

Participant Information Sheet

Project title:	Evaluating the next Generation of Speech Synthesis Models Across Domains
Principal investigator:	Peter Bell
Researcher collecting data:	Christoph Minixhofer
Funder (if applicable):	

This study was certified according to the Informatics Research Ethics Process, reference number **112246**. Please take time to read the following information carefully. You should keep this page for your records.

Who are the researchers?

All researchers are members of the Centre for Speech Technology Research at The University of Edinburgh:

Christoph Minixhofer, 3rd Year PhD Student

Prof. Peter Bell, Personal Chair in Speech Technology

Dr. Ondrej Klejch, Senior Researcher

What is the purpose of the study?

In this study, we aim to identify how real recorded speech compares to synthetic speech. We vary the setting for this, for example speech from an audiobook, or speech from a conversation.

This will help us identify in how well synthetic speech performs in those different settings, and where there is room for improvement.

Why have I been asked to take part?

You have been asked to take part as you are a native speaker of English from either the US or UK.

Do I have to take part?

No – participation in this study is entirely up to you. You can withdraw from the study at any time, up until 30 days of commencement of the study without giving a reason.



After this point, it will no longer be possible to withdraw because we are not collecting any data that would allow us to identify you.

What will happen if I decide to take part?

You will be asked to rate short audio clips of speech samples on a scale from 1 to 5 in an online form. More detailed instructions on how to rate the samples are included in the form. We estimate the number of samples in the form will take approximately 30-45 minutes to rate.

Compensation.

You will be paid £7.50 for your participation in this study through Prolific.

Are there any risks associated with taking part?

There are no significant risks associated with participation.

Are there any benefits associated with taking part?

No

What data are you collecting about me?

The data we collect for our research is completely anonymous: We are not collecting any information that could, in our assessment, allow anyone to identify you. While your IP address will be checked as you open the online form, this will not be saved and is only in place to ensure our study participants are from the UK or US. Your signed participant consent form will be kept separately from your responses and destroyed after at most 30 days.

What will happen to the results of this study?

The results of this study may be summarised in published articles, reports and presentations. Your anonymised data may be published and can also be used for future research.

Who can I contact?

If you have any further questions about the study, please contact the lead researcher, Christoph Minixhofer at christoph.minixhofer@ed.ac.uk

If you wish to make a complaint about the study, please contact



inf-ethics@inf.ed.ac.uk. When you contact us, please provide the study title and detail the nature of your complaint.

Updated information & Alternative formats.

Not applicable as the study is online.

