

Abstract

The purpose of the current study is to establish the relationship between pitch range and agreeableness which is viewed as one of the personality traits according to the Big Five model. As the focus on the manifestation of personality traits in speech is not very common in phonetic research, the introductory chapters review the current state of knowledge in the field of attitudes, personality and first impressions. Emphasis is put on studies that are concerned with the effects of speech. Central to the present study is the experiment where the influence of three levels of pitch range (compressed, normal and expanded) on the agreeableness of 15 Czech speakers was assessed by 41 participants. A full chapter is devoted to the discussion of pitch range, highlighting problematic areas in the description. Statistical analysis did not prove there to be significant differences between the pitch range levels. Closer examination of the data thus focused on identifying the extraneous variables and on describing the less discernible trends.

Keywords: pitch range, speech melody, speaker perception, stereotyped assessment