

**Shun Hing Distinguished Lecture Series 2007****Prosody Generation for Communicative
Speech Synthesis**

by

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**Date:** 09 February 2007, Friday**Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**Venue:** Conference Room, SHIAE, Room702 William M.W. Mong Engg. Bld., CUHK**(light refreshment will be served before lecture)***Abstracts**

A corpus-based prosody modeling is proposed aiming at F0 control for communicative speech synthesis. For input information in communicative speech synthesis, input word attributes are employed. Two experimental results are introduced to show the possibility of communicative speech prosody control from input word attributes. The results showed that F0 height, F0 dynamic patterns and duration could be consistently controlled by the word attributes. The positive-negative characteristics can be controlled by F0 height, while confident-doubtful, allowable-unacceptable characteristics were reflected in F0 dynamic patterns and duration. Through these analyses, the correlations between perceptual impressions on output speech and input word attributes are turned to be useful for F0 characteristics prediction from input word attributes.

Biography of the Speaker

Yoshinori Sagisaka, Professor, Global Information and Telecommunication Institute & Language and Speech Science Research Labs., Waseda University.

Yoshinori Sagisaka has been a professor of GITI Waseda University since 2001. He has been working in speech and language science and engineering field for almost thirty years. During this period, he has worked at Electrical Communication Res. Labs. (1975-1986), ATR (1986-), Edinburgh University CSTR (1988), AT&T Bell Labs. (1993), Kobe University (1997-2001) and Waseda University (2001-). His research interests cover speech synthesis, prosody modeling, speech recognition, speech perception and language processing. He has been engaged in quite a few international research activities including IEEE Signal Processing Society Committee Member (1990-1994), Speech Communication Journal Editorial Board (1993-), France Telecom CNET(Centre Nationale d'Etudes des Telecommunications) Conseiller Scientifique (1993), KTH (Royal Institute of Stockholm University) CTT (Speech Technology Center) International Advisory Committee Member (1993-), Computer Speech and Language Journal Editorial Board (1994-), Natural Language Engineering Journal Editorial Board (1994-2004), Permanent Council for the Organization of International Conferences on Spoken Language Processing Member (1998-), and Speech Communication Journal Chief Co-Editor(2001-2004) and contributed as an international scientific committee member of many speech related conferences and workshops.