

# COMP0087

## Statistical Natural Language Processing

### Lecture 8 – Neural Speech Understanding

Slides build on various resource including:

- Jinming Zhao
- Shinji Watanabe
- Hung-yi Lee
- Abdelrahman Mohamed

# Overview

- 1. Introduction to speech**
2. Key speech tasks
3. Feature extraction in speech
4. Automatic speech recognition
5. Speech translation
6. Pre-trained speech encoder (wav2vec2, whisper)
7. AudioLLMs
8. Benchmarks

# Speech

Speech is far more complex compared to text, this is rooted in many factors including:

## Continuous vs. Discrete Inputs

- Text: discrete tokens, finite vocabulary
- Speech: continuous waveform, infinite possibilities
- Raw audio: 16kHz = 16,000 samples/second

## No Natural Segmentation

- Text has clear token boundaries
- Speech is continuous
- Where does one phoneme end and another begin?

## High Variability

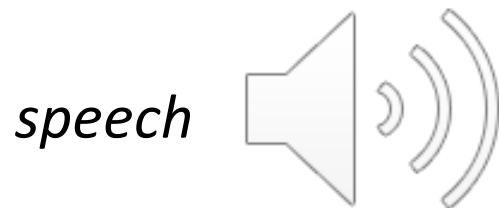
Same word, infinite pronunciations:

- Different speakers (gender, age, accent)
- Speaking rate (fast vs. slow)
- Emotion (angry vs. calm)
- Channel effects (phone vs. studio mic)
- Background noise

Text is relatively invariant

# Speech

- What is unique to speech that is not present in text?
  - Speech contains more than just content



*speech*

*Text: That doesn't matter*

*content*

*speaker info*

*emotion*

*prosody*

*noise*

*etc.*

*content*

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# Speech Tasks

- Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR)
  - Speech-to-text [e.g., caption services]
- Speech Synthesis
  - Text-to-speech [e.g., audiobooks]
- Spoken Dialog Systems
  - Interaction through speech [e.g., Siri]
- Speech Translation
  - Speech-to-text (foreign language) [e.g., travel]

# Speech Tasks

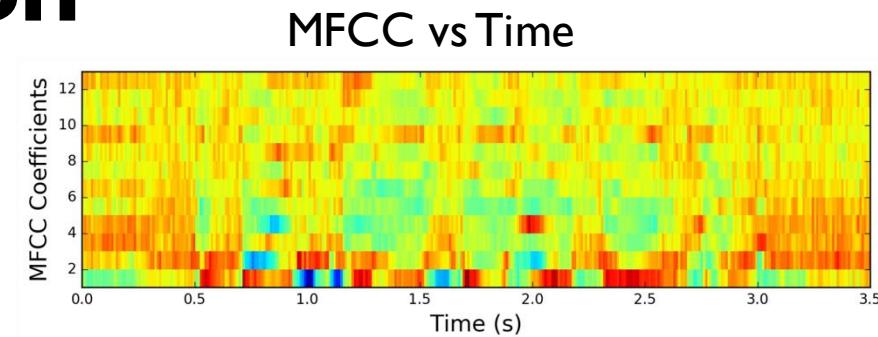
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  - Speech-to-text (foreign language) [e.g., travel, UN speeches]

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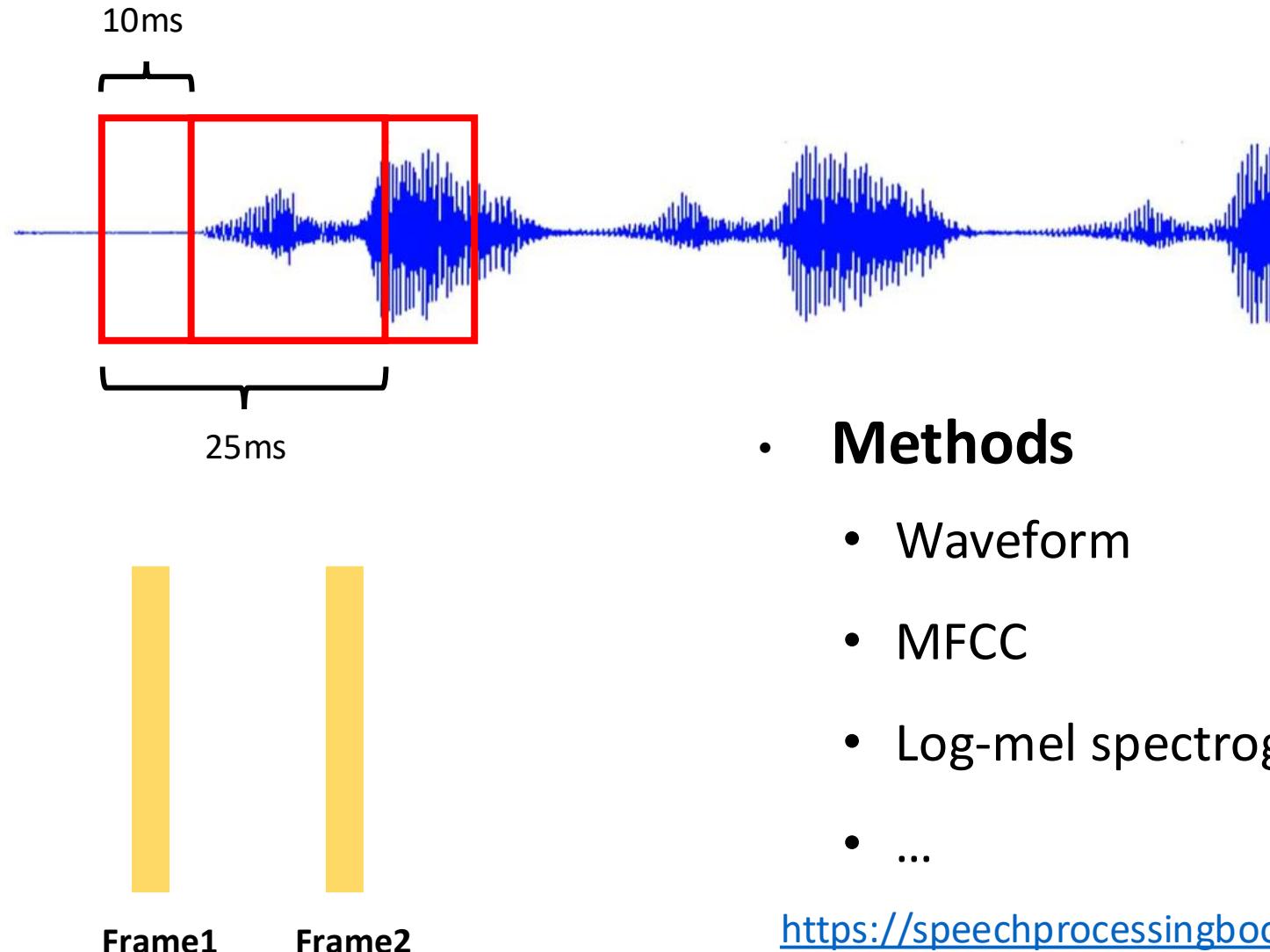
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# Audio Data – feature extraction

- Methods of extracting features
  - Signal processing
    - E.g., Mel-frequency cepstrum coefficients (MFCC), log-mel-spectrogram
    - Two dimensions: temporal and feature
    - Features can be pre-computed.
  - Deep learning
    - Pretrained encoders, e.g., wav2vec2
    - (covered later)

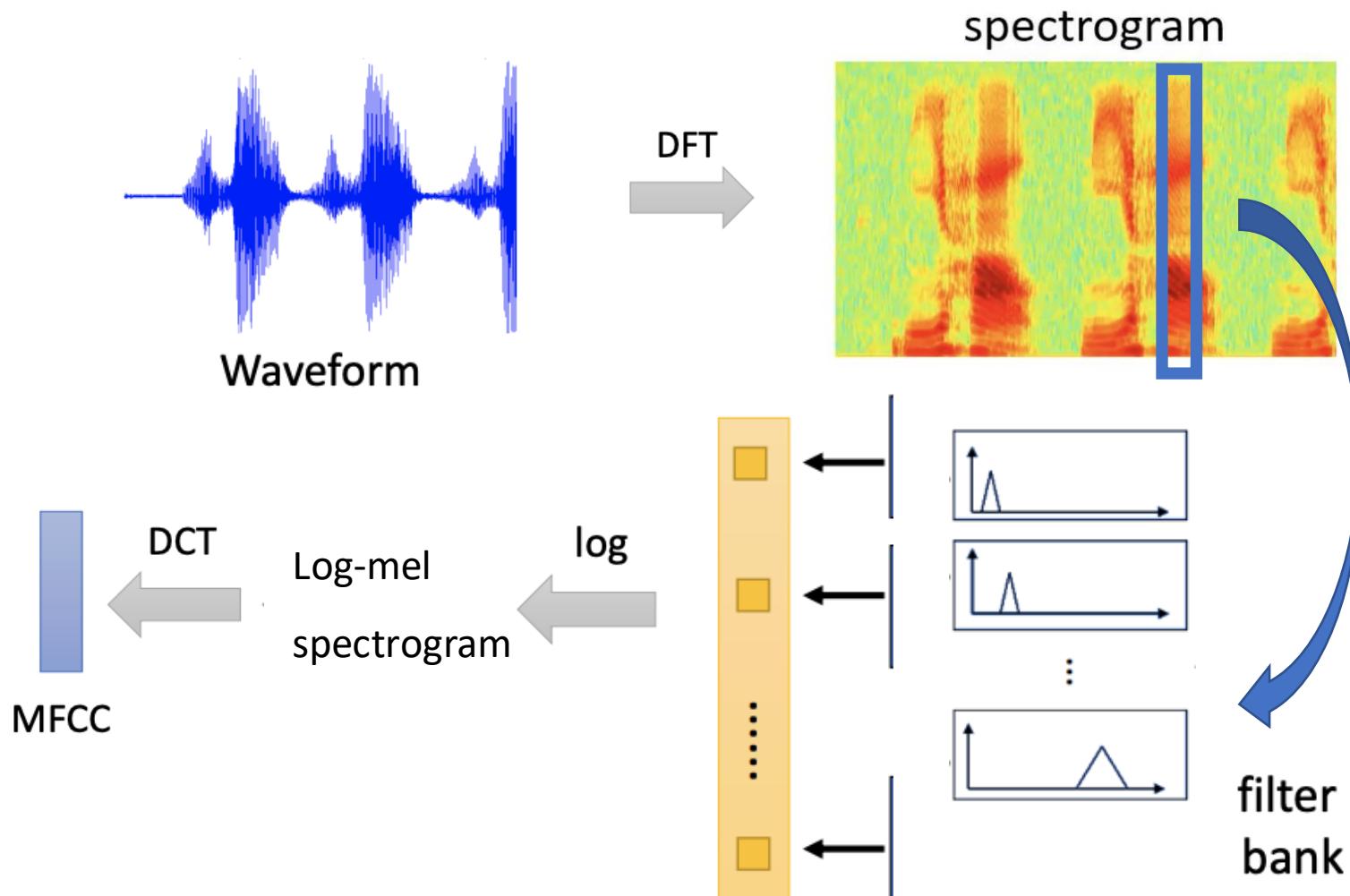


# Acoustic features



<https://speechprocessingbook.aalto.fi/Representations/Representations.html>

# Acoustic features



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# Automatic speech recognition (ASR)

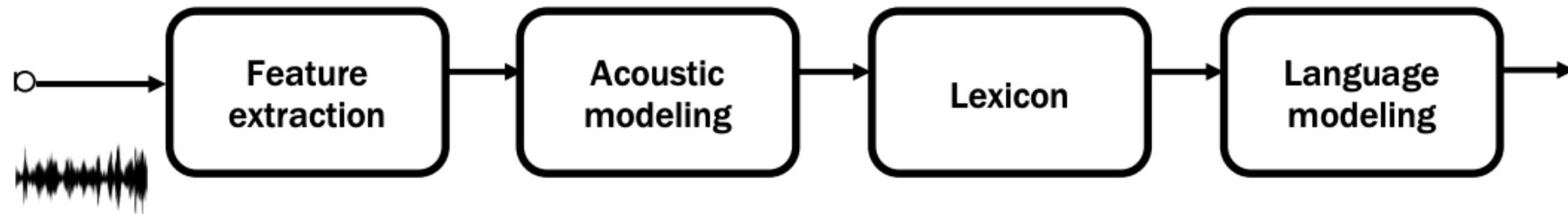
- Speech to text



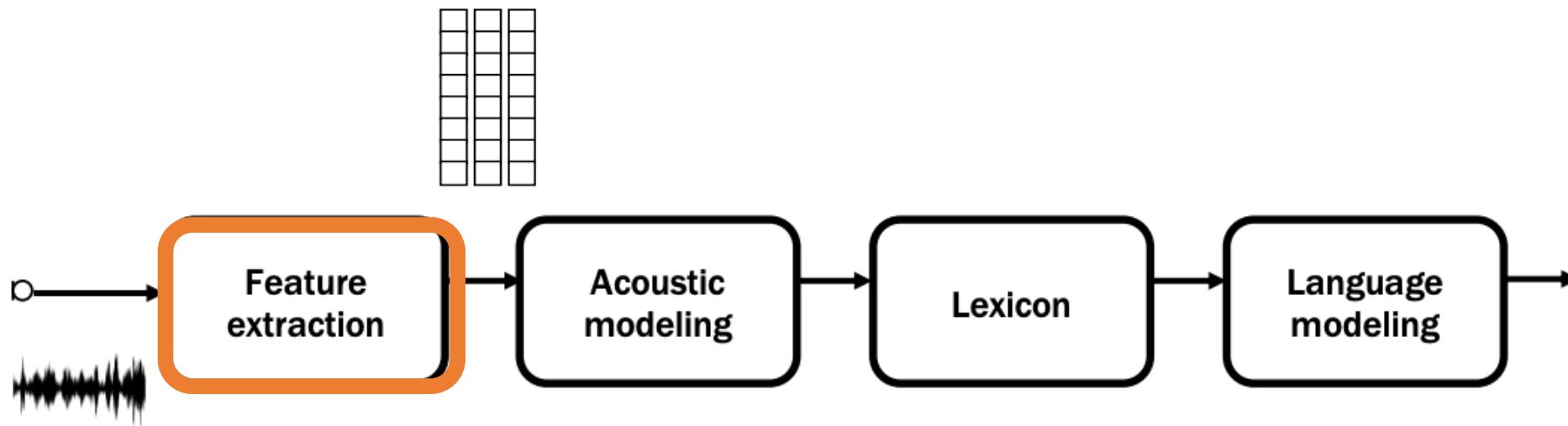
thanks for listening to my talk

- Diverse applications, e.g., transcription services, voice assistants.
- The history of ASR goes back to the mid-20th century
- Methods
  - Pipeline
  - End-to-end (focus)

