European Masters in Language & Speech
6th annual summer school
University of Edinburgh, 11–15 July 2005

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On Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, the session starts at 10am. If you are presenting a poster, please arrive by 9.30am. On Tuesday and Thursday, the morning tutorial session runs from 9am to 1pm. All afternoon sessions run from 2pm to 6pm **except tutorial 1 which is offered twice: 14–16 and 16.30–18.30. See website to find out which one you should attend**. Sessions will start on time, so please be punctual. See sections 2.1 and 2.3 for explanation of locations (AFB), (AT) and (BP).

6.4 Local street names

Google Maps

http://maps.google.co.uk

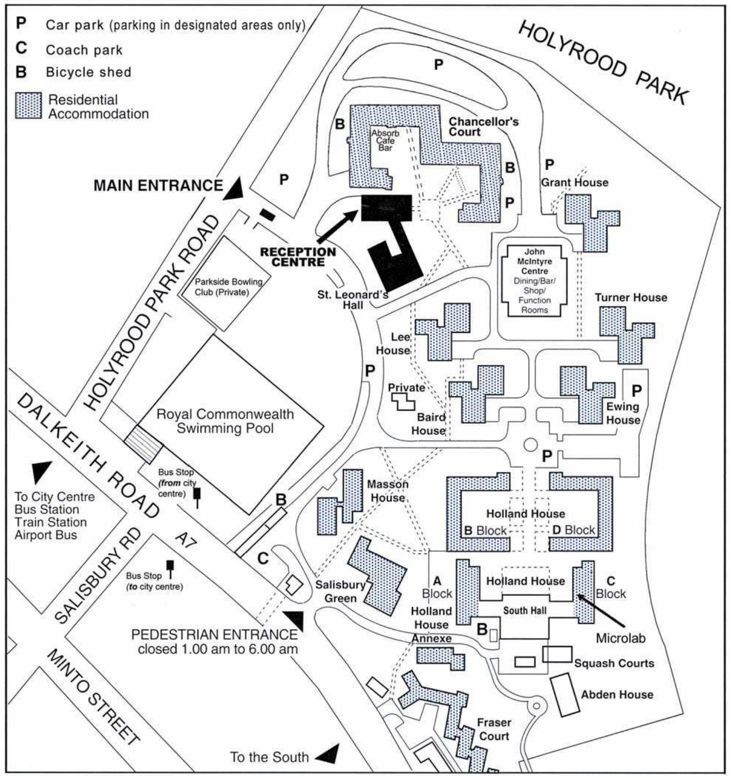
6.3 Pollock Halls

The University of Edinburgh

Accommodation Services
Email: accommodation@ed.ac.uk
www.accom.ed.ac.uk

Edinburgh First
Email: EdinburghFirst@ed.ac.uk
www.EdinburghFirst.com
Phone: 0131 651 2189
Fax: 0131 667 7271

Pollock Halls of Residence



T1 The acoustics and perception of (filtered) speech sounds

T2 Semantic Networks and Building WordNets

T3 Unit selection speech synthesis using Festival

T4a Introduction to Python

T4b Introduction to NLTK

T5 Vocal Dialogue Management: VoiceXML and frame-based approches

T6 Speech synthesis using Festival - short version

T7 Auditory processing of speech in noise

T8 Building Corpora from Scratch

See locations map on page 15.

Adam Ferguson Building, room B12 (location code AFB)

Enter Adam Ferguson Building (AFB) not from Buccleuch Place, but from the George Square entrance at the east end of the building. Go down one level to the basement and follow the signs. Since access is by card only, you will need to knock to gain access.

Appleton Tower 5th floor computing labs (location code AT)

Enter Appleton Tower (AT) from Crichton Street and go up to the 5th floor. The labs will be signposted. Since access is by card only, you will need to knock to gain access.

Buccleuch Place (location code BP)

See section 2.1.

1 Preparing for the summer school

The tutorials are generally self-contained and do not require any preparation by you in advance. If you are taking tutorials 3, 6 or 7, then you might like to bring a pair of reasonable quality headphones with you (if you cannot, then we will provide a basic pair for you). For tutorials 1 and 5, we will provide good quality headphones. Tutorials 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 6, 7 and 8 use Linux computers; tutorials 1 and 5 run under Windows.

