



# TOWARDS APPROPRIATE USER INTERFACE DESIGN PRESERVING RURAL AFRICAN COMMUNICATION PRACTICES

## Agents as Mediators in Knowledge Transfer

### Context

In African rural communities with low literacy and written formal education, knowledge is transferred orally generally through story telling. An Elder (narrator) passes on the knowledge to other members of the community (listeners) through speech and gestures. I therefore propose the use of a Listener conversational agent as an appropriate interface for a knowledge management system in an African setting. The listener agent will give feedback that mimics face-to-face conversation for the narrator to elicit Knowledge that can be stored in a knowledge management system.

### Aim

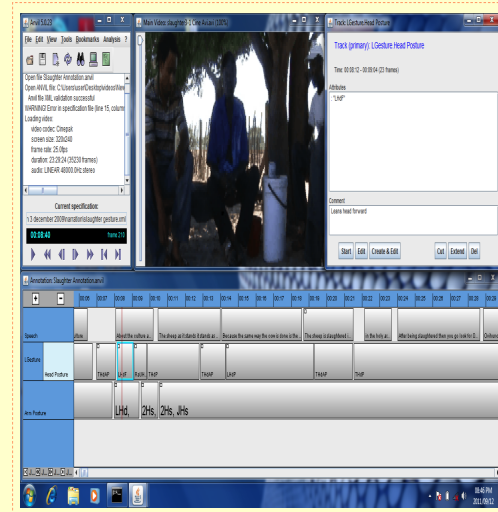
The aim of this research project is to determine current communication structures and discourse practices of listeners in a selected rural community.

### Objective

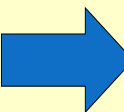
The main objective is to model the listeners communication patterns within a selected communication framework and attempt to map this into an appropriate interface design for a suitable ICT device.

### Expected Outcome

The gesture analysis should yield movement patterns that can model listener's gestures into an appropriate User Interface that will be proposed for a Herero conversational agent.



### Listener Agent



Mapped Communication patterns into an embodied conversational agent

Feed back from Agent



### Narrator



Narrator Speaks to Conversational Agent

### Contact

Shilumbe Chivuno-Kuria  
 Polytechnic of Namibia  
 Software Engineering Department  
 Email: schivuno@polytechnic.edu.na  
 Phone: +26461-2072057  
 Website: <http://www.sit.polytechnic.edu.na>

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