Press release

Snips to unveil new voice products
for original equipment manufacturers at CES 2019

With this new product suite, Snips becomes the first embedded software vendor to cover the entire voice value chain from voice commands to full natural language speech understanding (NLU).

Las Vegas, January 8, 2019 - Snips, the private voice interface that works on-device on a connected device, and won a CES 2019 Best of Innovation Awards in the "Embedded Technology" category, launches three new voice products: Snips Commands, Snips Satellite and Snips Flow at CES 2019, January 8-11, 2019, Las Vegas (Eureka Park, Hall G - 50615).

Snips Commands is a voice interface that allows you to easily recognize a set of commands following a wake word. It can be easily integrated into any device with a Cortex-M7 microcontroller; all without any internet connection needed. Manufacturers have complete control over which commands are recognized is completely customized to fit their use case ("play", "stop", "pause", "next", "previous" for a music player or "switch on", "switch off" for smart bulbs), in 66 different languages and dialects. Snips Commands' extremely low computing and memory usage make it the ideal solution for designing affordable devices such as household appliances, home automation, image and sound, etc.

Snips Flow is an embedded natural language voice recognition solution that runs on-device with performance that is equivalent to or better than cloud-based solutions. It does not require an internet connection, which makes it more robust, more responsive, and more eco-friendly. It guarantees total data privacy in homes or offices. Since it runs locally, Snips Flow can be customized completely for end users (address book, musical tastes, denominations of the rooms of the house).
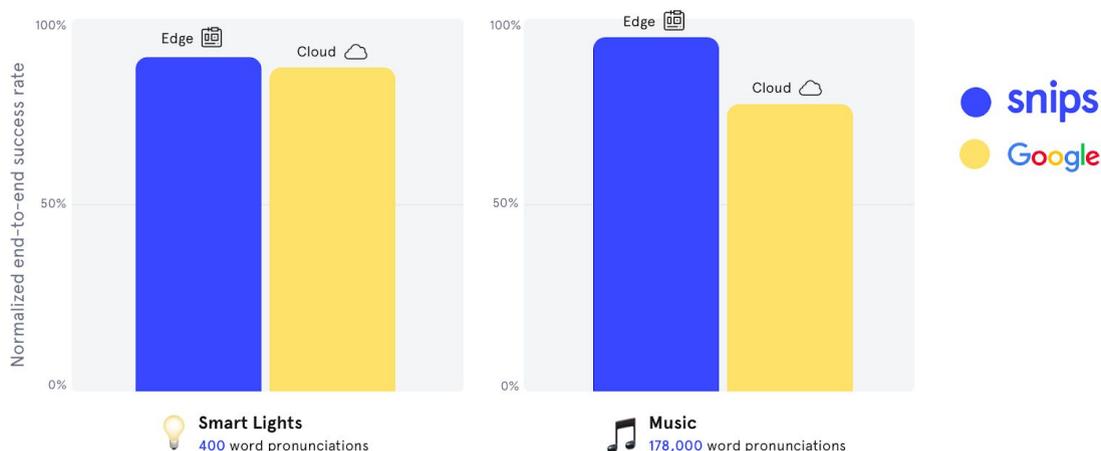
Snips Satellite is the perfect complement to Snips Flow in a home or office. It can be installed on small devices powered by micro-controllers. These devices, placed in different rooms, can be activated with a wake word and stream commands to any Snips Flow-enabled device via a local network. The device will be able to understand the meaning and react accordingly. Like all Snips products, no personal data will filter out of the home or office with Snips Satellite.

Snips brings cloud-level performance to the Edge
Snips' voice recognition and natural language software works on -device or on-premise with the same or better performance than the leading cloud-based solutions.

