

(WHAT IS) THE CONTRIBUTION OF PHONETICS TO CONTEMPORARY SPEECH SYNTHESIS RESEARCH (?)

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Kurzfassung: Recent advances in speech technology have significantly reduced the necessity for traditional phonetic system components or phonetic expertise, e.g. rule-based prosody models. We therefore need to ask the question, whether and how phonetics ought to play a role in ongoing and future speech synthesis development. The answer can be derived directly from a global analysis of the weaknesses in state-of-the-art systems. Their quality limitations unveil those areas where phonetics can still provide important impulses for system improvement. In this paper, it is argued that even if phoneticians "traditional" tasks have become less influential, with the advent of more dynamically flexible and interactive systems new challenges have arisen and need solutions within the humanities.

1 Phonetics in State-of-Art Speech Synthesis

Traditionally, phoneticians and engineers worked hand-in-hand on developing speech synthesis applications¹: A lot of explicit phonetic knowledge was needed to hand-craft or statistically motivate rules in order to predict formant trajectories, phone durations, intonation contours and lots of other phonetic detail (e.g. [11] or the collection of many phonetically inspired approaches to synthesis in [27]). With data storage becoming less of a problem, and with data driven methods showing their superior ability to detect regularities and interdependencies in masses of data, phonetic knowledge was still needed when doing symbolic annotations or developing cost functions. In unit selection approaches, phoneticians determined the optimal levels of granularity for segmentation, prediction, unit selection or concatenation. In some sense, the phonetician's task has moved from *building* models him- or herself towards supervising the training of model building algorithms. But even the necessity for this type of expertise has been called into question:

Fine grained phonetic data/topological rules are not necessarily required for generating plausible intelligible speech – as long as the carriers of those information are present in the text data (and corresponding speech recordings) used for training the system.' [25]

Thus, one could argue that whenever the need of building working applications rather than doing linguistic research is in the foreground, the phonetician's role has become minuscule at best, while the linguist remains somewhat needed for tagging the database. Roux's diagnosis seems to be correct when inspecting at the decreasing percentages of genuinely phonetic or linguistic publications at the latest international Speech Synthesis Workshops (cf. Table 1). It

¹Many of the thoughts in this paper were presented as an invited talk at the ESSV 2011 meeting in Aachen and published as an abstract in [12]

Contemporary Speech

O García



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Weymouth New Testament in Modern Speech, Acts Richard Francis Weymouth, 2020-03-16 The Weymouth New Testament in Modern Speech Acts represents a significant effort to render the biblical text of the Acts of the Apostles into contemporary language making the New Testament more accessible to modern readers Richard Francis Weymouth employs a lucid and engaging literary style characterized by its clarity and faithfulness to the original text This work emerges from the late 19th century desire for a more comprehensible scripture reflecting the broader context of biblical translations that aim to bridge the gap between ancient language and contemporary understanding Richard Francis Weymouth was a prominent scholar and biblical translator known for his passion for linguistics and his commitment to making the Scriptures accessible to all His academic background and experience as a pastor provided him with unique insights into the needs of the contemporary reader It is this confluence of expertise and pastoral sensitivity that shaped his translation philosophy emphasizing clarity and relevance without sacrificing the integrity of the original text This translation is highly recommended for readers seeking a deeper understanding of the Acts of the Apostles through a modern lens Weymouth's work is invaluable for both scholars and laypersons alike offering a fresh perspective that elucidates the early Christian narrative in a language that resonates with contemporary audiences The Persuasive Elements in Summation Speeches of Twenty Contemporary Jury Trials Donald Wade Hansell, 1963 *The Routledge Handbook of Public Speaking Research and Theory* Stevie M. Munz, Tim McKenna-Buchanan, Anna M. Wright, 2024-04-18 Providing a comprehensive survey of the empirical research theory and history of public speaking this handbook fills a crucial gap in public speaking pedagogy resources and provides a foundation for future research and pedagogical development Bringing together contributions from both up and coming and senior scholars in the field this book offers a thorough examination of public speaking guided by research across six key themes the history of public speaking the foundations of public speaking issues of diversity equity and inclusion considerations of public speaking across contexts assessment of public speaking and the future of public speaking in the twenty first century The evidence based chapters engage with a broad discussion of public speaking through a variety of viewpoints to demonstrate how subtopics are connected and fraught with complexity Contributors explore public speaking in education business and professional settings and political contexts and outline how skills learned through public speaking are applicable to interpersonal small group and business interactions Reinforcing the relevance importance and significance of public speaking in individual interpersonal social and cultural communication contexts this accessibly written handbook will be an indispensable resource for public speaking instructors and program administrators It will also be valuable reading for Communication Pedagogy and Introduction to Graduate Studies courses *Modern English* George Philip Krapp, 1909 Actors' and Performers' Yearbook 2023, 2022-10-31 This well established and respected directory supports actors in their training and search for work in theatre film TV radio and comedy It is the only directory to provide detailed information for

