓點選率高的網頁會排在前面。那麼語音人機介面的需求呢?個人覺得語音辨識的研究應該往幾個面向發展(圖四)。

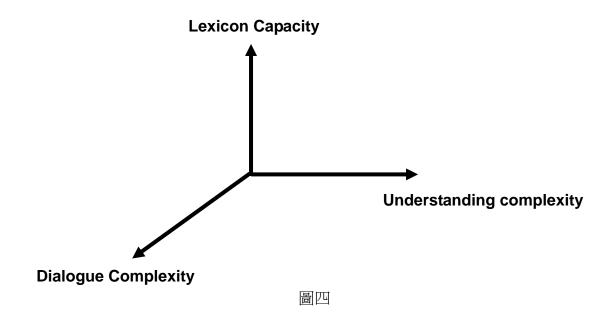
- 1. Lexicon Capacity:語音的需求是因爲方便性,這個特點在字彙量愈大的情況愈能突顯它的必要性,Internet 上的語音搜尋就是一個極致的例子,另外像鈴聲或是音樂的下載也是,所以少量字彙如手機或是資訊家電的應用等透過標準化的制定才有辦法成爲標準介面之一,但是使用者被驅動的需求往往在於字彙量很大的情況,再加上行動裝置的普及趨勢推波助瀾下,極大字彙的需求將愈來愈重要。
- 2. Understanding Complexity:大多數的語音人機介面往往對於不合法(Ill-formed)的句子無法處理,除非標準化讓使用者知道哪些是可以被辨識的句型或是字彙,否則 OOG(Out-of-grammar)與 OOV(Out-of-vocabulary)的情況將使得使用者"用"之卻步,尤其一個新使用者在接受這個語音介面勢必有一段陣痛期,因此如何有更強健的自然語言處理與容錯能力將是將讓使用者滿意(User Satisfaction)的重要技術能力。
- 3. Dialogue Complexity:這部分的終極目標當然是希望使用者能感受跟真人對話一般,目前可以著力的部分包括對話的控制(Dialogue Control),例如精簡對話的流程與時間,適當引導使用者輸入等;以及使用者狀態診斷(User state diagnosis),例如是否聲音太小、雜訊太大、離話筒太近等生理狀態和已經不知如何回應或是不耐煩等心理狀態等。

綜合以上所述,一個成功的語音人機介面應用需要這些技術面向的支援,例如:

Call Center: Understanding Complexity + Dialogue Complexity

Dictation: Lexicon Capacity + Understanding Complexity

Speech-based search engine: Lexicon Capacity



除了以上所提的這幾個面向的技術研發之外,個人覺得在實用的前提下,VUI 的可用性評估 (Usability Evaluation)及多模式整合(Multi-modal Integration)這二個主題也有待更深入的研發,前者在人因工程中就是一個重要的課題,包括好用度、滿意度以及再使用率的分析,乃至於使用者行爲模式模型的建立(User Behavior Modeling)以及認知分析(Cognition Analysis)等;後者在多種現有的既競爭又合作的人機介面中,如何結合 VUI,提高整合後的人機介面的可用度,例如 VIVO(Voice input, Visual output)等,都是能使 VUI 更接近實用的重要研究課題。從網際網路(World Wide Web, WWW)世代到下一階段結合更多的軟體(影音資料庫)及硬體(行動裝置)之行動多媒體(Multi-Media Mobility, MMM)世代,以人爲本(Human-centered)的自然人機介面(NUI)一直被高度期許能早日成爲新一代的人機介面主流,VUI 是否能佔有一席之地要靠你我共同的努力。