

LECTURE 06: PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

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- Objectives:
 - Linguistics 101
 - Understand the relationship between acoustic models of speech production physiology and linguistic models of language
 - Introduce potential acoustic units for our speech recognition system
 - Understand how linguistic structure influences our approaches to speech recognition

Note that this lecture is primarily based on material from the course textbook:

X. Huang, A. Acero, and H.W. Hon, *Spoken Language Processing - A Guide to Theory, Algorithm, and System Development*, Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, USA, ISBN: 0-13-022616-5, 2001.

In addition, information from:

J. Deller, et. al., *Discrete-Time Processing of Speech Signals*, MacMillan Publishing Co., ISBN: 0-7803-5386-2, 2000.

has been used.



Introduction:

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Speech Signals:

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ECE 8463: FUNDAMENTALS OF SPEECH RECOGNITION

Professor Joseph Picone
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Mississippi State University

email: picone@isip.msstate.edu
phone/fax: 601-325-3149; office: 413 Simrall
URL: http://www.isip.msstate.edu/resources/courses/ece_8463

Modern speech understanding systems merge interdisciplinary technologies from Signal Processing, Pattern Recognition, Natural Language, and Linguistics into a unified statistical framework. These systems, which have applications in a wide range of signal processing problems, represent a revolution in Digital Signal Processing (DSP). Once a field dominated by vector-oriented processors and linear algebra-based mathematics, the current generation of DSP-based systems rely on sophisticated statistical models implemented using a complex software paradigm. Such systems are now capable of understanding continuous speech input for vocabularies of hundreds of thousands of words in operational environments.

In this course, we will explore the core components of modern statistically-based speech recognition systems. We will view speech recognition problem in terms of three tasks: signal modeling, network searching, and language understanding. We will conclude our discussion with an overview of state-of-the-art systems, and a review of available resources to support further research and technology development.

Tar files containing a compilation of all the notes are available. However, these files are large and will require a substantial amount of time to download. A tar file of the html version of the notes is available [here](#). These were generated using wget:

```
wget -np -k -m http://www.isip.msstate.edu/publications/courses/ece_8463/lectures/current
```

A pdf file containing the entire set of lecture notes is available [here](#). These were generated using Adobe Acrobat.

Questions or comments about the material presented here can be directed to help@isip.msstate.edu.

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PHONEMICS (PHONOLOGY) AND PHONETICS

Some basic definitions:

- **Phoneme:**
 - an ideal sound unit with a complete set of articulatory gestures.
 - the basic theoretical unit for describing how speech conveys linguistic meaning.
 - In English, there are about 42 phonemes.
 - Types of phonemes: vowels, semivowels, diphthongs, and consonants.
- **Phonemics:** the study of abstract units and their relationships in a language
- **Phone:** the actual sounds that are produced in speaking (for example, "d" in letter pronounced "l e d er").
- **Phonetics:** the study of the actual sounds of the language
- **Allophones:** the collection of all minor variants of a given sound ("t" in eight versus "t" in "top")
- **Monophones, Biphones, Triphones:** sequences of one, two, and three phones. Most often used to describe acoustic models.

Three branches of phonetics:

- **Articulatory phonetics:** manner in which the speech sounds are produced by the articulators of the vocal system.
- **Acoustic phonetics:** sounds of speech through the analysis of the speech waveform and spectrum
- **Auditory phonetics:** studies the perceptual response to speech sounds as reflected in listener trials.

Issues:

- Broad phonemic transcriptions vs. narrow phonetic transcriptions

ENGLISH PHONEMES

Vowels and Diphthongs

| Phonemes | Word Examples | Description |
|----------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| iy | feel, eve, me | front close unrounded |
| ih | fill, hit, lid | front close unrounded (lax) |
| ae | at, carry, gas | front open unrounded (tense) |
| aa | father, ah, car | back open rounded |
| ah | cut, bud, up | open mid-back rounded |
| ao | dog, lawn, caught | open-mid back round |
| ay | tie, ice, bite | diphthong with quality: aa + ih |
| ax | ago, comply | central close mid (schwa) |
| ey | ate, day, tape | front close-mid unrounded (tense) |
| eh | pet, berry, ten | front open-mid unrounded |
| er | turn, fur, meter | central open-mid unrounded |
| ow | go, own, town | back close-mid rounded |
| aw | foul, how, our | diphthong with quality: aa + uh |
| oy | toy, coin, oil | diphthong with quality: ao + ih |
| uh | book, pull, good | back close-mid unrounded (lax) |
| uw | tool, crew, moo | back close round |

Consonants and Liquids

| Phonemes | Word Examples | Description |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| b | big, able, tab | voiced bilabial plosive |
| p | put, open, tap | voiceless bilabial plosive |
| d | dig, idea, wad | voiced alveolar plosive |
| t | talk, sat | voiceless alveolar plosive |
| g | gut, angle, tag | voiced velar plosive |
| ɾ | meter | alveolar flap |
| g | gut, angle, tag | voiced velar plosive |
| k | cut, ken, take | voiceless velar plosive |
| f | fork, after, if | voiceless labiodental fricative |
| v | vat, over, have | voiced labiodental fricative |
| s | sit, cast, toss | voiceless alveolar fricative |
| z | zap, lazy, haze | voiced alveolar fricative |
| θ | thin, nothing, truth | voiceless dental fricative |
| ð | then, father, scythe | voiced bilabial plosive |
| ʃ | she, cushion, wash | voiceless postalveolar fricative |
| ʒ | genre, azure | voice postalveolar fricative |
| l | lid | alveolar lateral approximant |
| ɫ | elbow, sail | velar lateral approximant |
| r | red, part, far | retroflex approximant |
| y | yacht, yard | palatal sonorant glide |
| w | with, away | labiovelar sonorant glide |
| h | help, ahead, hotel | voiceless glottal fricative |

| | | |
|----|----------------------------|---|
| m | mat, amid, aim | bilabial nasal |
| n | no, end, pan | alveolar nasal |
| ng | sing, anger | velar nasal |
| ch | chin, archer, march | voiceless alveolar affricate: t + sh |
| jh | joy, agile, edge | voiced alveolar affricate: d + zh |

TRANSCRIPTION STANDARDS

Major governing bodies for phonetic alphabets:

- **International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)**: over 100 years of history
- **ARPabet**: developed in the late 1970's to support ARPA research
- **TIMIT**: TI/MIT variant of ARPabet used for the TIMIT corpus
- **Worldbet**: developed by Hieronymous (AT&T) to deal with multiple languages within a single ASCII system
- **Unicode**: character encoding system that includes IPA phonetic symbols.

