Voice pathology detection by means of acoustic analysis and nonlinear dynamics techniques

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2'34" About Colombia!!!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kUU-DWOqmI



Voice pathology detection by means of acoustic analysis and nonlinear dynamics techniques

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1. Introduction

- Most of the voice pathologies are suffered by people who continously work with voice.
 - i.e. Professors, customer service, communications, etc.
- Voice pathologies due to neurodegenerative disorders like Parkinson disease are also common.
 - Some pathologies: Unilateral laryngeal paralysis, dysphonia, vocal fold paralysis, nodules, hyponasality, hypernasality, etc.
- Treatment costs for the health system are increasing.
 - Voice's treatment costs for professors in USA is about 2.5billion annually [1].



1. Introduction

CLP: Cleft Lip and Palate

One of the most frequent congenital malformation around the world

HYPERNASALITY

About 1.5 of each 1.000 children (Europe) About 1 of each 1.000 children (USA, Colombia)

[2, 3]



SPEECH THERAPY

There isn't an objective measure to quantify the progress of the treatment.





2.1. Database

CG&PDS at Universidad Nacional de Colombia, branch Manizales.

- Population: Children aged between 5 to 15
- Five Spanish vowels pronounced in sustained manner
- •Frequency sample: 44.100Hz
- 156 hypernasal registers
- 110 healthy registers





2.2. Characterization

Acoustic, Cesptral and Noise Features

Voice signal in time domain: Jitter and Shimmer



Healthy Voice /gato/

Hypernasal Voice /gato/



Features used in [4 - 5] to evaluate hypernasality in vowels.



2.2. Characterization

Acoustic, Cesptral and Noise Features







In [11], the importance of using noise measures to evaluate hypernasality is highlighted.



To measure noise due to velopharyngeal incompetence and compensatory movements on vocal tract (pharynx and vocal tract)



2.2. Characterization

Non Linear Dynamics Features

Human voice production system can be described nonlinearly, so it is a Nonlinear Dynamic System [12 - 14].

A way of analyzing nonlinear dynamic systems are Complexity Measures (Invariants).

□ Correlation Dimension (CD)

□ Largest Lyapunov Exponent (LLE)

Hurst Exponent (H)

Lempel-Ziv Complexity (LZC)





2.2. Characterization Non Linear Dynamics Features

Embedding space reconstruction – Diffeomorphic and Strange Attractors

Periodic Signal



Periodic signal's attractor







2.2. Characterization Non Linear Dynamics Features

Correlation Dimension (D_c **)**

Estimated by Grassberger and Procaccia Method [16]

 D_c Gives a measure of how complex is the attractor of a signal.

According to embedding theory, more complex signals will generate irregular attractors, so counting points on consecutive "spheres" is possible to know how irregular and complex is the time series (signal).

Other important information in Correlation Dimension is the dependency between points in the same sphere.



2.2. Characterization Non Linear Dynamic Features

Largest Lyapunov Exponent (LLE)

Estimated by Rosenstein's Method [17]

Based on Oseledec's Theorem [18]:

Separation rate between points in a phase space trajectory is given by:

$$d(t) = Ce^{\lambda_1 t}$$

 λ_1 is LLE , d(t) is the mean divergence in time t and C is a constant used for normalization proposes.





2.2. Characterization Non Linear Dynamic Features

Hurst Exponent (H)

Generalization of the description of Brownian Movement, based on range scaling method proposed by Hurst [19].

Hurst Exponent allows to estimate long term dependences between points of the signal.

Due to its wide applicability in time series forecasting and complexity measurement, this feature is considered appropriate to identify normal and pathological voices.



2.2. Characterization Non Linear Dynamic Features

Lempel-Ziv Complexity (LZC)

This feature is wide used to estimate the complexity of a binary series.

Its computation allows to know the number of patterns needed to represent a given sequence [20].

For practical purposes on signal processing, is necessary to assign 0 to when the difference between two consecutive samples is negative and 1 when is positive or null.





