
Recognition and Organization of Speech and Audio

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Laboratory for Recognition and Organization of Speech and Audio
(Lab**ROSA**)

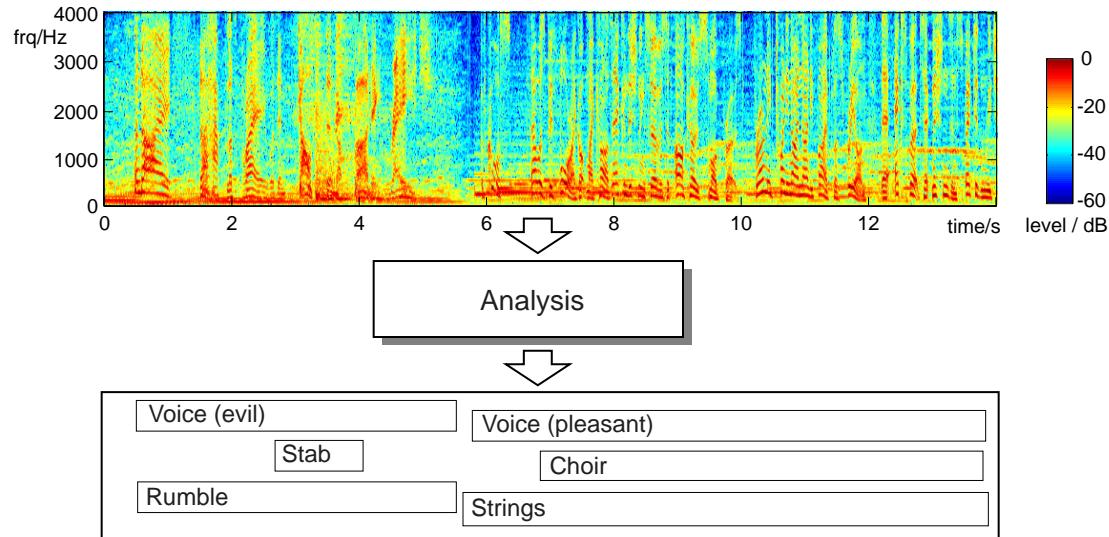
Electrical Engineering, Columbia University
<http://labrosa.ee.columbia.edu/>

Outline

- 1 Audio Organization**
- 2 Speech, music, and other**
- 3 Future work**



Audio Organization

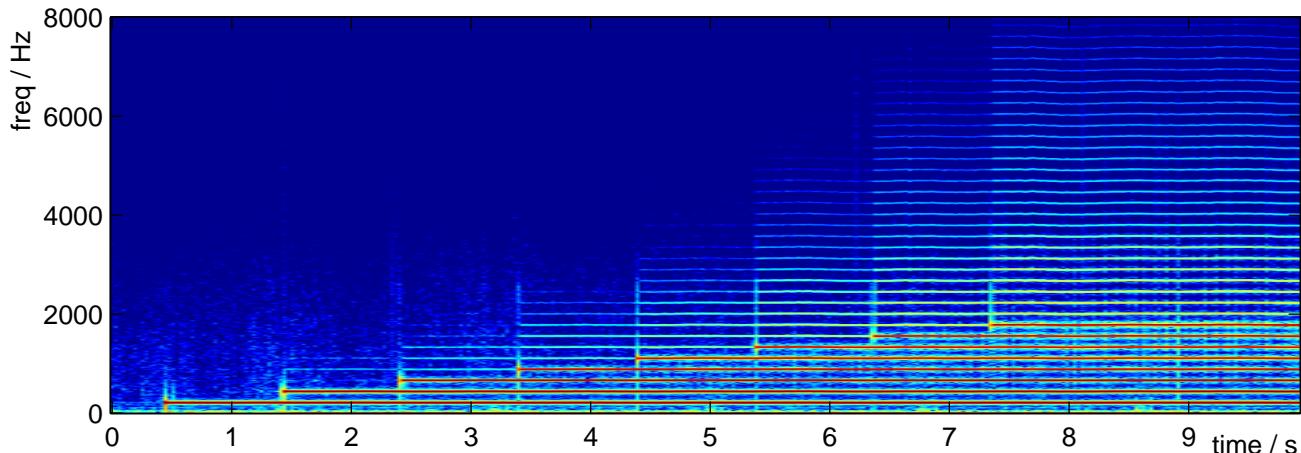


- **Analyzing and describing complex sounds:**
 - continuous sound mixture
→ distinct objects & events
- **Human listeners as the prototype**
 - strong subjective impression when listening
 - ..but hard to 'see' in signal



Human Sound Organization

- **Sound percepts depend on ‘grouping cues’**
 - common onset across frequency
 - common periodicity (fundamental)
 - spatial (binaural) cues, familiarity, ...



