

Praat-py: The Force Unleashed!

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Linguists

- We don't speak many languages!
- We know **much** about languages!
- 我們不一定會說很多種語言！
- 我們知道**很多**關於語言的特性！



What is this talk about?

- What linguists do with vocal sounds.
- Why **Praat** is a cool tool.
- How **Praat script** helps (and not help).
- Savior: **Praat-py**
- 語言學家拿「語音」做什麼？
- 為什麼 Praat 很酷！
- 那 Praat script 有什麼好處（壞處）？
- 救星： Praat-py



Frequency? Pitch (tone)?

- **Frequency** is a physical term.
- **Pitch (tone)** is a linguistic term.
- In most occasions, they refer to the same thing!
- A sound of 3 frequencies/pitches is like this...
- 頻率是物理學上的定義
- 音調是語言學上的定義
- 大部份的情況下，這兩者是一致的！
- 一個具有 3 個頻率 / 音調的聲音聽起來像這樣...



Language is about pitch

- Pitch is more about what your ears hear, but not what physically the sound is!
- How many pitches do you hear in these sounds?
- 音調和你的耳朵的聽覺感知比較有關係，而不是和聲音的物理特性有關！
- 在這些聲音裡，你聽到幾個音調？



What do you hear?

GOOD EAR



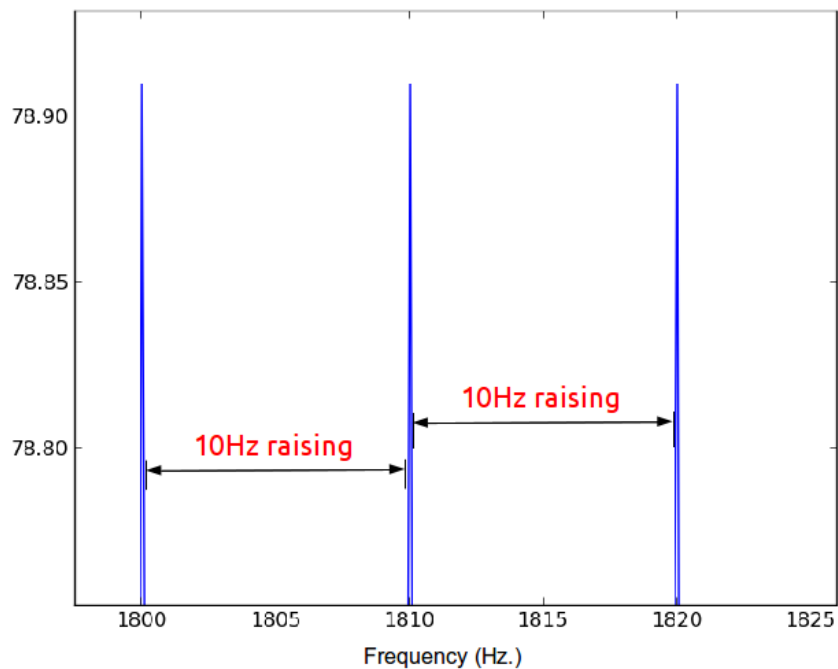
- A). 1st sound has 1 pitch;
2nd sound has 3 pitches.
 - B). 1st sound has 2 pitches;
2nd sound has 3 pitches
 - C). I hear something else...
-
- A). 第 1 個音有 1 個音調;
第 2 個音有 3 個音調。
 - B). 第 1 個音有 2 個音調;
第 2 個音有 3 個端啣
 - C). 我聽到其它東西...



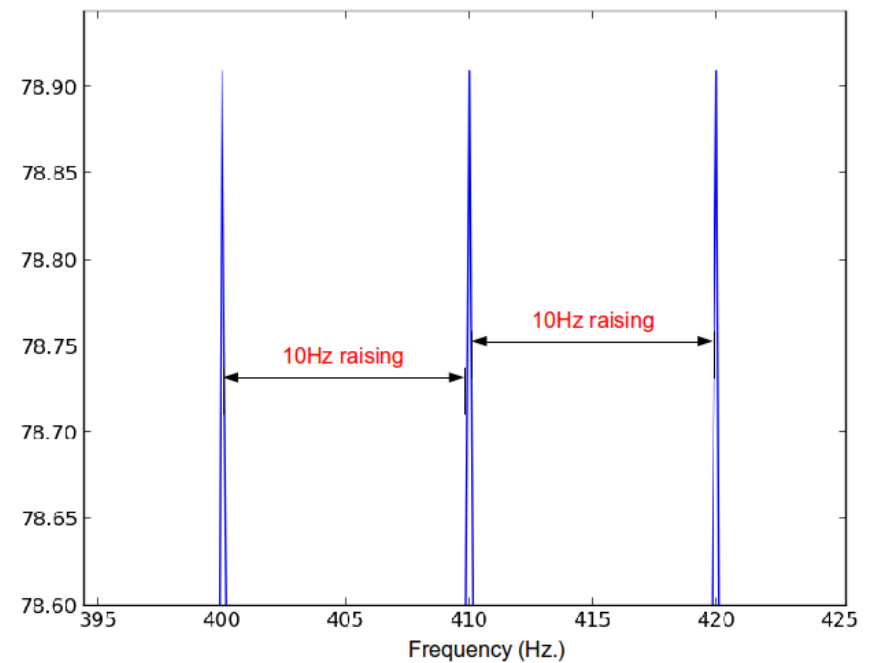
Answer

- Physical fact: both sounds have 3 frequencies with equal difference !

