The Gong Project

A Voice for the Web World

Gong – a Voice for the Web World

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Introduction

- The Gong system is
  - a web-based voice tool designed for web based audio communication
  - primarily used for language learning
  - a voice board system where people can leave voice and text messages using the Internet

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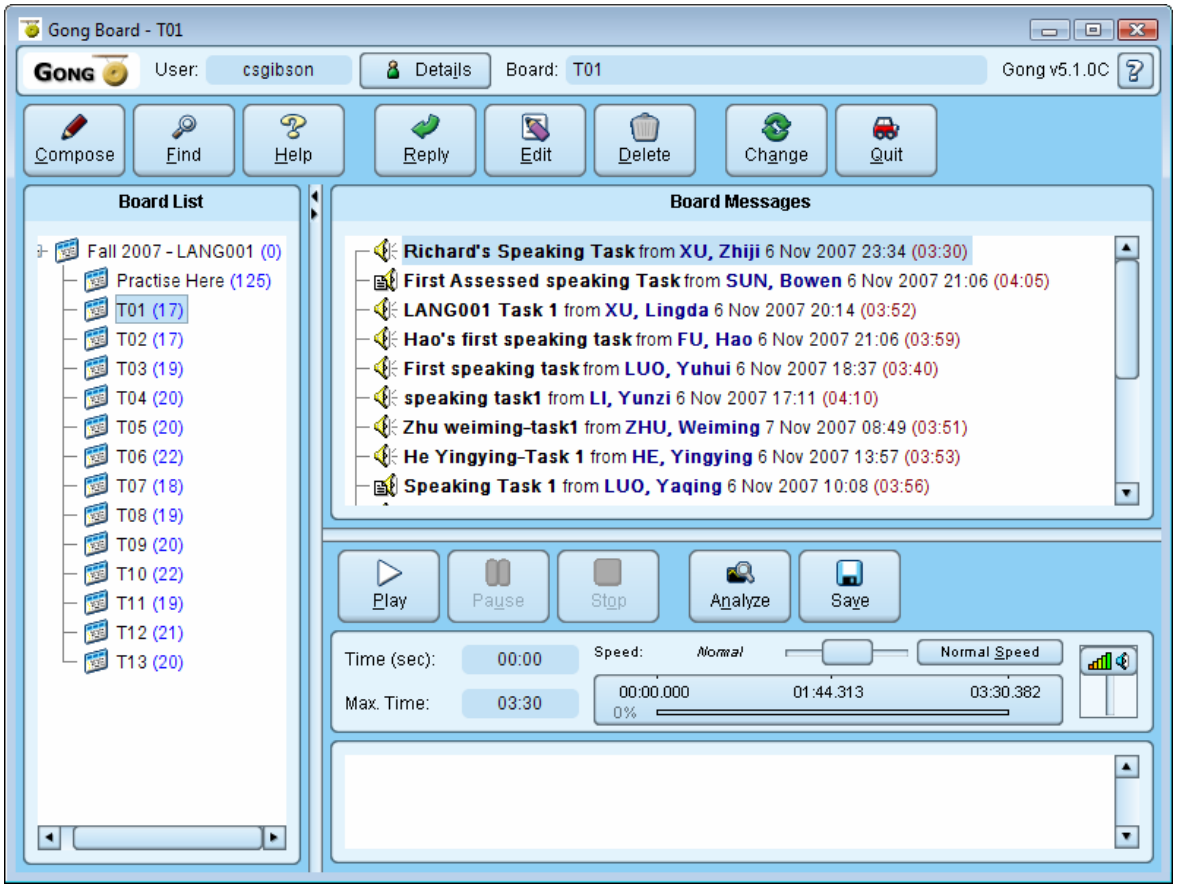

