NCJ Voice Stress Report



NCJRS Abstracts Database Document Details

Title:	Invest	igation and Evaluation of Voice Stress Analysis Technology, Final Report	
NCJ Nur	nber: 19383	2	
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Sponsori	ing Agency:	US Dept of Justice	
		National Institute of Justice	
		United States	
Sale:		National Institute of Justice/NCJRS	National Institute of Justice/NCJRS
		Box 6000	Paper Reproduction Sales
		Rockville, MD 20849	Box 6000 Department F
		United States	Rockville, MD 20849
Format:		document	United States
URL:		http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/193832.pdf	
Publicati	ion Date	02/13/2002	
Pages:		119	
Туре:		Studies/research reports ; Tests/measurements	_
Origin:		United States	_
Languag	ge:	English	
Grant N	0.:	98-LB-VX-A013	
Annotati	ion:	This report presents the methodology and results of the testing and evaluation of two voice stress	
		analysis (VSA) systems that their vendors claim can detect stress, possibly indicating deception, in voice communications.	
Abstract	:	The VSA systems are advertised as being less expensive, easier to use, less invasive in use, and less constrained in their operation than polygraph technology. In	
Main Te	rm:	response to inquiries by law enforcement officials about the Police equipment testing and evaluation was conducted by the Air Force La	his technology, this boratory. The evaluation
		was conducted in three phases. In the first phase, Dr. John Belestigated the stassibilly size detenting istatism from vertical	n H.L. Hansen Research tivlet achoigs con Statess assessment;

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Index Term:	methods, analysis, and classification of voice stress in an appendix of this report.		
	The second and third phases of this study investigated the reliability of two		
	commercial VSA units (the Vericator and the Diogenes Lantern) from a theoretical		
nstrument	perspective and an application (i.e., law enforcement) perspective. The evaluation		
alidation:	concludes that the two VSA units do recognize stress through voice analysis;		
,	however, although these systems state they detect deception, this was not proven.		
	This study does show, from a number of speech-under-stress studies, that linear and		
	nonlinear features are useful for stress classification. Due to the lack of deceptive		
	stress data available, classification of deceptive stress versus emotional stress or		
	physical stress could not be tested. It still needs to be proven whether or not these		
	VSA systems differentiate between the different types of stress. Suggestions are		
	offered for future research. 4 figures and 14 references.		