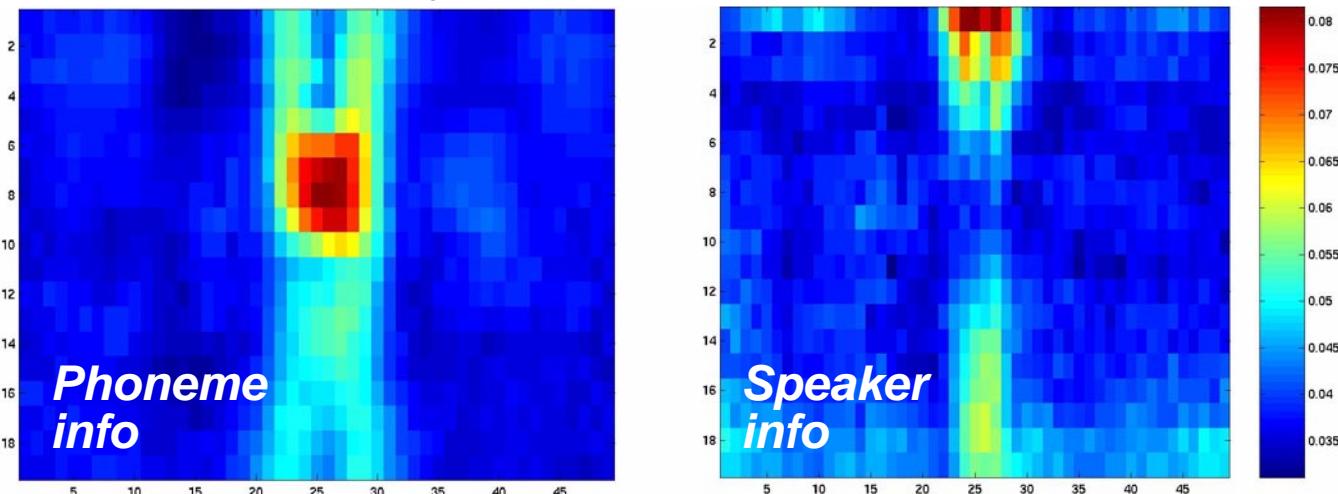
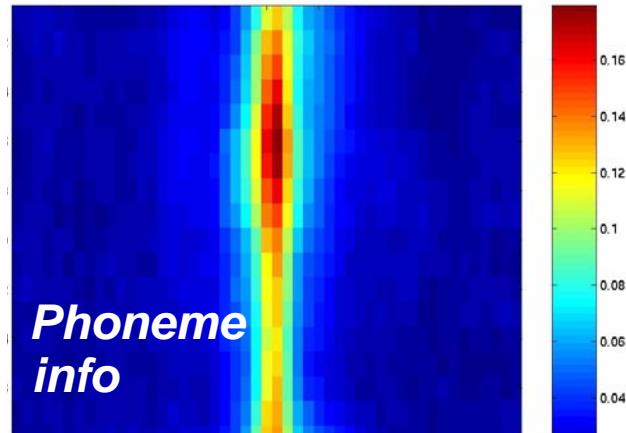
- **Hearing confers evolutionary advantage**
 - optimized to get ‘useful’ information from sound
- **Auditory perception is ecologically grounded**
 - scene analysis is preconscious (→ illusions)



Speech & Speaker recognition

(Patricia Scanlon)

- Mutual Information identifies where the information is in time/frequency:
 - little temporal structure averaged over all sounds
 - Better with just vowels:



