Mimic Human Speech in Bahasa Indonesia Using Speech Recognition and Speech Synthesis

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Abstract

People use speech recognition and speech synthesis to help, support, and boost their daily activities. With just one of the speech technologies, developer can produce various software. Combine both speech technologies, developer could produce more various software. One of the combinations is mimic human speech. This research will discuss about Speech Recognition that use Convolutional Neural Network as machine learning model and Speech Synthesis that use Concatenative Synthesis with syllables as speech unit. Different with the recent related works, this research has simpler approach to mimic speech in Bahasa Indonesia. The purpose of this research is to develop applications to collect, train, and mimic speech in Bahasa Indonesia. User can participate to record their speech. Those speeches are collected to be trained for recognizing speech in the application later. With the trained model, now user is able to make the computer mimic their speech. First, user must identify their speech to be recognized by the application. This step is necessary to create the user digital speech. After that, based on registered syllables, which the speech has been identified by the application, user is able to generate speech by making sentences from those syllables. The applications to collect and mimic speech are developed as web-based application and the application to train is developed as text-based application.

1 Introduction

Speech recognition is the process to get data by analysing speech. The opposite of speech recognition is speech synthesis, the process to produce artificial speech. Therefore, speech recognition is known as speech-to-text and speech synthesis is known as text-to-speech. With just one of the speech technologies, developer can produce various software. Combine both speech technologies, developer could produce more various software. One of the combinations is mimic human speech. The most known usage of mimic human speech is creating a digital speech that will be used as the artificial assistance's speech vocal. Making the artificial assistance more private or personal to the user.

This research aims to develop application which can be used to collect speech data, train machine learning model with collected data and mimic speech in Bahasa Indonesia.

2 Limitation

The limitations of this application are as following:

- There are 9 selected syllables to be used in the application, a, i, na, ma, mu, di, ri, ku, and kan. The syllables are used as speech unit.
- The duration of the recorded speech in 1 second, with sample rate 16000 and mono sound.
- Speech recognition is used to recognize speech when user want to create digital speech in identifying speech process.
- Speech synthesis is used to generate speech based on selected digital speech and inputted text in generating speech process.

3 Method

The approach used to achieve this research objectives are using the following techniques:

3.1 Concatenative Synthesis

Concatenative synthesis connecting pre-recorded natural utterances is probably the easiest way to produce intelligible and natural sounding synthetic speech. One of the most important aspects in concatenative synthesis is to find correct unit length. In present systems units used are usually words, syllables, demisyllables, phonemes, diphones, and sometimes even triphones [Hande, 2014].

3.2 MFCC

MFCC is one of the most commonly used feature extraction method in speech recognition introduced by Davis and Mermelstein in the 1980's [practicalcrypthography.com, 2012].

3.3 Convolutional Neural Network

Convolutional neural network (CNN) is one of known variants neural network model to recognized image. The model is designed to recognize an image object no matter what surface the object is on. The model doesn't have to re-learn the idea of child for every possible surface it could appear on [Geitgey, 2016].

4 Experimental Result

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed methods in the previous section within the application, experiments are done to ensure the application runs well.

The dataset during the speech recognition evaluation is 10000 male and female speech data, each 500 on each syllable, on not noisy background and each 500 unknown sounds. Corrected result shows from the more than 75% of model accuracy. The table also filled with accuracy with the syllable result along with it. Random or unknown condition is tested with silent condition, o, and mi syllables.

There are 4 testers. Male user that the records is trained by the application is called Tester 1. Female user that the records is trained by the application is called Tester 2. Male user that the record hasn't trained by the application called Tester 3. Female user that the record hasn't trained by the application called Tester 4. Every tester is test in each the following environment:

- Noisy background (Loud music or people chit-chat).
- Semi noisy background (Rain noise or sound from the other rooms).
- Not noisy background.

Table 1: Tester 1 results on noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Noisy Background 1	Noisy Background 2	Noisy Background 3	Correct Result
1	a	52 *(a)*	100 *(a)*	100 *(unknown)*	1/3
2	i	62 *(na)*	85 *(ri)*	96 *(ma)*	0/3
3	na	100 *(unknown)*	86 *(kan)*	100 *(unknown)*	0/3
4	ma	100 *(a)*	84 *(unknown)*	100 *(a)*	0/3
5	mu	99 *(kan)*	71 *(ku)*	88 *(unknown)*	0/3
6	di	59 *(mu)*	100 *(ri)*	97 *(ri)*	0/3
7	ri	50 *(na)*	100 *(ri)*	92 *(a)*	1/3
8	ku	100 *(ku)*	85 *(a)*	100 *(kan)*	1/3
9	kan	72 *(unknown)*	61 *(kan)*	79 *(kan)*	3/3
10	Unknown 1 *(silent)*	99 *(unknown)*	100 *(a)*	99 *(unknown)*	2/3
11	Unknown 2 *(o)*	100 *(na)*	100 *(a)*	100 *(ku)*	0/3
12	Unknown 3 *(mi)*	100 *(a)*	51 *(kan)*	96 *(ma)*	1/3

