Lightweight Speaker Recognition System Based on Timbre Analysis

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Declaration

We hereby declare that the project entitled ‘Lightweight Speaker Recognition System Based on Timbre Analysis’ submitted for the degree of Bachelor of Science and Engineering in the faculty of Computer Science and Engineering of Bangladesh University of Business and Technology (BUBT) is our original work and that it contains no material which has been accepted for the award to the candidates of any other degree or diploma, except where due reference is made in the next of the project to the best of our knowledge, it contains no materials previously published or written by any other person except where due reference is made in this research work.

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This research work 'Lightweight Speaker Recognition System Based on Timbre Analysis' report submitted by Md. Abu Quwsar Ohi, Md. Ruhullahil Kabir, Md. Touhidul Islam, students of Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Bangladesh University of Business and Technology (BUBT), under the supervision of Dr. Muhammad Firoz Mridha, Associate Professor, Computer Science and Engineering has been accepted as satisfactory for the partial requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science Engineering in Computer Science and Engineering.

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Abstract

Speaker recognition is an active research area that contains notable usage in biometric security and authentication system. Currently, there exist many well-performing models in the speaker recognition domain. However, most advanced models implement deep learning that requires GPU support for real-time speech recognition, and it is not suitable for low-end devices. In this thesis, we propose a lightweight text-independent speaker recognition model based on a random forest classifier. It also introduces new features that are used for both speaker verification and identification tasks. The proposed model uses human speech based timbral properties as features that are classified using random forest. Timbre refers to the fundamental properties of sound that allow listeners to discriminate among them. The prototype uses seven most actively searched timbre properties, boominess, brightness, depth, hardness, roughness, sharpness, and warmth as features of our speaker recognition model. The experiment is carried out on speaker verification and speaker identification tasks and shows the proposed model's achievements and drawbacks. In the speaker identification phase, it achieves a maximum accuracy of 78%. On the contrary, in the speaker verification phase, the model maintains an accuracy of 80% having an equal error rate (ERR) of 0.24. The overall accuracy measures were done using LibriSpeech (clean) dataset.

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List of Abbreviations

ANN Artificial Neural Network. 11

CNN Convolutional Neural Network. 9

DNN Deep Neural Network. 9–11

DTW Dynamic Time Wrapping. 9

EER Equal Error Rate. 9, 22

GMM Gaussian Mixture Model. 8, 9

HMM Hidden Markov Model. 2, 9

MFCC Mel-Frequency Cepstral Coefficients. 9, 10

NN Neural Network. 9

ROC Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve. 22

Contents

Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Speaker recognition is the process of recognizing an individual by hearing a voice. Speaker recognition is an essential perspective of biometric identification and verification. Commonly, speaker recognition is considered a pattern recognition problem. The recognizer's goal is to identify a speaker (previously known) by analyzing the vocal properties of a speech. Generally, humans recognize speakers based on the previously learned timbral properties of speech. Timbral properties refer to the basic properties of speech features such as hardness, softness, roughness, etc.

Speaker recognition can be divided into two divisions based on the system's usage, speaker identification [1], and speaker verification [2]. In machine learning, the identification systems use multi-classification models, whereas the verification systems use binary-classification models. Concerning the utterance used for speaker recognition models, the model can be either text-independent or text-dependent. A text-dependent model only recognizes speakers based on the predefined keyword or passphrase that needs to be uttered by the speaker. This feature is preferred for unlocking devices or verification purposes. Microsoft implemented the text-dependent speaker verification on Windows 10 [3]. On the contrary, a text-independent model can recognize speakers based on any utterance of the speakers. At present, most state of the art speaker recognition model uses a text-independent recognition scheme.

1.2 Problem Statement

At present, the modern deep learning-based speaker recognition systems perform notably better than previous machine learning-based models. Although they perform better on famous datasets, these architectures' usage has not been introduced in industrial phases due to the drawbacks. The present deep learning-based models widely depend on embedding systems, which are mostly trained using HMM. The foremost disadvantage of the embedded system-based speaker identification models is that they often fail to generate better results while testing on the individuals' speech, which is not used in the embedding system's training. As a result, the embedding system and the classification model need to be tweaked based on the occurrence of a new individual. On the contrary, the speaker verification models are easy to train, and most of the state of the art speaker verification models do not rely on embedding vector systems. Thus, speaker verification systems are often implemented in modern techniques and devices, while the speaker identification system is not yet implemented.

1.3 Problem Background

The present field of speaker recognition systems is dominated by embedding system based models, which is not preferable for real-world implementation. Although they produce greater accuracy over most of the famous datasets available, they fail to utilize real-world speech data properly. The key challenges of speech recognition systems are,

- Segmenting speech from real-world audio data.
- Identifying speakers in noisy environments.
- Filtering speech from noisy audio data if required.

- Implementing text-independent speaker recognition systems directly based on vocal properties.

Although researchers are continuously solving these challenges, the implementations are still not accepted as industry level architecture.

1.4 Research Objectives

The research work aims to implement a speaker recognition and verification system that solves the aforementioned vital challenges, including speech segmentation and text-independent speaker recognition. The proposed architecture is tested on a challenging dataset, reviewed in Section 4.4, and the proposed architecture presents promising results.

