Sonification of tweets: communicating #hashtags with sound

Objective: Develop a method for the sonification of #hashtags in Tweets in order to recognize the content of a message just by listening to its sound

Background:

- Sonification is defined as the use of non-speech audio to convey information. More specifically, sonification is the transformation of data relations into perceived relations in an acoustic signal for the purposes of facilitating communication or interpretation." (Kramer et al., in NSF Sonification report, 1999)
- Humans are very skilled in discriminating differences between sounds, and in recognize information embedded in sounds
- The underlying question is if it is possible to use these human skills for communicating information embedded in a text message only with non-speech sounds

Challenges:

- Develop different sonification strategies/models of #hashtags, including emotions
- Test the models with users

Technologies:
Smartphone, Twitter API, Pure Data, Supercollider

Outcome:

- Methods for the sonification of content embedded in text information (e.g. #hashtags and emoticons in twitts)
- Understanding and learning of sonification principles
- Understanding and learning how to run evaluation tests with participants in sonic interactions