Here is a chart classifying sounds using the IPA:

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 1993)

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

| | Bilabial | Labiodental | Dental | Alveolar | Postalveolar | Retroflex | Palatal | Velar | Uvular | Pharyngeal | Glottal |
|---------------------|----------|-------------|--------|----------|--------------|-----------|---------|-------|--------|------------|---------|
| Plosive | p b | | | t d | | ʈ ɖ | c ɟ | k ɡ | q ɢ | | ʔ |
| Nasal | m | ɱ | | n | | ɳ | ɲ | ŋ | ɴ | | |
| Trill | ʙ | | | ʀ | | | | | ʀ | | |
| Tap or Flap | | | | ɾ | | ɽ | | | | | |
| Fricative | ɸ β | f v | θ ð | s z | ʃ ʒ | ʂ ʐ | ç ʝ | x ɣ | χ ʁ | ħ ʕ | h ɦ |
| Lateral fricative | | | | ɬ ɮ | | | | | | | |
| Approximant | | ʋ | | ɹ | | ɻ | j | ɰ | | | |
| Lateral approximant | | | | l | | ɭ | ʎ | ʟ | | | |

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

CONSONANTS (NON-PULMONIC)

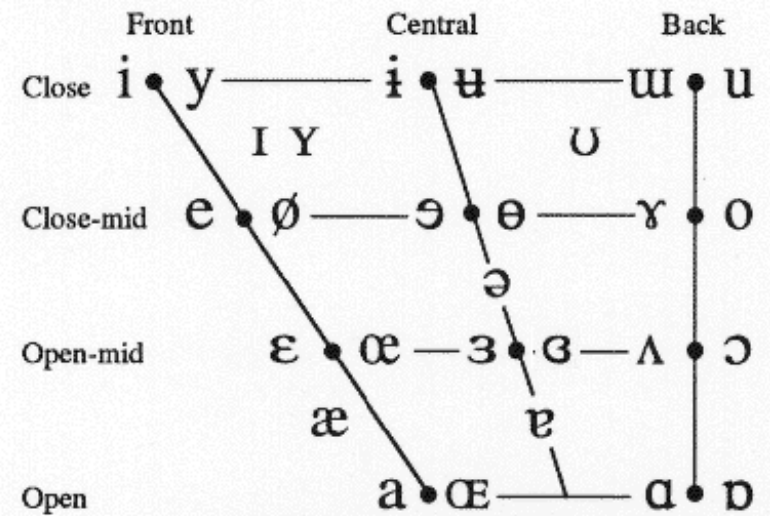
| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Clicks | Voiced implosives | Ejectives |
| ◌̥ Bilabial | ɓ Bilabial | ʼ as in: |

SUPRASEGMENTALS

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| ˈ Primary stress | ˌ Secondary stress | ˈfəʊnəˈtɪʃən | TONES & WORD ACCENTS |
| | | | LEVEL |
| | | | CONTOUR |
| | | | é or ˥ Extra high |
| | | | ě or ˨ Rising |

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| ⊙ Bilabial | b Bilabial | as in: |
| Dental | ɸ Dental/alveolar | p' Bilabial |
| ! (Post)alveolar | f Palatal | t' Dental/alveolar |
| ≠ Palatoalveolar | g Velar | k' Velar |
| Alveolar lateral | G Uvular | S' Alveolar fricative |

VOWELS



Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a rounded vowel.

OTHER SYMBOLS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| M Voiceless labial-velar fricative | ʒ ʒ Alveolo-palatal fricatives |
| W Voiced labial-velar approximant | ɹ Alveolar lateral flap |
| ɥ Voiced labial-palatal approximant | ɧ Simultaneous ʃ and X |
| H Voiceless epiglottal fricative | Affricates and double articulations can be represented by two symbols joined by a tie bar if necessary. |
| ʕ Voiced epiglottal fricative | |
| ʕ̰ Epiglottal plosive | k͡p t͡s |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| ˈ Secondary stress | ˈ or ˑ Extra high | ˈ or ˑ Rising |
| ˌ Long | eː | ˈ Falling |
| ˑ Half-long | eˑ | ˈ High rising |
| ˚ Extra-short | e̚ | ˈ Low rising |
| ˙ Syllable break | ti.ækt | ˈ Low |
| Minor (foot) group | e̚ | ˈ Extra low |
| Major (intonation) group | ˈ | ˈ Rising-falling etc. |
| ◌ Linking (absence of a break) | ˌ | ˈ Global rise |
| | ˑ | ˈ Global fall |

DIACRITICS

Diacritics may be placed above a symbol with a descender, e.g. ŋ̥

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| ◌ Voiceless | ɲ̥ ɖ̥ | ◌ Breathy voiced | ɸ̤ ɑ̤ | ◌ Dental | t̪ ɖ̪ |
| ◌ Voiced | ɲ̤ ɖ̤ | ◌ Creaky voiced | ɸ̰ ɑ̰ | ◌ Apical | t̪̺ ɖ̪̺ |
| ◌ Aspirated | tʰ dʰ | ◌ Linguolabial | t̪̺ ɖ̪̺ | ◌ Laminal | t̪̺̺ ɖ̪̺̺ |
| ◌ More rounded | ɔ̹ | ◌ Labialized | tʷ dʷ | ◌ Nasalized | ẽ̃ |
| ◌ Less rounded | ɔ̜ | ◌ Palatalized | tʲ dʲ | ◌ Nasal release | d̪ⁿ |
| ◌ Advanced | ɹ̥ | ◌ Velarized | t̪ˠ d̪ˠ | ◌ Lateral release | d̪ˡ |
| ◌ Retracted | ɹ̠ | ◌ Pharyngealized | t̪ˤ d̪ˤ | ◌ No audible release | d̪̚ |
| ◌ Centralized | ẽ̞ | ◌ Velarized or pharyngealized | ɖ̪̠ | | |
| ◌ Mid-centralized | ẽ̞̞ | ◌ Raised | e̝ (ɹ̝ = voiced alveolar fricative) | | |
| ◌ Syllabic | ɹ̩ | ◌ Lowered | e̞ (β̞ = voiced bilabial approximant) | | |
| ◌ Non-syllabic | e̯ | ◌ Advanced Tongue Root | e̟ | | |
| ◌ Rhoticity | ə̤ | ◌ Retracted Tongue Root | e̠ | | |

For a more detailed discussion of phone mappings across languages, see [language independent acoustic modeling](#).

