Automatic Speaker Recognition using Vector Quantization and Image Recognition

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*All diagrams/content are created by the author unless referenced

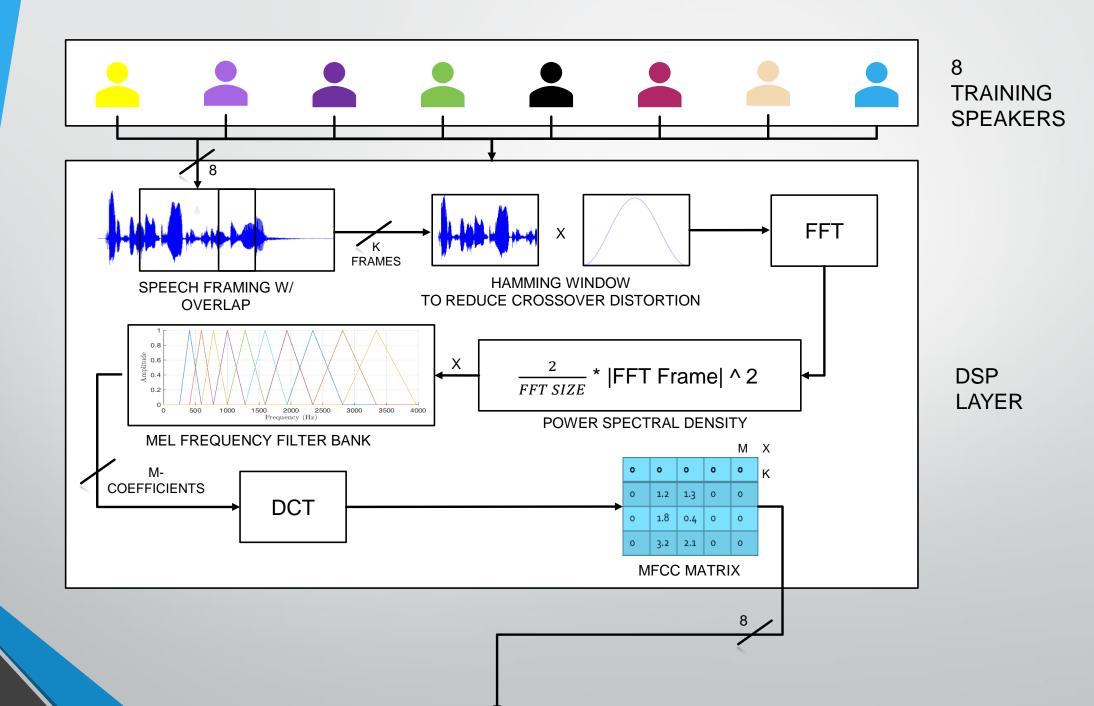
INTRODUCTION

This presentation will cover two avenues for ASR using Mel Frequency Cepstrum Coefficients (MFCC) as *feature vectors*:

- Vector Quantization (VQ) (Reference 1)
- Image Recognition (IR)

In a high level, an ASR system accomplishes the following:

- 1. Training speaker data is captured
- 2. Model is built around *Training* data using (VQ) and (IR)
- 3. Testing speaker data is fed to the model
- 4. Model matches *Test* speaker to *Training speaker*



MATLAB IMPLEMENTATION

- The ASR application is developed in MATLAB with a database of 8 training and testing speakers
- DSP and Model Application layers discussed in the diagrams are implemented from scratch for portability
- The following MATLAB Library functions are used:
 - fft
 - Ifft
 - dct
 - activecontour
 - dice
- The implementation will be discussed in the following sections
 - DSP Layer
 - Model Layer

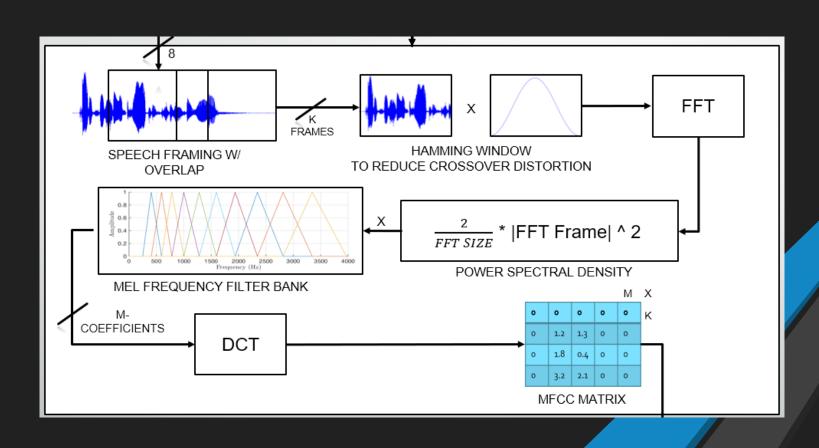
BRIEF INSIGHT

IMPORTANT

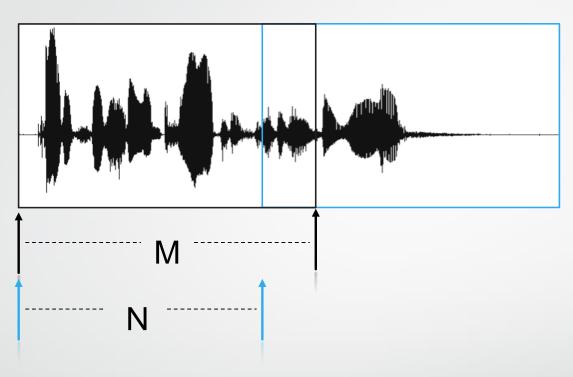
- To use the database of training and testing speakers, the folder paths must be specified as well as the number of total speakers.
- Files should be named "s1.wav", "s2.wav" or it won't work
- The rest of the configuration can be left as default unless testing should be done

```
12
        % ******* Please rename speaker training voices as s1,s2,s3,s4.....
13
        trainingSamplesFolder = "database/train/";
14 -
        testingSamplesFolder = "database/test/";
15
        numSpeakers = 8;
                             %how many speakers are in each folder
16 -
                             %default is 40
17 -
        numMelFilters = 40;
18
        upperLim = 12500;
                              %this is best dependent on sampling freq of signals (in Hz)
19 -
        lowerLim = 40;
                              %usally this low (in Hz)
20 -
21
        N = 256;
                            %frame length
22 -
        M = 100;
                            %num samples before overlap
23 -
        overlap = N-M;
                            %frame overlap
24 -
25
        VQDim = [30,4];
                               %which MFCC numbers to use for VQ section
26 -
27
        VQThreshold = 0.005;
                               %MFCC's under this value will be set to 0
28 -
        VQOffset = 0.00;
                               %quantity to add to MFCC's under VQThreshold
29 -
30
        sizeCodeBook = 4; %Use POWERS OF 2. (2, 4, 8...)
31 -
        %~~~~~~~~~~~~CONFIG PARAMETERS~~~~~~~~
32
```

