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Note: Natural Japanese speech data belonging to ATR Ximera corpus are deleted in this public available version





Fundamental Frequency Modeling for Neural-Network-based Statistical Parametric Speech Synthesis

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CONTENTS

Introduction

- Background
- Topic
- Thesis outline

Issues and methods

Summary



Text-to-speech (TTS)

TTS pipeline ^[1,2]



[1] Taylor, P. (2009). Text-to-Speech Synthesis.

[2] Dutoit, T. (1997). An Introduction to Text-to-speech Synthesis.

[3] Tokuda, K., et al., (2013). Speech Synthesis Based on Hidden Markov Models. Proceedings of the IEEE, 101(5), 1234–1252.

[4] Zen, H., et al. (2009). Statistical parametric speech synthesis. Speech Communication, 51, 1039–1064.

Text-to-speech (TTS)

Neural-network-based acoustic models ^[5,6,7]



[5] H. Zen, A. Senior, and M. Schuster. Statistical parametric speech synthesis using deep neural networks. In Proc. ICASSP, pages 7962–7966, 2013.

[6] Z. H. Ling, et al. Deep learning for acoustic modeling in parametric speech generation: A systematic review of existing techniques and future trends. IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, 32(3):35–52, 2015.

[7] Y. Fan, Y. Qian, F. Xie, and F. K. Soong. TTS synthesis with bidirectional LSTM based recurrent neural networks. In Proc. Interspeech, pages 1964–1968, 2014.

Topic Neural F0 modeling for TTS





made the marmalade.

[8] Nanette Veilleux, et al. 6.911 Transcribing Prosodic Structure of Spoken Utterances with ToBI. January IAP 2006. https://ocw.mit.edu. License: Creative Commons BY-NC-SA.

Topic Issues to be addressed



[9] M. S. Ribeiro. Suprasegmental representations for the modeling of fundamental frequency in statistical parametric speech synthesis. PhD thesis, The University of Edinburgh, 2018.

Thesis outline

Conventional approaches ^[7] (Table 3.1 in thesis)



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ts

162

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ts

163

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194

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195

T frames (time steps)

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228

227

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Thesis outline

Three issues

Issue 2: Temporal dependency?

Issue 3: Frame-by-frame processing is efficient?



1 1 1 1 1 2 ... 1 ••• ••• ... * ... ••• ギ ッ ギ ッ ッ ッ ワ ••• ••• ••• ts ts u u w ••• ••• ••• 162 163 194 195 196 227 228

T frames

Issue 1: Joint modeling?

Thesis outline (Chapter 4)

On issue 1: Joint modeling of F0 and spectral features?



- Investigation using highway networks
 - Spectral features are prioritized
 - Different input/hidden features for F0 and spectral
- × Sub-optimal for F0 modeling
- Only F0 as target

Novel analysis

Thesis outline (Chapter 5-6)

On issue 2: Temporal dependency?



- Evidence from random sampling
- × RNN ignores temporal dependency

DAR

Thesis outline (Chapter 5-6)

On issue 2: Temporal dependency?

- Shallow autoregressive model (SAR)
 - Short-term dependency
- Deep autoregressive model (DAR)
 - Longer dependency & best results & random sampling

Novel models & interpretations

Thesis outline (Chapter 7)

On issue 3: Frame-by-frame processing?



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 ts	ts	 u	u	g	 i
 162	163	 194	195	196	 227



Thesis outline (Chapter 7)

On issue 3: Frame-by-frame processing?



Two-stage model: efficient & interpretable & multi-level Novel model

Thesis outline





Updated results



CONTENTS

Introduction

□ Issue 1: joint modeling of F0 and spectral features

Issues and methods

Summary

Motivation

?

Common approach ^[5, 7, 11]



Sharing hidden features ?

More evidence?

Empirical results against joint learning ^[5, 12]

[5] H. Zen, A. Senior, and M. Schuster. Statistical parametric speech synthesis using deep neural networks. In Proc. ICASSP, pages 7962–7966, 2013. [7] Y. Fan, Y. Qian, F. Xie, and F. K. Soong. TTS synthesis with bidirectional LSTM based recurrent neural networks. In Proc. Interspeech, pages 1964–1968, 2014. [11] H. Zen and A. Senior. Deep mixture density networks for acoustic modeling in statistical parametric speech synthesis. In Proc. ICASSP, pages 3844–3848, 2014. [12] S. Kang and H. Meng. Statistical parametric speech synthesis using weighted multi-distribution deep belief network. In Proc. Interspeech, pages 1959–1963, 2014.