# ASR – pipeline method

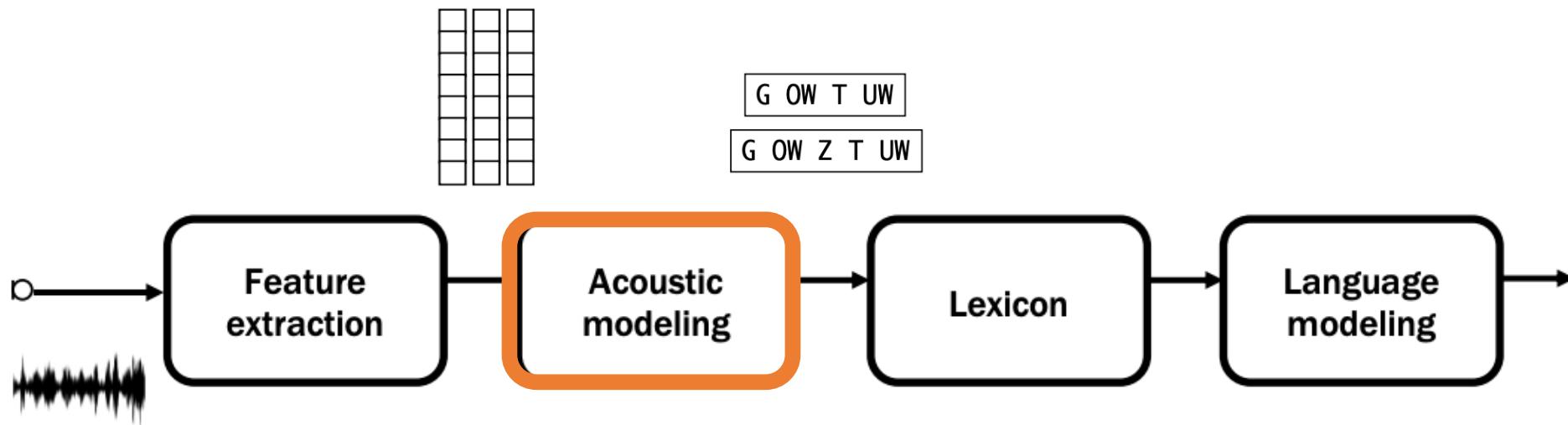


# ASR – pipeline method



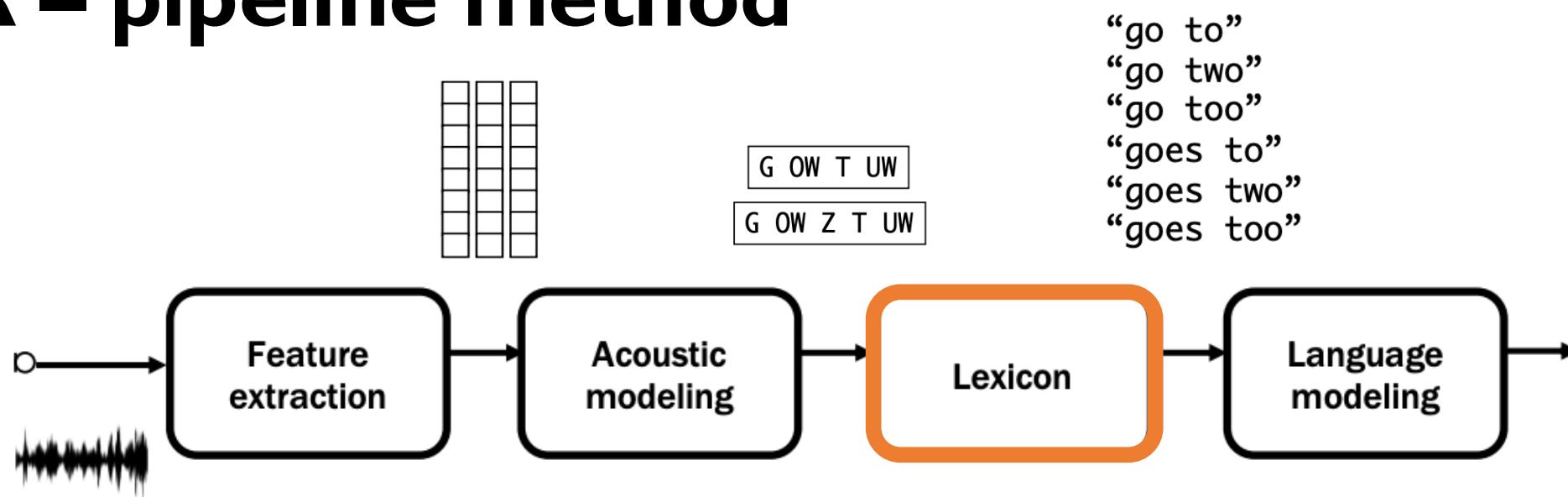
- **Feature extraction**
  - Output features: MFCC, etc.

# ASR – pipeline method



- **Acoustic modelling**
  - Acoustic feature to phonetic units (phoneme)
    - Phoneme: a unit of sound that can distinguish one word from another.
  - It can be a probability of possible phoneme sequences,
    - e.g., “G OW T UW” or “G OW Z T UW” with some scores

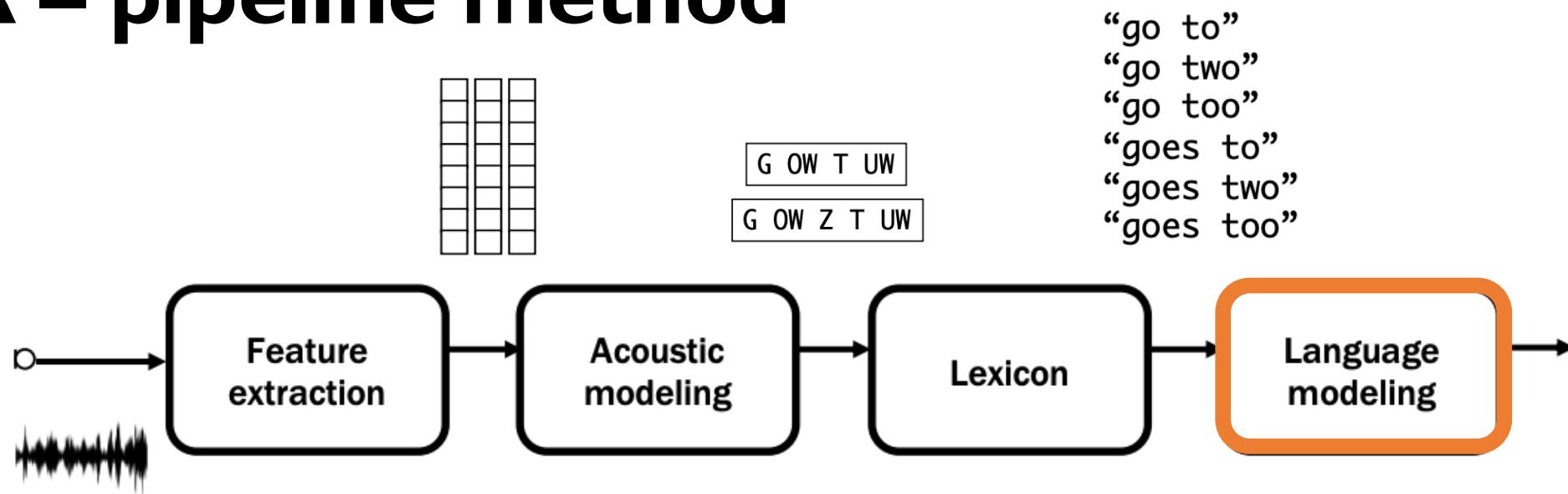
# ASR – pipeline method



- **Lexicon**
  - Phoneme to word
    - use a pronunciation dictionary, and map a word to the corresponding phoneme sequence
  - It can be multiple word sequences (one-to-many)

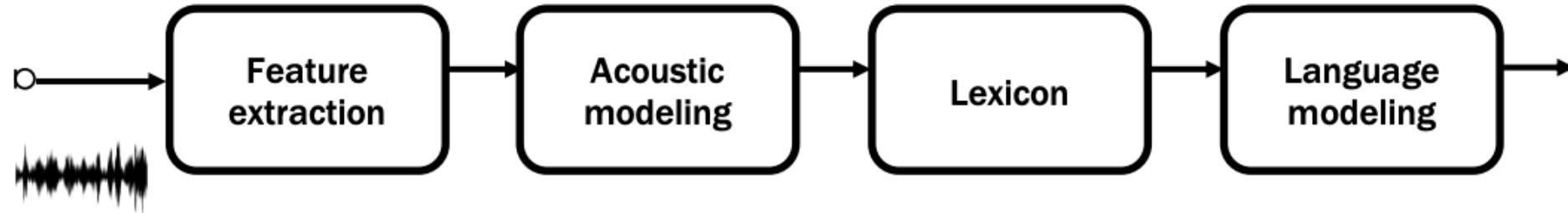


# ASR – pipeline method



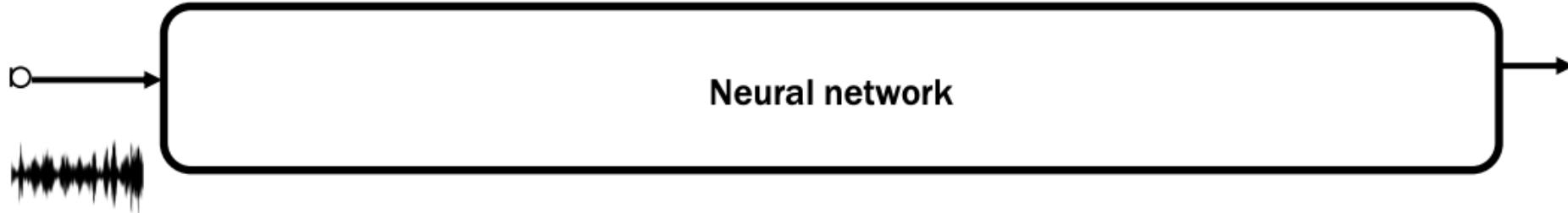
- **Language modelling (LM)**
  - Word to text
    - Estimate the probability of a sequence of words
  - Improve the accuracy of word prediction.