DSP LAYER IN MATLAB



SPEECH FRAMING WITH OVERLAP



- Speaker Signals have the following characteristics:
 - Fs = 12.5kHz
 - Length ~ 1second
- Framing characteristics:
 - M = 256 (20 ms frame is standard for speech) $\frac{256}{12.5k} = 20ms$
 - N = 100

- 1) Read in WAV data for both training and testing speakers
- 2) Store in cell array's

```
%cell array to store speaker data

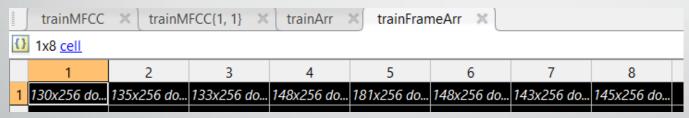
[trainArr, trainFS] = getArr(numSpeakers, trainingSamplesFolder);

[testArr, testFS] = getArr(numSpeakers, testingSamplesFolder);
```

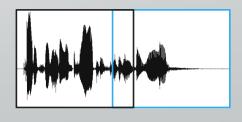
3) Frame the signals with M=256 and N=100

```
trainFrameArr = getFrames(trainArr, numSpeakers, N, M);
testFrameArr = getFrames(testArr, numSpeakers, N, M);
```

4) Result is a cell array of speakers like this:

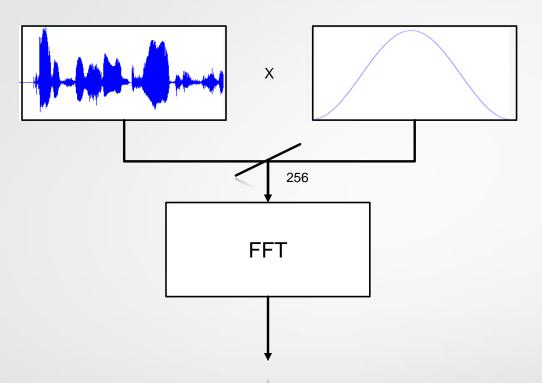


5) There are 256 columns for each speaker because frame size M=256



SPEECH FRAMING W/ OVERLAP

HAMMING WINDOW & FFT



- A 256 sample wide Hamming Window is used to reduce crossover distortion and error in the frequency domain
- The FFT outputs 256 bins

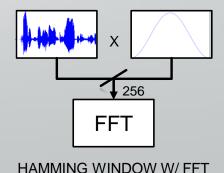
- 1) The getMFCC function processes the signals in the chain on the right
- trainMFCC = getMFCC(trainFrameArr, numSpeakers, N, numMelFilters, trainFS); testMFCC = getMFCC(testFrameArr, numSpeakers, N, numMelFilters, trainFS);
- 2) With all of the speaker's framed in 256 samples each, now each frame needs to have a Hamming window applied

```
%create hamming windows for each chunk
window = hamming(N, 'symmetric'); %N point hamming window
```

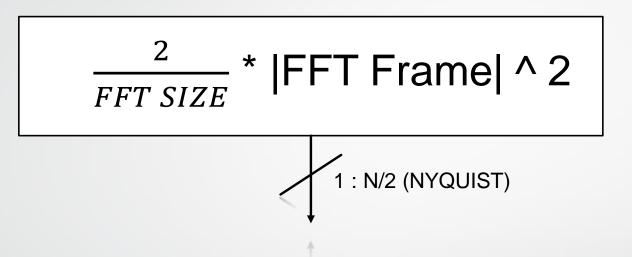
3) Chunk3d_window is a copy of trainFrameArr and stores the windowed signal

```
%windowed signal = signal * window
chunk3d_window{m}(j, :) = chunk3d_window{m}(j, :) .* window;
```

4) FFT each chunk with a size of N=256



POWER SPECTRAL DENSITY



- After the FFT of each frame, now the Power Spectral Density (PSD) of the frame is calculated
- The function outputs a frame of now 128 samples from bin 1 to bin 128 (NYQUIST)

1) Chunk3d_FFT{m}(j,:) holds the current frame FFT, where m is the current speaker, and j is the current frame.

```
% calculate PSD for each chunk using FFT chunk
1004 – chunk3d_PSD{m}(j, :) = getFullPSD(chunk3d_FFT{m}(j, :));
```

2) The getFullPSD function returns the Power Spectral Density

```
Function fullPSD = getFullPSD(signal)

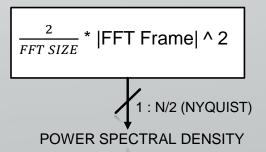
N = length(signal);

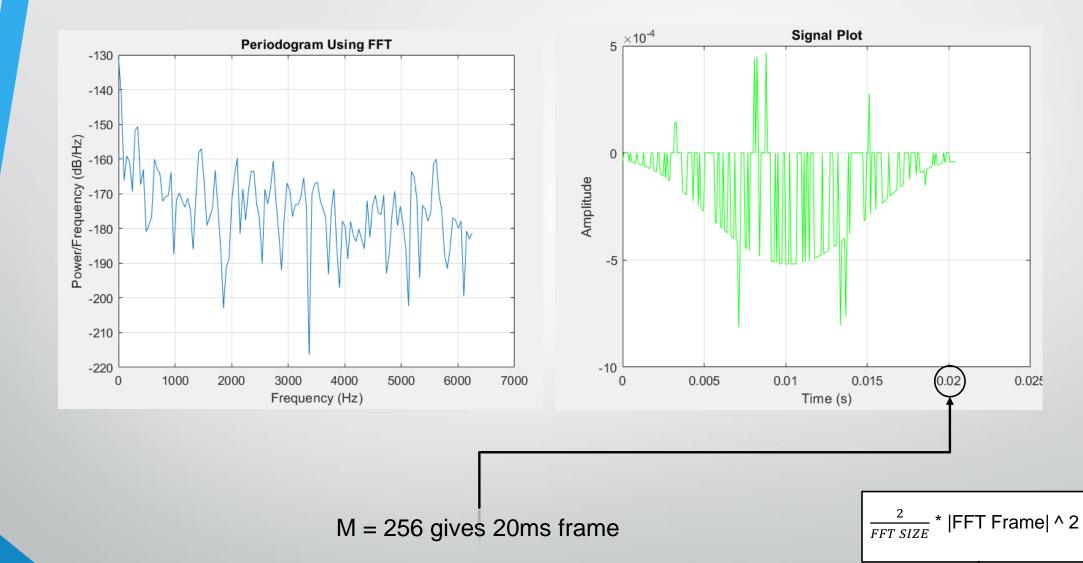
length(signal);

fullPSD = (1/(N)) * (abs(signal).^2);
```

- 3) plotPSD function can be used to view the periodogram of the frequency domain frame
- 4) plotTimeSignal function can visualize the time domain frame

```
plotPSD(chunk3d_PSD{m}(j,:), fs);
plotTimeSignal(chunk3d_window{m}(j,:), fs);
```