2.3. Feature Selection

Sorting features according to its discriminant capacity is necessary to get stable and consistent results, which is reflected in the overall performance of the system.

Two methods were tested for Features Selection.

Principal Component Analysis (PCA). [21]

□Sequential Floating Feature Selection (SFFS). [22]



2.3. Classification

- Different Classifiers have been tested:
 - Linear Bayesian
 - Quadratic Bayesian
 - K Nearest Neigbors
 - Soft Margin Support Vector Machine (SM-SVM)



2.3. Classification

Soft Margin Support Vector Machine (SM-SVM) is used for deciding whether a register is pathologic or healthy. [23]





EXPERIMENT Nº1: Automatic Detection of Hypernasality in Children by means of AAV

<u>Database</u>: 110 healthy and 156 hypernasal registers. Recorded in low noise conditions and all sampled at 44.100Hz. Five Spanish Vowels.

Characterization

Feature	Jitter	Shimmer	HNR	CHNR	NNE	GNE	11MFCC
Mean Index	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 to 17
Std. Dev. Index	18	19	20	21	22	23	24 to 34
Variance Index	35	36	37	38	39	40	41 to 51

EXPERIMENT Nº1: Automatic Detection of Hypernasality in Children by means of AAV

<u>Automatic Feature Selection</u>: Using PCA transformation, features are selected and sorted according to their relevance weight, given by the proper value associated to each proper vector in the representation space.

<u>Classification</u>: A Bayesian Classifier is used.

- Linear Bayesian



EXPERIMENT Nº1: Automatic Detection of Hypernasality in Children by means of AAV



EXPERIMENT Nº1: Automatic Detection of Hypernasality in Children by means of AAV

Success rates increase up to 20% when acoustic and noise features are considered (NNE, GNE, HNR and CHNR).

VOWEL	Success Rates Before Acoustic and Noise	Success Rates After Acoustic and Noise
/a/	57,06%	79,57%
/e/	68,89%	88,82%
/i/	62,08%	87,49%
/o/	65,95%	84,10%
/u/	64,13%	78,86%

Initial space dimensionality is reduced in 45% after PCA transformation.

EXPERIMENT Nº2: Automatic Selection of Acoustic and Non-linear Dynamics Features in Voice Signals for Hypernasality Detection

<u>Database</u>: 110 healthy and 156 hypernasal registers. Recorded in low noise conditions and all sampled at 44.100Hz. Five Spanish Vowels.

Characterization – Acoustic Features

Feature	Jitter	Shimmer	HNR	CHNR	NNE	GNE	11MFCC
Mean Index	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 to 17
Std. Dev. Index	18	19	20	21	22	23	24 to 34
Variance Index	35	36	37	38	39	40	41 to 51

EXPERIMENT Nº2: Automatic Selection of Acoustic and Non-linear Dynamics Features in Voice Signals for Hypernasality Detection

	Feature	CD	LLE	Н	LZC
Μ	ean Index	1	2	3	4
Std.	Dev. Index	5	6	7	8

<u> Characterization – Nonlinear dynamic Features</u>

Feature Selection Results: Acoustic feature spaces

Vowel	Initial Dimension	Reduced - PCA	Reduced - SFFS
/a/	51	21	23
/e/	51	23	27
/i/	51	32	18
/o/	51	26	20
/u/	51	28	20
UNION	147	97	99

EXPERIMENT Nº2: Automatic Selection of Acoustic and Non-linear Dynamics Features in Voice Signals for Hypernasality Detection

Vowel	Initial Dimension	Reduced - PCA	Reduced - SFFS
/a/	8	8	3
/e/	8	6	6
/i/	8	2	5
/o/	8	8	5
/u/	8	4	7
UNION	36	23	16

Nonlinear Dynamic Features Spaces

EXPERIMENT Nº2: Automatic Selection of Acoustic and Non-linear Dynamics Features in Voice Signals for Hypernasality Detection