PHONEMES

- **Phoneme Mappings**

Most languages, including English, can be described in terms of a set of distinctive sounds, or phonemes. In particular, for American English, there are about 42 phonemes including vowels, diphthongs, semi-vowels and consonants. The internationally standard method to represent phonemes is International Phonetic Alphabet ([IPA](#)). To enable computer representation of the phonemes, it is convenient to code them as ASCII characters. Several schemes have been proposed, e.g., ARPABET, TIMIT, CMU, WSJ and SWB. The following table shows the mapping between these representations and IPA.

Table 1: PHONEME MAPPINGS

| ARPABET | TIMIT | CMU | WSJ | SWB | ICSI | IPA |
|---------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------|----------------|
| aa | lOck | lOck | lOck | lOck | stOck | ɑ |
| æ | bAt | bAt | bAt | bAt | bAt | æ |
| ah | bUt | bUt | bUt | bUt | bUt | ʌ ¹ |
| ao | bOUght | bOUght | / | bOUght | bOUght | ɔ |
| aw | dOWn | cOW | cOW | cOW | tOWn | ɑU |
| awh | / | / | cOW | / | / | ɑU |
| ax | About | / | / | About | About | ə |
| axr | buttER | / | / | / | / | ə |
| ax-h | sUspect | / | / | / | / | / |
| ay | bUY | bUY | bUY | bUY | bIte | aI |
| b | Bet | Bet | Bet | Bet | Bet | b |
| bcl | b-closure | / | / | / | / | / |
| ch | CHurch | CHurch | CHurch | CHurch | CHurch | ɥ ç |
| d | Debt | Debt | Debt | Debt | Difficult | d |
| dcl | d-closure | / | / | / | / | / |
| dh | THat | THat | THat | THat | They | ð |
| dx | baTTer | / | / | / | allophone of d or t | / |
| ee | / | / | bEAt | / | / | i |
| eh | bEt | bEt | bEt | bEt | bEt | e |
| el | battLE | / | / | battLE | battLE | ɫ |
| em | bottOM | / | / | / | thEM | ɱ |
| en | buttON | / | / | buttON | buttON | ɸ |
| eng | syllabic NG | / | / | / | workING | / |
| ewi | epenthetic il | / | / | / | / | / |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-------|-------|--------|---------------|-------------------|
| en | buttON | / | / | buttON | buttON | ɸ |
| eng | syllabic NG | / | / | / | workING | / |
| epi | epenthetic sil | / | / | / | / | / |
| er | bIRd | bIRd | / | bIRd | bIRd | ɛ |
| ey | bAIt | bAIt | bAIt | bAIt | bAIt | eI |
| f | Fat | Fat | Fat | Fat | Fat | f |
| g | Get | Get | Get | Get | Get | g |
| gcl | g-closure | / | / | / | / | / |
| h | / | / | Hat | / | / | h |
| hh | Hat | Hat | / | hello | Hay | h |
| hw | / | / | / | / | WHat | / |
| hv | voiced /HH/ | / | / | / | / | / |
| h# | utt boundary | / | / | / | / | / |
| ih | bIts | bIts | bIts | bIts | bIts | ɪʔ |
| ix | rosEs | / | / | / | rosEs | I |
| iy | bEAt | bEAt | / | bEAt | bEAt | i |
| j | / | / | Judge | / | / | ^Y j |
| jh | Judge | Judge | / | Judge | Judge | ^Y j |
| k | Kit | Kit | Kit | Kit | Called | k |
| kcl | k-closure | / | / | / | / | / |
| l | Let | Let | Let | Let | Let | l |
| lg | / | / | / | / | oLd | / |
| m | Met | Met | Met | Met | Met | m |
| n | Net | Net | Net | Net | Net | n |
| ng | siNG | siNG | siNG | siNG | siNG | ŋ |
| nx | wiNTER | / | / | / | allophone [n] | n |
| oh | / | / | bOAt | / | / | o |
| oo | / | / | bOOt | / | / | u |
| ooh | / | / | bOOK | / | / | ʊ |
| ow | bOAt | bOAt | bOAt | bOAt | bOAt | o |
| oy | bOY | bOY | bOY | bOY | bOY | ɔi |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------|---|
| p | Pet | Pet | Pet | Pet | Pot | p |
| pau | pause | / | / | / | / | / |
| pcl | p-closure | / | / | / | / | / |
| pv | / | | / | / | filled pause - “uh” | / |
| q | glottal stop | / | / | / | glottal stop | / |
| r | Rent | Rent | Rent | Rent | Red | r |
| s | Sat | Sat | Sat | Sat | niCE | s |
| sh | SHut | SHut | SHut | SHut | SHut | ʃ |
| sil | / | / | / | / | silence | / |
| t | Ten | Ten | Ten | Ten | sTock | t |
| tcl | t-closure | / | / | / | / | / |
| th | THing | THing | THing | THree | THief | θ |
| uh | bOOK | bOOK | bOOK | bOOK | bOOK | ʊ |
| ul | / | / | dULl | / | / | / |
| um | / | / | bUM | / | / | / |
| un | / | / | bUN | / | / | / |
| ur | / | / | bIRd | / | / | ɜ |
| uw | bOOt | tOO | / | tOO | bOOt | u |
| ux | tOO | / | / | / | sUIt | u |
| v | Vat | Vat | Vat | Vat | Vat | v |
| w | Wit | Wit | Wit | Wit | Wet | w |
| y | You | You | You | You | Yet | j |
| z | Zoo | Zoo | Zoo | Zoo | Zoo | z |
| zh | pleaSure | pleaSure | pleaSure | pleaSure | pleaSure | ʒ |
| ? | / | / | / | / | unknown speech | / |

- **Features of Phonemes**

Phonemes can be classified in terms of distinct features, such as vowels, consonants, etc.

