# **DrNotes**: A System to Help students Effectively Review Their Written Notes

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#### Note-taking and reviewing is important

Note-taking and reviewing are the most common way of studying.

When researchers investigated the effect of note-taking and reviewing on learning, they found that:

- 1) The overall effects of note-taking and reviewing are substantial compared to no note-taking and no reviewing in learning. [1]
- 2) The benefit of note-taking appears to be derived from having a subsequent opportunity to review notes, and not from the act of note-taking itself. [2]

While both are important, **note-reviewing** is more critical in learning than note-taking.

#### However, reviewing handwritten notes is difficult

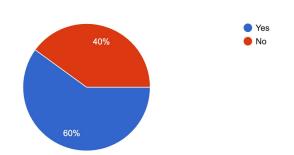
Survey with 15 students who have experiences using iPad for note-taking

**60%** (9 out of 15) had difficulty looking at the notes when reviewing.

- 1. Difficult to understand the notes they wrote down. (n=6)
- 2. Do not recognize which part of the note is important. / Do not recognize their handwriting. (n=4)

#### Are there any difficulties in the notes when you look at them later?

15 responses



I have hard time understanding the class so I just write down what I hear, which results in bad handwriting and unorganized note. It's more likely my fault rather than my iPad's

#### Writing and reviewing computer-typed notes are more difficult

"Pam Mueller and Daniel Oppenheimer, the psychologists who conducted the new research, believe it's because students on laptops usually just mindlessly type everything a professor says."

"Those taking notes by hand, though, have to actively listen and decide what's important — because they generally can't write fast enough to get everything down

— which ultimately helps them learn."

[Related Papers]

The Pen Is Mightier Than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand Over Laptop Note Taking - Pam A. Mueller, Daniel M. Oppenheimer, 2014

Law Student Laptop Use During Class for Non-Class Purposes: Temptation v. Incentives by Jeff Sovern:: SSRN

LAPTOP USE IN CLASSROOMS The Arguments For Laptops: • Laptops allow for increased ease and speed of note-taking and engagement

Ubiquitous laptop usage in higher education: Effects on student achievement, student satisfaction, and constructivist measures in honors and traditional classrooms (https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1016/i.compedu.2008.05.006)

#### **Problem Statement**

When students are reviewing the lecture after class,

it is difficult for them to review the lecture solely with their notes,

as they have unorganized and incomplete notes and a vast amount of recordings.

#### **Identified Tasks**

- 1. Comprehend the personal notes
- 2. Look at the lecture recording and fill in the missing parts
  - a. Identify the important parts of the lecture
  - b. Fill in the missing parts with the help of the lecture recording
- 3. Reorganize the notes into a more organized format

# Solution: **DrNotes**

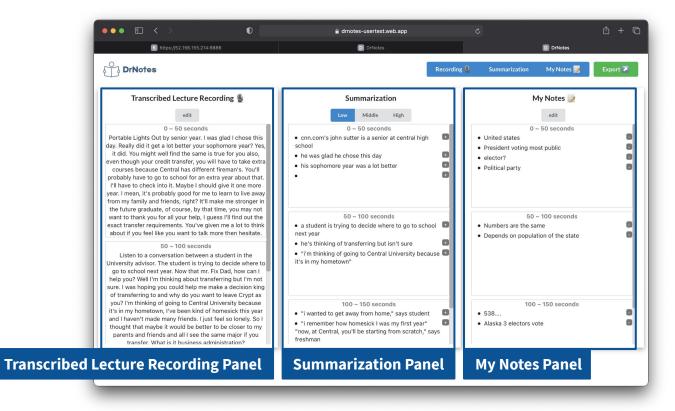
A system where people can utilize their written notes & lecture recordings

to **review the written notes** with different features.



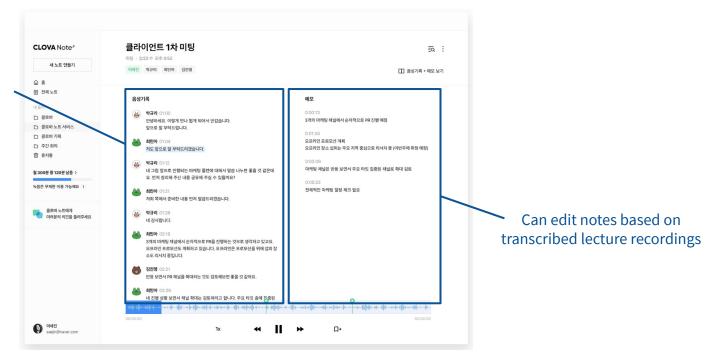
- Speech-to-text transcription of the lecture recording
- 2) Drag-to-summarization of the lecture recording
- 3) Note fill-in suggestion based on importance