- Joint (multi-task) learning
 - ? Beneficial for both targets
 - ? Sharing hidden features

- Model and tools:
 - Highway network ^[13]
 - Histogram & sensitivity tools

Method

Definition of highway network



Highway network for acoustic modeling



 Spectral features - BAP: band aperiodicity coefficients ^[14]

[14] K. Tokuda, T. Kobayashi, T. Masuko, and S. Imai. Mel-generalized cepstral analysis a unified approach. In Proc. ICSLP, pages 1043–1046, 1994

[15] H. Kawahara, J. Estill, and O. Fujimura. Aperiodicity extraction and control using mixed mode excitation and group delay manipulation for a high quality speech analysis, modification

and synthesis system straight. In Second International Workshop on Models and Analysis of Vocal Emissions for Biomedical Applications, 2001. [16] H. Zen and T. Toda. An overview of Nitech HMM-based speech synthesis system for Blizzard Challenge 2005. In Proc. Interspeech, pages 93–96, 2005.

Analysis tools

1. Histogram of gate vectors g



2. Sensitivity of g to different linguistic features (Sec. 4.3.2)

Experiments

- Configuration
 - English, 16 hours Data: •
 - Feature: MGC, BAP, F0 (Interpolated F0 + voicing (U/V))
 - •
- Metric: Root mean square error Correlation coefficients

(RMSE) (CORR)

- Three models:
 - Single-stream feedforward network •
 - Single-stream highway network
 - Multi-stream highway network •
- Two tests:
 - Fixed layer width, varying network depth 1.
 - Fixed network depth, varying layer width 2.



Experiments

Objective results: increasing network depth



- Network depth: Number of tanh-based transformation layers
- Single-stream network prioritizes MGC?

Experiments

Objective results: increasing width (depth = 14)



- MS₃: [MGC 512] [F0 382]
- MS₄: [MGC 768] [F0 512]

Experiments

\Box Histogram of g



MGC

F0

BAP

Experiments

\Box Histogram of g

Multi-stream highway (depth 14, 7 blocks)



- $oldsymbol{g} pprox oldsymbol{1}$ Non-linear transformation $oldsymbol{g} pprox oldsymbol{0}$ No transformation
- Different hidden features for MGC and F0



Experiments

\Box Histogram of g

• Single-stream highway (depth 14, 7 blocks)



- Similar to MGC sub-net in multi-stream highway
- Single-stream network prioritizes MGC?



Summary

Answer to issue 1

Joint (multi-task) learning

- ? Beneficial for both FO and spectral features
- ? They share hidden features

Negative evidence

- Joint learning (single-stream network) prioritizes spectral features
- They use different hidden features
- They use different input features (Sec.4.4.3)
- Results on English and Japanese corpora (Sec.4.5)

NOT for the sake of F0 modeling!

Only F0 modeling in the following chapters

□ F0 is useful for MGC modeling? How to do? (slides appendix) 📌

CONTENTS

Introduction

□ Issue 1: joint modeling of F0 and spectral features

□ Issue 2: temporal dependency modeling of F0 contours

Issues and methods

Summary

ISSUE 2: TEMPORAL DEPENDENCY?

Motivation

Baseline RNN model ^[17]

$$\widehat{o}_{1:T} = \{\widehat{o}_1, \cdots, \widehat{o}_T\}$$

F0 contour

Recurrent neural network (RNN)

 $egin{array}{c} & & \\ \mathsf{Linguistic} \ \mathsf{features} \\ & \boldsymbol{x}_{1:T} = \{ \boldsymbol{x}_1, \cdots, \boldsymbol{x}_T \} \end{array}$

T: number of frames (time steps)

^[17] R. Fernandez, et. al. Prosody contour prediction with long short- term memory, bi-directional, deep recurrent neural networks. In Proc. Interspeech, pages 2268–2272, 2014.

ISSUE 2: TEMPORAL DEPENDENCY?

Motivation

Baseline RNN model

• Learn the correlation between o_{t_1} and o_{t_2} , $t_2 \neq t_1$

ISSUE 2: TEMPORAL DEPENDENCY?

Motivation

Baseline RNN model



[18] C. M. Bishop. Mixture Density Networks. Technical report, Aston University, 2004.

[19] C. M. Bishop. Neural networks for pattern recognition. Oxford university press, 1995.

[20] M. Schuster. Better generative models for sequential data problems: Bidirectional recurrent mixture density networks. In Proc. NIPS, pages 589–595, 1999.