Best AccuracyResults

Vowel	Accuracy – Without Selection (%)	Accuracy – Reduced with PCA (%)	Accuray – Reduced with SFFS (%)
/a/	86.11 ± 8.88	88.28 ±8.38	86.03 ± 6.27
/e/	89.87 ± 10.06	92.45 ± 4.06	93.258 ± 4.54
/i/	87.58 ± 6.27	91.28 ± 5.77	92.45 ± 6.83
/o/	89.87 ± 3.15	89.13 ± 4.86	89.49 ± 9.62
/u/	86.44 ± 6.77	87.22 ± 6.70	89.83 ± 4.74
UNION	93.28 ± 4.12	93.73 ± 5.28	92.86 ± 5.63

With Acoustic Features

EXPERIMENT Nº2: Automatic Selection of Acoustic and Non-linear Dynamics Features in Voice Signals for Hypernasality Detection

Best AccuracyResults

Vowel	Accuracy – Without Selection (%)	Accuracy – Reduced with PCA (%)	Accuray – Reduced with SFFS (%)
/a/	86.78 ± 5.10	86.01 ± 5.73	87.16 ± 4.37
/e/	87.19 ± 6.05	87.96 ± 7.21	87.57 ± 6.56
/i/	87.98 ± 3.40	86.42 ± 8.33	86.86 ± 5.6
/0/	86.48 ± 8.65	86.14 ± 4.31	85.73 ± 5.96
/u/	86.11 ± 6.42	86.15 ± 8.23	86.85 ± 8.20
UNION	91.16 ± 7.24	92.08 ± 8.21	92.05 ± 5.71

With Nonlinear Dynamic Features

EXPERIMENT Nº2: Automatic Selection of Acoustic and Non-linear Dynamics Features in Voice Signals for Hypernasality Detection

	Vowel	SM	NF	Accuracy	Sensitivity	Specificity	
		WS	51	86.11±8.88	81.90 ± 8.30	92.58±12.71	
	/a/	PCA	21	88.28 ± 8.38	90.77 ± 12.06	83.31 ± 10.90	
Specificity:		SFFS	23	86.03 ± 6.27	92.93 ± 6.26	76.48 ± 9.31	
	5	WS	51	89.87 ± 10.06	89.54±12.30	90.46 ± 8.86	
	/e/	PCA	23	92.45 ± 4.06	95.51 ± 4.46	89.00±8.94	
TN+FP		SFFS	27	93.28 ± 4.54	97.76 ± 5.62	87.17±10.33	
	-	WS	51	87.58 ± 6.27	86.66 ± 6.11	88.85±8.90	
	/i/	PCA	32	91.28 ± 5.77	99.33±2.11	80.69 ± 9.45	
Sensitivity:		SFFS	18	92.45 ± 6.83	97.45 ± 4.55	86.35 ± 11.95	
		WS	51	89.87±3.15	88.30 ± 4.39	91.35 ± 8.48	
	/o/	PCA	26	89.13 ± 4.86	88.41 ± 7.98	90.35 ± 10.27	
TP+FN		SFFS	20	89.49 ± 9.62	87.11 ± 14.78	93.82 ± 9.34	
	1	WS	51	86.44 ± 6.77	84.05 ± 7.53	88.66±9.26	
	/u/	PCA	28	87.22 ± 6.70	95.45 ± 4.64	76.01 ± 12.76	
		SFFS	20	89.83 ± 4.74	92.01 ± 7.17	83.25±19.20	
	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	WS	147	93.28 ± 4.12	92.99 ± 6.41	93.30±7.72	
	Union	PCA	97	93.73 ± 5.28	92.86 ± 9.19	93.71±11.69	
		SFFS	99	92.86 ± 5.63	92.28 ± 9.96	94.11 ± 9.96	
	SM: Selection Method, WS: Without Selection, NF: Number of Features						

Acoustic analysis

EXPERIMENT Nº2: Automatic Selection of Acoustic and Non-linear Dynamics Features in Voice Signals for Hypernasality Detection

