

Figure 1 Schematic illustration of voice function. The voice source is the pulsating transglottal airflow, which has a spectrum with harmonic partials, the amplitudes of which decrease monotonically with rising frequency. This signal is injected into the vocal tract, which is a resonator with resonances, called formants. They produce peaks in the frequency curve of the vocal tract. Partials lying close to formants are enhanced and become stronger than other partials that lie farther away from a formant.