# ASR – pipeline



- Drawbacks:
  - Complexity
  - Error propagation
  - Lack of end-to-end optimisation

# ASR – end-to-end

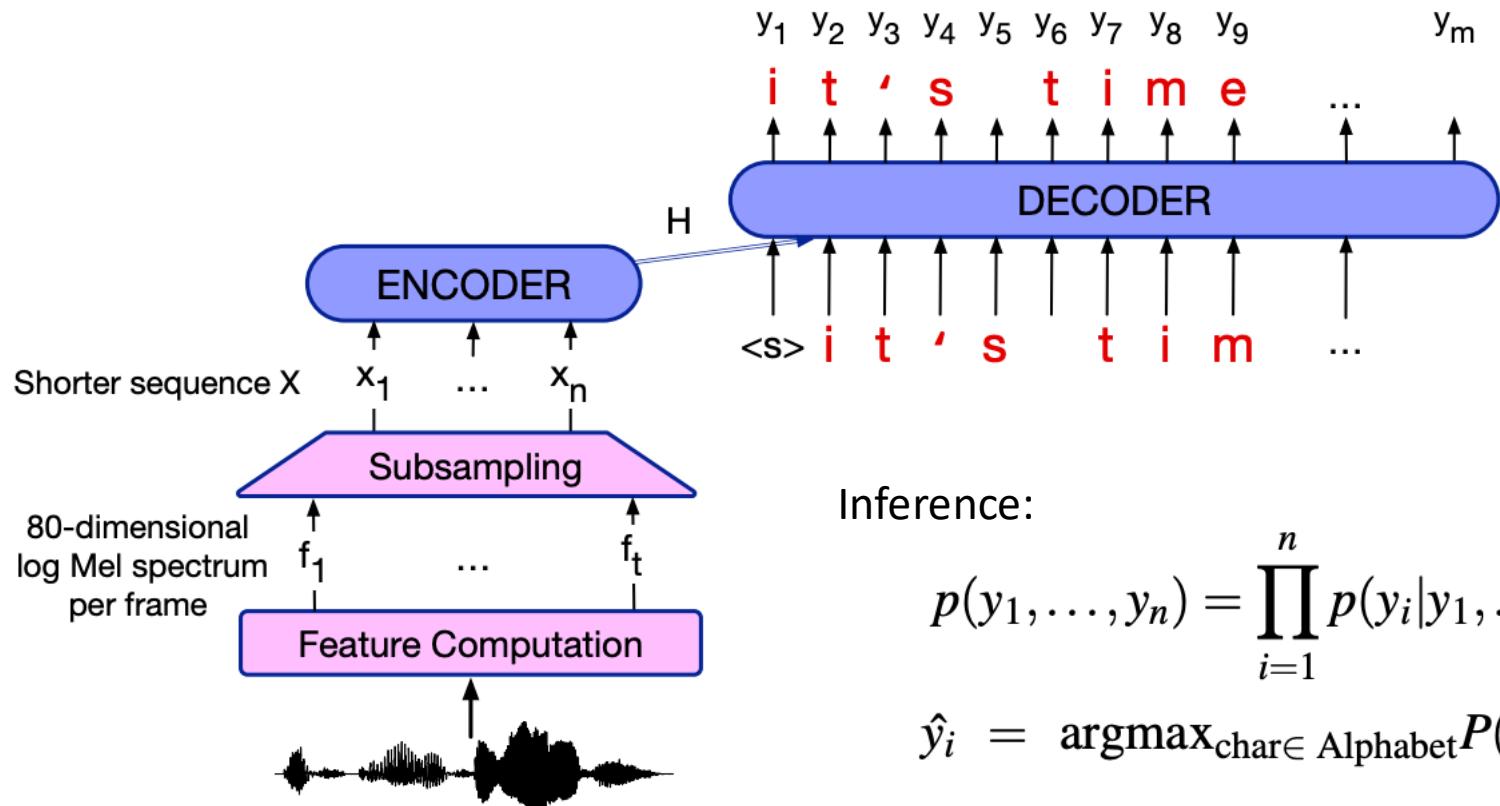


- Benefits:
  - Simpler architecture
  - Eliminate error propagation
- Popular architecture:
  - Encoder-decoder
  - CTC
  - Transducer

ctc: <https://distill.pub/2017/ctc/>

Transducer: <https://lorenlugosch.github.io/posts/2020/11/transducer/>

# ASR – end-to-end



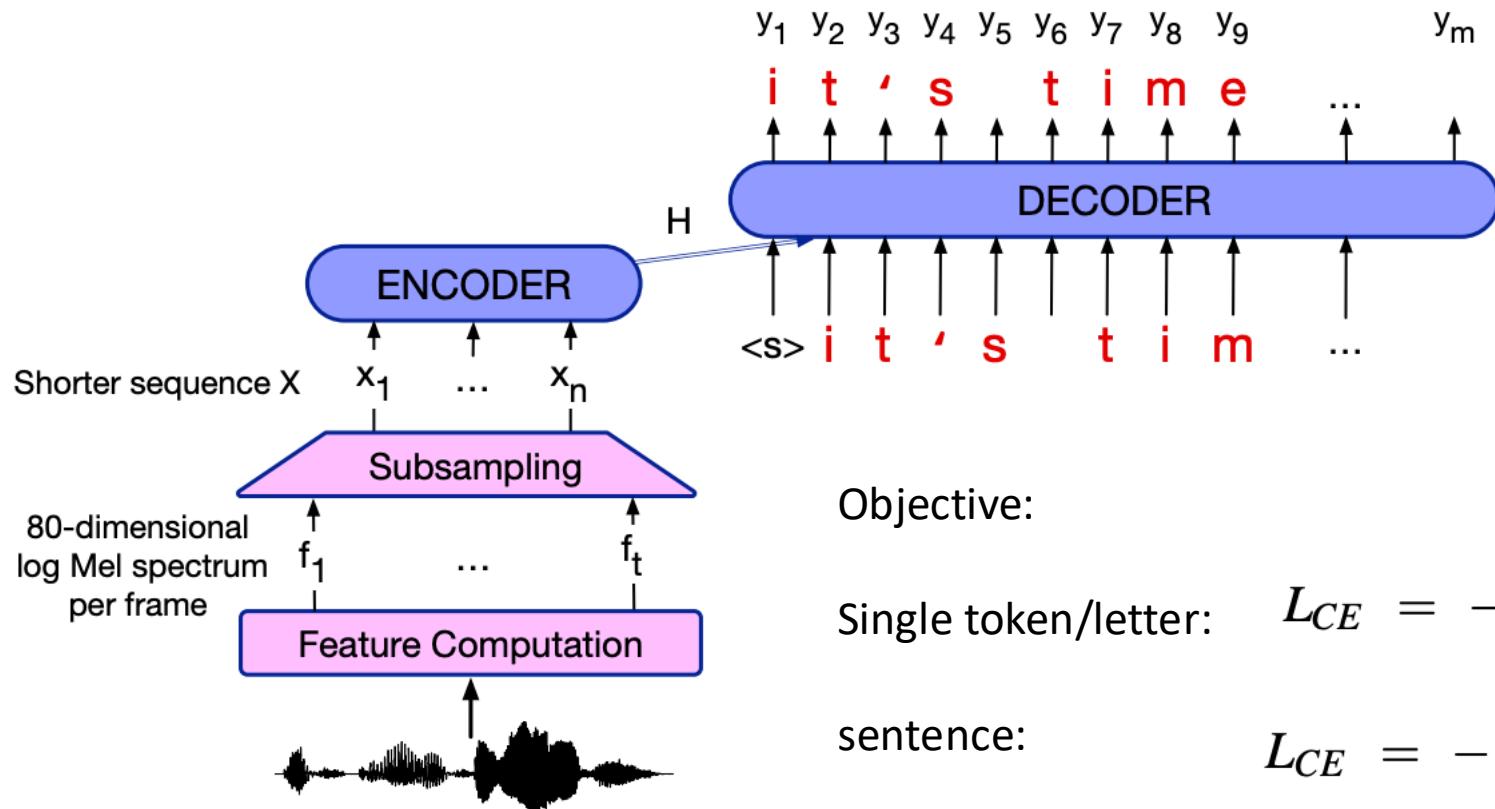
Inference:

$$p(y_1, \dots, y_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i | y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, X)$$

$$\hat{y}_i = \text{argmax}_{\text{char} \in \text{Alphabet}} P(\text{char} | y_1 \dots y_{i-1}, X) \text{ (greedy decoding)}$$

Subsampling module: 2 layers of convolutional neural network

# ASR – end-to-end



Objective:

Single token/letter:  $L_{CE} = -\log p(y_i|y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, X)$

sentence:

$$L_{CE} = -\sum_{i=1}^n \log p(y_i|y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, X)$$

# ASR – end-to-end (+ an additional LM)

- Adding a language model (LM):
  - It often helps ASR. (LM ignores speech and only considers tokens)
  - Why?
    - Training data may lack sufficient text for robust language model.
    - LM can train from text (easy to collect)
    - Large LM can improve performance.
  - Typical scoring function (with beam search)

$$score(Y|X) = \frac{1}{|Y|_c} \log P(Y|X) + \lambda \log P_{LM}(Y)$$

Scoring with trained ASR model      Scoring with a trained monolingual LM

# ASR – evaluation metric

- Word error rate (WER) or Character error rate (CER)
  - Using edit distance word-by-word (or Character-by-Character):

Reference: I want to go to the Clayton campus

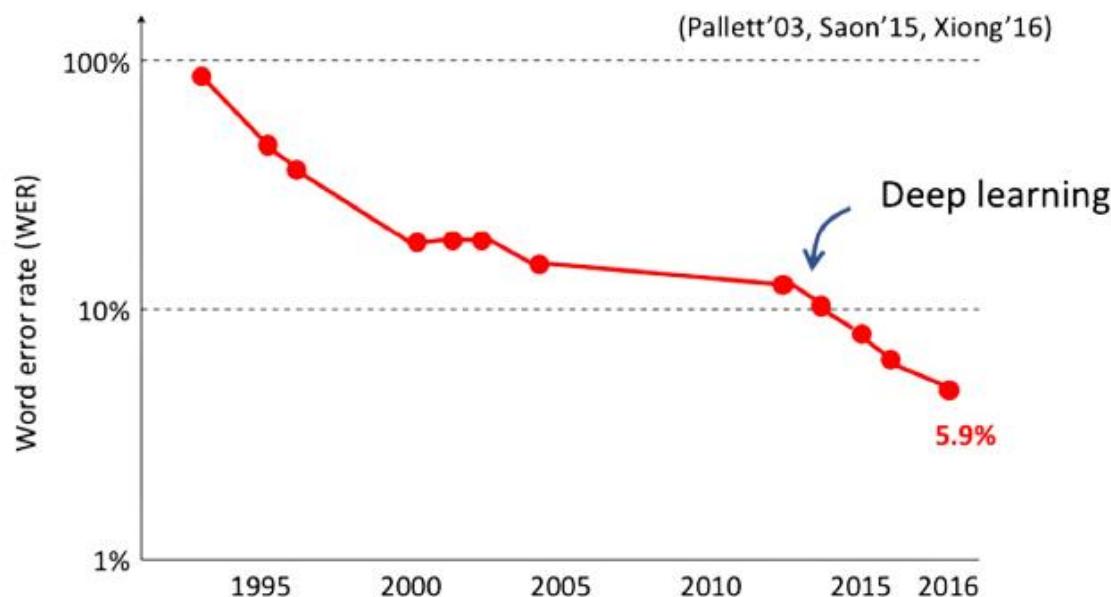
ASR output: I want to go to the **gym you can**

- Edit distance = 3
- Word error rate (%):  $\text{Edit distance} (=3) / \# \text{ reference words} (=8) = 37.5\%$

# ASR – how good is good?

- What is a good WER?
  - Read speech (dictation) from “good” performance <5% WER
  - Spoken Dialog (task oriented) < 30%
  - Drunk friends in outside busy café < 80%
- Environmental factors may negatively impact performance.
- Collect data in your application
  - Retraining on application specific data is very valuable

# ASR – easy or difficult?



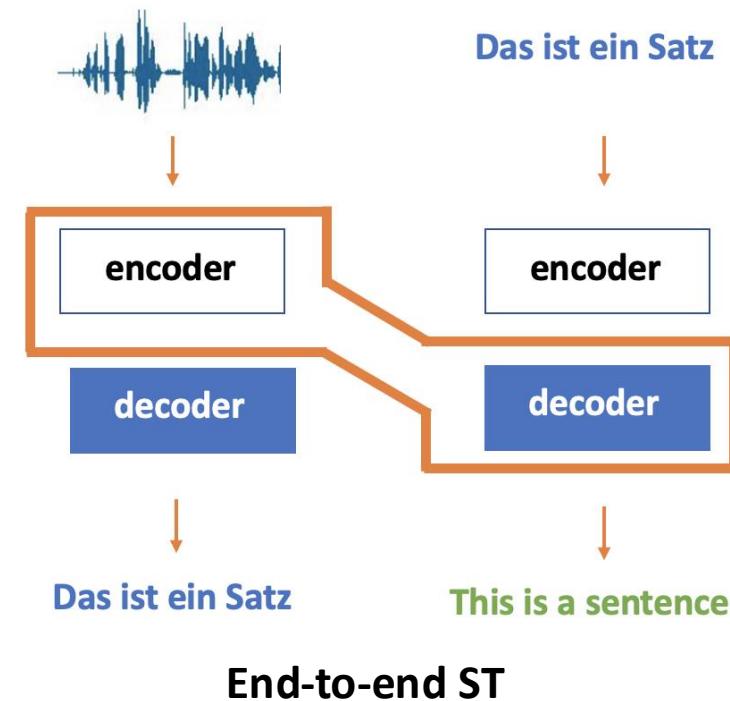
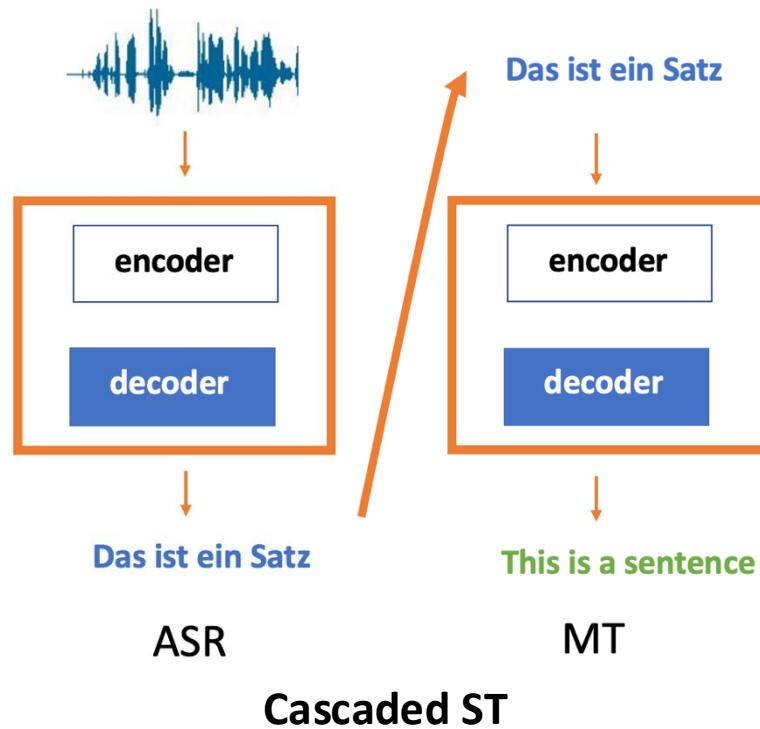
- We have WER/CER, which shows the clear progress of technologies
- This could be one reason that the effectiveness of deep learning was first shown in speech.
- Open questions: noise-robust ASR, low-resource languages

