

Voice Dev 1

CS571: Building User Interfaces

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Today's Warmup

- Clone [today's code](#) to your machine.
 - Run the command `npm install` inside of the `starter` and `solution` folders.
- Sign up for a [wit.ai](#) account.
 - This does *not* need to be your personal Facebook account, you can sign up for a Meta account using your @wisc.edu email!

Final Exam

- Friday, May 10th at 5:05 pm.
 - Fill out [the conflict form](#) by May 1st.
 - Graduating seniors may take the alternate exam on Thursday May 9th at 5:05 pm by completing the form above, just use some proof of upcoming graduation!
- SEC001 in Chamberlin 141, SEC002 in Chem S429.
 - Go by section in enroll.wisc.edu
 - Alternate exam location is still TBD.

Final Exam

- 90 minutes for 50 MC questions.
 - 25 design and 25 implementation questions
- A single double-sided notesheet.
- Cumulative, with a heavier emphasis on content from the second-half of the semester.

Other Announcements

- **All work** must be submitted by May 3rd at 11:59 pm.
 - HW11 up to 4 days late.
 - HW12 no late days, shorter submission period.
- 1 bonus point will be available...
 - +0.5 pts for completing the HCI Workshop Quiz.
 - +0.5 pts for completing the security CTF.
 - **There is no rounding of grades.**

Learning Objectives

1. Be able to define important conversational terms such as agent, utterance, intent, and entity.
2. Be able to use JavaScript `async` / `await` syntax.
3. Be able to build a command-and-control chat agent!

Voice User Interfaces

VUIs are a common form of **agent-based design** as opposed to **direct manipulation**.

Conversational interfaces can be used to...

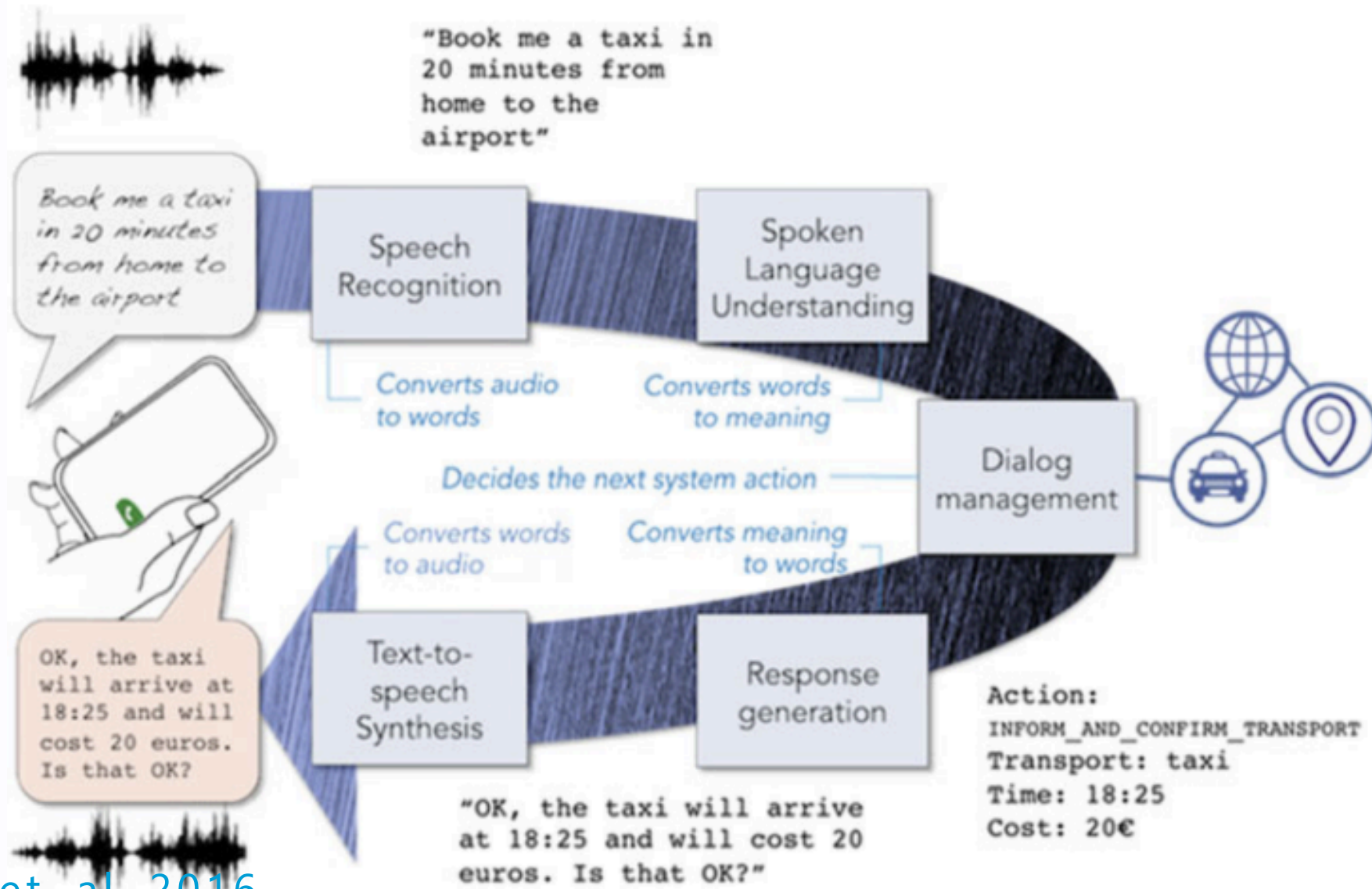
- Address accessibility needs
- Address context-specific problems (e.g. driving)
- Augment the user experience