The report below details a recent performance benchmark for Snips' Embedded Voice Platform, specialized on each of the voice interface domains, compared to an equivalent cloud-based service. This benchmark highlights two different use cases: a small vocabulary domain like smart lighting, and a large vocabulary domain such as music. In both cases, Snips Voice Platform performance is close to human-transcriber level, and higher than or on par with Google's cloud-based services.
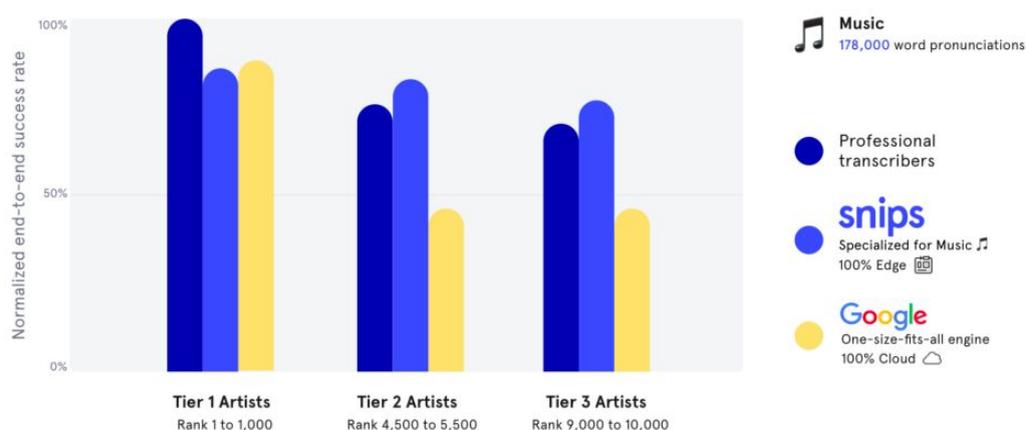
Cloud-level performance on a Raspberry Pi 3

For the music use case, we segmented our test dataset into three 'Tiers', spanning different levels of popularity among the 10,000 most popular artists according to a public ranking of Spotify charts. The first Tier corresponds to the most popular artists, ranked between 1 and 1 000 ("Tier 1 Artists"). The second Tier is comprised of artists ranked between 4,500 and 5,500 ("Tier 2 Artists"). The third Tier contains artists ranked between 9,000 and 10,000 ("Tier 3 Artists").

Here's how the Snips Voice Platform compared to (i) Google Speech-to-Text and (ii) professional transcribers on these different Tiers.

No silver bullet in Speech - the need for specialization

This experiment shows that Google Speech-to-Text's accuracy quickly diminishes with lesser-known artists, while Snips remains highly precise no matter the artists' popularity. The Snips Voice Platform obeys a radically different, domain-specific logic. It is systematically, and automatically tailored for a use-case, not a general purpose configuration. Specialization ensures a high and consistent level of support across the board, offering better experience on the music use case than Google Speech-to-Text.

Read the blog post by our CTO Joseph Dureau to learn more about how Snips can bring Cloud-Level Spoken Language Understanding to the Edge here.

Snips offers this level of performance to companies today
The Snips product suite makes it easy for manufacturers to design speech-enabled devices that can operate offline and to market them faster without sacrificing their own brand identity by collaborating with Internet giants. These solutions make agility essential for future innovations accessible, in line with the expectations of manufacturers, and ultimately consumers.

"Snips is the first embedded software vendor to be able to cover the entire voice solution chain, from voice commands to NLU - Natural Language Understanding." explains **Yann Lechelle, Snips's COO**. *"This year has been very successful for Snips. Coming out of R&D last year, we have become the first provider of embedded voice technology for OEMs with full spectrum support from micro-controllers for cost efficient implementations to micro-processors for full natural language support."*

Snips' embedded technology will be on display during CES 2019 at the Innovation Awards Showcase (Eureka Park, Hall G - 50615).

All the demos that will be shown on Snips' booth at CES, will be powered by Snips Commands, Snips Flow and Snips Satellite, and will simulate a real Smart Home that will work without internet connection and protect end-user privacy.

About Snips

Snips is an end-to-end embedded voice AI for connected devices that runs locally & offline, offering OEMs and individual developers production grade natural language and simple command voice solutions without sacrificing performance or user data privacy. Snips' vision is to make technology so intuitive that it disappears.
We believe in empowering businesses to innovate without sacrificing ownership of their brand identity, customer relationships or data. Giving businesses the tools and knowledge to make technology so accessible, natural and intuitive that it effectively disappears has been our goal from the beginning. Snips is an ecosystem that enables companies to customize and tailor a voice experience for their customers that ensures brand recognition, builds deeper customer relationships and protects end-user data.
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