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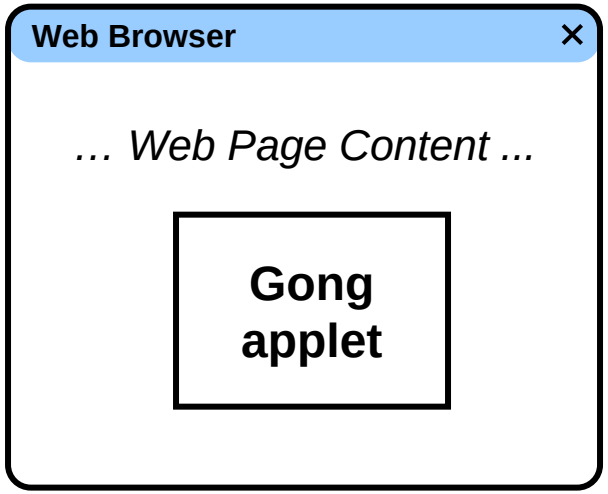
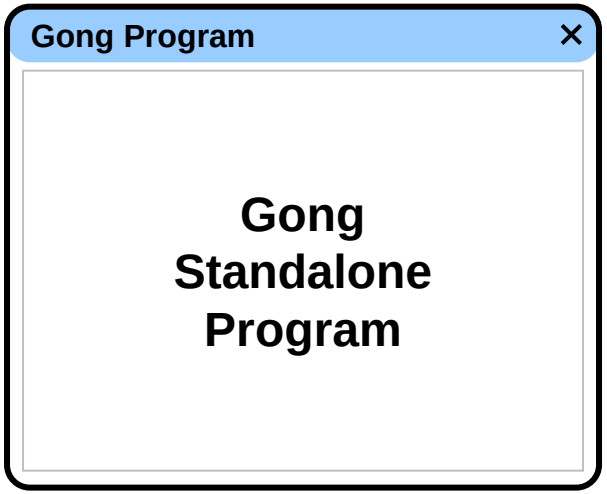
Gong Usage

- Gong can be used in two ways
  - As an applet
  - As a standalone program





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Advanced Features of Gong

- A number of advanced features have been developed
  - Playback speed control
  - Audio indexing
  - Recordable chat
  - Pinyin and Yale input
  - Multiple language interface
  - Web resource menu

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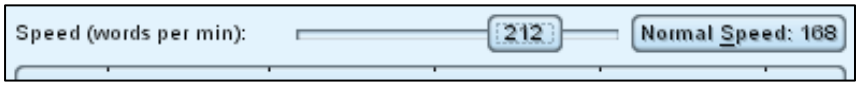
Playback Speed Control

- Speed up/slow down
  - The speed of the voice playback can be adjusted interactively
  - Based on a words per minute measure

Play at Normal Speed (168 wpm)

Play at a Slower Speed (118 wpm)



Play at a Faster Speed (212 wpm)

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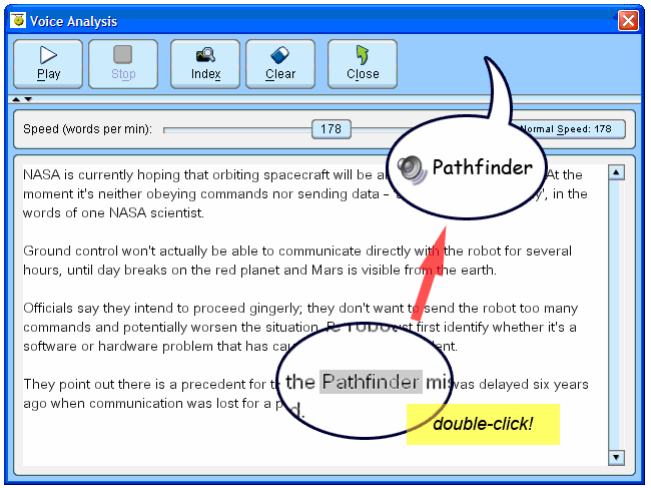
Audio Indexing

- Given a transcription of a speech the system can automatically match the words to their spoken counterparts
- Word/phrase can then be selectively playback



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Recordable Chat

- People can talk to each other on the Internet through the use of Gong

- The conversation as well as the individual speech of each participant can be recorded