	Vowel	SM	NF	Accuracy	Sensitivity	Specificity
		WS	8	86.78 ± 5.10	86.77±7.44	87.90±9.32
	/a/	PCA	8	86.01 ± 5.73	83.43 ± 9.06	89.73 ± 8.57
pecificity:		SFFS	3	87.16 ± 4.37	87.01 ± 6.70	88.57 ± 8.92
		WS	8	87.19 ± 6.05	85.62 ± 9.06	89.86 ± 5.24
TN	/e/	PCA	6	87.96 ± 7.21	86.40 ± 9.13	90.67 ± 6.69
$\overline{\Gamma N} + \overline{ED}$		SFFS	6	87.57 ± 6.56	85.60 ± 9.06	90.86 ± 6.14
(IV + I'I)	12 M 12 M 12	WS	8	87.98 ± 3.40	87.54 ± 8.92	88.98 ± 9.94
	/i/	PCA	2	86.42 ± 8.33	84.64 ± 12.32	87.69 ± 7.02
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	11604	SFFS	5	86.86 ± 5.62	82.99 ± 8.45	93.09 ± 5.18
ensitivity:		WS	8	86.48 ± 8.65	84.85 ± 12.49	88.71±10.02
TP	/o/	PCA	8	86.14 ± 4.31	86.85 ± 5.27	87.07±11.23
		SFFS	5	85.73 ± 5.96	83.49 ± 8.90	88.34 ± 8.96
P+FN		WS	8	86.11±6.42	87.84 ± 6.90	84.42 ± 13.45
	/u/	PCA	4	86.15 ± 8.23	87.26 ± 8.40	83.95 ± 14.21
		SFFS	7	86.85 ± 8.20	85.83 ± 9.61	87.84 ± 10.60
	5	WS	36	91.16±7.24	90.84 ± 11.00	91.28 ± 10.52
	Union	PCA	23	92.08 ± 8.21	95.49±7.21	88.05 ± 12.73
	Albertan series (pool- o	SFFS	16	92.05 ± 5.71	93.58 ± 7.39	90.06 ± 9.78
	SM: Se	election M	lethod,	WS: Without Sel	ection, NF: Numb	er of Features

Non-linear dynamics analysis

Sp

Se

EXPERIMENT Nº2: Automatic Selection of Acoustic and Non-linear Dynamics Features in Voice Signals for Hypernasality Detection

AUC = 0.9616

AUC = 0.9578



EXPERIMENT Nº3: Automatic Selection of Non-linear Dynamics Features for Voice Pathology Detection in Running Speech

Database: A subset of the Kay Elemetrics database.

36 healthy and 36 pathologic registers of people reading "the rainbow passage".

Characterization – Nonlinear dynamic Features

Feature	CD	LLE	Н	LZC
Mean Index	1	2	3	4
Std. Dev. Index	5	6	7	8
Skewness	9	10	11	12
Curtosis	13	14	15	16

EXPERIMENT Nº3: Automatic Selection of Non-linear Dynamics Features for Voice Pathology Detection in Running Speech

Segmentation regardless intonation content.

Feature Selection: Using Sequential Floating Feature Selection (SFFS).

Classification:

-Soft Margin Support Vector Machine (SM-SVM)

- Neural Net (NN)
- K-Nearest Neigbors (K-NN)

With only 6 of those NLD features is possible to detect pathologic voices

Accuracy with SM-SVM	Accuracy with NN	Accuracy with K-NN
95.0% ± 3.54%	87.9.% ± 7.74%	89.15% ± 6.50%

4. Questions



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ANEX I – CD estimation

Correlation Dimension (CD)

Estimated by Grassberger and Procaccia Method [15]

$$D_{c} = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \left(\frac{\log(C_{m}(\varepsilon))}{\log(\varepsilon)} \right)$$
Where: $C_{m}(\varepsilon) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N^{2}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \Theta(\varepsilon - ||x_{i} - x_{j}||)$
And: $\Theta(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } z \leq 0\\ 1 & \text{for } z > 0 \end{cases}$ is the Heaviside function.
$$N \quad \text{Is the number of points in the signal}$$

 $||x_i - x_j||$ Is the distance between points *i* and *j*.