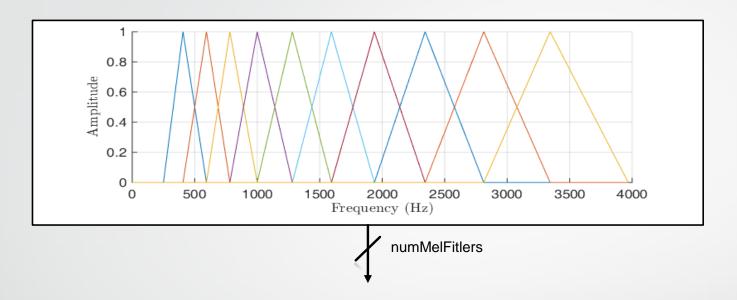




1 : N/2 (NYQUIST)

POWER SPECTRAL DENSITY

MEL FREQUENCY FILTERS



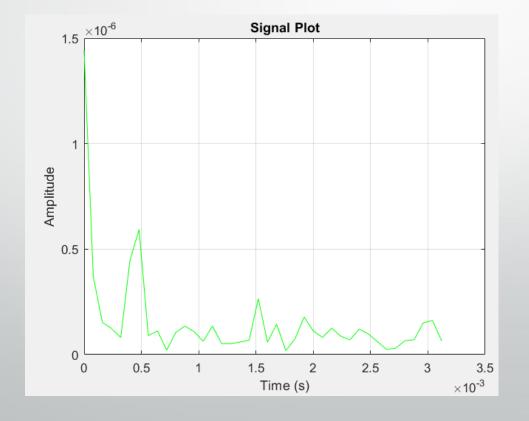
- After calculating the PSD of each frame, the next step is to filter it with the Mel Frequency filter bank
- The Mel frequency scale effectively models the human ear as a set of filters, and to mimic our hearing capabilities with an application, a filter bank is composed of these frequencies to process the speech signal
- Depending on the configuration of numMelFilters in the code, the output will be a set of coefficients that represent the amplitudes at specific mel filters.

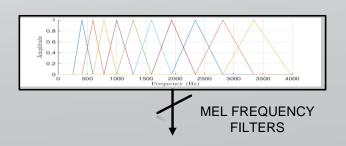
1) The PSD frame is now multiplied with a MEL filter bank *melFilters* of size numMelFilters (Reference 1)

```
%Take maximum value of each MEL FILTER BANK

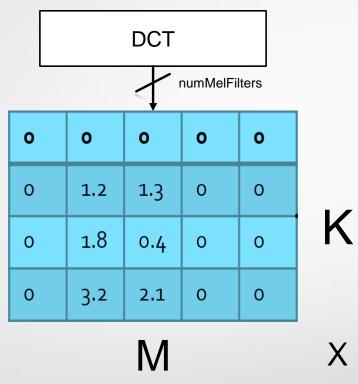
1010 - chunk3d_MELMAX{m}{j} = max( full(chunk3d_PSD{m}(j, 1:(N/2)) .* melFilters), [], 2);
```

2) The max value is taken from the resultant matrix to remove excessive zeros from the triangle filters, and to obtain a vector of *numMelFilters* coefficients





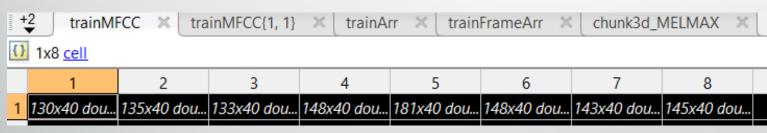
MFCC MATRIX



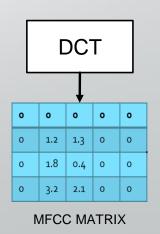
- The last step in the DSP Layer is to do a Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) to bring the log mel spectrum back into the time-domain (Reference 1).
- The resultant of the getMFCC function is a cell array of {8} speakers with M x K matrix each
 - M = numMelFitlers
 - K = # of frames from the first step in the DSP Layer signal chain

 Using the MATLAB function DCT, each log spectrum mel filtered frame is transformed back to the time domain and stored into an array of frames for the speaker.

2) The array of frames for each speaker is stored into a cell array *MFCC{m}* where each cell corresponds to the MFCC's for that speaker.

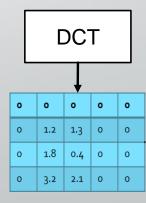


3) As shown here, the *trainMFCC* as well as *testMFCC* cell arrays contain the speaker's MFCC data. M columns by K rows represent (*numMelFilters* x # *speaker frames*)



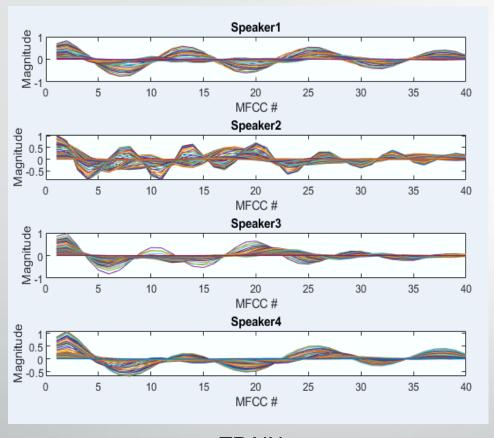
To recap, the *getMFCC* function returns a cell array of MFCC Matrices for all 8 speakers—*train* and *test*. The following slides demonstrate plots of the MFCC's for both *train* and *test* speakers.

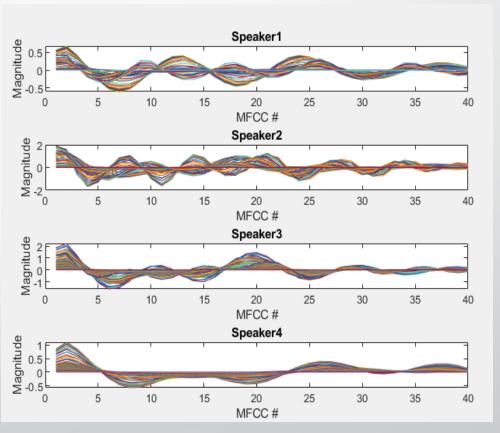
```
trainMFCC = getMFCC(trainFrameArr, numSpeakers, N, numMelFilters, trainFS);
 92 -
         testMFCC = getMFCC(testFrameArr, numSpeakers, N, numMelFilters, trainFS);
 93 -
 94
 95 -
         toc
         fprintf('\n');
 96 -
 97
         %Plot the MFCC's
 98
         plotMFCC(trainMFCC, numMelFilters, numSpeakers);
 99 -
         plotMFCC(testMFCC, numMelFilters, numSpeakers);
100 -
```