ISSUE 2: TEMPORAL DEPENDENCY? Motivation

🖵 Initial answer

Temporal dependency is ignored by RNN/RMDN

$$p(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T}|\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T};\boldsymbol{\Theta}) = \prod_{t=1}^{T} p(\boldsymbol{o}_t|\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T};\boldsymbol{\Theta}) = \prod_{t=1}^{T} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{o}_t;\boldsymbol{\mu}_t,\sigma\boldsymbol{I})$$

• Evidence from random sampling



ISSUE 2: TEMPORAL DEPENDENCY? Motivation

Initial answer

Temporal dependency is ignored by RNN/RMDN

Better models?



CONTENTS

Introduction

□ Issue 1: joint modeling of F0 and spectral features

Issue 2: temporal dependency modeling of F0 contours

- SAR and extension
- DAR

Issues and methods

Summary
SAR

Definition



$$p(o_{1:T}|x_{1:T}) = \prod_{t=1}^{T} p(o_t|o_{t-K:t-1}, x_{1:T})$$

SAR

Definition



$$p(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T} | \boldsymbol{x}_{1:T}; \boldsymbol{\Theta}, \boldsymbol{\Psi}) = \prod_{t=1}^{T} p(\boldsymbol{o}_t | \boldsymbol{o}_{t-K:t-1}, \boldsymbol{x}_{1:T}; \boldsymbol{\Theta}, \boldsymbol{\Psi})$$
$$= \prod_{t=1}^{T} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{o}_t; \boldsymbol{\mu}_t + f_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{t-K:t-1}), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t)$$

$$f_{\Psi}(o_{t-K:t-1}) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} a_k \odot o_{t-k} + b$$
 Trainable parameters

- Time invariant $\boldsymbol{\Psi} = \{\boldsymbol{a}_1, \cdots, \boldsymbol{a}_K, \boldsymbol{b}\}$
- *K*: hyper-parameter

SAR

□ Interpretation 1 (Sec. 5.3)



Interpretation 2 (Sec. 5.3)



SAR

Interpretation (Sec. 5.3)

• SAR = Linear transformation + RMDN



Motivation

• SAR -> Non-linear transformation + RMDN?



• Yes, if $f_{\Psi}(o_{1:T})$ is invertible and `simple'

Definition

$$p_o(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T}|\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T};\boldsymbol{\Theta},\boldsymbol{\Psi}) = p_c(\boldsymbol{c}_{1:T} = f_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T})|\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T};\boldsymbol{\Theta}) \left| \det \frac{\partial f_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T})}{\partial \boldsymbol{o}_{1:T}} \right|$$

	SAR	eSAR
$oldsymbol{c}_{1:T} = f_{oldsymbol{\Psi}}(oldsymbol{o}_{1:T})$	$oldsymbol{c}_t = oldsymbol{o}_t - \sum_{k=1}^K oldsymbol{a}_k \odot oldsymbol{o}_{t-k}$	$\boldsymbol{c}_t = \boldsymbol{o}_t - \mathrm{RNN}_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:t-1}, t)$
$\widehat{\boldsymbol{o}}_{1:T} = f_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}^{-1}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{c}}_{1:T})$	$\widehat{oldsymbol{o}}_t = \widehat{oldsymbol{c}}_t + \sum_{k=1}^K oldsymbol{a}_k \odot \widehat{oldsymbol{o}}_{t-k}$	$\widehat{\boldsymbol{o}}_t = \widehat{\boldsymbol{c}}_t + \text{RNN}_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{o}}_{1:t-1}, t)$
$\det rac{\partial f_{oldsymbol{\Psi}}(oldsymbol{o}_{1:T})}{\partial oldsymbol{o}_{1:T}}$	$\det \frac{\partial f_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T})}{\partial \boldsymbol{o}_{1:T}} = 1$	$\det \frac{\partial f_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T})}{\partial \boldsymbol{o}_{1:T}} = 1$

• Volume-preserving ^[24]

Implementation



 $p_o(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T}|\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T};\boldsymbol{\Theta},\boldsymbol{\Psi}) = p_c(\boldsymbol{c}_{1:T} = f_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T})|\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T};\boldsymbol{\Theta})$

Implementation



 $p_o(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T}|\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T};\boldsymbol{\Theta},\boldsymbol{\Psi}) = p_c(\boldsymbol{c}_{1:T} = f_{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T})|\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T};\boldsymbol{\Theta})$

ISSUE 2: TEMPORAL DEPENDENCY? Summary of SAR

Theoretically appealing



Performance for F0 modeling (model details later)



Performance for MGC modeling

Better than RNN/RMDN ^[25, 26]

[25] X. Wang, J. Lorenzo-Trueba, S. Takaki, L. Juvela, and J. Yamagishi. A comparison of recent waveform generation and acoustic modeling methods for neural-network-based speech synthesis. In Proc. ICASSP, pages 4804–4808, 2018.