1.5 Motivations

Speaker recognition has a wide variety of usage in the biometric authentication system, speaker diarization, speech recognition, forensics, and security [4–6]. Now, the tech giant Microsoft provides API for speaker identification and verification. Conversely, IBM Watson includes API for speaker diarization. Speaker recognition systems have a profound influence on call-centers targeting and serving the most priority customers. Applicable services include voice dialing, banking over a telephone network, telephone shopping, database access services, information and reservation services, voice mail, security control for confidential information, and remote access to computers. Another vital application of speaker recognition technology is as a forensics tool.

1.6 Flow of the Research

The research work was carried out in multiple steps. After finalizing the research topic, we first studied the basic theory of speech and sound needed to carry our research work. After the practice, we investigated the most promising state of the art speaker recognition architectures. We investigated the lackings of the proposed architectures and produced our speaker recognition architecture. After finalizing the design, we implemented the overall method. To test the proposed model, we collected a popular dataset and ran tests and evaluations on our implemented architecture. Finally, we completed our thesis writing. Figure 1.1 illustrates the overall steps of the research procedure in a flow diagram.

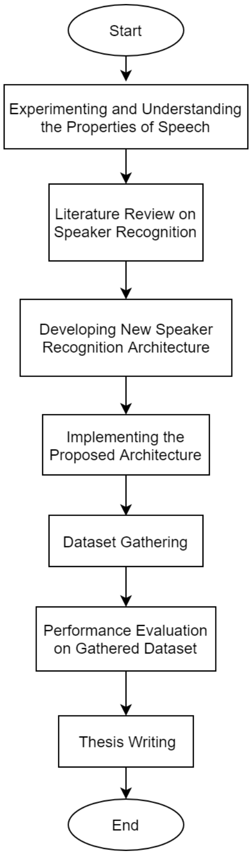
Start
Experimenting and Understanding the Properties of Speech
Literature Review on Speaker Recognition
Developing New Speaker Recognition Architecture
Implementing the Proposed Architecture
Dataset Gathering
Performance Evaluation on Gathered Dataset
Thesis Writing
End

Figure 1.1. The figure illustrates the flow of the research work.

1.7 Significance of the Research

The study's findings will rebound to the benefit to the researchers that direct extraction of features from speech utterance is possible and is also promising. The course explains the extraction procedure of the most known seven feature properties, most important in identifying speakers. Also, we experiment that timbral properties can be defined with the seven extracted speech properties. This work will influence the researchers to investigate the direct extraction procedure of timbral features, without relying on embedding systems. Further research will be suitable for the present industry level implementation of a speaker recognition system ideal for the most challenging environments.

1.8 Research Contribution

The overall contribution of the research work includes,

- We introduce a speaker recognition system that identifies speakers based on the timbral properties of the speech.
- We report speech timbral properties that can be extracted from mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCC) using regression.
- We experiment with a famous dataset and evaluate our proposed architecture's performance in speaker identification and verification scheme.

1.9 Thesis Organization

The thesis work is organized as follows.

Chapter 2 highlights the background and literature review on the field of the speaker recognition system.

Chapter 3 contains the proposed architecture of the speaker recognition system, along with a detailed walkthrough of the overall procedures.

Chapter 4 includes the details of the tests and evaluations that were performed to evaluate our proposed architecture.

Chapter 5 explains the standards, ethical policy, and the challenges of the proposed architecture and the overall field of our study.

Chapter 6 comprises the overall design and implementation constraints of our conducted thesis work.

Chapter 7 illustrates the time schedules that we managed while conducting the thesis.

Finally, Chapter 8 contains the overall conclusion of our thesis work.

1.10 Summary

This chapter includes a comprehensive overview of the problem that we specifically target, the objectives of our thesis work, and the motivation of the thesis work's output. This section also illustrates the overall steps on which we carried out our thesis work.

Background

2.1 Introduction

Speaker recognition is a wide field of interest among researchers, and still, research work is being carried out actively in this field. Most researchers include verification and identification systems in speaker recognition systems and carried out experiments on the two system subsets. Speaker recognition systems are into two sections depending on the working process, text-independent, and text-dependent speaker recognition system. Text-independent systems can recognize speakers based on any speech utterance of users. On the contrary, text-dependent speaker recognition systems require a specific 'password'-word to be uttered by the users, using which the system recognizes the user. In this chapter, we demonstrate the state of the art architectures that are implemented by the researchers.

2.2 Literature Review

Most of the speaker recognition models that are previously introduced use some common ideas, such as, Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM), Hidden Markov Model (HMM) [7], Dynamic Time Wrapping (DTW), i-vectors, etc. The recent state of the art models uses Neural Network (NN) and Deep Neural Network (DNN) on the feature vectors, which gives promising results [8–20]. Mirco Ravanelli et. al. presented a model which they named SincNet [8]. It uses a new architecture named SincNet, which is used on the first layer with Convolutional Neural Network (CNN). It produces an Equal Error Rate (EER) of 0.32 in the speaker verification stage, greater than this paper's proposed model. They claimed that the DNN architecture faster convergence with epoch around 1200 to 1800, which is still time-consuming and hard to train.

