

Article

A Prototype of Speech Interface based on Google Cloud Platform to Access a Semantic Website

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Abstract: The main restriction of the Semantic Web is the difficult of the SPARQL language, that is necessary to extract information from the Knowledge Representation also known as ontology. Making the Semantic Web accessible for people who do not know SPARQL, is essential the use of friendlier interfaces and a good alternative is Natural Language. This paper shows the implementation of a friendly prototype interface to query and retrieve, by voice, information from website building with the Semantic Web tools. In that way, the end users avoid the complicated SPARQL language. To achieve this, the interface recognizes a speech query and converts it into text, it processes the text through a java program and identifies keywords, generates a SPARQL query, extracts the information from the website and read it in voice, for the user. In our work Google Cloud Speech API makes Speech-to-Text conversions and Text-to Speech conversions are made with SVOX Pico. As results, we have measured three variables: The success rate in queries, the response time of query and a usability survey. The values of the variables allows the evaluation of our prototype. Finally the interface proposed provides us a new approach in the problem, using the Cloud like a Service, reducing barriers of access to the Semantic Web for people without technical knowledge of Semantic Web technologies.

Keywords: artificial intelligence; semantic web; natural language; Google cloud speech; SPARQL.

1. Introduction

The rise of the World Wide Web (WWW) in the last years, has increased the difficulty of finding relevant information about specific study subjects (mainly, because of the ambiguity problem with the terms used in the searching tools). The Semantic Web, usually called Web 3.0 [1], is an attempt to solve that problem by the creation of a data exchanging procedure, that adds a semantic (or meaning) to the existing Web. To provide the Web of a comprehensible meaning for the computers, it is necessary a way to represent the knowledge. For that reason, information gatherings known as ontologies are used.

An ontology is formally defined as a set of concepts organized in hierarchical way, establishing properties and relationships between them, as a set of rules of inferences that allows us automatic manipulation of information.

The use of ontologies results in an efficient way to retrieve information, and to do that so it is necessary the SPARQL (SPARQL Protocol and RDF Query Language, recursive acronym). The problem is that, in many cases, SPARQL is very complicated to handle for an end-user. Experience in information retrieval, demonstrates that users are better at understanding graphical query interfaces rather than simple Boolean queries [2]. There are several works about the generation of Natural Language Interfaces (NLI) to query ontologies that have received wide attention and they allow users to express arbitrarily complex information. A Natural Language Interface is a system that allows users to access information

35 stored in some repository by formulating the request in natural language (e.g., English, German,
36 French, etc.) [3]. However, the implementation of NLI involves various problems due to linguistic
37 ambiguities and the development of accurate NLI is highly complicated. In [4] mentioned that NLI
38 help users avoid the burden of learning any logic-based language, offering end users a familiar and
39 intuitive way of query formulation. In [5],[6] mentioned that controlled natural language (CNL) has
40 received much attention due to its ability to reduce ambiguity in natural language. CNL are mainly
41 characterized by two essential properties [7] : 1) their grammar is more than that of the general
42 language, and 2) their vocabulary only contains a fraction of the words that are permissible in the
43 general language.

44 We believe that adding voice queries to the CNL, we will improve the queries of the end users. This
45 Speech Interface will be the main contribution of our article. For the authors, an easy way to retrieve
46 information, is querying by voice to a website that contains an ontology of a particular domain. This
47 work focus on building a speech interface based on Google Cloud Platform to access a Semantic
48 Website. With this interface, the barriers of accessing to the Semantic Web for people without technical
49 knowledge will be reduced.

50 Finally, in our work to achieve voice queries, it will be necessary to use the cloud computing because
51 provides resources and services over a network (usually the internet). A feature of cloud computing, is
52 the ubiquitous network access that allows us access from any device such as: an iphone, cell phones and
53 laptops. As results, we present three variables that indicate the performance of our prototype to users.
54 To achieve the results, two programs have implemented, one in Python language for transforming
55 from text into speech and vice versa and another in Java language for the implementation of natural
56 language. Many different queries to the interface were made, for each query several data were taken
57 and different average time responses were obtained.

58 In the next Section, review related work in the theme. The third Section we have mentioned the
59 problems found in the subject from previous works. The fourth Section presents implement architecture
60 with a Speech interface that can make queries and obtain response by voice using cloud computing
61 services. The fifth Section depicts experimental results that we have obtained with the built architecture.
62 Finally, in Section 6, the conclusions and future work are examined and presented.

63 2. Related Work

64 The state of the art is based on papers related to Platforms and Semantic Portals, Natural Language,
65 SPARQL queries, speech interfaces for web and Cloud computing.

66 In [2] Bernstein, Kaufmann & Kaiser state that users have problems even in the simplest Boolean
67 expressions. To face this issue, it is introduced Ginseng, a quasi-Natural Language interface to query
68 the Semantic Web. Ginseng is based on a simple question and its structure is dynamically extended
69 through an Ontology structure in order to guide users in their query elaboration.

70 Regardless of Wang, Xiong, Zhou & Yu, presenting a Natural Language interface system called PANTO,
71 a Portable nAtural laNguage inTerface to Ontologies [8]. Which accepts generic natural language
72 queries and outputs SPARQL queries. Based on a special consideration on nominal phrases, it adopts
73 a triple-based data model to interpret the parse trees output by an off-the-shelf parser.

74 Independently in [9] is presented a semantic based search for model human speech corpora, stressing
75 the search for meanings rather than words. The framework developed embraces the complete
76 recognition and retrieval cycle, from word spotting to semantic annotation, query processing, and
77 search for result presentation. Kaufmann & Bernstein state that the need of making accessible the
78 content to the final users, it is high priority, as more information is stored in knowledge databases and
79 Natural Language interfaces are needed, so they will provide a familiar and convenient environment
80 to data access of the Semantic Web [3].

