

MMI Workshop - Interchangeable Modalities

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Goal: Present a macro view of multimodal speech interfaces and then focus on a specific new app called Talkz that's based on interchangeable modalities.

Multimodal interfaces have advanced 10X in the past 5 years thanks to mobile smartphone growth and apps like Siri, and adoption by the auto industry where nationally televised commercials now show how 'cool' it is to talk to your car.

Yet, multimodal technologies are still largely unknown to most developers. Even experienced technologists can spend a lifetime (and amass a fortune) and still never work directly with these technologies. And further widening the conundrum, Multimodal technologies are often imperfect – mirroring human behaviors. This 'wetware' concept is a departure from the status quo that taught us software is binary and machines don't make mistakes.

A statistical look at iSpeech's network of 25,000 developers reveals some interesting trends. Look at the reasons why a Multimodal UI fails. Try to select the industry best practices and demonstrate how standards affect industry adoption on a macro level. Isolate the differences between platforms and review growth, limitations, and revenue potential.

Despite the challenges, many use-cases persist, including; How can busy humans communicate more efficiently? Text? Talk? Share data? iSpeech has over 30 million downloads of its popular Drivesafe.ly App and has just is launched a successor, Talkz™.

The goal of Talkz is to bring Interchangeable Modality to EVERY message, thereby removing guesswork about a user's preference. Redundancy is a persistent feature that forms the basis of more streamlined communications as the scope of possible user situations increases.

Further efforts are needed to advance the state-of-the-art. iSpeech and the Talkz app are working to create custom and celebrity voices as a means of marrying consumer novelty with the utility of multimodal design.

A brief overview and demo of the Talkz App is presented. Questions or comments welcome.

[A slide deck is also attached as an example of how the material may be presented.]*