

ALFFA

African Languages in the Field: speech Fundamentals and Automation

U. Grenoble 1 (LIG)

U. Avignon (LIA)

CNRS (DDL)

VOXYGEN SAS

48 months – coord. Laurent Besacier

<http://alffa.imag.fr>



AGENCE NATIONALE DE LA RECHERCHE
ANR

Recent / current work at LIG

- ASR systems development
- Text normalization in Wolof
- Writing papers
 - SLTU 2016 submission (with DDL)
 - Wolof & Hausa ASR // Vowel length contrast modeling
 - LREC 2016 submission (with Vox & DDL)
 - Wolof data collection & ASR
 - Next Interspeech 2016
 - Text normalization, use of Web data for LM and voice transformation for AM
- LIG_Aikuma App (funding from BULB project)
- Dissemination work

ASR systems from LIG

- ASR developed available on-line
 - For reproducible experiments
 - https://github.com/besacier/ALFFA_PUBLIC/tree/master/ASR/
 - Amharic, Hausa, Swahili (Wolof soon)

Task	WER %
Swahili Broadcast News	20.7
Hausa Read Speech	10.0
Amharic Read Speech	8.7
Wolof Read Speech (under dev.)	27.2

Dissemination

- ALFFA web site : <http://alffa.imag.fr>
- Promoting research and innovation on African language technologies
 - **LIG** and **LIA** (L. Besacier, P. Nocera) are co-chairs of the next SLTU 2016 (Spoken Language Technologies for Under-Resourced Languages) workshop
 - **LIG** (M. Mangeot) will chair the TALAF 2016 Workshop on African Language Processing during JEP-TALN 2016
 - A mailing list on African Languages Processing Research is still maintained by **LIG** (talaf@imag.fr)
 - A **list of experts** on several African languages was gathered and put on our *Intranet* (34 names, 20 languages)
 - Special session on Sub-Saharan African languages accepted for next Interspeech 2016 in San Francisco
<http://www.interspeech2016.org/Scientific-Area-Topics>