# DrNotes

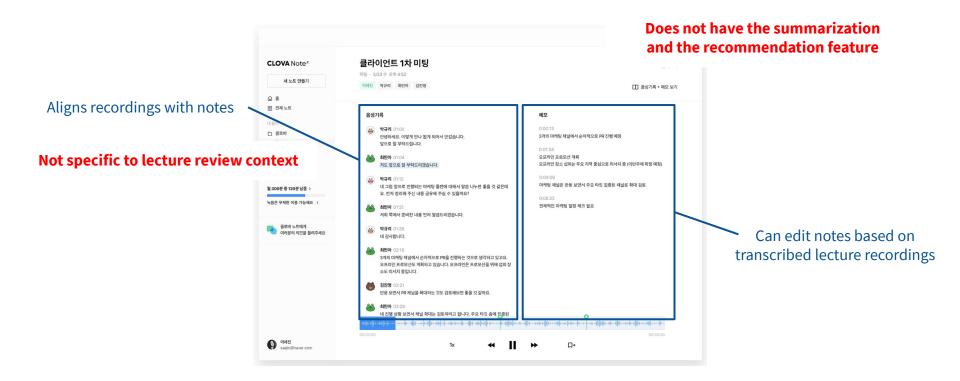


# **DrNotes** vs. **CLOVA** Note<sup>β</sup>

Aligns recordings with notes



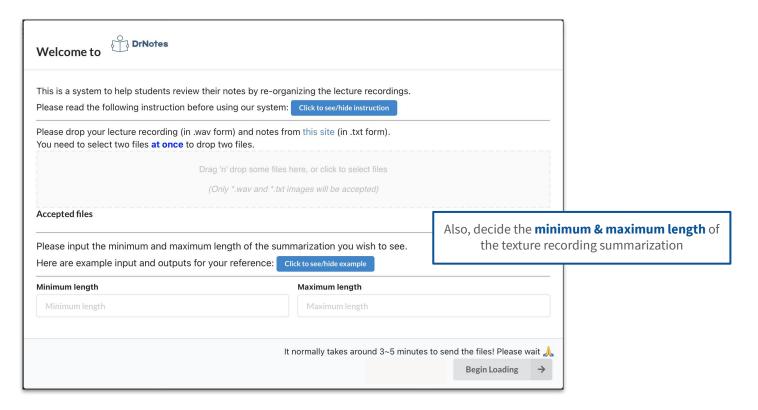
# **DrNotes** vs. **CLOVA** Note<sup>β</sup>



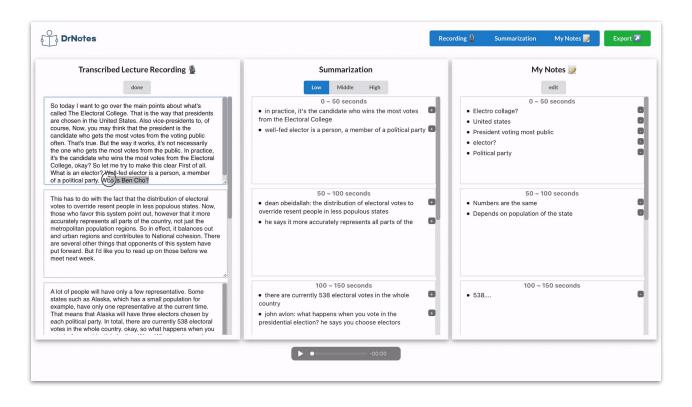
## Pre-system requirement: take notes with timestamp



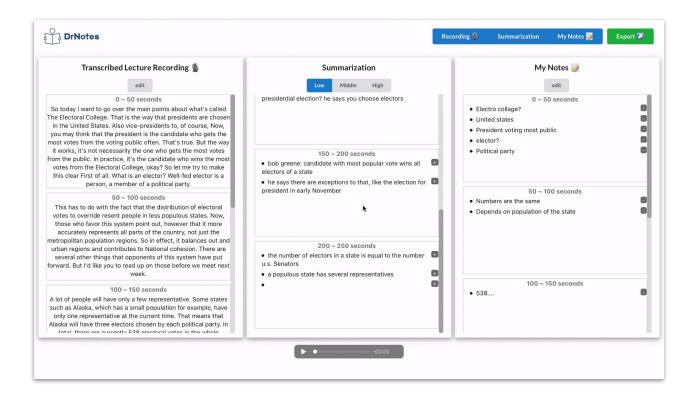
## System walkthrough: drop in the recording and the text file



