

## A SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE SPECTRAL FEATURE FOR SPEECH DETECTION IN MIXED AUDIO SIGNALS

Reinhard Sonnleitner<sup>1</sup>, Bernhard Niedermayer<sup>1</sup>

Gerhard Widmer<sup>1,2</sup>, Jan Schlüter<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department for Computational Perception  
Johannes Kepler University of Linz

<sup>2</sup>Austrian Research Institute for  
Artificial Intelligence, Vienna

### ABSTRACT

We present a simple and intuitive spectral feature for detecting the presence of spoken speech in mixed (speech, music, arbitrary sounds and noises) audio signals. The feature is based on some simple observations about the appearance, in signals that contain speech, of harmonics with characteristic trajectories. Experiments with some 70 hours of radio broadcasts in five different languages demonstrate that the feature is very effective in detecting and delineating segments that contain speech, and that it also seems to be quite general and robust w.r.t. different languages.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Detecting speech in mixed audio signals is a task that humans can easily accomplish even in noisy environments, or when they do not understand a foreign language. The identification of those segments in an audio stream that contain speech (as opposed to, or in combination with, other sounds like music or arbitrary noises) is a fundamental prerequisite for many speech processing tasks, e.g., automatic speech recognition, speaker diarisation and automatic story segmentation [1]. In the domain of audio signal processing the task of *Voice Activity Detection* (VAD) is well established. However, most authors in that field (see [2], [3], or [4], for example) focus on the detection of voice in noisy environments, or in the presence of reverberation.

Less research has been conducted on identifying and delineating segments containing spoken speech in complex mixed audio signals such as arbitrary radio or TV broadcast streams. Especially for radio and TV broadcasts, the determining factors vary considerably from the more limited VAD scenario, and more varied mixtures of sounds need to be considered. [5] compare hierarchical and multi-class approaches to speech/music segmentation via Support Vector Machines. Audio features for this task are automatically selected from an initial set of about 600 features of various types, using a feature selection method. Detection of singing voice in music tracks is performed in [6], by extraction and selection of partials depending on vibrato and tremolo parameters that are characteristic for voice and discriminative with respect to musical instruments.

*Discrimination* of speech from non-speech samples like environmental sounds, animal vocalizations and music has been investigated, e.g., in [7]. The authors used a data corpus consisting of speech samples from an Acoustic-Phonetic corpus, and dedicated non-speech samples, but not from complex mixed signals, as one will often encounter in real-world data. They report near perfect speech classification. However, the speech samples in their audio database represent clean speech rather than complex mixtures. Generalization to unseen data was tested by artificially distorting the clean speech samples with noise and reverberation.

In the area of speech/music discrimination, [1] classify audio segments to one of three categories: silence, music, and a category consisting of two subcategories, speech and speech with music. They report to extract 94 different features based on *Linear Prediction Cepstral Coefficients* (LPCC), *Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients* (MFCC), *Line Spectral Pairs* (LSP) and the *Short-time Fourier Transform* (STFT) on a data corpus that consists of 10 hours of Mandarin news broadcasts. The data includes speech from news speakers, interviews with different speakers, ambient noises and different genres of music, but no vocal music with instrumental accompaniment is included in the data. The ground truth is determined by using supplied automatic speech recognition transcripts for semi-automatic labeling of the aforementioned four categories. Near perfect evaluation results with F-Measure round 0.97 to 0.98 are reported for three different classifiers based on the above-mentioned general sets of features.

[8] address the tasks of discriminating between speech, monophonic singing, and polyphonic music. It is pointed out that the discrimination between speech and monophonic singing demands for more sophisticated algorithms than the task of discriminating speech from polyphonic music. The experiments are based on a data corpus that consists of 1000 samples of speech, 1114 samples of singing performed by 58 persons and 200 samples of polyphonic music. Prior to signal type discrimination, the continuous audio stream is segmented into short clips based on changes in intensity. Starting from a set of 276 audio features, automatic feature selection methods are applied. For the best classifier (an ensemble classifier based on a reduced feature set computed on the segments), a final error rate of 0.57% is reported.

In this paper, we propose a single novel spectral feature for identifying the presence of speech in arbitrary mixed audio signals. We present a straightforward machine learning classifier based on this feature, and show – in experiments with an extensive and diverse corpus of real-world radio broadcasts – that the feature works surprisingly well, even across different languages. The advantages of the new feature are its extreme simplicity (it amounts to 1 number per audio frame), its intuitive comprehensibility and, related to that, the fact that the feature (or classifiers based on it) can be easily tuned to the specific requirements of a given application problem (e.g., to balance recall against precision).