If you would like to do some preparation, the web pages for some tutorials list suggested reading, or software that you might wish to familiarise yourself with.

2 Programme

For start times of each session, see timetable on previous page.

2.1 Opening and closing sessions, keynote speaker

All these sessions (Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings) will take place in the conference suite at 2, Buccleuch Place (see map on page 15). This is location code (BP) on the timetable. Follow the signs, which will take you up to the first floor and through the door to the right (ring the bell), then down to the conference suite. (“Buccleuch” is pronounced /bəˈkluː/)

This year’s keynote speaker is Marc A. Al-Hames from the Institute for Human-Machine Communication at Technische Universität München who will give a lecture on “Multimodal Meeting Segmentation”.

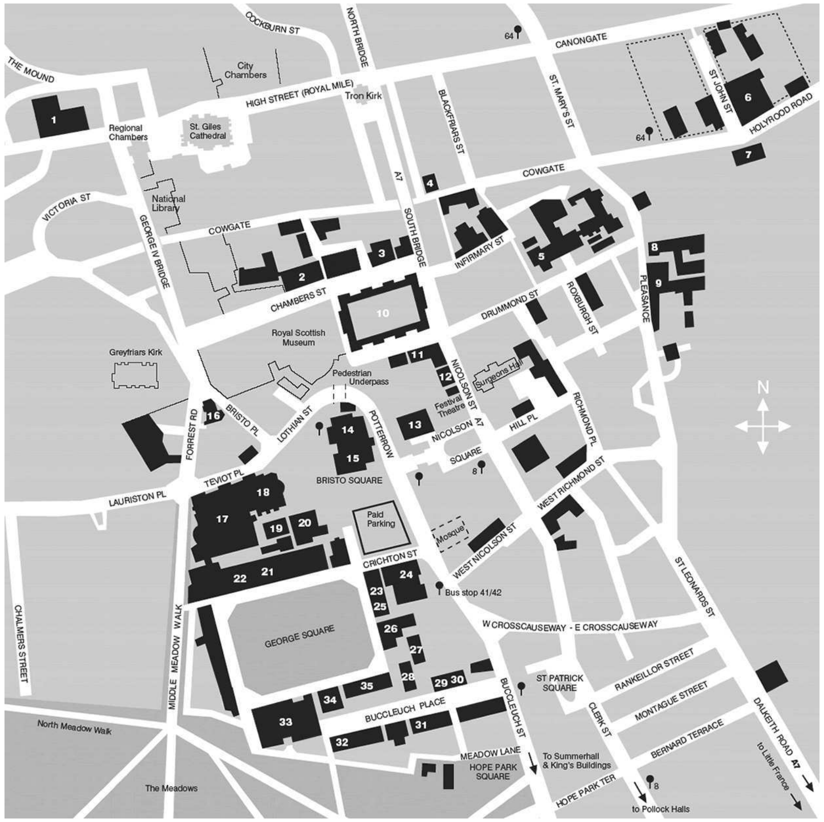
2.2 Poster sessions

You can check on the website to find which session your poster will be in. If you are presenting a poster, please arrive at the conference suite at 9.30am on the day of your presentation.

