

Potential Acoustical Role of Air-Sac in Mammals - Insight into human speech evolution -*Tokuda Group, Intelligent Information Processing Lab.*

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Motivation

Presence of air sac in nonhumans, but absence in human.Acoustical function? Why lost during human evolution?





Subglottal vocal tract and lung

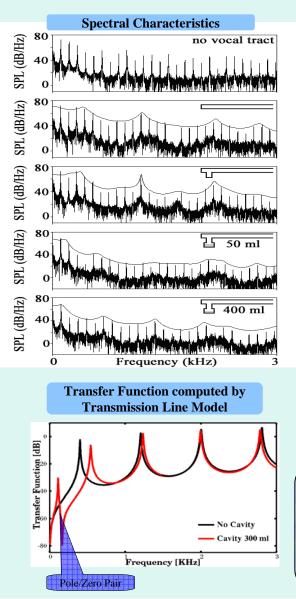
Experimental Setup

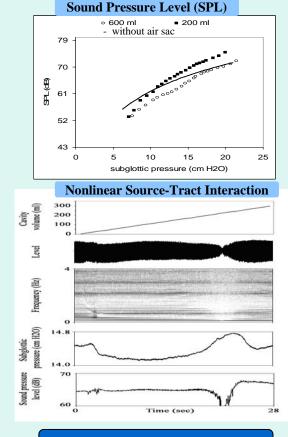


Physical model of vocal volds



Supraglottal vocal tract and rigid air sac





Conclusions & Discussions

- · Slight effect on spectral characteristics.
- ·Louder under certain conditions.
- Instability induced by source-tract coupling at pole/zero frequency.
- ·Lost in human because of unstable phonation