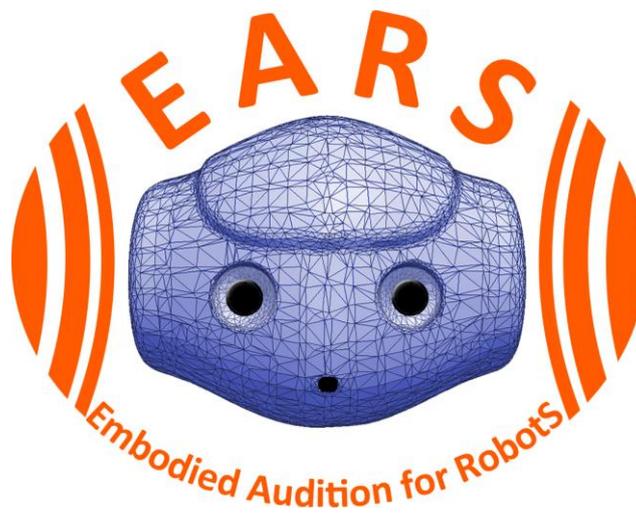




EARS



Minutes of SB Meeting in May

Collaborative Project - EARS			
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Responsible Partner	Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg		
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A	12/05/2014	Draft - First Issue	H. Löllmann
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Revision	Summary of Changes	
	Reference	Description
A	All sections	Draft
B	All sections	Final version (inclusion of amendments and corrections)

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Work package responsible for the document:	WP 7 (Project Management)
Editor(s):	Heinrich Löllmann and Walter Kellermann
Contributor(s):	All Partners
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Approved by:	All Partners

Date and Time of Meeting: 20.05.2014 from 10:00 – 11:30 (CET)

Participants

- Walter Kellermann (FAU)
- Heinrich Löllmann (FAU)
- Heidi Zinser (FAU)
- Patrick Naylor (IMPERIAL)
- Boaz Rafaely (BGU)
- Radu Horaud (INRIA)
- Verena Hafner (UBER)
- Rodolphe Gelin (ALD)

All participants attended the teleconference from the beginning to the end.

Agenda

1. Opening
2. Approval of previous Minutes of Meeting
3. Topics to be discussed
 - 3.1. Brief status report of each WP leader
 - 3.2. Risk monitoring and mitigation: Delivery of the new Nao heads
 - 3.3. Additional topics
4. Date of next SB meeting

The agenda has been send to all SB members by email prior to the meeting.

Meeting Protocol

1. *Opening:*

Project Coordinator Walter Kellermann welcomes all participants and outlines the agenda of the steering board (SB) meeting.

The attendees represent a quorum for decisions to be made during the SB meeting.

2. *Approval of previous Minutes of Meeting*

The protocol of the previous SB meeting on April 24th, 2014 has been approved by all participants.

3.1. *Brief status report of each WP leader*

WP 1 Embodied Acoustic Sensing for Real-world Environments (Boaz Rafaely)

- Report on paper presentations at the HSCMA
- Walter Kellermann reported on poster presentation about the robomorphic array at the HSCMA
- Simulated HRTFs are ready for upload
- Bilateral discussion with Radu about the synchronization of audio and video data intended

WP 2 Acoustic Scene Analysis (Patrick Naylor)

- Report on current work about source localization and dereverberation

- Walter Kellermann gave a brief report on the FAU contribution for this WP (T2.1). Currently, BSS-based approaches and subspace-based approaches (MUSIC, ESPRIT) for multi-talker localization with the Nao head are investigated.
- Patrick Naylor reported on the spherical-harmonic (SH) beamformer implementation for the Eigenmic. A close collaboration of Antoine Deleforge, Boaz Rafaely, Alastair Moore and Christine Evers is planned (Skype meeting).
- Matlab toolbox for SH-domain beamforming is currently developed together with BGU.
- FAU will provide a common SVN repository for that if the new REDMINE software and document exchange portal for EARS is finished in June (Heinrich Löllmann).
- Walter Kellermann and Heinrich Löllmann reported on ego-noise recordings with the Nao and their suppression by means of a multi-channel Wiener filter. It turns out that acoustic echo control and motor noise suppression are very challenging tasks.
- Patrick Naylor appreciates that these results are published by a paper of FAU for the ITG Conference on Speech Communication and Heinrich Löllmann will present some of these findings at the SB meeting in London.

WP 3 Audio-Visual Disambiguation (Radu Horaud)

- Current work focuses on data calibration for video localization.

WP 4 Robot Embodied Cognition and Interaction (Verena Hafner)

- UBER has submitted two conference papers (one to EpiRob, one to an IAS WS), a journal publication is under preparation.
- The work on the adaptive (robomorphic) microphone array has raised different questions which might be discussed at the SB meeting in London in greater detail:
 - How could the conflict be solved that the robot arm movements are needed for gesturing as well as optimised blind signal enhancement?
 - Which interaction scenarios and gestures should be studied?
- UBER is porting software code to Naoqi and has encountered problems with the transformation of global coordinates to local coordinates, which will be discussed with Aldebaran.
- The self-noise recordings of FAU and instructions for the measurements should be made available to all Partners by the EARS website.

WP 5 System Integration and Validation (Rodolphe Gelin)

- The synchronization of audio data is difficult, i.e., it is not possible to provide time stamps for all signals.
- A solution might be to perform the synchronization later on and Alastair Moore and Gregory Rump will elaborate this approach.
- Walter Kellermann reported on the problems that were found by the measurements with the Nao (no duplex communication possible, nonlinear transfer characteristic of the loudspeakers). Rodolphe Gelin confirmed these problems and that they are interested in solutions for these problems.

WP 6 Dissemination and Exploitation (Walter Kellermann and Heinrich Löllmann)

- Heinrich Löllmann reported on the work on the EARS homepage and the software & document exchange platform for EARS and asked all Partners to send him their published papers along with the presented poster or presentation.
- It is planned to provide an RSS-Feed and box with news about the EARS project on the EARS homepage to be finished on June 15 according to the DOW.
- Walter Kellermann reported on the HSCMA. The presentation of the Nao robot by Aldebaran attracted many visitors even though it was not working properly.

WP7 Management (Heidi Zinser)

- Email-alias for different EARS groups established (Partners, all co-workers, administration). Corrections and extensions of these email-aliases should be reported to Heidi Zinser.
- Explanations to the time sheets
 - only people paid by EARS have to fill in the sheets for the time periods they claim funding from EARS
 - a check of all time sheets by FAU (Heidi Zinser) is offered to ensure that all Partners receive their funding
- Each Partner should check the Minutes of the kick-off meeting and address open points until the meeting in London.
- All Partners are asked to send links to the robot community to FAU (Heidi Zinser and Heinrich Loellmann)
- The meeting in Erlangen comprises a SUAB, SB and workshop meeting. Invited speakers might be identified at the SB meeting in London. Each Partner should send the list of participants for the meeting to FAU.
- A technical review meeting will probably take place in March 2015 in Luxembourg. The further details will be discussed at the SB meeting in London.

3.2 Risk monitoring and mitigation: Delivery of the new Nao heads (Rodolphe Gelin)

- New head will be delivered by Aldebaran in June with a delay of 15 days
- Causes no problems to the intended work plan

3.4 Additional Topics

- Preparation of next SB meeting in London (covered by discussion on WP 7 in 3.1)

4. Date of next SB Meeting

The next SB Meeting takes place from June 26th to June 27th 2014 in London.