Nunes et al. proposed a new approach for speaker recognition systems called AM-SincNet, based on the SincNet but uses an improved AM-softmax layer [21]. Zheli Liu et. al. used a hybrid method that adds GMM and CNN [9]. They insisted that the model recognizes speakers even on the short utterance of speech, and others also use various types of CNN [22–24] and combined with others [25]. Our proposed model also works for short uttered speech to recognize speakers. F. Richardson et al. explained in their paper that the DNN posterior technique with Mel-Frequency Coefficient Cepstral MFCC as a feature, produces a significant gain over the baseline system, but they degrade the overall performance of the system [10, 12, 13, 26, 27]. Also, there exist many papers where the tradition of using DNN remains [11]. MFCC is a widely used feature that is also commonly used in many proposed models [28, 29]. Instead of using MFCC directly, most of the models mesh it with other system or with features and produces decent results [30–32]. Seiichi Nakagawa et al. has combined MFCC and phase information of wave as features in their model, which achieved an excellent accuracy of 96.7% in speaker identification [28]. K. S. R. Murty et al. further used MFCC and residual phase information [29]. Faragallah et al. propose a robust noise automatic speaker identification (ASI) scheme named MKMFCC–SVM. It is based on the Multiple Kernel Weighted Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficient (MKMFCC), and support vector machine (SVM)[33]which perform better in noisy condition. Safavi et al. try to use Gaussian Mixture Model - Universal Background Model (GMM-UBM), GMM - Support Vector Machine (GMM-SVM), and i-vector based approaches for better result [34]. Some new speaker recognition models use identification vectors, known as i-vectors [35–40]. It is a feature extraction method that represents the distinctive characteristics of the frame-level features' distributive pattern. Ondrej Novotny et al. declared that the model they prepared was not state of the art, but the usage of i-vector will create a reliable platform for further research [38].

Contrary to i-vectors, speaker embeddings such as x-vectors and d-vectors can leverage unlabelled utterances due to the classification loss over training speakers. Themos Stafylakis and Johan Rohdin propose to train speaker embedding extractors via reconstructing the frames of a target speech segment, given the inferred embedding of another speech segment of the same utterance [41]. Some recent models use DNN to extract d-vectors that is the averaged activation from the last hidden layer of DNN [3, 42]. D. Snyder et al. represented a model using x-vectors, which are embeddings extracted using DNN [43]. They described that their x-vector based model outperformed the i-vector models. Jesús Villalba et al. claimed that x-vectors have already become the new state of the art for speaker recognition [44–46].

Wang et al. introduced an unsupervised domain adaptation approach-domain adversarial training for speaker recognition, which overcomes the domain mismatch problem in the speaker recognition by projecting the source domain and target domain data into the same subspace [47]. This approach does not require labeled data from the target domain and applies an unsupervised domain adaptation. Ahmed et al. use a different system by introducing a Weighted-Correlation Principal Component Analysis (WCR-PCA) to efficiently transform speech features in speaker recognition [48]. Sankar Nidadavolu uses cycle-GANs; they explore domain adaptation at the acoustic feature level by learning feature mappings between domains [49].

2.3 Problem Analysis

Although the state of the art models performs well, they have shortcomings. Models that do not use DNN or ANN contain features that are difficult to extract. They also fall behind on gaining better estimation. On the contrary, the DNN or ANN-based models produce higher accuracy, but they are not suitable (or designed) for recognizing speakers on the continuous audio stream. Also, they consume an enormous amount of processing power in the training phase. As a result, they are not suitable for developing a continuous speaker recognition system.

2.4 Summary

This chapter illustrates the implementations and drawbacks of the latest speaker recognition systems. The thesis's target is to eliminate the imperfections a much as possible and design a speaker recognition system that is stable and suitable for implementing in a real-world situation.

Proposed Model

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we discuss the feasibility analysis of the speaker recognition system and the requirements demanded in this model. Finally, this chapter explains the model's overall architecture, which is given by a detailed walkthrough.

3.2 Feasibility Analysis

The thesis work required three researchers with one supervisor and took eight months to be executed. The research work required technical support including, hardware and software. The research work also required dataset generation and evaluation process that is also performed by the researchers. The comprehensive data collection of the thesis work is executed, considering the legal feasibility of the dataset. Also, the thesis work did not require any financial support from the institution and supervisor.

3.3 Requirement Analysis

To conduct the proposed architecture of the overall requirements include,

- High-performance computing device.
- Audio input device.

- Opensource software libraries for scientific computations.
- Opensource software libraries to implement the machine learning model.

3.4 Research Methodology

In this section, the methodology of the proposed model is presented. This section is sub-sectioned into four segments. The sub-sections are sorted from input to output phase of the model consecutively with detailed explanations. Moreover, Figure 3.1 presents the overall workflow of the architecture.

3.4.1 Input Processing

Inputs passed to the model are clean and noise-free audio streams, which may contain silence streams. Each of the audio streams is scaled using the following formula,

$$S(x) = \frac{x_i}{max(abs(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n))} \tag{3.1}$$

The scaled audio stream further removes the silenced audio frames and the extracted features to be more accurate.

