



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

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Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

- Spoken control is becoming necessary for mobile computing
- What we have today is inflexible
 - VoiceXML?
 - Interface Development is straightforward, but:
 - Too much bias toward System-Initiative
 - Fixed, user-learned commands



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

- What about User-Initiative?
 - 1: Change a contact in the list.
 - 2: Edit a contact.
 - 3: Change a name in the list.
 - 4: Change a contact.
 - 5: Change the details of a contact.

- ASR is still poor - 5% per word, or 18% per 4-word sentence



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

- How about Machine Learning?
- Understanding as Classification
- 20 dialogue act classes
- Named Entity Extraction:
 - "Send an email to Bryan" ->
"Send an email to <name>" + "Bryan" ->
send_email + entity(Bryan)



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

Utterance Evidence

$$P(I | U)$$

Context Evidence

$$P(I | C)$$



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

- Using Bayes rule + conditional independence

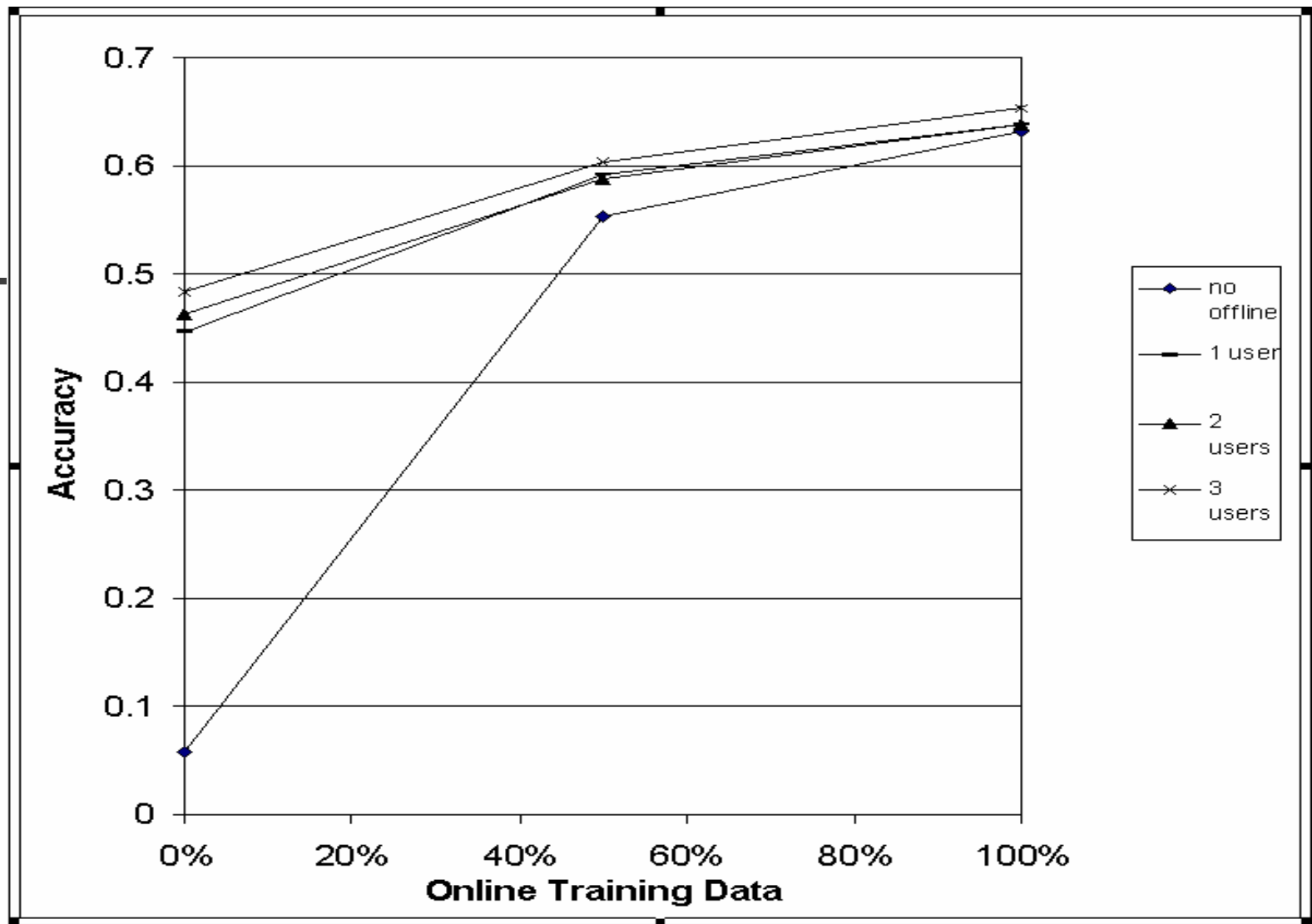
$$\hat{I} = \underset{I}{\operatorname{argmax}} \frac{P(I | U) \cdot P(I | C)}{P(I)}$$

- This is the same as is used in speech recognition



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

- Utterance Classifier
- A type of “keyword spotting” using Nearest Neighbour Classification
- Computes Edit Distance against a training set



- 20 classes, perplexity 15.1
- 95% confidence interval: [0.601, 0.705]



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

- Context Interpreter
- Dialogue Act N-grams

Act N-2 (user turn)	Act N-1 (system turn)	Act N (user turn)
a	c	$P(a) = 0.5$ $P(b) = 0.5$
a	d	$P(a) = 0.1$ $P(b) = 0.9$
b	c	$P(a) = 0.6$ $P(b) = 0.4$
b	d	$P(a) = 0.3$ $P(b) = 0.7$



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

- Development Lifecycle
 - Domain Independent
 - Simple, efficient algorithms
 - Obtaining Training Data
 - Offline - supervised
 - Online - unsupervised
 - Perplexity Heuristic
 - Failed task heuristic
 - Pooling



Machine Learning for Adaptive Spoken Control

- Still to do
 - Evaluate against traditional approaches.
 - 82% accuracy bound for parsing approach + hand coding problem
 - Static keyword spotting needs extensive hand coding to achieve acceptable coverage
 - Backoff methods might be useful
 - Evaluate context interpreter