

# Filtering and annotating web speech data

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# Research with Web Speech Data

1. Locate

2. Collect

3. Filter

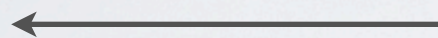
4. Annotate

5. Analyze



# Web Speech Data

1. Locate



Howell and Rooth 2009;

2. Collect



Howell 2012

3. Filter

4. Annotate

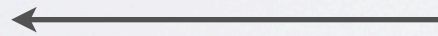
5. Analyze

# Web Speech Data

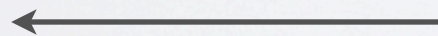
1. Locate

2. Collect

3. Filter



4. Annotate



5. Analyze

Today: ezra



# Locating and collecting tokens

- Content providers offer “media search”
- Many results, often with transcripts
- Results come from text search of ASR-generated transcripts

MLB Rule 5 draft and gives a recap of the

**in my mind** found at 7:30

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**NFL Sunday breakdown: Pats off**

🔊 Audio | Sun, 16 Dec 2012

Dale, Chris, Matt and Kevin take a look at the Patriots' offense that unit, including: Patrick Willis, Aldon Robinson, and how the Patriots will attack this elite defense led by Rob Gronkowski.

**in my mind** found at 5:15

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**Boomer Esiason on Patriots-49ers and the Sandy Hook shooting**

🔊 Audio | Mon, 17 Dec 2012

Dennis and Callahan recap the Patriots' new season where things went so wrong early and discuss the tragedy in Newtown and Boomer Esiason on the sidelines after his DUI.

**in my mind** found at 12:21

# Locating and Collecting tokens

- Howell and Rooth: tools to search and download results
- Yielded hundreds of hits for target phrases
- Many of these hits were false positives
- Those that weren't needed annotation



# Filtering and Annotation

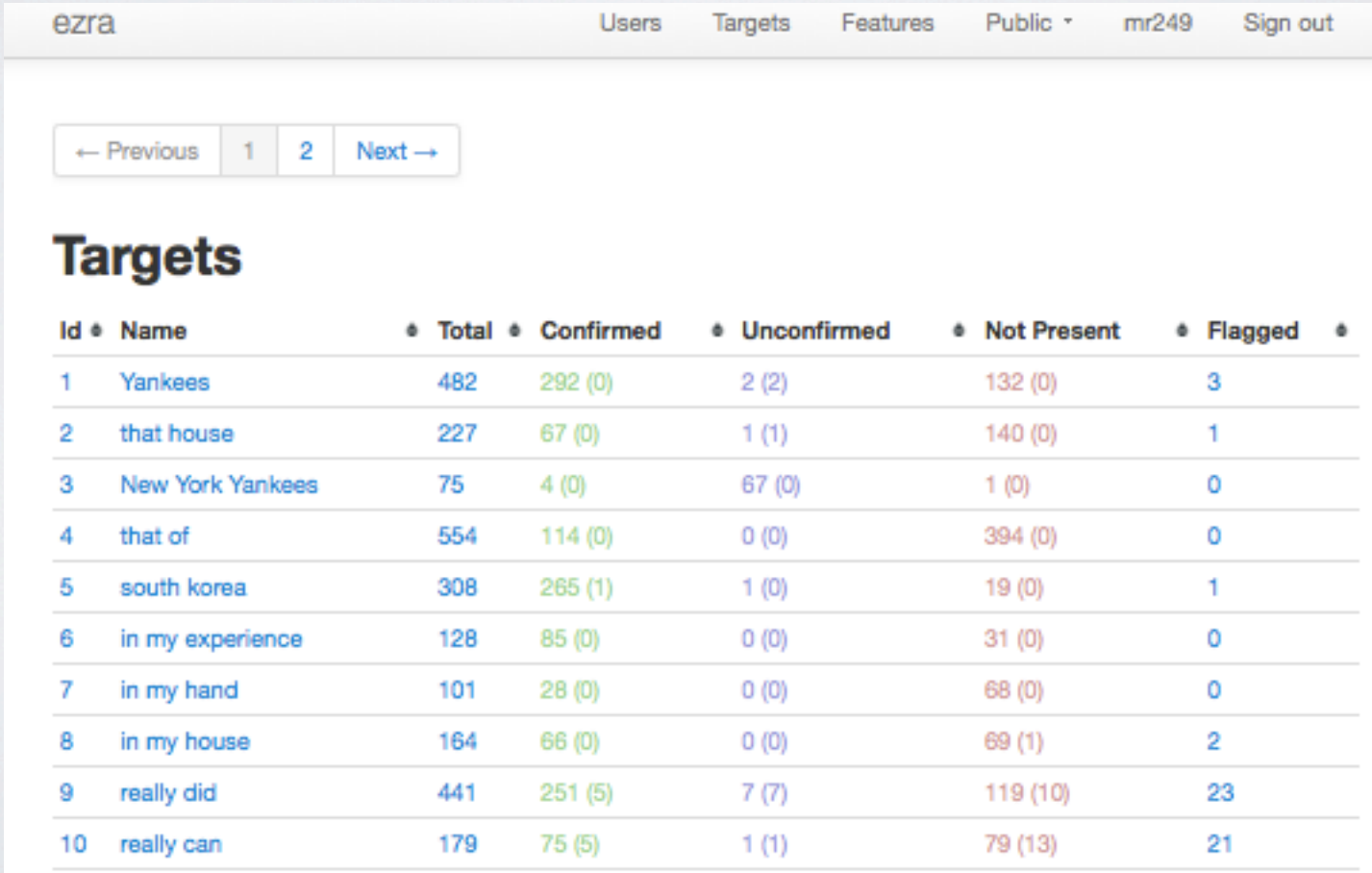
1. Separate the true tokens from the false positives / duplicates
2. Mark the token location and reasonable clip boundaries
3. Add or correct the clip transcript
4. Target-specific annotation tasks

