

Formosa Grand Challenge – Talk to AI

Brochure for Enrollment to Official Competition

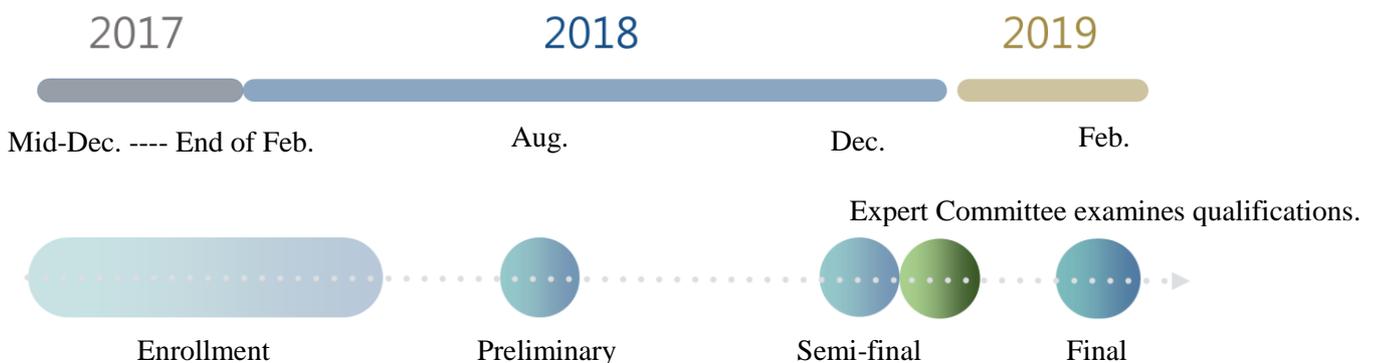
A. Vision:

Artificial intelligence (AI) is accelerating changes in the development patterns of industry, economy and social life in the world and has also become the core of development in major industries. Among all the AI research and development projects, voice application in human-machine communication is the most important technology for its humane and intuitive nature, while speech recognition and semantic analysis are the core technologies. Therefore, the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) hosts "Formosa Grand Challenge – Talk to AI" in Taiwan for the purpose of encouraging innovators to apply creativity and technology to solve the challenges from voice-based AI applications.

B. Objectives:

1. To build up a big data bank for multi-situational Chinese conversations to enhance the AI technology in Taiwan.
 2. To accelerate the development of the core phonetic technology for Chinese conversations.
-

C. Competition Schedule:



D. Eligibility and Application:

(A) Preliminary contest

1. Group registration is adopted in this event. The number of members is limited to 10, at least one of whom must be of ROC nationality. Each of non-ROC-nationality members needs to hold a work permit or student status ^{*Note 1} in Taiwan, and all proof documents should be attached at the time of registration to make the team's registration effective. The above qualifications must be obtained before the enrollment deadline (including the day).
2. Every applicant can only register under one team.
3. Each team must designate a member as its representative, who shall be responsible for all rights and obligations (including but not limited to notices and prizes issued by the Organizer).
4. Applicants must complete registration on the Kaggle platform and sign up with the same registration email and name on the official competition website.
5. The name registered on the Kaggle platform will be used as the team name and to represent the team during the competitions. The organizer will consult the team before disclosure of any team and/or personal information.
6. In the event that any team violates the above provisions, the Organizer may cancel its entries and winning qualifications at any time.

Note 1: Employment Certificate: Work permit issued by the Ministry of Labor or residence permit (the reason for residence permit must be to work for an entity).
Proof of student status: Student ID (stamped with a registration chop of the current semester); if the student ID is exempt from registration, the proof of schooling in the current semester should be provided; if an applicant is in suspension (but still maintains a student status), proof of student status should be provided. Provision of the above certifications shall be the responsibility of an applicant, who shall contact his/her own school for necessary procedure.

(B) Semi-finals and finals

1. A participating team can adjust its team members once, respectively at the time after it passes either the preliminary contest or the semi-final competition.
2. The team wishing to adjust its members must submit an application form to the Organizer within the designated time frame.
3. The application form mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall be signed by more than two thirds of its team members to be deemed valid and effective.

