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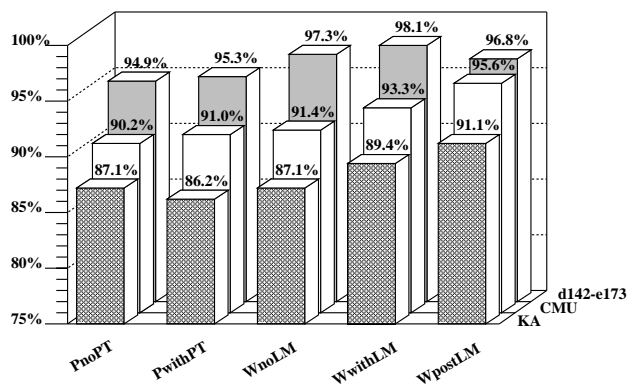


Figure 5: Comparison of the five systems

incorporation of knowledge sources improves the language identification accuracy significantly. For the cross-channel tests system **WpostLM** leads to best results. In all cases the performance increases when adding the dictionary. Furthermore, tests including the language-dependent word grammars outperform the results of those without linguistic knowledge. Testing under different channel conditions increases the performance significantly. The two-stage system **WpostLM** has a significant impact. Note how the language identification results for the two-stage systems are

5. L I D U S I N G D I F F E R E N T K N O W L E D G E S O U R C E S

For each language we constructed five systems applying different levels of knowledge.

5.1. S y s t e m P n o P T

P n o P T is a recognizer with phoneme-based acoustic modeling. For each language a system with context-independent phonemes which are modeled by SCHMM with 50 tied mixture weights was build. For the German language we used a set of 46 phonemes, for English 54 phonemes and for Spanish 48 phonemes. The phoneme sets include special noise models to model human and nonhuman noises as described in [11].

5.2. S y s t e m P w i t h P T

P w i t h P T is similar to P
tactics i.e.
phonol

the increasing ambiguity when adding languages to be identified to the system. We use a parallel architecture as shown in figure 2.

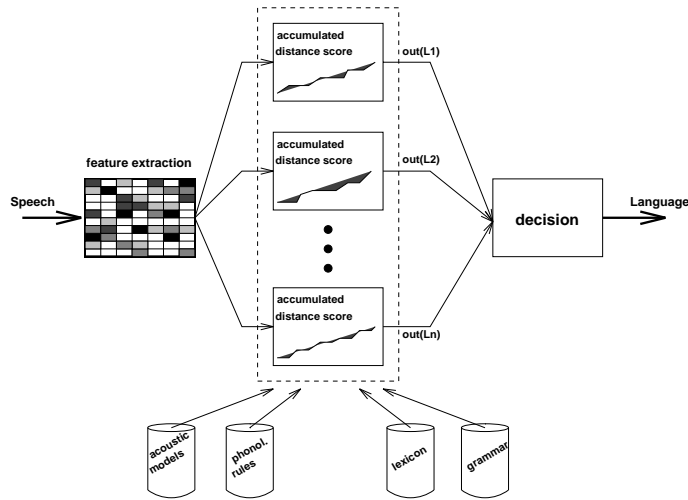


Figure 2: parallel architecture of our LID system

4. CROSS-CHANNEL CONTROL

As mentioned before, many constraints are applied to the data collection procedure to guarantee the comparability of the recorded data. Both of the sites at which we collect our data use the same closed speaker microphones, the same hardware to digitize the speech input, and the same scenario and calendar. To control for channel variations or different accents, we have recorded additional data. We have also collected German and English data from the U.S.

and Karlsruhe University over the last 20 months.

In each session, two people are asked to schedule

a meeting with their dialog partners. Constraints

for the scenario, the calendar and the collection

procedures of the data guarantee the comparabil-

ity of the data recorded at different sites. The col-

lection scenario and requirements are described in

detail in [3] and [9]. The SST corpus current

sists of dialogs in the languages En-

glish, Spanish, and Korean spontan-

eous speakers. The col-

lection has also begun

current

EXPERIMENTS WITH LVCSR BASED LANGUAGE IDENTIFICATION

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ABSTRACT

Automatic language identification is an important problem in building multilingual speech recognition and understanding systems. We have developed a front-end LID module based on LVCSR to identify English, German, and Spanish language for use in spontaneous speech-to-speech translation. We studied the constitution of different levels of knowledge to identify a language, i.e. the phonetic, phonotactic, lexical, and syntactic-semantic knowledge. A comparison of LID systems using different levels of these knowledge sources is presented. We showed that the inclusion of phonetic and linguistic knowledge improves the performance of the language

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