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Smart Glasses for Deaf People: A Literature Review on Technological Advancements and Applications

# Abstract

This paper reviews recent advancements in smart glasses technology and their applications for deaf individuals. Drawing from several studies, including works presented at conferences and in journals, this review highlights the potential of smart glasses to aid in communication, real-time captioning, and environmental awareness for people with hearing impairments. A comprehensive analysis of current research and future prospects is discussed, with particular attention to the integration of augmented reality, speech recognition, and machine learning for enhancing accessibility.

Keywords: Smart Glasses, Deaf, Augmented Reality, Speech Recognition, Assistive Technology, Machine Learning

# 1. Introduction

Smart glasses are wearable devices that integrate advanced technologies to improve the user experience and provide added functionalities. For deaf individuals, these technologies offer promising solutions in communication, environmental awareness, and navigation. Through real-time captions, visual alerts, and auditory enhancement, smart glasses can significantly enhance the daily lives of individuals with hearing impairments. This paper explores the role of smart glasses in supporting deaf individuals, drawing upon recent studies and innovations.

# 2. Review of Literature

## 2.1 Smart Glasses for Deaf People

One of the critical features of smart glasses for deaf individuals is their ability to provide real-time captions and transcriptions of spoken language. According to 10.1109/ISET.2019.00063, the integration of speech recognition algorithms into smart glasses has been a significant milestone in this area.

## 2.2 Augmented Reality (AR) and Environmental Awareness

The use of augmented reality (AR) in smart glasses can assist deaf individuals by overlaying important visual information in their line of sight. As highlighted in 10.1109/ICAST55766.2022.10039557, AR-enabled smart glasses can enhance environmental awareness.

## 2.3 Machine Learning for Speech-to-Text Conversion

Recent developments in machine learning have also improved the accuracy and efficiency of speech-to-text systems, as seen in 10.1109/DASC/PiCom/CBDCom/Cy59711.2023.10361377.

## 2.4 Multimodal Feedback

Several studies emphasize the importance of multimodal feedback systems. 10.1109/NKCon62728.2024.10775266 introduces haptic feedback and vibration alerts integrated with smart glasses.

## 2.5 Accessibility in Social Settings

Another challenge for deaf individuals is engaging in social interactions where multiple speakers are involved. Research presented in 10.1109/ICCIT60459.2023.10441555 focuses on improving group communication using smart glasses.

## 2.6 Future Directions

As discussed in 10.1109/SII58957.2024.10417335, the potential for smart glasses to incorporate artificial intelligence (AI) is particularly promising.

# 3. Discussion

The integration of smart glasses into the daily lives of deaf individuals presents numerous benefits, from improved communication through real-time transcriptions to enhanced environmental awareness through augmented reality. However, challenges remain, such as the accuracy of speech recognition in noisy environments, the need for efficient battery life, and the potential for sensory overload. Future research should focus on optimizing these systems and ensuring that smart glasses are accessible to a broader audience.

# 4. Conclusion

Smart glasses represent a significant advancement in assistive technology for deaf people. By incorporating augmented reality, speech recognition, machine learning, and multimodal feedback systems, these devices have the potential to revolutionize communication and accessibility for individuals with hearing impairments. However, further advancements in AI, miniaturization, and battery efficiency are necessary to make these devices more effective and practical for everyday use.

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