The EURONOUNCE project- Application of technology to language learning.

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Technological development the world has been facing in recent decades has led to the establishment of a new subdiscipline within Linguistics, namely Language Technology, which has been growing into a discipline in its own right offering new potential uses to such areas as education. Technological advance in the latter allowed for the development of Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL) systems making use of modern techniques such as graphs, animations, visual and audio aids to teach foreign languages and especially writing and reading skills. Along with the development of Language Technology new techniques such as speech recognition, synthesis and analysis have been gaining interest among educators involved in the integration of new technologies in L2 tutoring systems. At the same time, speaking skills and therefore also pronunciation and prosodic features have become the new focus in the area of foreign language learning. The EURONOUNCE project is a response to these changes as it aims at creating an intelligent tutoring system with multimodal feedback functions for the acquisition of L2 pronunciation and prosody. The software is to be aimed at a specific language group, namely at Slavic learners of German and German learners of Slavic languages such as Polish, Russian, Czech and Slovak. It will integrate non-native speech analysis and recognition with a primary goal of detecting L2 learners' pronunciation and prosodic errors and offering feedback in the form of assessing the pronunciation and indicating the location and type of the error. In order to achieve these goals a common ground for interdisciplinary cooperation of linguists, phoneticians, language teachers and speech technologists has been established.

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