2.3 Tutorials

See timetable on page 2 and locations map on page 15

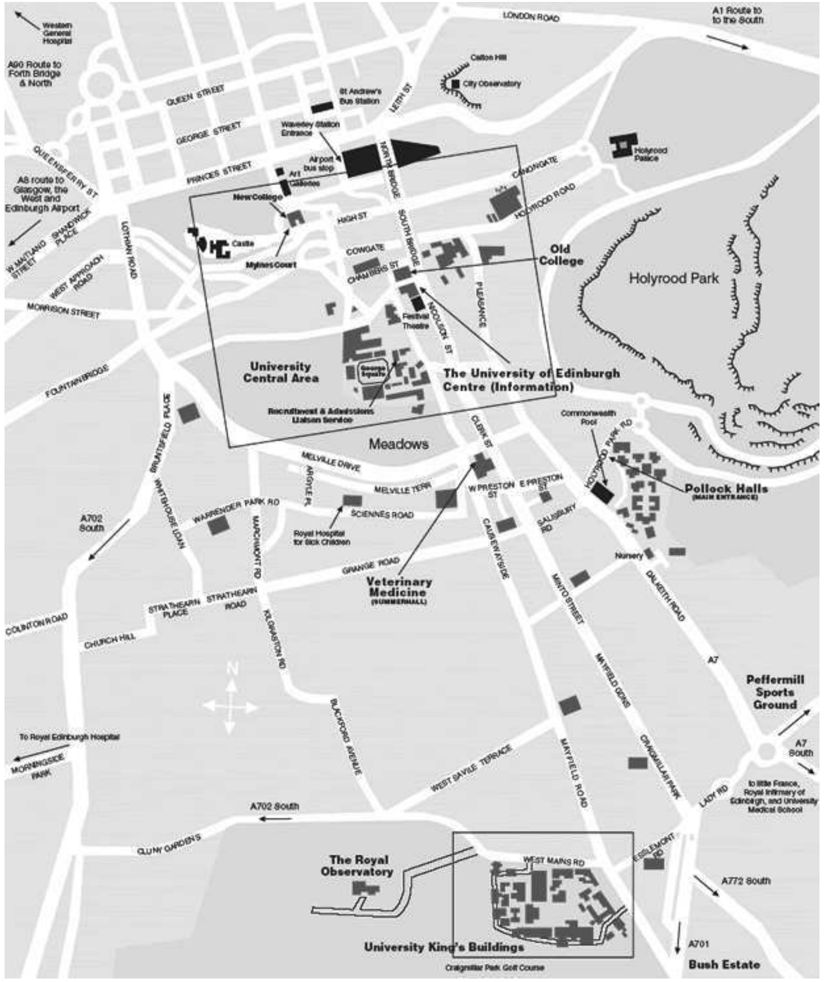
6.2 Central area



14 Potterrow Student Centre
20 Teviot Row House
24 Appleton Tower (tutorials in level 5 computing labs)
35 Adam Ferguson Building (tutorials in basement room B12)
The building to the right of 31 is 1–6 Buccleuch Place.

6 Maps

6.1 Edinburgh University locations



3 Computing regulations

The University of Edinburgh allows you to use its computer systems during this summer school subject to the **University Computing Regulations**. The University requires you to read and abide by the regulations:

`http://www.ucs.ed.ac.uk/EUCS/regs.html`

You may use the computer account(s) assigned to you for the purposes of the tutorials in this summer school, for accessing the web in connection with the tutorials, and to read your personal email (e.g. by using a web browser or by logging in to your home University system using ssh).

You cannot eat or drink in the Adam Ferguson Building computing lab. In the Appleton Tower 5th floor computing labs, you cannot eat food, but you may take drink in bottles, with closeable tops. **You are responsible for leaving the labs clean and tidy when you leave.**

4 Food, drink, entertainment

This is just a selection – there are many more places along Nicholson St., Clerk St., Teviot Place, Forrest Road and South Bridge.

4.1 Sandwich & coffee shops

- The Picnic Basket. 31 West Nicholson St. Take away only. *Recommended*
- Twigs. 37 West Nicolson St. Take away only.
- The Potter Roll. 20 Marshall St. Take away only.
- Elephants & Bagels. 37 Marshall St. Can sit in or take away.
- Rudi Delicatessen. 30 Forrest Rd. Take away only.
- Greggs the Bakers. 74 Nicholson St. and 43 Forrest Rd. Fairly cheap sandwiches, cakes, hot pasties and pies, soup. Take away only.
- Aroma Coffee Bar. 75 South Bridge. Coffee Shop with filled rolls, paninis etc. Sit in or take away.
- Beanscene. Nicolson Street. Coffee, light food. Sit-in or take away.

