Conférences scientifiques du CRIR

Centre de recherche interdisciplinaire en réadaptation du Montréal métropolitain

Personalized synthetic speech for assistive communication

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Rupal Patel is founder and CEO of VocaliD, a voice AI company that creates custom digital voices. VocaliD's award-winning technology empowers individuals living with speechlessness to be heard as themselves and brings things-that-talk to life through its uniquely crafted vocal persona.
Rupal is currently on leave from Northeastern University where she is a tenured professor in the College of Computer and Information Science and the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.
She also holds appointments at Harvard/MIT, University of Massachusetts, and Haskins Laboratory at Yale University.

Rupal's research focuses on speech motor control in healthy talkers and those with neuromotor speech impairment; this empirical evidence is then applied to the design of technologies that enable, enrich and enhance communication.
A native of Canada, she earned her bachelor's degree from University of Calgary, her master's and PhD from University of Toronto and completed post-doctoral training at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Rupal was recently named one of Fast Company's 100 Most Creative people in Business and her work has been featured on TED, NPR, and in leading news and technology outlets such as The Wall Street Journal, BBC, Wired, Bloomberg, and BuzzFeed.

The keynote will be about the science behind making a personalized synthetic voice, how it is clinically relevant for those with degenerative conditions or head and neck cancer who can bank their voice before they lose it; how we turn that into a personalized synthetic voice, and then how patients use it. Using some clinical cases and outcomes, I will describe the impact of using a personalized voice over a generic one and our efforts toward clinical trials to get insurance approval of voice AI as a new type of voice prosthesis.

Le mardi 4 juin 2019
12h00 à 13h00

CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal — IURDPM
Pavillon Lindsay
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