### 2. A SIMPLE FEATURE FOR SPEECH DETECTION

In the following, we define a single spectral feature to detect spoken speech on the basis of a logarithmically scaled representation of the STFT. The feature is motivated by some simple observations concerning spectro-temporal variations of speech signals.

## 2.1. Observations on Speech Signals

When comparing the spectrogram of a speech signal to signals representing music or noise, one will observe a number of specific characteristics.

- First, speech signals usually display patterns relating to the presence of several harmonics, that are influenced by the shape of the vocal tract. Within an individual time frame, they manifest themselves in the form of significant peaks within the spectrum. This behavior is similar to the sound produced by (pitched) musical instruments. There, partials can be found at the fundamental frequency  $f_0$  of a tone and also near its integer multiples  $(n + 1)f_0$ , with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  or  $n \in \mathbb{N}^e$  for string or wind instruments, respectively.
- A second important observation is that the harmonics are sustained over a certain span of time in which they are very likely to vary in frequency. This is a discriminative characteristic of speech in comparison to noise or the sound of musical instruments. Noise, on the one hand, does generally not reveal significant spectral peaks which are sustained over time. Musical instruments, on the other hand, are used to play tones on a discrete pitch scale. A corresponding audio signal will, therefore, consist of partials with a relatively constant frequency.<sup>1</sup> Exceptions to this are specific effects like *glissandi* and – a somewhat more serious problem for speech/music discrimination – *vibrato*. (We will return to this issue in Section 4 below.)

In Figure 1, one can clearly recognize the characteristic curved trajectories in the spectrogram computed from the speech signal. In contrast, the music sample is characterized by strictly horizontal and minor vertical structures in the lower frequency regions, i.e., the partials at the harmonic frequencies of notes and the respective transient note onsets. The third sample shows the frequency components present in traffic noise. Here, one cannot identify any dominant pattern.

Based upon those observations, we propose to identify human voice within mixed audio signals by detecting the curved frequency trajectory of the harmonics over a certain period of time.

## 2.2. Feature Computation

The basic idea behind the feature we propose is to capture sustained harmonics' trajectories which – in contrast to the partials of a note played on a musical instrument – vary in frequency. Both phenomena result in a high correlation when comparing the spectral patterns of two nearby audio frames. Therefore, each time frame  $X_t$  is compared to a subsequent one  $X_{t+offset}$ . However, in order to allow for the curved frequency trajectories of speech harmonics, frequency shifts have to be accounted for. We do this by computing the *cross-correlation* between the two time frames  $X_t$  and  $X_{t+offset}$ . The cross-correlation can be used to estimate the degree of correlation between shifted versions of these vectors, for a range of so-called lags  $l$ . Given two vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  of length  $N$ , the cross-correlation for all lags  $l \in [-N, N]$  including zero-lag, as given in Equation 1, results in a cross-correlation series of length  $2N + 1$ .

$$R_{\mathbf{xy}}(l) = \sum_i x_i y_{i+l} \quad (1)$$

<sup>1</sup> In [9], this is exploited in a feature called *Continuous Frequency Activation (CFA)* for (foreground and background) music detection in TV broadcasts.

In our case the input vectors are time frames, and the lag corresponds to a shift along the frequency axis. We define  $r_{xcorr}$  as the maximum cross-correlation over a range of lags:

$$r_{xcorr}(X_t, X_{t+offset}) = \max_l R_{X_t, X_{t+offset}}(l) \quad (2)$$

where  $l \in [-l_{max}, l_{max}]$  denotes the lag (frequency shift) in terms of frequency bins. We define  $r$  as a special case of the cross-correlation mentioned above, with lag  $l = 0$ , and subsequently refer to zero-lag cross-correlation as correlation:

$$r(X_t, X_{t+offset}) = R_{X_t, X_{t+offset}}(0) \quad (3)$$

As an indicator of the dominance of speech in an audio signal, we introduce the *correlation gain*  $r_{xcorr} - r$ . For 'ideal' music-only signals (i.e. those dominated by horizontal tone patterns in the spectrum), the cross-correlation will have its maximum for frequency lag 0, and thus the gain  $r_{xcorr} - r = R(0) - r = r - r = 0$ . For signals dominated by curved harmonic patterns,  $R(l)$  will be maximal for some  $l \neq 0$  and there will be a positive gain  $r_{xcorr} - r$ . For audio recordings where musical instruments dominate the contribution of speech to the signal the gain is lowered. Here, harmonics of varying frequency are mixed with partials of constant frequency. For sections containing noise only, the correlation between nearby time frames is generally expected to be low. Also, it is unlikely that a frequency shift will yield significantly higher correlations due to the randomness of the energy distribution over time in such signals.