ANEX I – CD estimation

 D_c Gives an idea of how complex is the signal.

According to embedding theory, more complex signals will generate irregular attractors, so counting points on consecutive "spheres" is possible to know how irregular and complex is the time series (signal).

Other important information in Correlation Dimension is the dependency between points in the same sphere.



ANEX II – LLE estimation

Largest Lyapunov Exponent (LLE)

Estimated by Rosenstein's Method [16]

Based on Oseledec's Theorem [17]:

Separation rate between points in a phase space trajectory is given by:

$$d(t) = Ce^{\lambda_1 t}$$

 λ_1 is LLE, d(t) is the mean divergence in time t and C is a constant used for normalization proposes.



ANEX II – LLE estimation

LLE estimates the divergence rate of points in the states space (attractor).

This property is important considering that periodic signals generate closed attractors while non-periodic generate irregulars.

As vocal fold movement in healthy humans is quasi-periodic, and hypernasal people have problems with their vocal phonation due to its velo-pharingeal incompetence, their voice signals are non-periodic, thus LLE can be considered as a good estimator for automatic detection of hypernasality in voice.



Hurst Exponent (H)

Generalization of the description of Brownian Movement, based on range scaling method proposed by Hurst [18].

Einstein's proof shows that distance traveled by a particle is proportional to the square root of the time:

$$R = cT^{0.5}$$

Where R is the range for particle movement, c is a constant and T is the time.



For the generalization proposed by Hurst, signal must be transformed considering its accumulated deviations respect to the mean:

$$X(i) = \sum_{n \in M} \left(x(n) - \overline{x}(n)_{M_i} \right)$$

Where M_i is the i-th segment of the signal x(n), which contains M points, and x(n) is the mean of the set of points in this segment.

Hurst's proof generalizes the expression found by Einstein:

$$\frac{R}{S} = cT^{H}$$

Where R is the variation range of the signal evaluated for each segment M and is expressed as:

$$R(M) = \max\{X(i)\} - \min\{X(i)\}$$

 $S = \sigma$ is the standard deviation of the signal and c is a scaling constant.

Thus H is calculated as the slope of the straight line formed in the

curve $\frac{R(M)}{\sigma}_{vsM}$, when is plotted in logarithmic scale, i.e.

$$(cM)^{H} = \frac{R(M)}{\sigma}$$

Then,

$$H = \frac{\log\left(\frac{R(M)}{\sigma}\right)}{\log(cM)}$$



Hurst Exponent allows to estimate long term dependences between points of the signal.

Due to its wide applicability in time series forecasting and complexity measurement, this feature is considered appropriate to identify normal and pathological voices.

ANEX IV – LZC estimation

Lempel-Ziv Complexity (LZC)

This feature is wide used to estimate the complexity of a binary series.

Its computation allows to know the number of patterns needed to represent a given sequence [19].

For practical purposes on signal processing, is necessary to assign 0 to when the difference between two consecutive samples is negative and 1 when is positive or null.

ANEX IV – LZC estimation

LZ estimation is based on the reconstruction of a sequence by X copying and insertion of symbols inside a new series.

Consider a sequence $X = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$ which shall be analyzed from left to right, take the first bin in the binary chain and insert it by default as starting point.

Define S as a variable that holds bits inserted until the moment, so at the beginning S only has x_1 .

Define Q as a variable that accumulates every bit that is analyzed from left to right inside binary train.



ANEX IV – LZC estimation

On each iteration S and Q are joined to form SQ.

 $SQ\pi$ Is the resulting sequence after remove last digit in SQ

When $Q \notin v(SQ\pi)$ the process of bits insertion is done.

Complexity *c* will be the number of sub sets in which original sequence is divided.



