

The following is a workshop for designers in the Search organization. Most designers in the team have experience with designing chatbots, but very little familiarity with designing and developing for Alexa or other VUI systems - quite the new frontier for our org.

My aim was to encourage the team to co-discover new interaction and prototyping paradigms for VUI.



Prototyping for VUI

Lauren Tsung

Judy Zhu

[yo/vui-design](#)

Workshop Goals

To co-discover interesting interaction paradigms for VUI

To assess a workflow/tool that is used for rapid voice experimentation

To gain exposure to the latest enhancements in voice design

Workshop Overview

Introduction - 20 min

Activity - 45 min

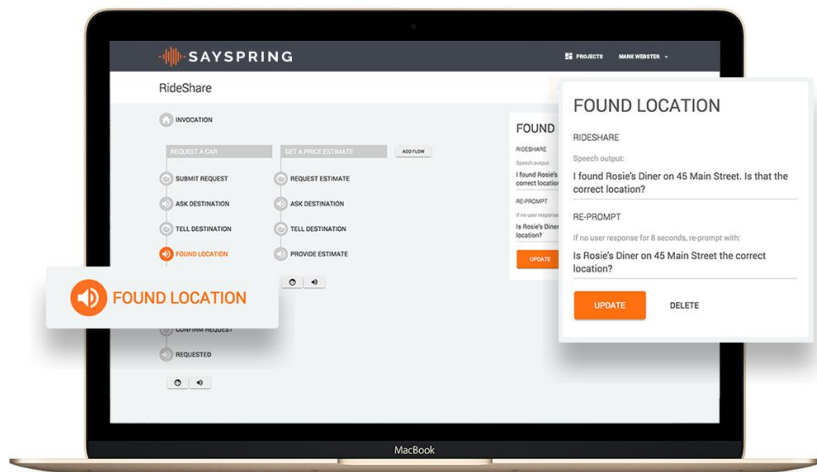
Demos + Discussion - 25 min

Introduction

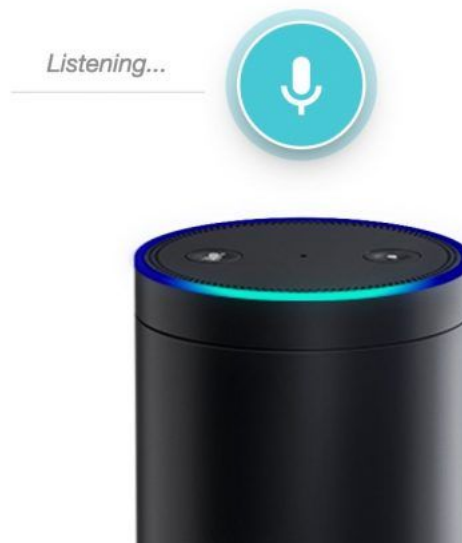
20 Minutes

Today we will...

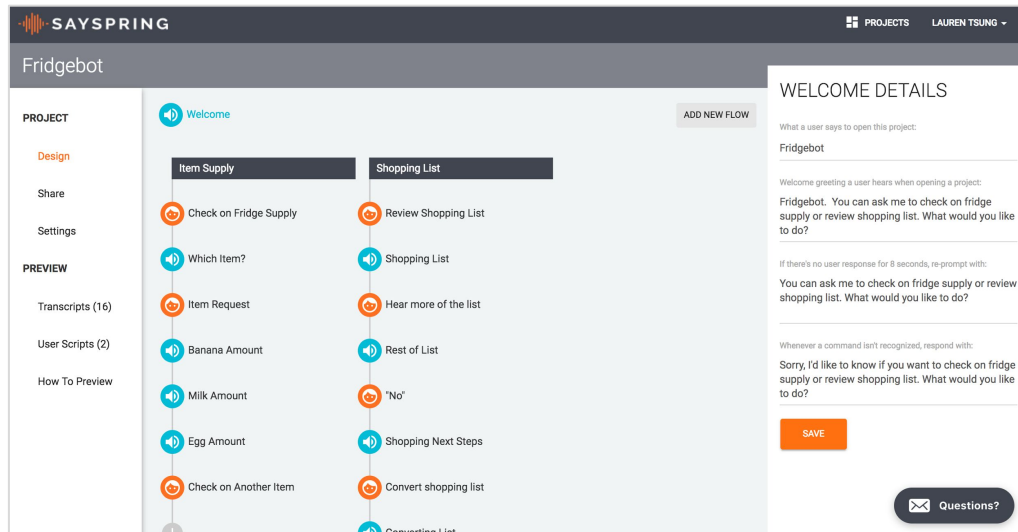
Prototype with Sayspring



Simulate with Echosim
or Reverb



FridgeBot Example



yo/vui-workshop-docs

SSML

SSML is **Speech Synthesis Markup Language**

It allows you add treatment to pronunciation with code markup

Alexa now supports a wider range of [natural expression](#)

<say-as> </say-as>

Examples

<say-as **interpret-as="ordinal"**>1</say-as>

<say-as **interpret-as="characters"**>read</say-as>

Speechcons

These are reserved speechcons Alexa supports

They are a type of SSML

🎤 "Duh!"

🎤 "Woo hoo!"

🎤 "Bada bing, bada boom!"

Activity

45 Minutes

Activity Recommendations

Try to map out 2 short flows for your Voice Bot on Alexa

Bonus: Include an SSML tag to enhance Alexa's voice

Demos and Discussion

25 Minutes

Guiding Points

Simulate prototype on Echosim or Reverb

What were some interesting discoveries: w/ tool, VUI, Alexa?

What were some trouble spots when designing for voice (as opposed to GUI and chatbot IxD)?

Resources

SSML

[W3 Speech Synthesis Documentation](#)

[Amazon SSML Reference](#)

[Amazon Natural Expression Article](#)

[Microsoft SSML Reference](#)

Speechcon

[Amazon Speechcon Reference \(NEW\)](#)

Speech Recognition APIs

[Web Speech API Demo](#)

[Mozilla's Web Speech API](#)