NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS

Our contacts with other research institutions in Sweden and internationally are well developed. Of major importance in this respect is our scientific journal, the TMH-QPSR, which has been published on line only from January 2001. Abstracts from the contributions in 2001 are included in this report.

We have several guest researchers staying half a year or longer, and we participate in a substantial number of international symposia, conferences, and workshops, as listed in the following sections.

Speech group

The Speech group is engaged in European co-operation within the COST-program (European Co-operation in the Field of Science and Technical Research) in projects on

- *speech recognition* (COST 249, Continuous speech recognition over the telephone
- *speaker recognition* (COST 250, Speaker recognition in telephony), and
- *speech synthesis* (COST 258 - Naturalness of synthetic speech).

We also participate in two new, related actions that started recently

- COST 275 - Biometrics-Based Recognition of People over the Internet
- COST 278 - Spoken Language Interaction in Telecommunication.

We have also been part of several other European projects, such as projects on

- *speaker recognition* (PICASSO),
- *spoken dialogue* (DISC).

The department is the Swedish managing node for *Elsnet*, the *EU*-sponsored European Network for Language and Speech Research.

Within the current EC-program *TIDE* (Technology Initiative for Disabled and Elderly), we have been engaged in *ENABL* (ENABler for computer-based vocational tasks with Language and Speech).

Another exponent of increased European co-operation in the speech research area is *ISCA* (International Speech Communication Association), where we are represented on the board.

Outside Europe, we have contacts with several groups on a non-formal basis. Exchanges of students, guest researchers, shorter visits, and exchange of reports is the normal mode of operation. Of special interest is the long-lasting close contact with speech researchers at *MIT*, USA, and the increased contacts with *ATR*, Japan.

In the context of *ISAAC* (International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication), we have been very active, having had a member on the board of both the international organisation and the Swedish chapter.

We have had an important role in extending interdisciplinary contacts within Sweden, e.g., through almost weekly demonstrations, lectures, and open-house activities for schools and professional organisations.

Swedish dialogue systems (*SDS*) has been studied in co-operation with Linköping, Lund and Gothenburg Universities. This work was carried out within the *"Language Technology Program"* jointly sponsored by *NUTEK* (Swedish National Board for Industrial and Technical Development) and *HSFR* (Swedish Council for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences). This program has now ended. We are part of a continuation in the form of a national research school.

Contacts with Linköping University have been active, with joint education in speech technology and a project on spoken dialogue modelling.

We have also close technical and scientific contacts with

- Telia Promotor (Infovox) AB, which markets speech technology products based on our research and development
- The research department of Telia, the Swedish Telecom (Telia Research AB)
- Special Instrument AB, which markets the tactile aid "Minivib4" and some of our aids for speech training;
- Rehabmodul AB
- Svenska ENTER Rehabilitering AB
- Fonema AB
- Statens Institut för Handikappfrågor i Skolan (SIH, the National Swedish Agency for Special Education), which market aids for motorically handicapped.

Within CTT we have during 2001 had formal co-operation with 22 companies:

- Ericsson Radio Systems AB
- Hjälpmedelsinstitutet
- Levande Böcker i Norden AB
- Luftfartsverket
- PipeBeach AB
- Polycom Technologies AB
- SAAB
- SAAB Tech Systems
- Svenska Handelsbanken AB
- Sveriges Radio AB
- Babel Infovox AB
- Telia Research AB
- Trio Informationssystem AB
- Vattenfall AB
- ABB Automation Technology Products
- Cap Gemini Ernst & Young
- Flextronics Design
- Interverbum
- Just Direct
- Phoneticom
- Voxi AB
- Voxway AB

Music group

Research has been performed together with the following institutions:

- Abteilung für Phoniatrie und Pädaudiologie, Medizinische Fakultät der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Universitäts-Klinikum Charité, HNO-Klinik, Germany
- Austrian Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Vienna, Austria
- Department of Musicology, University of Tartu, Finland
- Det Jyske Konservatorium, Aarhus, Denmark
- Division of Phoniatrics, Bispebjergs Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Hochschule Musik und Theater, Zurich, Germany
- Institut für Stimmforschung, Hochschule für Musik, Dresden, Germany
- Division of Experimental Mechanics, Luleå Technical University, Sweden
- Department of Psychology, Uppsala University, Sweden
- Vanderbilt Voice Center, Nashville, USA

Hearing technology group

The Hearing Technology group is engaged in European co-operation as a full partner within OLP (Ortho-Logo-Pedia). The OLP project is coordinated by the Institute for Language and Speech Processing, Athens, Greece, with participants from France, Greece, Spain, Sweden, and the U.K. We have a close co-operation with the National Acoustic Laboratories (NAL) in Sydney and also maintain an exchange program with AG Medizinische Physik at the University of Oldenburg.

We have close contacts with the hearing-instrument industry. GNResound has supported some of our work on signal processing algorithms for hearing aids.

We co-operate with Swedish audiological clinics and with all educational programmes for clinical general audiologists in Sweden. We participate in teaching and research supervision related to signal processing in hearing aids and methods for the fitting and evaluation of personal aids for hearing-impaired persons. We also co-operate with teachers at schools for the deaf concerning methods for speech training.

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