81 Then, in [4] is presented OWLPath, a Natural Language-Query editor guided by multilanguage
82 OWL-formatted ontologies. This application allows non expert users easily to create SPARQL queries
83 that can be issued over most existing ontology storage systems. The authors presented a global

84 architecture system that is composed of five components and the empirical results were applied in
85 two domains: one in the e-finance and the another in e-tourist.

86 Independently Damljanovic, Agatonovic & Cunningham state with large datasets such as Linked Open
87 Data available, there is a need for more user-friendly interfaces which will bring advantages of these
88 data closer to the casual users [10]. The authors presented a system named FREyA, which combines
89 syntactic parsing with the knowledge encoded in ontologies in order to reduce the customization
90 effort.

91 In [11] is stated that in many cases making a SPARQL triplet query does not mean a true representation
92 of a query semantic structure in Natural Language. To avoid this problem, the authors propose a novel
93 approach to questions answering over Resource Description Framework (RDF) data that relies on a
94 parse of the question to produce a SPARQL template that directly mirrors the internal structure of
95 the question and that, in a second step, is instantiated by mapping the occurring natural language
96 expressions to the domain vocabulary. Chang, Hung, Wang & Lin mention that Automatic speech
97 recognition (ASR) is a technology which converts the phrases of words spoken by human into text
98 [12]. As a mature technology, ASR has become an alternative input method on many mobile devices,
99 complementing other input methods operated by hands.

100 In [13] mentioned that cloud computing is a model for enabling ubiquitous, convenient, on-demand
101 network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources (e.g., networks, servers, storage,
102 applications, and services) that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management
103 effort or service provider interaction. Then, [14] mentioned that the cloud computing emerges as a
104 new computing paradigm which aims to provide reliable, customized and QoS guaranteed dynamic
105 computing environments for end-users.

106 Independently Bukhari & Kim, presents an Ontological Model called HOIEV (Heavyweight Ontology
107 Based Information Extraction for Visually Impaired User) is developed which architecture provides a
108 mechanism to extract accurate information from the ontology which also designs and uses a Speech
109 Command System designed for visual impaired people. The prototype system design not only
110 integrates and communicates among different tools, such as voice command parsers, domain ontology
111 extractors and short message engines, but also, introduces an autonomous mechanism of information
112 extraction (IE) using an ontology [15].

113 In [16] is presented DEANNA, a framework for Natural Language question answering over structured
114 knowledge bases. Given a Natural Language question, DEANNA translates questions into a structured
115 SPARQL query that can be evaluated over knowledge bases such as Yago, Dbpedia, Freebase, or other
116 linked data sources. DEANNA also analyzes questions and maps verbal phrases to relations and noun
117 phrases to either individual entities or semantic classes.

118 Independently Pradel, Haemmerlè & Hernandez provide a method to the users for making queries to
119 ontology based knowledge databases that are using Natural Language through query patterns. The
120 approach that present in the paper differs from existing ones in the way that they propose to guide
121 the interpretation processes by using predefined query patterns which represent these query families.
122 The use of patterns avoids exploring the ontology to link the semantic entities identified from the
123 keywords since potential query shapes are already expressed in the patterns [17].

124 Then, Androutsopoulos, Lampouras & Galanis present a detailed description of NaturalOWL [18],
125 an open source natural language generation (NLG) system that produces English and Greek texts
126 describing individuals or classes of owl ontologies. Unlike simplex verbalizers, which typically express
127 a single axiom at a time in controlled, often not entirely fluent English primarily for the benefit of
128 domain experts, natural owl aims to generate fluent and coherent multi-sentence texts for end-users in
129 more than one languages. The authors concluded that NaturalOwL produces significantly better texts
130 compared to a simpler verbalizer.

131 Bansal & Chawla developed a system that provides user friendly interface that accepts queries in
132 natural language and extracts data from a ontology in a domain specific to retrieve the desire results
133 [19]. The authors proposed an IRSCSD system (Information retrieval system for computer science

134 domain). This system offers advanced querying and browsing of structured data with search for
135 results automatically aggregated and rendered directly in a consistent user interface, thus, reducing
136 the manual effort of users. In the methodology proposed, the authors using a QUEPY framework
137 developed in Python language that is used to transform natural language questions into queries in
138 RDF query language SPARQL.

139 Finally in [20] is presented a Question Answering (QA) system which combines multiple knowledge
140 bases, with a Natural Language parser to transform questions into SPARQL queries or another query
141 language. The authors demonstrated the feasibility to build such as semantic QA system, the accuracy
142 and relevance of the returned results.

143 3. Current Problems

144 From the papers reviewed, the following problems were found.

- 145 • The Semantic Web presents a dynamic growing of the knowledge, based on formal logic.
146 However, it is difficult for common users access to this because of they have problems in
147 the construction of the simplest queries [2]
- 148 • Linked data initiative encompass structured databases in the RDF data model (Resource
149 Description Framework) from the Semantic Web. Even for expert users, it is quite complex
150 to explore such heterogeneous data [16].
- 151 • An increasing quantity of RDF data is issued as Linked Data, so an intuitive way to access
152 those data becomes more important, but the most expressive queries fail to be represented nor
153 answered [11].
- 154 • Voice recognition software have become more popular, especially on smartphones, which implies
155 it is needed to work on the translation of Natural Language queries into formal queries [17]

156 From these problems we have developed our own prototype interface which can solve some of them,
157 this interface supports voice queries, to avoid the difficulty for users without technical knowledge
158 about Semantic Web and SPARQL, this way we try to reduce the access barrier.

