

# Modelling of Speech Aspects in Parkinson's Disease by Multitask Deep Learning

## Master's thesis

Martin Strauß, 21.06.2019

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# Motivation

**Parkinson's disease (PD) second largest neurodegenerative disorder<sup>1</sup>**

**Speech impairments are one of the earliest manifestations**

**Speech is affected in various dimensions including articulation, phonation, prosody and intelligibility (hypokinetic dysarthria):**

- Reduced loudness
  - Monotonic speech
  - Breathy voice
- etc.

**→ Underrepresented in PD evaluation<sup>2</sup>**



[1] Tysnes et al. (2017), Journal of Neural Transmission

[2] Ramig et al. (2008), Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics

# PD assessment

**Movement Disorder Society – Unified Parkinson’s disease rating scale (MDS-UPDRS)<sup>4</sup>:**

- Third section with 33 items evaluates disease progression (MDS-UPDRS-III)
- Rated between 0-4
- *Only one aspect related to speech*
- *Patient is required to be with a physician*
- *Subjectivity*

[4] Goetz et al. (2008), Movement Disorders

# PD assessment

**Movement Disorder Society – Unified Parkinson’s disease rating scale (MDS-UPDRS):**

- *Only one aspect related to speech*
- *Patient is required to be with a physician*
- *Subjectivity*

**Frenchay Dysarthria Assessment (FDA):**

- Items like reflexes, respiration, lips movement etc.
- *Patient is required to be with a physician*
- *Subjectivity*

**- modified-FDA (m-FDA)<sup>5</sup>: Assessment only relies on speech recordings**

[5] Vásquez-Correa (2018), Journal of Communication Disorders

# Motivation

Parkinson's disease (PD) second largest neurodegenerative disorder<sup>1</sup>

Speech impairments are one of the earliest manifestations

→ *Underrepresented in PD evaluation*<sup>2</sup>

Disease assessment like MDS-UPDRS-III and m-FDA  
are highly subjective

→ ***Computational based methods to increase objectivity  
and enable long-term monitoring***



[1] Tysnes et al. (2017), Journal of Neural Transmission

[2] Ramig et al. (2008), Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics

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# Background

Various feature extraction and machine learning methods already exist

Success of Deep Learning (DL) now also in PD speech assessment tasks<sup>3</sup>

→ *Most studies concentrate on one aspect like PD vs. healthy controls classification*

→ *Multitask Learning (MTL) approaches allow to evaluate multiple aspects at once*

[3] Vásquez-Correa et al. (2017), In Interspeech 2017

# Multitask learning

Optimize more than one loss function

→ Loss weight factor  $\gamma$

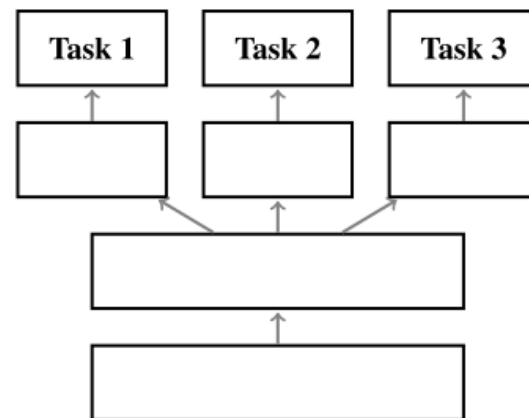
Hard parameter sharing with shared layers and individual task layers

→ *Idea: Multiple tasks share representations creating more general feature maps<sup>6</sup>*