Table 2: Tester 1 results on semi noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Semi Noisy Background 1	Semi Noisy Background 2	Semi Noisy Background 3	Correct Result
1	a	100 *(a)*	100 *(a)*	100 *(a)*	3/3
2	i	100 *(i)*	36 *(ri)*	100 *(i)*	2/3
3	na	97 *(mu)*	48 *(ma)*	99 *(na)*	1/3
4	ma	49 *(i)*	98 *(ri)*	79 *(mu)*	0/3
5	mu	55 *(ri)*	99 *(ku)*	50 *(ri)*	0/3
6	di	57 *(i)*	100 *(di)*	100 *(i)*	1/3
7	ri	100 *(ri)*	75 *(ri)*	100 *(ri)*	3/3
8	ku	92 *(ku)*	68 *(ku)*	91 *(ku)*	2/3
9	kan	100 *(kan)*	94 *(na)*	100 *(kan)*	2/3
10	Unknown 1 *(silent)*	100 *(a)*	99 *(unknown)*	100 *(ma)*	2/3
11	Unknown 2 *(o)*	100 *(ku)*	89 *(ku)*	72 *(ku)*	1/3
12	Unknown 3 *(mi)*	100 *(ri)*	94 *(ri)*	100 *(ri)*	0/3

Table 3: Tester 1 results on not noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Not Noisy Background 1	Not Noisy Background 2	Not Noisy Background 3	Correct Result
1	a	100 (a)	100 (a)	100 (a)	3/3
2	i	94 (i)	48 (kan)	94 (i)	2/3
3	na	80 (na)	99 (na)	100 (na)	3/3
4	ma	96 (di)	90 (i)	57 (di)	0/3
5	mu	100 (i)	86 (ku)	95 (i)	0/3
6	di	99 *(ri)*	100 *(i)*	80 *(ri)*	0/3
7	ri	100 *(ri)*	96 *(ri)*	91 *(ri)*	3/3
8	ku	85 *(ku)*	96 *(ku)*	100 *(ku)*	3/3
9	kan	92 *(kan)*	100 *(kan)*	100 *(kan)*	3/3
10	Unknown 1 *(silent)*	98 *(unknown)*	98 *(unknown)*	98 *(unknown)*	3/3
11	Unknown 2 *(o)*	100 *(ku)*	98 *(ku)*	65 *(ku)*	1/3
12	Unknown 3 *(mi)*	54 *(mu)*	100 *(ri)*	67 *(mu)*	2/3

Table 4: Tester 2 results on noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Noisy Background 1	Noisy Background 2	Noisy Background 3	Correct Result
1	a	99 *(unknown)*	99 *(a)*	99 *(a)*	2/3
2	i	82 *(unknown)*	98 *(ma)*	99 *(ri)*	0/3
3	na	52 *(ri)*	99 *(ma)*	61 *(ma)*	0/3
4	ma	50 *(unknown)*	37 *(unknown)*	95 *(ri)*	0/3
5	mu	99 *(unknown)*	52 *(di)*	99 *(unknown)*	0/3
6	di	99 *(i)*	99 *(unknown)*	99 *(unknown)*	0/3
7	ri	86 *(i)*	20 *(kan)*	57 *(di)*	0/3
8	ku	99 *(ku)*	68 *(kan)*	90 *(unknown)*	1/3
9	kan	84 *(kan)*	99 *(kan)*	78 *(a)*	2/3
10	Unknown 1 *(silent)*	100 *(unknown)*	100 *(unknown)*	100 *(unknown)*	3/3
11	Unknown 2 *(o)*	99 *(ma)*	99 *(ku)*	99 *(ku)*	0/3
12	Unknown 3 *(mi)*	36 *(di)*	96 *(mu)*	99 *(di)*	1/3

Table 5: Tester 2 results on semi noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Semi Noisy Background 1	Semi Noisy Background 2	Semi Noisy Background 3	Correct Result
1	a	100 *(a)*	100 *(unknown)*	99 *(a)*	2/3

Table 5 (continued).