Voice User Interfaces

VUIs integrate a number of technologies and ideas...

1. Speech recognition
2. Spoken language understanding
3. Dialog management
4. Response generation
5. Text-to-speech synthesis

[McTear et. al. 2016](#)



McTear et. al. 2016



Order Domino's with Alexa!

Implementation Options

We focus on just one avenue of implementation!

- [Wit.ai](#) by Facebook
- [DialogFlow](#) by Google
- [Watson Assistant](#) by IBM
- [Lex](#) by Amazon
- [Azure Bot Service](#) by Microsoft

A Consideration: [Killed by Google](#)

Key Concepts in Wit.AI

- **Agent:** The overarching project consisting of *intents*, *utterances*, and *entities*.
- **Intents:** A higher level meaning of many *utterances*.
- **Utterances:** A string of words.
- **Entities:** Special attributes of an *intent*.

The goal of our **agent** is to extract the **intent** and any **entities** out of a new **utterance** and map it to a function.

Intents

Consider the following **utterances**...

- What is the weather like *tomorrow*?
- How's it looking out there *right now*?

What is the **intent** of these requests? They're both some sort of `weather_inquiry` !

These also have an **entity** of a time/date.

Your Turn!

Let's create a Wit.AI comedian that can understand...

`why_chicken` e.g. "why did the chicken cross the road"

- We will reply with "to get to the other side!"

`tell_joke` e.g. "tell me a joke"

- We will reply with jokes fetched from the Jokes API!

Entities

We can get all kinds of jokes...

<https://v2.jokeapi.dev/joke/any?safe-mode>

... or we can get specific jokes!

<https://v2.jokeapi.dev/joke/spooky?safe-mode>

How can we handle this?

Entities

We could create the following intents...

- `tell_pun_joke`
- `tell_spooky_joke`
- `tell_programming_joke`
- ...

... or make an entity parameter, e.g. `joke_type` !

New Entity



☒ **New custom entity**

joke_type

Lookup Strategies



Free Text

An entity that does not belong to a predefined list. You'll use a free-text entity when you're open to new values.



