Computers that understand speech: Where are we now?

Popular science fiction of the past century brought to us visions that have been abundantly surpassed by today's technology, except for machines that understand speech. The speech recognition technology used today was invented in the 1970s, and refined through the following 40 years to bring us popular application like Google Voice Search and Siri. However, we are still far from human-like capabilities. Where are the missing links? What are we doing wrong? In this talk I will discuss why speech recognition is so difficult, on which problems researchers around the world are working now, and what we can expect in the next few years.

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