Since harmonic frequencies are multiples of the fundamental frequency, shifting spectral patterns along the frequency axis cannot be done on a linear scale: the lag parameter in the cross-correlation formula can only represent the frequency derivative  $\Delta f$  of one single harmonic; for the other harmonics this derivative would be a multiple  $c_k \Delta f$ . However, when frequencies are represented on a logarithmic scale, harmonics are at constant offsets relative to their fundamental frequency, so continuous frequency changes can be captured by cross-correlation as described above.

We prepare our data corpus for subsequent computations by sampling the input to 22.05 kHz monaural audio. To extract the spectral feature, we transform the audio input to the frequency domain by applying a Short Time Fourier Transform with a Kaiser window of a size of 4096 samples. For subsequent computations in the feature extraction process, we follow the preprocessing steps as performed in [9], by computing the magnitude spectrum  $|X(f)|$  and mapping the STFT magnitude spectrum to a perceptual scale. For our implementation we have chosen the logarithmic cent scale representation of STFT spectrograms. Also, the feature extraction process considers the lower 150 cent-scaled frequency bins of the spectrum only, which corresponds to frequencies of up to roughly 802 Hz, while discarding the upper bins.

Using this configuration we found that comparing an audio frame to its direct successor does not yield the expected results. The hop size chosen for the STFT corresponds to a time difference of approximately 23 ms. During such a small time span the harmonics' frequencies do not vary significantly enough to permit a reliable discrimination from partials of notes played by musical instruments. Therefore, the parameter *offset* in the computation of the cross-correlation (cf. Equation 2) was chosen to be 3.

Another parameter that has to be selected is the maximum lag  $l_{max}$  used for computing the cross-correlation (cf. Equation 2). We propose to set this parameter such that it does not allow for the shift of an entire semitone, which in our case gives us an  $l_{max}$  of

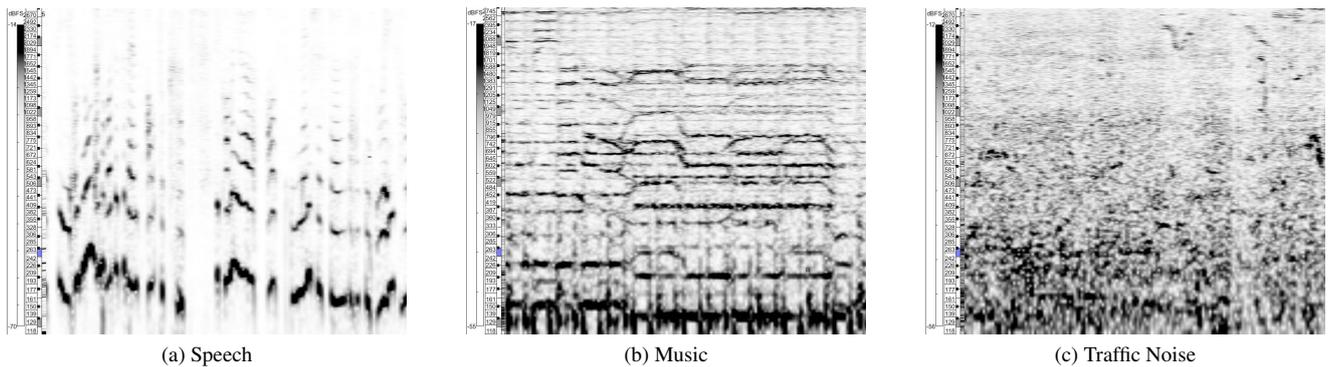


Figure 1: Comparison of the spectrograms of sections containing (a) speech, (b) popular music including singing voice, and (c) traffic noise. The length of each section is approximately 7 seconds and the frequencies range from 100 Hz to 3000 Hz on a logarithmic scale.

3. This prevents the feature from reporting high values at times where a musical instrument plays along a chromatic scale.