3.4.2 Speech Frame Extractor

The audio stream is further partitioned into audio segments. At first, this phase partitions every 0.3 second consecutive stream of the audio as frames. Each of the wave frames is further passed through the mean calculation function defined as follows,

$$AcceptedFrames = \{S | f(S) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} abs(s_i)}{n} \geq 0.05\} \tag{3.2}$$

Here, a frame is rejected if the mean of each wave frame's amplitudes is less than the threshold value that is set to 0.05. This threshold value helps to eliminate the

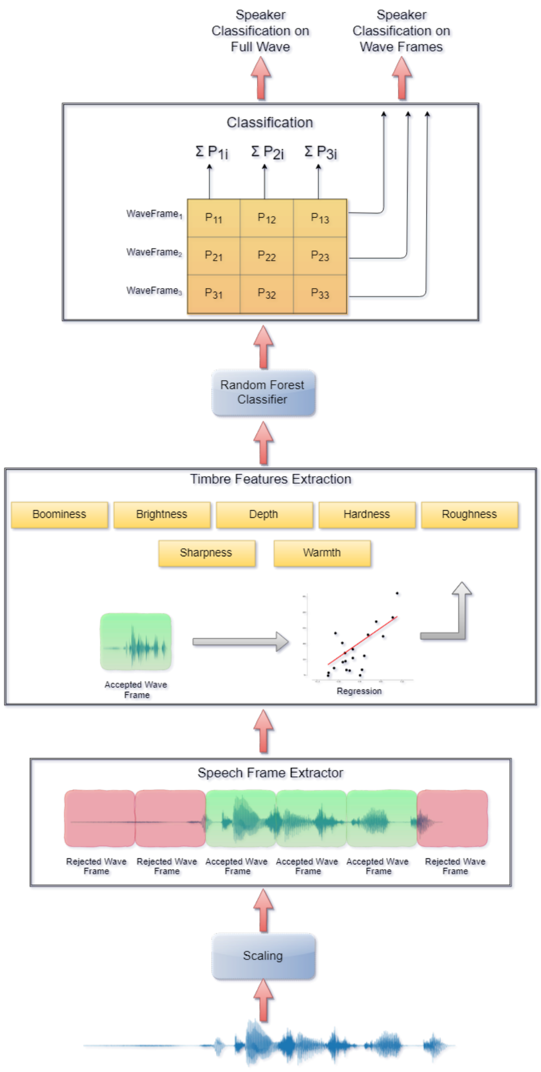

Figure 3.1. The figure illustrates the workflow of the proposed architecture (from bottom to top). The continuous raw waves are first scaled and separated on multiple wave frames. The silence wave frames are filtered out, and the timbral features are extracted using a random forest regressor. The timbral features are further classified using a random forest classifier.

silence parts of the audio streams, which are unnecessary.

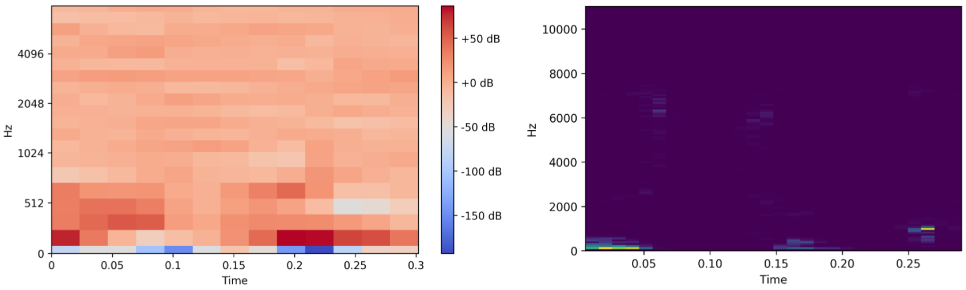

Figure 3.2. An illustration of the MFCC-spectrogram and frequency spectrogram of a 0.3-second speech frame, having weighted sum values of 11818.91, and 0.61 respectively.

3.4.3 Timbre Features Extraction

To extract the timbre properties of sound, the model uses random forest regression. As parameters for regression, a weighted sum of MFCC spectrogram and frequency spectrogram as features. The weighted sum is derived as follows,

$$Sum_{weighted} = \sum_{i=1,j=1}^{n,m} mfcc(i,j) \times spec(i,j) \times t(j) \tag{3.3}$$

$Where,$

$mfcc(i,j)$ = MFCC matrix of the speech frame

$spec(i,j)$ = Intensity of the sound on f(i) frequency, at time t(j)

$t(j)$ = Time of the j'th index

The regressor is trained with the prepared dataset containing 400 wave frames and seven timbral properties. For each 0.3-second audio frame, the weighted sum is generated, and the seven timbral properties are trained individually with seven individual random forest regressors.

A short description of the seven extracted speech features is presented below.

Boominess: Booming refers to the deep and resonant sounds. The boominess of sound can also be extracted using Hatano and Hashimoto's boominess index

[50].

Brightness: Brightness refers to the higher frequency of sound.

Depth: The term depth can be related to the spreading feel of sound concerning the loudness of sound.

Hardness: This refers to the unbalanced and noisy tone of the sound.

Roughness: This refers to the rapid modulation of sound.

Sharpness: This refers to the amount of high-frequency sound concerning the amount of low frequency of sound. The sharpness of a sound also can be found using the Fastl sharpness algorithm [51].

Warmth: Warmth is the opposite of the brightness of the sound.