$$L(\theta) = \gamma L_1(\theta) + (1 - \gamma) L_2(\theta)$$

$$L(\theta) = \sum_i \gamma_i L_i(\theta)$$

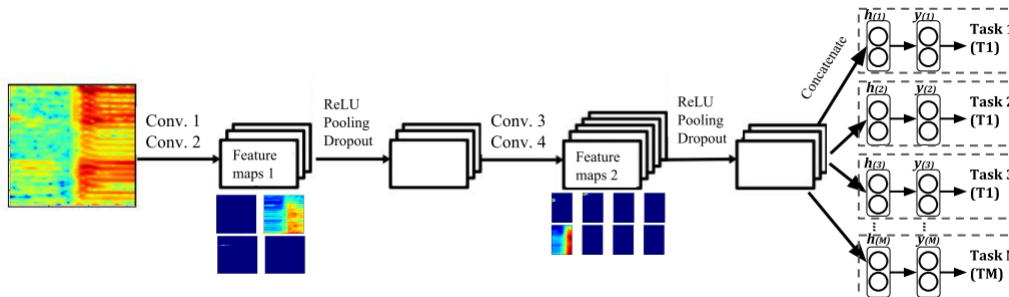
$$\sum_i \gamma_i = 1$$



[6] Caruana (1997), Machine Learning

## Related work

### Vásquez-Correa et al.<sup>7</sup>:



- 11 speech aspects jointly optimized in CNN
- Voiced and unvoiced speech segments as input
- Up to 4 percent points increased accuracy by MTL approach

→ *MTL creates more generalizable feature maps*

[7] Vásquez-Correa et al. (2018), In Interspeech 2018

## Main aims

**Apply a MTL neural network  
framework to PD speech data**

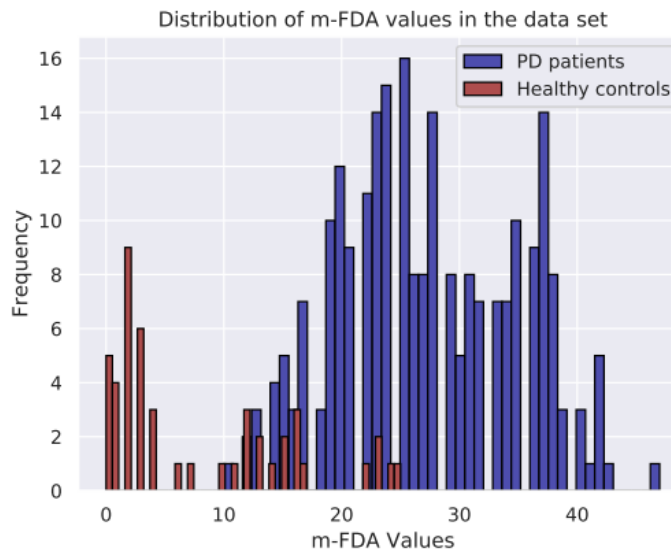
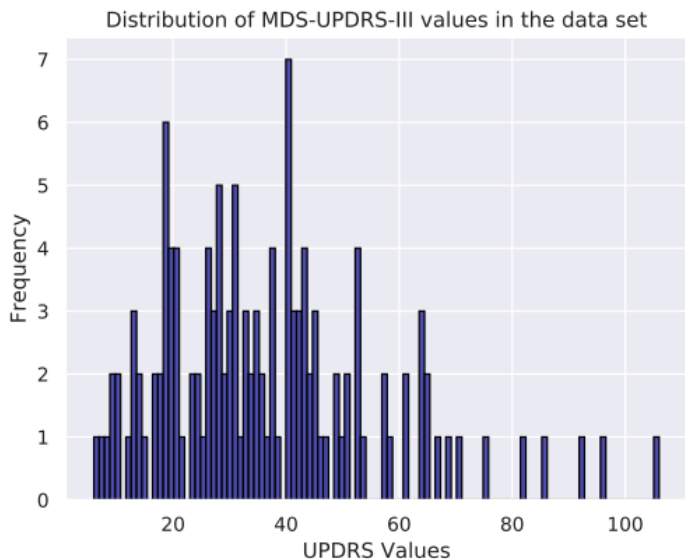
**Evaluate the proposed approach  
compared to single task networks and  
a baseline algorithm**

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# Data set

## 94 PD and 87 HC Spanish native speakers from Colombia



Recordings obtained in various sessions performing different exercises

→ *In total 5145 utterances included into the data set*

# Task description



**Exercises:** DDK, Sentences, Monologue, Reading text

**Acoustic condition:** Soundproof booth, Portable soundproof booth, Headset, At-home

Task number	Task name	Number of classes
1.	PD vs. HC	2
2.	MDS-UPDRS-III	4
3.	m-FDA	4
4.	Acoustic condition	4
5.	Exercise	4
6.	Gender	2
7.	Age	4

