

# A CAPT tool for training and research on lexical stress errors in German

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## Overview

This poster presents the prototype Computer-Assisted Pronunciation Training (CAPT) tool **de-stress**: the German (**de**) System for **T**raining and **R**esearch on **E**rrors in **S**econd-language **S**tress [1].

**de-stress** targets lexical stress errors by non-native (L2) German speakers with French as their native language (L1). Its modular design incorporates various methods for diagnosing and presenting feedback on these errors. Both instructional and research applications have motivated its development:

- Learners can interact with the system independently (i.e. without assistance from human instructor)
- Teachers can create bespoke exercises for students
- Researchers can study effects of various diagnosis/feedback types
- Tool could become useful component of intelligent CAPT system (see fig. 1)

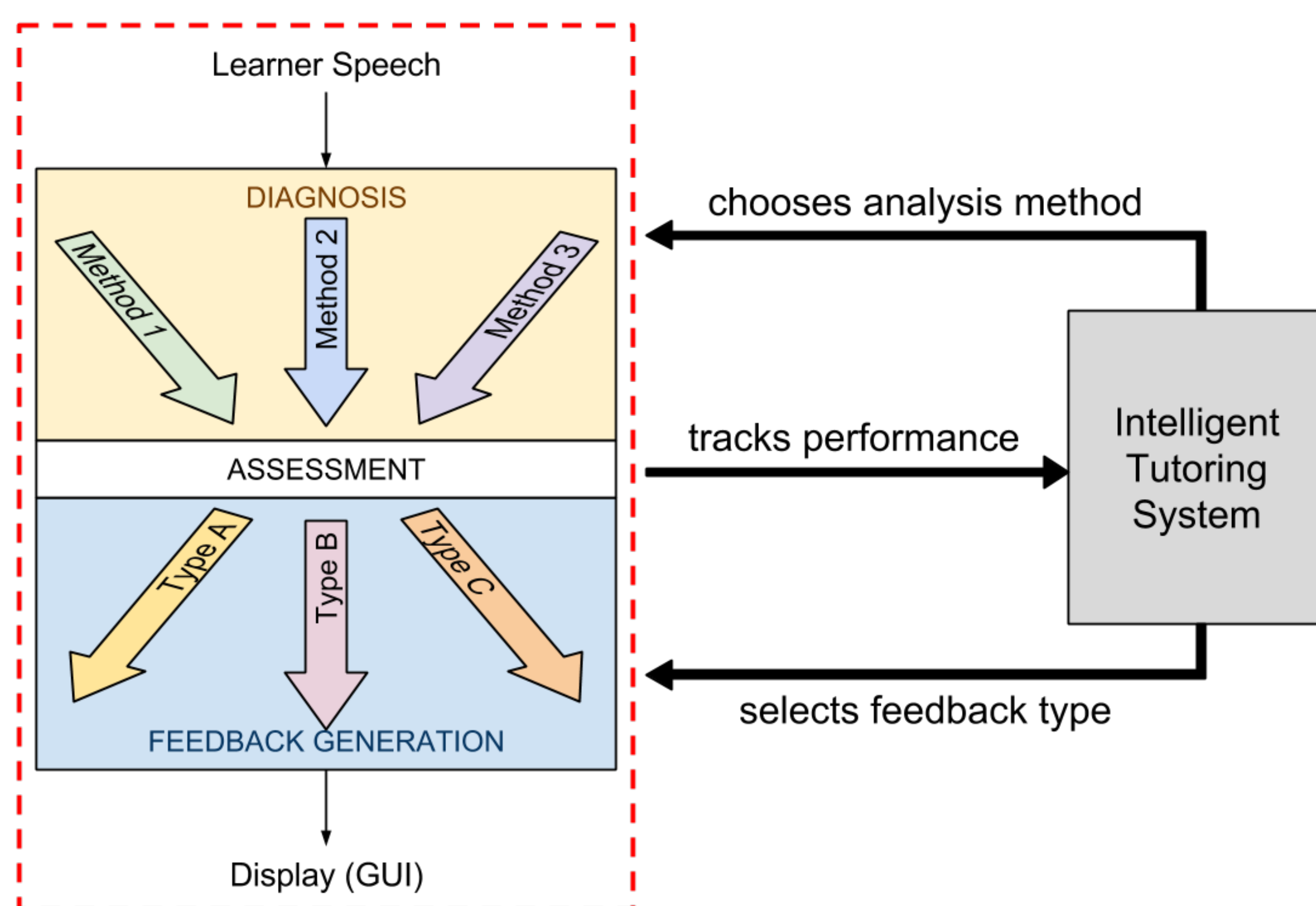
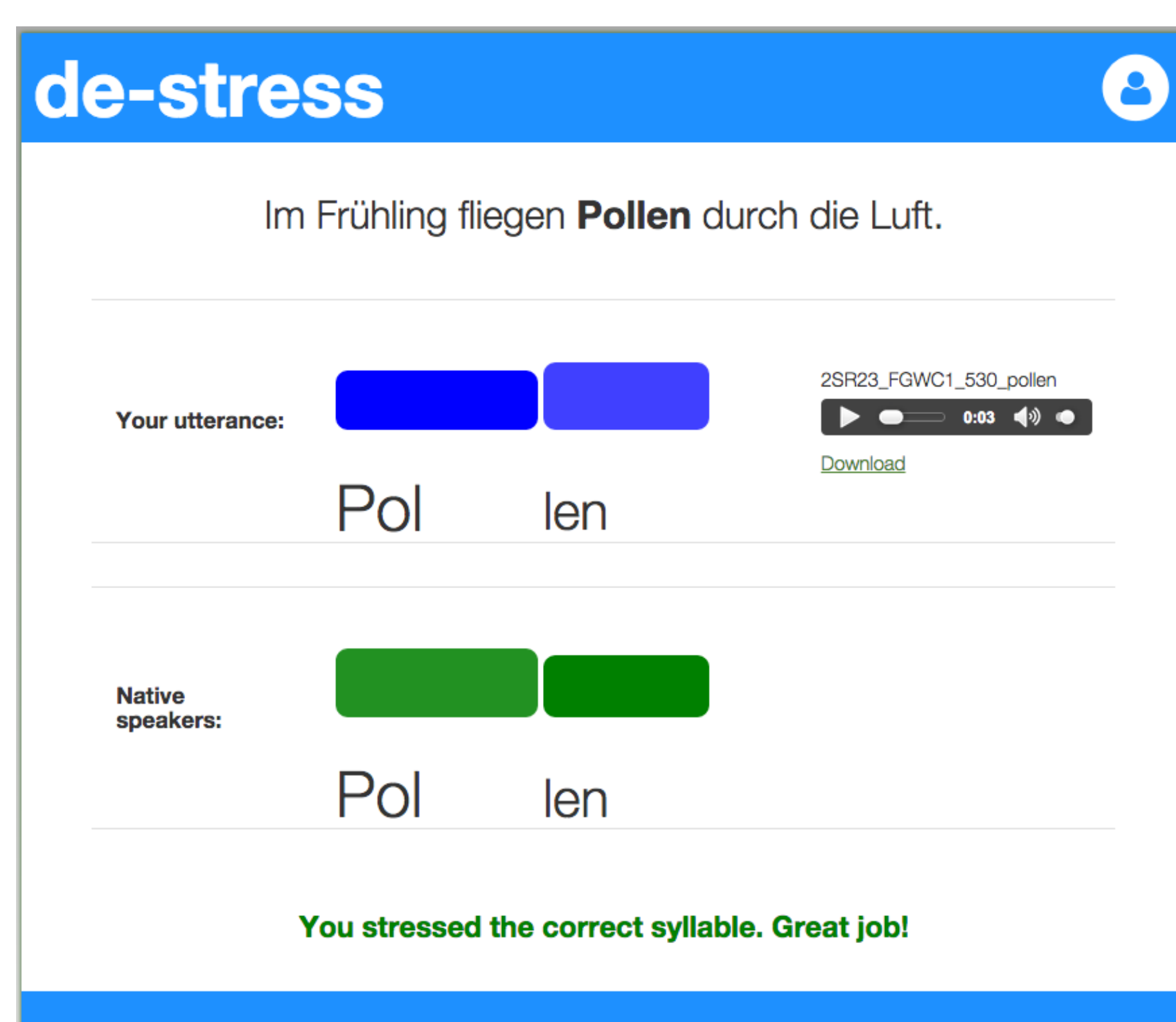


Figure 1: Conceptual diagram of **de-stress** (demarcated by dashed line) and its possible function in the context of an Intelligent Tutoring System (ITS).

## A training tool for German learners



## A tool for teachers and researchers

An administrative interface allows language teachers or CAPT researchers to combine the available diagnostic and feedback method(s) to create new exercises for learners.

The screenshot shows the "Create FeedbackMethod" form. It includes fields for "Name" (set to "VisualFB"), "Description" (set to "Visual feedback only"), and "Requires Scorer Type" (a dropdown menu). Below these are several checkboxes: "Show Skill Bars", "Play Feedback Signal", "Display Shapes" (checked), "Style Text" (checked), "Display Messages", and "Self Assessment". A "Create" button is at the bottom.

## Conclusion and future directions

## References

- [1] A. S. Vakil, "de-stress," <http://github.com/vakila/de-stress>.
- [2] LORIA Speech Team, "JSnoori," <http://jsnoori.loria.fr>.
- [3] A. S. Vakil and J. Trouvain, "Automatic classification of lexical stress errors for German CAPT," in *SLaTE*, 2015.