# **“Hey Siri, let’s talk for real” – variability and flexibility in the perception of synthetic voices**

**Supplementary information**Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience   
PRIME 2025/26

I completed my PhD in 2023 under supervision of Prof. Schweinberger and have worked there as a post-doc since, where I started to pursue my habilitation. Note that staying in the group where I completed my PhD does not impede my academic independence (for more details, please refer to the document 17 – supplementary information). Instead, I deliberately stayed in Prof. Steinberger’s lab because it still provides the perfect environment for the development of my academic career. I have been given great independence and freedom in the development of my habilitation topic, for which I chose voice naturalness. Since 2024, I am the principal coordinator of the Jena Voice Research Unit (VRU, <https://www.voice.uni-jena.de/>), an interdisciplinary network which connect voice research in Jena and beyond. Recently, I was also given the unique opportunity to become part of the EU-funded Voice Communication Sciences (VoCS, <https://www.vocs.eu.com/>), of which both my hosts from London are part of as well. In the context of this network, I am supervising a PhD student on the topic “Neurocognitive processing of voice naturalness in human and synthetic voices” in close collaboration with Prof. Sascha Frühholz (University of Oslo), and Prof. Emma Rodero (Universidad Pompeu Fabra). In his second year, our PhD student will have scheduled research stays in these other departments for up to 12 months, which gives me the perfect opportunity to pursue my PRIME project with the DAAD without neglecting my supervision duties. Finally, I am a founding member of the newly founded Voice Communication Sciences Association (VoCSA) where I have been appointed to the executive board as well. In this role, I have been given the responsibility to organize the third VoiceID conference (ToDo: link), which will take place in Jena from 2-4 September 2026 and will unite voice researchers from all over the world. Thus, while my work is primarily rooted in Jena, I am well-connected with several world-leading institutions in the voice field. This provides me ideal conditions and the necessary resources to pursue ground-breaking discoveries on the topic of voice naturalness. To enhance my academic independence, Prof. Schweinberger explicitly encouraged me in the persuasion of individual research collaborations, of which one already culminated in a publication and two are in preparation.