159 Cloud computing services will be needed to make consultation voice queries. In [14] mentioned
160 that cloud computing provide users with services to access hardware, software and data resources,
161 thereafter an integrated computing platform as a service.

162 4. Implemented Architecture

163 The proposed architecture is a Speech Interface that can make queries and obtain response
164 by voice, linked to a platform designed with the semantic web tools, OWL, SPARQL, ontologies,
165 etc. At hardware level there are two parts, Raspberry Pi and Web Server. In more abstract level
166 four blocks can be distinguish; Text-to-speech (TTS) and speech-to-text (STT) converter, Web
167 interface, Natural Language Processing (NLP) Module, Knowledge Representation Module. In the
168 implementation of the architecture we use the tools of cloud computing, in our case we use the layer
169 called Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) that provides user the ability to deploy their applications in the
170 cloud by programming both language and software tools (For example Java, Phyton, Google App).
171 Figure 1 shows the Proposed Architecture.

172

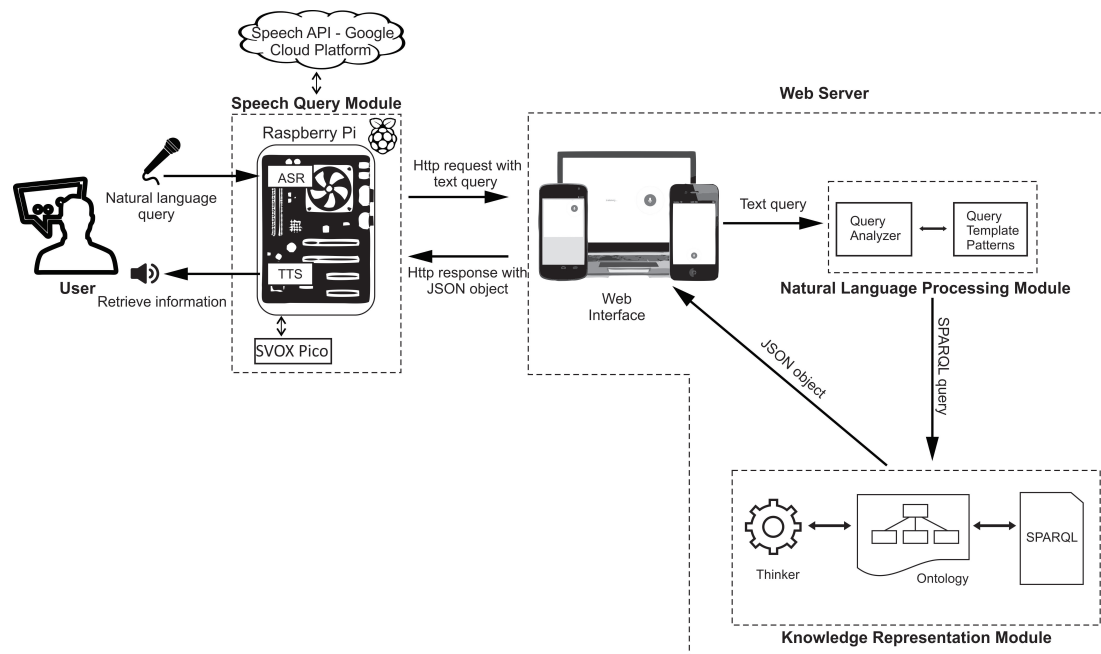


Figure 1. Proposed Architecture

173 4.1. Implementation of the web server using the Semantic Web tools

174 The Semantic Web involves many areas of computer science, including Artificial Intelligence,
 175 Web Development, Databases, Software Agents, Theoretical Computer Science, Systems Engineering,
 176 Computational Linguistics and Pattern Recognition, Document Engineering and Digital Libraries,
 177 Human-Computer interfaces, Social and Human sciences [21]. This research, appeals to some of these
 178 topics to implement the Web Server. The implementation was made with the following stages:

179 4.1.1. Knowledge Representation Module

180 The module consists of an ontology that contains all the concepts of the topic studied [22], states
 181 that an ontology encodes the knowledge of and specific domain, in a way it can be understood by a
 182 computer; where a domain is a specific area or sphere of knowledge, such as photography, medicine,
 183 education, etc. For a quick and easy information retrieve asked by the user, the information is stored
 184 inside the ontology. The ontology provides us a class and relationship vocabulary to describe the
 185 respective domain. This relationships are expressed in a hierarchical way in which the most general
 186 concepts are found in upper zones (super classes) and the most specific concepts are in the lower
 187 zones (sub classes). The ontology will be designed in OWL (Web Ontology Language) which is the
 188 latest recommendation of World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) [23], and is probably the most popular
 189 language for creating ontologies today. The W3C is one of the most active communities regarding the
 190 development of standards for the web and a fundamental pillar for the advance implementation and
 191 consolidation of the Semantic Web [24]. An increasing number of ontology are being developed and
 192 their reusing and sharing offers several benefits. One important benefit is that we can significantly
 193 save time and effort by reusing existing ontology instead of building new one every time. However,
 194 in our work we have built a new ontological model. This ontology will be based on tourism, an
 195 important topic according our national reality. In addition, for ontology modeling, Methontology
 196 recommendations will be follow, which is the standard created by the Ontological Engineering Group
 197 of the Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM), which comprises the Specification, Conceptualization,
 198 Knowledge Acquiring, Integration, Implementation, Maintenance, Evaluation, and Documentation
 199 [25]. Currently there are editors that minimize user effort, either through contextual aids or through

200 friendly graphical interfaces. This facilitates as much as possible the task of creating an ontological
 201 model and avoiding to the user typing raw code. In the article Protegé editor is used. Figure 2 depicts
 202 the ontology produced by the editor.

