

Contents

1. Introduction	1
1.1. Motivation	1
1.2. State-of-the-art	2
1.3. Contributions of the thesis	16
1.4. Structure of this work	17
2. Speech of people with Parkinson's disease	19
2.1. Why does Parkinson's disease affect speech?	19
2.2. Characteristics of PD speech	22
2.3. Existing scales to assess PD patients	23
2.3.1. Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale (UPDRS)	23
2.3.2. Hoehn & Yahr scale (H&Y)	24
2.4. Existing methods and tools for speech therapy in PD patients	24
2.4.1. Lee Silverman Voice Test (LSVT)	25
2.4.2. Pitch Limiting Voice Treatment (PLVT)	25
2.4.3. Computational tools for the assessment and guidance of speech therapy	25
3. Data collection	27
3.1. Spanish	27
3.1.1. Recruitment process	27
3.1.2. General description of the participants and technical conditions for the recording process	28
3.1.3. Speech tasks	30
3.2. German	31
3.2.1. Speech tasks	32
3.3. Czech	33
3.3.1. Speech tasks	33
4. Analysis of speech of patients with Parkinson's disease	35
4.1. Phonation analysis	36
4.1.1. Periodicity	36
4.1.2. Noise content	37
4.1.3. Nonlinear behavior	38
4.2. Articulation analysis	43
4.2.1. Vocal space	43
4.2.2. Spectral-Cepstral analysis	45

4.2.3. Voiced-Unvoiced modeling	47
4.3. Prosody analysis	49
4.3.1. Features based on the fundamental frequency	50
4.3.2. Features based on the short-term energy	51
4.3.3. Features based on the duration	53
4.4. Automatic classification and regression	53
4.4.1. Hard-Margin Support Vector Machines (HM-SVM)	54
4.4.2. Soft-Margin Support Vector Machines (SM-SVM)	56
4.4.3. Regression using support vector machines	59
5. Experimental results	63
5.1. Automatic detection of Parkinson's disease in three languages	63
5.1.1. Classification with phonation features	64
5.1.2. Classification with articulation features	67
5.1.3. Classification with prosody features	80
5.1.4. Cross-language experiments	82
5.2. Prediction of the neurological state of Parkinson's patients	84
5.2.1. Regression with 10-fold cross-validation	84
5.2.2. Regression with the data of the Computational Paralinguistics Chal- lenge (ComParE)	87
5.3. Analysis of the experimental results	92
6. Outlook	97
7. Summary	99
A. Speech recording protocol	103
B. Publications emerging from the development of this thesis	109
List of Figures	113
List of Tables	115
Bibliography	117