2	i	92 (ri)	97 (unknown)	96 (ri)	0/3
3	na	83 (ma)	62 (unknown)	75 (kan)	0/3
4	ma	87 (unknown)	64 (ma)	90 (na)	2/3
5	mu	76 (ma)	78 (ku)	66 (di)	0/3
6	di	58 (mu)	48 (mu)	30 (kan)	0/3
7	ri	99 (kan)	89 (kan)	99 (ri)	1/3
8	ku	99 (unknown)	99 (ku)	88 (unknown)	1/3
9	kan	99 (kan)	65 (kan)	85 (kan)	2/3
10	Unknown 1 (silent)	100 (unknown)	79 (a)	99 (ri)	1/3
11	Unknown 2 (o)	99 (a)	82 (ku)	99 (na)	0/3
12	Unknown 3 (mi)	89 (kan)	35 (ku)	96 (ri)	1/3

Table 6: Tester 2 results on not noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Not Noisy Background			Correct Result
		1	2	3	
1	a	88 (a)	99 (a)	99 (a)	3/3
2	i	99 (i)	99 (i)	52 (i)	2/3
3	na	97 (a)	54 (kan)	99 (a)	0/3
4	ma	99 (na)	99 (na)	98 (na)	0/3
5	mu	81 (i)	95 (i)	44 (i)	0/3
6	di	99 (i)	36 (i)	96 (i)	0/3
7	ri	47 (ri)	32 (unknown)	48 (i)	0/3
8	ku	98 (ku)	67 (kan)	99 (ku)	2/3
9	kan	84 (na)	85 (na)	87 (na)	0/3
10	Unknown 1 (silent)	99 (unknown)	99 (unknown)	100 (unknown)	3/3
11	Unknown 2 (o)	100 (ku)	99 (ku)	95 (ku)	0/3
12	Unknown 3 (mi)	67 (ri)	78 (di)	77 (i)	1/3

Table 7: Tester 3 results on noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Noisy Background			Correct Result
		1	2	3	
1	a	100 (a)	99 (a)	100 (a)	3/3
2	i	71 (ma)	99 (ri)	99 (ri)	0/3
3	na	70 (ku)	99 (a)	57 (unknown)	0/3
4	ma	99 (a)	100 (a)	100 (a)	0/3
5	mu	74 (mu)	96 (kan)	74 (mu)	0/3
6	di	99 (ri)	96 (ri)	89 (ri)	0/3
7	ri	100 (unknown)	90 (na)	86 (a)	0/3
8	ku	98 (kan)	64 (mu)	99 (a)	0/3
9	kan	99 (na)	100 (kan)	98 (kan)	2/3
10	Unknown 1 (silent)	99 (a)	99 (a)	100 (a)	0/3
11	Unknown 2 (o)	92 (na)	84 (na)	61 (mu)	1/3
12	Unknown 3 (mi)	64 (kan)	53 (na)	99 (ri)	2/3

Table 8: Tester 3 results on semi noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Semi Noisy Background			Correct Result
		1	2	3	
1	a	100 (a)	99 (a)	99 (a)	3/3
2	i	99 (ri)	90 (di)	92 (di)	0/3
3	na	100 (kan)	99 (kna)	92 (ma)	0/3
4	ma	99 (a)	100 (kan)	100 (kan)	0/3
5	mu	99 (mu)	99 (mu)	65 (ku)	2/3
6	di	99 (ri)	100 (ri)	99 (ri)	0/3
7	ri	95 (kan)	76 (i)	78 (di)	0/3
8	ku	99 (a)	96 (a)	100 (a)	0/3
9	kan	99 (a)	96 (a)	99 (a)	0/3
10	Unknown 1 (silent)	99 (ri)	73 (di)	60 (unknown)	2/3

Table 8 (continued).

11	Unknown 2 (o)	100 (a)	99 (ku)	100 (a)	0/3
12	Unknown 3 (mi)	99 (na)	99 (ri)	99 (i)	0/3

Table 9: Tester 3 results on not noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Not Noisy Background			Correct Result
		1	2	3	
1	a	100 (a)	100 (a)	100 (a)	3/3
2	i	92 (ri)	95 (ri)	41 (ku)	0/3
3	na	99 (na)	74 (ku)	80 (a)	1/3
4	ma	59 (a)	84 (ku)	48 (kan)	0/3
5	mu	99 (mu)	99 (ri)	99 (ri)	1/3
6	di	100 (ri)	99 (i)	99 (i)	0/3
7	ri	99 (ri)	96 (ri)	94 (i)	2/3
8	ku	73 (di)	100 (mu)	99 (mu)	0/3
9	kan	100 (kan)	99 (kan)	96 (kan)	3/3
10	Unknown 1 (silent)	98 (unknown)	98 (unknown)	98 (unknown)	3/3
11	Unknown 2 (o)	99 (ku)	68 (mu)	100 (ku)	1/3
12	Unknown 3 (mi)	99 (ri)	93 (i)	100 (ri)	0/3