203

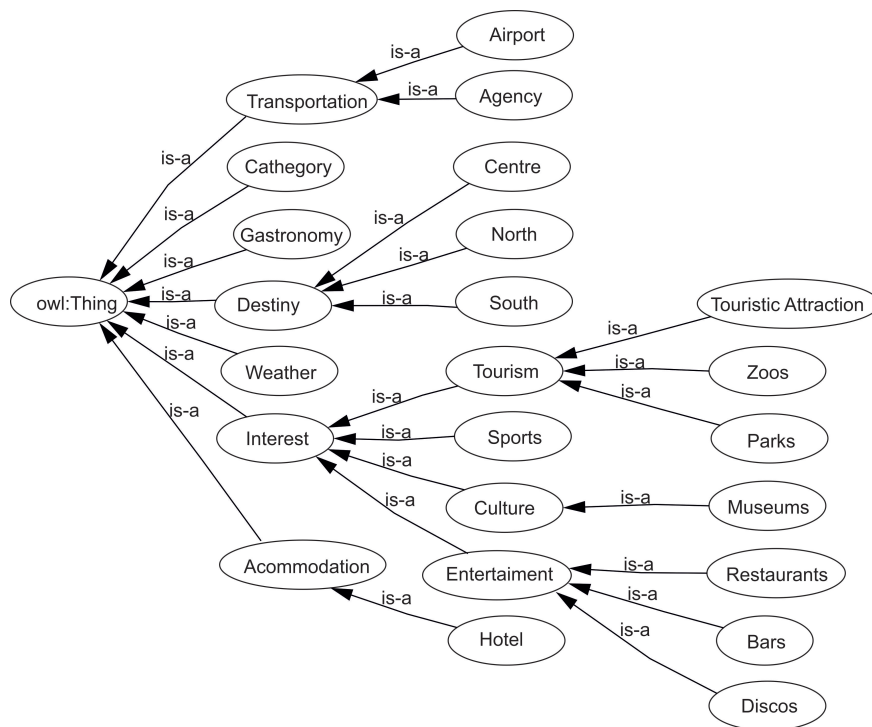


Figure 2. Ontological Model

204 In our work, we have chosen the tourism sector as the domain of ontology because in our
 205 country it is a sector of considerable growth. A trip involves multiple needs such as: lodging, food,
 206 transport, etc. Consequently, a tourist should consult information sources that offer different options.
 207 As observed in figure 2, our ontological model defines the main classes as Transportation, Category,
 208 Gastronomy, Destiny, Weather, Interest and Accommodation. Then, the subclasses, instances, relations
 209 and properties of our ontological model are defined, the authors check the consistency of the ontology
 210 with tools of the Protegé editor. Finally, we have obtained an OWL ontology that contains all the
 211 tourist information applied in special case in Peru that will be used by the system.

212 4.1.2. Natural Language Processing Module

213 In the literature reviewed, we observed there are studies that have implemented different natural
 214 language interface for the Semantic Web, but in these studies are not considered consultations by voice
 215 through interface.

216 As time goes on, according to [10], software availability of speech recognizing that understands
 217 Natural Language will become more and more popular and can be applied in mobile devices. It
 218 implies that it must be work on query transformation in Natural Language to formal semantic queries
 219 in SPARQL language. Natural Language Processing (NLP) have target to automatically process
 220 and translate the language of humans into one that machines can analyze, interpret and retrieve
 221 information effectively. In [26], mentioned that Natural Language Processing (NLP) generally requires
 222 computationally and conceptually intensive algorithms relying large amounts of domain-dependent
 223 background knowledge, which is, to make things worse, costly to produce.

224 The Natural Language Processing Module uses a Java program that in essence remove accents,
 225 transform into minuscule, separate the phrase in gaps, compare word by word with the templates to

226 choose the correct one. These processes are shows in the figure 3.

