Dan Wells

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Education

University of Edinburgh

MSc Speech and Language Processing 2015

Class: Distinction

Dissertation: Unsupervised speech segmentation for zero-resource applications

Courses included:

- Automatic Speech Recognition
- Speech Synthesis
- Natural Language Understanding
- Machine Translation
- Applied Machine Learning
- Computer Programming
- Semantic Web Systems
- Univariate Statistics

Selwyn College, University of Cambridge

BA (Hons) Linguistics 2013

Class: 2.i

Completed a wide range of studies across all areas of linguistics, with interests especially in phonetics and computational linguistics.

Additional courses: MML Certificate in Dutch, Introduction to Yiddish

Sandown High School

A-levels: Maths (A), Physics (A*), French (A*), English Language (A) 2010

AS-levels: Further Maths (A), Fine Art (A)

Experience

Nuance Communications

Speech Scientist Nov 2015–Present

Google (via Adecco)

Speech Data Evaluator Jan–Aug 2014

Processed linguistic data to improve speech synthesis and automatic speech recognition quality for British English.

- Phonemic transcription of lexicon entries using in-house systems
- Transcription of acoustic data following text normalisation guidelines
- Quality control for similar work carried out by external vendors
- Devising transcription guidelines for new domains
- Analysis of ASR system output errors

Cambridge Bilingualism Network Sep–Oct 2013

Encoded a large number of paper surveys on child bilingualism into Excel.

Skills

Technical

- Experience programming in Python, some Bash scripting
- Acoustic analysis using Praat, Wavesurfer
- Statistical analysis using R
- Comfortable with OS X and Linux operating systems
- Typesetting using LaTeX