Figure 2 demonstrates the behavior of our feature. We show intermediate results of the feature computation process, for two different exemplary kinds of audio input: a transition from speech to music is shown in the left half of the figure, a Pop song with female sung voice is depicted on the right. Once again, note that the cross-correlation value for lag  $l = 0$  corresponds to the ‘regular’ correlation. Thus, in the plots in the second row of Fig. 2, which show the cross-correlation values for different lags  $l$  (vertical dimension, in the range of  $l \in [-3, 3]$ ), high values in the central row ( $l = 0$ ) indicate high correlation, whereas high values for rows with  $l \neq 0$  are possible indicators of speech. The former can clearly be seen in the music examples (first half of plot on left-hand side, and entire plot on right-hand side). The latter case can be observed in the second half of the plot on the left, where the presence of curved harmonic patterns in the spectrogram leads to relatively high cross-correlation values for lags  $l < 0$  – higher, at any rate, than the correlation at lag  $l = 0$ . The resulting correlation gain  $r_{\text{corr}} - r$ , shown at the bottom of the figure, then identifies exactly those areas that exhibit strong curved patterns. (The somewhat spiky nature of the gain function also explains why we will apply some smoothing to this curve when computing the actual features for the classifier – see below).

### 2.3. The Final Feature: Context Integration and Smoothing

We compute the feature from the audio signal according to a decision frequency of 5 Hz (i.e., one feature value every 200 ms), where we center an *observation window* of width 50 STFT blocks (approximately 1.3s) around each decision position, in order to also capture some context.

For each of the  $N - \text{offset}$  pairs of STFT blocks  $(X_t, X_{t+\text{offset}})$  in the observation window of length  $N$ , two vectors  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c}$  of feature values, one for the cross-correlation and one for the correlation results, are computed, both having a length of  $N - \text{offset}$ , where  $N$  is the number of STFT blocks of the observation window (50, in our case). The element-wise difference of the vectors gives the feature vector  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{x}\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{c}$ . Finally,  $\mathbf{r}$  is smoothed using a rectangular window of width 5, and the index of the dominant frequency bin within the observation window is appended to the feature vector as an additional feature. Preliminary experiments

showed that this increases the ratio of correctly classified instances by roughly one percentage point. Thus, the final result is a vector of 48 feature values (50 – 3 smoothed correlation gain values, and 1 frequency bin index) per decision point. The size of the observation window allows us to capture enough context to detect spoken speech, and carries overlap for effective smoothing that can be applied as a post-processing step.

## 3. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

### 3.1. Classification Scenario

We test our feature in a classical machine learning approach, by training a classifier on a manually annotated ground truth (radio broadcast recordings with segment boundary indications) for a basic two-class problem, namely for the classes *contains speech* and *does not contain speech*. The used classifier model is a *random forest* [10] (an ensemble classifier of decision trees that outputs the mode of the decisions of its respective trees, parameterized to use 200 decision trees, and 10 random features per tree. The classifier outputs class probabilities, which are transformed to binary decisions using simple thresholding.

We prepare three data sets: a *training set*, to be used as training material for the classifier; a *validation set*, which will be used to perform systematic parameter studies, and to select the final parameter setting (in particular, the decision threshold); and an independent *test set*, on which the final classifier will then be evaluated.

The classifier is trained to classify individual time points in the audio stream — in other words, each training example is one point in the audio, represented in terms of a *feature vector* of 48 feature values, as explained above, where the feature values characterize the signal at the current point, and its local context.

Training, validation, and test data are processed with a feature extraction frequency of 5 Hz, which means that the classifier produces predictions at a rate of 5 labels per second of audio. As a post-processing step, the sequence of predicted class labels is smoothed using a median filter with a window size of 52 labels.

### 3.2. The Data Corpus

The main data corpus consists of recordings of 61 hours of randomly selected radio broadcasts, recorded in three batches (each relating to a different week) from six different radio stations in

