Prof. Peter French

Research interests

Human voice and speech behviour.

Employment

Visiting Professor
University of York St John
United Kingdom
1 Apr 2019 → present

Professorial Fellow and Executive Board Member
University of Zurich
1 Mar 2019 → present

Visiting Professor of Forensic Speech Science
The University of Huddersfield
United Kingdom
1 Jan 2016 → present

Chair
Home Office Forensic Science Regulator's Committee for Forensic Speech and Audio
United Kingdom
1 Jan 2013 → present

Chairman
J P French Associates Forensic Speech and Acoustics Laboratory
United Kingdom
1 Jan 1989 → present

Research outputs

Speaker-specificity in speech production: the contribution of source and filter
Hughes, V., Cardoso, A. B., Foulkes, P., French, P., Harrison, P. & Gully, A., 1 Mar 2023, In: Journal of Phonetics. 97, 15 p., 101224.

Assessing the effects of accent-mismatched reference population databases on the performance of an automatic speaker recognition system
Watt, D., Harrison, P., Hughes, V., French, P., Llamas, C., Braun, A. & Robertson, D., 27 Aug 2020, In: International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law. 27, 1, p. 1-34 34 p.

Effects of formant settings and channel mismatch on semi-automatic systems in forensic voice comparison
Hughes, V., Harrison, P. T., Foulkes, P., French, J. P. & Gully, A. J., 2020, *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS).* p. 3080-3084

The use of the vocal profile analysis for speaker characterization: methodological proposals
San Segundo Fernandez, E., Foulkes, P., French, J. P., Harrison, P. T., Hughes, V. & Kavanagh, C., 6 Dec 2019, In: Journal of the International Phonetic Association. 49, 3, p. 353-380 28 p.

LADO as forensic speaker profiling
Foulkes, P., French, P. & Wilson, K., 25 Oct 2019, *Language Analysis for the Determination of Origin.* Patrick, P., Schmid, M. & Zwaan, K. (eds.). Springer, p. 91-116 (Language Policy; vol. 16).

Vowel change across time, space, and conversational topic: the use of localized features in former mining communities
Devlin, T., French, P. & Llamas, C., Oct 2019, In: Language Variation and Change. 31, 3, p. 303-328 25 p.

Examining articulatory settings using MRI: pilot results
Gully, A. J., Foulkes, P., French, J. P., Harrison, P. T. & Hughes, V., 14 Jul 2019, (Accepted/In press).

International Practices in Forensic Speaker Comparisons: Second Survey
Gold, E. & French, J. P., 27 Jun 2019, In: International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law. 26, 1, 16 p.

Forensic speaker comparison: the role of linguistic analysis
French, J. P., 24 May 2019, *InterFORENSICS Conference 2019.*

What can automatic accent recognition technology bring to language analysis in the asylum process (LAAP)? A demonstration using spoken Arabic dialect data. Workshop on Arabic and language analysis in asylum procedures
Brown, G., Alhussein Almbark, R., French, J. P. & Hellmuth, S., 9 Apr 2019, *Workshop on Arabic and language analysis in asylum procedures.*

Forensic voice comparison using long-term acoustic measures of voice quality
Cardoso, A., Foulkes, P., French, J. P., Gully, A. J., Harrison, P. T. & Hughes, V., 12 Feb 2019, (Accepted/In press) *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS).*

Sub-regional 'other-accent' effects on lay listeners' speaker identification abilities: a voice line-up study with speakers and listeners from the North East of England
Braun, A., Llamas, C., Watt, D., French, J. P. & Robertson, D., 7 Dec 2018, In: International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law. 25, 2, p. 231-255

Voice biometrics for forensic speaker recognition applications
Dellwo, V., French, J. P. & He, L., 6 Dec 2018, *The Oxford Handbook of Voice Perception.* Frühholz, S. & Belin, P. (eds.). Oxford: Oxford University Press, p. 777-798 21 p.

