

Practical speech synthesis for sociolinguists

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This workshop covers instrumentation and techniques needed to create high quality synthetic speech stimuli for the purposes of sociolinguistic research. Recognizing the need for synthesizing stimuli that sound very natural, yet offer the researcher a great deal of parametric control, we are going to focus on the following methodologies: (1) Klatt synthesis, (2) Pitch-Synchronous Overlap and Add (PSOLA), and (3) LPC Analysis/Resynthesis. We will try to offer solutions that are both practical and generalizable, followed by a demonstration of relevant software, such as Hlsyn, KayPENTAX, ASL, Matlab, Praat, and Akustyk.