227

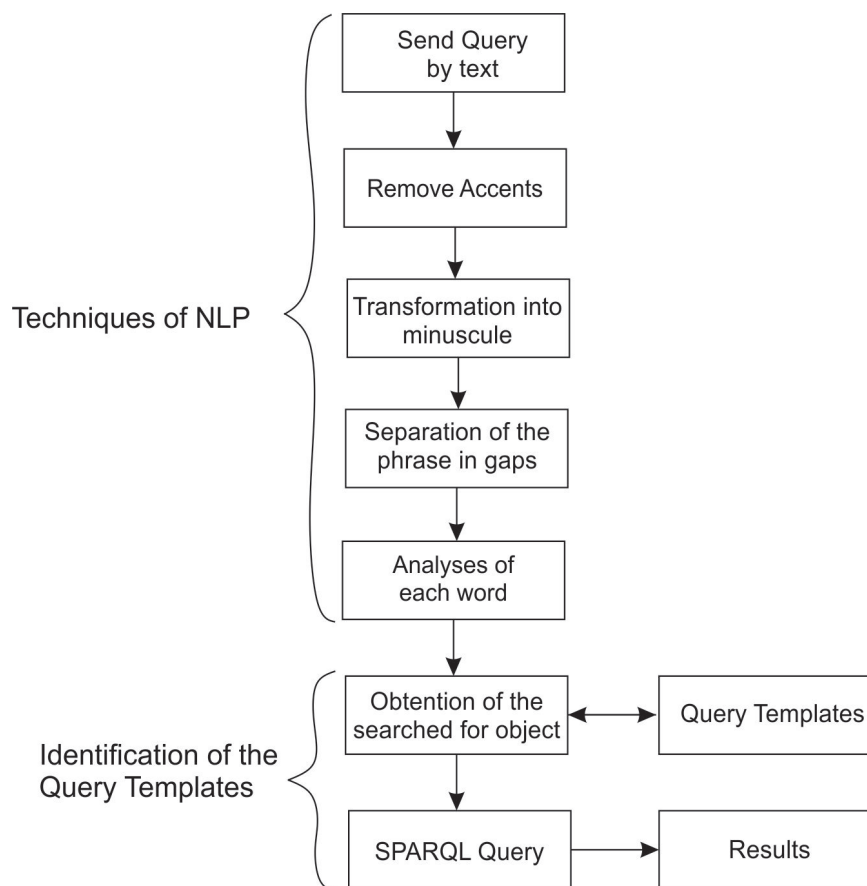


Figure 3. Steps for Natural Language Processing

228 An important part of the experiment is to identify the query templates use, because of there where
 229 Natural Language query is done. In many cases it is impossible for the final user to understand the
 230 complex schemes of the Semantic Web in order to express a valid query in SPARQL language. Also,
 231 the user needs to know the ontological model, to make queries. There are works around the world that
 232 are trying to transform a query from Natural Language into SPARQL query language, identifying the
 233 subject, predicate, and object in the sentences of the respective query. In our paper, a variation has been
 234 done. An object or variable of the query made by the user has been identified, from comparison criteria
 235 of the user's query with the pre-established templates, without many complications in the usage of
 236 SPARQL, by using only one variable in the query. This is because the SPARQL query language has
 237 possibility of placing a variable instead of an RDF term in the subject, predicate or objects position.
 238 There are two internal processes that are detailed as follows and shows in Figure 4.

239 • Comparison Criteria

240 In the present research, several patterns of templates have been designed to be converted into SPARQL
 241 queries, but all of them developed for the case of tourism in Peru. For example, consider a question like
 242 "find hotels in the city of Lima with contain price, name, category, address, and destiny?" A possible
 243 SPARQL formulation could consist of the following patterns (joined by shared-variable bindings) ? x
 244 has name, ?x has price, ? x has category, ?x has address, ?x has destiny, ?x isa ?place. This complex
 245 query, which involves multiple joins, would yield good results but it would be difficult for the user.
 246 This would require familiarity with the contents of the information base, which no average user is

247 expected to here. In the work, due to complexity mentioned all queries performed by voice have the
 248 same format and are expressed as follows: “find hotels in city, find museums in city, find discos in city,
 249 find restaurants in city, find transport agencies in city”. The table 1 shows some relationship between
 250 the find for a place and the templates developed in Natural Language.

Table 1. How to get information in the system.

Find for a place	Template in Natural Language
Hotels	Find hotels in %Place
Museums	Find museums in %Place
Discos	Find discos in %Place
Restaurants	Find restaurants in %Place
Transport Agencies	Find transport agencies in %Place

251 For instance, in searching for hotels in the Department of Lima, a voice query “Find hotels in
 252 Lima” is made (transformed into text string). Then it will be compared with the sentence defined
 253 in Natural Language (NL) “Find hotels in %Place”, where %Place is the variable or object that the
 254 system recognizes and it will be associated with the SPARQL query template to use. The system will
 255 be comparing word by word and finally it will find something that does not recognize and this will
 256 be the variable in which a determined value must be assigned. When the system obtains the already
 257 defined object as “Lima”, it will send it to the Knowledge Representation Module where the SPARQL
 258 query is completed through the Jena Library.

259 • SPARQL Query

260 When identified the object, the query in SPARQL language is made. This query will give us the
 261 information of all the hotels in Lima, even more it will give us additional information such as: name,
 262 price, address and category. In our work, there is a relationship between the sentences to ask with the
 263 query in SPARQL language (see table 1).

264 In the same way, other inquiries can be made to the system and all of them perform the same
 265 operations to obtain the desired results. The following listing shows a query to find the museums in
 266 the city of Piura.

```

267 PREFIX table: <http://www.owl-ontologies.com/Ontology1370130534.owl#>
268 SELECT*
269 FROM <http://www.owl-ontologies.com/Ontology1370130534.
270 WHERE {
271   ?museums table:name?name.
272   ?museums table:address?adress.
273   ?museums table:price?price.
274   ?museums table:touristAttraction_find_destination?
275   touristAttraction_find_destination
276   Filter(?touristAttraction_find_destination=:piura)
277 }
278
279
  
```

Listing 1: SPARQL query

280 4.1.3. Web Interface

281 For development of the Web Interface, we use JavaServer Pages (JSP) to interact with HTML
 282 and XML. In addition, we use a free and open source Java Framework for building Semantic Web
 283 and linked data applications called Jena Apache. Jena is in API for Java language will be used as
 284 a developing tool, which permits the management of Ontologies in OWL code. According to [27]