# Task description

**Tasks:** PD vs. HC MDS-UPDRS-III m-FDA

## Knowledge features

**Exercises:** DDK, Sentences, Monologue, Reading text

**Acoustic condition:** Soundproof booth, Portable soundproof booth,  
Headset, At-home

**Age**

**Gender**



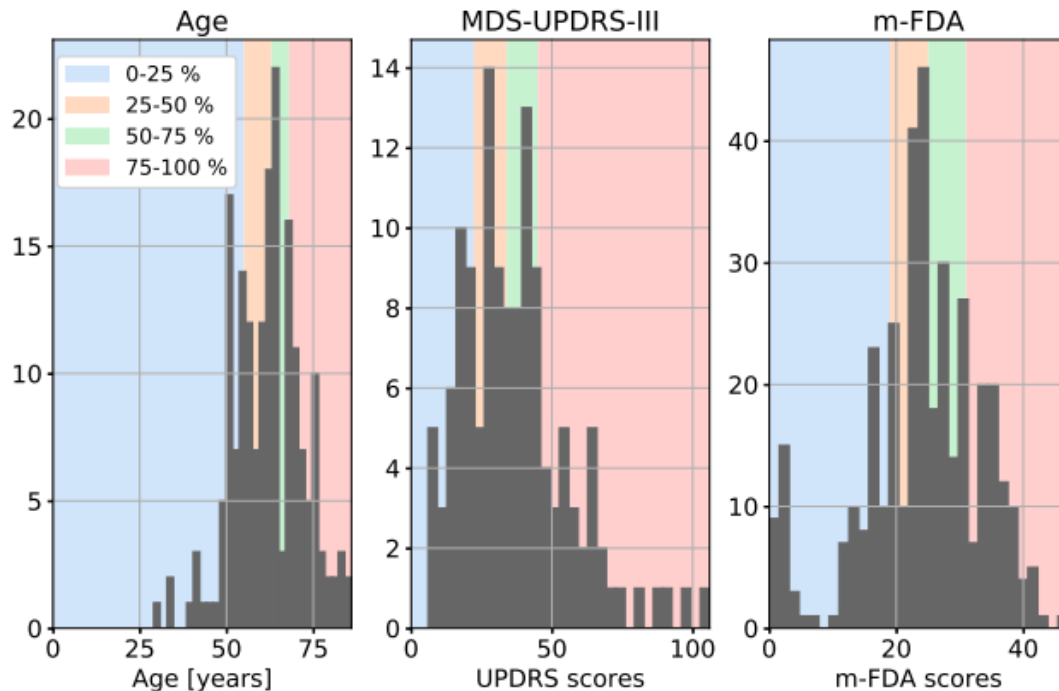
# Labelling procedure

Classes defined using percentiles

HC are assumed to have lower UPDRS values then PD patients

→ *Part of the first class*

Missing m-FDA labels for HC were estimated using SVR<sup>8</sup>



[8] Vásquez-Correa et al. (2018), Journal of Communication Disorders

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# openSMILE<sup>9</sup> features