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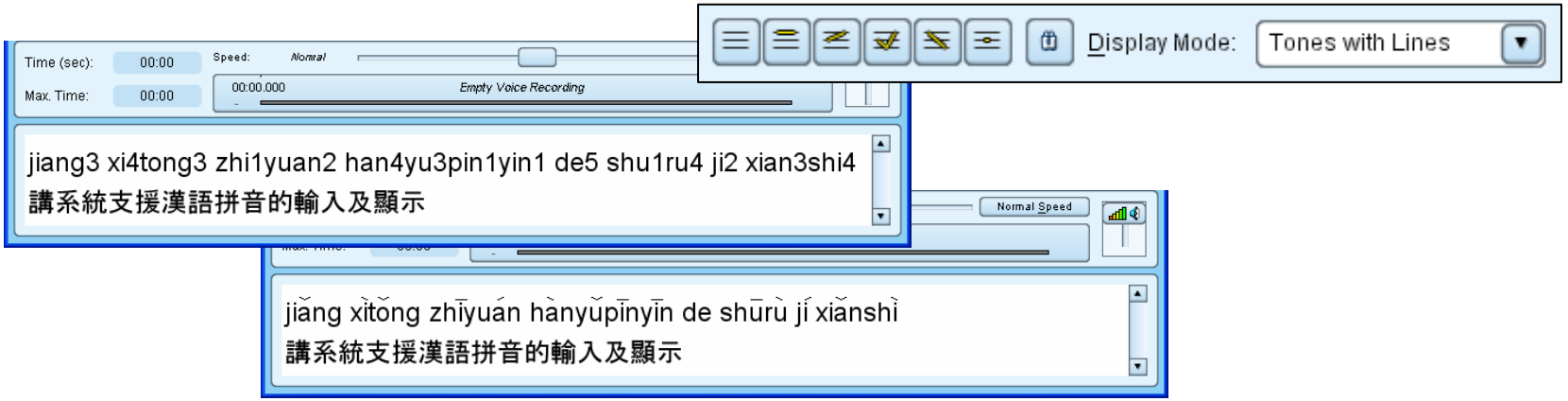
Pinyin and Yale Input

- Unique features for Chinese learning
  - Comprehensive support for the Pinyin and Yale system by a user friendly interface



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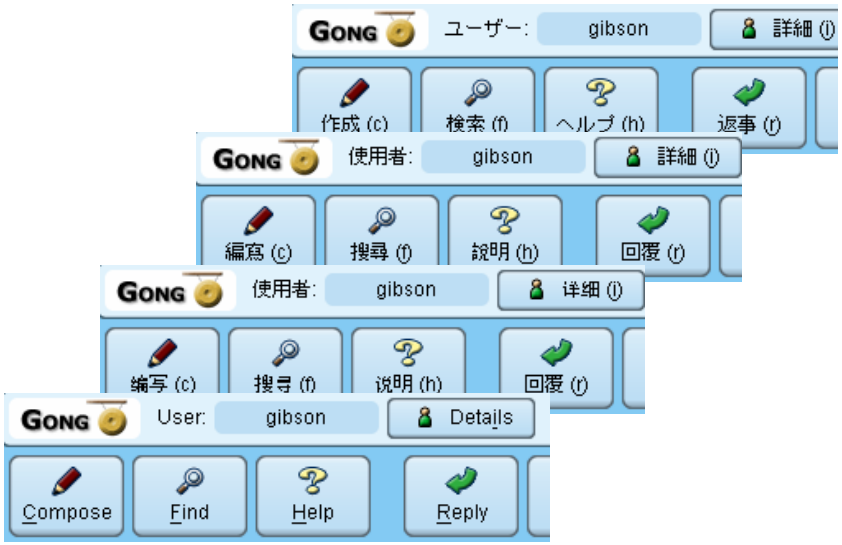
Multiple Language Interface

- Gong can operate in different languages
  - The language can be changed at any time
  - Available languages
    - American/British English
    - Traditional Chinese
    - Simplified Chinese
    - Japanese