1st sound



2nd sound



- 物理事實：兩個聲音都有三個音頻，且每個音頻間的頻率差異是一樣的！





A tool to reflect what we hear

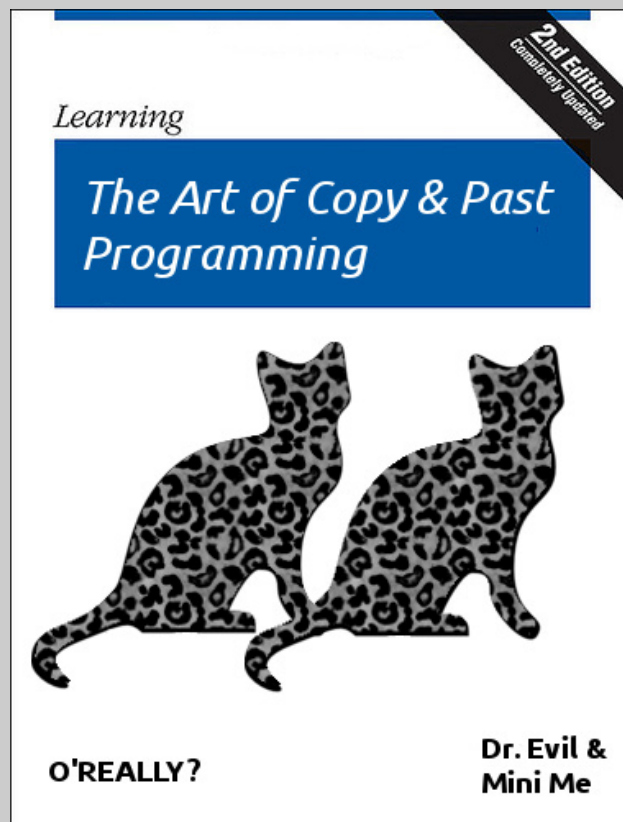
- By default, Praat tries to show the difference according to how you hear, but not how the sound is.
- 預設條件下，Praat 企圖呈現的是聽覺感知上的結果，而非物理上的數值測量結果





How Praat script helps

- Execute once and past the history!



- 執行一次，再貼上記錄，就寫好 Praat-script 了！





How Praat script **not** helps

- What if I have 6000+ sound files?
(and we usually do!)



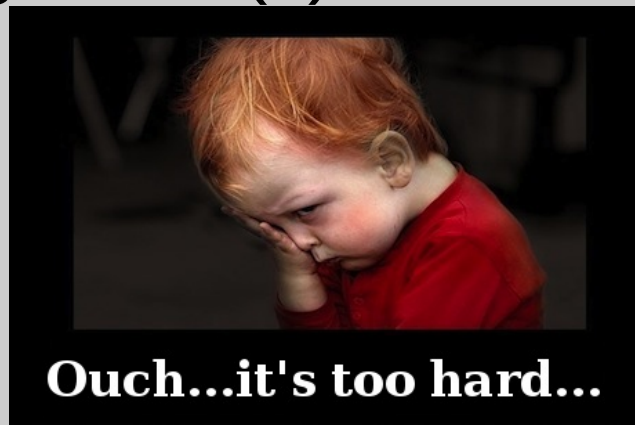
- 那要是我有 6 千個音檔呢？（挫塞！）





Could it be any worse?

- Praat-script is **insensitive** to indention, yet it doesn't allow brackets.
- It's space is reserved to seperate a function from its argument(s)...well...**in most cases**.



- Praat-script 可**隨意縮排**，但不能用括號。
- 它的空格「偶爾」會用來區別函式和參數…不過其實不加空格**有時候也沒關係**。





Praat-script

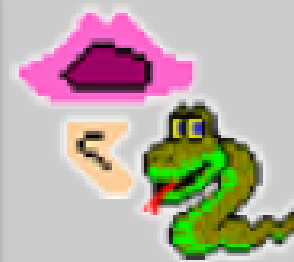
- When I read a praat script that has been modified by many other people with many different style, I am like...



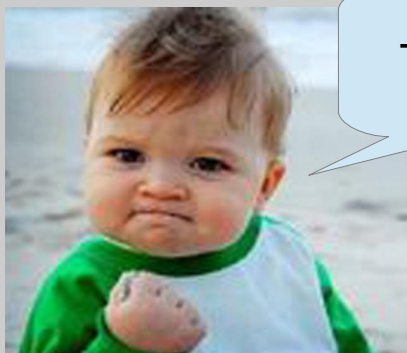
- 每次我讀到轉過許多手，充滿不同風格的 praat-script 時的表情...



Praat-py: a python wrapped version of Praat



- There are only two functions:
 - go() means "mouse clicking"
 - getString() returns the string data



- 總共只有兩個函式的包裝：
 - go() 表示滑鼠點擊。
 - getString() 取得回傳的字串。



Praat-py



- Summary
 - Praat is easy to learn and good to use.
 - Praat-script is rather idiosyncratic.
 - Praat-py combines the advantages of both Python and Praat
 - How about a PyPraat?
 - Questions and Comments



Reference

- Praat:
<http://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/praat/>
- Praat-py:
<https://github.com/tauberer/praat-py>