MFCC MATRIX

Train vs Test Speakers (1-4) MFCC's



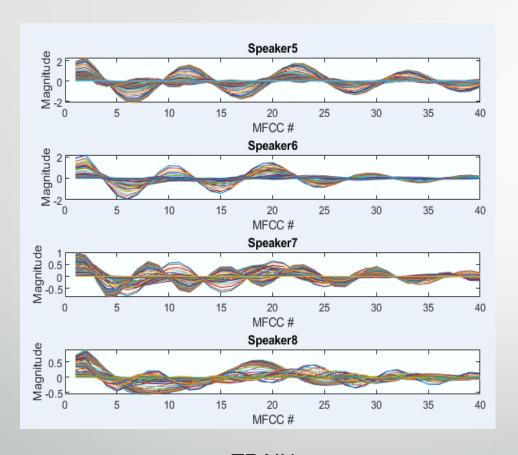


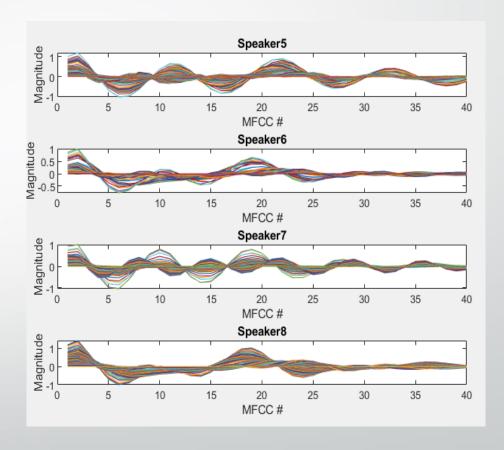
TRAIN
SPEAKER
MFCC's

TEST SPEAKER MFCC's

^{*}Each speaker has multiple plots because there are K frames per MFCC array due to the input signal length.

Train vs Test Speakers (5-8) MFCC's



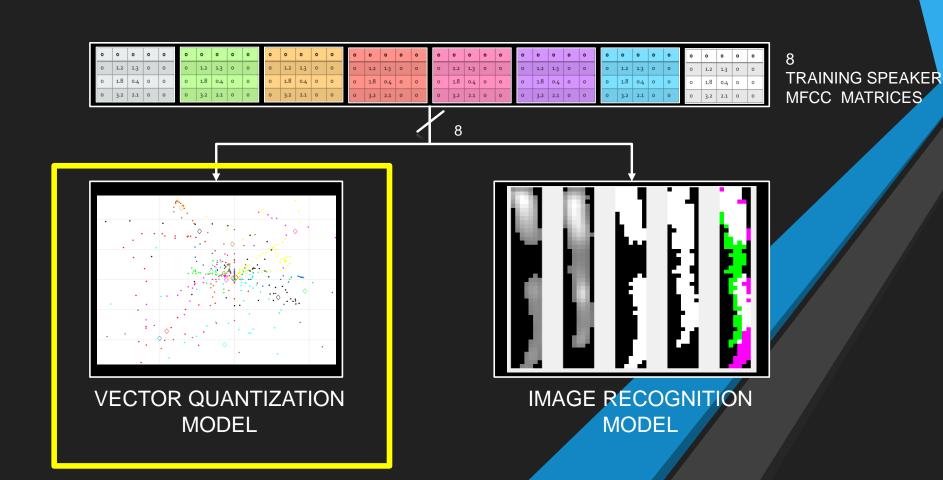


TRAIN
SPEAKER
MFCC's

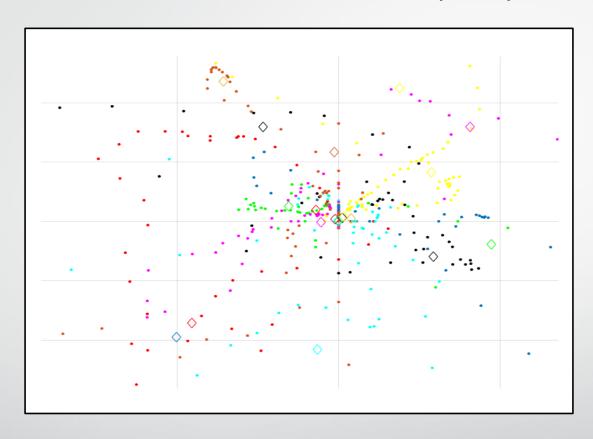
TEST SPEAKER MFCC's

^{*}Each speaker has multiple plots because there are K frames per MFCC array due to the input signal length.

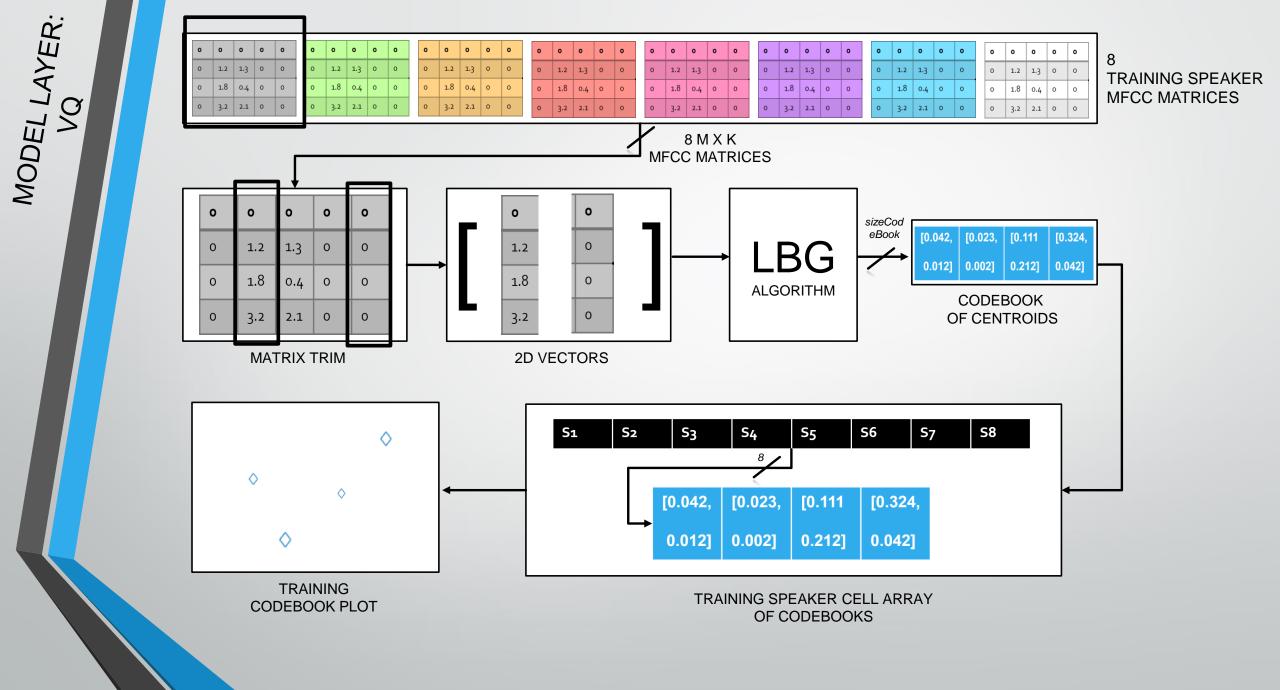
MODEL LAYER IN MATLAB



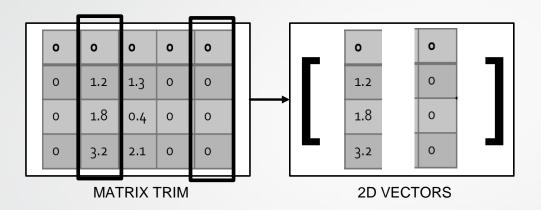
VECTOR QUANTIZATION (VQ) MODEL



- The VQ model is based on the LBG algorithm. (Reference 1)
- The main idea is to take two columns from the *testing* MFCC array—say MFCC's [4,16]—and compare their Euclidean distance to the *training* MFCC array.
- The shortest Euclidean distance, or VQ Distortion, is the recognized speaker