Table 2: FEATURES OF PHONEMES

| FEATURES | | | PHONEMES |
|--------------------|------------|----------|--|
| Vowels | Front | | iy (i), ih (I ¹), eh (e), ae (æ) |
| | Mid | | aa (α), ah (Λ ¹), ax (ə), er (ɜ) |
| | Back | | uw (u), uh (U), ao(ɔ) |
| Diphthongs | | | ay (aI), oy (ɔi), aw (αu), ey (ei), ow (o) |
| Semi-vowels | Liquid | | w (w), l (l), el (l) |
| | Glides | | r (r), y (j) |
| Consonants | Stops | voiced | b (b), d (d), g (g) |
| | | unvoiced | p (p), t (t), k (k) |
| | Nasals | | m (m), n (n), ng (ŋ) |
| | Whisper | | h (h) |
| | Fricatives | voiced | v (v), dh(ð), z (z), zh (ʒ) |
| | | unvoiced | f (f), th (θ), s (s), sh (ʃ) |
| | Affricates | | jh(ʧ), ch(ʧ) |

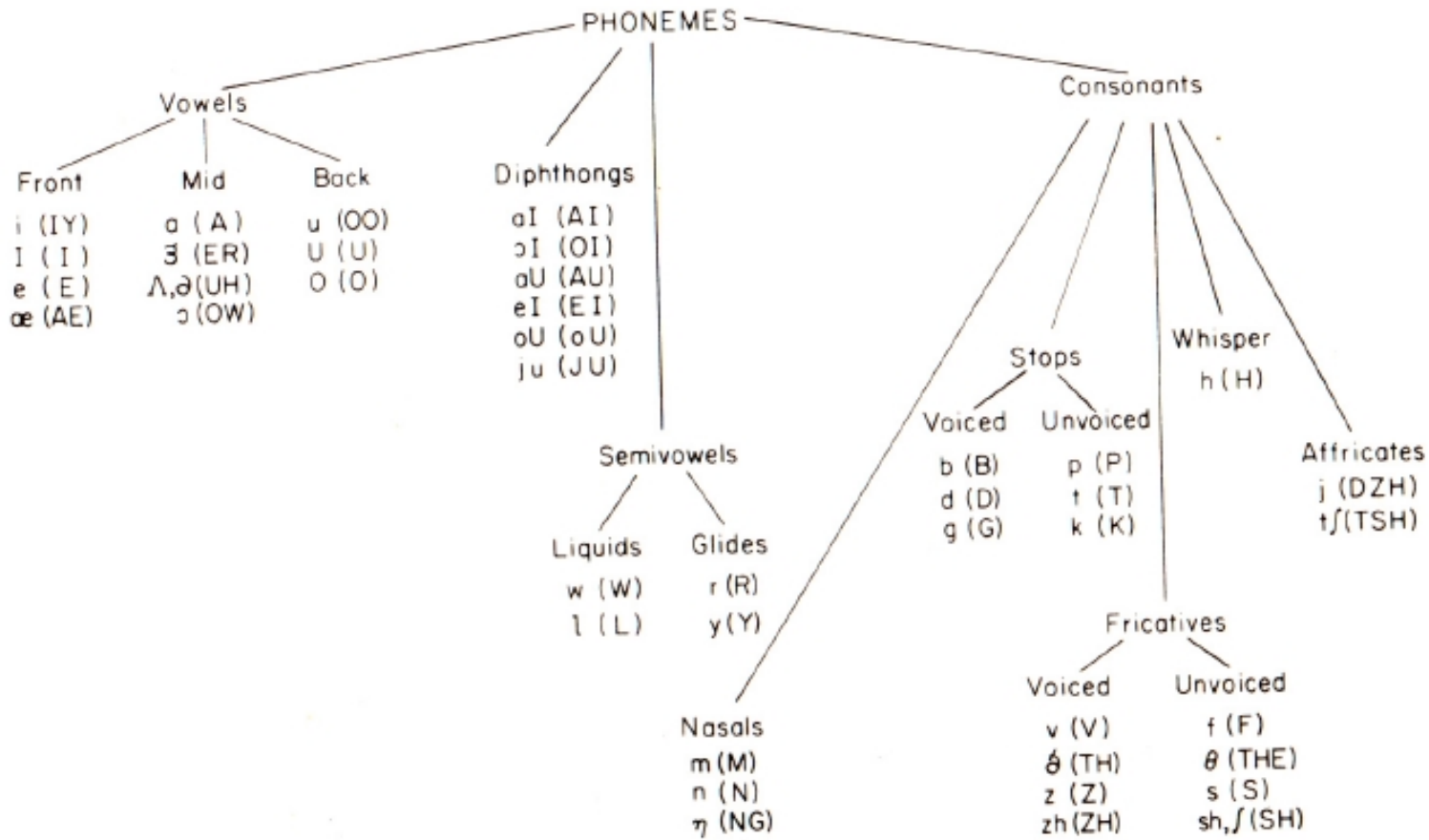
Note: In the above table, the phonemes are represented by SWB and IPA.