- Royal Museum, Chambers Street. Soupson self-service cafe inside the museum serves soups and sandwiches. Sit in only.
- Favorit. 19 Teviot Place. Sit-in or take away. *Recommended for coffee*
- Black Medicine Coffee Co. 2 Nicolson St. *Recommended for coffee*

4.2 Hot food

- Islamic Centre of Edinburgh Mosque. Cheap and tasty food (lamb, chicken or vegetarian curries with rice or bread; food is not really very spicy) every day for £3. Eat at their outdoor seating area. The entrance is on West Nicholson Street, beside the "Avalanche" record shop. *Highly recommended for lunch*.
- The Nile Valley Cafe. Falafel and other North African food. *Recommended*.
- Suzie's Diner. West Nicholson St. Self-service vegetarian cafe. Usually very quick.
- Kebab Mahal. 7 Nicolson Square. Indian and Turkish food. Very popular, service can sometimes be too slow for lunchtime.
- Kalpna. Vegetarian Indian Buffet at lunchtime(eat as much as you like). 2-3 St. Patricks Square. *Recommended for lunch*.
- Monster Mash. 4a Forrest Rd. Sausages, mashed potato, pies and other British dishes.
- Cappadocia Kebab House. 10 Forrest Rd. Kebabs, burgers, baked potatoes.
- Buffet King. Chinese Buffet (eat as much as you like). 6a Nicolson St. Price varies with time of day. Good for large groups. Takeaway is also available (and cheaper). *Recommended for dinner*.
- The Forest Cafe. 3 Bristo Place. Cheap vegetarian/vegan food.
- Double Dutch. 27-29 Marshall St.
- Pasquale Takeaway. 33 Clerk St. Fish & chips, etc.
- Central Fish Bar. 15 Teviot Place. Fish & chips, etc.

5.6 Weather

What can we tell you about the weather? The forecast is for a very hot summer (by our standards), but a bit of rain is always possible. "Changeable" is the best adjective for the Scottish weather, so bring a variety of clothing, including something waterproof. We do have quite long daylight hours in the summer though – sunset will be about 10pm in July.

5.7 Getting help

For emergency help during the summer school, contact me – Simon King. My email is Simon.King@ed.ac.uk and my office phone number is 0131 651 1725, or contact me via Avril Heron on 0131 650 4434. Avril can help you with administrative matters.

coin. Coins come in denominations of 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1 and £2.

Some large shops will accept Euros, but the exchange rate they offer may be poor.

5.3 Transport

The Edinburgh bus system (www.lothianbuses.com) is quite good, and can take you anywhere in the city. The standard fare is 80p and you need the exact money – no change is given.

A special airport bus runs very frequently between the airport and Waverley Bridge (off Princes' Street) with limited stops in between. Journey time is about 25 minutes. Return fare is £5 and the driver will give change.From early morning to late at night this is bus number 100. During the night, use bus N22. See www.flybybus.com for timetables and maps.

To get to Pollock Halls from Waverley Bridge, take bus number 30 or 33 which you can catch on North Bridge (heading south – remember that we drive on the left in the UK!). Check with the driver that the bus goes to Pollock Halls if you are unsure. You can also ask the driver to tell you when to get off (outside the Commonwealth swimming pool). If you prefer to walk, it will take 30-45 minutes to walk from Waverley Bridge to Pollock Halls.

Taxis in Edinburgh are relatively expensive, but can be cost-effective if you share. Most taxis seat 5 people. Expect to pay £15–20 from the airport to Pollock Halls.

You can easily walk between Pollock Halls and the locations of the opening/closing sessions and tutorials.

5.4 Accommodation in Pollock Halls

Rooms are available from 2pm on the day of your arrival. Go to the Reception Centre to check-in and collect your keys; this is open 24 hours a day.

5.5 Safety

Edinburgh is generally a safe city to walk around in. You should probably avoid walking across the Meadows alone after dark and should certainly avoid Calton Hill after dark. Some suburbs are not very pleasant, but you have no reason to go there anyway.

- Marmaris Kebab House. 35 Clerk St.
- City Restaurant. 33-35 Nicolson St. Sit-in or take away fish &chips, etc.

4.3 Student union shops, bars and restaurants

There are student union shops in the basement of David Hume Tower and in the Potterrow building. There is also a student restaurant in the basement of David Hume Tower, open only for lunch.

Edinburgh University Student Union runs a variety of other restaurants and bars. The closest ones are in the Potterrow and Teviot buildings at Bristo Square. See the maps in this booklet, or http://www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/services/food.

