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## English digits speech recognition system based on Hidden Markov Models

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HUMAN BEHAVIOUR  
RECOGNITION,  
IDENTIFICATION,  
AND COMPUTER  
INTERACTION

Edited by

**Othman Omran Khalifa**, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.,  
International Islamic University Malaysia

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## CONTENTS

		Page No.
<b>Part-I Human Posture Recognition</b>		
Chapter 01	Human Posture Recognition: An Overview <i>Othman O. Khalifa, Kyaw Kyaw Htike, Aisha-Hassab Abdalla and Lai Weng Kin</i>	1
Chapter 02	Human Posture Recognition: Literature review <i>Othman O. Khalifa, Kyaw Kyaw Htike, Lai Weng Kin and A. A. Alkhazmi</i>	7
Chapter 03	Theoretical Background of Human Posture Recognition <i>Kyaw Kyaw Htike, Othman O. Khalifa, Sheroz Khan and Lai Weng Kin</i>	15
Chapter 04	Human Posture Recognition Classifiers <i>Kyaw Kyaw Htike, Othman O. Khalifa, Lai Weng Kin and MD Rafiqul Islam</i>	22
Chapter 05	Human Posture Recognition: Methodology and Implementation <i>Kyaw Kyaw Htike, Othman O. Khalifa, and Lai Weng Kin</i>	32
Chapter 06	Human Posture Recognition Database and Preprocessing Simulation Results <i>Kyaw Kyaw Htike, Othman O. Khalifa, Rashid Abdallah and Lai Weng Kin</i>	39
Chapter 07	Human Posture Recognition Results using Database A <i>Kyaw Kyaw Htike, Othman O. Khalifa and and Lai Weng Kin</i>	49
Chapter 08	Human Posture recognition Implementation and Deployment <i>Kyaw Kyaw Htike, Othman O. Khalifa and and Lai Weng Kin</i>	58
Chapter 09	Review on Hand Gesture Recognition <i>Sara Bilal and Rini Akmeliawati</i>	68
Chapter 10	Computational Intelligence techniques for Hand Gesture Recognition <i>Sara Bilal and Rini Akmeliawati</i>	77
Chapter 11	Feature Extraction:Hand Shape, Hand Position and Hand Trajectory Path <i>Sara Bilal and Rini Akmeliawati</i>	85
Chapter 12	Towards Malaysian Sign Language Database <i>Haris Al Qodri Maarif, Sara Bilal and Rini Akmeliawati</i>	92
Chapter 13	The Development of Malaysian Sign Language Translator : Preliminary results <i>Sara Bilal, Haris Al Qodri Maarif and Rini Akmeliawati</i>	100
<b>Part II Human Path Detection for Video Surveillance Systems</b>		
Chapter 14	Introduction to Intelligent Video Surveillance Systems <i>Othman O. Khalifa, Imran Moez Khan, Yusof Zaw Zaw and Lai Weng Kin</i>	107
Chapter 15	Human Path Detection : A review <i>Imran Moez Khan, Othman O. Khalifa, Yusof Zaw Zaw, Sheroz Khan and Lai Weng Kin</i>	113

Chapter 16	Fuzzy Set Theory <i>Imran Moez Khan, Yusof Zaw Zaw and Othman O. Khalifa</i>	129
Chapter 17	The Mamdani Fuzzy Inference Algorithm <i>Imran Moez Khan, Yusof Zaw Zaw, Othman O. Khalifa and Lai Weng Kin</i>	138
Chapter 18	Human Path Classifier Architecture <i>Imran Moez Khan, Yusof Zaw Zaw, Othman O. Khalifa and Lai Weng Kin</i>	145
Chapter 19	Human Motion Detection and Classification <i>Othman O. Khalifa, Mat Kamil Awang and Aisha-Hassan Abdulla</i>	154
Chapter 20	Real-Time Human Detection for Video Surveillance <i>Fadhlan H. Kamaru Zaman, Amir A. Shafie and Othman O. Khalifa</i>	163
Chapter 21	Human Tracking Algorithm for Video Surveillance <i>Fadhlan H. Kamaru Zaman, Amir A. Shafie and Othman O. Khalifa</i>	178