3.4.4 Speaker Classification

Each of the features is fed to the Random Forest classifier. The Gini impurity measure is used to measure the quality of a split, which can be stated as,

$$G = \sum_{i=1}^{C} p(i) \times (1 - p(i)) \tag{3.4}$$

The features of each accepted wave frame are processed separately in train and test sessions. In the test session, the classifier outputs each speech wave frame's probabilities uttered from a particular person.

The classification of this model can be for each wave frame or of the full audio stream. To classify each wave frame, the probability vector passed that is the output of the random forest classifier, is passed through the arguments of maxima that can be stated as,

$$\arg\max_{x} f(x) = \{x | f(x) = \max_{x'} f(x')\} \tag{3.5}$$

The probability vectors of the individual wave frames are gathered and produced as a probability matrix to classify the speaker of the full input audio stream. The matrix is then converted to a probability vector defined as,

$$P_i = \sum_{j}^{n} p_{ij} \tag{3.6}$$

The generated probability vector is passed through the maxima function's arguments stated in equation 3.5 to calculate the final classification for the full audio stream.

3.5 Design, Implementation, and Simulation

The overall workflow of the proposed architecture is illustrated in Figure 3.1. All the mentioned steps of the prototype are implemented using Python [52]. The random forest classifier and regressor models are implemented using scikit-learn [53]. Also, for additional calculation, implementation, and support, Numpy [54] and librosa [55] are used. The visual evaluation reports are generated using Matplotlib [56]. The dataset used to test the architecture is directly inserted, and no variations or selections were made while testing the architecture.

3.6 Summary

This section explains the architecture of the proposed timbre-based speaker recognition method. The overall architecture uses the random forest as the base classifier and regressor of the features as well.

Implementation, Testing, and Result Analysis

4.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the proposed architecture is tested and analyzed. This section contains the system setup that was carried out. Simultaneously, this section explains the evaluation metrics used to measure the result accuracy and a detailed analysis of the result.

4.2 System Setup

For training and evaluation, the LibriSpeech corpus is used [57]. It contains speech audios that are labeled based on the 40 speakers. The dataset comprises silenced segments that were not stripped, and our proposed architecture extracts speaker information by directly using the raw audio data.

The model performs regression to extract the timbre properties from speech audio. As there is almost no proper estimation and research done on vocal timbral properties, the dataset generation for timbral properties extraction was cumbersome. We found one tool developed by AudioCommons [58], which could extract all the seven features used in the model. Yet the device produced erroneous outputs for some vocal speech. Therefore, we created a small dataset that contains speech audios and the seven verbal timbral properties, boominess, brightness, depth, hardness, roughness, sharpness, and warmth for each speech audio. The dataset contains 400 samples of 0.3-seconds length audio speech with each audio speech's seven timbral properties. The timbral features for each audio were firstly generated from the tool produced by AudioCommons and then filtered by human intuition. The 400 short audio speeches were randomly selected from LibriSpeech clean dataset. This dataset was used to train the seven individual feature extractor regressors.

4.3 Evaluation

Relative and sharable performance measures are required to estimate how superior an algorithm or approach is. The major problem for evaluating any method is adopting training and testing sets, which can introduce an inconsistency in model performance. Most of the performance metrics are based upon the confusion matrix, which consists of true positive (TP), true negative (TN), false positive (FP), and false-negative (FN) [59] values. The significance of these elements can vary on how the performance evaluation is done.

The term 'recognition' can be classified into two separate operations, identification and verification. The identification system seeks persons' identity, whereas the verification systems only check if the person is the one whom it is expected to be. The proposed approach is tested both of the scenarios, and evaluation data are presented in this section.

The accuracy of an identification system can be defined by how many correct guesses the model estimates from the model's total estimations. The accuracy is measured as,

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN} \tag{4.1}$$

To evaluate the verification system, the Receiver Operating Characteristics Curve

(ROC) and Equal Error Rate EER are calculated. The ROC curve is a well-known non-parametric estimation method in biometric authentication and verification systems [32]. The ROC curve generates a visual of the probability of correct detection (True Positive Rate or TPR) versus the possibility of false alarm (False Positive Rate or FPR). The area generated by the ROC curve is known as the area under the curve (AUC). A higher value of AUC ensures the robustness of the verification system. EER can be evaluated from the ROC curve, by pointing the position where TPR is higher than FPR and TPR + FPR = 1. Lower EER value confirms the robustness of a verification system.

4.4 Results and Discussion

4.4.1 Speaker Identification

Speaker identification is the process of targeting a speaker by hearing the voice. In terms of machine learning, speaker identification is a multiclass classification problem. Figure 4.1 represents the identification accuracy of the proposed architecture while presenting a different number of persons. The prototype's performance degrades concerning the increasing number of individual persons. The degradation points to the characteristics of the features. The features which are extracted and used in our model are densely associated with each other. Therefore, the classifier fails to fit on training data appropriately. This degradation points out that the model can only be used for a small group of individuals for identification purposes.

