Dear Pascal,

I hope you are doing well. We are all eagerly awaiting news on the MSCA-VoCS proposal and looking forward to the end of April.

In the meantime, I wanted to make a different yet related enquiry: as you know, I am very interested in the topic of voice naturalness. The more I dive into this topic, the more I realize that this field lacks necessary conceptual groundwork, which impedes a systematic understanding and the visibility of this research to a wider readership. Thus, to address this gap and to offer a useful basis for the upcoming empirical efforts (e.g. in the context of MSCA-VoCS), I am currently working on a conceptual review/opinion paper together with Stefan. And we both would be very happy if you were interested to be involved. Especially considering the discussions we had in the context of planning VoCS (which revealed that we have a strong joint interest in aspects of voice naturalness), we thought a collaborative conceptual review/opinion paper on the topic would potentially be a rewarding and visible collaborative outcome of VoCS early on into the network.

I have already gathered and rather systematically reviewed a lot of relevant literature, and drafted a rough outline. However, given my career stage, I feel to be lacking experience and potentially the “big view” on voice perception research that you have. Importantly, one of my key points is that research on voice naturalness needs to be rooted in voice perception theory (which is currently not the case) and that we are lacking basic voice research in this area (most papers come from applied fields). In order to develop this line of argumentation to its full potential and to reach the widest possible readership in the voice field, I feel that your critical input could be essential, especially (but not exclusively) with regards to your perspective on neurocognitive theories of voice perception. For information, our current plan is to write this for *Trends in Cognitive Sciences* as the preferred target journal in mind.

If you would be interested in principle that would be great! In that case, we would set up a meeting and I would brief you in more detail on the current stage of the paper. The idea is that this would give you a good basis to decide whether or not you would like to be involved in this project as a co-author. If so, we would obviously be delighted, and hope to discuss and plan the next steps together with you soon.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Christine (and Stefan)