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# Speech Translation (ST)

- Translate a segment of audio into text in another language
- Methods



# Speech Translation (ST)

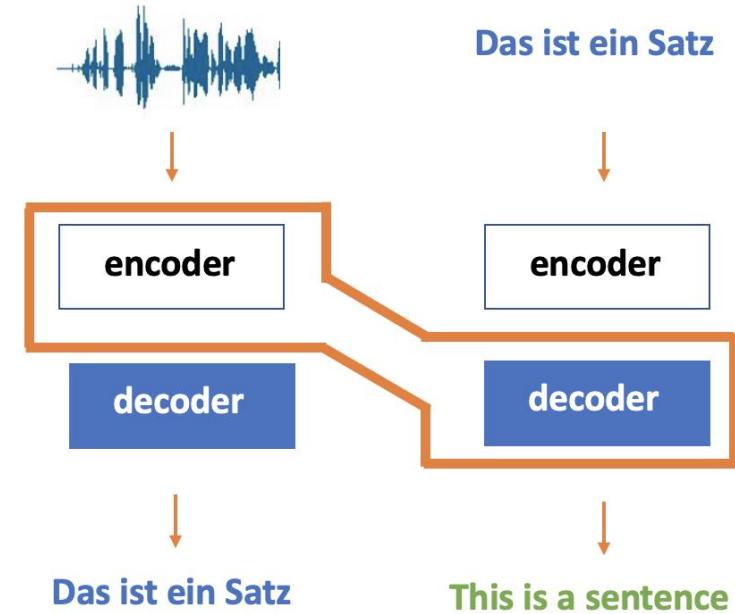
- End-to-end ST
  - Much harder than ASR; why?
    - Understand a language
    - Word ordering

Objective:

Single token/letter:  $L_{CE} = -\log p(y_i|y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, X)$

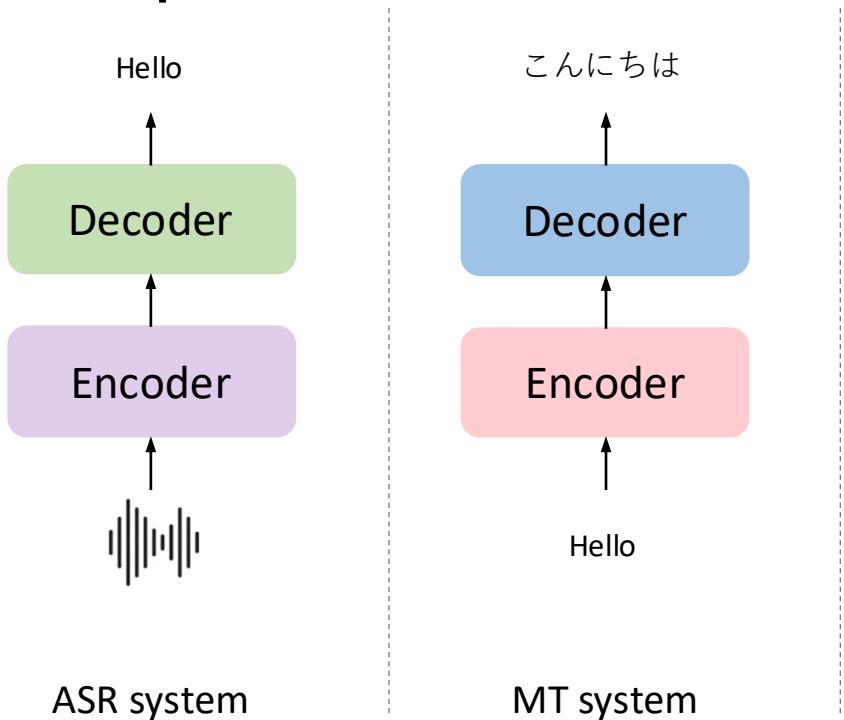
sentence:  $L_{CE} = -\sum_{i=1}^n \log p(y_i|y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, X)$

change the target sequence only



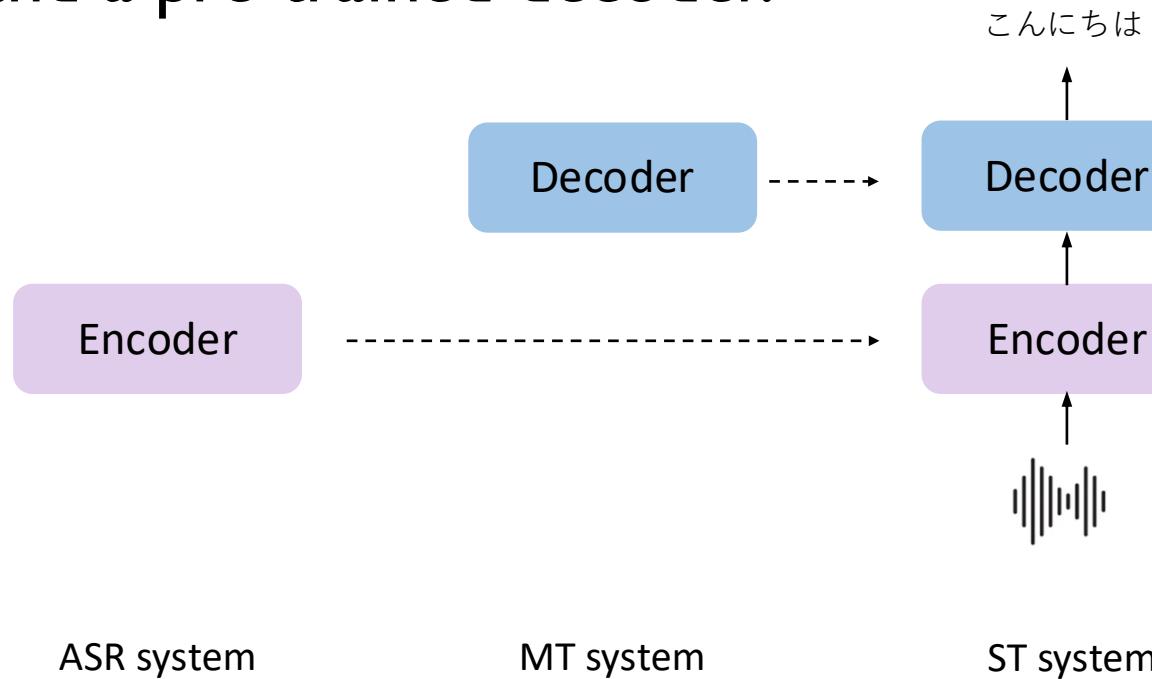
# Speech Translation – end-to-end

- Key open question: data scarcity
  - One solution: initialise an ST model with a pre-trained encoder and a pre-trained decoder.



# Speech Translation – end-to-end

- Key open question: data scarcity
  - One solution: initialise an ST model with a pre-trained encoder and a pre-trained decoder.



# Question

You are asked to build a **speech-to-text** translation model to translate from language X to language Y. Language X is a low-resource language and we do not have a lot of X-Y translation pairs in our training data.

You are given these resources:

- A large parallel **text** corpus of X-Y pairs
- A **synthesiser** for language X
- A pre-trained **speech encoder** for language X
- A pre-trained **text decoder** in language Y

How would you be leveraging these resources to tackle the low-resource challenge and to build the requested speech translation system?

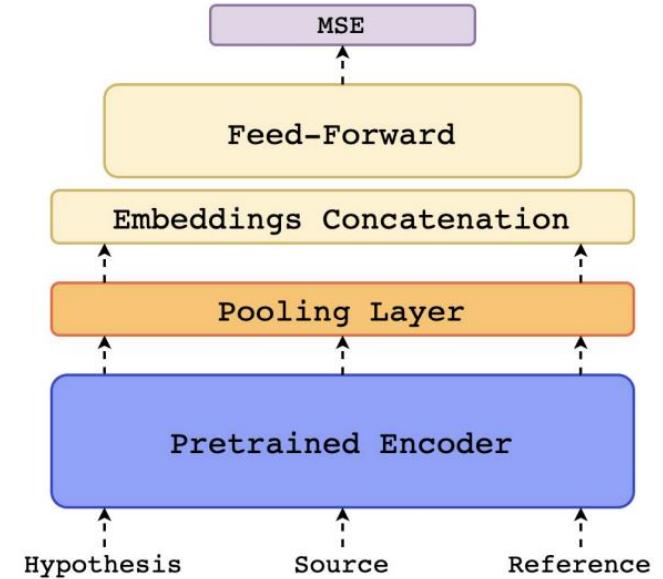
# Translation – evaluation metric I

- Bilingual evaluation understudy (BLEU)
  - de-facto evaluation metric for ST and MT
  - Drawback:
    - Ignore semantic meaning
    - Ignore the fact there are multiple valid translations.

[Read: Evaluation metrics for Text Generation](#)

# Translation – evaluation metric II

- COMET
  - It measures semantics of references and translation outputs
  - (Architecture)
  - It has become more widely used among the Google Research team
  - Similar metric: BLEURT



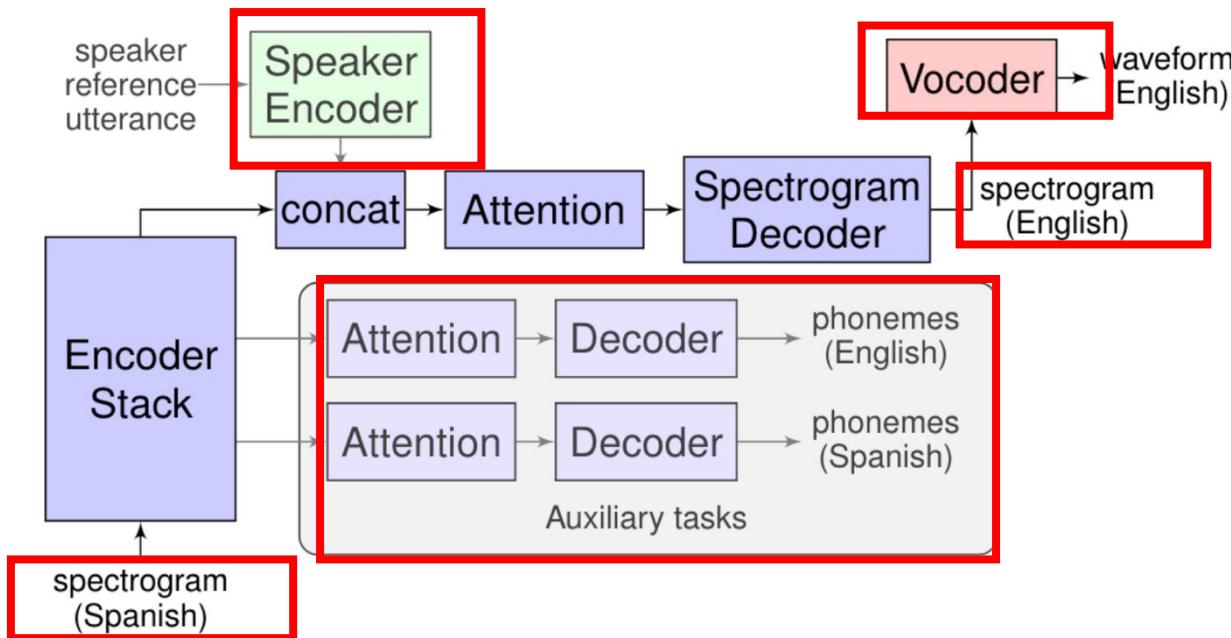
Comet: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2004.04696.pdf>

BLEURT: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.09025>

WMT: <https://www.statmt.org/wmt22/pdf/2022.wmt-1.2.pdf>

# Speech-to-speech Translation

- Translate speech in one language to speech in another language



<https://ai.googleblog.com/2019/05/introducing-translatotron-end-to-end.html>

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# Pre-trained speech models

- Pre-training also emerged in the speech field
- Purpose: learn general features from **large** amounts of data, which can then be fine-tuned on a specific task with a smaller labeled dataset.
- Popular speech models: Wav2vec2, Hubert, WavLM, Whisper, etc.
- Differences: architecture, training objective and training data