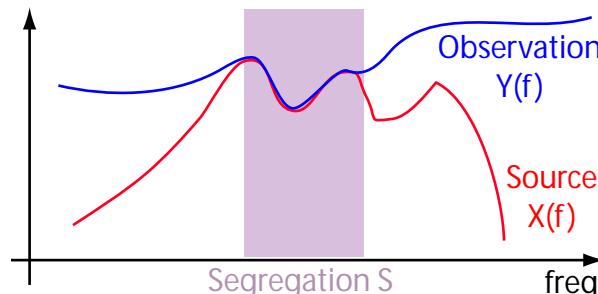
Speech Fragment recognition

(Barker & Cooke/Sheffield)

- Standard classification chooses between models M to match source features X

$$M^* = \operatorname{argmax}_M P(M|X) = \operatorname{argmax}_M P(X|M) \cdot \frac{P(M)}{\cancel{P(X)}}$$

- Mixtures → observed features Y , segregation S , all related by $P(X|Y, S)$



- spectral features allow clean relationship
- Joint classification of model and segregation:

$$P(M, S|Y) = P(M) \int P(X|M) \cdot \frac{P(X|Y, S)}{P(X)} dX \cdot P(S|Y)$$



The Meeting Recorder Project

(CompSci, ICSI, UW, IDIAP, SRI, IBM)

- **Microphones in conventional meetings**
 - for summarization/retrieval/behavior analysis
 - informal, overlapped speech
- **Data collection (ICSI, UW, IDIAP):**



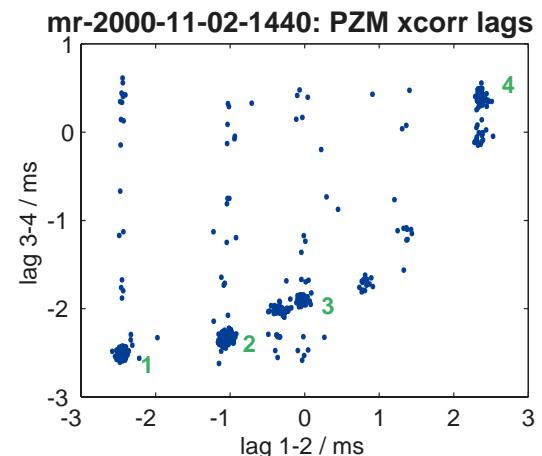
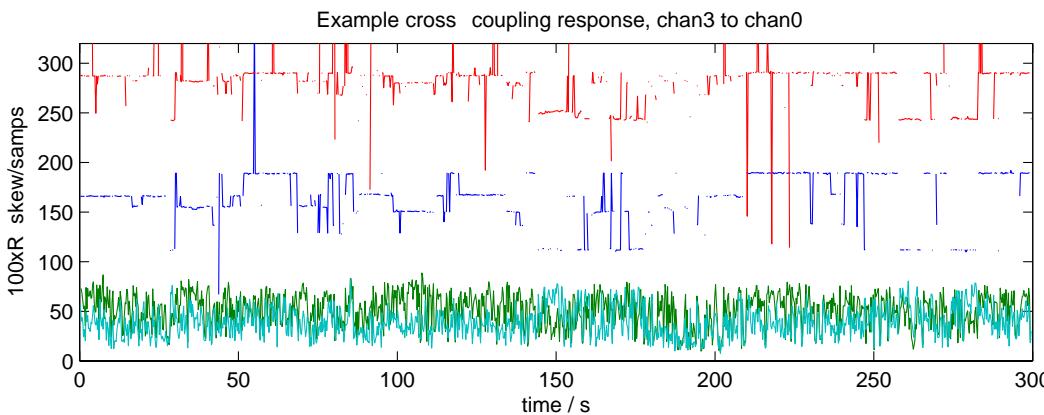
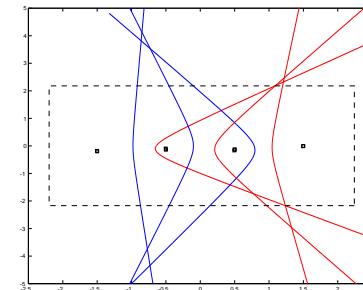
- 100 hours collected, ongoing transcription
- **NSF 'Mapping Meetings' project**
 - also interest from NIST, DARPA, EU