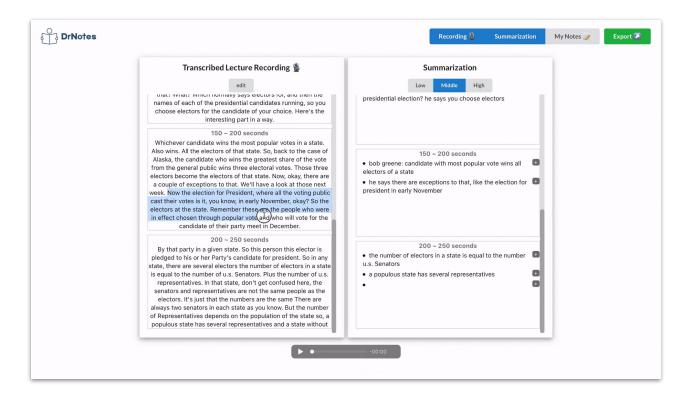
#### System walkthrough: revise the transcribed lecture recording



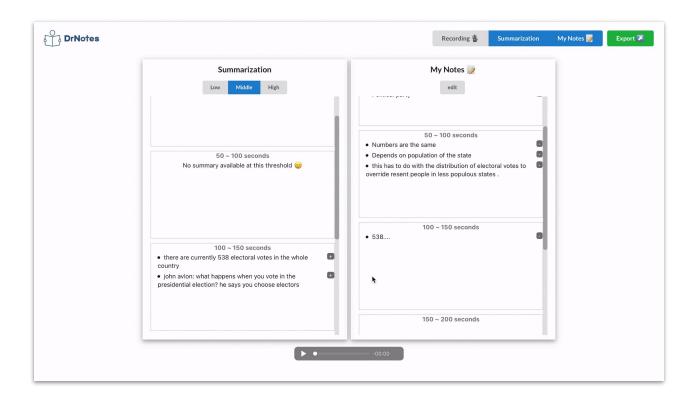
## System walkthrough: explore the summarization suggestions



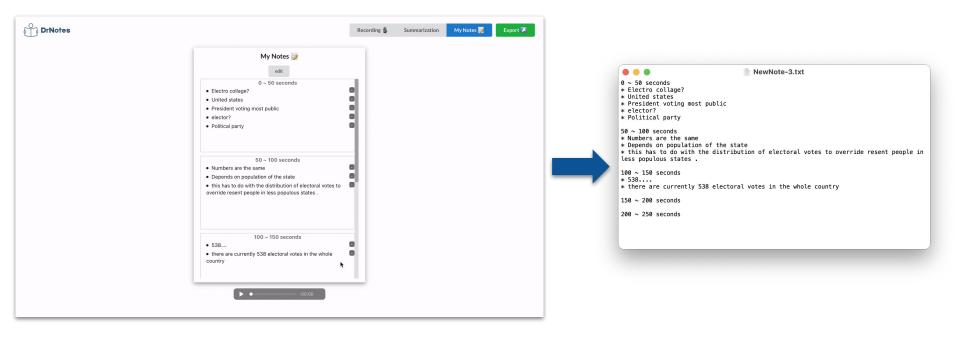
#### System walkthrough: drag to summarize a specific part



## System walkthrough: add / modify user note with summaries

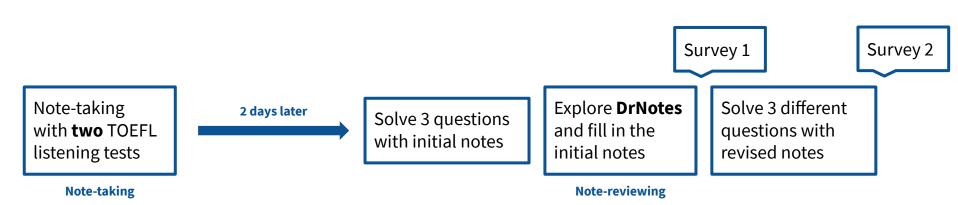


#### System walkthrough: **export the modified notes**



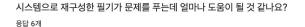
#### **Evaluation Setup**

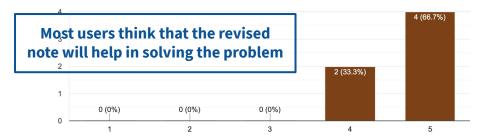
#### we did two simple surveys



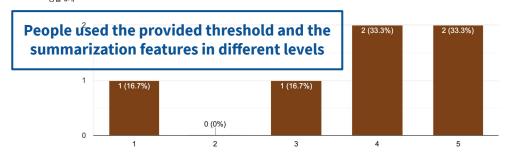
We did the evaluation from **6 users** and are planning to do more until the final report.

