Notice of dissertation defense 09.10.2017

Speech learning in the confusing world of an infant

Title
Computational models of associative learning in the acquisition of speech imitation, acoustic word models, and word-meaning mappings
Assosiatiivisen oppimisen laajennallinen mallinnus puheen matkimisen, sanamallien ja sana-merkitysparien oppimisessa

Content
How do children learn to imitate speech of other people, extract frequent word patterns from continuous speech, and assign meanings to words spoken by others? Children live in a confusing and ambiguous environment, where learning of these phenomena requires long-term exposure to speech and related objects or contexts, and effective deductive skills in the brain. This thesis studies three language learning phenomena, and provides candidate cognitive processing mechanisms that make language learning possible with human-like language input. The discovered mechanisms may help to understand real cognitive processes in the human brain, or provide practical learning methods for machine learning applications.

Field of research
Language technology

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Date and time
03.11.2017 at 12:00

Place
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Dissertation website
https://aaltodoc.aalto.fi/handle/123456789/53

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