<https://www.audeering.com/opensmile/>

**Precomputed features using the openSMILE software**

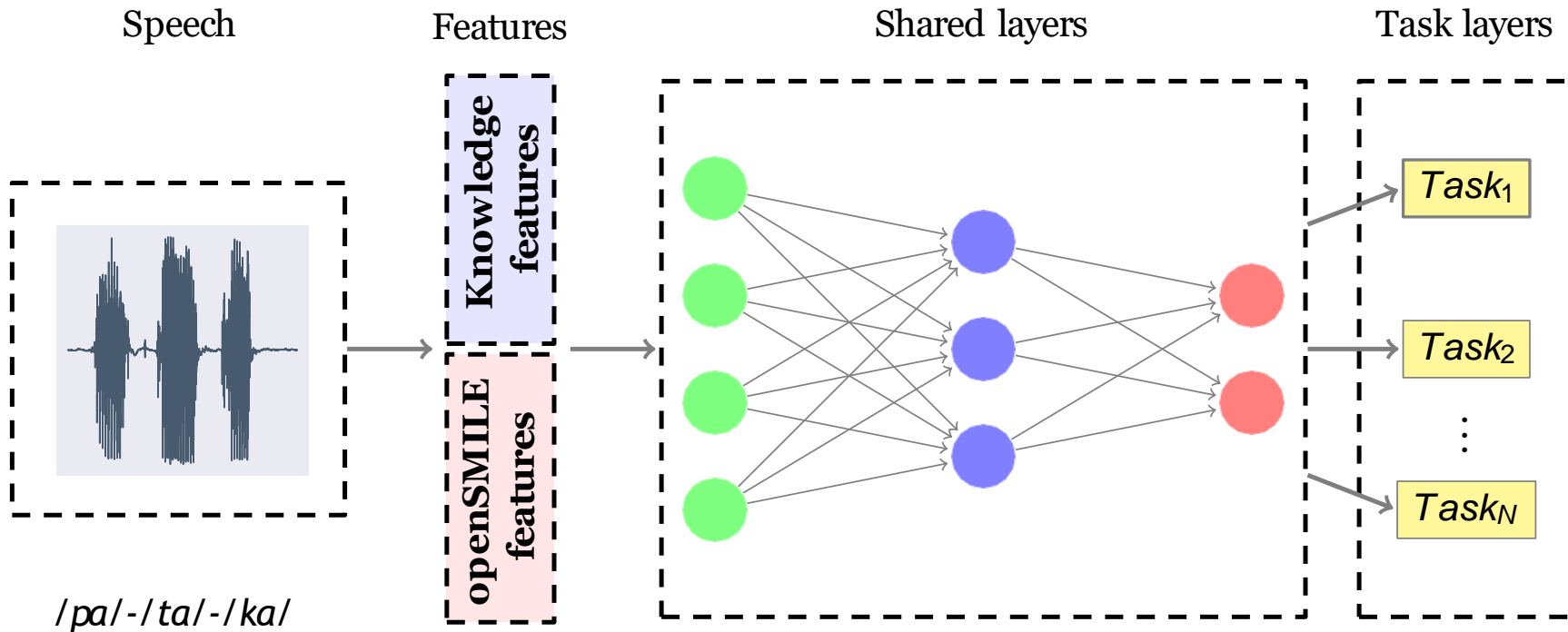
**Open source feature extractor also used e.g. in the Interspeech ComPar challenge<sup>10</sup>**

**1428 features per utterance as input data**

[9] Eyben et al. (2013), In Proceedings of the 21st International conference on Multimedia

[10] Schuller et al. (2010), In Interspeech 2010

# Architecture



# Experimental setup

10 fold cross validation with parameter optimization (lr, dropout prob., hidden layers)

**Architectures:** Adaboost baseline  
 Single task networks  
 MTL different experiments  
 MTL all seven tasks

Experiment	Loss function weight factor $\gamma$		
	PD vs. HC	MDS-UPDRS-III	m-FDA
1	0.8	0.1	0.1
2	0.1	0.8	0.1
3	0.1	0.1	0.8
4	learned	learned	learned

**Metrics:** Accuracy  
 Unweighted average recall  
 Session based evaluation

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# Experimental results

## Adaboost results

Task	ACC (%)	UAR (%)	Session (%)
PD vs. HC	80.70	77.21	85.71
MDS-UPDRS-III	53.29	32.14	63.77
m-FDA	36.56	33.78	40.28

## Single task results

Task	ACC (%)	UAR (%)	Session (%)
PD vs. HC	71.82	71.12	78.22
MDS-UPDRS-III	29.46	29.13	36.23
m-FDA	36.83	34.50	40.52

## MTL with focus on PD vs. HC

Task	ACC (%)	UAR (%)	Session (%)
PD vs. HC	73.16	72.49	81.73
MDS-UPDRS-III	46.79	34.45	52.45
m-FDA	37.30	35.94	43.56

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# Adaboost

The algorithm is able to differentiate PD vs. HC

Task	ACC (%)	UAR (%)	Session (%)
PD vs. HC	80.70	77.21	85.71
MDS-UPDRS-III	53.29	32.14	63.77
m-FDA	36.56	33.78	40.28

Related to the imbalance of the data

## MDS-UDPRS-III

		Prediction			
		1	2	3	4
Reference	1	1719	165	112	116
	2	311	76	76	79
	3	234	109	98	108
	4	264	41	110	75

(a) Confusion matrix

		Prediction			
		1	2	3	4
Reference	1	0.81	0.08	0.05	0.05
	2	0.57	0.14	0.14	0.15
	3	0.43	0.20	0.18	0.20
	4	0.54	0.08	0.22	0.15

(b) Normalized confusion matrix

→ *Putting a high weight on the first class still reaches decent results*

# Single task networks

Showing the worst results

Task	ACC (%)	UAR (%)	Session (%)
PD vs. HC	71.82	71.12	78.22
MDS-UPDRS-III	29.46	29.13	36.23
m-FDA	36.83	34.50	40.52

