

School of Psychology
University of New South Wales



Forensic Data Science Laboratory
Aston University



Instituto de Lingüística y Literatura
Universidad Austral de Chile



Universidad Austral de Chile
Conocimiento y Naturaleza

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Speaker identification in courtroom contexts:

Speaker identification by groups of listeners

1 What is the research study about?

You are invited to take part in this research study. The research study aims to examine the accuracy of speaker identification by human listeners. You have been invited because you expressed interest in participating in this research through SONA-P.

2 Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers: Associate Prof. Kristy Martire and Dr. Agnes Bali from the UNSW School of Psychology; Associate Prof. Geoffrey Stewart Morrison, Dr. Nabanita Basu, and Dr. Philip Weber from the Forensic Data Science Laboratory at Aston University; and Dr. Claudia Rosas-Aguilar from the Instituto de Lingüística y Literatura at the Universidad Austral de Chile.

Research Funder: This research is being funded by Research England.

3 Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Before you decide to participate in this research study, you should meet the following criteria:

- Are 18 years of age or older
- Are an Australian citizen and currently residing in Australia
- Do not have a diagnosed hearing loss
- Are technically able and are willing to use audio and video in a Zoom meeting*

*If you have a disability such as a vision impairment, and require special accommodations to be able to participate in the study, please contact the researchers for assistance.

4 Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage before submitting your responses (See Item 11).

5 What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you decide to take part in the research study, you will be asked to complete the study in two parts. You will be emailed login details and information about accessing the online experiment. The experiment runs via a web browser. Please note that the online experiment is optimized for larger screens (e.g., desktops, laptops, and tablets) and is not suitable for use on a smartphone. Please participate using a device with a larger screen.

In Part 1, we will ask you to provide some general demographic information (for some of the questions you can answer “prefer not to say”), and then complete a sound check

and voice-comparison task that will help you prepare for Part 2.

In Part 2, we will invite you to a Zoom meeting with a group of other participants. As a group, you will listen to pairs of voice recordings and work together to decide whether the recordings were spoken by the same speaker or by different speakers. All participants in the Zoom meeting will be able to see and hear each other, and so it is possible you may recognise other participants in the group. However, real names or other identifiable information will not be disclosed to group members by the research team at any point. All participants will also be asked to sign a non-disclosure agreement to protect the privacy of other participants in the study. You will be assigned a participant number to preserve your anonymity, and all participants will be asked to only refer to each using their assigned numbers. The Zoom meeting will not be audio or video recorded.

We don't expect this research to cause any harm. However you may answer demographic questions with 'prefer not to say' or leave the Zoom meeting if you do not wish to proceed. Please let the researchers know if you need any assistance for any reason.

6 Total participation time

Participation in this study will require no more than 15 minutes for Part 1, and no more than 1 hour and 45 minutes for Part 2.

7 Recompense to participants

You will receive a total of \$40 (\$5 for Part 1 and \$35 for Part 2) in the form of an e-voucher as recompense for your participation. This e-voucher will be e-mailed to the e-mail address registered on the SONA-P system following your Part 2 timeslot (please ensure you check your Junk/Spam folders). Please contact the researchers if you would like your payment voucher sent to an alternative e-mail address.

8 What are the possible benefits to participation?

We cannot promise that you will receive any benefits from this study, but we hope to use the findings from this study to learn about human speaker identification performance for the purpose of informing decision-making during trials.

9 What will happen to information about me?

Any personal-identifying information the research team is given access to (e.g. names and email addresses) will be stored securely on private servers and computers at UNSW until you have been compensated for your participation and data-collection is completed. After this point, this information will be destroyed.

Non-identifying information that you provide during the study will be kept for a minimum of 5 years after the project's completion. This non-identifying information will be stored on secure cloud and/or on-site servers, and computers of Aston University and will be made publicly available online for research purposes. This information cannot be linked to you.

10 How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

The research team intend to publish and report the results of the research study in a variety of ways. All information published will be done in a way that will not identify you. Publication of the results will be announced at, and be accessible via, <http://speaker-recognition-by-humans.forensic-voice-comparison.net/>

11 What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time before we destroy the information linking you to your responses (e.g., your email address). After this point, we will not be able to link your responses to you and therefore will not be able to remove your specific responses from our data.

You can withdraw by notifying the researcher, closing your browser, and either not attending or leaving the Zoom meeting. If you withdraw from the research before we

destroy the information linking you to your responses, we will delete any information that has been collected from you.

Your decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study will not affect your relationship with UNSW Sydney, Aston University, or Universidad Austral de Chile.

12 What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?

If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems that may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

Research Team Contact Details

Chief Investigator: A/Prof. Kristy Martire

Position: Associate Professor in the UNSW School of Psychology

Telephone: +61 2 9385 8563

e-mail: k.martire@unsw.edu.au

Investigator: Dr. Agnes Bali

Position: Research Assistant in the UNSW School of Psychology

e-mail: agnes.bali@unsw.edu.au

What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

Complaints Contact

Position: UNSW Human Research Ethics Coordinator

Telephone: +61 2 9385 6222

e-mail: humanethics@unsw.edu.au

HC Reference Number: 3658

Consent Form – Participant providing own consent

Declaration by the participant

- I understand I am being asked to provide consent to participate in this research study.
- I have read the Participant Information Sheet or someone has read it to me in a language that I understand.
- I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study.
- I provide my consent for the information collected about me to be used for the purpose of this research study only.
- I have been given contact details of the researchers to enable me to ask questions about my participation.
- I freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the study and withdrawal will not affect my relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members.

I consent to participate in this research.

YES

NO