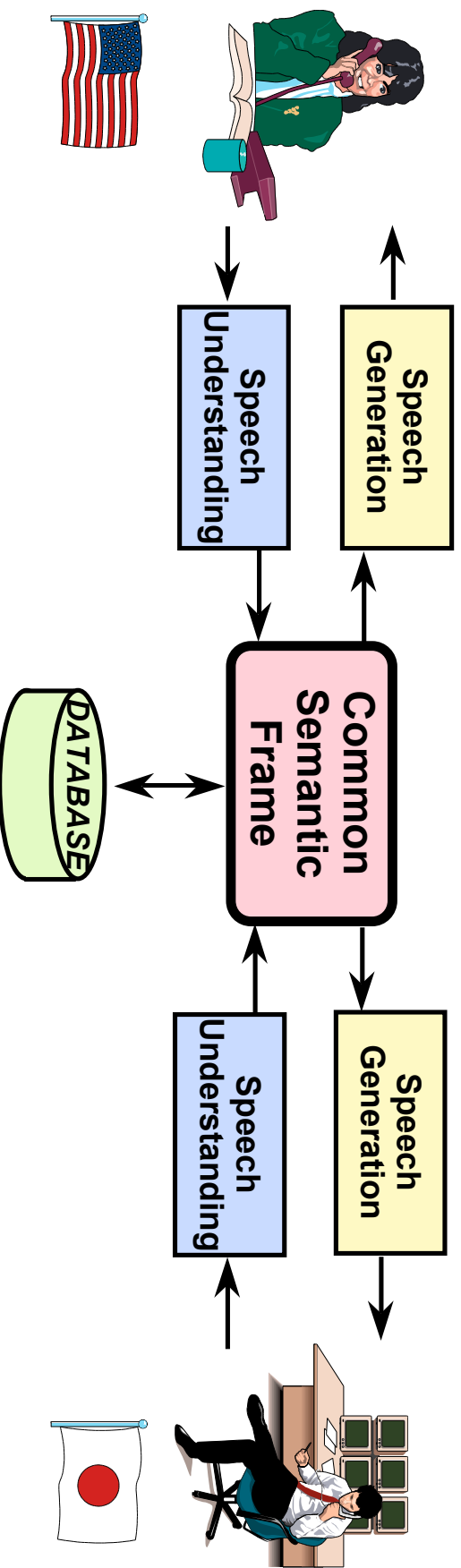
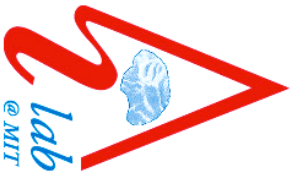


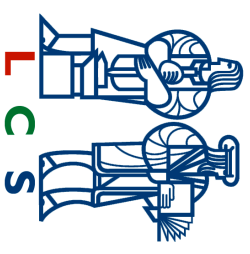
Project Overview



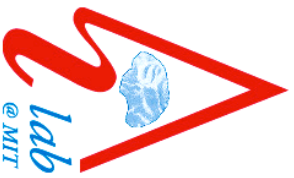
- Develop technology for natural conversational interfaces
- Create methods to facilitate the rapid development of multi-lingual and multi-modal conversational systems
- Use existing SpeechBuilder utility as the basis for incorporating and evaluating research for Japanese systems



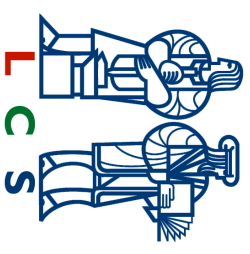
Progress Through June 2002



- Begun porting Japanese SpeechBuilder to NTT
 - NTT researchers used SpeechBuilder to create several applications (e.g., bus timetables, weather information)
 - Prototypes demonstrated at NTT Communication Science Laboratories Open House on June 6-7, 2002
- Developed unsupervised language model training
 - Use confidence scoring techniques to select a subset of untranscribed data to augment language model training
 - Combined with small amounts of transcribed data to improve recognition accuracy with reduced labor costs
- Begun experiments with NTT dialogue manager



Research Plan for the Next Six Months



- Continue porting Japanese SpeechBuilder to NTT (e.g., mirror web-site)
- Evaluate NTT dialogue manager within Galaxy framework using MIT human language technology
- Develop corpus-based speech synthesis capability for Japanese SpeechBuilder domains
- Continue Japanese data collection efforts