

This folder contains programs implementing the algorithm described in “A tandem algorithm for pitch estimation and voiced speech segregation,” by G. Hu and D. L. Wang in *IEEE Trans. Audio, Speech, Lang. Process.*, vol. 18, pp. 2067-2079, 2010. This is an algorithm for voiced speech separation and pitch tracking in monaural conditions.

Usage: tandem in out

tandem in out cross evCross

tandem in out cross evCross eng

Inputs:

- in: An ASCII file containing a 20 kHz waveform noisy speech signal

Outputs:

- out.128.pitchT.dat: Estimated pitch contours w/ T-segments (see the definition of T-segments in Sect. V-C of the Hu & Wang’10 paper)
- out.128.maskT.dat: Estimated binary masks w/ T-segments
- out.128.pitch.dat: Estimated pitch contours w/o T-segments (optional)
- out.128.mask.dat: Estimated ratio masks w/o T-segments (optional)
- cross: Cross-channel correlations (optional)
- evCross: Envelope cross-channel correlations (optional)
- eng: Energy of T-F units (optional)

Run an example:

- tandem sample/mixture.20k out

More about the inputs and outputs

- This algorithm uses a 128-channel gammatone filterbank
- Sampling frequency of the input signal must be 20kHz
- out.128.pitchT.dat: The two numbers in the first row denote number of pitch contours and number of frames, and each following row denotes an estimated pitch contour
- out.128.maskT.dat: Simultaneous streams. Each row is a frame-level binary mask (128-dimensional) associated with a pitch point. The order of rows matches that of the pitch points (from left to right in a pitch contour) and pitch contours (from top to bottom)
- The "net" folder needs to be in the same directory as the executable

Some explanations about source files:

- tandem.cpp: The main C++ file consisting of functions corresponding to different processing stages
 - o Major functions
 - voicedMaskEst: The iterative estimation of pitch contours and simultaneous streams (Sect. V-A and V-B of the paper)

- onOffSeg: Onset/offset-based segmentation (Sect. V-C)
- expandVoicedMask: Generate and incorporate T-segments (Sect. V-C)
- gammaTone.cpp (and gammaTone.h): Gammatone filtering
 - Class gammaToneFilter
 - Data members
 - cf: Gammatone filter center frequency
 - bw: Gammatone filter bandwidth
 - Functions
 - Filtering: Filter the input signal using a gammatone filter with a specific center frequency
 - oneStep: Take a single value in the input signal and do the filtering
 - Class gammaToneFilterBank
 - Data members
 - lowerCF: Lower cutoff frequency in gammatone filtering
 - upperCF: Higher cutoff frequency in gammatone filtering
 - gf: Gammatone filters
 - sf: Sampling frequency
 - response: Filtered signals
 - Functions
 - HzToERBRate: Convert Hz to ERB rate
 - ERBRateToHz: Convert ERB rate to Hz
 - filtering: Filter a signal using a gammatone filterbank
- feture.cpp (and feature.h): Extracting features such as autocorrelations, cross-channel correlations, and the 6-dimensional pitch-based feature
 - Class feature
 - Data members
 - acfLen: Length of signal in computing auto-correlation
 - acfOrder: Used for zero-padding in FFT
 - bandPass: Bandpass filters
 - envelope: Envelopes of filtered signals
 - window: Length of a frame
 - min_delay: Minimum delay in computing auto-correlation function
 - max_delay: Maximum delay in computing auto-correlation function
 - Theta_p: A threshold for single-unit probabilities (See Eq. (17), .5 by default)
 - corrLgm: A struct storing 6-dimensional features
 - data: Temporary memory used by FFT
 - Functions
 - computeFeature: Extract envelopes, auto-correlations and cross-channel correlations

