# 19.0 Sensory Communication

# 19.1 Auditory Psychophysics and Aids for the Deaf

### Academic and Research Staff

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### Visiting Scientist

Dr. N.A. Macmillan<sup>17</sup>

#### **Graduate Students**

D. Barnes, P. Duchnowski, R. Hammerschlag, T.H. Im, Y. Ito, S.K. Isabelle, M.E. Machado, E.L. Markowitz, B. Mihura, G. Owen, C. Passaro, M.H. Power, P.M. Peterson, K. Rashd, B. Shinn, D. Stephan, T. Tamir, R.M. Uchanski, S-M. Wei, J.S. Yu, H. Zhang, M. Zissman

### **Support Staff**

#### E.M. Luongo

Research is being conducted on a variety of topics concerned with the auditory and tactile senses, particularly with a view to the development of improved aids for the deaf. The supporting grants are listed below. Detailed progress reports are available from the investigators (listed below) and the granting agencies. Publications and talks reporting this work are listed below.

# 19.1.1 Perceptual Anchors

National Science Foundation (Grant BNS 84-11392)

Louis D. Braida, Neil A. Macmillan

# 19.1.2 Binaural Hearing

National Institutes of Health (Grant 5 R01 NS10916)

H. Steven Colburn, Nathaniel I. Durlach, Patrick M. Zurek

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## 19.1.3 Hearing Aid Research

National Institutes of Health (Grant 5 R01 NS12846)

Louis D. Braida, Patrick M. Zurek, Nathaniel I. Durlach, Charlotte M. Reed

# 19.1.4 Tactile Communication of Speech

National Institutes of Health (Grant 5 R01 NS14902) National Science Foundation (Grant BNS 84-17817)

Nathaniel I. Durlach, William M. Rabinowitz, Charlotte M. Reed

## 19.1.5 Multimicrophone Hearing Aids

National Institutes of Health (Grant 1 R01 NS21322)

Patrick M. Zurek, Nathaniel I. Durlach, William M. Rabinowitz

### 19.1.6 Cochlear Prostheses

National Institutes of Health (Grant 1 P01 NS23734)

William M. Rabinowitz, Donald K. Eddington

### 19.1.7 Hand Function

National Science Foundation (Grant DMC 83-32460)

Nathaniel I. Durlach, William M. Rabinowitz

#### **Publications**

Bustamante, D.K., and Braida, L.D., "Multiband Compression Limiting for Hearing-Impaired Listeners," J. Rehab. Res. Dev. 24 (4):149 (1987).

Colburn, H.S., P.M. Zurek, and N.I. Durlach, "Binaural Directional Hearing - Impairments and Aids," In *Directional Hearing*, eds. W. Yost and G. Gourevitch. New York: Springer Verlag, 1987.

Durlach, N.I., C.R. Corbett, M.V. McConnell, P.M. Peterson, W.M. Rabinowitz, and P.M. Zurek, "Multimicrophone Monaural Hearing Aids," 10th Annual Conference Proceedings Rehabilitation Engineering, San Jose, California, 1987.

Durlach, N.I., C.M. Reed, C.E. Sherrick, and J.D. Miller, "Sensory Substitution: Visual and Tactual Methods," CHABA Report. In press.

- Farrar, C.L., C.M. Reed, N.I. Durlach, L.A. Delhorne, P.M. Zurek, Y. Ito, and L.D. Braida, "Spectral-shape Discrimination. I. Results from Normal-hearing Listeners for Stationary Broadband Noise," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 81:1085 (1987).
- Furst, M., W.M. Rabinowitz, and P.M. Zurek, "Acoustic Distortion from Human Ears: Relation to Evoked Emissions and Combination Tones," submitted to *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.*
- Gagne, J.-P., and P.M. Zurek, "Resonance-Frequency Discrimination," accepted for publication, *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.*
- Grant, K.W., "Encoding Voice Pitch for Profoundly Hearing-impaired Listeners," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 82:423 (1987).
- Grant, K.W., "Frequency Modulation Detection by Normally Hearing and Profoundly Hearing-impaired Listeners," *J. Speech Hear. Res.* 30:558 (1987).
- Grant, K.W., "Identification of Intonation Contours by Normally Hearing and Profoundly Hearing-impaired Listeners," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 82:1172 (1987).
- Held, R., and N.I. Durlach, "Telepresence, Time Delay, and Adaptation," *Proceedings of the Symposium and Workshop on Spatial Displays and Spatial Instruments*, NASA and University of California, Berkeley, Asilomar, California, 1987.
- Houtsma, A.J.M., N.I. Durlach, and D.M. Horowitz, "Comparative Learning of Pitch and Intensity Identification," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 81:129 (1987).
- Jain, M., J.R. Gallagher, and H.S. Colburn, "Interaural Correlation Discrimination in the Presence of a Spectral Fringe," submitted to *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.*
- Koehnke, J., and M.F. Cohen, "Masker Effects in Binaural Detection and Interaural Time Discrimination," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 81:724 (1987).
- Macmillan, N.A., "Beyond the Categorical/Continuous Distinction: A Psychophysical Approach to Processing Modes," In *Categorical Perception*, ed. S. Harnad. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1987.
- Macmillan, N.A., L.D. Braida, and R.F. Goldberg, "Central and Peripheral Processes in the Perception of Speech and Nonspeech Sounds," In *The Psychophysics of Speech Perception*, ed. M.E.H. Schouten. Dordrecht, Holland: Nijhoff, 1987.
- Macmillan, N.A., R.F. Goldberg, and L.D. Braida, "Vowel and Consonant Resolution: Basic Sensitivity and Context Memory," submitted to *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.*
- Payton, K L., "Vowel Processing by a Model of the Auditory Periphery: A Comparison To Eight-Nerve Responses," submitted to *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.*
- Peterson, P.M., N.I. Durlach, W.M. Rabinowitz, and P.M. Zurek, "Multimicrophone Adaptive Beamforming for Interference Reduction in Hearing Aids," *J. Rehab. Res. Dev.* 24 (4):103 (1987).

