

Participant Information Sheet

Personalised Audio Deepfake Detection: Listening Test

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Invitation

You are being invited to participate in a research study. Before you decide whether you wish to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us questions if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Please note that participation is entirely voluntary and refusal to participate requires no reason and will not affect you or your rights.

What is the purpose of the study and what would taking part involve?

This study is investigating how well humans can detect fake audio compared to an advanced automated detection system. Taking part involves participating in a single online session lasting approximately 10-15 minutes.

- You will read this information sheet and agree to a consent form at the start of the online survey.
- You will listen to 20 short audio clips, some clips will be real recordings of human speech, and some will be computer-generated
- For each clip, you will be asked whether you think it is real or fake, and then asked to rate how confident you are in your decision on a scale from 1-5
- At the end, you will see how many you guessed correctly, and how your performance matches up against the personalised detection system.

Why am I being invited?

You are being invited to participate in this research study because you are over the age of 18 and are able to read and speak English aloud. You should not take part in this study if you have a speech or hearing impairment that would prevent you from clearly recording your voice or listening to audio clips.

Do I have to take part?

This participant information sheet has been written to help you decide if you would like to take part. It is completely up to you whether you wish to take part in this study. If you do decide to take part, you will be free to withdraw at any time during your participation without needing to provide a reason, and with no penalties or detrimental effects.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There are no direct benefits to you personally for taking part. However, your participation will contribute to research on protecting people from voice-based scams and impersonation attacks. You will also have the opportunity to test your own ability to detect fake audio.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

The risks of taking part are minimal. You will be listening to short audio clips and answering questions. Some clips are synthetic and may sound unusual, but no distressing or offensive content will be presented. This study is fully anonymous, no personal information is collected.

Expenses and payments

There are no expenses or payments associated with this study.

What information about me will you be collecting?

Only your responses to the listening task: your real/fake judgements and confidence ratings for each of the 20 audio clips. No personal information is collected. Your responses are fully anonymous.

How will my data be stored and who will have access to it?

Your responses will be stored in fully anonymised format in a secure, locally hosted database. No response can be linked to any individual. The data will only be accessible to the research team.

When and how will my data be destroyed?

Anonymised response data will be retained for up to 6 months after the study ends for use in the student researcher's final project report and potential further research by the supervisor. After this period, the data will be securely deleted.

How will my data be used and shared?

The results of this study will be reported in the researcher's final project report. Only aggregated, anonymised results will be reported. Your individual responses will not be identifiable in any outputs.

Under what legal basis are you collecting this information?

- Queen Mary University of London processes personal data for research purposes in accordance with the lawful basis of 'public task'.
- Please read Queen Mary's privacy notice for research participants containing important information about your personal data and your rights in this respect.
- If you have any questions relating to data protection, please contact Queen Mary's Data Protection Officer, Queens' Building, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS or data-protection@qmul.ac.uk or 020 7882 7596.

What will happen if I want to withdraw from this study?

As this study is fully anonymous, once you submit your responses they cannot be individually identified or removed. You are free to stop the survey at any point before submission, in which case no data will be recorded.

What should I do if I have concerns about this study?

- If you have any concerns about the manner in which the study was conducted, in the first instance, please contact the researcher(s) responsible for the study Soumya Sai Vanka (s.s.vanka@qmul.ac.uk)
- If you have a complaint which you feel you cannot discuss with the researchers then you should contact the Research Ethics Facilitators by e-mail: research-ethics@qmul.ac.uk.
- When contacting the Research Ethics Facilitators, please provide details of the study title, description the study and QM REC reference number (where possible), the researcher(s) involved, and details of the complaint you wish to make.

Who can I contact if I have any questions about this study?

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