Call for Participation

INTERSPEECH 2015 COMPARE: COMPUTATIONAL PARALINGUISTICS CHALLENGE

Degree of Nativeness, Parkinson's & Eating Condition

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Dates:

Paper Submission	20 March	2015
Final Result Upload	05 June	2015
Camera-ready Paper	10 June	2015

The Challenge

The Interspeech 2015 Computational Paralinguistics ChallengE (ComParE) is an open Challenge dealing with states of speakers as manifested in their speech signal's acoustic properties. There have so far been six consecutive Challenges at INTERSPEECH since 2009 (cf. the Challenge series' repository at http://www.compare.openaudio.eu), but there still exists a multiplicity of not yet covered, but highly relevant paralinguistic phenomena. Thus, we introduce three new tasks. For all these, the data are provided by the organisers. They comprise high diversity of speakers and different languages covered ((Non-native) English, Spanish, and German). The following Sub-Challenges are addressed:

- In the *Degree of Nativeness (DN) Sub-Challenge*, the degree of nativeness has to be determined based on the acoustics.
  In the *Parkinson's Condition (PC) Sub-Challenge*, the degree of Parkinson's condition has to be recognised based on speech analysis.
- In the *Eating Condition (EC) Sub-Challenge*, eating condition and the type of consumed food (seven classes) of a speaker have to be determined for the first time.

The measure of competition will be Spearman Correlation for DN and PC, and Unweighted Accuracy for EC. Orthographic transcriptions of the sets will be known. All three Sub-Challenges allow contributors to find their own features with their own machine learning algorithm. However, a standard feature set will be provided that may be used. Participants will have to stick to the definition of training and test sets. They may report results obtained on the training sets, but have only five trials to upload their results on the test sets, whose labels are unknown to them. Each participation has to be accompanied by a paper presenting the results that undergoes the normal Interspeech peer-review and has to be accepted for the conference in order to participate in the Challenge. The organisers preserve the right to re-evaluate the findings, but will not participate themselves in the Challenge.

In these respects, the *INTERSPEECH 2015 COMPUTATIONAL PARALINGUISTICS CHALLENGE (COMPARE)* shall help bridging the gap between excellent research on paralinguistic information in spoken language and low compatibility of results.

We encourage both - contributions aiming at highest performance w.r.t. the baselines provided by the organisers, and contributions aiming at finding new and interesting insights w.r.t. these data. Overall, contributions using the provided or equivalent data are sought for (but not limited to):

- Participation in a Sub-Challenge
- Contributions focussing on Computational Paralinguistics centred around the Challenge topics

The results of the Challenge will be presented at Interspeech 2015 in Dresden, Germany.
Prizes will be awarded to the Sub-Challenge winners. In addition, we plan a "best paper award" for the paper with the most innovative and/or interesting approach.

If you are interested and planning to participate in INTERSPEECH 2015 COMPARE, or if you want to be kept informed about the Challenge, please send the organisers an e-mail (bjoern.schuller@imperial.ac.uk) to indicate your interest and visit the homepage: http://emotion-research.net/sigs/speech-sig/is15-compare