

Automatic Speech Recognition Systems as Tools to Enhance Spoken Communication in the Classroom

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To investigate the capabilities of newer Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) applications/software as tools to support auditory access of spoken communications, we asked 26 deaf and hard-of-hearing college students to use a variety of applications and software in real-world (field) settings and to provide evaluative feedback. In this presentation preliminary findings will be shared.

Additionally, participants will learn about a new beta application called Ava by Transcense Labs. Ava focuses on a seamless conversational experience for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons and is described as being like Siri, but for group conversations. The app processes conversations to show a real-time, color-coded transcript.

Biography

Linda G. Gottermeier, AuD, is associate professor of audiology in the Department of Communication Studies and Services at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY.

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Carol L. De Filippo, PhD, is a professor of audiology in the Master of Science Program in Secondary Education of Students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY.

Raja Kushalnagar, J.D., LL.M., Ph.D., is an assistant professor in the Department of Information Computing Sciences at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. His research focuses on accessible computing for deaf, hard of hearing, low vision and blind consumers' access to multimodal information, such as television.

Bonnie L. Bastian, MS, is a speech-language pathologist in the Department of Communication Studies and Services at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY.

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Thibault Duchemin, Co-Founder and CEO

Being born and raised as the only hearing person in a deaf family, Thibault knows perfectly well what hurdles, and inconveniences deaf people encounter every day. Thibault is a French data scientist, from Ecole des Ponts-et-Chaussées (Paris) and is the driver behind the project. Thibault has great project managing skills, and carries the vision to keep the team together, and to make sure that everyone lives up to his tasks. With a master in engineering from UC Berkeley, Thibault is very quick at picking up the complexities and language in the speech and backend technology of the app. (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/thibaultduchemin/en>)

Pieter Doevendans, Co-Founder and COO

Pieter got his Bsc. in civil engineering from the University of Technology Eindhoven, The Netherlands. He is very good with hardware, and has built many models and craftworks in his life. Besides that, Pieter is a very social guy and an amazing hustler. Pieter spends most of his time engaging with users, partners, advisors, and mentors. Internally he is responsible to drive the management team, and make sure that the product testing takes place. (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/pieterdoevendans>)