[26] X. Wang, S. Takaki, and J. Yamagishi. An autoregressive recurrent mixture density network for para- metric speech synthesis. In Proc. ICASSP, pages 4895–4899, 2017.

CONTENTS

Introduction

□ Issue 1: joint modeling of F0 and spectral features

Issue 2: temporal dependency modeling of F0 contours

- SAR and extension
- DAR

Issues and methods

Summary

DAR

Motivation

Are SAR and eSAR sufficiently good?



Motivation

DAR

• Random sampling on SAR and eSAR?

$$\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T}$$
 $\boldsymbol{\longrightarrow}$ $\boldsymbol{c}_{1:T} = f_{\boldsymbol{\Phi}}(\boldsymbol{o}_{1:T})$ $\boldsymbol{c}_{1:T}$ $\boldsymbol{\longrightarrow}$ $\prod_{t=1}^{T} p(\boldsymbol{c}_t | \boldsymbol{x}_{1:T}; \boldsymbol{\Theta})$ $\boldsymbol{\longleftarrow}$ $\boldsymbol{x}_{1:T}$

- SAR: linear $f_{\Phi}(\cdot)$ (Sec. 6.1)
- eSAR: non-linear but a special form

Non-linear and non-invertible AR transformation?



DAR

Definition



DAR

Definition



- DAR is more general than SAR (Sec 6.2.2 & slides, toy examples)
 - 1. Longer-time dependency
 - 2. Non-linear dependency

DAR

Implementation (Sec. 6.3)



Experiment

Models

- Data and features
 - Data: Japanese, 48 hours
 - Feature: F0 (interpolated F0 value 1 dim + U/V 1 dim)

SAR eSAR RNN RMDN **F**0 **F**0 **F**0 F0 Layer size GMM 2mix GMM 2mix GMM 2mix normflow V A linear linear linear linear normflow 128 bi-LSTM bi-LSTM bi-LSTM bi-LSTM normflow 256 bi-LSTM bi-LSTM bi-LSTM bi-LSTM uni-LSTM 64 linear 2 FF FF FF FF 512 ▲ 512 FF FF FF FF Linguistic features

FF: feedforward with tanh-activation function

Experiment

- Data and features
 - Data: Japanese, 48 hours
 - Feature: F0 (interpolated F0 value 1 dim + U/V 1 dim)
 - Feature: quantized F0 (256 quantization bins)

Models





FF: feedforward with tanh-activation function

Experiment





Experiment





Experiment

Mean-based generation



Summary

Full answer to issue 2

Temporal dependency is ignored by RNN/RMDN! But better model can be defined







	RMDN	SAR	eSAR	DAR	
AR linear?	-	Linear	Non-linear (constrained)	Non-linear	
AR time span	-	t-K:t-1	1: t - 1	1: t - 1	
Tractable?	-	Yes	Somewhat	No	
Sampling?	No	No	No	Yes	

CONTENTS

Introduction

□ Issue 1: joint modeling of F0 and spectral features

□ Issue 2: temporal dependency modeling of F0 contours

Issue 3: frame-by-frame processing

Summary

ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Motivation

Inefficient processing



ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Motivation

Inefficient processing



ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Motivation

More efficient processing?



ISSUE **3:** FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Method

Two-stage F0 modeling



ISSUE **3:** FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Method

Two-stage F0 modeling



[28] K. E. Dusterhoff, A. W. Black, and P. A. Taylor. Using decision trees within the Tilt intonation model to predict F0 contours. Proc. Eurospeech, pages 1627–1630, 1999.

[29] K. Hirose, K. Sato, Y. Asano, and N. Minematsu. Synthesis of FO contours using generation process model parameters predicted from unlabeled corpora: Application to emotional speech synthesis. Speech communication, 46(3):385–404, 2005.

[•] Revisit linguistic approaches ^[28, 29]

^[27] A. van den Oord, O. Vinyals, and K. Kavukcuoglu. Neural discrete representation learning. In Proc. NIPS, page to appear, 2017.

ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Stage 1: F0 contour modeling



- Unsupervised learning
- One code for varied-length unit Goals
- Multiple linguistic levels

ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Stage 1: F0 contour modeling



[•] One code per phone

ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Stage 1: F0 contour modeling



• One code per phone & one code per mora

ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING?