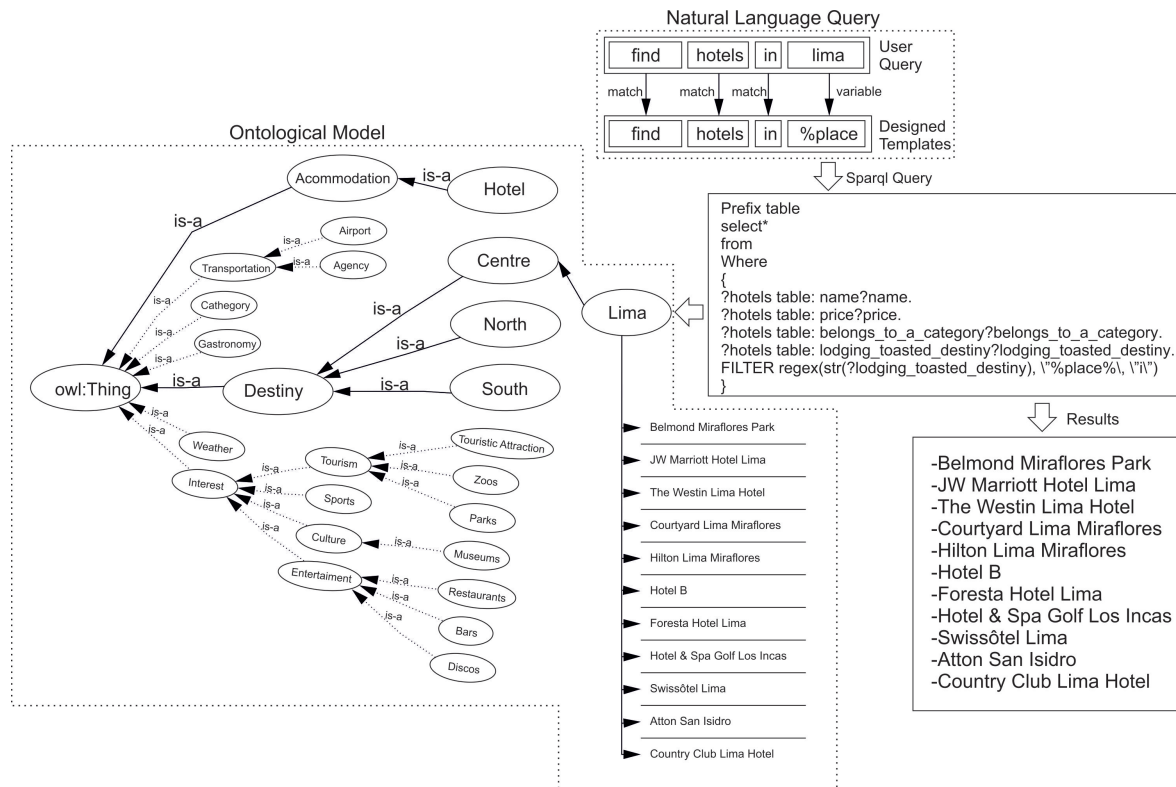


Figure 4. Internal Process

285 Jena it is necessary for semantic web applications, such as: read, analyze, write and create, navigate
 286 and search through an RDF (Resource Definition Framework) chart, query in the RDF database using
 287 OWL, ontologies. Furthermore, the platform will be based on the Model – View – Controller scheme,
 288 which implement servlets to manage user queries. Such queries can be verified in an Ontological
 289 editor using SPARQL [1] recommend, SPARQL that will be used to consult RDF or OWL documents.
 290 The Web Interface interact with Raspberry Pi although HTTP requests. Each HTTP request carries a
 291 query in text, which is sent to SPARQL generator. It also receives JSON objects from the Knowledge
 292 Representation Module. Figure 5 shows a SPARQL query using Jena.

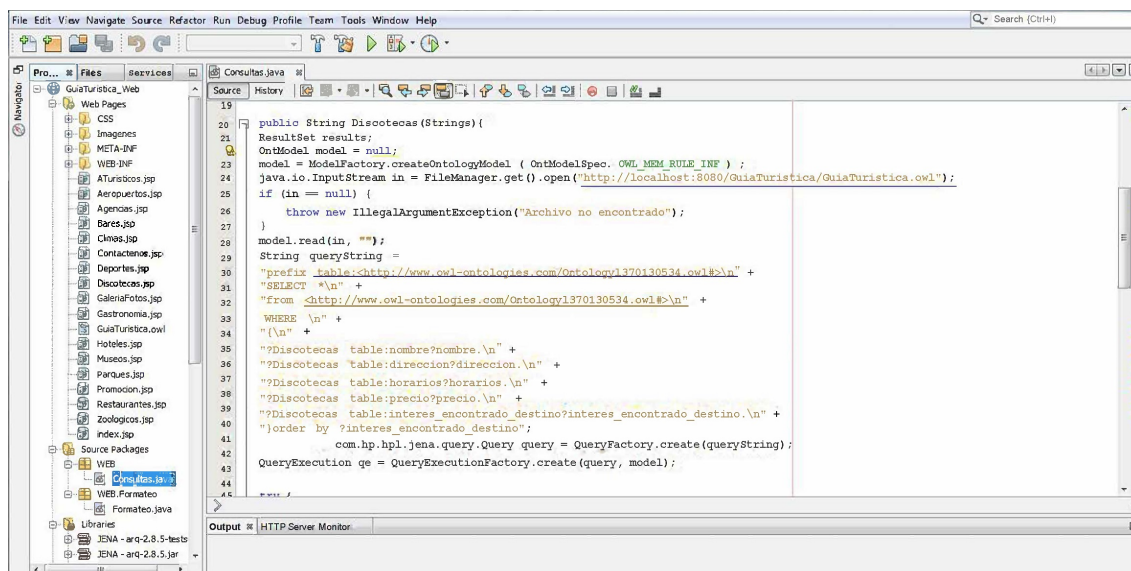
293

294 4.2. Implementation of the Speech – Query Module

295 We use Raspberry Pi 2 in the implementation of the module. Raspberry Pi 2 is a single-board
 296 computer, despite its diminutive size, low price and unglamorous appearance, it is a fully functional
 297 computer (Partner, 2014). The Raspberry Pi 2 employs a Broadcom BCM2836 SoC with a 900 MHz
 298 32-bit quad-core ARM Cortex-A7 processor, with 256 KB shared L2 cache. We use a USB Audio
 299 Sound Card Adapter to create a microphone-in and audio-out jack from the USB port. Raspberry
 300 Pi 2 performs text-to-speech conversion, speech-to-text conversion and HTTP requests to the Web
 301 Server. To make some transformations of this module we will use cloud computing techniques.
 302 In [28] mentioned that thanks to the use of inexpensive, commodity hardware and open source
 303 implementations, experimenting with these techniques is easy, even with very low budgets. Adapting
 304 cloud computing techniques, however requires a special kind of expertise.