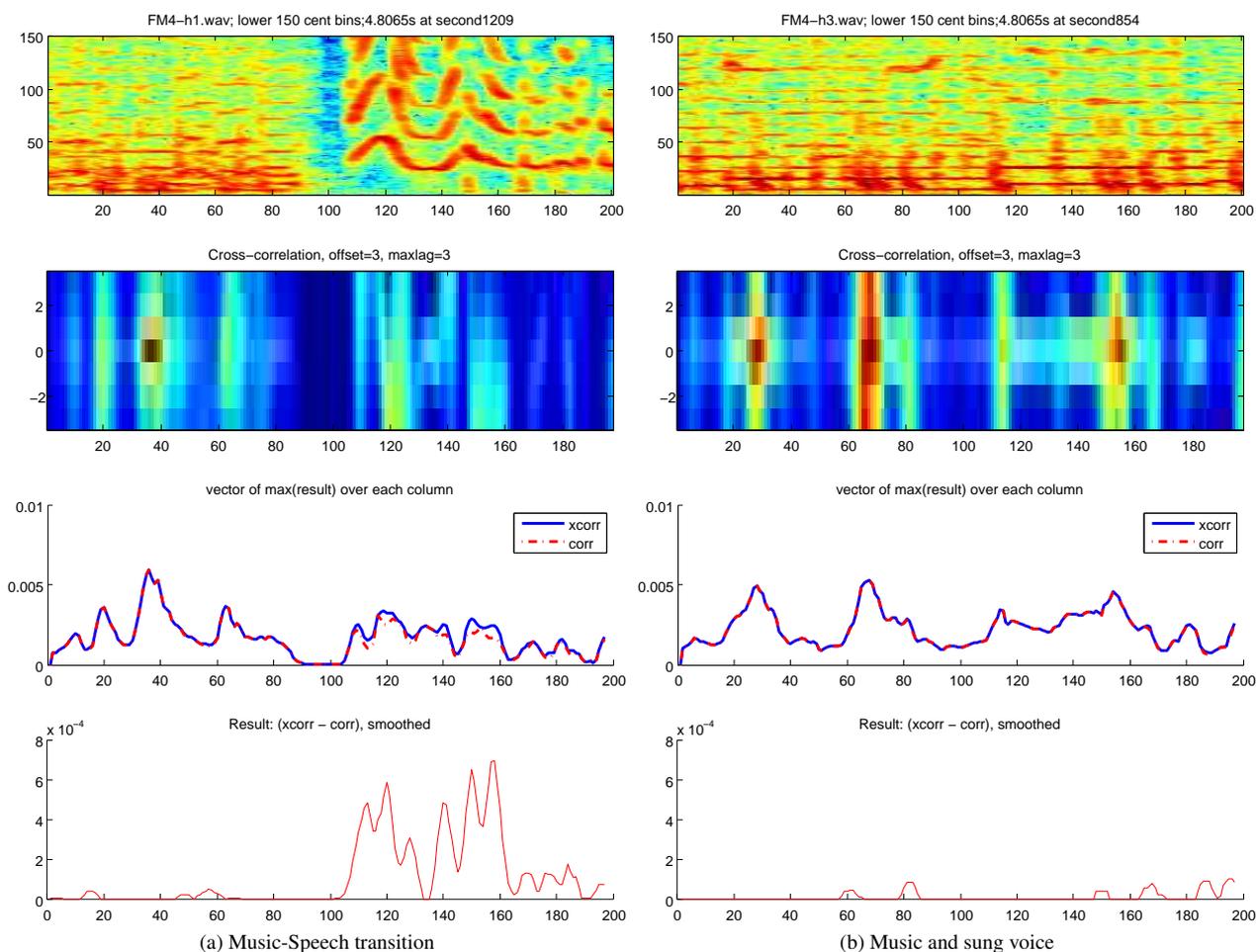


Figure 2: Comparison of the feature values for sections containing (a) music and then spoken speech and (b) music with singing voice (duration: approximately 5 seconds each). The top row shows the spectrograms (the lower 150 bins of the cent scale) of the two audio snippets. The second row shows the resulting cross-correlation values  $R(l)$  for  $\text{offset} = 3$  and lag values  $l \in [-3, 3]$ . The third row compares the corresponding values  $r (= R(0))$  (dashed line) and  $r_{xcorr} = \max_l R(l)$  (solid line). The bottom row plots the correlation  $r_{xcorr} - r$ , which is the basis for our proposed feature.

Switzerland (drsvirus, RSI Rete 2, RSR Couleur 3, Radio Central, Radio Chablais, RTR Rumantsch), which together represent all four official languages of Switzerland: (Swiss) German, French, Italian and Rumantsch. The recordings were split into files with a duration of 30 minutes each, and manually annotated according to the two-class problem of ‘spoken speech’ vs. ‘other’, where ‘spoken speech’ refers to all segments which contain speech, even if mixed with other sounds or music (such as when a radio host introduces a song while it is already playing).<sup>2</sup> Note that this classi-

<sup>2</sup> Of course, the distinction between speech and non-speech is not always entirely clear, and neither are the exact boundaries where a speech signal ends or begins. (As a simple example, consider pauses in between sentences. In a sense, these are a natural part of the way we speak; but if such pauses grow longer, at some (rather arbitrary) point we will have to classify them as non-speech.) This observation, in fact, makes us slightly skeptical of some of the results in the literature, where recognition accuracies in speech/non-speech segmentation of 100% or almost 100% are reported. Our own preliminary experiments with multiple annotators per

fication problem is considerably more difficult than distinguishing pure speech samples from pure music or noise samples.

