Annotating paralinguistic features in quasi-spontaneous speech
Adding the “vision” component?

Katarzyna Klessa & Maciej Karpiński
Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań
Adam Mickiewicz University Foundation, Poznań
Introduction

• Investigation of paralinguistic features and affective states in audio recordings of (semi)spontaneous and affective speech

• Within a larger project on speaker recognition and characterisation for security services

• Current work: a new annotation tool, features tagsets and annotation procedures (include longer-term features and perceptual judgements)

• Future extension: adaptation of the methods to video recordings
Annotation System

“Traditional” annotation tiers

interface using multiple annotation tiers

Graphic representation of feature space

for continuous, overlapping features, hard to categorize
Representation of prosody, affect and paralinguistic features
Adding “vision”? Gestures & paralinguistics

• Actually, we mean more than gestures:
  – Hand gestures
  – Head movements
  – Facial expressions
  – Body movements/positions
Representations for (more than) gestures?

- perceptual judgement of facial expression (e.g. using a two-dimensional emotion feature space)
- physical properties of movements (e.g. two-dimensional space for the range and speed of realization)
- gestural space (annotation of the gesture location in space).

+ representing 3D?
Conclusions. Availability

- Complex, multilevel system for the needs of annotation of paralinguistic features, future: including the visual channel
- Flexible and easily extendible framework
- **Access**: after the end of the current project (after January 2013) the software will be freely available for non-commercial research purposes
Thank you very much!

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contact:klessa@amu.edu.pl