Sub-regional 'other accent' effects in a forensic phonetic speaker identification experiment
Braun, A., Watt, D., Llamas, C., French, J. P. & Robertson, D., 3 Aug 2018.

Comparing Apples with Apples, Apples with Oranges and Apples with Apples and Oranges: the Effects of (Mis)matching Reference Population Accents in ASR Speaker Comparisons
French, J. P., Harrison, P. T., Hughes, V., Watt, D., Llamas, C., Braun, A. & Robertson, D., 30 Jul 2018.

Sociophonetic factors predict phoneme boundary location in production and perception among speakers of three varieties of British English
Watt, D., Llamas, C., French, J. P., Braun, A., Robertson, D. & Kendall, T., 22 Jun 2018.

Why "Ad Hoc Experts" should not Provide Transcripts of Indistinct Audio, and a Better Approach
French, P. & Fraser, H., 1 May 2018, In: Criminal Law Journal. 42, 5, p. 298-302 6 p.

TUULS of the forensics trade: assessing the viability of pooling heterogeneous speech corpora for automatic speaker comparison purposes

Watt, D., French, J. P., Harrison, P. T., Hughes, V., Llamas, C., Braun, A. & Robertson, D., 12 Apr 2018.

A new corpus of Northern Englishes: Building the TUULS database for sociolinguistic and forensic research on phonetic variation in the Northeast of England
Watt, D., Llamas, C., French, J. P., Braun, A. & Robertson, D., 28 Mar 2018.

The individual and the system: Assessing the stability of the output of a semi-automatic forensic voice comparison system
Hughes, V., Harrison, P. T., Foulkes, P., French, J. P., Kavanagh, C. & San Segundo Fernandez, E., 2018, *Proceedings of Interspeech 2018.*

Routinised mobility and vowel change in the North East of England
Llamas, C., Watt, D., French, J. P., Braun, A. & Robertson, D., 7 Jun 2017.

Mapping across feature spaces in forensic voice comparison: the contribution of auditory-based voice quality to (semi-)automatic system testing
Hughes, V., Harrison, P. T., Foulkes, P., French, J. P., Kavanagh, C. & San Segundo Fernandez, E., 30 May 2017, (Accepted/In press) *Proceedings of Interspeech 2017.* Stockholm, Sweden

The effects of assimilation and host community structure in historical dialect contact contexts
Llamas, C., Watt, D., French, J. P., Braun, A. & Robertson, D., 6 Apr 2017, (Unpublished).

A developmental history of forensic speaker comparison in the UK
French, J. P., 8 Jan 2017, In: English Phonetics. 21, p. 271 – 286 15 p.

Routinised mobility and vowel change at the individual and community level in the North East of England
Llamas, C., Watt, D., French, J. P., Braun, A. & Robertson, D., 2017, (Unpublished).

The complementarity of automatic, semi-automatic, and phonetic measures of vocal tract output in forensic voice comparison
San Segundo Fernandez, E., Hughes, V., Harrison, P. T., Foulkes, P., French, J. P. & Kavanagh, C., 2017.

Forensic aspects of spectral and durational variability in English schwa at the individual, community and regional levels
Watt, D., Llamas, C., French, J. P., Braun, A. & Robertson, D., 25 Jul 2016, (Unpublished).

Developing the vocal profile analysis scheme for forensic voice comparison
San Segundo Fernandez, E., Hughes, V., French, J. P., Foulkes, P. & Harrison, P. T., 2016, (Unpublished).

Perceptual similarity of identical twins across different L1 listeners: the importance of voice quality in Forensic Phonetics
San Segundo Fernandez, E., Foulkes, P., French, J. P., Hughes, V. & Koester, O., 2016, (Unpublished).

Thirty years on...
French, P., 2016.

Voice quality in Panjabi English: sociophonetic and forensic considerations
Wormald, J. H., French, P., Harrison, P. T., Rhodes, R. W., Kirchhübel, C. & Watt, D., 2016.