Much time was spent repeating the same mindless tasks

# ezra

Work is organized around **targets** and **features**.

**targets** are words or phrases of interest to the researcher.



The screenshot shows the 'ezra' web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Users', 'Targets', 'Features', 'Public', 'mr249', and 'Sign out'. Below the navigation bar, there is a pagination control with '← Previous', '1', '2', and 'Next →'. The main content area is titled 'Targets' and contains a table with the following data:

Id	Name	Total	Confirmed	Unconfirmed	Not Present	Flagged
1	Yankees	482	292 (0)	2 (2)	132 (0)	3
2	that house	227	67 (0)	1 (1)	140 (0)	1
3	New York Yankees	75	4 (0)	67 (0)	1 (0)	0
4	that of	554	114 (0)	0 (0)	394 (0)	0
5	south korea	308	265 (1)	1 (0)	19 (0)	1
6	in my experience	128	85 (0)	0 (0)	31 (0)	0
7	in my hand	101	28 (0)	0 (0)	68 (0)	0
8	in my house	164	66 (0)	0 (0)	69 (1)	2
9	really did	441	251 (5)	7 (7)	119 (10)	23
10	really can	179	75 (5)	1 (1)	79 (13)	21



# ezra

Work is organized around **targets** and **features**.

**features** are annotation tasks for a particular target.

## 18. some people

Total: 448

Confirmed: 383

Unconfirmed: 0

Not Present: 56

### Features

Name	Created by	Number of targets	Instructions
<a href="#">focus (Edit)</a>	4	3	Is the target word in the ngram (e.g. "South" in "South
<a href="#">Phonological phrase position (Edit)</a>	9	2	PPhrase-initial should be marked if the phrase is at the beginning

### Hits

← Previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ... 14 15 Next →

Hit Number	Status	Flagged
<a href="#">✎</a> 4303	Not Present	
<a href="#">✎</a> 4304	Confirmed	

# Features

- Features are annotation tasks
- Associated with targets
- Annotators complete these tasks for each hit
- Feature values are stored with each hit



# ezra: filtering and annotation


Save Previous Next Next Unconfirmed Cancel

**any players 6964**        Flag

▶ start 2s  
▶ selection  
▶ last 2s

▶

0 : 5 : 31 : 490 mark hit Ⓞ play hit ▶

 [Keyboard shortcuts](#)

since the Bruins as you point out or or as you believe remain committed to Claude Julien uh do you envis do you see there being any players on the horizon anyone available via trade who could help the team

0 : 5 : 23 : 825 start Ⓞ

0 : 5 : 38 : 150 end Ⓞ

Notes:

## Features

Hide All

▼ **Det N**

### prosody

2013-06-19 12:46:16 UTC by Mats Rooth

- . destress - stress =
- main stress \_
- downstep X
- disfluency
- . =
- =
- \_
- = .
- = -
- = \_
- X

# Workflow

1. Define a target and import data
2. Define features and associate them with target(s)
3. Filter and annotate hits
4. Export for analysis



# Two user classes

- Supervisors

- Create targets and features
- Import/export data
- Monitor user activity
- Supervise annotation

- Annotators

- More limited privileges
- Focus on filtering and annotation

# Web application

- Accessible from anywhere
  - Users need a modern browser and internet connection
  - Team members can be remote
- Standard technology
  - Ruby on Rails
  - HTML5 / Javascript
  - SQLite
  - Works in modern browsers



# Ezra: benefits

- Web application
- Built on standard technology
- Two user classes
- Multiple targets/projects
- Flexible feature definition
- Simple interface
- Public site
- Efficiency

<https://github.com/del82/ezra>

# Ezra: future work

- More complete user auditing
- Integrate locating and collecting tokens: plugins
- Improve administrator interface
- Automatic duplicate detection
- Partnerships with content creators
- Crowdsourcing?

<https://github.com/del82/ezra>



# Thanks

Neil Ashton

Ross Kettleson

Jonathan Howell

Michael Schramm

Michael Wagner

Lauren Garfinkle

NSF I035151 RAPID: Harvesting Speech Datasets for Linguistic Research  
on the Web (Digging into Data Challenge)