4.4.2 Speaker Verification

Speaker verification is the method of confirming if the voice is of a specific person. Aside from the model's identification score's unbalanced accuracy, it presents a better

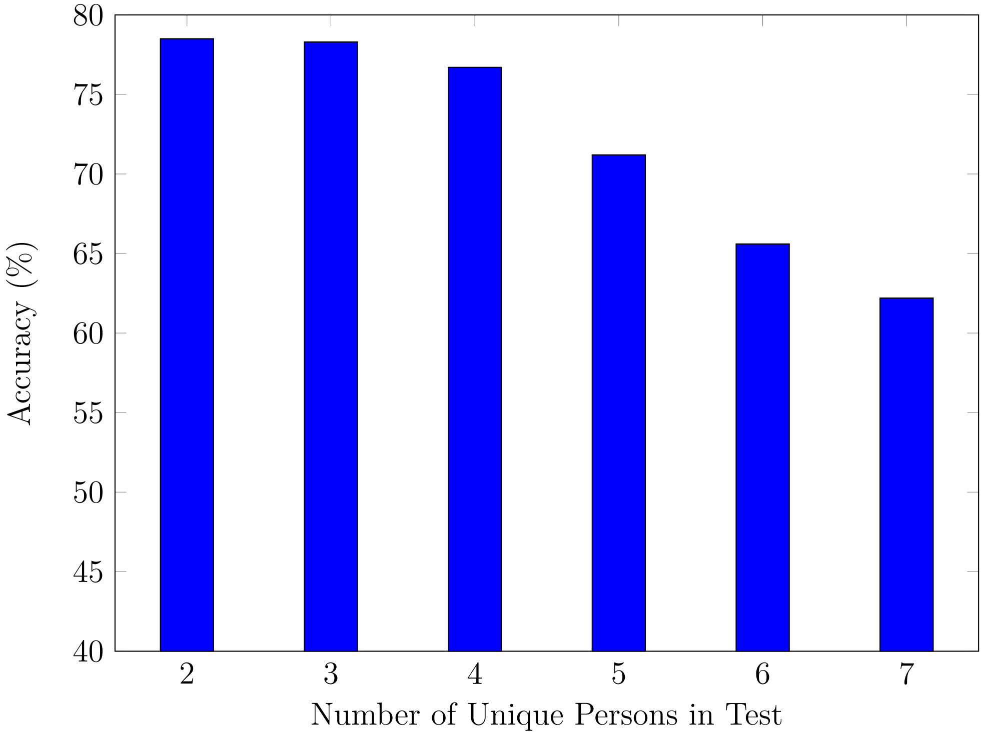

Figure 4.1. The graph illustrates the accuracy score of the speaker identification phase of the proposed architecture. The vertical axis represents the accuracy scale, whereas the horizontal scale represents the number of unique persons introduced in the identification phase.

performance in speaker verification. In terms of machine learning, speaker verification is stated as a binary classification problem. Figure 4.2 illustrates the accuracy scores of the model, including a different number of individuals in the verification phase. The proposed model generates a satisfactory score in the speaker verification phase. It shows accuracy above 80% in most of the tested environments. The model continuously provided stable accuracy while increasing the number of unique persons.

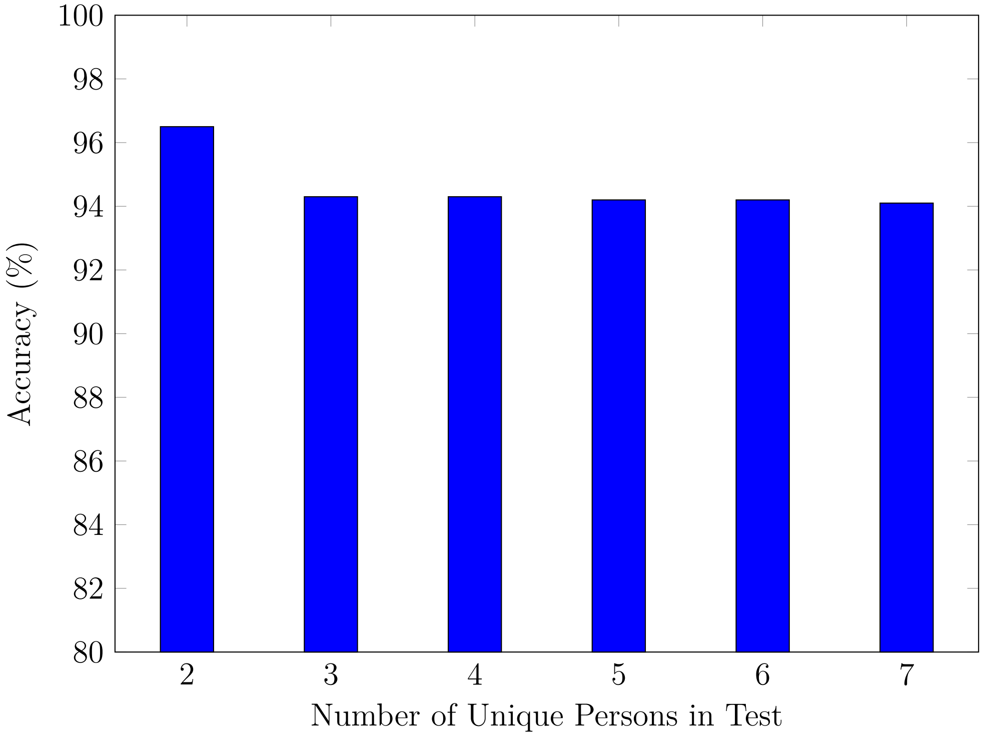

Figure 4.2. The graph illustrates the accuracy score of the speaker verification phase of the proposed architecture. The vertical axis represents the accuracy scale, whereas the horizontal scale represents the number of unique persons introduced in the identification phase.

