Toward affective speech communication: Activities for affective speech research in Acoustic Information Processing Lab

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‘Affectiveness’ in speech becomes one of hot and challenging topics in the speech signal processing field. This is because; Speech has rich information such as para- and non-linguistic information as well as linguistic one. Performance of linguistic information processing like speech recognition/synthesis has become a practical level and the next hot topic is processing of para- and non-linguistic information. Appropriately controlling para- and non-linguistic information, affectiveness can be added to neutral speech. This makes communications between human and machine as well as among humans richer and richer.

This talk introduces activities of JAIST Acoustic Information Science Laboratory, Human Life Design Area, Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology that explore how to deal with para- and non-linguistic information. In our efforts to construct an effective 'affective speech communication system', we discuss (1) affective speech-to-speech translation, (2) story teller system, (3) singing voice synthesis, and (4) evacuation guidance system.

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References