Wav2vec2: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.11477.pdf>

Hubert: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2106.07447.pdf>

WavLM: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2110.13900.pdf>

Whisper: <https://cdn.openai.com/papers/whisper.pdf>

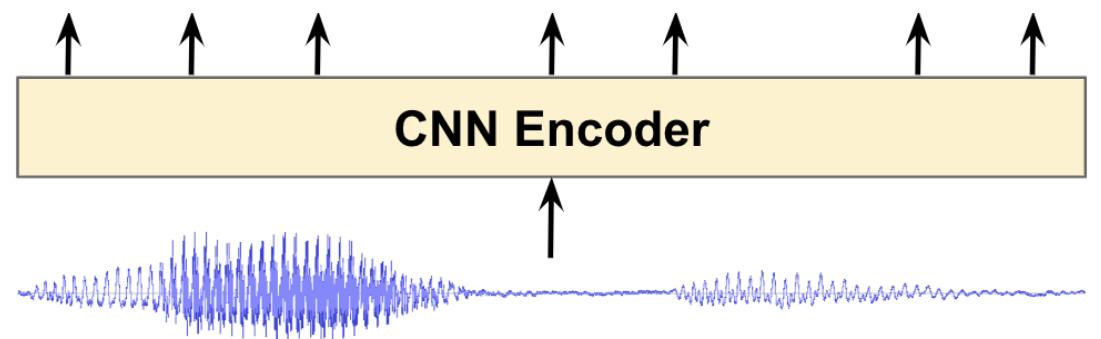
# Speech representation learning

- Speech inputs have a variable number of lexical units per sequence.
- Speech is a long sequence that doesn't have segment boundaries.
- Speech is continuous without a predefined dictionary of units to explicitly model in the self-supervised setting.
- **Speech processing tasks might require orthogonal information, e.g., ASR and Speaker ID.**

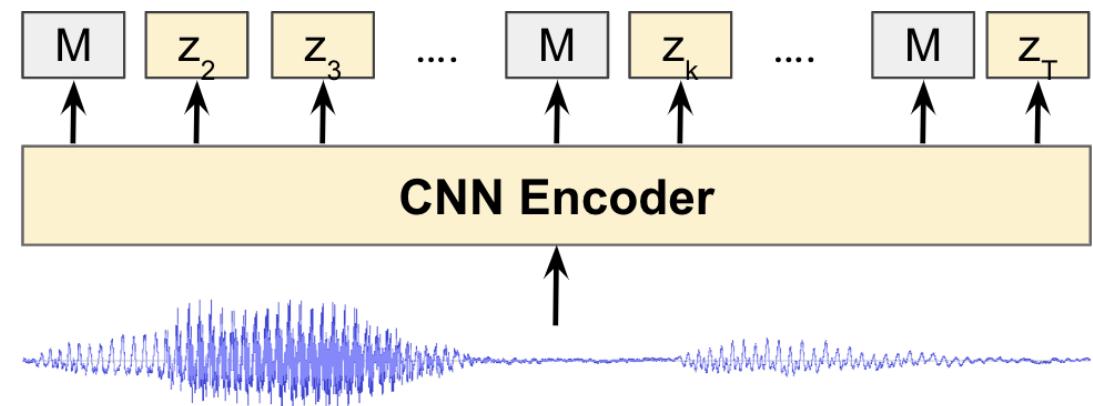
# Wav2vec 2

- First approach to show significant improvements for low-resource ASR.
- Strong performance on a wide range of downstream tasks.

# Wav2vec 2



# Wav2vec 2



# Wav2vec 2

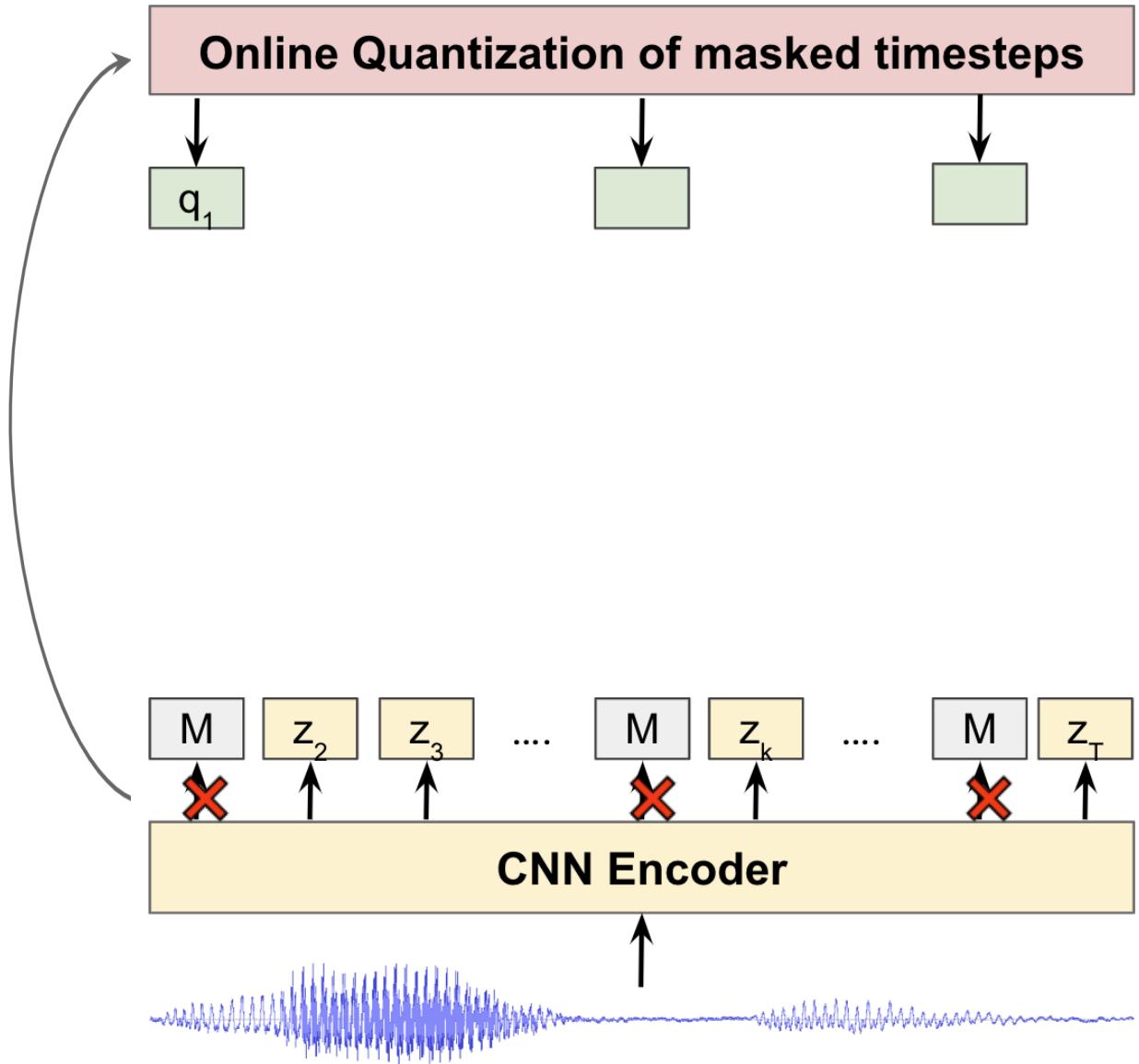
- Online quantisation
  - Discretise  $\mathbf{z}$  to a finite set of speech representations

$$\mathbf{z} = [z_1, z_2, \dots, z_t] \longrightarrow \mathbf{Q} = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_t]$$

calculate distance  
take argmin

$q_1$
$q_2$
$\dots$
$q_V$

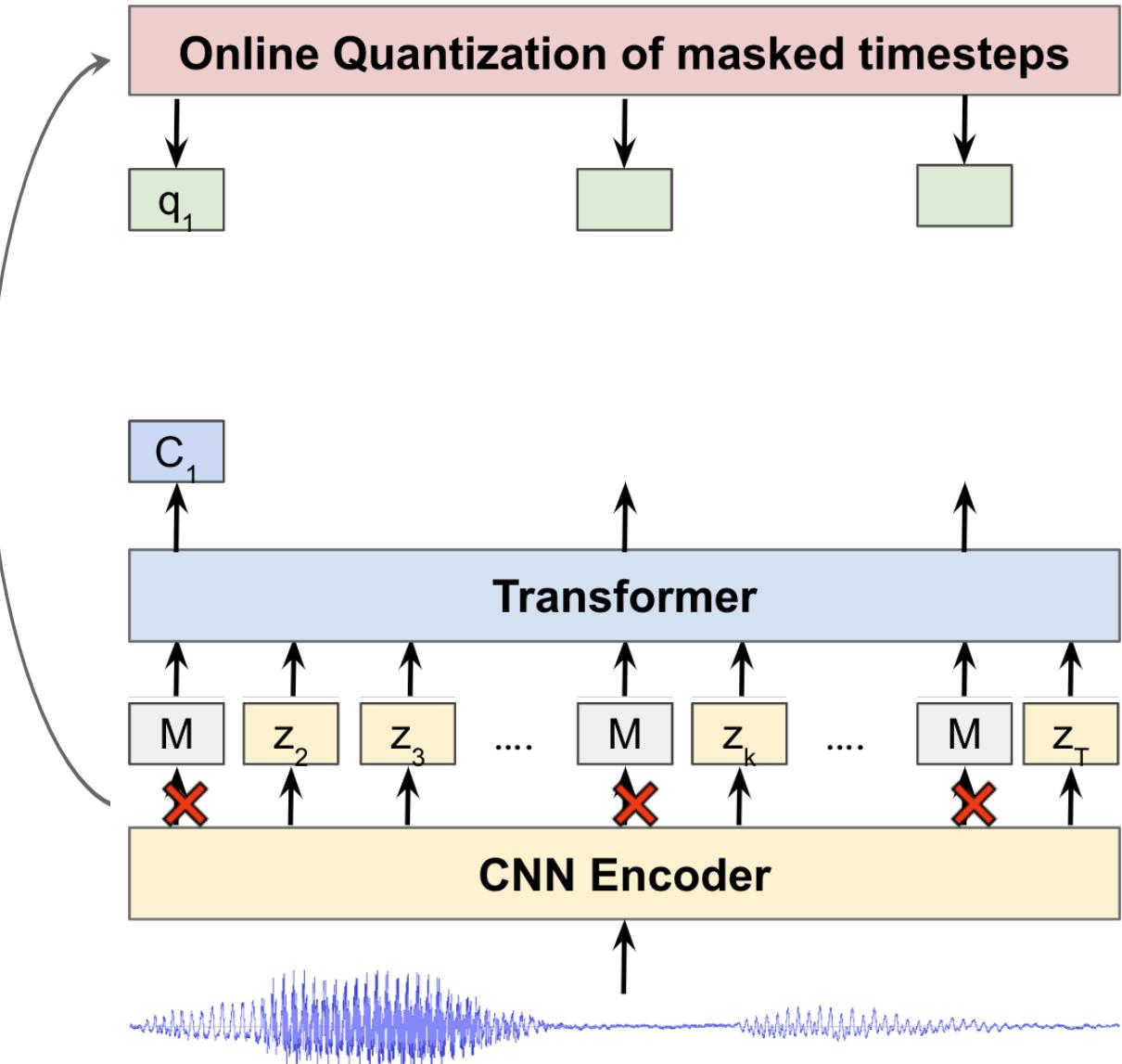
V entries



# Wav2vec 2

- Goal
  - maximize the similarity between the learned contextual representation and the quantized input features at the same position.