TRAINING MATRIX TRIMMING



- Before creating the codebooks with the LBG algorithm, the KxM matrix must be trimmed to create 2D vectors.
- The LBG algorithm can be implemented in more than 2 dimensions, but this project is using two for simplicity.

 The configuration code block at the top of the file specifies which M column dimensions to choose from the MFCC array (K rows (frames) X M columns (MFCC's)

```
26 - VQDim = [30,4]; %which MFCC numbers to use for VQ section
```

- 2) VQDim must exist between 1 and *numMelFilters*. The order of the two dimensions is insignificant because it will be uniform across both *train* and *test* speakers
- 3) A simple loop is required to traverse the array and vectorize the output for all speakers in the given *train* or *test* array

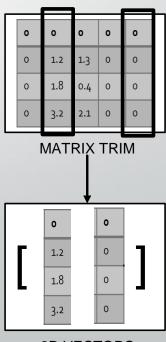
```
for j=1:1:framesSpeaker

%MFCCavg{i}(j) = mean(MFCCarray{i}(j,:));

%create vectors using 4th and 16th dimensions of 40 MFCC's

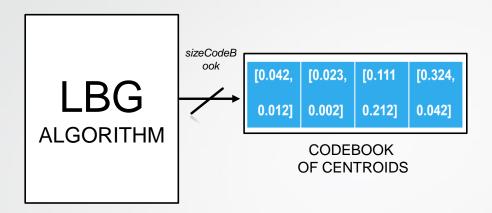
MFCCvectors{i}(j,:) = [MFCCarray{i}(j,VQDim(1)) MFCCarray{i}(j,VQDim(2))];

%MFCCvectors{i}(j,:) = MFCCvectors{i}(j,:);
```



2D VECTORS

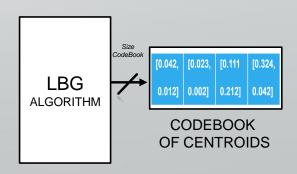
CODEBOOK OF CENTROIDS



- With the 2D MFCC vectors for each speaker calculated, now the codebook for the vector quantizer is generated.
- The LBG algorithm is as follows (for one speaker):
 - Calculate the MEAN of each dimension. The resultant is called a centroid and is a 2D vector. [x, y]
 - 2) Split the centroid into two using the following formula: *centroid**(1-0.01), *centroid**(1+0.01)
 - 3) Of the remaining MFCC vectors of the speaker, calculate the Euclidean distance between itself and each *centroid*, and assign it to the closest *centroid*.
 - 4) After all the MFCC vectors are assigned to a centroid, calculate the mean of each dimension to obtain new centroids again (list of *centroids* forms a *codebook*). Do steps 1-3 until codebook reaches *sizeCodeBook*.

InitCentroid on line 590 creates the first centroid. Then its split by * (1+-0.01) on lines 594-595.

```
eps = 0.01; %splitting parameter
581 -
582
          % BEGIN SPLIT
583
584
       □ for i=1:1:numSpeakers
585 -
             sizeFrames = size(MFCCvectors{i},1);
586 -
587
             %calculate the initial centroid of the currenet speaker's codebook
588
             %centroid = [mean(x vals), mean (y vals)]
589
             initCentroid = [mean(MFCCvectors{i}(:,1)) mean(MFCCvectors{i}(:,2))];
590 -
             %initCentroid = initCentroid*2;
591
592
             %how many times are we splitting the codebook
593
             FullCodeBook{i}{1}(1,:) = initCentroid * (1-eps);
594 -
             FullCodeBook{i}{2}{(1,:)} = initCentroid * (1+eps);
595 -
```



Calculating Euclidean distance between MFCC vectors and centroids.

```
630
                    dist = zeros(1, sizeCB); %for holding the distances from training da
631
632
                    for j=1:1:sizeCB
633
                       currentCBVec = FullCodeBook{i}{numCWUpdate, j}(1,:); %first rov
634
635
                       dist(j) = (currentCBVec(1) - currentVec(1))^2 + ...
636
                           (currentCBVec(2) - currentVec(2))^2;
637
638
                       %dist(j) = sqrt(dist(j));
639
640
                    end
641
642
                  %assign currentVec to closest codeword
643
                  closestCW = find(dist == min(dist)); %get index of closest codeword
```

- Dist is a vector that holds the relative distances between the current MFCC vector and the centroid of interest
- Line 644 assigns the MFCC vector to the closest centroid in Dist

```
%now recalculate the centroids using assigned vectors

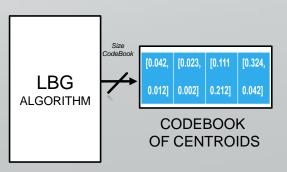
for I=1:1:sizeCB

FullCodeBook{i}{numSplits+1,l} = [mean(FullCodeBook{i}{numSplits,l}(:,1)) ...

mean(FullCodeBook{i}{numSplits,l}(:,2))];

end
```

 Lastly, lines 654-655 recalculate the centroid after assigning all MFCC vectors to it