Table 10: Tester 4 results on noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Noisy Background			Correct Result
		1	2	3	
1	a	100 (unknown)	99 (unknown)	94 (ma)	0/3
2	i	97 (unknown)	99 (ri)	99 (ri)	0/3
3	na	100 (na)	99 (ri)	99 (ma)	1/3
4	ma	93 (na)	99 (ma)	100 (na)	1/3
5	mu	55 (ri)	99 (unknown)	43 (unknown)	0/3
6	di	99 (ri)	54 (i)	99 (ma)	0/3
7	ri	97 (ri)	74 (ri)	100 (ri)	2/3
8	ku	68 (ma)	92 (ku)	52 (52)	1/3
9	kan	48 (ku)	22 (ku)	99 (a)	0/3
10	Unknown 1 (silent)	100 (unknown)	100 (unknown)	100 (unknown)	3/3
11	Unknown 2 (o)	100 (a)	100 (a)	100 (a)	0/3
12	Unkown 3 (mi)	55 (mu)	99 (ri)	94 (i)	1/3

Table 11: Tester 4 results on semi noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Semi Noisy Background			Correct Result
		1	2	3	
1	a	73 (a)	91 (unknown)	99 (unknown)	0/3
2	i	81 (ri)	99 (i)	100 (ri)	1/3
3	na	100 (ma)	99 (unknown)	99 (unknown)	0/3
4	ma	99 (ma)	99 (na)	78 (ma)	2/3
5	mu	81 (unknown)	99 (unknown)	99 (unknown)	0/3
6	di	100 (ri)	99 (i)	99 (i)	0/3
7	ri	85 (ri)	99 (ri)	98 (ri)	3/3
8	ku	96 (ku)	89 (ku)	99 (a)	2/3
9	kan	100 (a)	99 (a)	64 (ma)	0/3
10	Unknown 1 (silent)	99 (unknown)	99 (ri)	100 (unknown)	2/3
11	Unknown 2 (o)	99 (a)	100 (a)	99 (a)	0/3
12	Unknown 3 (mi)	43 (a)	59 (ri)	99 (unknown)	3/3

Table 12: Tester 4 results on not noisy background.

No	Spoken Syllable	Not Noisy Background			Correct Result
		1	2	3	
1	a	99 (unknown)	75 (a)	100 (a)	2/3
2	i	88 (i)	99 (i)	99 (ri)	2/3
3	na	99 (na)	99 (ma)	99 (ma)	1/3

Table 12 (continued).

4	ma	55 *(ma)*	72 *(kan)*	99 *(na)*	0/3
5	mu	99 *(unknown)*	94 *(unknown)*	28 *(i)*	0/3
6	di	89 *(i)*	99 *(ri)*	99 *(ri)*	0/3
7	ri	99 *(ri)*	100 *(ri)*	99 *(ri)*	3/3
8	ku	39 *(kan)*	99 *(ku)*	58 *(mu)*	1/3
9	kan	100 *(a)*	99 *(a)*	100 *(a)*	3/3
10	Unknown 1 *(silent)*	40 *(unknown)*	24 *(unknown)*	60 *(unknown)*	3/3
11	Unknown 2 *(o)*	100 *(a)*	99 *(a)*	100 *(a)*	0/3
12	Unknown 3 *(mi)*	60 *(ri)*	100 *(i)*	99 *(ri)*	1/3

Although noisy and semi background on every tester not show a good result, it still can predict about 2 or 3 correct spoken syllables with high accuracy. Not noisy background isn't guaranteed all spoken syllables are correct even on tester 1 and 2. But, the result is better than noisy and semi background. This is because all the training data is recorded on not noisy background. Also, noise removal or reduction is not applied when extraction process is done before training begin.

Tester 1 and 2 at most moment have good result than tester 3 and 4. But, at some moment tester 3 and 4 have better result than tester 1 and 2. The most good result on tester 1 and 2 is due to the training data is all contain tester 1 and 2. When tester 3 and tester 4 have better result it can be cause by the background condition or the microphone ability to record the speech.

Syllable ma, mu, di, unknown o, and unknown mi have bad result on most time compare to others. The unknown o and mi are caused by the unknown training data is random and mostly background noise instead of focusing o and mi. The machine learning model can't predict syllable ma, mu, and di well. Most times they have low accuracy but correct prediction or they predict the relative syllable, in example ri or i is the result on di. This can be improved by adding more the training data as the training data is still relatively small. An optimum machine learning model can also improve the result on them and also other syllables as well.

