**Bouamrane, M. M., & Luz, S. (2007).** [**Meeting Browsing.**](http://0-vnweb.hwwilsonweb.com.novacat.nova.edu/hww/jumpstart.jhtml?recid=0bc05f7a67b1790e5912177bf56e509a6fbac35a67d7a7eb3b520ac027ba4cc54a028cb89a11120d&fmt=P%20Bouamrane,%20M.%20M.,%20et.%20al.,%20Meeting%20browsing.%20Multimedia%20Systems%20v.%2012%20no.%204/5%20(March%202007)%20p.%204) ***Multimedia Systems*, 12 (4/5), 439-457.**

Keywords: Information retrieval, business, government, general technique for audio

Various teams of professionals who often do not even work in the same location often carry out business today. Frequent online or teleconference meetings are often held to inform all team members of the team’s progress and enable them to function well together as a team. The use of computers to conduct these meetings has made it possible to completely capture all aspects of the meeting without having to take notes and produce minutes. Many team members have expressed a need to review past meetings. It is difficult, however, to retrieve the necessary information from a recording. It is often necessary to perform the time consuming task of listening to the entire recording in order to locate the necessary information. An efficient means of accessing information contained in audio recordings must be made available.

Bouamrane and Luz (2007) have devised various techniques for speech browsing when the audio is structured. Structured audio is accompanied by an abstract providing an overview of the nature of the various parts of the recording. The recording can then be segmented in various different ways. One way in which audio can be segmented is speaker segmentation. The recording is divided into various tracks based on voice recognition of the different speakers. This type of segmentation is limited, however, since typical meetings contain hundreds of exchanges of speech, which are often quite short. This makes it very difficult to browse through the audio files. Additionally, recording are often meaningless when heard out of context. Segmentation by topic is a better choice. Speaker segmentation does serve a purpose in government, however. It is very useful in recording sessions of Congress and breaking them up based on which Congress member is speaking. Automatic speech recognition (ASR) can also play a big role in this field. It can be used to create transcripts of conversations that can then be used for text-based information retrieval.