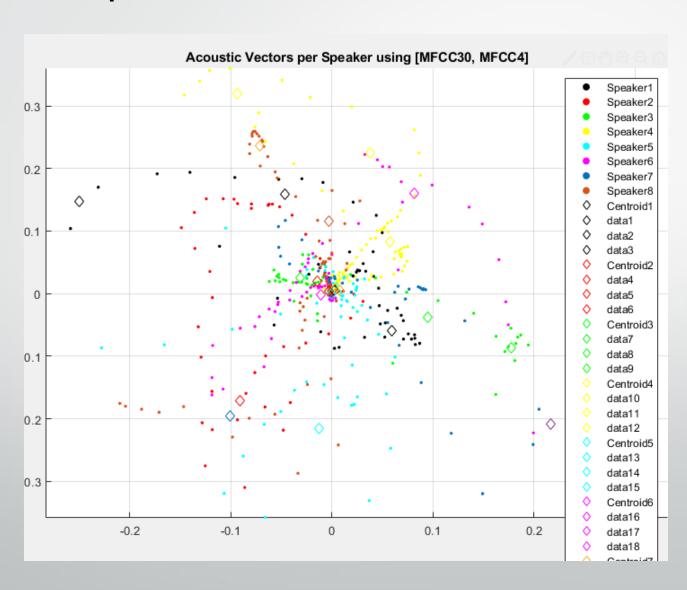


PLOT CODEBOOK

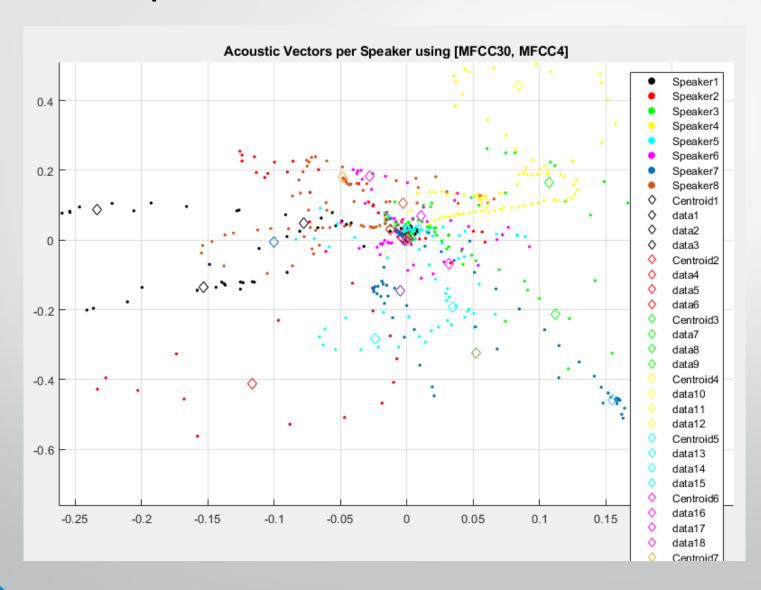


- Next step is to plot the codebooks for each speaker so that we can see their similarities on the 2D plane
- When the test speaker is fed to the model, it will also go through the LBG algorithm, but it will be compared against the training codebooks.
- The sum of the Euclidean Distance for each of the test centroids to each of the train centroids is calculated
- The *test* speaker with the lowest sum is the recognized speaker

TRAIN Speaker Centroids + MFCC vectors



TEST Speaker Centroids + MFCC vectors



RECOGNIZED SPEAKER



FULL RESULTS FOR VQ

Calculating MFCCs

Elapsed time is 1.076051 seconds.

Creating Codebooks for Vector Quantization Elapsed time is 0.425464 seconds.

Matching Train Speakers to Test Speakers Elapsed time is 0.005297 seconds.

Matches found.

Test:__1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Match:1 2 4 3 5 5 3 8

Recognition rate: 50.000000 %

- The total running time is 1.507 seconds
- With a 50% recognition rate, the Image Recognition avenue was motivated and is presented next

MODEL LAYER IN MATLAB

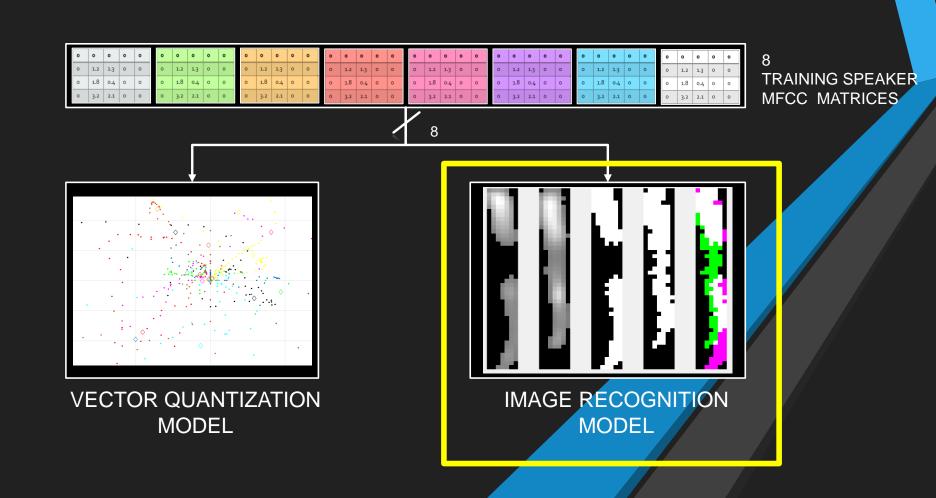
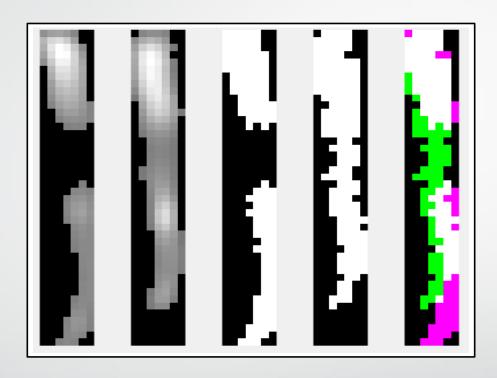
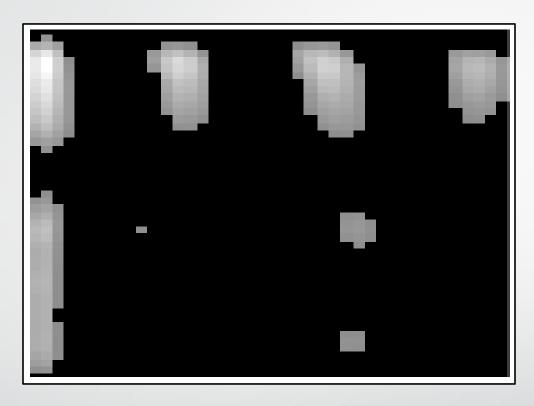


IMAGE RECOGNITION (IR) MODEL



- The IR model is based on the author's design.
- Using the Sorensen-Dice coefficient (SDC), the MFCC matrix of the *test* speaker is transformed into a greyscale image and then compared to the image of *train* speaker (ground truth)
- The higher the Sorensen-Dice coefficient, the closer the match

MATRIX TO IMAGE & FRAMING



- The MFCC matrices of both train and test are converted each to 16-bit grayscale images
- Given the MFCC matrices contain numbers in the real domain, the algorithm sweeps vectorizes the matrix into one row and normalizes all the data between 0 and 2^16-1.
- 8 and 32 bits were also tested but the former did not give as much accuracy and the latter did not provide an advantage over 16 bits

 The image is subdivided into four frames because of the image's logical arrangement, but can be changed in the configuration section

```
% IMAGE RECOGNITION

31 - chunks = 4; %How many image "frames" to use (2,4)

187 - index = [1:floor(numMelFilters/chunks):numMelFilters numMelFilters];
```