The *training set* consists of 21 hours of audio (42 half hour files, 7 files from each radio station) randomly selected from the first two Swiss week batches. The *validation set* comprises 18 half hour files (3 per station). The random forest classifier is trained on the manually annotated ground truth; thresholds as well as post-processing parameters are chosen empirically using the validation set.

The audio files for the *independent test set* were recorded two weeks after training and validation data. The test set is made up of 31 hours of previously unseen broadcast material, split into 62 files, distributed almost uniformly over the 6 radio stations.

Finally, to further test the robustness of the feature in relation to different languages and dialects, we recorded an additional 9

audio file indicate an inter-annotator variability of up to 2%. Thus, not even the so-called ground truth is 100% reliable (nor can it be).

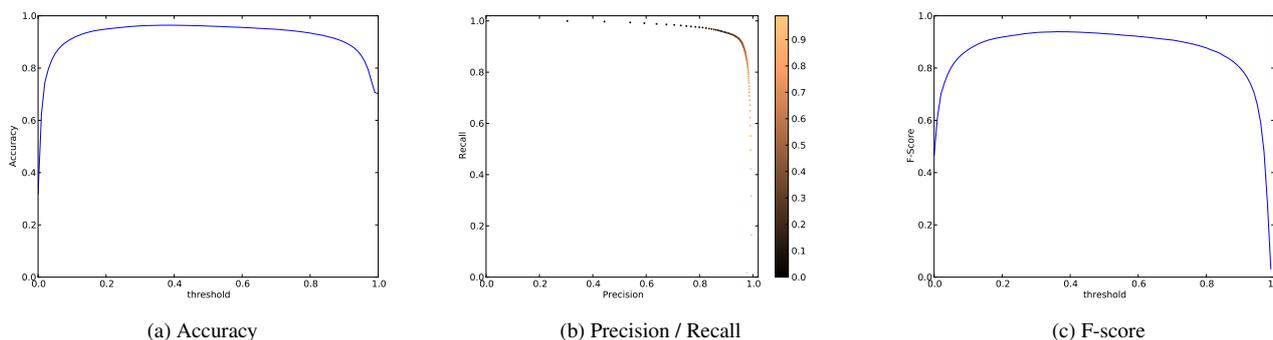


Figure 3: Accuracy, Precision vs. Recall and F-measure plots for thresholds  $t \in [0.0, 1.0]$ , showing the robustness of the spoken speech feature. In plot (b), the thresholds are indicated by colors.

hours of radio material from Switzerland’s neighbor country Austria (3 stations: Oe1, Oe3, LiveRadio). The class distributions and segment counts for the various data sets are given in Table 2.

### 3.3. Results

Figure 3 shows how the results on the validation set change as we vary the decision threshold for the classifier. (Remember that the classifier outputs a probability value between 0 and 1 for a given example, which is then turned into a binary class prediction by thresholding.) The classifier turns out to be extraordinarily stable for a wide range of decision thresholds between 0.2 and 0.8. As a consequence, we rather arbitrarily selected a threshold of 0.5 for our remaining evaluation on independent test sets.

The results of the resulting classifier on the validation and test sets are summarised and compared in Table 1. Given the complexity of the signals and the task (which we are keenly aware of, having annotated some of the audio files ourselves), F-Score values over 0.93 must be considered extremely good – especially considering that the classification is essentially based on 1 feature only. Note again that we could easily direct the classifier towards other points on the recall/precision trade-off continuum by changing the decision threshold.

In order to assess the robustness and generality of the feature in relation to different languages, we also performed specialized classification experiments. Specifically, we trained five special classifiers, one for each of the languages French, Italian, Rumantsch, Swiss-German and Austrian German. The training sets for each of these specialized classifiers consisted of 9 hours of broadcast data (see Table 2). We did not need any validation sets for these experiments, as we simply kept the threshold and post-processing filter parameters that we used with the main classifier (a threshold of 0.5 and a median filter over 52 samples).

The results of these experiments are shown in Table 3. While there are some interesting deviations for certain pairs of languages (in particular one that lends itself to a joke between Swiss and Austrians, namely the particularly low mutual performance of the classifiers related to *Austrian* and *Swiss* German – both of which are supposed to be variants of a common language<sup>3</sup>), the results

<sup>3</sup> This is in stark contrast to the group of Romanic languages (French, Italian, Rumantsch), whose relatedness shows very clearly in the classification results.

are generally rather high and testify to the power of our simple audio feature. Clearly, though, there is still some room for further improvement, which we will address in future research.