- Peterson, P.M., and J.A. Frisbie, "An Interactive Environment for Signal Processing on a VAX Computer," In 1987 Proceedings of the International Conference on Acoustic Speech Signal Processings, 1891-1894.
- Picheny, M.A., N.I. Durlach, and L.D. Braida, "Speaking Clearly for the Hard of Hearing. III: An Attempt to Determine the Contribution of Speaking Rate to Differences in Intelligibility between Clear and Conversational Speech," submitted to *J. Speech Hear. Res.*
- Rabinowitz, W.M., A.J.M. Houtsma, N.I. Durlach, and L.A. Delhorne, "Multidimensional Tactile Displays: Identification of Vibratory Intensity, Frequency, and Contactor Area," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 82:1243 (1987).
- Zurek, P.M., "The Precedence Effect," In *Directional Hearing*, eds. W. Yost and G. Gourevitch. New York: Springer-Verlag, 1987.
- Zurek, P.M., "A Predictive Model for Binaural Advantages and Directional Effects in Speech Intelligibility," submitted to *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.*
- Zurek, P.M., and L.A. Delhorne, "Consonant Reception in Noise by Listeners with Mild and Moderate Hearing Impairment," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 82:1548 (1987).
- Zurek, P.M., and N.I. Durlach, "Masker-Bandwidth Dependence in Homophasic and Antiphasic Tone Detection," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 81:459 (1987).

#### **Talks**

- Braida, L.D., "Review of Research on Signal Processing for Hearing Aids," presented as part of the Symposium on Auditory Signal Analysis and Signal Processing for the Hearing Impaired, Swedish National Board for Technical Development, Sollentuna, Sweden, October 1987.
- Braida, L.D., and D.K. Bustamante, "Physical and Perceptual Effects of Amplitude Compression for Hearing Aids," presented as part of the Miniseminar on Hearing Aid Processed Speech at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, New Orleans, November 1987.
- Grant, K.W., "Evaluating the Articulation Index for Auditory-Visual Input," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 82: S4(A) (1987).
- Isabelle, S.K., and H.S. Colburn, "NOSpi Detection With Frozen Noise Samples at 500 Hz," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 82: S109 (1987).
- Koehnke, J., and H.S. Colburn, "The Dependence of Binaural Detection and Interaural Discrimination on Interaural Time and Intensity in Normal and Impaired Listeners," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 81: S27 (1987).
- Koehnke, J., and H.S. Colburn, "Binaural Detection and Discrimination in Normal and Hearing-Impaired Listeners," presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1987.

- Koehnke, J., and H.S. Colburn, "Effects of Roving Level on Binaural Detection and Discrimination On and Off Midline," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 82: S109 (1987).
- Rabinowitz, W.M., "Tactile Aids for the Deaf," Gordon Research Conference on Implantable Auditory Prostheses, New London, New Hampshire, July 1987.
- Rabinowitz, W.M., "Noise Reduction Techniques for Hearing Aids," part of the Miniseminar on Hearing Aid Processed Speech at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, New Orleans, November 1987.
- Rabinowitz, W.M., "Directional Processing for Interference Reduction in Hearing Aids," J. Acoust Soc. Am. 82: S38 (1987).
- Reed, C.M., W.M. Rabinowitz, and N.I. Durlach, "Tactile Speech Reception Using Augmented Tadoma," *J. Acoust Soc. Am.* 82: S23 (1987).
- Reed, C.M., L.A. Delhorne, and N.I. Durlach, "Tactile Reception of Fingerspelling and Sign Language," *J. Acoust Soc. Am.* 82: S24 (1987).
- Uchanski, R.M., L.D. Braida, and N.I. Durlach, "Clear Speech," presented as part of the Miniseminar on Hearing-Aid Processed Speech, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention in New Orleans, November 1987.

#### Theses

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- Im, T.H., Noise Reduction for Performance Improvements in the IBM Speech Recognizer, S.M. thesis, Dept. of Electr. Eng. and Comp. Sci., MIT, 1987.
- Kaomea, P., *Auditory Localization Cue Simulator*, S.B. thesis, Dept. of Electr. Eng. and Comp. Sci., MIT, 1987.
- Washington, D.L., *Evaluation of an Augmented Tadoma System*, S.B. thesis, Dept. of Electr. Eng. and Comp. Sci., MIT, 1987.



Clockwise from right: Professor Louis D. Braida, Research Assistant Rosalie Uchanski, Postdoctoral Associate Dr. Diane K. Bustamante, and Research Assistant Matthew H. Power