The iterator i signifies the current test speaker to analyze. The iterator j signifies the current train speaker to compare the test speaker to.

```
%Convert MFCC for each speaker into a 16 bit image

214 - test = getMFCCimg(testMFCC{i}(:, index(j):index(j+1)), 16);

215 - train = getMFCCimg(trainMFCC{k}(:, index(j):index(j+1)), 16);
```

- The MFCC array is subdivided into the boundaries specified by the *index* vector, which contain the coordinates of the "frames" of the image. These are converted into images iteratively.
- The second parameter of the function specifies the number of bits to normalize the data to



MATRIX TO IMAGE

 Inside the getMFCCImg function, the array data is normalized into the # of bits specified by the caller using the following function (Reference 2)

 The last step is to convert the matrix into uint(bits) datatype, and set data points under a certain threshold to 0 (black) so that the active contour can better detect the MFCC "islands"

```
elseif(bits ==16)

MFCCimg = uint16(normalMFCCArr);

MFCCimg( MFCCimg < (zeroVal+5000 )) = 0; %7/8 recognition

MFCCimg( MFCCimg < (zeroVal+5000 )) = 0; %7/8 recognition
```



TRIMMING



• The algorithm "captures" the "islands" in the MFCC image and makes frames out of the image by removing unnecessary black spaces (0 in value).

• The MFCC images *train* and *test* are sent to the *getSDC* function to calculate the SDC.

```
SDC = getSDC(train, test); %Get the SDC with Train and Test images

SDCBank{1,i}{1,k}(j) = SDC; %Store the SDC in the ith'speakers cellarray
```

 To trim the images, the getSDC function calculates the amount of non-zero spaces first

 Then the image is cropped by defining the boundaries of the non-zero values

```
%Get domain and range from training data
xone = min(trainx);
xtwo = max(trainx);
yone = min(trainy);
ytwo = max(trainy);

%Crop image for actual data, removing the black spaces
TRAINIMG = trainIMGMFCC(xone:xtwo, yone:ytwo);
```



CONTOUR SEARCH



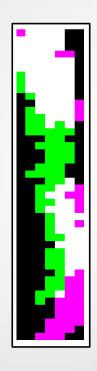
 With the image frame cropped out of unnecessary dark spaces, the light portion of the image is "contoured" using the "activecontour" MATLAB function from the Image Processing Toolbox To find the active contour of the trimmed image frame, the function needs to have a "mask" image first.

 The mask is essentially a matrix of all zero's (black spaces), and an initial contour is defined on line 334 (a portion of the image to begin the search) as all ones (white spaces)

```
336 %Create contour image for training data using the mask BWTrain = activecontour(newTrainIMG, maskTrain, 500);
```

 Lastly, the contour of the image is found using the MATLAB function. The third parameter represents the number of iterations for the function to search for the contour of the image

SDC COMPARISON



- The last step of the image processing section is to compare both *train* and *test* contours generated by the *getSDC* function using the Sorensen-Dice coefficient
- This is accomplished using the dice MATLAB function from the Image Processing Toolbox

• The activecontour function is simply called and the SDC is returned

```
%Create contour image for training data using the mask
BWTrain = activecontour(newTrainIMG, maskTrain, 500);
```

This application calculates the activecontour for all speakers, train and test.
 Using a chunk size of 4, this means the function is called

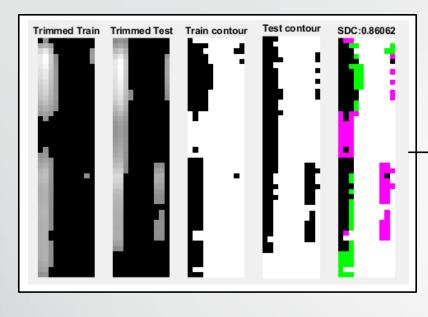
```
(1 train+ 1 test) * 4 chunks * 8 different speakers = 64 times
```

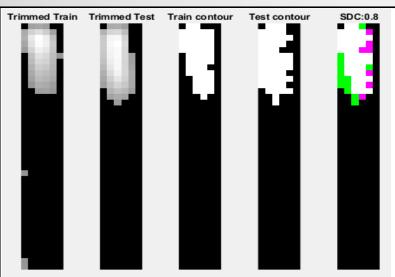
 Further improvement to this algorithm can be made to take advantage of the previously calculated contours.

IMAGE RECOGNITION (IR) EXAMPLE

0	0	0	0	0
0	1.2	1.3	0	0
0	1.8	0.4	0	0
0	3.2	2.1	0	0
	0	1.2	1.2 1.3	1.2 1.3 0 1.8 0.4 0

- The following slide showcases how the IR model performs the algorithm to recognize the testing speaker 1 (which is unknown to the model)
- To find the recognized speaker, the mean of the SDC's of each image frame of both train and test speakers are compiled for each test speaker
- The *train* speaker with the highest mean is the matched speaker
- The diagram shows the input as the *train speaker*, but since the algorithm is interchangeable and calculates all speakers at once, it has been left alone





Testing: 1 Training: 1 Range: [1, 11]

Dice coeff: 0.860622

Testing: 1 Training: 1 Range: [11, 21]

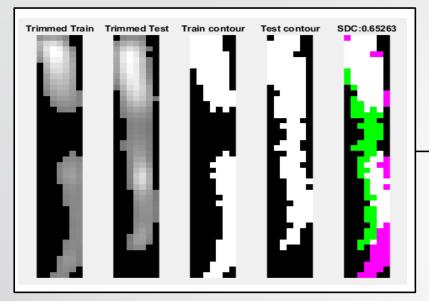
Dice coeff: 0.800000

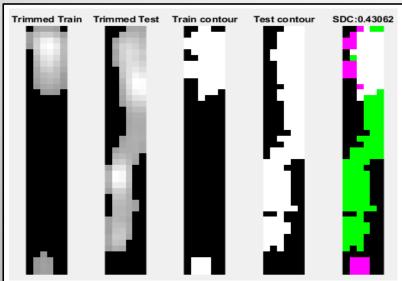
Testing: 1 Training: 1 Range: [21, 31]

Dice coeff: 0.652632

Testing: 1 Training: 1 Range: [31, 40]

Dice coeff: 0.430622





Testing: 1 Training: 1 Range: [1, 11]

Dice coeff: 0.860622

Testing: 1 Training: 1 Range: [11, 21]