Tabletop mics: Turn detection

(Huan Wei Hee, Jerry Liu)

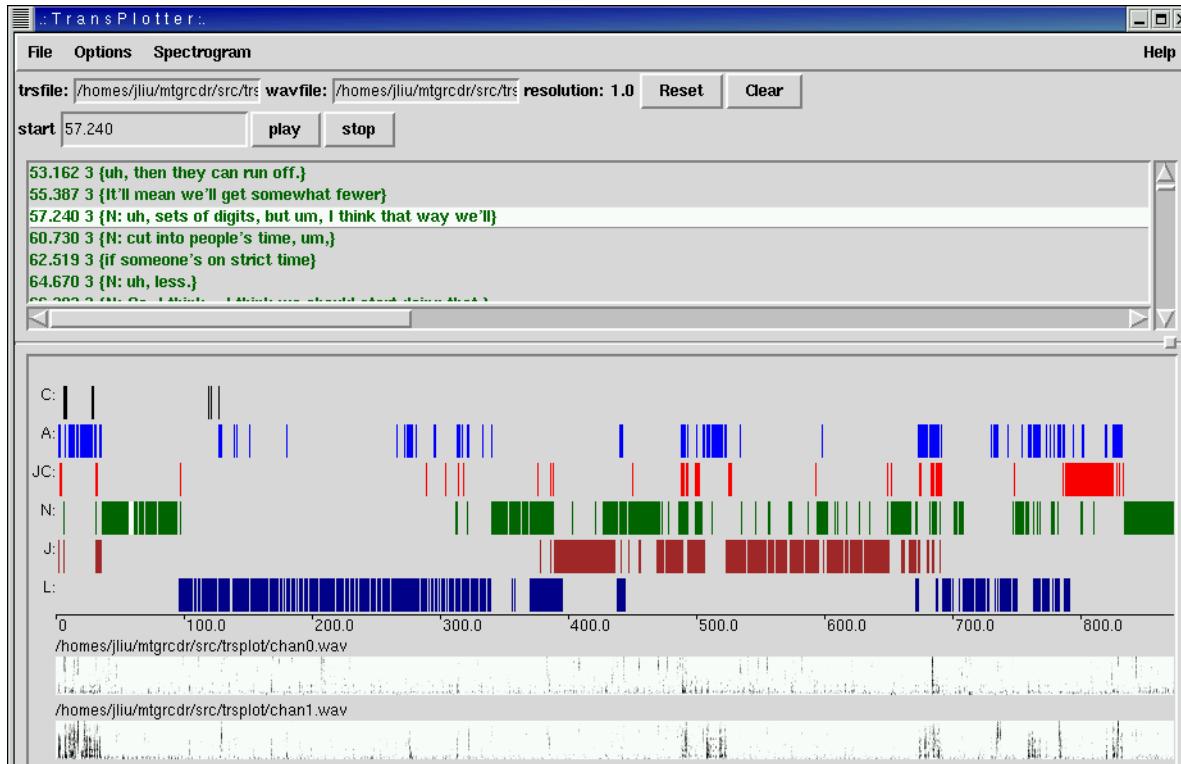
- 4 mics ~ 1m separated along center of table
 - 3 timing differences
 - slight U/D offset to disambiguate
- Hi-res cross-correlation for timings
 - use normalized peak value for confidence
 - cluster results



Visualization: transPlotter

(Jerry Liu)