305 4.2.1. Speech to text conversion (STT)

306 The conversion process used is the Automatic Speech Recognizing (ASR), which requires
 307 appropriate hardware architecture. In [29] it can be seen that exist a considerable number ASR



```

19
20 public String Discotecas (Strings) {
21     ResultSet results;
22     OntModel model = null;
23     model = ModelFactory.createOntologyModel ( OntModelSpec.OWL_MEM_RULE_INF );
24     java.io.InputStream in = FileManager.get ().open ("http://localhost:8080/GuiaTuristica/GuiaTuristica.owl");
25     if (in == null) {
26         throw new IllegalArgumentException ("Archivo no encontrado");
27     }
28     model.read (in, "");
29     String queryString =
30     "prefix table:<http://www.owl-ontologies.com/Ontology1370130534.owl#>\n" +
31     "SELECT *\n" +
32     "from <http://www.owl-ontologies.com/Ontology1370130534.owl#>\n" +
33     "WHERE \n" +
34     "{\n" +
35     "?Discotecas table:nombre?nombre.\n" +
36     "?Discotecas table:direccion?direccion.\n" +
37     "?Discotecas table:horarios?horarios.\n" +
38     "?Discotecas table:precio?precio.\n" +
39     "?Discotecas table:interes_encontrado_destino?interes_encontrado_destino.\n" +
40     "}"
41     "order by ?interes_encontrado_destino";
42     com.hp.hpl.jena.query.Query query = QueryFactory.create (queryString);
43     QueryExecution qe = QueryExecutionFactory.create (query, model);
44
45
46

```

Figure 5. Query SPARQL in Jena

308 systems, some open source, other private and even based on cloud services. According to [30] thanks
309 to the processing in the cloud, the ASR can be used in devices that do not have a high performance
310 processor and avoid the use of complex processing algorithms. In [31] was presented a system using
311 API Google STT that operate together with reduce board computer Raspberry Pi with excellent results
312 (within 85-90% accuracy). The advantage of using this tiny PC is its small size that "makes ideal" to
313 be embedded anywhere without saturating the available space. On the other hand, the low cost of
314 equipment enables this massive distribution. However, the terminal requires an internet connection. In
315 our case, API Google STT service got our attention because is a cloud computing system and does not
316 compromise the performance of the local computer. This service use "deep learning neural network
317 algorithms" that provides high accuracy in speech recognition. To make the transformation, a Python
318 language program has been designed that separates the audio according into its intensity generating
319 an audio file, in FLAC (Free Lossless Audio Codec) format, where a voice presence is assessed to exist.
320 Then, that file is sent to the Google Cloud Speech service using the Speech Recognition 3.6.0 library,
321 giving a string of text as an answer containing the words of the original audio.

322 4.2.2. Text to Speech conversion (TTS)

323 For text to speech conversion (TTS), it is possible to use online and offline engines. Usually, offline
324 engines provide us poor voice quality (and sometimes, a limited number of languages are available).
325 On the other hand, TTS engines online can make a high quality voice synthesis, but require a higher
326 bandwidth of the internet connection and add latency time to the system (which would be better
327 avoided). Fortunately, we found an offline TTS engine, SVOX Pico, which offers an acceptable voice
328 quality. SVOX Pico is a new light-weight Text-to-Speech (TTS) solution. It is designed for integration
329 into mobile phones and other mobile devices. Complementing the SVOX Pico SDK s, the SVOX Pico
330 SDK has a new lean API supporting rapid integration and giving full control over the TTS process.
331 The string is sent to our server with the ontology for processing. The server returns back a JSON object
332 like an answer with the result or results of the searching inside the ontology. Then, the JSON object is
333 separated and read loudly by the TTS engine.

334 5. Experimental Results

335 In this section, we provide the experimental results of the performance of Speech Interface in
336 terms of three variables such as: the success rate in queries, the response time of query and the usability

of the system. The following equipment and software was used for the experimental tests: Laptop HP Corel I5 2.66 GH, DR3 Memory, 4 GB RAM, Raspberry Pi, microphone, sound card, Operative System: Xubuntu 14.04, Web Server: Tomcat, Protegé editor, program in Python Language for transforming from text to speech and vice versa.

The success in our experiment is an operation which "gets" a correct answer to the query. In our work, the success rate in queries was checked. For the calculation of the rate, we performed various questions in the domain of tourism such as: search hotels, museums, restaurants, nightclubs, transportation agencies and cinemas in all cities of Peru. According [32],[33], the recommended sample size (number of queries) was 30 using the parameters of an estimation of population proportion. Several tests were made and 83.3% of correct results were found. The following table shows these results.