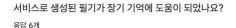
## Exciting results from the evaluation - Survey Result

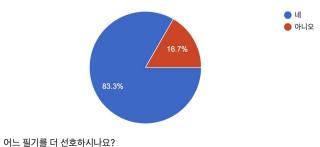




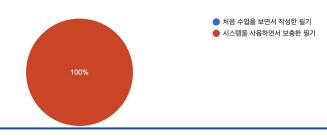
Threshold 기반의 필기 추천이 도움이 되었나요? 응답 6개







어느 필기를 더 선호하시나요? 응답 6개



Most people agreed that revised notes helped on long-term memory and they <u>preferred the</u> <u>revised notes</u> than the original ones.

## Exciting results from the evaluation - Quantitative

# of correct answers out of 3	Test 1	Test 2
P1	1 → 3	3 → 3
P2	3 → 2.5	2 → 2
P3	2 → 2	2 → 3
P4	0 → 1	1 → 2.5
P5	2 → 1	2 → 3
P6	0 → 2	3 → 2.5

**Test1** (4:47): Lecture **Test2** (2:32): Conversation

## Exciting results from the evaluation - Qualitative

- People used the provided threshold and the summarization features in different levels (P2, P4)
- Many people commented that ...
  - o they liked the UI (P1, P2, P4, P5)
  - they were satisfied with the summarization results. (P1, P2, P3, P6)
  - they were unsatisfied with the speech-to-text service quality. (P1, P3, P4, P5, P6)
- The service helped for short term memory rather than the long term memory (P2)

#### More about Human-Al Interaction

- User trust towards the AI model is important in more frequent use of the system
  - After the user gained trust towards the summarizations from the first chunk, they included rest of the summarizations without looking at the transcribed lecture recording.
  - However, when the user realized that the summarization was bad quality for the second task, they did not
    include any model summarizations.
- Higher accuracy does not mean higher user satisfaction; designing meaningful interactions matter much more than accuracy
  - The drag-to-summarize feature provided, although did not provide perfect summarization, was preferred by many users.
- Giving more choices to the user is not always optimal
  - When we provided the users a 0-1 scale threshold, the feedback we got was to narrow it down to ranges.
- (Although more HCI than HAI..) Users ALWAYS input something unexpected!
  - Diverse error handling is necessary!

#### **Implications**

- Our system (**DrNotes**) actually helped in reviewing & revising the notes.
  - The speech-to-text and the various summarization features helped the users in reviewing the materials and filling in their notes
- The various interaction factors and the intuitive UI helped users engage more in the system.
  - o e.g. drag to summarize, suggestion based on thresholds
- The user study results states that our service actual helped on solving our problem statement, "when students are reviewing the lecture after class, it is difficult for them to review the lectures solely with their notes, as they have unorganized and incomplete notes and a vast amount of recordings."

#### Limitations

- Speech-To-Text API limitations
  - The speech-to-text (STT) model performance was insufficient
    - For recordings with >=2 people, the result was worse
  - As we had to go through a two-step conversion with the API, some transcribed scripts were missing
  - We also had to split the file for less than a minute to use the API STT service
- Hard to simulate actual lecture environment.
  - Lectures in real-world are much longer than our testing lectures, but our user testing was planned short because of:
    - Time constraints in user testing (hard to find users who would be willing to spend
    - The cost of google STT API
    - Time delay in uploading the .wav files to the server
- Time given to solve the questions were not equal
  - Would have been better if study conditions were less biased

#### Possible improvements

- Simulate user study in more real-world setting
- Increase the performance of the models
  - Many feedbacks that the speech-to-text output from google API doesn't work well
  - Summarization, threshold scoring → finetune on the domain we are using
  - People tend to rely on summarization results as the script gets longer
- Faster file transfer
  - Currently it takes about 3 minutes for a 5-minute audio file
- Make the current user interface more user-friendly
  - Allow font customization
  - Would be great if the system could work well with more diverse form of user notes

# Thanks for listening!