TEXT TO SPEECH CONVERSION AND SPEECH SYNTHESIS: CURRENT STATE OF ART AND EXISTING TOOLS FOR DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

M. B. CHANDAK, R. V. DHARASKAR AND V. M. THAKRE

Abstract

Text to Speech conversion and Speech Synthesis are two major areas in which lot of research work is currently carried out. In these areas the product design are majorly useful to develop Human Computer Interfaces. The main application of the product is to interact with computers in voice form and receive the output from the computers in voice form. Similarly the products designed in this domain are capable of converting Text into Speech which is very useful utility to blind people. Some of the tools are also capable of converting Text of "native" languages (for example in India: Hindi or Marathi) to speech form. Due to this the products are becoming major tool to inculcate the IT learning in rural part of India. This paper contains detailed survey of the tools designed by various companies in different languages. The paper presented describes the current state of art in Text to Speech Conversion and Speech Synthesis tools and internet references, where these tools are freely available for review purposes.

Keywords: TTS Engine, Speech Synthesizer, Word Sense Disambiguation, Prosodic features, Part of Speech tagging, Text translation.