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Comparison of feature extraction methods for the identification of odontocete species based upon echolocation clicks

Marie Roch[a], Holger Klinck[b], David Mellinger[c], Melissa Soldevilla[d] and John Hildebrand[d]
[a]San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Dr, Dept of Computer Science, San Diego, CA 92182-7720, USA
[b]Alfred Wegener Institute, P.O. Box 120161, 27515 Bremerhaven, Germany
[c]Oregon State Univ. and NOAA, 2030 SE Marine Science Dr., Newport, OR 97365, USA
[d]Scripps Institution of Oceanography- UCSD, 9500 Gilman Dr. #0205, La Jolla, CA 92093, USA

Recent work by several groups has shown that odontocete echolocation clicks contain information that can be used to detect or identify specific species. In this study, we compare the relative performance of cepstral and wavelet features on various Pacific Ocean species of odontocetes. Comparison of features within different systems is often complicated by the large number of variables unrelated to feature extraction that change between systems. By experimenting within a proven state of the art classification framework, it is possible to make meaningful comparisons of feature extraction performance with respect to common machine learning algorithms such as neural networks, support vector machines, and Gaussian mixture models.