Parameter optimization shows more complex models (more layers) are chosen

→ *More regularization necessary*

## MDS-UDPRS-III

		Prediction			
		1	2	3	4
Reference	1	611	73	1384	44
	2	68	15	430	29
	3	64	15	431	39
	4	46	11	402	31

(a) Confusion matrix

		Prediction			
		1	2	3	4
Reference	1	0.29	0.03	0.66	0.02
	2	0.13	0.03	0.79	0.05
	3	0.12	0.03	0.79	0.07
	4	0.09	0.02	0.82	0.06

(b) Normalized confusion matrix

Problems with overfitting or local minimums

# Multitask networks

Best results for focusing on PD vs. HC

Task	ACC (%)	UAR (%)	Session (%)
PD vs. HC	73.16	72.49	81.73
MDS-UPDRS-III	46.79	34.45	52.45
m-FDA	37.30	35.94	43.56

Comparable results to the baseline, but better than individual networks

## MDS-UDPRS-III

		Prediction			
		1	2	3	4
Reference	1	1351	129	300	332
	2	208	57	90	187
	3	216	65	90	178
	4	211	28	21	230

(a) Confusion matrix

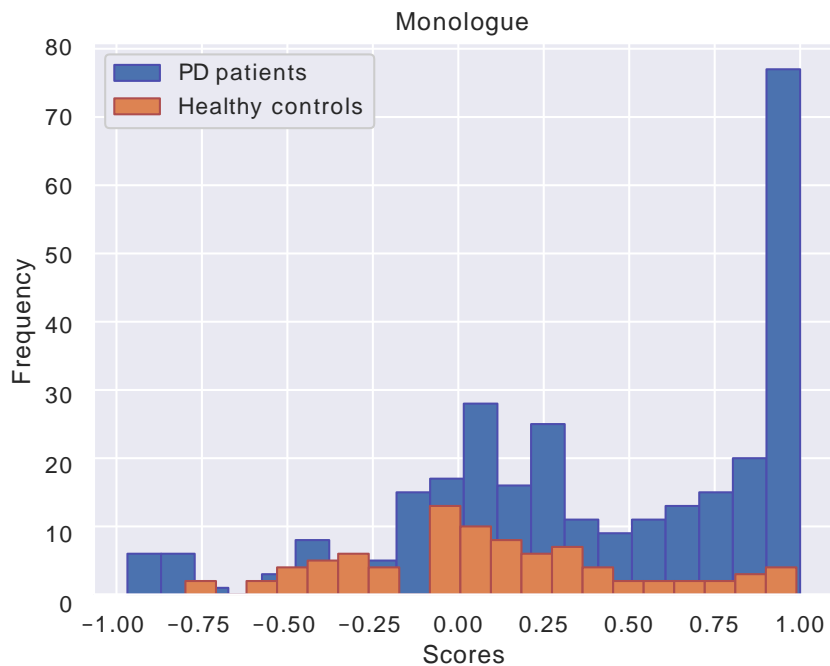
		Prediction			
		1	2	3	4
Reference	1	0.64	0.06	0.14	0.16
	2	0.38	0.11	0.17	0.35
	3	0.39	0.12	0.16	0.32
	4	0.43	0.06	0.04	0.47

(b) Normalized confusion matrix

Adding more tasks does not help

# Confidence score

Based on the softmax output and the true PD vs. HC labels



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# Conclusion

- **Simple Adaboost baseline delivers solid results**
- **MTL approach superior to single task networks**
- **No clear advantage over the Adaboost baseline**
- **Adding more tasks does not increase the performance**

# Outlook

- **Add a fifth class to the MDS-UPDRS-III task for the HC samples**
- **Find the best trade-off model working for all folds**
- **Convert the MDS-UPDRS-III and m-FDA tasks into a regression problem**
- **Combine proposed approach with other approaches (e.g. CNN)**
- **Investigate larger feature sets**
- **Obtaining the missing labels**

# References

- [1] O. - B. Tysnes and A. Storstein. “Epidemiology of Parkinson’s disease”. *Journal of Neural Transmission*, 124(8):901-905, 2017
- [2] L. O. Ramig, C. Fox and S. Sapir. “Speech treatment for Parkinson’s disease”. *Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics*, 8(2):297-309, 2008
- [3] J. C. Vásquez-Correa, J. R. Orozco-Arroyave, and E. Nöth. “Convolutional Neural Network to Model Articulation Impairments in Patients with Parkinson’s Disease”. In *Proceedings of Interspeech 2017*, pages 314–318, 2017.
- [4] C. G. Goetz, et al. “Movement Disorder Society-sponsored revision of the Unified Parkinson’s Disease Rating Scale (MDS-UPDRS): scale presentation and clinimetric testing results”. *Movement disorders: official journal of the Movement Disorder Society*, 23(15):2129–2170, 2008.



