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SAVAS

'Sharing AudioVisual language resources for Automatic Subtitling'

Collaborative Project Information and Communication Technologies

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Workshop 3

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1 Introduction

This deliverable presents a report of the 3rd SAVAS End-User Panel (EUP) Workshop¹. Section 2 describes the agenda, participants and main outcomes of the workshop and Section 3 draws some general conclusions.

2 The 3rd SAVAS End-User Workshop

The 3rd EUP was delayed from the original planning, due to the developmental delay of the technology caused by annotation management problems in some languages. For this reason, it was finally arranged close to the end of the project. Given the difficulty in identifying a relevant conference or event on the project topics around such date, in the end it was hosted as a separate event in a central European location easily reachable by all the panellists: Paris.

2.1 Agenda

The 3rd EUP Workshop took place on April 29th and was hosted at the Best Western Premier Amiral Hotel in Paris. Figure 1 shows the agenda of the workshop. Its main goal was to present the final results of the project and a preliminary evaluation of the SAVAS applications.

In the introductory session, Arantza del Pozo presented the final project results and the preliminary evaluation outcomes of the three main SAVAS applications: S.Respeak!, S.Scribe! and S.Live!.

Then, Juan Martinez presented a new version of the NERstar tool, updated within the SAVAS project to carry out evaluations of automatic subtitles.

Carlo Aliprandi presented the final S.Respeak! application, showing videos of respeakers using S.Respeak! at some of the SAVAS broadcasters' facilities.

Joao Neto presented the SAVAS S.Live! and S.Scribe! applications. Demos of both applications were shown for live and pre-recorded video content. Different configurations and subtitling settings were used to showcase live subtitling from news clips broadcasted through the Internet in the SAVAS languages.

In the discussion session, panellists provided feedback on the presented results. Along this session, we also had an exchange of opinions on End-User Panel sustainability plans after the end of the project ("SAVAS after SAVAS").

¹ D6.5, D6.6, D6.7 and D6.8 were originally planned to report the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th End User Panel Workshops to be held at M6, M12, M17 and M24. Because the 2nd EUP workshop was delayed to M17, D6.6 was skipped and D6.7 reported on Workshop 2. This deliverable, D6.8, reports the 3rd and final EUP. With the agreement of the Commission, the budget originally allocated to fund the 4th EUP has been used to disseminate at the NAB event in Las Vegas as described in deliverable D6.3.



SAVAS Project

3rd End-User Panel Workshop

29th April 2014

Best Western Premier Amiral Hotel 98 avenue d'Italie - 75013 Paris Tél: +33(0)1 45 65 12 51



Agenda Item	Remark	Time
Welcome	Welcome	9:00 - 9:30
Intro	Introduction to the workshop SAVAS (Carlo Aliprandi)	9:30 - 9:45
SAVAS results	SAVAS final results (resources and applications) SAVAS (Arantza Del Pozo)	9:45 – 10:15
SAVAS applications	Focus on S.Respeak! – the Nerstar tool for evaluation. The respeaking application: presentation, demo and preliminary evaluation results. SAVAS (Carlo Aliprandi, Juan Martinez)	10:15 – 10:45
SAVAS applications	Focus on S.Live! and S.Scribe! - the transcription applications: presentation, demo and preliminary evaluation results SAVAS (Joao Neto)	10:45 – 12:00
	LUNCH	12:00-13:00
Discussion	Discussion: 1. Feedback on results, exploitation of results 2. SAVAS after SAVAS SAVAS+End-User Panelists	13.00 – 14:00
Conclusions	Conclusions SAVAS (Carlo Aliprandi)	14.00 – 14:15
	Face to Face meetings	14.30 – 16:30
	END of WORKSHOP	16:30

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Figure 1. 3rd SAVAS EUP Workshop agenda

Finally, the last session of the workshop was dedicated to face-to-face meetings with the panellists, where the specific needs and potential collaborations regarding the exploitation of the SAVAS applications for each of them were discussed.

2.2 Participants

As in the previous workshop, participation was extended to a wide range of stakeholders potentially interested in the project results: broadcasters in the SAVAS languages; subtitling and reporting companies that use LVCSR in the SAVAS languages; subtitling software providers that are willing to integrate LVCSR



technology in their products; accessibility organizations interested in subtitling for the deaf and hard of hearing.

All the 1st and 2nd EUP workshop participants were invited to attend the 3rd EUP workshop. Three out of the previous seven attendants confirmed their interest. Thus, invitations were extended to new organisations, whose interest was collected in the dissemination activities carried out throughout the project, in order to collect a reasonable amount of organisations and people.

The final list of participants was as follows:

Organisers

Arantza del Pozo, SAVAS Coordinator
Carlo Aliprandi, SAVAS Dissemination Manager
Joao Neto, SAVAS Chief Technology Officer
Juan Martinez - SwissTXT

Attendants

Christophe Lartilleux, Sidonie Bouchet, Silvia Routellard - Blue Elements Yota Georgakopoulou, Graham Willis - DDS Andrew Lambourne - ScreenSystems Mikel Recondo - Ubertiles Philippe Anel - Mediawen Federico Spoletti - Sub-ti

Panellists from France TV, Titelbild and OFT did not eventually participate due to last minute problems, even if they had confirmed their attendance before the meeting. Four additional invited parties communicated their unavailability very close to the event, so it was not possible to invite other parties to take over.

2.3 Main outcomes

The SAVAS consortium had the opportunity to showcase the final SAVAS results, and the SAVAS applications: S.Respeak!, S.Scribe!. and S.Live!.

The panellists gave very positive feedbacks to the applications, whose final quality was perceived good enough to be experimented in real operations.

Part of the discussion was focused on quality evaluation. In particular, the transcription precisions below 20% WER (Word Error Rate) achieved for most of the languages were considered very promising – since experiments carried out by one of the panellists in the TransLectures project showed that reasonable productivity gains are achievable post-editing LVCSR output with WERs below such threshold. In addition, there was also discussion related to the evaluation of more complex metrics, such as automatic capitalisation and punctuation, subtitle splitting,





Figure 2. 3rd EUP Workshop

persistance on screen and delay. Some of the panellist are willing to experiment with and self-assess the SAVAS applications.

We also had a fruitful discussion on the sustainability of the End-User Panel after the end of the project. The consortium is aware that one important outcome of the project is the network of stakeholders interested in the application of LVCSR for automated subtitling gathered around the SAVAS EUP workshops. For this reason, we informed the panellists about our willingness to continue operating the EUP ("SAVAS after SAVAS") in a new framework of an open organisation, like a Forum or an Expert Group, focusing on Access Services at European level. The proposal was well accepted by all the panellists, who suggested to organise at least one yearly meeting scheduled in conjunction with a major event such as Languages and the Media or IBC. Discussions related to EUP sustainability and project follow-ups also extended to future collaborations in new shared initiatives or projects: we believe this also to be a positive outcome of the project.

As a result of the face to face discussions with each panellist, a set of requirements and willingness to test and evaluate the SAVAS applications, directly into operational workflows (service companies) or products (software companies) were collected.

3 Conclusions

The 3rd EUP workshop was successful and fruitful. Although participation was not as high as in the two previous workshops, mainly due to the lack of an industrially relevant co-located event: 9 people from 6 different parties were gathered.

The consortium collected positive feedbacks on the final SAVAS applications, and the panellists had a positive impression of the results. Several requests for exploitation and evaluation were collected. Most of the panellists are also willing to self-assess the applications.

Finally, the ground for sustainability of the End-User Panel after the end of the project was settled reaching a general agreement to carry on operations as a Forum or Expert Group focusing on Access Services at European level.