each listing and specific advice on how to approach companies and individuals saving hours of further research From agents and casting directors to producing theatres showreel companies photographers and much more this essential reference book editorially selects only the most relevant and reputable contacts for the industry Covering training and working in theatre film radio TV and comedy it contains invaluable resources such as a casting calendar and articles on a range of topics from your social media profile to what drama schools are looking for to financial and tax issues With the listings updated every year the Actors and Performers Yearbook continues to be the go to guide for help with auditions interviews and securing sustaining work within the industry An invaluable professional tool that anyone working in the industry will benefit from

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definitive statements of most candidates are still made in public addresses Friedenbergs examines the first public address made by an American presidential candidate on his own behalf The circumstances giving rise to William Henry Harrison s 1840 address and the themes that he developed in that address are strikingly contemporary serving as an appropriate prelude to the examinations of contemporary political speaking that follow Those examinations focus on notable campaign speeches by John F Kennedy Barry Goldwater Richard Nixon Ronald Reagan Bill and Hillary Clinton and George W Bush Each study examines a key event that foreshadowed the speech studied Each study presents a rhetorical biography of the speaker including a discussion of the speechwriting team and preparation techniques utilized by the speaker Each study presents a thorough study of the campaign context in which the speeches were presented Each also presents a close reading and rhetorical analysis of the speech itself and observations on the impact of the speech Cumulatively Friedenbergs studies help to illustrate how even in today s high tech political environment of 30 second ads and candidate Web sites public speeches continue to play a crucial role in political campaigning Of particular interest to scholars and students involved with political communication and political American campaigning

Pamphlet ,1914 Contemporary American Speeches Richard L. Johannesen,1997 A History of Modern Colloquial English Henry Cecil Wyld,1921 *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America* Modern Language Association of America,1900 Vols for 1921 1969 include annual bibliography called 1921 1955 American bibliography 1956 1963 Annual bibliography 1964 1968 MLA international bibliography The Acoustics of Crime Harry Hollien,2013-06-29 There are many reasons for writing a book this one was conceived and developed mainly for two First a new area has emerged from within the forensic sciences that of forensic phonetics As with all new specialties it is necessary to define it identify its boundaries justify its importance and compile a list of the elements it encompasses This book attempts to outline these several relationships Second over the past decade I have become fascinated with forensics in general and the rapidly expanded subarea of forensic phonetics in particular Admittedly the latter field is one that is not as yet sufficiently appreciated and much more needs to be known about its nature and extent Yet I have found it to be a most enjoyable area of study and my attempts to describe its domains were quite informative It was especially interesting to struggle with the interfaces between forensic phonetics and related fields and discover how they overlap Only a few comments will be made about the books contents here in the preface For one thing they are described in some detail in the first chapter The Encyclopaedia and Dictionary of Education Foster Watson,1921 *Proceedings of the High School Conference of ...* ,1928 **Proceedings of the High School Conference of November 1910-November 1931** ,1929 **The Modern Language Review** ,1922 The Origin and Philosophy of Language Ludwig Noiré,1917

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