New ITU-T Rec. P.1302 for Audio and Audio-visual Call Quality Testing

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The ITU-T Recommendation P.1302: "Subjective method for simulated conversation tests addressing speech and audio-visual call quality" was consented in the last SG12 (Performance, QoS and QoE) meeting and approved in October, 2014. This recommendation provides a methodology for assessing subjective quality of speech and audio-visual telephone calls with time-varying transmission characteristics. It is an extension of the ETSI TR 102 506 technical report to wide-band and audio-visual telephony.

Instead of simulating real conversations with two participants, one participant experiences conversational structures by viewing and listening to typically five prerecorded stimuli (8..12s). Between these stimuli, the participant is asked to verbally answer multiple choice questions related to the content of the stimulus just perceived. At the end of the "call," a typical ACR scale is applied to rate the quality of the whole "call" instead of answering a question.

The aim of this method is to elicit conversational structures (turn-changes), including active speech production of the rating participant, thus providing a more valid situation with attention on the content, not only on the transmission. Whereas this method currently does not allow for evaluating effects of echo or delay, it does allow for well-defined profiles of time-varying transmission characteristics. Sample material for producing the stimuli and questions is provided.

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