## 4. DISCUSSION

We have proposed a simple, efficiently computable spectral feature for precisely detecting spoken speech within complex, mixed audio streams, as encountered in real world broadcast media content. The feature’s dimensionality is 1, as one value per STFT block is computed. The classifier is presented a several blocks-wide observation window of feature values, which results, in our configuration, in a feature vector of length 48, as explained in Section 2.3. In practice, feature values tend to be rather small numbers, often in the range of 0 to  $10^{-3}$ . The feature values could be transformed into the interval  $[0.0, 1.0]$  by representing the result as:  $1.0 - r/r_{xcorr}$  for every result with correlation gain, and zero otherwise.

Our feature has several advantages. It is extremely simple, with a clear and intuitive interpretation. It is easily computable – also in real time –, which also makes it a candidate for on-line speech detection tasks. Generally, classifiers based on a single feature are easy to understand and control.

One topic that we only hinted at in Section 2.1 above and did not discuss in the rest of the paper is the ‘problem’ of *vibrato* in singing, and in certain instruments. It is to be expected that our ‘curved shape detection feature’ will also produce a positive cross-correlation gain in passages containing a clear vibrato – and indeed, focused tests with opera recordings show that it does. The fact that this did not seem to be a big problem in the experiments reported in this paper may be due to the fact that there was rather little classical music contained in our audio material. On the other hand, it seems that the problem of discriminating speech from sung vibrato issue should be relatively easy to solve, as vibrato passages in singing or instrument playing tend to be much longer than spoken vowels – a musically meaningful vibrato needs a sustained tone of considerable length. We are currently carrying out some specialized investigations into this issue.

Dataset	thresh.	TP [s]	FP [s]	True ratio [%]	Est. ratio [%]	Acc. [%]	Prec. [%]	Recall [%]	F-Score [%]
Validation Set	0.5	10664.8	456.6	35.06	34.33	96.44	95.89	93.88	94.87
Test Set	0.5	30041.4	1122.2	29.81	27.87	96.06	96.40	90.14	93.16

Table 1: Classification performance: Averaged true and false positives and quality measurements. TP/FP = true/false positives; “ratio” = “percentage of speech segments in relation to total duration of recording”.

Dataset	#files	speech[s]	speech[%]	#speech	other [s]	#other	Audio[s]	#Sgmts
Train Set	42	22215.4	28.7	572	55117.5	595	77332.8	1167
Validation Set	18	11360.5	35.0	203	21039.3	208	32399.8	411
Test Set	62	33327.3	29.8	995	78471.5	1023	111799	2018

Dataset	#files	speech[s]	speech[%]	#speech	other [s]	#other	Audio[s]	#Sgmts
Austrian	18	11298.2	34.9	545	21102.4	549	32400.6	1094
French	18	11184.8	34.7	216	21030.1	221	32214.9	437
Italian	18	14446.6	44.5	176	18004.8	178	32451.4	354
Rumantsch	18	7236.87	22.3	249	25216.2	260	32453	509
Swiss German	18	4486.57	13.8	202	27963.4	217	32450	419

Table 2: Distribution of segment lengths and segment counts within the data corpus, by datasets and by languages. “#speech” means “number of continuous segments labeled as containing speech (possibly mixed with other sounds)”.

<b>Austrian Classifier</b>	TP [s]	FP [s]	True ratio [%]	Est. ratio [%]	Acc. [%]	Prec. [%]	Recall [%]	F-Score [%]
French	10817.2	436.0	34.72	34.93	97.50	96.13	96.70	96.41
Italian	13828.8	234.0	44.51	43.33	97.38	98.34	95.73	97.01
Rumantsch	6999.6	434.6	22.30	22.91	97.93	94.15	96.73	95.42
Swiss German	3729.4	1096.6	13.83	14.87	94.29	77.28	83.13	80.10

<b>French Classifier</b>	TP [s]	FP [s]	True ratio [%]	Est. ratio [%]	Acc. [%]	Prec. [%]	Recall [%]	F-Score [%]
Austrian	9486.2	570.0	35.04	31.04	92.47	94.33	83.54	88.61
Italian	12298.0	100.2	44.51	38.20	93.07	99.19	85.13	91.63
Rumantsch	6789.8	212.2	22.30	21.58	97.97	96.97	93.83	95.37
Swiss German	3644.4	461.8	13.83	12.65	95.98	88.75	81.23	84.83

<b>Italian Classifier</b>	TP [s]	FP [s]	True ratio [%]	Est. ratio [%]	Acc. [%]	Prec. [%]	Recall [%]	F-Score [%]
Austrian	10686.2	1090.8	35.04	36.35	94.57	90.74	94.11	92.39
French	10940.4	1169.4	34.72	37.59	95.61	90.34	97.81	93.93
Rumantsch	7097.2	644.2	22.30	23.85	97.59	91.68	98.08	94.7
Swiss German	3976.4	2668.8	13.83	20.48	90.20	59.84	88.63	71.44

