Analysis and annotation of affective speech and laughter

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Analysing paralinguistics remains challenging in affective computing research for various reasons. In this talk, i will present our recent research into affective speech and laughter. Within the framework of a project on emotion recognition in people with dementia, a large corpus of emotional memories with older adults was collected and annotated for valence. Through linear mixed-effects regression analyses we found several acoustic variables that could be associated with valence. Secondly, i will present our efforts into creating a shared understanding of how laughter and its sub-units can be annotated.

Khiet Truong is an assistant professor in the Human Media Interaction group, University of Twente, working in the areas of Affective Computing and Social Signal Processing. Her interests lie in the automatic analysis and understanding of verbal and nonverbal (vocal) behaviors in human-human and human-machine interaction, and the design of socially interactive technology to support human needs. Her main research focus is in paralinguistics and (automatic) speech analysis of speaker characteristics (mental, physical, and socio-affective states). She has been/is Area co-Chair for Interspeech 2017 and 2015, Social Media Chair ACII2017, Workshop Chair ICMI 2018, and Tutorial Chair ACII 2019. She is currently member of the Executive Committee of the AAAC and Associate Editor for the IEEE Trans. on Affective Computing.