Figure 4.3 represents the ROC curve of the proposed model that is tested on a random individual. The proposed model gives an equal error rate (EER) of 0.24, while the area under the curve (AUC) being 0.84. The equal error rate represents that the model generates its best result in verifying an individual from a continuous stream of

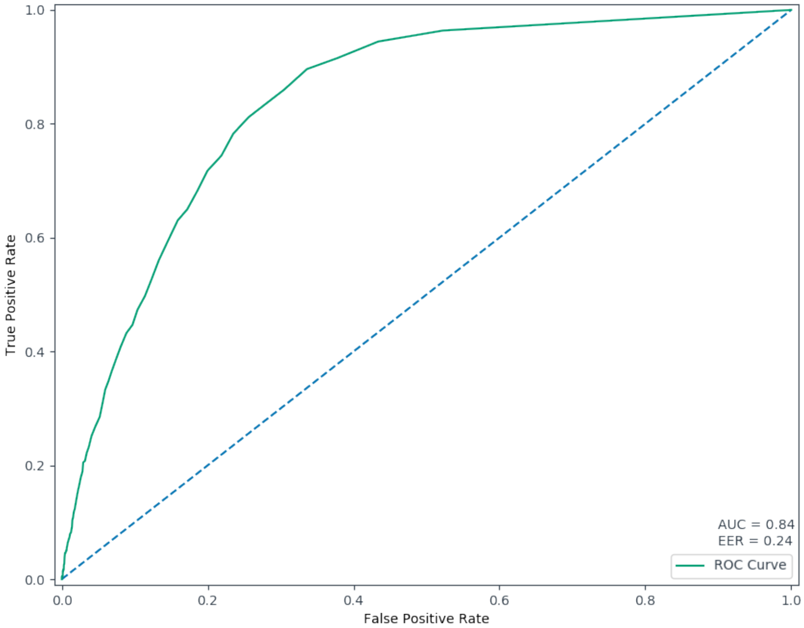

Figure 4.3. he figure represents a ROC curve of the model. The curve is generated based on identifying a random individual from the dataset. The model generates an EER of 0.24, while the AUC is 0.84.

audio.

4.5 Summary

From the evaluation reports, it is evident that this architecture performs most satisfying on speaker verification tasks. Although the method is also suitable for speaker identification tasks, increasing the number of unique people reduces the model's accuracy.

Standards, Impacts, Ethics, and Challenges

5.1 Impacts on Society

The speaker recognition system has a wide area of impact on the usage of the system. The speaker recognition system can be used as a speech diarization system to auto-generate speech into dialogue form. As a result, this can be implemented at a national level conference or meetings to retain speech proof. The system can also be implemented to gather information about any fraud voice calls if speech data is kept nationally. Implementing speaker recognition systems with speech recognition systems will also benefit automated robot industries as it is possible to pinpoint user commands with the assistance of speaker recognition systems.

5.2 Ethics

The speaker recognition system has a broader usage level, depending on the data that is applied to prepare the model. The usage of speaker recognition systems must maintain individuals' privacy concerns and should not be used for any purpose that raises a national or social security threat. The usage, along with the dataset gathering, must be performed under the code of moral principles.

5.3 Challenges

Although modern speaker recognition technologies are evolving rapidly, the companies developing such technologies still face information security challenges. This thesis work has clearly shown that the currently used voice authentication systems are close to real-world implementation. Frequently, speaker recognition and authentication systems are protected against hacker attacks, including voice cloning attacks.

5.4 Summary

Nevertheless, it should be noted that, despite their authentication problems, speaker recognition technologies can be a well-suited supplement to other biometric methods, such as fingerprints, face recognition, and iris recognition. Authentication systems relying on the identification of several biometric characteristics are also known as multimodal biometric systems. Recent studies indicate that multimodal biometric systems are more secure than biometric systems depending on one biometric method.

Constraints and Alternatives

6.1 Design Constraints

The overall structure of the proposed architecture can be implemented based on continuous or segmented audio frames. The model requires devices with high processing capability to perform simultaneous speaker recognition. The model does not require any GPU support.

6.2 Component Constraints

The component requirements of the proposed architecture include,

- Minimum Processor Requirement: Intel i3 (7th Gen, 3GHz)
- Minimum Memory Requirement: 4GB (DDR3, 1600 bus)
- Audio Input: HD Audio Input Device

6.3 Budget Constraints

The estimated budget is to be calculated by the current market price of the component requirements.

6.4 Summary

The avoidance of deep learning in the proposed speaker recognition architecture can be implemented in lightweight devices that are cost-efficient and available.

Schedules, Tasks, and Milestones

7.1 Timeline

The overall timeline of the thesis work can be segmented into three divisions based on the three semesters of our supervisor's work execution procedure. The first-semester work process contains the planning and reviewing of the related works of the thesis work. The second-semester work process includes collaborative work of prototype designing and analysis of the prototype. In the third semester, we implemented and tested the overall architecture and reported the overall workflow.