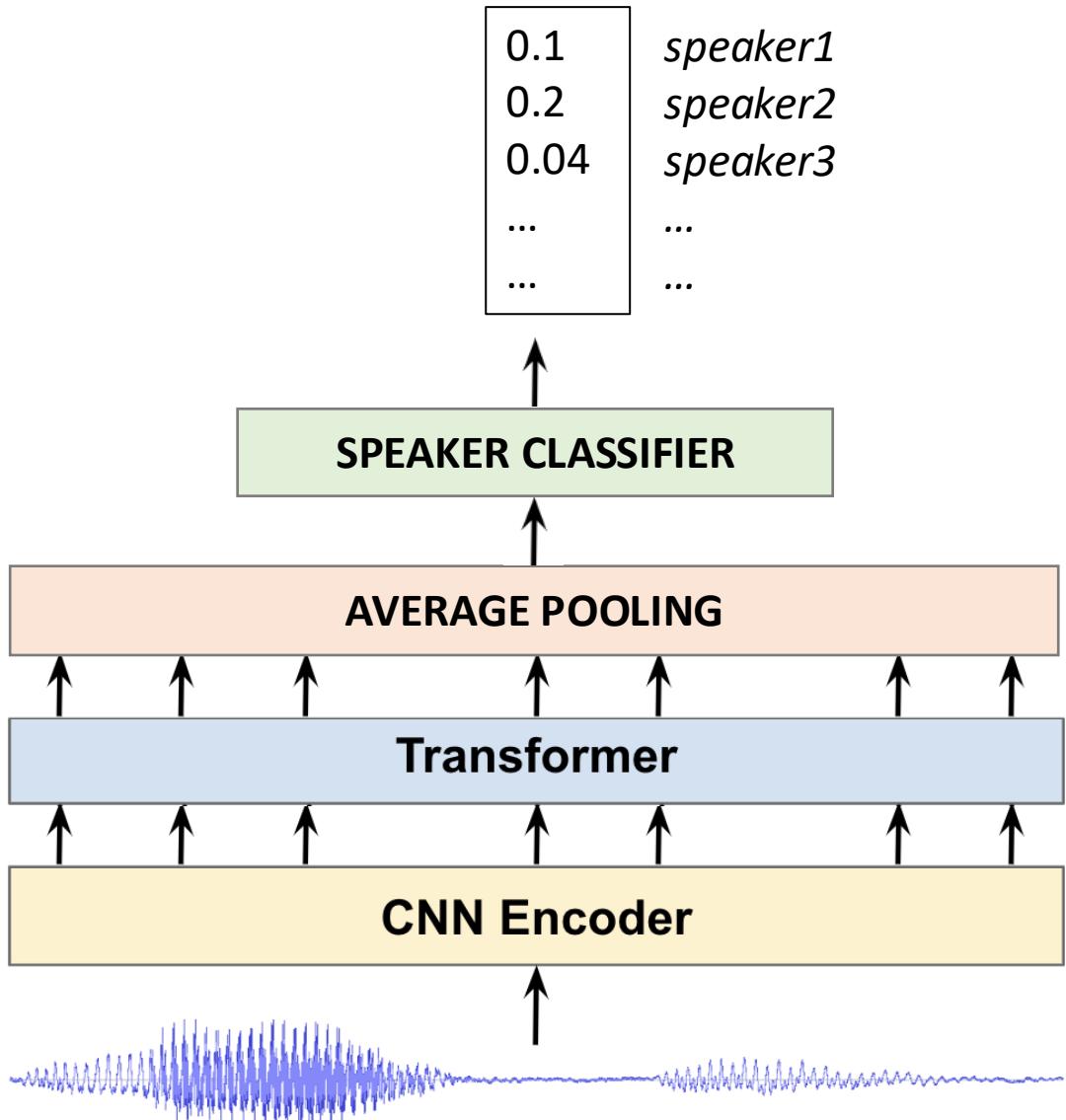
$$\mathcal{L}_m = \log \frac{\exp(sim(\mathbf{c}_t, \mathbf{q}_t)/\kappa)}{\sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{q}} \sim \mathbf{Q}_t} \exp(sim(\mathbf{c}_t, \tilde{\mathbf{q}})/\kappa)}$$



*Self-supervised pretraining*

# Wav2vec 2

- Fine-tuning
  - Keep CNN Encoder and Transformer only of wav2vec2
  - Add task-specific modules



# Whisper

- Motivation
  - Drawbacks of self-supervised pre-training for audio encoders (specific to ASR)
    - Lack pre-trained decoder
    - Fine-tuning doesn't make an ASR model generalise well
  - An ASR model should work reliably in a broad range of environments without supervised fine-tuning of a decoder
- Goal of Whisper: develop a single robust speech processing system that works reliably without the need for dataset specific fine-tuning.

<https://cdn.openai.com/papers/whisper.pdf>

# Whisper

- Innovation
  - Training data: crawled audio+transcript/translation (weak label) from the web
    - Employed lots of heuristics with great care to clean the data
    - ~680k hours
  - Training objective
    - a multitask setup; introduce special tokens to indicate each task in a single model

## Multitask training data (680k hours)

### English transcription

- "Ask not what your country can do for ..." (blue text)
- Ask not what your country can do for ... (green text)

### Any-to-English speech translation

- "El rápido zorro marrón salta sobre ..." (blue text)
- The quick brown fox jumps over ... (green text)

### Non-English transcription

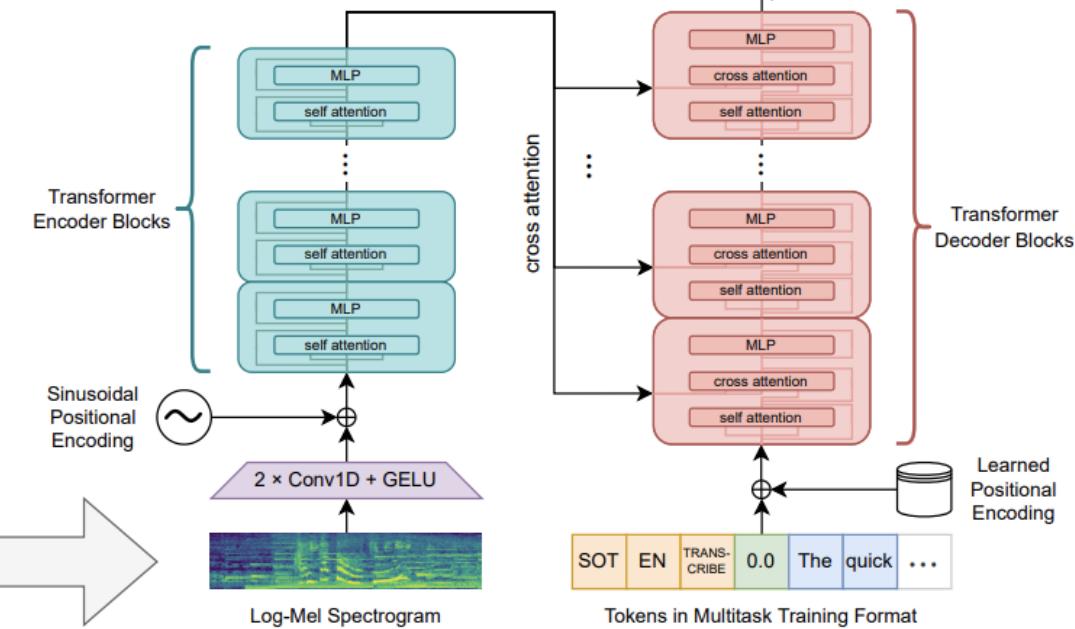
- "언덕 위에 올라 내려다보면 너무나 넓고 넓은 ..." (blue text)
- 언덕 위에 올라 내려다보면 너무나 넓고 넓은 ... (green text)

### No speech

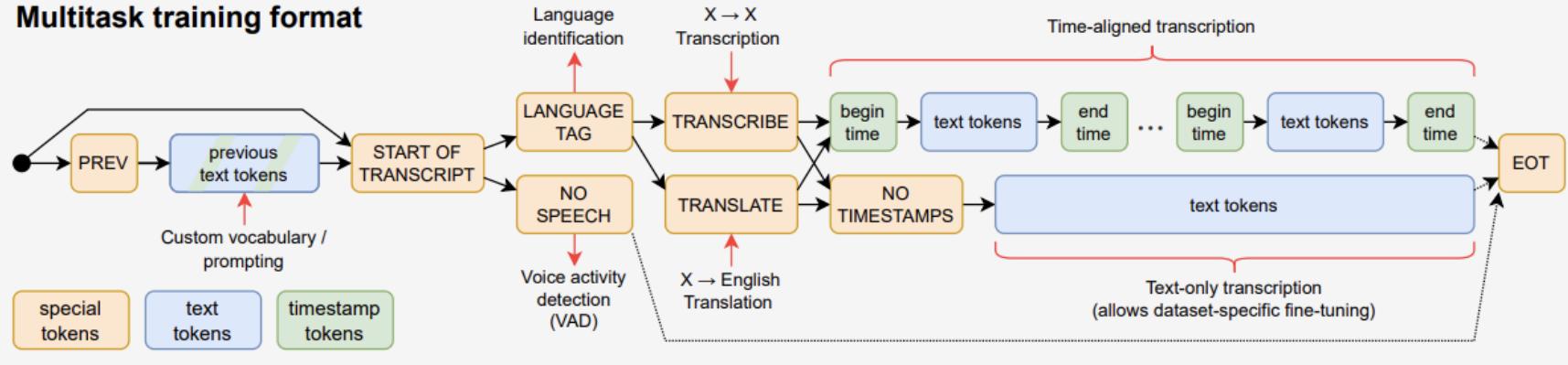
- (background music playing) (blue text)
- Ø (green text)

## Sequence-to-sequence learning

EN TRANSCRIBE 0.0 The quick brown ...



## Multitask training format



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# Audio LLMs – Kimi-Audio

## Audio input

- Whisper encoder → continuous acoustic features
- Audio tokenizer → discrete semantic audio tokens

## Adaptor

- Projects audio features into the LLM token space
- Shared LLM jointly models text + audio token sequences

## Dual output heads

- **Text head:** predicts text tokens
- **Audio head:** predicts audio tokens

## Audio detokenizer

- Converts predicted audio tokens → waveform

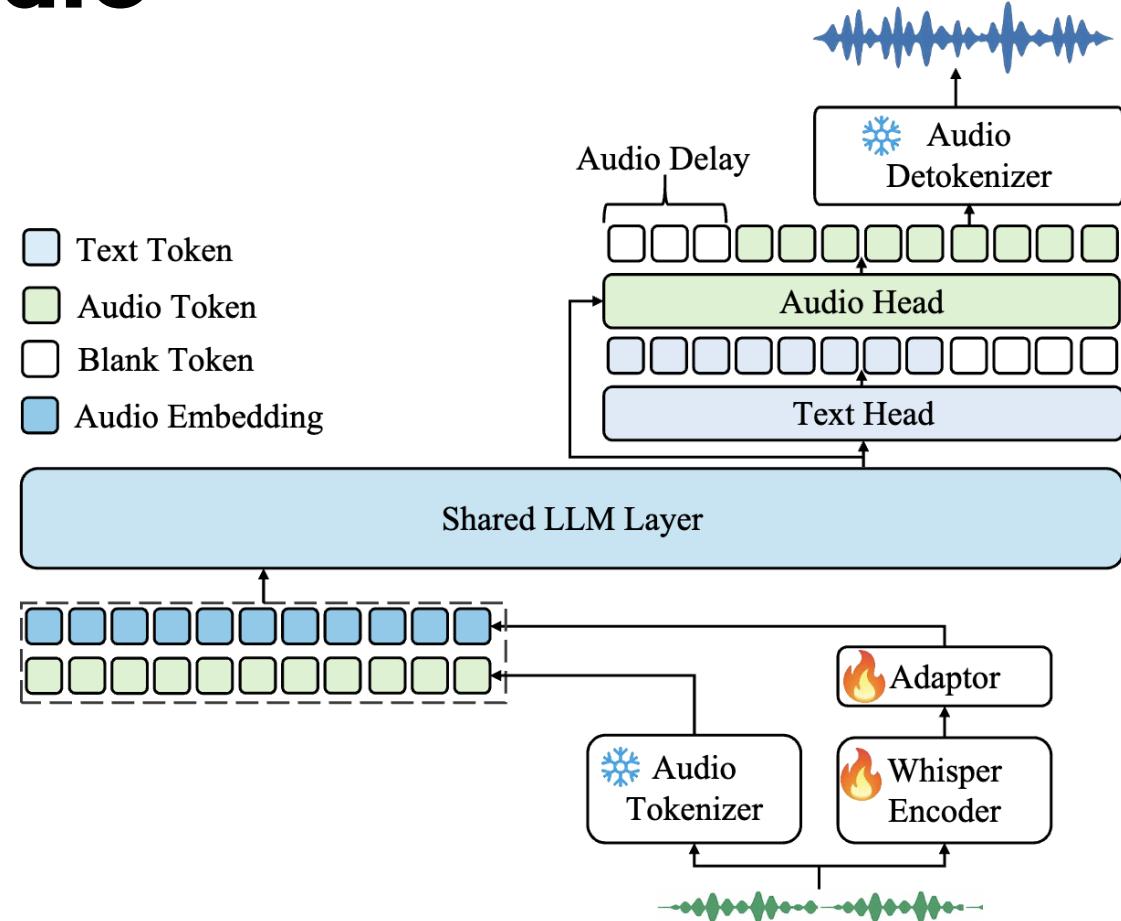


Figure 2: Overview of the Kimi-Audio model architecture: (1) an audio tokenizer that extracts discrete semantic tokens and a Whisper encoder that generates continuous acoustic features; (2) an audio LLM that processes audio inputs and generates text and/or audio outputs; (3) an audio detokenizer converts audio tokens into waveforms.