Stage 1: F0 contour modeling



ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Stage 2: Linguistic linking



ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Stage 2: Linguistic linking

Phone code indices $\{l_{1_p}, l_{2_p}, l_{3_p}, \cdots, l_{N_p}\}$ Mora code indices $\{l_{1_m}, l_{2_m}, \cdots, l_{N_m}\}$

11



- (Sec. 7.2.2)
- Clockwork RNN ^[30]
- Highway^[31]

- AR & feedback links
- Dropout ^[32]

۲⊥۲ Linguistic features

- [30] J. Koutnik, K. Greff, F. Gomez, and J. Schmidhuber. A Clockwork RNN. In Proc. ICML, pages 1863–1871, 2014.
- [31] K. Greff, R. K. Srivastava, and J. Schmidhuber. Highway and residual networks learn unrolled iterative estimation. In Proc. ICLR, 2017.
- [32] N. Srivastava, G. Hinton, A. Krizhevsky, I. Sutskever, and R. Salakhutdinov. Dropout: A simple way to prevent neural networks from overfitting. The Journal of Machine Learning Research, 15(1):1929–1958, 2014.

ISSUE **3:** FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? F0 modeling for TTS



ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Experiments on stage 1 (sec.7.3.2) Experiments on whole model Models



• Given natural duration

ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Experiments

Objective results

Model 1			Model 2		Model 3		
						1	
		RMSE	CORR	U/V	Time cost (s/epoch)		
	Model 1	34.3	0.839	7.96%	1300		
	Model 2	27.1	0.906	6.36%	54		
	Model 3	25.5	0.916	4.87%	65		
ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? VAE vs DAR

Objective results



	RMSE	CORR	U/V	Number of parameters (m)			Time cost (s/epoch)		
				Stage 1	Stage 2	Sum	Stage 1	Stage 2	Sum
DAR	28.3	0.903	3.46%	0.36	1.11	1.48	~700	~1300	2000
VAE model3	25.5	0.916	4.87%	0.44	0.67	1.11	1500	65	1565

VQ-VAE encoder needs time and memory

ISSUE **3:** FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? VAE vs DAR

Subjective test



MOS test

• 500 test utterances, >1000 sets of scores

ISSUE 3: FRAME-BY-FRAME PROCESSING? Summary

Answer to issue 3

It could be more efficient



Results

- Multiple linguistic tiers
- More efficient than DAR: smaller + faster + F0 CORR > 0.91
- Interpretable latent code spaces (Sec. 7.3.2)
- Random sampling OK (slides)

CONTENTS

Introduction

□ Issue 1: joint modeling of F0 and spectral features

□ Issue 2: temporal dependency modeling of F0 contours

Issue 3: frame-by-frame processing

Conclusion

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Summary





- Joint modeling of FO and spectral?
- × Sub-optimal for F0 modeling
 - Methods:
 - Highway networks
 - Histogram + sensitivity analysis
 - **Results:**
 - Spectral features are prioritized
 - Different input/hidden features for F0 and spectral features

Summary



- Temporal dependency in RNN/RMDN?
- × Ignored by RNN/RMDN
 - Models:
 - SAR : tractable dependency
 - DAR : non-linear + longer dependency
 - **Results:**
 - DAR: F0 CORR > 0.90, MOS score
 - DAR supports random sampling!



Summary



- Frame-by-frame processing
- × Inefficient
- Two-stage F0 model:
 - F0 contour coding: VQ-VAE + DAR
 - Linguistic linking: unit-by-unit classifier

Results:

- F0 CORR > 0.91
- More efficient (smaller, faster)



New topics?

Towards complete prosody modeling

- Not only F0 but also duration
- Easy for joint modeling



Waveform modeling

- F0 and waveform are 1 dimensional signals
- Signal processing methods available

SAR + log area ratio + segment-variant filters

Thank you for your attention

Q & A

Codes, scripts, slides: tonywangx.github.io



THESIS OUTLINE

Neural F0 modeling



Meet basic requirement on publication: 3 journals + 6 conferences

WORK DURING PH.D.

Work not included in Ph.D. thesis

- Word embedding as input features (IEICE 2018, Interpseech2016)
- Impact of training data size (SSW 2016)

Collaborated work

- DAR using manually-annotated / corrupted data (Interspeech 2018)
 Provide DAR, SAR, and WaveNet-vocoder
- Voice cloning using found data (Odyssey 2018)
 Provide WaveNet-vocoder, and acoustic models
- Cyborg speech: multilingual speech synthesis (ICASSP 2018)
 Provide acoustic models
- Speech synthesis from MFCC (ICASSP 2018) Provide DAR on MFCC
- Controllable speech synthesis (Interspeech 2017)
 Provide acoustic models