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Title:

Validation Experiments for Instrumental Assessment of Audio Quality

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Abstract:

Assessment of audio quality is a topic that has received increasing attention in recent years. Due to the different nature of audio systems, e.g., headphones or car audio systems, there are interesting questions both for auditory and instrumental assessment. In the auditory domain, it is known that context effects can have a strong impact on the outcome of a listening test. In the instrumental domain, it is unknown whether having a tailor-made instrumental assessment method per device class is superior to a generic approach. To investigate both questions, listening experiments have been conducted, and two variations of an established audio quality assessment method have been implemented.

This contribution describes the listening experiments along with the variations to the instrumental assessment method for audio quality. It sheds light onto the impact of context effects on audio quality perception by drawing comparisons between the outcomes of different listening experiments. It validates the performance of the different instrumental assessment methods by comparing their results to the listening tests and discusses the potential gains of assessment methods that are designed specifically for one device class.

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