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- [6] R. Caruana. “Multitask Learning“. *Machine Learning*, 28(1): 41-75, 1997
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- [8] J. C. Vásquez-Correa, J. R. Orozco-Arroyave, T. Bocklet, and E. Nöth. “Towards an automatic evaluation of the dysarthria level of patients with Parkinson’s disease”. *Journal of Communication Disorders*, 76:21–36, 2018

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- [9] F. Eyben, F. Weninger, F. Gross and B. Schuller. “Recent Developments in openSMILE, the Munich Open-Source Multimedia Feature Extractor”. In *Proceedings of the ACM international conference on Multimedia – MM ’13*, pages 835-838. ACM Press, 2013
- [10] B. Schuller, S. Steidl, A. Batlinger, S. Hantke, F. Höning, J.R. Orozco-Arroyave, E. Nöth, Y. Zhang and F. Weninger. “The INTERSPEECH 2010 Paralinguistic Challenge”. In *Proceedings of Interspeech 2010*, ISCA, 2010

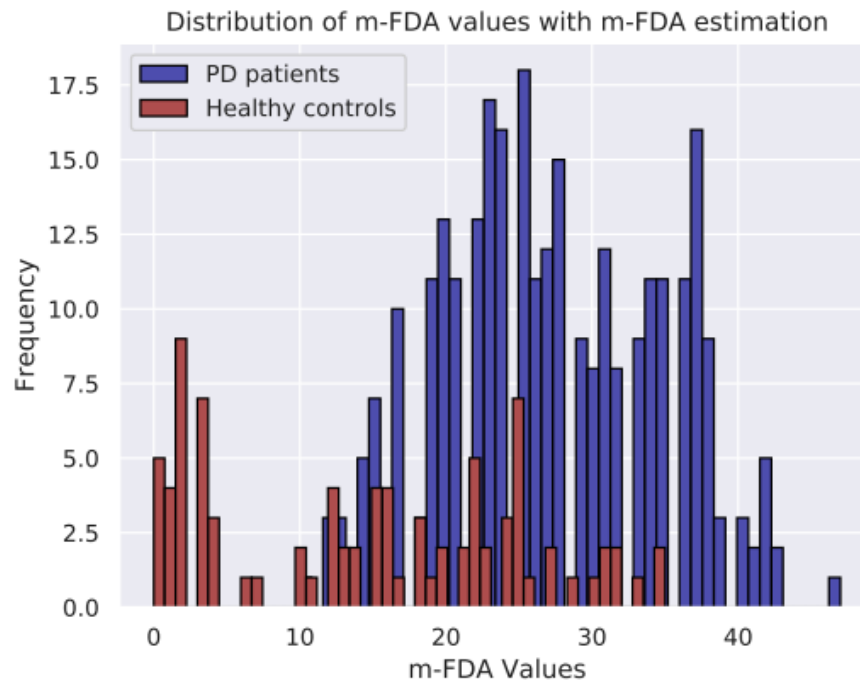
**More information?**

# Portable soundproof booth



# m-FDA label estimation

Based on a Support vector regression approach



