Siriporn Dachasilaruk

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Dear editorial staff and reviewers:

It is a great pleasure for me to learn about research through this journal. My name is Siriporn Dachasilaruk. I have worked as an assistant professor at Naresuan University for the last three years, since I finished my PhD degree at the University of Southampton, UK. I would like to thank that university, which prepared me very well for speech and hearing research, particularly Cochlear Implant (CI) research. I learned a lot from many experts while I was working at the University of Southampton.

During my teaching and research at Naresuan University, I have maintained my strong passion and interest in CI research. The first step of my CI research in Thailand came about two years ago, in the shape of a small project supported by grants from Naresuan University. I collaborated with experts from Faculties of Medicine and Faculties of Humanities both inside and outside universities. However, there is only a small amount of CI research and very little information on CI in Thailand. As such, this project was a challenge for myself and my colleagues.

This manuscript was expanded from a previous paper: *Evaluation of Thai speech intelligibility based on noise reduction techniques for cochlear implants*, by Dachasilaruk, S., Luangsawang, C., Jantharamin, N., Kaewsri, S. and Doungta, P., presented at the 10th International Congress on Image and Signal Processing, BioMedical Engineering and Informatics (CISP-BMEI), 2017 Shanghai, China (please see attached file), with the addition of a large number of normal hearing subjects. In addition, this manuscript added extra content to the previous paper, following many constructive comments and suggestions from anonymous reviewers at the CISP-BMEI conference. The manuscript also includes further information about the analysis, additional discussion of the experimental results, and an expanded reference section.

I look forward to all your comments to help me improve my manuscript for publication, and I also hope that they will be beneficial for future CI projects. This will allow me to grow and learn professionally and intellectually as a CI researcher. Thank you very much for your valuable time and kind consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you and having the opportunity to improve my paper for publication.

Respectfully yours,

Siriporn Dachasilaruk