- fftACF: Auto-correlations based on FFT
 - computeCross: Compute cross-channel correlations
 - newFeature: Initialize variables storing various features
 - deleteFeature: Free dynamically allocated variables
- pitch.cpp (and pitch.h): Pitch and mask estimation
 - Class pitchMask
 - Data members
 - sNet: MLP for single-unit labeling
 - mNet: MLP for multiple-unit labeling
 - pNet: MLP for differentiating pitch and its integer multiples
 - Pitch: Estimated pitch contours
 - Functions
 - readNet: Load trained MLPs
 - singleUnitProb: Unit labeling based on 6-dimensional features (Sect. III-A in the paper)
 - multiUnitProb: Unit labeling based on neighboring T-F units (Sect. III-C)
 - maskToPitchACF: Estimate pitch based on auto-correlation functions
 - maskToPitchML: Estimate pitch based on probabilities (Eq. (10) in Sect. IV-A)
 - maskToPitchML2: Estimate pitch based on mask labels (Eq. (9) in Sect. IV-A)
 - maskToPitchMAP: Estimate pitch and then test whether it is an octave error (using function compareTwoCandidateMAP)
 - compareTwoCandidateMAP: Differentiate true pitch from its integer multiples (Sect. IV-B). Note that in this implementation the first quantity of the 3-dimensional vector described in Sect. IV-B of the paper is split into its integral and fractional parts, resulting in a 4-dimensional feature and a little better performance.
- voicedMask.cpp (and voicedMask.h): The iterative procedure (Sect. V)
 - Class voicedMask
 - Data members
 - thd_cross: Threshold for cross-channel correlations (See Eq. (13), .985 by default)
 - thd_evCross: Threshold for envelope cross-channel correlations (See Eq. (13), .985 by default)
 - Functions
 - dtmPitchMask: The iterative procedure (Sect. V)
 - initPitchEst: Initial estimation (Sect. V-A)
 - iterativePitchEst: Iterative estimation (Sect. V-B)
 - maskToPitch: Estimate pitch contours based on masks (also deal with the splitting of a pitch contour)
 - expandMask: Expand pitch contours
 - findContour: Generating pitch contours from pitch points

- checkPitchCon: Check pitch continuity
 - checkMaskCon: Check mask continuity
 - isOverlap: Refine two pitch contours overlapping in time
 - isConnected: Check whether two pitch contours can be connected together
 - mergeContour: Merge pitch contours
 - reDetermineMask: Estimate masks at a frame containing multiple harmonic sources (Sect. III-B)
 - removeDuplicate: Remove pitches with very similar FOs
 - switchCandidate: Switch pitch points as well as the corresponding masks between two pitch contours
 - convCont: Refine pitch estimates and produce pitch contours
 - reEstimatePitch: Re-estimate pitch points of a contour as well as the corresponding masks using maskToPitchMAP
 - checkContour: Check the pitch and mask continuity of a pitch contour
 - developContour: Re-estimate non-continuous pitch points based on neighboring continuous pitch points
- mScaleInten.cpp and segmentation.cpp (and mScaleInten.h and segment.h): Onset/offset-based segmentation
 - See the paper “Auditory segmentation based on onset and offset analysis” in *IEEE Trans. Audio, Speech, and Lang. Process.*, vol. 15, pp. 396-405, 2007, by Hu G. and Wang D.L. for details
 - common.h, tool.h, and tool.cpp: Supplemental utility files
 - filter.h and filter.cpp: Different ways of designing and applying low-pass/band-pass filters

More details on training the single-unit based MLP (Sect. III-A)

The following is a description based on personal communication with the original author Guoning Hu.

1. Training data
 - a) 4620 sentences from the training part of the TIMIT database are divided into 2 equal parts
 - b) Part one and part two are mixed one by one at 0 dB randomly, which yields 2310 mixtures.
A couple of rules for mixing sentences:
 1. Each sentence was used once strictly
 2. 2 sentences from a same speaker were never mixed together
 - c) Each sentence of part one was randomly mixed with one of the 100 intrusions (<http://www.cse.ohio-state.edu/pnl/corpus/HuCorpus.html>) at 0 dB, which yields another 2310 mixtures
 - d) The training is performed on the above 4620 mixtures
2. Training steps

- a) MATLAB neural-network toolbox was used for training
- b) A channel (ch) in the low frequency range is first picked (I cannot recall which channel, maybe the first one) and the MLP for this channel is trained with a random initial value. Let model(ch) represent the resulting MLP for this channel
- c) To speed up training, model(ch) is used as the initial value for channel ch+1. Then after training channel ch+1, model(ch+1) is used as the initial value to train channel ch+2, and so on. Channels ch-1, ch-2, ..., and 1 are trained similarly
- d) Step b and c were repeated several times. Each time it generated a set of 128 MLPs. The set that gave best performance on testing data (Sect. IV-A) was selected

Notes:

1. For longer utterances, if the current version of tandem seg-faults, increase the value assigned to the constant identifier 'MAX_CONTOUR' defined in pitch.h; currently it is set to 200.