ANEX IV – LZC estimation (example)

Set X = 0001001

- 1. 0 is the first bit inserted, thus is represented as 0*. Where * indicates that there finish a block of bits and a new one must be start.
- 2. S = 0, and Q = 0, Q = 0 the second bit in the sequence X. So, SQ = 00 and $SQ\pi = 0$ Note that $Q \in v(SQ\pi)$ where $v(SQ\pi)$ denotes the vocabulary of the set $SQ\pi$. Thus, the second block is not finished yet.
- 3. S = 0 because the bits insertion process have not finished. Q = 00 is the sequence found continuing with the analysis of the bits train.

 $SQ\pi = 00$, and $Q \in v(SQ\pi)$ so the block of bits that is in process will be 0*00.

4. S = 0, Q = 001, SQ = 0001 and $SQ\pi = 000$. Note that $Q \notin v(SQ\pi)$, so here the second block is finished, ie: 0*001*



ANEX IV – LZC estimation (example)

LEMPEL ZIV COMPLEXITY. (An ilustrative example).

5. S = 0001, Q = 0, SQ = 00010 and $SQ\pi = 0001$. But $Q \in v(SQ\pi)$, so 0*001*0

6. S = 0001, Q = 00, SQ = 000100 and $SQ \pi = 00010$, $Q \in v(SQ\pi)$, thus 0*001*00

7. S = 0001, Q = 001, SQ = 0001001 and $SQ \pi = 000100$. Since $Q \in v(SQ\pi)$, then here the division of the sequence X is not finished. 0*001*001...

As three blocks (patterns) were necessary to represent the sequence, the complexity is c=3.



ANEX V – ROC curves

ROC Curves Construction

TP: # of patterns of class 0 correctly classified as class 0.FN: # of patterns of class 0 missclassified as class 1.FP: # of patterns of class 1 missclassified as class 0.TN: # of patterns of class 1 correctly classified as class 1.

Confusion Matrix

		True Class	
		Class 0	Class 1
Estimated Class	Class 0	ТР	FP
	Class 1	FN	TN

Specificity:

 $\frac{TN}{TN+FP}$

Sensitivity:



ANEX V – ROC curves



Figure taken from: "Contribuciones Metodológicas para la evaluación objetiva de patologías laríngeas" Cap. 5.

$$\mathbf{x}(n) \rightarrow [x_1, x_2, ..., x_L] \rightarrow \mathbf{P} = [p_1, p_2, ..., p_L]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} |p_{i+1} - p_i| \\ \overline{\mathbf{P}} \\ \times 100\% = j_i \\ i = 1, 2, ..., L - 1 \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{Jitt}$$

$$\mathbf{Jitt}$$

$$STD(\mathbf{Jitt})$$

$$VAR(\mathbf{Jitt})$$



$$\mathbf{x}(n) \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_{1}, \mathbf{x}_{2}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_{A} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \underbrace{\mathbf{x}_{i}}_{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{H} = N \sum_{n=0}^{T} \mathbf{x}_{A}^{2}(n)$$

$$\mathbf{N} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{n=0}^{T} \{\mathbf{x}_{i}(n) - \mathbf{x}_{A}(n)\}^{2}$$

$$\mathbf{H} \mathbf{N} \mathbf{R}_{dB}$$

$$STD(\mathbf{H} \mathbf{N} \mathbf{R}_{dB})$$

$$\mathbf{H} NR_{dB}$$

$$TD(\mathbf{H} \mathbf{N} \mathbf{R}_{dB})$$



$$\begin{array}{c} x(n) \rightarrow [x_1, x_2, ..., x_N] \rightarrow w_i \times x_i = \hat{x}_i \rightarrow C_{\hat{x}_i}(n) = IFFT[\log|FFT(\hat{x}_i)|] \\ H_i = \log|FFT(\hat{x}_i)| - N_i \\ \hline H_i = \log|FFT(\hat{x}_i)| - N_i$$