HASR to AHSR
French, P., Foulkes, P., Harrison, P., Hughes, V. & San Segundo Fernandez, E., 2015, *The 24th Conference of the International Association for Forensic Phonetics and Acoustics (IAFPA), Leiden, Netherlands.*

Long term measures of the resonating vocal tract: establishing correlation and complementarity
French, P., Foulkes, P., Harrison, P., Hughes, V., San Segundo Fernandez, E. & Stevens, L. C., 2015, *The 24th Conference of the International Association for Forensic Phonetics and Acoustics (IAFPA), Leiden, Netherlands.* p. 1-2 2 p.

The vocal tract as a biometric: output measures, interrelationships, and efficacy

French, P., Foulkes, P., Harrison, P., Hughes, V., San Segundo Fernandez, E. & Stevens, L. C., 2015, *Proceedings of ICPhS 2015: 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences.* University of Glasgow, 5 p. (ICPhS Proceedings; vol. 18).

Examining long-term formant distributions as a discriminant in forensic speaker comparisons under a likelihood ratio framework

Gold, E., French, P. & Harrison, P., 19 Jun 2013, In: Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics. 19, 8 p., 060041.

The UK position statement on forensic speaker comparison: a rejoinder to Rose and Morrison

French, P., Nolan, F., Foulkes, P., Harrison, P. & McDougall, K., 2010, In: International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law. 17, 2, p. 143-152 10 p.

A case study in forensic acoustics: The 'Who wants to be a millionaire'? fraud trial

French, P. & Harrison, P., 1 Mar 2005, In: Acoustics Bulletin. 30, 2, p. 14-19 6 p.

Activities

Analysing the effect of language on speaker-specific speech rhythm in Cantonese-English bilinguals

Li, A. (Speaker), French, P. (Speaker), Dellwo, V. (Speaker) & Chodroff, E. (Speaker)
Feb 2021

Voice and identity: applications and limitations of the voice as a biometric

Kavanagh, C. (Speaker), Foulkes, P. (Speaker), Hughes, V. (Speaker), French, J. P. (Speaker) & Harrison, P. T. (Speaker)
2 Oct 2017

Prizes

Honorary Life Membership of The International Association for Forensic Phonetics and Acoustics

French, P. (Recipient), 2016

Lifetime Achievement Award for services to forensic phonetics, Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics,

French, P. (Recipient), 2018

Awards

The use and utility of localised speech forms in determining identity

Llamas, C. (Principal investigator), French, P. (Co-investigator) & Watt, D. (Co-investigator)
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (ESRC): £649,756.00
4/01/16 → 2/07/19

Projects

BBfor2, MC ITN: Bayesian Biometrics for Forensics

Foulkes, P. (Principal investigator), French, P. (Researcher), Harrison, P. T. (Researcher), Watt, D. (Researcher), Fecher, N. (Student) & Gold, E. A. (Student)
EUROPEAN COMMISSION
1/01/10 → 31/12/13

Modelling features for forensic speaker comparison

Foulkes, P. (Principal investigator), French, P. (Researcher), Gold, E. A. (Researcher), Harrison, P. T. (Researcher) & Hughes, V. (Researcher)
THE BRITISH ACADEMY
1/06/13 → 31/05/15

The use and utility of localised speech forms in determining identity
Llamas, C. (Principal investigator), French, P. (Co-investigator), Watt, D. (Co-investigator) & French, P. (Other)
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (ESRC)
4/01/16 → 2/07/19

Voice and Identity: source, filter, biometric
Foulkes, P. (Principal investigator), French, P. (Researcher), Harrison, P. T. (Researcher), Hughes, V. (Researcher) &
San Segundo Fernandez, E. (Researcher)
AHRC
1/02/15 → 11/09/19

Impacts

CV

CV

2019	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet
2018	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet
2017	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet
2016	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet
2015	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet
2014	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet