

Call for Papers
Special Issue of *Speech Communication*
on
Speech and Face to Face Communication

Aims and scope

Speech communication is increasingly studied in a face to face perspective:

- It is interactive: the speaking partners build a complex communicative act together involving linguistic, emotional, expressive, and more generally cognitive and social dimensions;
- It involves multimodality to a large extent: the “listener” sees and hears the speaker who produces sounds as well as facial and more generally bodily gestures;
- It involves not only linguistic but also psychological, affective and social aspects of interaction. Gaze together with speech contribute to maintain mutual attention and to regulate turn-taking for example. Moreover the true challenge of speech communication is to take into account and integrate information not only from the speaker but also from the entire physical environment in which the interaction takes place.

For the first time, the present issue proposes to synthesize the most recent developments in this topic considering its various aspects from complementary perspectives: cognitive and neurocognitive (multisensory and perceptuo-motor interactions), linguistic (dialogic face to face interactions), paralinguistic (emotions and affects, turn-taking, mutual attention), computational (animated conversational agents, multimodal interacting communication systems). The special issue will be dedicated to the memory of Christian Benoît who departed ten years ago. He played an important role and was very stimulating in the fields of audiovisual speech processing, speech synthesis and avatars. He also participated in the development of ESCA (ISCA’s precursor) in the history of the Speech Communication journal.

The present issue will focus on a topic which has, to our knowledge, never been addressed in this form before in any journal. Many related themes have been tackled, including *e.g.* audiovisual speech processing, dialog, multimodal communication systems, conversational agents, social robotics, and expressive communication. But the convergence of these themes in a face to face interaction context in the speech communication area makes the proposed issue original and stimulating. Moreover, such an issue is timely, considering the very strong development of knowledge, techniques and systems in all the relevant areas mentioned here above: cognitive and neurocognitive (multisensory and perceptuo-motor interactions), linguistic (dialogic face to face interactions), computational (animated conversational agents, multimodal interacting communication systems).

The proposed guest editors (G. Bailly, M. Dohen, P. Perrier & J.L. Schwartz) are organizing on this topic in Grenoble in next October. This will provide a very incentive background for boosting communication around the special issue. The context of the 10th anniversary of Christian Benoît’s departure also provides a very important context in our view.

Guest editors

G rard Bailly, Marion Dohen, Pascal Perrier, Jean-Luc Schwartz (GIPSA-Lab, Grenoble, France)

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Technical organisation

The issue will be coordinated by four guest editors: G rard Bailly, Marion Dohen, Perrier Perrier & Jean-Luc Schwartz. These editors are all from the same institution (GIPSA-Lab, formerly ICP, Christian Benoit's laboratory), and they cover a large spectrum of scientific backgrounds coherent with the theme: audiovisual speech processing, perceptuo-motor interactions, neurocognition, conversational agents. They will be assisted by a scientific committee consisting of members from various institutions, countries, continents, and disciplines. The detailed list of members of the scientific committee is in constitution. The committee will provide suggestions for the organisation of the issue, propose names of potential reviewers, and will contribute to the reviewing process.

Tentative schedule

- Communication from July to October 2008 (end of October: "Face to Face Communication" workshop in Grenoble)
- Papers due end of February 2009
- Reviews from March to June 2009
- Revisions from July to September 2009
- Final papers ready in October 2009

Submission guidelines

Authors should consult the "Guide for Authors", available online, at <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/specom> for information about the preparation of their manuscripts. Authors, please submit your paper via <http://ees.elsevier.com/specom>, choosing "**Special issue: FacetoFace Communication**" as the Article Type. If you are a first time user of the system, please register yourself as an author.