- Speaker turn *patterns* are informative



- Browser for ‘high-level’ view, quick examination
 - snack, iwidgets based



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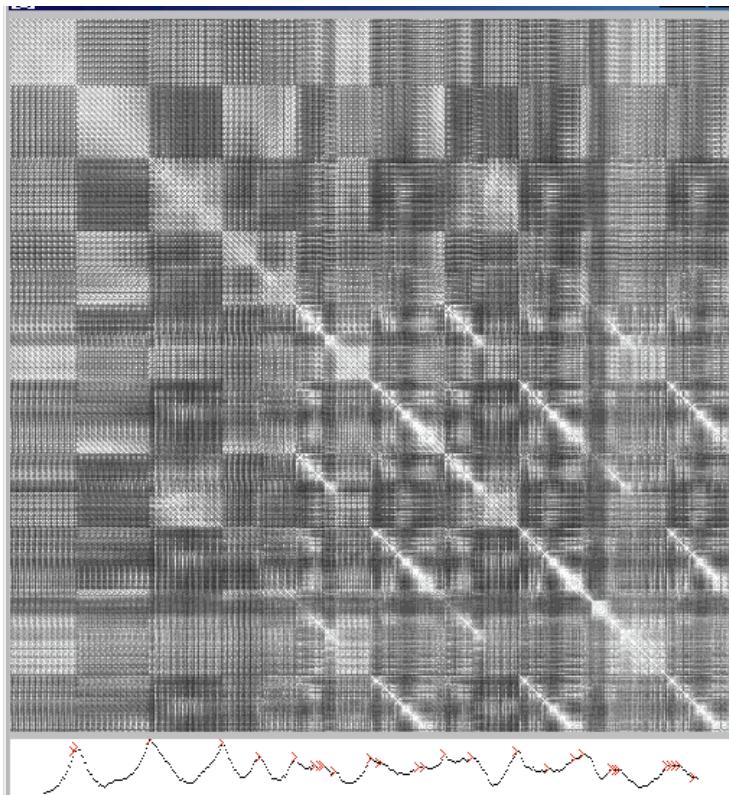
Advent Overview

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Music analysis: Structure recovery

(Rob Turetsky, Alex Sheh)

- Identify & match segment-level structure in music



- Foote similarity matrices point to repeated sections
- Chord segmentation using ASR ‘hidden state’ model (train with chord transcriptions)
- Note transcription/timing by aligning audio to resynthesized MIDI versions



Music Similarity & Recommendation

(Adam Berenzweig, Lawrence/NECI)

Playola

Search: Artist

[About] [Help] [Turn Samples Off] [Turn Debug On] [Turn Popups Off] [Logout dpwe]

Get Playola Selections: 20 songs you recently heard Go! Browse: Artists Albums Playlists Range: 0-C

Artist: The Woodbury Muffin Outbreak [band web page] [Play!] Playlist: -New Playlist- [Add to] [View]

	Song Title	Artist	Time	Rating
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Ballad of Tabitha	The Woodbury Muffin Outbreak	4:00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monkey Dreams	The Woodbury Muffin Outbreak	2:57	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A Cold Dark Night (Live)	The Woodbury Muffin Outbreak	3:13	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Leo, The Ballad of	The Woodbury Muffin Outbreak	1:48	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Baby I Forgot To Tell You	The Woodbury Muffin Outbreak	4:04	

Music-Space Browser [What's This?]

Feature	Less	More
AltNGrunge		
CollegeRock		
Country		
DanceRock		
Electronica		
MetalNPunk		
NewWave		
Rap		
RnBSoul		
SingerSongwriter		
SoftRock		
TradRock		
Female		
HiFi		

Similar Songs: [Play this list] [What's This?]

	Song Title	Artist	Distance	Good Match?
	Baby I Forgot To Tell You	The Woodbury Muffin Outbreak	0.00	
	Number five	Bizi Chyld	0.07	
	Waiting for Your Love	Toto	0.08	
	Extract from ICDI	Wendy Carlos	0.09	



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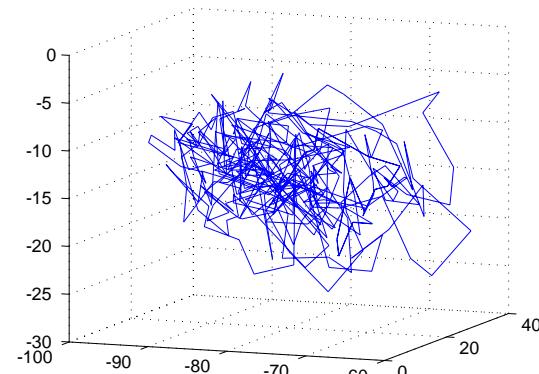
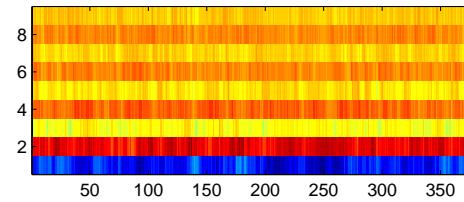
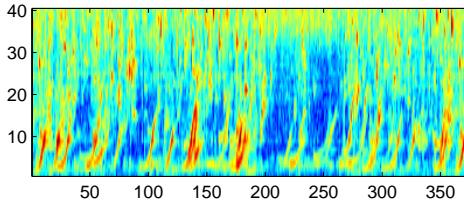
Advent Overview

