Android Text to Speech Voice Recognition

Text to Speech

- Synthesizes speech from text
- Immediate playback from mobile device
- Or create a sound file
- Important modality of interaction/communication
- Many applications: Enrich reading, support people with special needs, etc.

TextToSpeech Overview

- A TextToSpeech instance can only be used to synthesize text once it has completed its initialization
- Implement the <u>TextToSpeech.OnInitListener</u> to be notified of the completion of the initialization.
- When you are done using the TextToSpeech instance, call the <u>shutdown()</u> method to release the native resources used by the TextToSpeech engine.

Nested Classes

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class	TextToSpeech.Engine	Constants and parameter names for controlling text-to-speech.
class	TextToSpeech.EngineInfo	Information about an installed text-to-speech engine.
interface	TextToSpeech.OnInitListener	Interface definition of a callback to be invoked indicating the completion of the TextToSpeech engine initialization.

Basic Methods

int	setVoice (Voice voice) Sets the text-to-speech voice.
void	shutdown () Releases the resources used by the TextToSpeech engine.
int	speak (CharSequence text, int queueMode, Bundle params, String utteranceId) Speaks the text using the specified queuing strategy and speech parameters, the text may be spanned with TtsSpans.
int	<pre>speak (String text, int queueMode, HashMap<string, string=""> params) This method was deprecated in API level 21. As of API level 21, replaced by speak(CharSequence, int, Bundle, String).</string,></pre>
int	stop () Interrupts the current utterance (whether played or rendered to file) and discards other utterances in the queue.

Speak() method parameters

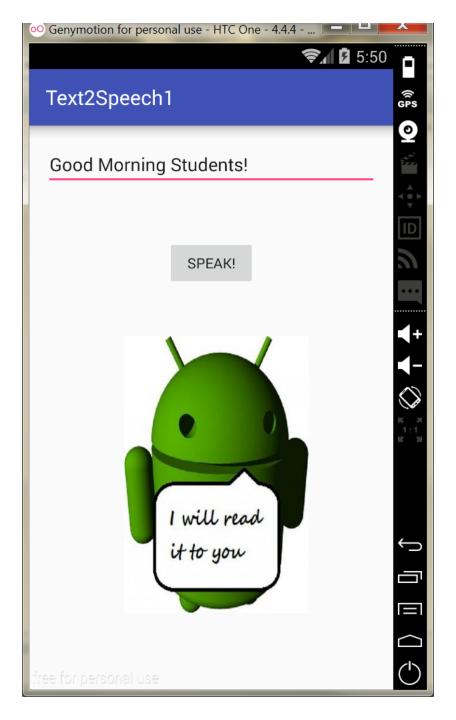
text The string of text to be spoken. No longer than <code>getMaxSpeechInputLength()</code> characters.

queueMode The queuing strategy to use, QUEUE_ADD or QUEUE_FLUSH.

params Parameters for the request. Can be null. Supported parameter names: KEY_PARAM_STREAM,

KEY_PARAM_VOLUME, KEY_PARAM_PAN. Engine specific parameters may be passed in but the parameter keys must be prefixed by the name of the engine they are intended for. For example the keys "com.svox.pico_foo" and "com.svox.pico:bar" will be passed to the engine named "com.svox.pico" if it is being used.

utteranceId An unique identifier for this request.



Speech Recognition

- Very important modality of interaction. Same as TTS, from the opposite direction.
- We can speak to our app.
- Greek not currently supported by Google (End 2015)
- Quite many applications. People with special needs, driving, etc.

SpeechRecognizer Overview

- This class provides access to the speech recognition service.
- Do not instantiate this class directly, instead, call <u>createSpeechRecognizer(Context)</u>
- This class's methods must be invoked only from the main application thread.
- The implementation of this API is likely to stream audio to remote servers to perform speech recognition.

RecognizerIntent Overview

- Support speech recognition through starting an Intent
- ACTION_RECOGNIZE_SPEECH
 - Starts an activity that will prompt the user for speech and send it through a speech recognizer.
 - The results will be returned via activity results
 - You must either use <u>startActivityForResult(Intent, int)</u> (,or provide a PendingIntent, to receive recognition results).