The random text to test generating the speech are 'diriku', 'aku makan ikan', 'di mana mamamu', and 'halo namaku ivan'

'diriku', 'aku makan ikan', and 'di mana mamamu' can be generated. But, 'halo namaku ivan' cannot. It happens because 'h' is not found in the database as the text analysed from the beginning. The application alert user on the browser that 'h' is not found and listed registered syllables. Actually 'h' itself is not listed on available syllables. As the text contains syllable that not listed on available syllables or even contains available syllables but not identified yet will alert user and stop the generating process.

The following is the result from 'diriku', 'aku makan ikan', and 'di mana mamamu' in sequence:

Figure 1: Waveform of 'diriku'.

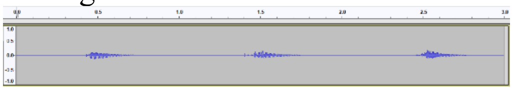


Figure 2: Waveform of 'aku makan ikan'.

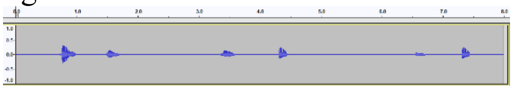
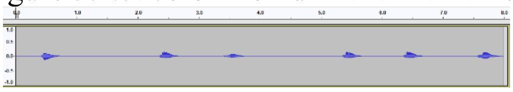
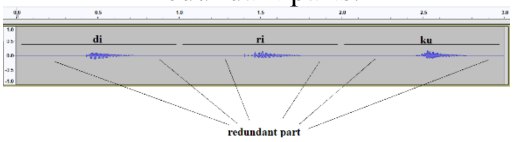


Figure 3: Waveform of 'di mana mamamu'.



As shown in figure above, each text can be distinguished very easily. As the recorded speech is take 1 second, the duration of the generated speech simply sums up of syllables in the text. Although the speech is generated well, can be heard and understood, there is still silence part or redundant part between the syllables except for spaces. It makes the speech become not fluently enough. This is because there is no processing to analysed and delete the redundant part in concatenative process or right after identifying the speech in the application.

Figure 4: Waveform of 'diriku' show syllables and redundant parts.



5 Discussion

In this section, there are some discussion why the proposed methods are used towards this research. The important points are:

- Concatenative Synthesis for Speech Synthesis
- Syllable for speech unit
- MFCC for Speech Recognition
- CNN for Machine Learning model

As in mimic speech, the speech is taken from recognized speech, concatenative synthesis can be the best approach other than the other approach. Besides it is the easiest way rather than the others, it also quick to develop. Articulatory and Formant synthesis are too complex because in need a lot of parameter to develop the vocal tract or set of rules that can fit to many speakers.

It is hard to find research regarding to exact amount of Bahasa Indonesia demisyllables, phonemes or smaller. Then, syllables are the best options for the speech unit as word need much more memory and less flexibility to generate speech in form of sentence.

MFCC has advantage over Linear Prediction Coefficients (LPC) [Dave & Pipalia, 2014]. It able to mimic human auditory system well. Although Perceptually Based Linear Predictive Analysis (PLP) also able to mimic human auditory system, MFCC is still be used due to its most common feature extraction. The technique is widely spread so that it easier to develop and debug.

Two main reason using CNN. First, the concatenative use speech unit. Each of the speech unit is small part of sentences or word. CNN have been considered an optimum way to small-footprint keyword, speech unit, spotting than other machine learning approach [Sainath & Parada, 2015]. Second, MFCC extraction process can be plot into spectogram. CNN is the most common way to solve or analyzed visual imagenery data, including spectogram.

6 Conclusion

There are several conclusions that can be obtained from this research:

- This application is able to collect speech data through website.
- This application is able to train machine learning model with collected data through command prompt.
- This application is able to mimic speech in Bahasa Indonesia through website.
- This application is able to recognize speech from record audio although the prediction and accuracy are not perfect. But, the machine learning able to predict well most of the times.
- This application is able to generate speech based on inputted text although the result still has silent or redundant part. But, the generated speech can be heard and understood.

In the future, a further research in the speech recognition is improving machine learning model. When there is no right or wrong in modelling the machine learning model, there is always optimal model to get the best prediction and accuracy. In the speech synthesis by removing some of silence or unused part of the speech and also reducing background will make generated speech more fluently and good to hear. In Bahasa Indonesia, a research in determining Bahasa Indonesia phonemes can be a big improvement since the application use syllables as concatenative synthesis.

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