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Sound texture modeling

(Marios Athineos)

- **Sound textures are important but neglected**
 - fire, rain, paper: no clear pitch, onsets, shape
 - typically modeled with filtered white noise
- **LPC on *spectrum* captures temporal structure:**
 - better parameterization of texture structure?



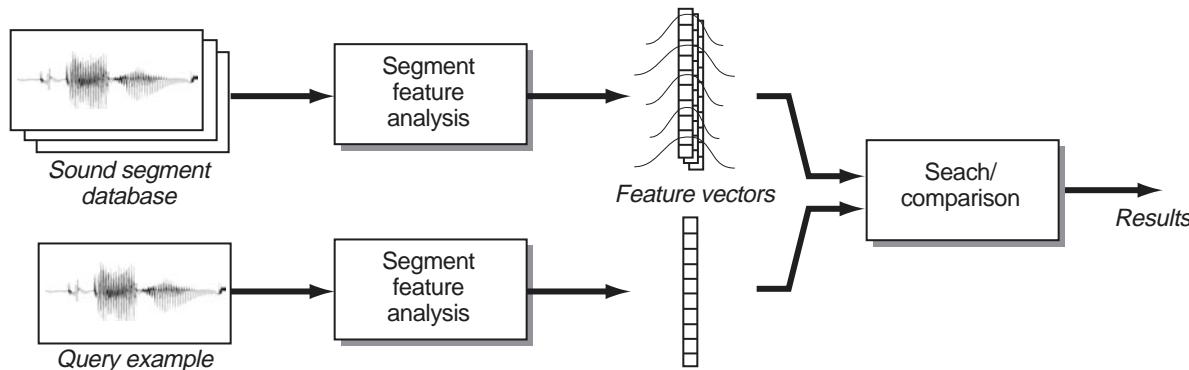
- generate variations?



Audio Information Retrieval

(Manuel Reyes)

- **Searching in a database of audio**
 - speech .. use ASR
 - text annotations .. search them
 - sound effects library?
- **e.g. Muscle Fish “SoundFisher” browser**
 - define multiple ‘perceptual’ feature dimensions
 - search by proximity in (weighted) feature space

