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Organization

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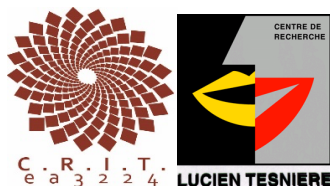
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Automatic generation of intonation marks and prosodic segmentation in Belarusian, Yauheniya Zianouka, Dzmitry Dzenisiuk, David Latyshevich, Yuras Hetsevich

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Abstract

Automatically localizing intonation boundaries in a text is one of the main tasks of prosodic processors, considered as a mandatory unit in any speech recognition system. The syntagmatic articulation of the speech flow allocates minimal semantic units and reflects the structural and semantic components of utterances. The automatic selection of syntagmas is complicated by the lack of deep parsing, leading to the search for new approaches to the development of machine algorithms, methods and techniques by defining sequences of linguistic elements associated with certain semantic relationships.

To solve the problem of automatic delimitation in NooJ, we have collected a Belarusian text corpus from the medical domain. It comprises texts of news from medical online portals and consists of nearly 500 texts, 120.000 word forms, more than 8.000 sentences. This work is a continuation of a previous research in which we have analyzed sentence parts separated by punctuation and developed most punctuation marks for such sentences (up to 5 words, but the most frequent being three-word syntagmas). Now, we are planning to expand our study with texts in which the number of syntagmas in a sentence can significantly exceed the number of punctuation marks.

The delimitation of syntagmas is connected with the sentence structure, the word order, the presence of homogeneous members, the nature of word combinations and other linguistic parameters. All the mentioned components should be taken into account and noted in separate syntagmas during developing new syntactic and morphological NooJ grammars.

Hence, we hope to improve the synthetic speech generated by Belarusian text-to-speech systems by using prepared algorithms and grammars from Belarusian medical domain corpus in NooJ for the automatic generation of prosodic transcription of long sentences.

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