# Index of /mlmi04/MLMI-Talk-016/slides

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W3C gathers world-wide experts to write Web specifications (Web Services, Semantic Web, XHTML, CSS, etc.)

Work is done through face-to-face meetings, teleconferences, the Web and mailing lists

There are few face-to-face meetings. Teleconferences once or twice every week

Max Froumentin 1 of 17
Publishing minutes

RRSAgent automates:

- publication of IRC logs, auto url, access control

> RRSAgent, record
* RRSAgent is logging to http://www.w3.org/2004/03/18-foo-irc

... 

> RRSAgent, bookmark
<RRSAgent> http://www.w3.org/2004/03/18-foo-irc#t1853

... 

> RRSAgent, please make log member-visible
<RRSAgent> I have made the request, Max
Floor Control

The extra communication channel that IRC provides can be used as a minimal replacement for gestures or other non-audio information

Via IRC

<John> queue+ to ask if we should remove section 1
<Zakim> I see Mary, John on the speaker queue
<Bob-chair> ack John
<Zakim> John, you wanted to ask if we should removesection 1
<Zakim> I see Mary on the speaker queue
<Al-scribe> John: Yes, I really think we should removethe section...
<Bob-chair> queue?
<Zakim> I see Mary on the speaker queue

Via DTMF

hand up: #41
hand down: #40

* Zakim hears Mary raise a hand

Agenda Control

* agenda items
• action items

<John> agenda+ recommending changing section 3
* Zakim notes agendum 5 added
<John> agenda?
* Zakim sees 2 items remaining on the agenda:
  * Zakim 4. solving issue #42
  * Zakim 5. recommending changing section 3 [from John]

...<Bob-chair> Zakim, take up agendum 5
<Zakim> agendum 5. "recommending changing section 3"
    taken [from John]
Results

Much less time spent on teleconference administration

- Avoid roll-calls (fewer "who just joined?")
- More accurate meeting records, checked on the fly by participants
- More accessible: to non-native speakers, bad telephone lines
Technical Issues

- Associating Caller-Id info with IRC nicknames
- Reverse-engineer the hardware protocol
- DTMF sounds
Shortcomings

- Audio recording: not a priority
- Videoconferencing: not obvious [investigating]
- Collaborative text-editing: the Web of course, except...
- Collaborative whiteboard: ditto
Arising problems

- People who aren't on IRC missing some of the information? Not really. For floor control, DTMF can be used

- Discipline: from the meeting chair (speaking turns, agenda), scribe (must take minutes 'real-time'), participants (respect speaking turns, follow IRC)

- Using IRC as a parallel discussion channel
Enhancements

Planned

- DTMF noise cancelling: more DTMF commands (straw polls?)
- Recording: we could segment audio recording from speaker data and agenda data
Enhancements

Future?

- Real-time line display monitoring (from original interface)
- More communication channels: collaborative editing
- Enhance synthesis of minutes: accurate record (audio?) vs. short synthesis
- Emotional vs. argumentative states
- ASR "Zakim, ..."?
W3C Teleconferences

Principles

- Optimize teleconference time to focus on technical issues, not overhead
- Avoid repeats: record as much as possible
In Practice

- Must record who was there
- Must record what was said, by whom
- Meeting record has to be published on www.w3.org
- System must be robust [calendar]
- Accessible: platform-agnostic software
Commercial telephone bridge offering:

- Software-driven control interface
- multiple/parallel teleconferences, accessible through pass codes
- Caller-ID information
- Line activity monitoring

Originally, the information above is available to the operator only.
Zakim's Web Interface

Dynamic web pages for bridge control and monitoring

Provides basic functionality but still limited.

Max Froumentin
A real-time communication channel, parallel to the phone

> /join #foo
   You have joined channel #foo
   Users on #foo: Mary Max
> what's the agenda of today's meeting?
<Mary> http://www.w3.org/2003/05/12-foo-wg-meeting.html
> thanks Mary.
IRC for taking minutes

Reliable distributed ASR...

<Al-scribe> Max: I see two solutions to this problem
<Al-scribe> Max: one is to remove section 1.
> I actually said 'section 2', Al.
<Al-scribe> Sorry, thanks for the correction, Max.
The interface between Zakim and IRC is Zakim-bot, a fake IRC user

> /invite zakim #math
Zakim (rrs-bridgg@18.29.0.30) has joined channel #math
> Zakim, list teleconferences
<Zakim> I see VB_VBWG(ssml)12:00PM, XML_QueryWG()12:00PM active.
> Zakim, this is VBWG
<Zakim> ok, Max
> Zakim, what's the passcode?
<Zakim> the conference code is 8294, Max
...
<Zakim> +Max
Zakim-bot Features

Roll call

> Zakim, who's on the call?

<Zakim> On the phone I see Max, Mike, Mary (muted), Alexei

...<Zakim> +Andrew

...<Zakim> -Mike

<Zakim> VB_VBWG(ssml)12:00PM has ended

<Zakim> Attendees were Max, Mike, Mary, Alexei, Andrew

...* Zakim excuses himself; his presence no longer seems to be needed

Zakim (rrs-bridgg@18.29.0.30) has left channel #mmipen: #mmipen

Muting/unmuting

<Alexei> Zakim, mute me

<Zakim> Alexei should now be muted

Line monitoring

<John> Zakim, who's speaking?
<Zakim> John, listening for 10 seconds
I heard sound from
the following: Mary (10%),
Robert (45%)