4.4 Supermarkets

- Lidl. Nicolson Street. Cheapest supermarket in town.
- Tesco. 94 Nicholson St. Sells a range of sandwiches and other good things for lunch.

4.5 Local food and drink specialities

Haggis

Made from oatmeal and various parts of sheep; traditionally eaten with mashed potatoes ("tatties") and mashed turnip ("neeps"), haggis is actually very nice – try some!

Fish & chips

Cheap, tasty and filling – fish & chips are very popular. Fish & chip shops sell a variety of other fried food: pies, sausages, chicken, haggis, etc. In Edinburgh, people put "salt and sauce" on their chips. In Glasgow, they use salt and vinegar. All the best fish & chip shops in Edinburgh are run by Italians.

Whisky

Most pubs sell a very large range of whisky, mostly single malts. If you want a whisky, don't ask for a "Scotch", but say "whisky" or "a dram", and say which one you want. The word whisky derives from the Gaelic "uisge beatha", which means "the water of life". Some people drink it straight, others with a very small splash of water, but never with ice.

All spirits (hard liquor) are sold in multiples of one size. Some pubs use Scottish measures (35ml) and some use English measures (25ml).

Beer

Draught beer is sold in two sizes: pints and half pints. A pint is just over half a litre. The best locally-brewed beer is *Deuchars India Pale Ale*, commonly referred to as "Deuchars" or "I.P.A.". Not to be confused with the International Phonetic Alphabet (although a pint of I.P.A. can influence your speech production). To get continental type beer, ask for "lager".

Irn-Bru

Scotland is just about the only country in the world where Coca Cola is not the favourite soft drink. The Scots drink more Irn-Bru.

4.6 Pubs and bars

The British, and especially the Scots, like the odd drink or two. Pubs (public houses) are usually open from 11am until 11pm, midnight or 1am, depending on the pub. Some open earlier, others stay open later. Most usually open later on Friday and Saturday nights. The legal age for drinking is 18; a few bars and pubs only admit over-21s.

Edinburgh has many, many pubs and bars. Here is just a selection in the area around the University. Other streets with a high density of pubs include the Grassmarket, the Royal Mile and Rose Street.

- The Pear Tree. 38 West Nicolson St. Large outdoor beer garden – very nice if the sun shines! Often has barbecue food.
- The Blind Poet. 32 West Nicolson St.
- Cloisters. 26 Brougham St. One of the best places for real ale; usually serves excellent I.P.A. and a good selection of other Scottish and English beers.
- Southsider. 3-7 West Richmond St. Pool table, decent real ales.
- The Southern Bar. 22 South Clerk St. Rock jukebox, table football and other bar games.

- Brass Monkey. 14 Drummond St. Table football. Movies in the back room.
- Royal Oak. 1 Infirmary St. Traditional pub with folk music in two bars (free).
- Whistle Binkies. 4-6 South Bridge. Large underground pub with live bands every night (free). Open until 3am.
- Bannermans Bar. 212 Cowgate. Some live music.
- The Jolly Judge. 7 James Court, 493 Lawnmarket. Off the Royal Mile (look out for the sign). Small, cosy pub.
- Cafe Royal. 19 West Register St. Beautiful Victorian bar; usually serves excellent I.P.A.

5 Useful information

5.1 Registration, grants, paying for your accommodation

There will be a registration desk open from 11am to 2pm (11–14) on the Monday. It is essential to register so that you:

- pay your accommodation bill (if you are staying in Pollock Halls). We will accept cash (UK currency) *only*.
- collect your grant (if any)
- collect your computer account username and password; without this, you will not be able to take any tutorials

5.2 Currency

Scottish pounds (and pennies!) are exactly equivalent to English ones; notes and coins from either country can be spent in both, although some English people will not accept Scottish notes. It is usually not possible to exchange Scottish notes at banks in other countries – so change your spare Scottish notes into English ones at any bank before you leave (there should never be a charge for doing this).

There are three different designs of Scottish notes, which come in denominations of $£1$, $£5$, $£10$, $£20$, $£50$ (and a few larger ones). Avoid $£50$ notes – many shops, bars and taxis do not accept them. $£1$ notes are now very uncommon – they have been replaced by a