• **References**

1. International Phonetic Alphabet, <http://www.arts.gla.ac.uk/IPA/ipa.html>
2. LDC TIMIT lexicon, <http://www ldc.upenn.edu/doc/timit/phoncode.doc>
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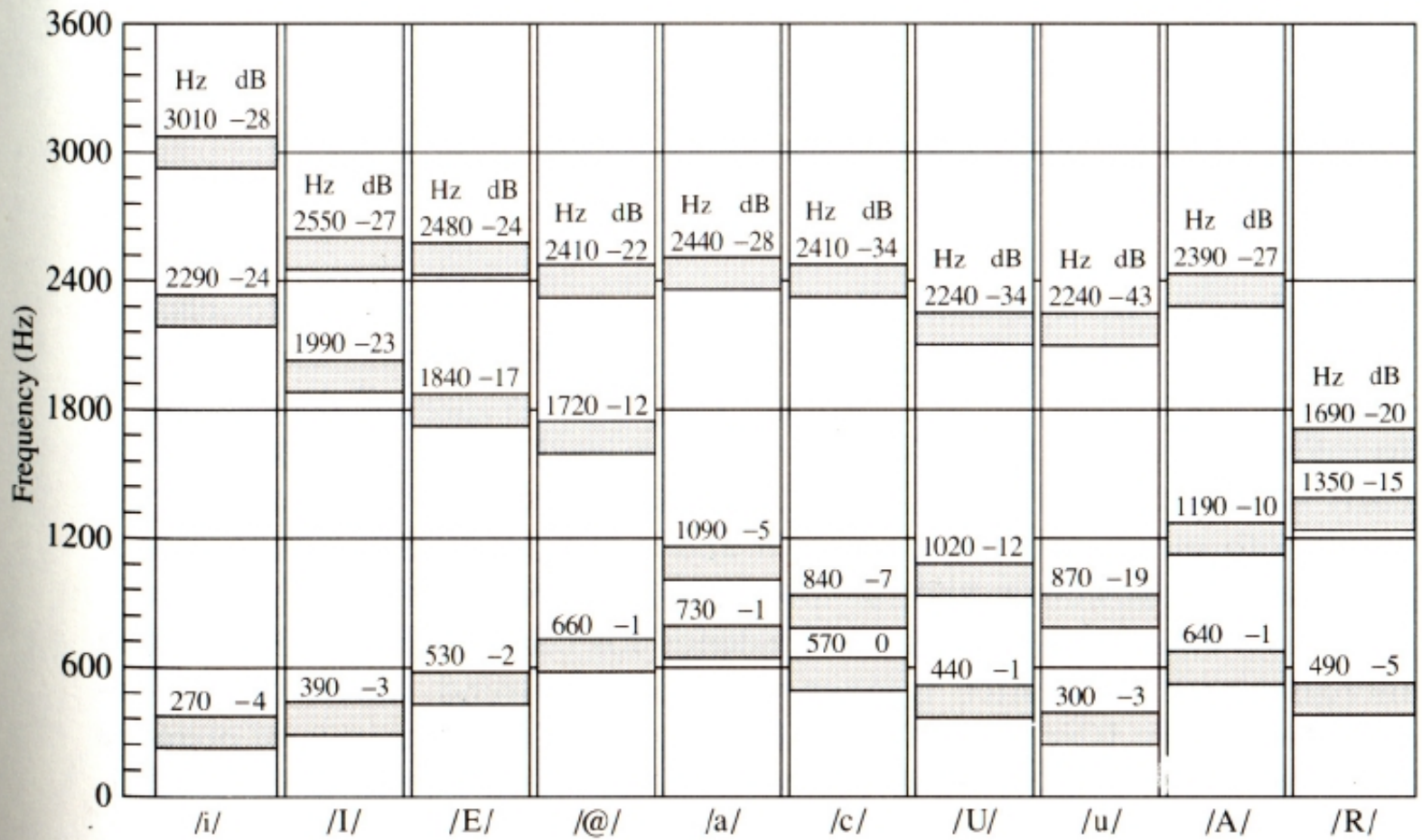
THE VOWEL SPACE

- Each fundamental speech sound can be categorized according to the position of the articulators. This is often known as the study of Acoustic Phonetics.

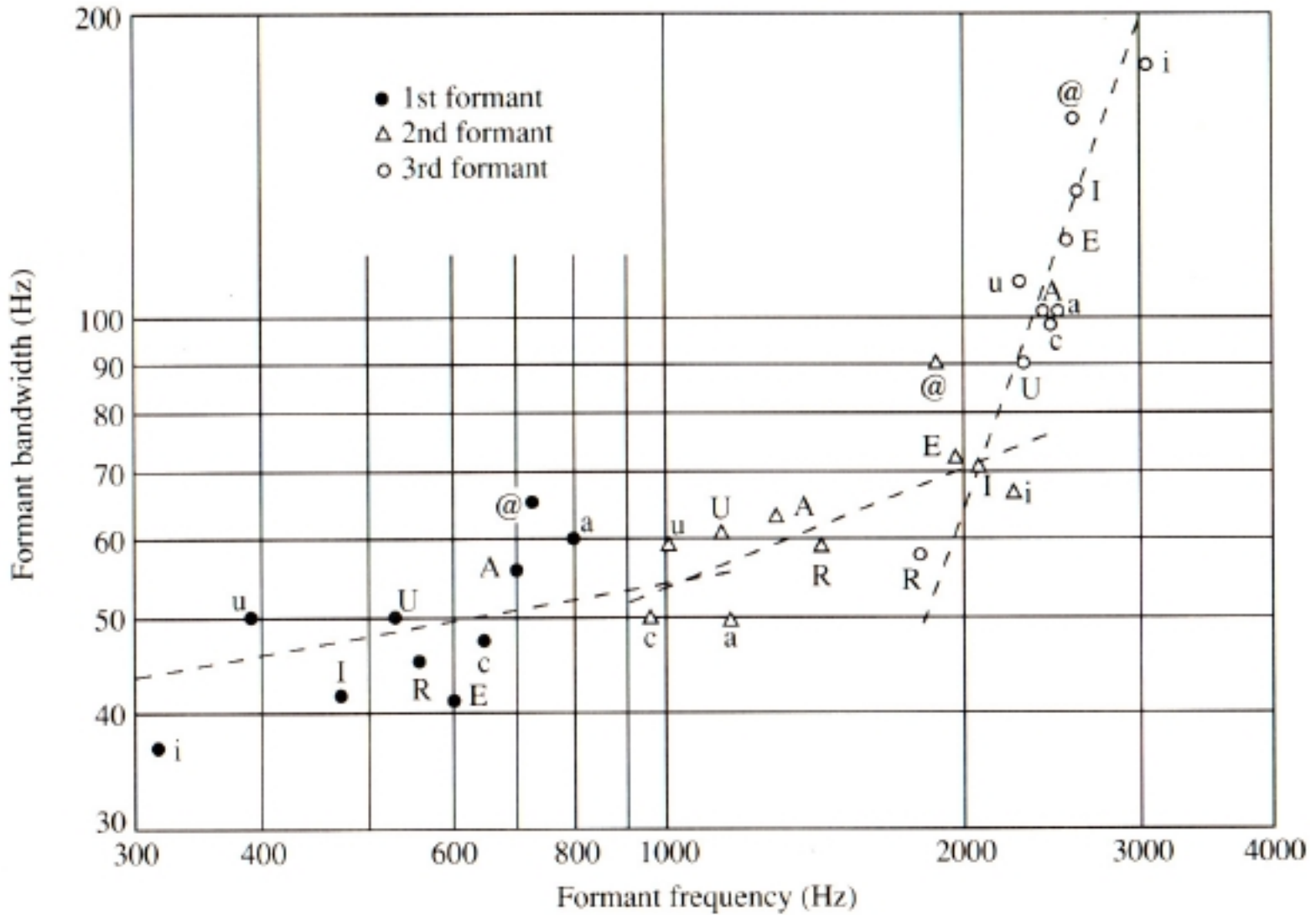


- We can characterize a vowel sound by the locations of the first and second spectral resonances, known as formant frequencies:

THE RANGE OF FORMANT FREQUENCIES



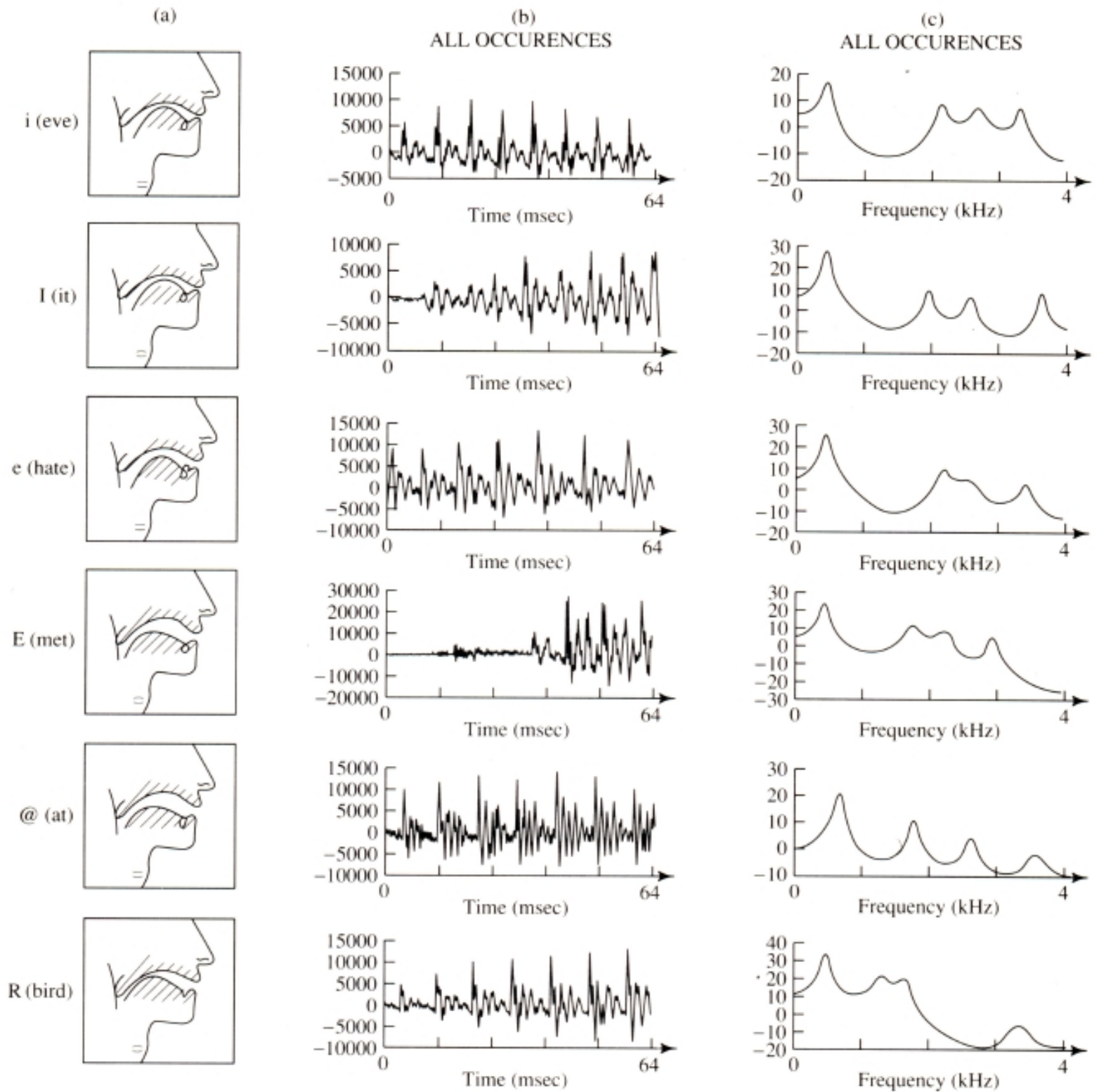
**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
FORMANT FREQUENCIES AND BANDWIDTHS**



| Vowels | F ₁ | | | F ₂ | | | F ₃ | | |
|--------|----------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|----------|
| | Avg. | Extremes | Extremes | Avg. | Extremes | Extremes | Avg. | Extremes | Extremes |
| i | 38 | 30 | 80 | 66 | 30 | 120 | 171 | 60 | 300 |
| I | 42 | 30 | 100 | 71 | 40 | 120 | 142 | 60 | 300 |
| E | 42 | 30 | 120 | 72 | 30 | 140 | 126 | 50 | 300 |
| @ | 65 | 30 | 140 | 90 | 40 | 200 | 156 | 50 | 300 |
| a | 60 | 30 | 160 | 50 | 30 | 80 | 102 | 40 | 300 |
| c | 47 | 30 | 120 | 50 | 30 | 200 | 98 | 40 | 240 |
| u | 50 | 30 | 120 | 58 | 30 | 200 | 107 | 50 | 200 |
| U | 51 | 30 | 100 | 61 | 30 | 140 | 90 | 40 | 200 |
| A | 56 | 30 | 140 | 63 | 30 | 140 | 102 | 50 | 300 |
| R | 46 | 30 | 80 | 59 | 30 | 120 | 58 | 40 | 120 |
| Avg. | 49.7 | | | 64.0 | | | 115.2 | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|----|-----|------|----|-----|-------|----|-----|
| U | 51 | 30 | 100 | 61 | 30 | 140 | 90 | 40 | 200 |
| A | 56 | 30 | 140 | 63 | 30 | 140 | 102 | 50 | 300 |
| R | 46 | 30 | 80 | 59 | 30 | 120 | 58 | 40 | 120 |
| Avg. | 49.7 | | | 64.0 | | | 115.2 | | |