Table 2. The success rate in queries

Number of queries	Number of hits	Number of failures	Percentage of hits
30	25	5	83.3

To measure the response time of the query, nine different queries to the platform were made, for each query 10 data were taken and different average time responses were obtained in seconds. The times of every stage of our implementation are shown in table 3:

Table 3. Response time of query in system

Queries	Server Time (s)	Google Cloud Speech API (s)	Delay Time (s)	Total Time (s)
Find hotels in Lima	2.380	1.660	2.475	6.515
Find hotels in Piura	2.343	1.986	2.451	6.780
Find hotels in Ica	1.974	1.796	2.107	5.877
Find museums in Lima	0.217	2.126	2.405	4.748
Find museums in Piura	0.179	1.570	2.368	4.117
Find museums in Ica	0.278	2.127	2.466	4.871
Find hotels of 4 and 5 stars in Lima	1.498	2.381	1.707	5.586
Find hotels of 4 and 5 stars in Piura	2.374	2.490	2.496	7.360
Find hotels of 4 and 5 stars in Ica	2.273	1.924	2.449	6.646

As seen in Table 3, many response times of the system have been obtained, by making a program developed in Python language that calculates the time. In each case, it is seen that answers are too small. First, time response of web server is a period of time between the Raspberry Pi send a HTTP request and web server send a HTTP response with JSON object. Second, time response of Google Cloud Speech API is the time spent in Speech-to-Text conversion. Third, time response is Delay Time of system. This delay includes the process of transformation from voice to text and possible errors before the inquiry. To avoid these errors we must perform initial small training of system. To start the trainee system we carry out the following question "Hello Samanta", the system responds "Hello, what do you want?". From, there we can make queries in natural language, and then the system will start with the transformation into a SPARQL query. As we see in Figure 6, the system spends more time in the delay, All the times they were verified using tests statistics to analyze whether the data used come from a normal distribution. The time that is selected as an indicator in the speech interface is the total time of making the whole operation in the system and this can be used to make future comparisons with other querying interfaces.

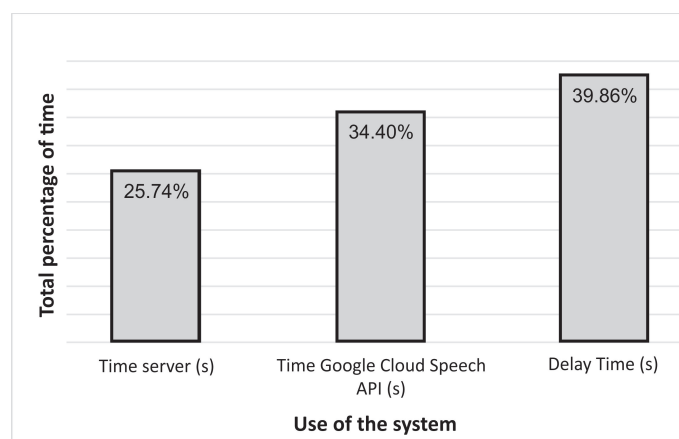


Figure 6. Percentage distribution of query according to use of the system

365 Assess the usability of the graphical user interface is to evaluate the bi-directional and interactive
 366 communicative process between user and system. The usability is defined as the extent to which the
 367 product can be used by specified users to achieve specified goals with effectiveness, efficiency, and
 368 satisfaction in a specified context of use and it is an important factor in human-computer interaction
 369 [34]. The measurement of the satisfaction of user interface, was conducted based on a small survey
 370 with statements on the Likert scale [35]. Some of the questions were:

- 371 • "The use of the interface was simple to learn"
 372 Agree | — | Neutral | — | Disagree
- 373 • "Interact with the interface was a frustrating experience"
 374 Agree | — | Neutral | — | Disagree
- 375 • "I think that the interface has all the potential I need"
 376 Agree | — | Neutral | — | Disagree
- 377 • "I think that this interface is very pleasant to work"
 378 Agree | — | Neutral | — | Disagree

379 The survey was applied for an average of 30 persons [32],[33]. The results were: 83.33 % agree, 10
 380 % neutral and 6.67 % disagree quite. The following table shows these results.

Table 4. Results of the survey

Agree	Neutral	Disagree	%Agree
25	3	2	83.33

381 Finally these results indicate that the majority of users agree

382 6. Conclusions and Future Work

383 In the paper, we conclude that it is possible to use the tools of the Semantic Web and the use
 384 of Natural Language Processing (NLP) , build a prototype interface based on CNL where you can
 385 perform voice query. The authors believe that it is possible enrich our variety of queries designing new
 386 SPARQL templates (in our research we have 10 SPARQL templates).

387 In this article verified that with this focus, the gap between the Semantic Web and the real users is
 388 overcome because they can make their queries in Natural Language easily without previous knowledge
 389 of semantic technologies. Finally, for the evaluation of our designed prototype, three dependent
 390 variables were measured such as: the success rate in the query, the query response time, and a
 391 usability survey. In the verification of the success rate, quite acceptable results were obtained, with
 392 a relatively high success rate. The implemented interface allows to recover requested information

393 quickly. Experiments made for different templates with patterns in several queries, show good results
394 in obtaining the total response time. After applying the usability survey, the attitude of the users was
395 quite positive and the vast majority of them mentioned that the interface was quite friendly. With the
396 results of the evaluation, we conclude that our interface is helpful to the user.

397 Currently, our designed system is not portable because is customized to be used in tourism domain.
398 Future work includes some of the limitations that our current prototype still has. First, add new
399 domains. Second, introduces a new framework that helps to perform the queries in Natural Language.
400 Third, consider more variables in the SPARQL queries.

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402 developing ideas about the Natural Language and Semantic Web. Juan Carlos Montalvan-Figueroa have
403 contributed implementing Python language program. Joseps Andrade-Choque validated the results obtained. All
404 the authors were involved in preparing the manuscript.

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473 **Sample Availability:** Samples of the compounds are available from the authors.