

Speech training method based on speech cues changes

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Problems with speech understanding, in particular in noisy environments, affect subjects with similar audiograms differently (Sabes and Sweetow, 2007 Watson et al., 2008). Speech training is known to alleviate these problems in some of hearing aid (Miller et al., 2008) and cochlear implant users (Fu and Galvin, 2008). Different speech training methods are currently available such as are for example Connected Discourse Tracking method (de Filippo and Scott, 1978) and Speech Perception Assessment and Training System (SPATS), (Miller et al., 2008). A novel approach to speech training is introduced based on changing levels of difficulty of the speech cues presented (e.g. Krause and Braida, 2009). The training method is explained in detail and a short demo of the software will be presented, time permitting. The potential of this training method for use in clinical studies and home training is briefly evaluated and discussed.

Literatur:De Filippo, C. L., and Scott, B. L. (1978) "A method for training and evaluating the reception of ongoing speech," J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 63, 1186–1192.Fu Q., and Galvin JJ (2008) "Maximizing cochlear implant patients' performance with advanced speech training procedures." Hearing research 242(1-2) 198-208.Krause J.C. and Braida L.D. (2009) "Evaluating the role of spectral and envelope characteristics in the intelligibility advantage of clear speech" J Acoust Soc Am. 125(5), 3346-57.Miller, J.D., Watson, C.S., Kistler, D.J., Preminger, J.E., and Wark, D.J. (2008) "Training listeners to identify the sounds of speech: II. Using SPATS software" The Hearing Journal 61(10), 29-33.Sabes J.H, Sweetow RW. (2007) "Variables predicting outcomes on listening and communication enhancement (LACE) training" Int J Audiol. 46(7):374-83.Watson, C.S., Miller, J.D., Kewley-Port, D., Humes, L.E., and Wightman, F.L. (2008) "Training listeners to identify the sounds of speech: I. A review of past studies" The Hearing Journal 61(9), 26-31.

