



PARKINSON'S DISEASE NEWS

<http://www.viartis.net/parkinsons.disease/news.htm>

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DIAGNOSIS OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE USING SPEECH

IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering [2012] 59 (5) : 1264-1271 (A.Tsanas, M.A. Little, P.E.McSharry, J. Spielman, L.O.Ramig)

There has been a lot of recent research into the connection between Parkinson's Disease and speech impairment. Consequently, a wide range of speech signal processing algorithms (dysphonia measures) aiming to predict Parkinson's Disease severity using speech signals have been introduced. Dysphonia is an impairment in the ability to produce vocal sounds. For more information, go to Dysphonia : <http://www.netdoctor.co.uk/facts/dysphonia.htm>

Researchers assessed how accurately such measures can be in discriminating people with Parkinson's Disease from people who do not have it. In total, the researchers computed 132 measures of dysphonia measures from sustained vowels. They then used a large database of vocal samples from different people. The researchers demonstrated that these measures of dysphonia can outperform standard methods of diagnosing Parkinson's Disease by reaching almost 99% overall classification accuracy. They achieved this by using only ten features of dysphonia.

<http://www.viartis.net/parkinsons.disease/news/120819.pdf>

mail@viartis.net

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