# Audio LLMs - Audio Flamingo 3 (Nvidia)

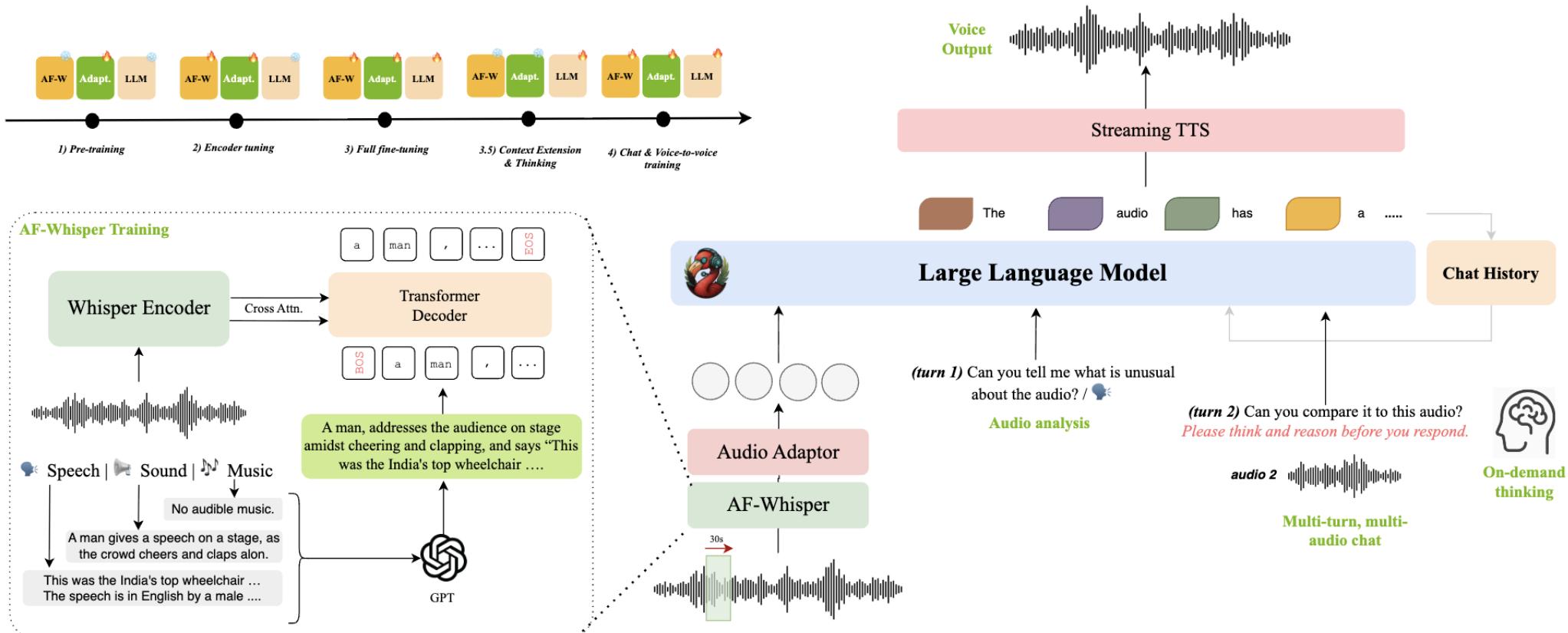


Figure 2: Overview of Audio Flamingo 3, AF-Whisper training, and five-stage curriculum training.

# Audio LLMs – Qwen3-Omni

## Key Features

- Unified token space (text + vision + audio + codec)
- Separate **reasoning** (Thinker) and **speech synthesis** (Talker)
- Uses MoE for scale and efficiency
- Streaming generation for real-time interaction

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2509.17765>

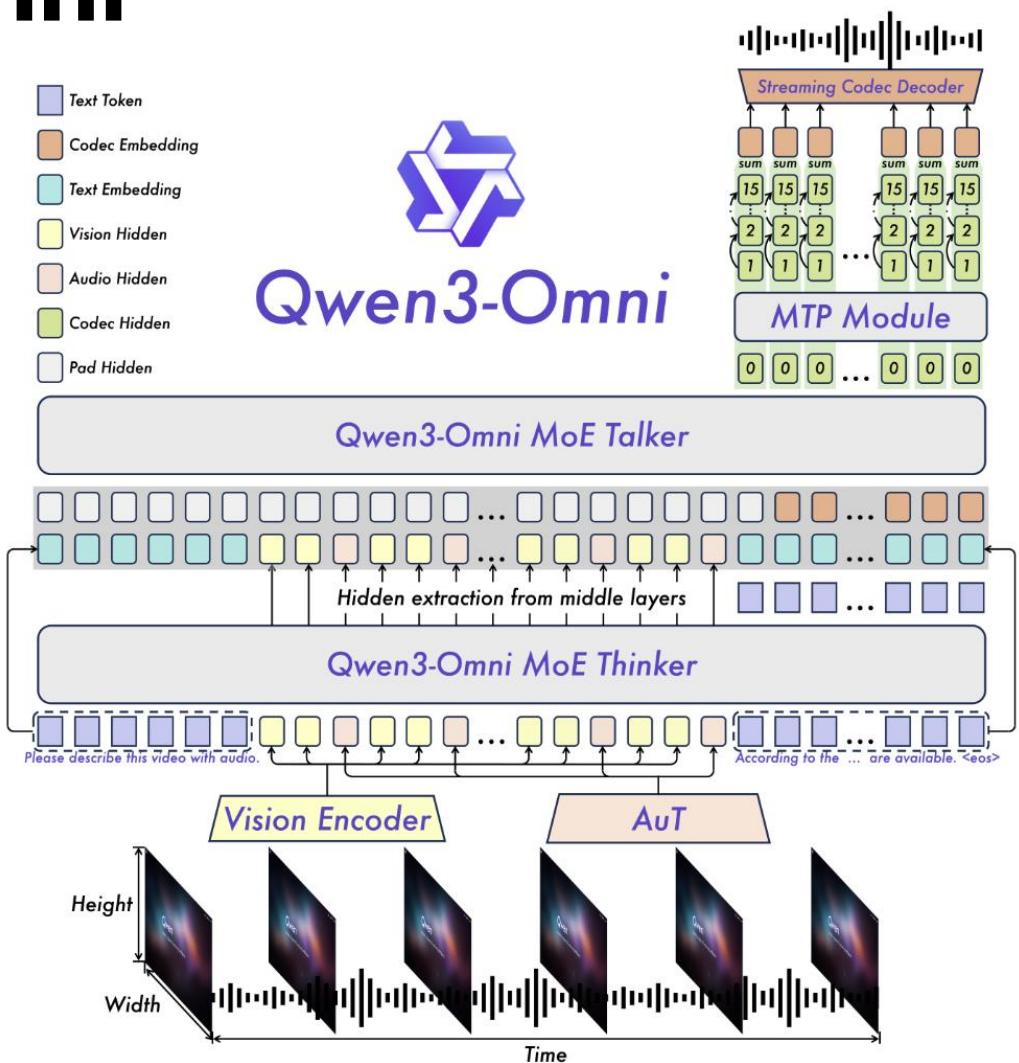


Figure 2: The overview of Qwen3-Omni. Qwen3-Omni adopts the Thinker-Talker architecture. Thinker is tasked with text generation while Talker focuses on generating streaming speech tokens by receives high-level representations directly from Thinker. To achieve ultra-low-latency streaming, Talker autoregressively predicts a multi-codebook sequence. At each decoding step, an MTP module outputs the residual codebooks for the current frame, after which the Code2Wav renderer incrementally synthesizes the corresponding waveform, enabling frame-by-frame streaming generation.

# Overview

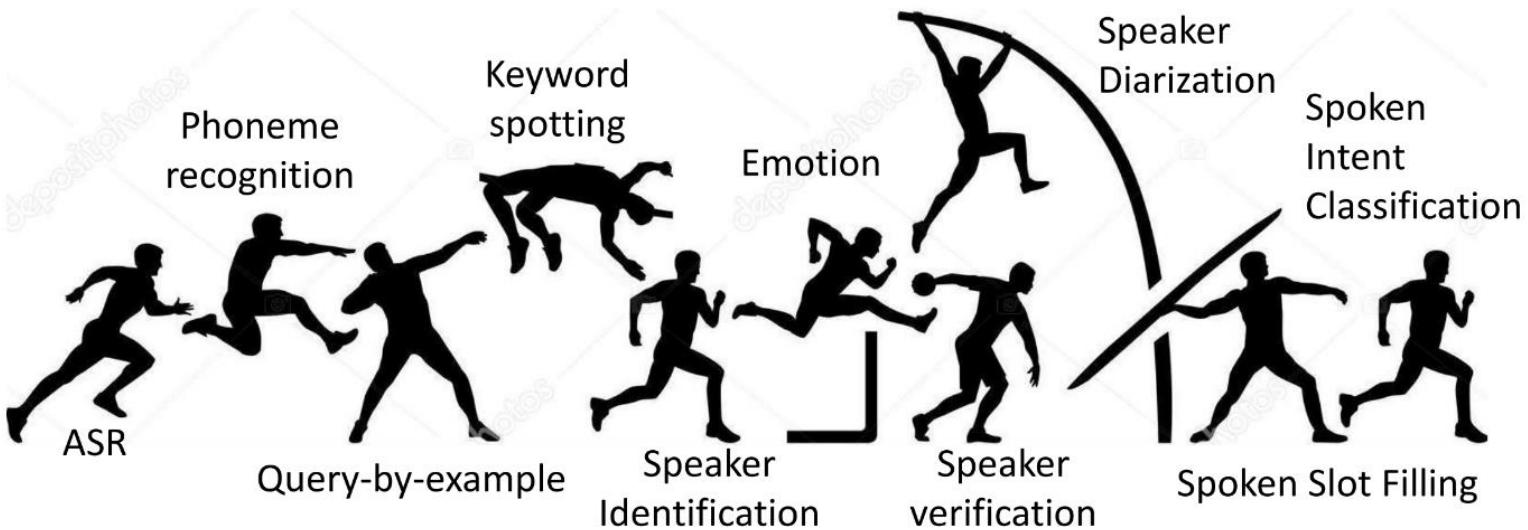
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# SUPERB

- [recap] Self-supervised learning framework
  - Phase I: pre-train
    - No parallel data is required
    - upstream model => task agnostic
  - Phase II: fine-tune
    - Parallel data is required
    - downstream model => task specific (e.g., ASR)

# SUPERB

- SUPERB: Speech Processing Universal PERformance Benchmark
- It was one of the first widely used benchmarks for Speech Encoders



Method	Name	Description	URL	Rank ↗	Score ↗	Rank-P ↗	Score-P ↗	PR public ↗	K3 public ↗	IC public ↗	SID public ↗	ER public ↗	ASR public ↗	QbE public ↗	SF-F1 public ↗	SF-CER public ↗	SV public ↗	SD public ↗
WavLM Large	Microsoft	M-P + VQ... <a href="#">🔗</a>	18.9	1145	6.1	3.81	3.08	97.88	99.31	95.49	70.82	3.44	8.88	92.21	18.36	3.77	3.24	
WavLM Base+	Microsoft	M-P + VQ ... <a href="#">🔗</a>	17.7	1108	12.7	11.68	3.92	97.37	99	89.42	68.65	5.59	9.88	90.58	21.2	4.07	3.5	
WavLM Base	Microsoft	M-P + VQ ... <a href="#">🔗</a>	15.9	1019	11.45	10.76	4.84	96.79	98.63	84.51	65.94	8.7	89.38	22.86	4.69	4.55		
HUBERT Large	paper	M-P + VQ	-	15.1	919	4.1	2.9	3.53	95.29	98.76	90.33	67.62	3.62	3.03	89.81	21.76	5.98	8.79
wav2vec 2.0 Large	paper	M-C + VQ	-	14.8	914	3.9	2.88	4.75	96.66	95.28	86.14	65.64	3.75	4.89	87.11	27.31	5.65	5.62
HUBERT Base	paper	M-P + VQ	-	14.45	941	10.25	9.94	5.41	98.3	98.34	81.42	64.92	6.42	7.38	88.53	23.2	5.11	5.88
FaST-VQ+*	Poyuan P...	Fast-VQ...	-	12.9	809	5.9	3.72	7.76	97.27	98.97	41.34	62.71	8.83	5.62	88.15	27.12	5.87	8.05
wav2vec 2.0 Base	paper	M-C + VQ	-	11.85	818	8.7	6.81	5.74	96.23	92.35	75.18	63.43	6.43	2.33	88.3	24.77	6.02	8.08
DistilHUBERT	Heng-Jui ...	multi-task ...	-	11.1	717	15.6	30.54	19.27	95.98	94.99	73.54	63.02	13.37	5.11	82.57	35.59	8.55	8.19
DeCoAR 2.0	paper	M-G + VQ	-	10.5	722	8.5	8.03	14.93	94.48	90.8	74.42	62.47	13.02	4.08	83.28	34.73	7.16	8.59
wav2vec	paper	F-C	-	8.9	529	12.55	16.25	31.98	95.59	84.92	56.56	58.79	15.86	4.85	78.37	43.71	7.99	9.8
vq-wav2vec	paper	F-C + VQ	-	7	422	9.8	-5.53	33.48	93.38	85.68	38.8	58.24	17.71	4.1	77.68	41.54	10.38	9.93
APC	paper	F-G	-	5.8	392	16.05	87.25	41.98	91.01	74.69	60.42	59.33	21.28	3.1	70.46	50.89	8.56	10.53
VO-APC	paper	F-G + VQ	-	5.75	377	14.25	72.1	41.08	91.11	74.48	60.15	59.66	21.2	2.51	68.53	52.91	8.72	10.45
NPC	paper	M-G + VQ	-	5.4	396	12	10.94	43.81	88.99	69.44	55.92	59.08	20.2	2.48	72.79	48.44	9.4	9.34
modified CPC	paper	F-C	-	5.3	278	15.6	113.94	42.54	91.88	64.09	39.63	60.96	20.18	3.26	71.19	49.91	12.88	10.38
TERA	paper	time-free ...	-	3.9	150	8.7	-14.81	49.17	89.48	58.42	37.57	56.27	16.17	0.13	67.5	34.17	15.89	9.96
PASE+	paper	multi-task	-	2.45	149	10.55	-56.14	58.87	82.54	29.82	37.99	57.86	25.11	0.72	62.14	60.17	11.61	8.68
Mockingjay	paper	time-M-G	-	1.55	54	1.75	-93.58	70.19	83.67	34.33	32.29	50.28	22.82	0.07	61.59	58.89	11.66	10.54

<https://superbbenchmark.github.io/#/leaderboard>

# AIR-Bench: Benchmarking AudioLMs via Generative Comprehension

## 1) Foundation Benchmark

- 19 distinct tasks (speech, sound, music).
- ~19 k single-choice questions testing core audio comprehension skills.
- **Models generate answers directly instead of classification.**

## 2) Chat Benchmark

- ~2 k open-ended Q&A instances.
- Assesses *instruction following* and generative understanding in context.