AN ACOUSTIC THEORY FOR VOWEL PRODUCTION

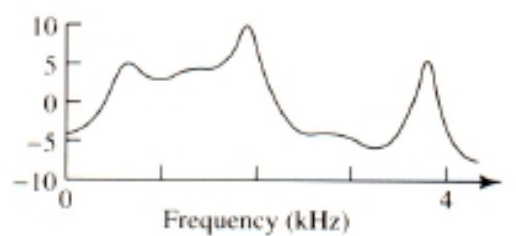
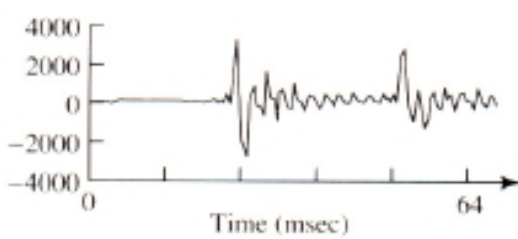
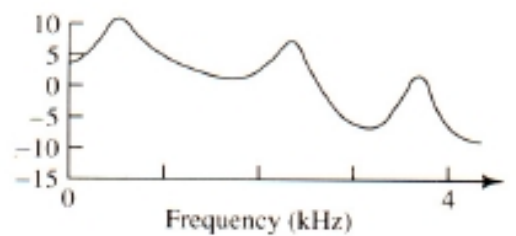
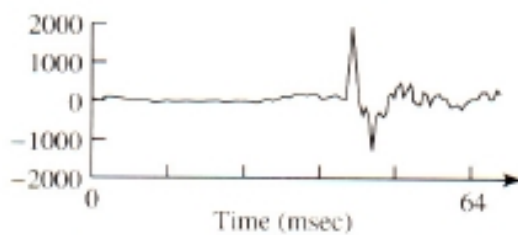
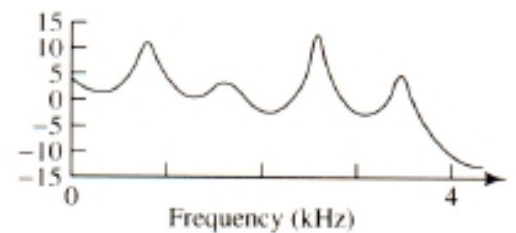
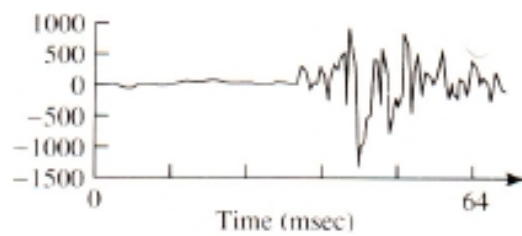
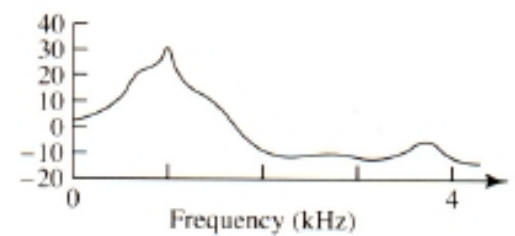
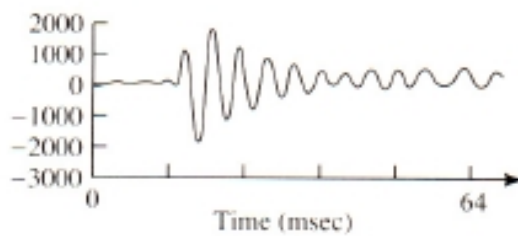
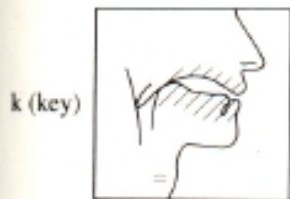
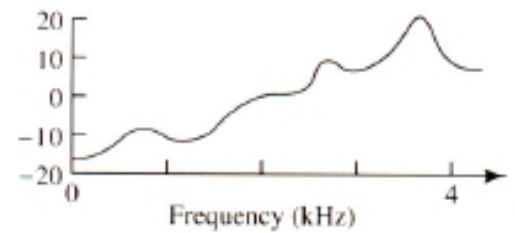
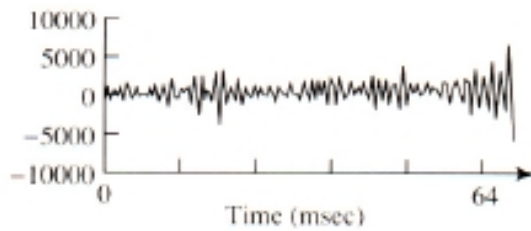
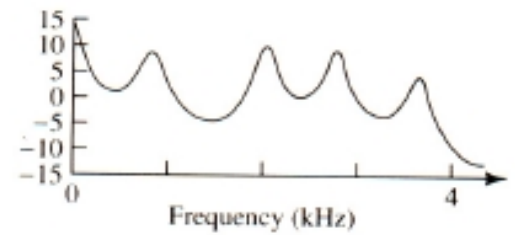
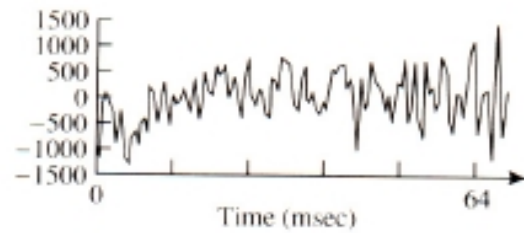
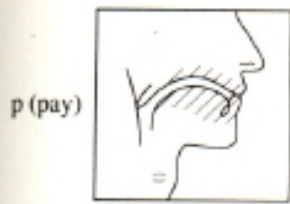


THIS THEORY IS ALSO APPLICABLE TO CONSONANTS

(a)

(b)

(c)





Prof. Peter Ladefoged

[Pronunciation](#)

UCLA Linguistics Dept.
3125 Campbell Hall
Los Angeles CA 90095-1543
oldfogey@ucla.edu

Research Interests

- **Current activity**

Writing a book *Phonetic Data Analysis: An introduction to phonetic fieldwork and instrumental techniques*. [A draft of the first part of this book is available.](#)

- **Recent work**

Publication of a book *Vowels and Consonants* designed as a very elementary introduction to phonetics. The book is accompanied by a CD illustrating the sounds being discussed. [A web version of the CD.](#)

- **The use of the respiratory system in speech.**

Preliminary studies are in progress investigating subglottal pressure and muscular activity (a return to work begun 40 years ago). [A draft of a preliminary paper.](#)

- **Editor of the *Journal of the International Phonetic Association***

- **Phonetic studies of endangered languages.**

Thousands of languages all over the world will not be spoken in a generation or two. Thanks to an NSF grant, Ian Maddieson and I have worked with fieldworkers and students over the last few years on languages spoken in Africa, India, Australia, Brazil, the U.S. and elsewhere.