7.2 Gantt Chart

Figure 7.1 contains the Gantt chart describing the work execution process of the thesis work. The thesis work's overall execution is three semesters long, where each semester is twelve weeks long.

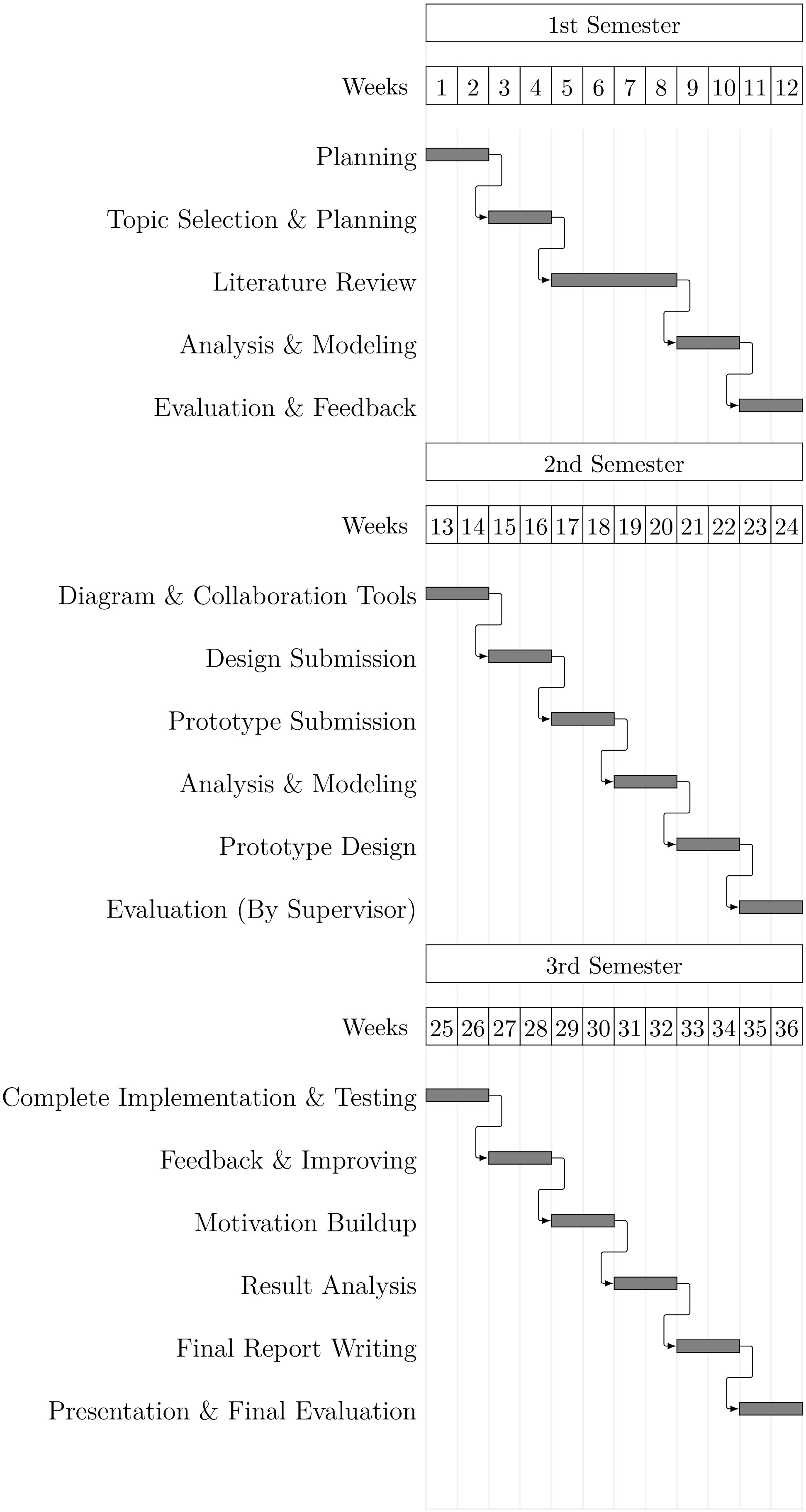

Figure 7.1. Gantt chart of the work execution process.

Conclusion

8.1 Introduction

In this thesis, we proposed a model that uses the timbral properties of voice, that is hardly used in any other research endeavors. The model is tested against a real-world continuous stream of audio, without any modification. Although the model almost fails in the speaker identification phase, it achieves a marginal score in the speaker verification phase. The model's accuracy can be improved if the scaling of the features is estimated more accurately. As the paper introduces new speech properties, further studying these features illustrated in this paper, the speaker recognition system researchers will be motivated to try out the vocal sound properties rather than only using sound waves or identity vectors as features. Therefore, we believe this research effort will influence the research to explore new speech properties that may invent more robust and lightweight architectures.

8.2 Future Works and Limitations

Although the speaker recognition system performs excellently as a speaker verification system, the main limitation of speaker recognition systems is the decrease of accuracy concerning the increasing number of individuals on which the identification is processed. We tend to solve this particular challenge of the proposed architecture. We would also develop a speech synthesis system that would synthesize speech from noisy environments that would be joined with this architecture and improve the overall performance of the proposed architecture.

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Appendices