

Table of Contents

Abstractiii
Acknowledgementsv
1 Introduction.....	1
1.1 Speech Recognition	2
1.2 Neural Networks.....	4
1.3 Thesis Outline.....	7
2 Review of Speech Recognition.....	9
2.1 Fundamentals of Speech Recognition	9
2.2 Dynamic Time Warping.....	14
2.3 Hidden Markov Models	15
2.3.1 Basic Concepts	16
2.3.2 Algorithms	17
2.3.3 Variations	22
2.3.4 Limitations of HMMs.....	26
3 Review of Neural Networks.....	27
3.1 Historical Development	27
3.2 Fundamentals of Neural Networks.....	28
3.2.1 Processing Units.....	28
3.2.2 Connections	29
3.2.3 Computation	30
3.2.4 Training	35
3.3 A Taxonomy of Neural Networks	36
3.3.1 Supervised Learning.....	37
3.3.2 Semi-Supervised Learning.....	40
3.3.3 Unsupervised Learning.....	41
3.3.4 Hybrid Networks	43
3.3.5 Dynamic Networks.....	43
3.4 Backpropagation.....	44
3.5 Relation to Statistics	48

4 Related Research.....	51
4.1 Early Neural Network Approaches.....	51
4.1.1 Phoneme Classification.....	52
4.1.2 Word Classification	55
4.2 The Problem of Temporal Structure	56
4.3 NN-HMM Hybrids	57
4.3.1 NN Implementations of HMMs	57
4.3.2 Frame Level Training	58
4.3.3 Segment Level Training	60
4.3.4 Word Level Training	61
4.3.5 Global Optimization	62
4.3.6 Context Dependence.....	63
4.3.7 Speaker Independence	66
4.3.8 Word Spotting.....	69
4.4 Summary.....	71
5 Databases	73
5.1 Japanese Isolated Words.....	73
5.2 Conference Registration	74
5.3 Resource Management	75
6 Predictive Networks	77
6.1 Motivation... and Hindsight	78
6.2 Related Work	79
6.3 Linked Predictive Neural Networks	81
6.3.1 Basic Operation.....	81
6.3.2 Training the LPNN	82
6.3.3 Isolated Word Recognition Experiments	84
6.3.4 Continuous Speech Recognition Experiments	86
6.3.5 Comparison with HMMs	88
6.4 Extensions	89
6.4.1 Hidden Control Neural Network.....	89
6.4.2 Context Dependent Phoneme Models.....	92
6.4.3 Function Word Models	94
6.5 Weaknesses of Predictive Networks	94
6.5.1 Lack of Discrimination.....	94
6.5.2 Inconsistency	98

7 Classification Networks	101
7.1 Overview	101
7.2 Theory.....	103
7.2.1 The MLP as a Posterior Estimator	103
7.2.2 Likelihoods vs. Posteriors	105
7.3 Frame Level Training	106
7.3.1 Network Architectures	106
7.3.2 Input Representations.....	115
7.3.3 Speech Models	119
7.3.4 Training Procedures	120
7.3.5 Testing Procedures	132
7.3.6 Generalization	137
7.4 Word Level Training	138
7.4.1 Multi-State Time Delay Neural Network.....	138
7.4.2 Experimental Results	141
7.5 Summary.....	143
8 Comparisons	147
8.1 Conference Registration Database	147
8.2 Resource Management Database	148
9 Conclusions	151
9.1 Neural Networks as Acoustic Models	151
9.2 Summary of Experiments	152
9.3 Advantages of NN-HMM hybrids	153
 Appendix A. Final System Design	155
Appendix B. Proof that Classifier Networks Estimate Posterior Probabilities.....	157
Bibliography	159
Author Index	169
Subject Index	173