IM2 Phase III Executive Summary

Hervé Bourlard, IM2 Director
Idiap Research Institute
Touradj Ebrahimi, IM2 Deputy Director
EPFL

IM2 Advisory Board, September 2, 2011



FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE
SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS
FONDO NAZIONALE SVIZZERO
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



Outline

- Background and context
- Summary of IM2 Phase I & II (2002-2009)
- Summary of IM2 Phase III (2010-2013)

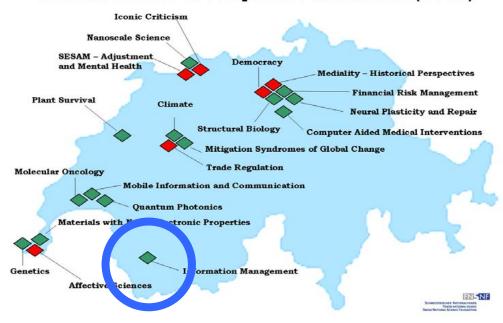




Background and context

20 National Centres of Competence in Research

National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR)



Interactive Multimodal Information Management (IM2)

- Phase I (2002-2005):
 - SNFS funding: 15'400'000.- CHF
 - Self & third-party funding: 16'220'000.- CHF
- Phase II (2006-2009):
 - SNFS funding (Y3 20%, Y4 40% reduction): 11'900'000.- CHF
 - Self & third-party funding: 11'900'000.- CHF
- Phase III (2010-2013)
 - SNFS funding (40% of Phase II): 4'760'000.- CHF
 - Self & third-party funding: 4'765'000.- CHF





IM2 Phase I (2002-2005)

- Initiated the IM2 common vision:
 - Human-to-human interaction in multimodal meeting recordings, and indexing and retrieval of relevant multimedia information
- Developed the required hardware:
 - Instrumented meeting rooms at Idiap and the University of Fribourg), software infrastructure, etc.
 - Now available and used in multiple site in EU and US
- Collected and annotated a large common multimodal corpus:
 - Quite "unique" in size and (hierarchical) levels of annotation
 - Now used by multiple EU and US research institutions, include NIST as part of international evaluation campaigns
- Fundament research:
 - On this basis, we initiated and performed fundamental research in mono-modal and multimodal processing, encouraging the IM2 partners to test their research on the IM2 corpus, while adapting their software to the IM2 vision.





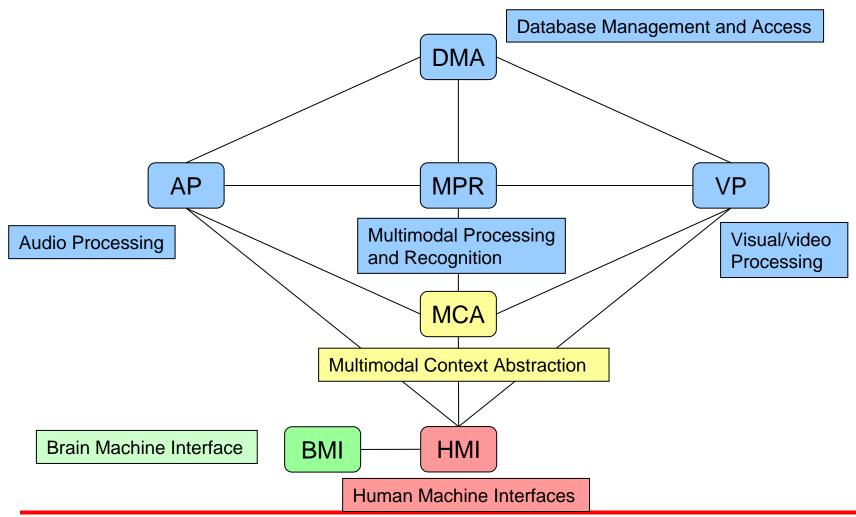
IM2 Phase II (2006-2009)

- Consolidation the IM2 research and development efforts on our common vision
 - IM2 involved in many EU and US projects related to IM2
 - IM2 involved in numerous evaluation campaigns
 - Resulting in large amounts of high quality publications
- Increased emphasis on multimodal processing, system integration, HCI, and system evaluation
- Development of the "Hub", allowing easy integration of multiple modalities, software tools, and applications
- IM2 was enriched with a flexible user interface development tool (JFerret)
- Significant structural impact





IM2 Structure before Phase III





IM2 Phase III (2010-2013)

- Consolidation of most of the IM2 activities in one single IP to further foster collaboration and focus (IP1)
- More emphasis on human-centered design and evaluation (IP2):
 - Testing generalization properties of IM2 results (IP1) on different application domains
 - Developing more user-centric applications and evaluation protocols (required new partners)
- Extend fundamental research in one of the newest, but most promising, (longer-term) outcomes of IM2-II (IP3):
 - Social signal processing





IM2 Phase III – Structure

Management, TT, Community Building, and other activities

- Knowledge and Technology Transfer
- Education
- Exchange programs
- Advancement of Women
- Community Building

IP1. Integrated Multimodal Processing

- Core multimodal technologies geared towards integration into end-to-end applications
- Multimodal processing of meetings and other data
- Meeting browsers and assistants
- Evaluation of integrative applications

IP2. Human Centered Design and Evaluation

- New educational application(s) based on IM2 technologies
- Exploitation of multimodal research
- Ergonomics, usability, and user studies

IP3. Social Signal Processing

- Analysis of social behavior through nonverbal communication
- Vocal behavior, gestures, other cues
- *Relations* to SSPNet EU networks of excellence, and to Affective Sciences NCCR

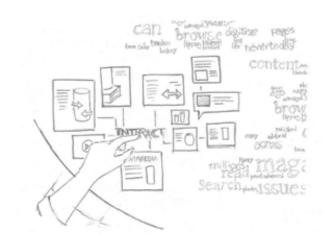




Key applications in Phase III

Augmented Teams





The Cboard









Thank you for your attention!



FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE
SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS
FONDO NAZIONALE SVIZZERO
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