### **Part- III Human Identification and Computer Interaction**

Chapter 22	Automatic Identity Recognition Systems: A Review <i>Assal A. M. Alqudah,, Roziati Zainuddin, Mohammad A. M. Abushariah, and Othman O. Khalifa</i>	192
Chapter 23	An Application of Biometric Technology: Iris Recognition <i>Othman O Khalifa, Rashidah F. Olanrewaju and Mohd Fariz Ramli</i>	206
Chapter 24	Interactive Voice Response Technology for Telephony System <i>Mohammad A.M. Abu Shariah, R.N. Aionon and Othman O. Khalifa</i>	213
Chapter 25	EMG Signal Classification Techniques For The Development Of Human Computer Interaction System <i>Md. Rezwanul Ahsan, Muhammad Ibn Ibrahimyand Othman Omran Khalifa</i>	224
Chapter 26	English Digits Speech Recognition System Based on Hidden Markov Models <i>Teddy S. Gunawan, Ahmad A. M. Abushariah, Othman O. Khalifa</i>	244
Chapter 27	Signature Recognition Using Artificial Neural Network <i>Ahmad A. M. Abushariah, Teddy S. Gunawan, Othman O. Khalifa, and Jalel Chebil</i>	255
Chapter 28	Speaker Recognition Using Mel Frequency Cepstrum <i>Othman O. Khalifa, S. Khan, MD. Rafidul Islam, M. Faizal and D. Dol</i>	263
Chapter 29	Handwritten Arabic Word/Character Recognition: Common approaches <i>Assma O. H. , Othman Khalifa and Aisha Hassan</i>	289
Chapter 30	Speaker's Variabilities, Technology and Language Issues that Affect Automatic Speech and Speaker Recognition Systems <i>Mohammad A. M. Abushariah, Roziati Zainuddin, Assal A. M. Alqudah, and Othman O. Khalifa</i>	298

Chapter 31	Arabic Automatic Continuous Speech Recognition Systems	306
	<i>Mohammad A. M. Abushariah, Roziati Zainuddin, Assal A. M. Alqudah, and Othman O. Khalifa</i>	
Chapter 32	Face Verification : An Introduction	317
	<i>Shihab A. Hameed, Waleed A. Badurik</i>	
Chapter 33	Introduction to Fingerprint Verification	326
	<i>Shihab A. Hameed, Waleed A. Badurik</i>	
Chapter 34	Protein Coding Identification using Modified Gabor Wavelet Transform on Multicore Systems	334
	<i>Teddy Surya Gunawan</i>	
Chapter 35	Current Trend in Image Guided Surgery (IGS)	344
	<i>Abdulfattah A. Aboaba, Shihab A. Hameed, Othman O. Khalifa, Aisha H. Abdalla</i>	

# Chapter 26

## English Digits Speech Recognition System Based on Hidden Markov Models

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### 26.1 INTRODUCTION

The field of Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) is about 60 years old. There have been many interesting advances and developments since the invention of the first speech recognizer at Bell Labs in the early 1950's. The development of ASR increased gradually until the invention of Hidden Markov Models (HMM) in early 1970's. Researchers' contribution were to make use of ASR technology to what can be seen nowadays of various advancements in fields like multi-modal, multi-lingual/cross-lingual ASR using statistical techniques such as HMM, SVM, neural network, etc [1].

Speech recognition or more commonly known as automatic speech recognition (ASR) was defined as the process of interpreting human speech in a computer [2]. However, ASR was defined more technically as the building of system for mapping acoustic signals to a string of words [3]. In general, all ASR systems aim to automatically extract the string of spoken words from input speech signals as illustrated in Figure 26.1.

The main objective of this paper is to design and implement an English digits speech recognition system based on Hidden Markov Model (HMM) using MATLAB, which is capable of recognizing and responding to digits speech inputs. This English digits speech recognizer would be applicable and useful for various digits-based applications, such as banking systems, phone dialing systems and various other systems. In this research, we utilized statistical modeling method based on the Hidden Markov Models to recognize English language digits.