4. Team adjustment rules are as follows:
 - Team size can be increased or reduced but is limited to 20 persons after the adjustment.
 - New members can only be recruited from or exchanged with other teams.
 - After the application is approved, no changes shall be accepted until the next team adjustment.
 - After the teams are merged, the score of the top team will be adopted. For example, if team A gains 100 points, team B 50 points, and C team 40 points, team A's 100 points shall be adopted after the merger.
-

E. Application Period and Submission:

- (A) Registration period is now open and will be closed on 23:59, February 28, 2018 (GMT+8). Only online registration is accepted.
 - (B) A participating team must submit an answer to a paragraph of conversation or passage provided by the Organizer:
 1. Multiple-choice questions are provided at the preliminary contest. Your machine needs to understand a conversation without background sound and then select the correct answer.
 2. Multiple-choice questions are provided in the semi-finals. Your machine needs to understand a conversation with environmental noise and select the correct answer.
 3. Short question-and-answer quizzes are given in the finals. Your machine needs to answer the quizzes by sentences that must conform to the natural language habit. The Expert Committee will score the answers together with the performance according to objective indicators and subjective evaluation.
-

F. Competition Process:

- (A) Preliminary round: a two-phase competition
 1. Phase 1: Contestants will compete through the Kaggle platform * ^{Note 2}. The Organizer will score and give points based on their rankings. For the deadline to upload the answers and to browse the contest results of Phase 1, please follow the latest news on the official website.
 2. Phase 2: Onsite tests on the Chinese language proficiency of your machine will be held in August 2018. Details of the game rules will be announced on the official website.
- (B) Semi-finals: Held in December 2018, semi-finals will adopt the same rules as the preliminary round. Details of game rules will be announced on the official website. After the match, the Organizer will hold an Expert Committee to review and announce the final list for final round of competition.
- (C) Finals: Held in February 2019, the final contest will test your machine's Chinese language comprehension capability by short question-and-answer quizzes. Details of game rules will be

announced on the official website. Rankings and award qualifications will be assessed by the Expert Committee convened by the Organizer. Some awards may be left vacant or adjusted, if necessary.

Note 2: A participating team can upload its records up to five times a day. Identification results of training speech corpus should be uploaded at the same time; otherwise, score points will not be given. A participating team shall not register multiple accounts to participate in the competition; offenders will be disqualified. Individual members of a participating team upload the results by their own personal accounts shall be deemed as entries from multiple accounts.

G. Rules for Attendance:

1. Preliminary contest, semi-finals and finals will be held at the time and place designated by the Organizer. For each team, it is required that over a half of its members, including its team representative, must be present at the competition venue. Failure to send in the designated number of attendants and/or absence of its representative shall be deemed as abstentions. (For example, if a team has 9 members, it must have at least 5 participants at the venue, while a team of 8 must send in at least 4 members, including its team representative.)
 2. At the end of all the competitions, at least a half of members of a team must participate in the technical exchange meetings. If the number of participants fails to reach a half, the team shall be deemed as abstentions and original rewards and rights shall be cancelled.
-

H. Data Download:

All information will be posted on the official competition website in March 2018. Please pay close attention to our latest news.

I. Competition Prizes:

First place: NT\$ 20 million and the certificate of award

Second place: NT\$ 5 million and the certificate of award

J. Additional Information:

1. A participating team may use any training dataset acquired by itself without limitation to the dataset provided by the Organizer.
2. The materials, techniques and codes used in the entries must be original or have been legally authorized. If any third party claims infringement of intellectual property rights or other illegal matters, the participating team shall deal with the legal issues personally and bear all the legal responsibility.
3. If a participating team infringes the intellectual property rights of others, the Organizer will disqualify the team and cancel all its awards. The participating team should also bear the relevant legal liabilities on its own.
4. To ensure the fairness of the competition, the Organizer reserves the rights to request teams to submit the codes and related materials for verification. If there is fabrication, falsification or plagiarism, the Organizer may disqualify the team and cancel all its awards. The participating team should also bear all the relevant legal responsibilities on its own.
5. The Organizer reserves the rights to change the rules and regulations of the competition and time schedule. The latest updates announced on the official website shall prevail.

K. Contact Information:

Science & Technology Policy Research and Information Center
1F., No. 106, Sec. 2, Heping E. Rd., Taipei 10636, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
E-mail: grandchallenge@stpi.narl.org.tw

L. Official Website:

<https://fgc.stpi.narl.org.tw>



The latest information will be announced on the official website of Formosa Grand Challenge. Please pay close attention.

Organizer: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) of ROC

Execution unit: Science & Technology Policy Research and Information Center, NAR Labs