Features for Automatic Speech Recognition

S. R. M. Prasanna

Dean (Faculty Welfare, Research & Development)
Professor, Dept of Electrical Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology Dharwad

prasanna@iitdh.ac.in

July 19, 2021

Some Good Books in Speech Processing

- Rabiner, Jhuang and Yegnanarayana, "Fundamentals of Speech Recognition", Pearon LPE, 2006.
- L.R. Rabiner and R.W. Schafer, "Digital Processing of Speech Signals", Pearson Education, Delhi, India, 2004
- J. R. Deller, Jr., J. H. L. Hansen and J. G. Proakis, "Discrete-Time Processing of Speech Signals", Wiley-IEEE Press, NY, USA, 1999.
- D. O'Shaughnessy, "Speech Communications: Human and Machine", Second Edition, University Press, 2005.
- Dong Yu, Li Deng, "Automatic Speech Recognition: A Deep Learning Approach", Springer, 2015



Outline

- Introduction
- Speech Processing: Human vs Computing Machine
- Speech Recognition: Human vs Automatic
- Traditional Framework for Automatic Speech Recognition
- Speech Analysis
- Feature Extraction
- Deep Learning Framework for Automatic Speech Recognition
- Representation learning
- Handcrafted vs representation learning
- Summary



Introduction

- Speech processing is the study of speech signals and associated methods for processing them.
- Extract and model information from speech signals
- Information: Message, language, speaker, emotion, health, etc
- Task: Speech recognition, language identification, speaker recognition, emotion recognition, health condition recognition, etc



Human - Human Communication



Figure: Verbal vs Non-Verbal Communication¹

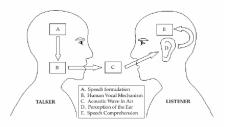


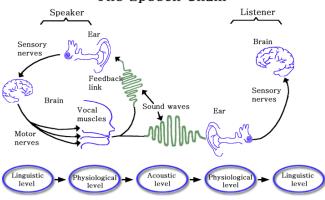
Figure: Speech production, transmission, perception, comprehension²

^{1. [}https://mytext.cnm.edu/lesson/5-1-0-defining-verbal-communication/]

^{2.[}https://towardsdatascience.com/speech-recognition-is-hard-part-1-258e813b6eb7]

Human Speech Communication Chain

The Speech Chain



[http://indra-bohara.blogspot.com/2010/10/brief-critical-review-of-speech-chain.html]



Speech Processing vs Communication

- Speech Signal: Electrical Communication vs Speech Processing
- Communication ⇒ Exchanging information w/o looking what is inside or opaque.
- ullet Digitization and compression in electrical communication \Longrightarrow speech as correlated signal
- Extracting and modeling information in speech processing



Speech Processing: Human vs Computing Machine

- Acoustic to mechanical to electrical in human ears.
- Electrical: bio-evoked potential on auditory nerve.
- Human cognitive system is good at modeling information in speech.
- Computing machine is trying to mimic these activities for decades.
- Computing machine approaches based on pattern recognition
- Pattern recognition through machine learning and deep learning (DL)
- Latest trends using deep learning in most tasks.

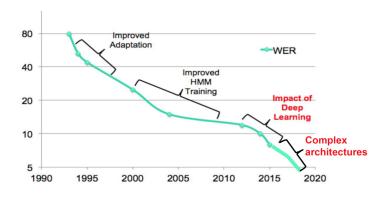


Speech Processing: Deep Learning vs Earlier

- Data Driven: More data, complex models, more computing (S/W, H/W) infrastructure, better performance.
- Domain Knowledge: Not mandatory hence proliferation of speechtech startups and companies. Domain to Domain agnostic
- S/W & H/W Requirements: Mostly open source toolkits. GPU infra on rent.
- Industry vs Academia Data driven vs domain
- Way Forward : Collaborate, share, mentor.



Automatic Speech Recognition Trends



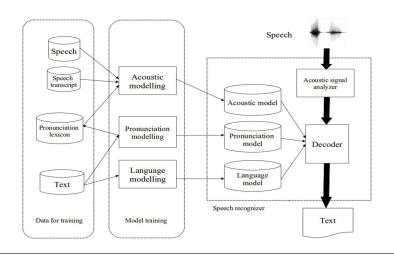


Speech Recognition: Human vs Automatic

- Cognitive vs computing
- Spoken vs written language
- Human Speech Recognition exploits only spoken language.
- Labelled speech database, dictionary, language models.
- Mobile networks and internet makes life easy.
- Deep learning provides models that can learn features
- Transfer learning, end-to-end system.
- Build speech recognition exploiting more spoken language cues.
- Domain to domain agnostic