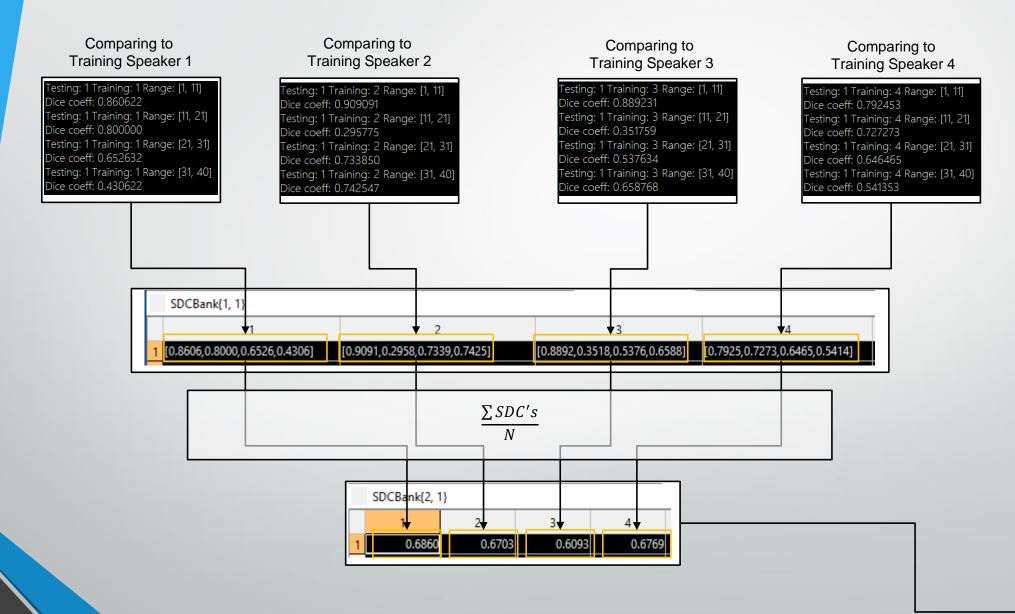
Dice coeff: 0.800000

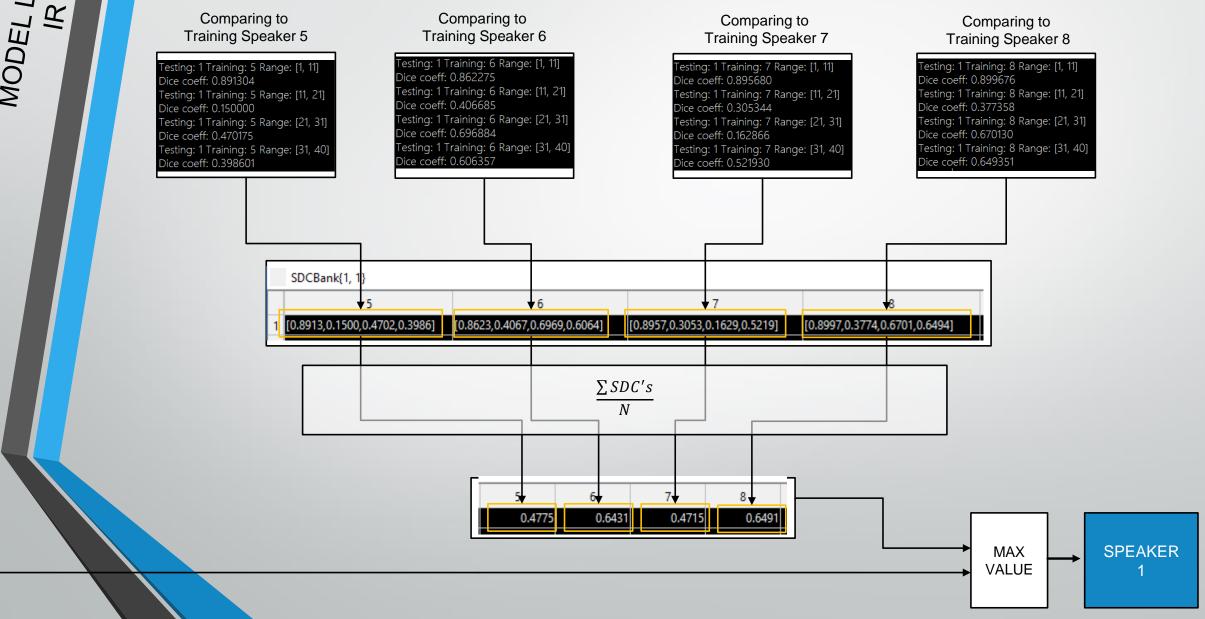
Testing: 1 Training: 1 Range: [21, 31]

Dice coeff: 0.652632

Testing: 1 Training: 1 Range: [31, 40]

Dice coeff: 0.430622





FULL RESULTS FOR IR

```
IR Model: Matching speakers
Elapsed time is 25.462397 seconds.

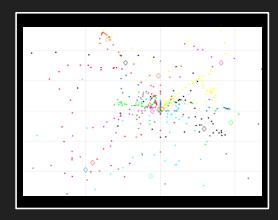
Matches found.
Test:__1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Match:1 2 3 6 5 6 7 8
```

Including the MFCC calculation time, the total running time is 26.538 seconds

Recognition rate: 87.500000 %

- The recognition rate is 87.5%
- Although the elapsed time greatly increased over the VQ model, the recognition rate also increased dramatically

CONCLUSION



VECTOR QUANTIZATION MODEL

VS



IMAGE RECOGNITION MODEL

COMPARISON CHART

	Vector Quantization	Image Recognition
Runtime	1.507 seconds	26.538 seconds
Recognition Rate	50%	87.5%
Code Complexity	High (A lot of cell arrays, loops, unique conditionals)	Medium (Straight forward transform of data to visual domain)
Future Value	Medium (Algorithm predates the 21st century)	High (Transferring auditory data to the visual domain can help recognition rates with the advancement of machine learning)

AUTHOR'S NOTES

- The MFCC's seem to cluster around 0. There might be an issue with the gain across the DSP layer. Decorrelating these MFCC's might aid the recognition rates.
- Building the VQ model was by far the most difficult task. No source code was used besides the melfb function from (Reference 1).
- The IR model stems from the author wanting to improve the VQ recognition rates.
 Although peer-reviewed literature is out there that claims VQ can deliver higher than 95% recognition rates, the author's implementation might be missing a crucial detail—perhaps in the clustering stage (splitting of centroids).
- The author could not find literature on transferring audio into the visual domain for recognition, so this might be a useful development.
- The code is more than 1000 lines long and can certainly be modularized.
- A big flaw in the code is that all functions are tailored to take in an array of speakers
 rather than a single speaker. This decreases the usability of the code and is one of
 the reasons for the complexity of the entire thing.
- The code file calculates the VQ model first, then reuses the MFCC's to calculate the IR model second.

REFERENCES

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- (2) https://stats.stackexchange.com/questions/178626/how-to-normalize-data-between-1-and-1
- (3) Speech and Audio Signal Processing 2nd Edition. Gold, Morgan, Ellis. ISBN 978-0470195369. https://www.amazon.com/Speech-Audio-Signal-Processing-Perception/dp/0470195363
- (4) Mel Filter Bank Figure
 <a href="http://people.ece.cornell.edu/land/courses/ece4760/FinalProjects/f2015/jdl279_mfh65_yl2553/jdl279_yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2553/yl2550/yl2550/yl2550/yl2550/yl2550/yl2550
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