

In this email I would like to report the activities of SPC so far:

1. SPC helped in organised the Irish Signal & system Conference took place in Maynooth - Republic of Ireland last June

the 2019 30th Irish Signals and Systems Conference (ISSC) - #47065 which is scheduled to begin on 17- 19 June 2019

AS a chair I have attended representing SPC. total attendees were 80

2. currently we are working with organizing the the 2019 31st Irish Signals and Systems Conference (ISSC) will take place in June 19-21

Expected 80 to attend online. SPC I will attend as a chair of the chapter.

3. Currently SPC help & contribute in organising the 2021 10th International Workshop on Signal Design and Its Applications (IWSDA'2021) expect 100 + to attend.

4.

- **Number of attendees over 100**
- **Talk title:** Speech Recognition: What's Left?
- **Speaker:** Dr Michael Picheny, NYU, IEEE Signal Processing Society Distinguished Lecturer
- **Date & time:** Tuesday 12 November 2019, 12:00-13:00
- **Venue:** Lecture Theatre 1, Department of Engineering, Cambridge University, Trumpington St, Cambridge, CB2 1PZ

Further information: <https://talks.cam.ac.uk/talk/index/133159>

Abstract:

Recent speech recognition advances on the SWITCHBOARD corpus suggest that because of recent advances in Deep Learning, we now achieve Word Error Rates comparable to human listeners. Does this mean the speech recognition problem is solved and the community can move on to a different set of problems? In this talk, we examine speech recognition issues that still plague the community and compare and contrast them to what is known about human perception. We specifically highlight issues in accented speech, noisy/reverberant speech, speaking style, rapid adaptation to new domains, and multilingual speech recognition. We try to demonstrate that compared to human perception, there is still much room for improvement, so significant work in speech recognition research is still required from the community.

Bio:

Dr Michael Picheny has worked in the Speech Recognition area since 1981, joining IBM after finishing his doctorate at MIT. He was heavily involved in the development of almost all of IBM's recognition systems, ranging from the world's first real-time large vocabulary discrete system in 1984 through IBM's product lines for telephony and embedded systems in the 1990s, and most recently was responsible for putting out a set of Speech Services for both Speech Recognition and Speech Synthesis during his tenure in IBM's Watson Group. He has published numerous papers in both journals and conferences on almost all aspects of speech recognition (see web page for details). He is the co-holder of over 50 patents and was named a Master Inventor by IBM in 1995 and again in 2000. In addition to professional volunteer service (as indicated below), he served multiple times as an Adjunct Professor in the Electrical Engineering Department of Columbia University and co-taught a course in speech recognition. Michael is a Fellow of both the IEEE and of ISCA.

Michael was a manager for 35 years in the Speech area at IBM, and led the Speech team in Yorktown Heights since 2007. He just retired from IBM and joined NYU-Courant Computer Science and the Center for Data Science as a part-time Research Professor. At NYU, he hopes to continue speech recognition research and focus on problems dealing with challenging types of speech problems such as accented and disfluent speech, and rapid domain adaptation, as well as looking into cross-modality synergies involving text and vision.

5. The SPC chair participated as co chair in the History of Computer Conference held in Scotland on the 17th of September 2019.

Kindest regards