IN ARTICULATION FOR DIVERSITY

Korin Richmond

The University of Edinburgh, UK

Abstract

Research comes thick and fast these days - flurries of papers and a deluge of results. Amongst the swathes of work we can frequently discern similar, repeating themes though. This is no surprise because researchers, like people more generally, have long tended to converge on common methods and flock to the hot-topics of the day. But this does seem particularly true of work in the most recent past, and especially so in areas related to machine learning such as speech technology. This can be both beneficial, but also problematic. In this talk, I will couch this (somewhat philosophical!) issue within a mix of concrete research examples that span from the use of articulatory data for speech technology to signal processing.

Short biography

Korin Richmond is a Reader in Speech Technology at the Centre for Speech Technology Research (CSTR), University of Edinburgh. He has been involved with human language and speech technology since 1991. His PhD (“Estimating Articulatory Parameters from the Acoustic Speech Signal”, awarded 2002), applied probabilistic modelling to the inversion mapping. His research has since broadened to multiple areas, though often with emphasis on exploiting articulation, including: statistical parametric speech synthesis (incl. work culminating in a joint IEEE Best Paper Award 2010); unit selection synthesis (implemented the "MULTISYN" module for the FESTIVAL 2.0 TTS system, which achieved joint third (of seventeen) in the international Blizzard Challenge 2009); and lexicography (jointly produced "COMBILEX", an advanced multi-accent lexicon, licensed by Google, Amazon, Microsoft etc.). Richmond's current work aims to develop ultrasound as a tool for child speech therapy.