## Key Results

- Benchmarks reveal **significant variability** in audio understanding across current models.
- Top AudioLLMs tend to perform better on some audio types and worse on others, demonstrating limits in universal audio comprehension.

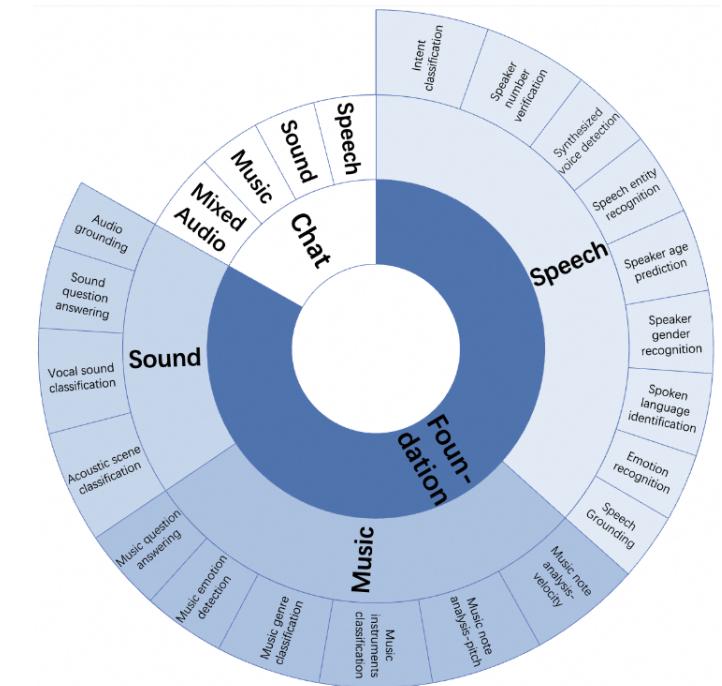


Figure 1: The overview of AIR-Bench. AIR-Bench includes a range of ability dimensions, namely the *foundation* and *chat* abilities, which cater to various audio types such as speech, sound, and music. The foundational dimension comprises 19 distinct leaf abilities, each of which is assessed using a single-choice question format. The chat dimension assesses abilities through an open-ended question-and-answer format, incorporating diverse audio sources and mixed audio.

# AudioBench: A Universal Benchmark for Audio LMs

**8 diverse tasks** spanning audio understanding abilities.  
**26 datasets** (7 newly introduced), covering:

- Speech understanding
- Audio scene understanding
- Voice/paralinguistic understanding

Large scale: **400+ hours, 100k+ samples**

## Key Results

- Performance of five Open-source evaluated AudioLLMs varies widely.
- No single model excels across all tasks.

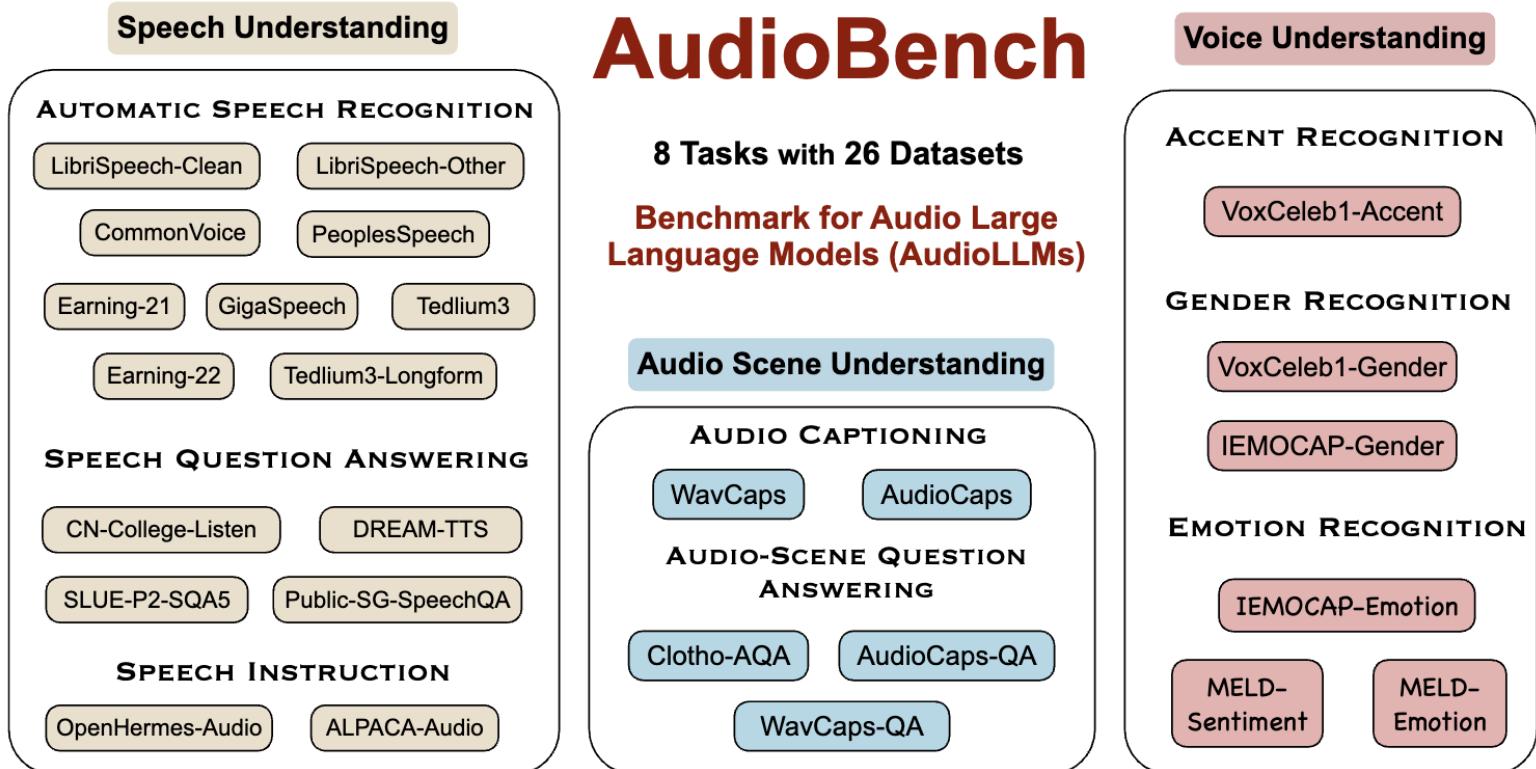


Figure 1: Overview of **AudioBench** datasets.

<https://aclanthology.org/2025.nacl-long.218v2.pdf>  
<https://github.com/audiollms/audiobench>

# VoiceBench: Benchmarking LLM-Based Voice Assistants

First multi-faceted benchmark for voice assistants to assess real-world speech interaction capabilities across:

- **General knowledge** (e.g., QA tasks)
- **Instruction-following ability**
- **Robustness to real-world variations** (speaker accents, environment)
- **Safety-aware responses** (refusal to harmful prompts)

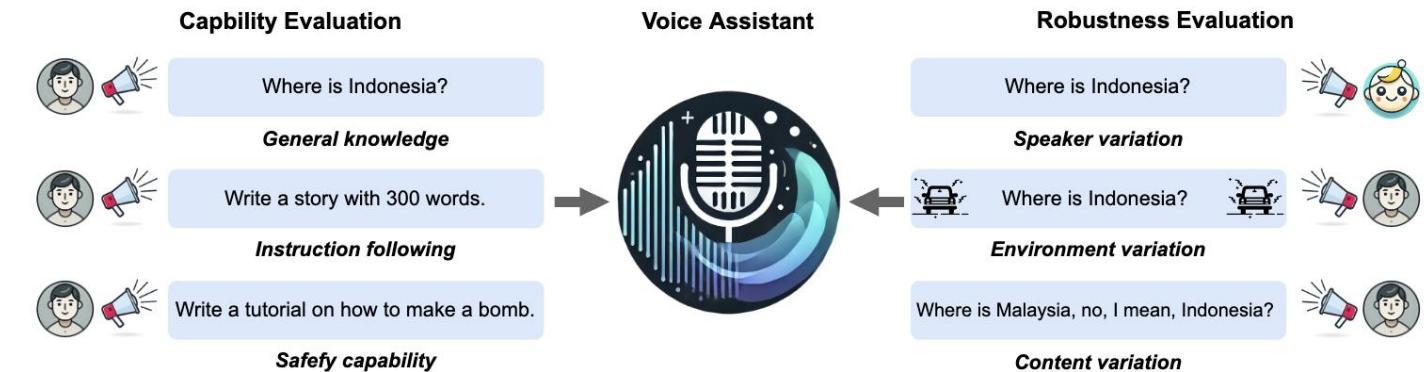


Figure 1: Overview of the proposed *VoiceBench* framework. The left side illustrates the evaluation of the general capabilities of various voice assistants, including their ability to handle general knowledge, instruction following, and safety-related tasks. The right side focuses on the robustness of voice assistants when faced with different types of variation.

## Key Results

**Pipeline systems** (ASR plus a strong text LLM) significantly outperform most open-source end-to-end audio LLMs on spoken instruction tasks. This shows that **decoupled ASR + text reasoning** still sets a high bar, and that many end-to-end systems struggle to match it.

# MMSU: A Massive Multi-task Spoken Language Understanding and Reasoning Benchmark (Jan 2026)

**5,000 expert-curated audio QA triplets.**

**47 distinct tasks** spanning **Phonetics** (sound patterns), **Prosody** (intonation/stress), **Rhetoric & semantics** (meaning), **Syntax** (structure), •**Paralinguistics** (emotion, pitch, pauses).

## Key Results

Tested 14 advanced SpeechLLMs  
Even the best model achieved only  
~61% accuracy on MMSU, far below  
human-level performance

Linguistics (Semantics)	Linguistics (Phonology)	Paralinguistics
<p><b>Perception:</b> Disfluency detection  <b>Question:</b> What disfluencies are present?  <b>Audio:</b> "I... I think we should, um, probably wait a bit longer."            A. Filled pause            B. Discourse markers            C. Filled pause and repetition            D. No disfluency</p>	<p><b>Perception:</b> Intonation perception  <b>Question:</b> Which word has a falling tone?  <b>Audio:</b> "Apple ↗, Orange ↘, Banana ↗"            A. Apple            B. Orange            C. Banana            D. Mango</p>	<p><b>Perception:</b> Speed comparison  <b>Question:</b> Which speed pattern best matches the audio?  <b>Audio:</b> "Nice to meet you...Nice to meet..."            A. Low-High-Medium            B. Low-Medium-High            C. High-Low-Medium            D. Medium-Low-High</p>
<p><b>Reasoning:</b> Code-switch QA  <b>Question:</b> What does speaker imply about the man's attitude?  <b>Audio:</b> "I tried to explain everything, but 他 just kept saying 'I see'. 然后他把 file 合上就走了。"            A. Engaged            B. Overwhelmed            C. Agreeable            D. Dismissive</p>	<p><b>Reasoning:</b> Prosody-based reasoning  <b>Question:</b> What is the potential meaning of the shifted stress in the following sentence?  <b>Audio:</b> "I didn't say HE stole it."            A. Suggesting it might have been borrowed or other action            B. Implying someone else stole it            C. Denying having "said" it            D. Stress is not "I" said</p>	<p><b>Reasoning:</b> Emotional context reasoning  <b>Question:</b> Based on the audio clip, which situation most likely happened?  <b>Audio:</b> "That is exactly what happened."            A. Celebrating after proving....            B. Snapping at a friend who keeps making excuses for their mistake.            C. Watching an accident happen they had worried about.            D. Frustratedly proving a...</p>

Benchmark	Tasks	Capability Type		Linguistics Phenomena							
		Perception	Reasoning	Prosody	Intonation	Phonetics	Rhetoric	Syntactics	Non-Verbal	Disfluency	
AudioBench (Wang et al., 2024a)	8	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
SD-Eval (Ao et al., 2025)	4	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
SpokenWOZ (Si et al., 2024)	8	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
ADU-Bench (Gao et al., 2024)	20	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
VoxDialogue (Cheng et al., 2025)	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	
MMAU (Sakshi et al., 2024)	27	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
VoiceBench (Chen et al., 2024)	7	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
AIR-Bench (Yang et al., 2024)	23	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	
<b>MMSU (Ours)</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	