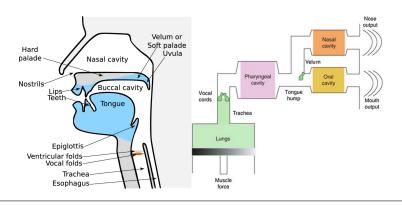


Traditional Framework for Automatic Speech Recognition



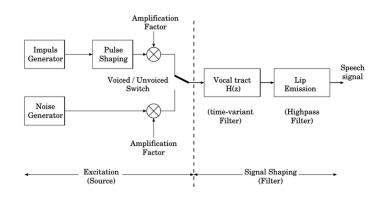


Feature Extraction for Acoustic Modeling





Feature Extraction for Acoustic Modeling



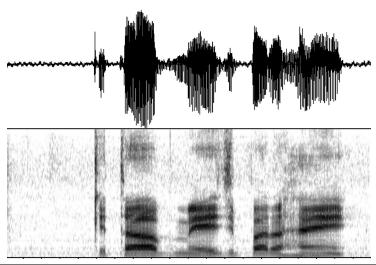


Speech Analysis

- Non-Stationary : Short term processing (10-30 ms)
- Time Domain : Amplitude variation as a function of time.
- Frequency Domain : Amplitude variation as a function of frequency (Spectrum).
- Vocal tract information as feature vectors for speech recognition.
- Spectrogram : Amplitude variation as a function of time and frequency.

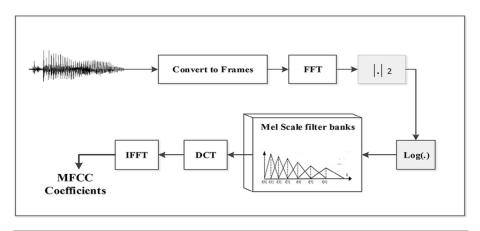


Speech Analysis



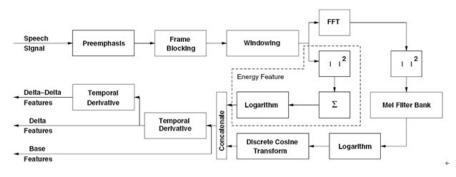


Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCCs)



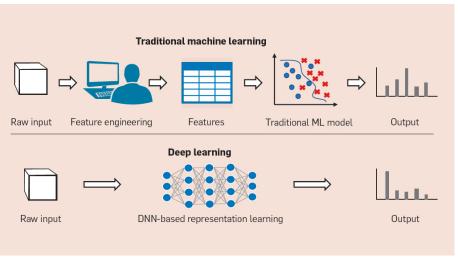


Delta, Delta-Delta MFCCs



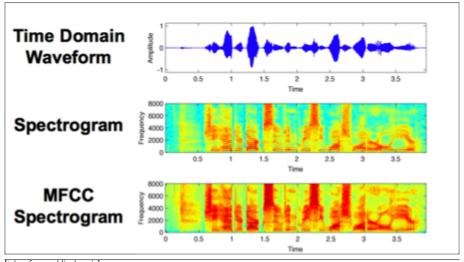


Traditional ML vs DL



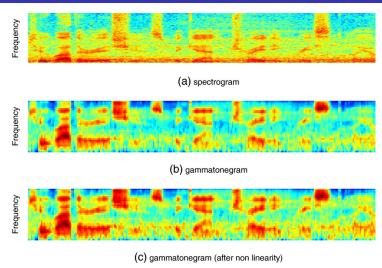


Spectrogram vs MelSpectrogram





Spectrogram vs Gammatone Spectrogram



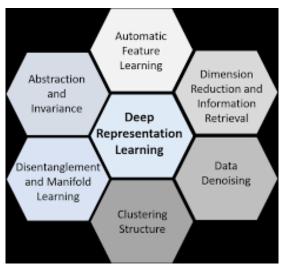


Deep Learning based Expert System

- Expert System:
 - Human expert experience is coded as set of rules.
 - Humans are spectrogram reading experts
- Deep Learning based expert system:
 - Deep learning models derive representation and then recognize patterns.

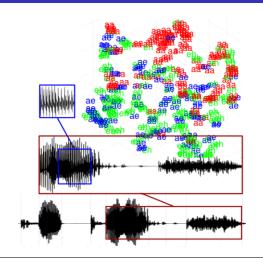


Deep Representation Learning





Invariant Representation Learning

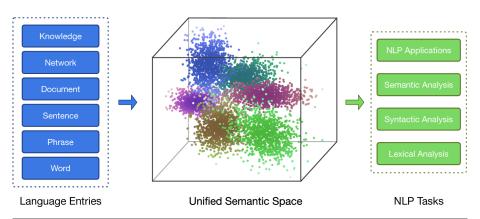


[taken from public domain]



July 19, 2021

Universal Acoustic Space





Summary

- Introduction to speech processing
- Human approach for speech processing
- Handcrafted features and machine learning for speech processing
- Representation learning and deep learning for speech processing
- Way forward for feature extraction



Thank You