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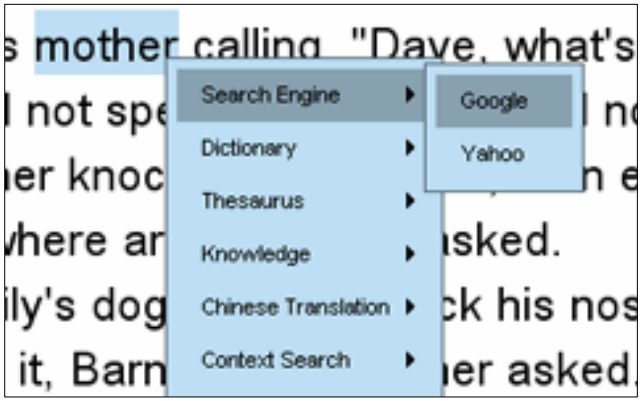
Web Resource Menu

- Web resource menu provides context aware information for message text
  - Information is displayed in a browser
  - Fully configurable menu settings



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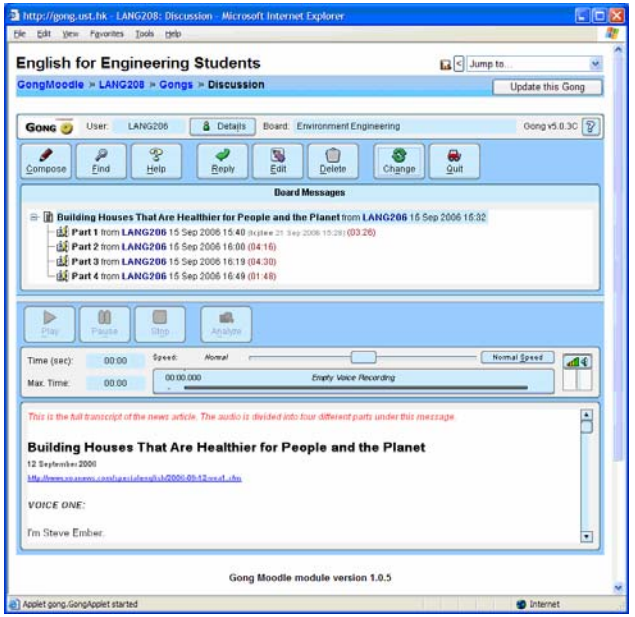
Integration into Other Systems

- Pluggable module for LMS
  - A module is developed for ‘Moodle’, the most popular open source learning management system



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Integration into Other Systems

- Use of Gong through an API
  - Programmers can develop web pages which contain features of Gong

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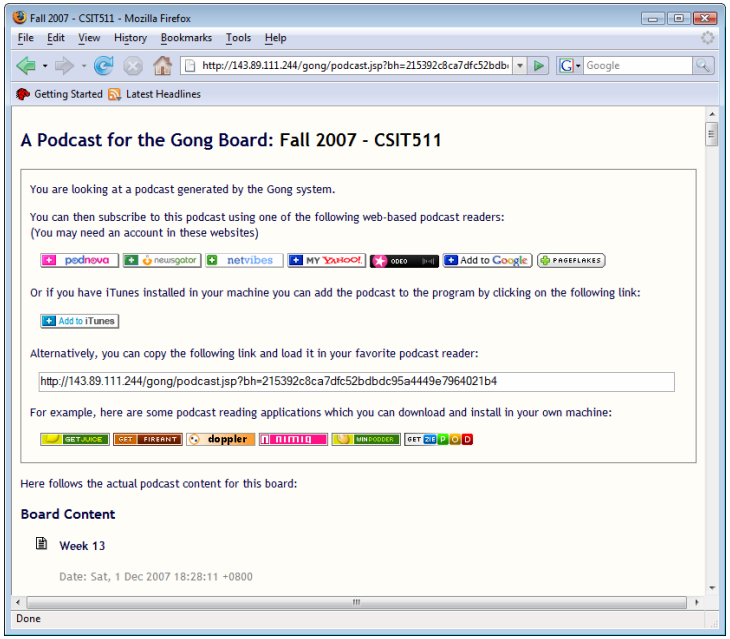
Podcasting

