CS 1120: Media Computation Spring 2018
Lab 9: Making a fake quote

In this activity we are going to have a little fun making a fake quote from a politician. Bill Richardson was the Governor of New Mexico and made an attempt to receive the nomination for president of the United States several years ago. He is currently out of major politics. Therefore, he is going to be the good natured target of this activity.

From our course website, download a sound file of Mr. Richardson talking to the press. Load this up into JES and play it. You should hear him make the following statement:

> *"Well obviously Sandy's admitted to a mistake in that process, but I've known him for 20 years. The guy is honorable. He's a dedicated public servant. I'm sure it was a careless, sloppy moment. An investigation is going on. …"*

It doesn't take much poking at that quote to realize that we could take this from a situation where he is defending Sandy and turn it into a situation where he is criticizing him.

Consider the following segments (marked in red):

> *"Well obviously Sandy's admitted to a mistake in that process,* ***but I've known him for 20 years. The guy is*** *honorable. He's a dedicated public servant. I'm sure it was a careless, sloppy moment. An investigation is going on. …"*

Then:

> *"Well obviously Sandy's admitted to a mistake in that process, but I've known him for 20 years. The guy is honorable. He's a dedicated public servant. I'm sure it was* ***a careless, sloppy*** *moment. An investigation is going on. …"*

And finally:

> *"Well obviously Sandy's admitted to a mistake in that process, but I've known him for 20 years. The guy is honorable. He's a dedicated* ***public servant.*** *I'm sure it was a careless, sloppy moment. An investigation is going on…"*

To make this fake quote we have to first find approximately where each of those three sayings are in the original quote. Open the original quote in the sound explorer. Using the segment tools identify the starting and stopping points of the three quotes highlighted above.

It's probably worth reminding you that there are 22050 sound samples per second. That means that when it comes to splicing out sounds, the difference between starting at sound sample 1234 and sound sample 1243 is, for all purposes, non-existent. Think about it this way – 1000 sound samples is still less than 1/20th of a second. In other words, in most cases you could start at 1234 or 2234 and the difference would be practically unnoticeable. The only place it would make a huge difference is if you just cut off the start or end of a word. Fortunately, there tends to be enough space between the words being spoken in this quote that huge differences don't matter.

Thus, you can simplify your results if you don't worry too much about getting it nailed down to exact index values like 113,234 and simply rounding DOWN to the nearest 1000 if you are considering the starting value (so down to

113,000) and UP if you are considering the ending value (so up to 114,000). Since this is adding small units of sound to the finished splice sample you shouldn’t have problems with cutting off a word. If anything you will be getting into the words on either side.

[Q1] What is the approximate starting index value of segment #1?

[Q2] What is the approximate ending index value of segment #1?

[Q3] What is the approximate starting index value of segment #2?

[Q4] What is the approximate ending index value of segment #2?

[Q5] What is the approximate starting index value of segment #3?

[Q6] What is the approximate ending index value of segment #3?

Now that you have these values you should use Program 104 as a sample and create a program called fakeQuote(). When it is done it should return the finished new quote.

Submit your work

And you're done! Save your lab9.py file and submit it to eLearning. Make sure to save your solution for future reference.