Keywords

An entity that belongs to a predefined list.



Free Text & Keywords

An entity that is defined by a predefined list, but also open to new values.



Add built-in entities

Cancel

Next

Keywords and Synonyms

Keyword

Synonyms

christmas

christmas ✕

spooky

spooky ✕

halloween ✕

programming

programming ✕

coding ✕

```
{
  "entities": {
    "joke_type:joke_type": [
      {
        "body": "halloween",
        "confidence": 1,
        "end": 19,
        "entities": {},
        "id": "948991563175475",
        "name": "joke_type",
        "role": "joke_type",
        "start": 10,
        "type": "value",
        "value": "spooky"
      }
    ]
  },
  "intents": [
    {
      "confidence": 0.992232100272184,
      "id": "2117974348567211",
      "name": "tell_joke"
    }
  ],
  "text": "tell me a halloween joke",
  "traits": {}
}
```

Intents & Entities

The JSON response body consists of...

- `text` - exactly what the user said
- `intents` - a *list* of likely matches
- `entities` - an *object* of likely matches
- `traits` - maybe next time? 😊😞

[Read the Wit.AI Docs](#)

Intents

```
"intents": [  
  {  
    "confidence": 0.992232100272184,  
    "id": "2117974348567211",  
    "name": "tell_joke"  
  }  
]
```

Each intent consists of a **confidence** from 0 to 1, as well as an **id** linked to the **name** of the intent.

The 0th intent is the best match.

Entities

```
"entities": {  
  "joke_type:joke_type": [  
    {  
      "body": "halloween",  
      ...  
      "value": "spooky"  
    }  
  ]  
}
```

Entities map a specific type to a list of **body** (what was actually written) and **value** (what it was resolved to)

Your Turn!

Let's build an agent to handle some jokes.

A Review of Async

Definition: not happening or done at the same time.

We `promise` something will happen in the future.

If we fulfill our promise, `then` we do something.

Otherwise, we `catch` and handle the error.

async / await

- equivalent way to handle asynchronous behavior
- `await` must be inside of an `async` function or at the top-level of the program
- `await` waits for right-hand-side to complete
- every `async` function returns a `Promise`
- a synchronous function may spawn `async` behavior
- an `async` function always happens asynchronously

Equivilant Handling!

```
function getLogos() {  
  fetch("https://www.example.com/logos?amount=20")  
    .then(res => res.json())  
    .then((newLogos) => {  
      setLogos(newLogos);  
    })  
}
```

```
async function getLogos() {  
  const resp = await fetch("https://www.example.com/logos?amount=20");  
  const newLogos = await resp.json();  
  setLogos(newLogos);  
}
```

Equivilant Handling - Errors

```
function getLogos() {  
  fetch("https://www.example.com/logos?amount=20")  
    .then(res => res.json())  
    .then((newLogos) => {  
      setLogos(newLogos);  
    })  
    .catch(e => alert("Something went wrong!"))  
}
```

Equivilant Handling - Errors

```
async function getLogos() {  
  try {  
    const resp = await fetch("https://www.example.com/logos?amount=20");  
    const newLogos = await resp.json();  
    setLogos(newLogos);  
  } catch (e) {  
    alert("Something went wrong!")  
  }  
}
```

Your Turn!

Let's build a better agent using `async` / `await` ...

Reminder: AI!

There are no guarantees. Intent matching is still emerging technology.

Use as many utterances as you can!

Sort by Intent		
Utterance	Intent	
1. y	Out Of Scope	
2. gwrgwrgwrgw424214	tell_joke	
3. kmwmwkrgrmwrg	tell_joke	
4. tell me 2 spooky jokes	tell_joke	
5. tell me 3 jokes	tell_joke	
6. tell me a christmas joke	tell_joke	
7. tell me a programming joke	tell_joke	
8. tell me joke	×	tell_joke

Questions?