

# Preface

Speaker recognition (known as voiceprint recognition in industry) is the process of automatically identifying or verifying the identity of a person from his/her voice, using the characteristic vocal information included in speech. It has gained great popularity in a wide range of applications in recent years. It enables the systems to use a person's voice to control the access to restricted services (such as automatic banking services), information (depending on the user's access right), or area (government or research facilities). It also allows the detection of speakers, such as voice-based information retrieval within audio archives, recognition of perpetrator in forensic analysis, and personalization of user devices.

After decades of research, current speaker recognition systems have achieved rather satisfactory performance. However, critical robustness issues still need to be addressed especially in practical situations. In this book, we provide an overview of technologies dealing with robustness-related issues in automatic speaker recognition. We categorize the robustness issues into three categories: environment-related, speaker-related, and application-oriented. For each category, we present current hot topics, the state-of-the-art technologies, and potential future research focuses.

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