- Gong voice board can operate as a podcast
  - Voice messages can be accessed through portable devices



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NanoGong

- A visually simple applet
  - Does not require any server installation
  - Allows record, playback and saving of voice message on web pages
  - Simple playback speed control

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Interest in Gong

- It Is Free!
  - Gong is released free on the web (*http://gong.ust.hk*) since July 2006
- More than **1000** downloads and **85,500** users from all over the world

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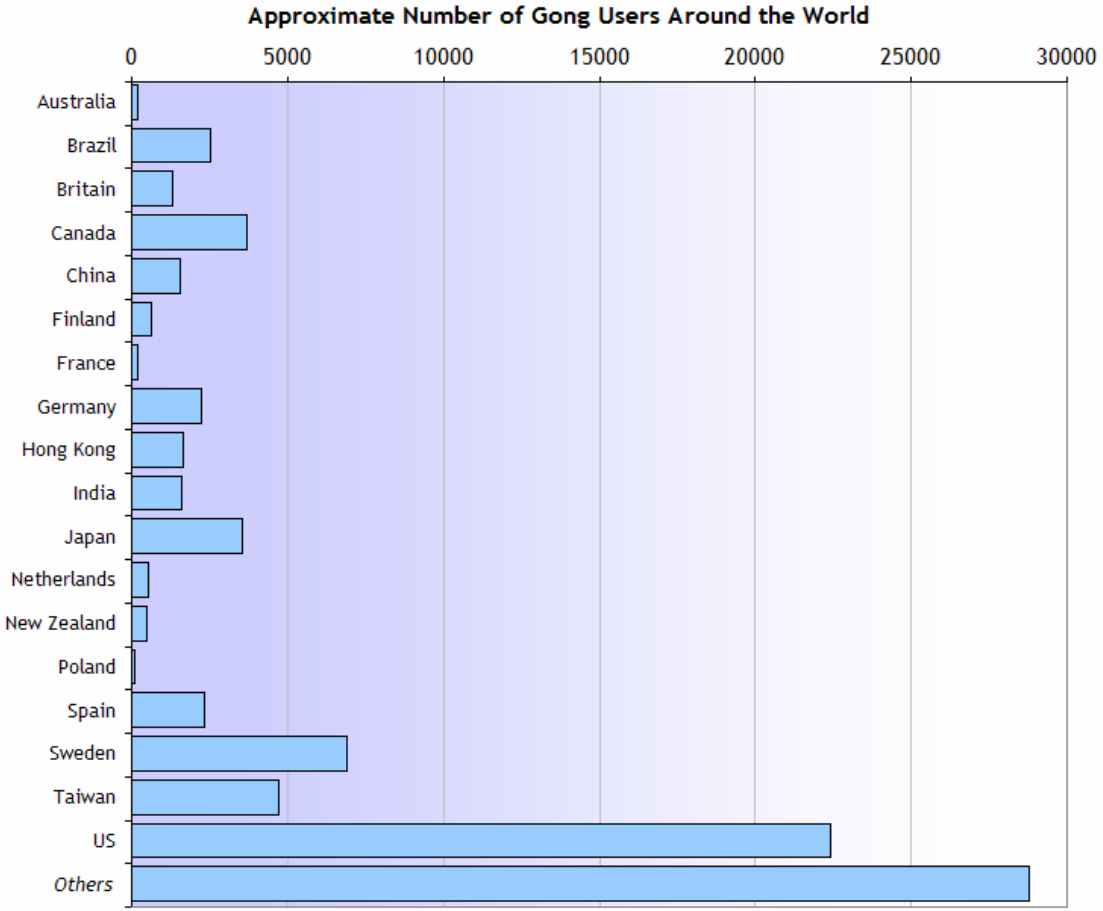

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Conclusion

- We have developed a web based communication tool, the Gong system
- The system has been used in HKUST for several years, primarily for language learning
- Since released free tremendous interest has been shown from around the world

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Thank you!

Teaching and Learning Symposium 2007

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