# PD vs. HC results

## Adaboost

		Prediction	
		PD	HC
Reference	PD	3083	479
	HC	496	1069

(a) Confusion matrix

		Prediction	
		PD	HC
Reference	PD	0.86	0.14
	HC	0.32	0.68

(b) Normalized confusion matrix

## Single task

		Prediction	
		PD	HC
Reference	PD	2610	970
	HC	480	1085

(a) Confusion matrix

		Prediction	
		PD	HC
Reference	PD	0.73	0.27
	HC	0.31	0.69

(b) Normalized confusion matrix

## Multitask

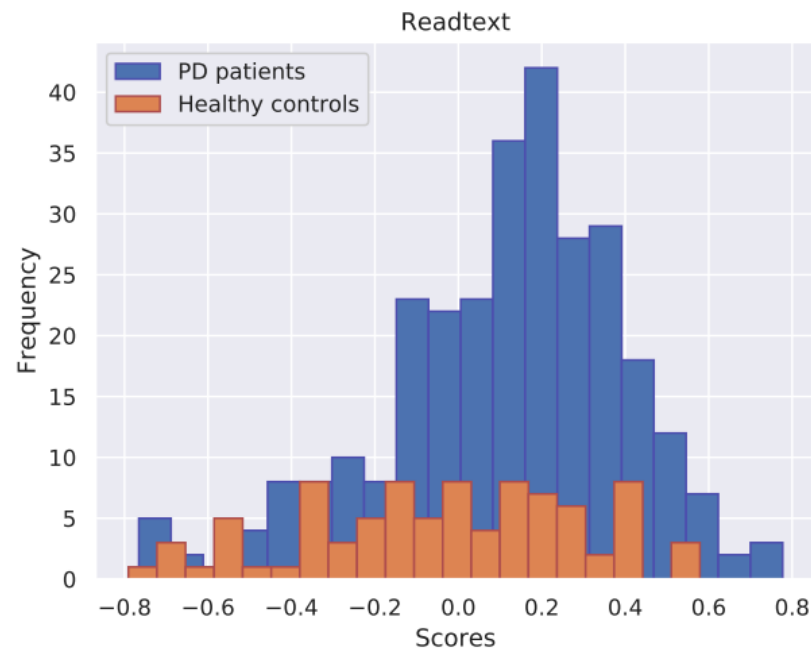
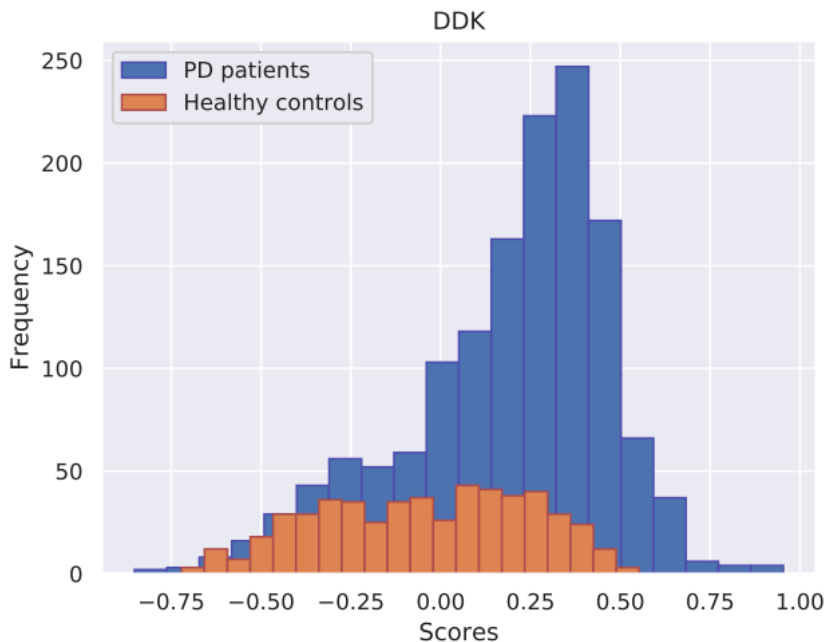
		Prediction	
		PD	HC
Reference	PD	2656	924
	HC	457	1108

(a) Confusion matrix

		Prediction	
		PD	HC
Reference	PD	0.74	0.26
	HC	0.29	0.71

(b) Normalized confusion matrix

# Additional confidence scores



# More tables

## Samples per Exercise

Exercise	PD	HC	
DDK	1411	552	1933
Sentences	1588	870	2458
Read text	292	87	379
Monologue	289	86	375
Total	3580	1565	5145

## Percentile ranges

Task	0–25	25–50	50–75	75–100
Age	< 55	55–63	63–68	68 <
MDS-UPDRS-III	< 22	22–34	34–45	45 <
m-FDA	< 19	19–25	25–31	31 <

## Number of samples per percentile

Task	0–25	25–50	50–75	75–100
Age	1246	1507	1253	1079
MDS-UPDRS-III	2112	542	549	490
m-FDA	1586	1165	1412	982