<b>Rumantsch Cl.</b>	TP [s]	FP [s]	True ratio [%]	Est. ratio [%]	Acc. [%]	Prec. [%]	Recall [%]	F-Score [%]
Austrian	10138.6	1195.4	35.04	34.98	92.56	89.45	89.29	89.37
French	10916.2	1067.6	34.72	37.20	95.85	91.09	97.59	94.23
Italian	12718.4	127.4	44.51	39.58	94.28	99.01	88.04	93.20
Swiss German	3962.6	2105.0	13.83	18.70	91.90	65.31	88.32	75.09

<b>Swiss Classifier</b>	TP [s]	FP [s]	True ratio [%]	Est. ratio [%]	Acc. [%]	Prec. [%]	Recall [%]	F-Score [%]
Austrian	8084.6	470.4	35.04	26.40	88.45	94.50	71.20	81.21
French	10129.2	179.0	34.72	32.00	96.16	98.26	90.55	94.25
Italian	11354.0	87.0	44.51	35.26	90.20	99.24	78.60	87.72
Rumantsch	6517.6	159.2	22.30	20.57	97.29	97.62	90.07	93.69

Table 3: Averaged true and false positives and quality measurements for classifiers trained on different languages

## Acknowledgements

This research was funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF under projects L511 and Z159.

## 5. REFERENCES

- [1] C. Liu, L. Xie, and H. Meng, "Classification of music and speech in mandarin news broadcasts," in *9<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Man-Machine Speech Communication (NCMMSC)*, Huangshan, Anhui, China, Oct. 21-24, 2007.
- [2] K. Metha, C. K. Pham, and E. S. Chng, "Linear dynamic models for voice activity detection," in *Proceedings 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conf. Int. Speech Communication Association*, Florence, Italy, Aug. 27-31, 2011.
- [3] J. Pohjalainen, T. Raitio, and P. Alku, "Detection of shouted speech in the presence of ambient noise," in *Proceedings 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conf. Int. Speech Communication Association*, Florence, Italy, 2011.
- [4] T. Petsatodis, F. Talantzis, C. Boukis, Z. Tan, and R. Prasad, "Multi-sensor voice activity detection based on multiple observation hypothesis testing," in *Proceedings of the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conf. Int. Speech Communication Association*, Florence, Italy, 2011.
- [5] M. Ramona and G. Richard, "Comparison of different strategies for a svm-based audio segmentation," in *European Signal Processing Conference (EUSIPCO)*, Glasgow, UK, Sept. 2009.
- [6] L. Regnier and G. Peeters, "Singing voice detection in music tracks using direct voice vibrato detection," *IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing*, vol. 0, pp. 1685–1688, 2009.
- [7] N. Mesgarani, M. Slaney, and S. Shamma, "Discrimination of speech from nonspeech based on multiscale spectro-temporal modulations," in *IEEE Transactions on Audio, Speech and Language Processing*, 2006, pp. 920–930.
- [8] B. Schuller, B. Schmitt B. J. D. Arsic, S. Reiter, K. Lang M. and G. Rigoll, "Feature selection and stacking for robust discrimination of speech, monophonic singing, and polyphonic music," in *IEEE International Conference on Multimedia & Expo*, 2005, pp. 840–843.
- [9] K. Seyerlehner, T. Pohle, M. Schedl, and G. Widmer, "Automatic music detection in television productions," in *Proceedings of the Int. Conf. on Digital Audio Effects*, Bordeaux, France, 2007.
- [10] Leo Breiman, "Random forests," *Machine Learning*, vol. 45, no. 1, pp. 5–32, 2001.
- [11] J. Bach, J. Anemueller, and B Kollmeier, "Robust speech detection in real acoustic backgrounds with perceptually motivated features," *Speech Communication*, vol. 53, no. 5, pp. 690–706, 2011.
- [12] N. Mesgarani, S. Shamma, and M. Slaney, "Speech discrimination based on multiscale spectro-temporal modulations," *IEEE International Conference on Acoustics Speech and Signal Processing*, vol. 1, no. 3, pp. 601–604, 2004.
- [13] B. Schuller, G. Rigoll, and K. Lang M. "Discrimination of speech and monophonic singing in continuous audio streams applying multi-layer support vector machines," in *International Conference on Multimedia Computing and Systems*, 2004, pp. 1655–1658.