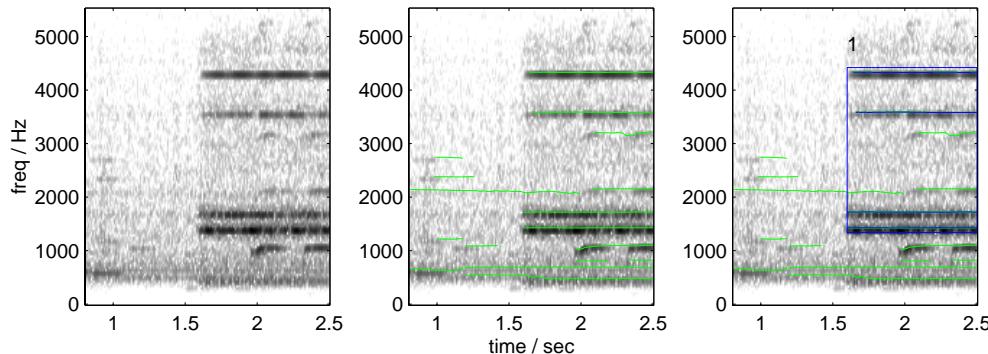


- features are ‘global’ for each soundfile,
no attempt to separate mixtures

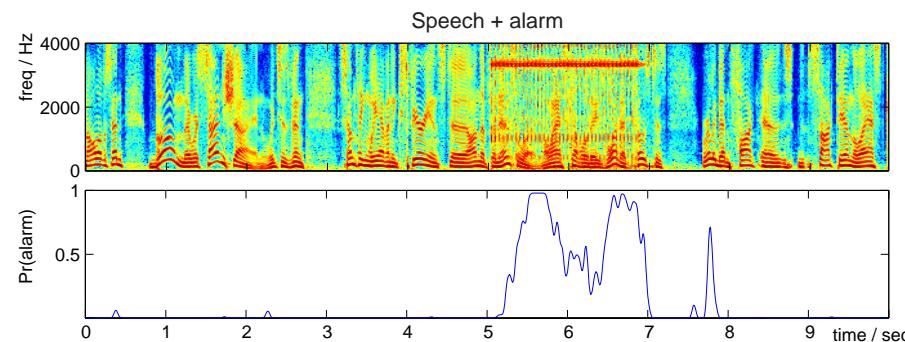


Alarm sound detection

- Alarm sounds have particular structure
 - people ‘know them when they hear them’
- Isolate alarms in sound mixtures



- sinusoid peaks have invariant properties



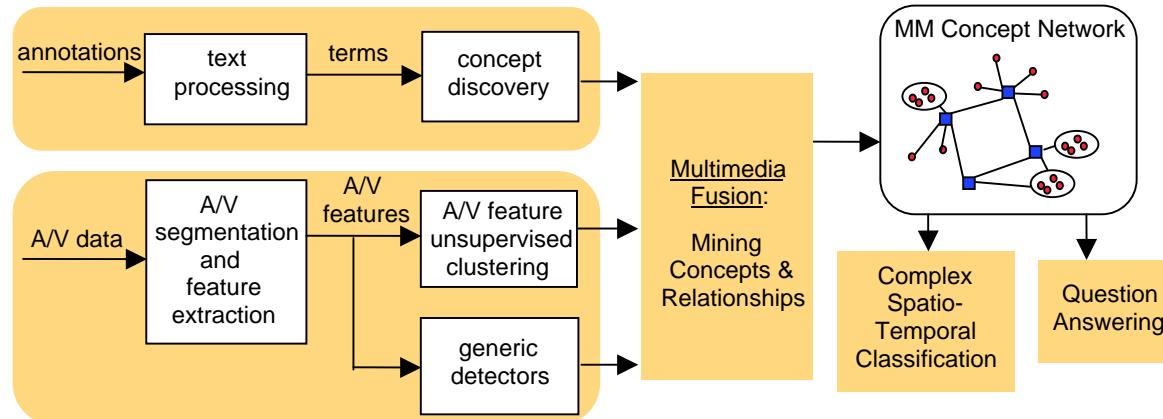
- cepstral coefficients are easy to model



Future work: Automatic audio-video analysis

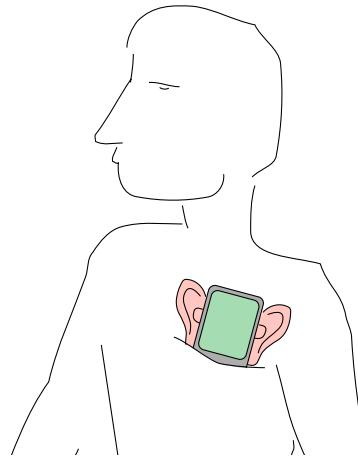
(Shih-Fu Chang, Kathy McKeown)

- **Documentary archive management**
 - huge ratio of raw-to-finished material
 - costly manual logging
- **Problem: term ↔ signal mapping**
 - training corpus of past annotations
 - interactive semi-automatic learning



The ‘Machine listener’

- **Goal: An auditory system for machines**
 - use same environmental information as people
- **Signal understanding**
 - monitor for particular sounds
 - real-time description
- **Scenarios**



- personal listener → summary of your day
- future prosthetic hearing device
- autonomous robots



LabROSA Summary

DOMAINS

- Broadcast
- Movies
- Lectures
- Meetings
- Personal recordings
- Location monitoring

ROSA

- Object-based structure discovery & learning
- Speech recognition
- Speech characterization
- Nonspeech recognition
- Scene analysis
- Audio-visual integration
- Music analysis

APPLICATIONS

- Structuring
- Search
- Summarization
- Awareness
- Understanding