- **Sounds of the World's Languages**

A long-time ambition has been to hear and describe all the distinct sounds of the world's languages, perhaps 900 consonants and 200 vowels. This interest has led to co-authoring with Ian Maddieson *The Sounds of the World's Languages*, and supervising a set of hypercard stacks with the same name. With this go two other interests:

1. Developing an explanatory phonetic classificatory system.
2. Maintaining the International Phonetic Alphabet (the IPA).

- **Simplifying acoustic phonetic problems.**

A second edition of *Elements of Acoustic Phonetics* (University of Chicago Press) with new material on articulatory-acoustic relations and computer speech processing (including FFT and LPC analysis) has recently been published.

Publications

Books

- P. Ladefoged. [Vowels and Consonants](#). Blackwells. 2001.
- P. Ladefoged. [A Course in Phonetics](#). Harcourt Brace. 4th. ed. 2001.
- P. Ladefoged and I. Maddieson. [The Sounds of the World's Languages](#). Blackwells. 1996.
- P. Ladefoged. *Elements of Acoustic Phonetics*. University of Chicago Press. 2nd. ed. 1996.
- P. Ladefoged. *Preliminaries to Linguistic Phonetics*. University of Chicago Press. 1971.

- *P. Ladefoged, R. Glick and C. Criper. Language in Uganda. Oxford University Press. 1969.*
- *P. Ladefoged. A Phonetic Study of West African Languages. Cambridge University Press. 2nd. ed. 1968.*
- *P. Ladefoged. Three Areas of Experimental Phonetics. Oxford University Press. 1967.*

Some selected papers

- *Ladefoged, P. Instrumental techniques for linguistic phonetic fieldwork. In W. Hardcastle. and J. Laver (Eds.), The Handbook of Phonetic Sciences Oxford: Blackwell Publishers. (1997).*
- *Ladefoged, P. Linguistic phonetic descriptions. In W. Hardcastle and J. Laver (Eds.), Oxford: Blackwell Publishers. (1997).*
- *Ladefoged, P. David Abercrombie and the changing field of phonetics. Journal of Phonetics, 25(1), 85-92. (1997).*
- *Ladefoged, P., & Everett, D. The status of phonetic rarities. Language, 72(4), 794-800. (1996).*
- *Wright, R., & Ladefoged, P. A phonetic study of Tsou. Bulletin of the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica. (1996).*
- *Silverman, D., Blankenship, B., Kirk, P., & Ladefoged, P. Phonetic Structures in Jalapa Mazatec. Anthropological Linguistics, 37(1), 70-88. (1995).*
- *Shalev, M., P. Ladefoged & P. Bhaskararao. Phonetics of Toda. PILC Journal of Dravidic Studies 4: 21-56. (1994).*
- *Ladefoged, P. & A. Traill. Clicks and their accompaniments. Journal of Phonetics 22: 33-64. (1994).*
- *Maddieson, I., S. Spajic, B. Sands & P. Ladefoged. The phonetic structures of Dahalo. Afrikanistische Arbeitspapiere 36:5-53. (1993).*
- *Blankenship, B., P. Ladefoged, P. Bhaskararao and N. Chase. Phonetic structures of Khonoma Angami. Linguistics of the Tibeto-Burman area 16: 69 - 88. (1993).*
- *Maddieson, I. and P. Ladefoged. The phonetics of partially nasal consonants. In M. K. Huffman and R. A. Krakow (eds) Nasals, Nasalization and the Velum. Academic Press: 251-301. (1993)*
- *Johnson, K., P. Ladefoged, and M. Lindau. Individual differences in vowel production. J. Acoust. Soc. Amer. 94: 701-714. (1993).*
- *Kirk, P., J. Ladefoged & P. Ladefoged. Quantifying acoustic properties of modal, breathy and creaky vowels in Jalapa Mazatec. In honor of Laurence C. Thompson. University of Montana (1993).*
- *Henton, C., P. Ladefoged, & I. Maddieson. Stops in the world's languages. Phonetica. 49: 65-101. (1992).*
- *Ladefoged, P. The many interfaces between phonetics and phonology. Phonologica 1988. 165-179. (1992).*

Personal

*Married for 48 years to [Jenny Ladefoged](#), a notorious Episcopal Church Woman. (I am a member of Atheists for Jesus.)
Three offspring (plus grandchildren): Lise Friedman, Bookseller; Thegn Ladefoged, Archaeologist, University of Auckland; Katie Weiss, Criminal Defence Attorney.*

Informal CV

In my early career I never stayed long enough in a particular field to be contradicted. I started as a poet learning about the sounds of words with David Abercrombie. Then, remembering my background in physics, I moved to studying acoustic phonetics. From there I became a pseudo-psychologist testing perceptual theories, until a meeting with a physiologist led to work on the respiratory muscles used in speech. Eventually I landed in Africa teaching English phonetics and learning about African languages. So by the time I was asked to set up a lab at UCLA I was a specialist in nothing. But I was able to use my background to describe the sounds of a wide range of languages, becoming a sort of linguist. Computers and

bright students led to other ways of analyzing sounds. Building a research group who felt that they had a stake in the development of the lab taught me their varied ideas from statistics to engineering, and the philosophy of linguistics. Now, still looking for the growing edge of the field, I think it might be in the physically observable activity of the brain; but perhaps this is because I have never been a pseudo-neurologist.

My formal [CV](#) is also available online.

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Peterson Barney: Vowel formant frequency database

<areas/speech/database/pb/>

This directory contains the Peterson and Barney vowel formant frequency database, as used in their 1952 JASA paper. Peterson and Barney measured the frequency and amplitude of F1, F2 and F3 for 10 vowels and 76 speakers.

Origin:

<ftp.cis.upenn.edu:/pub/ldc/pb.data.tar.Z>

Version: 5-JAN-93 CD-ROM: Prime Time Freeware for AI, Issue 1-1 Keywords: Authors!Barney, Authors!Peterson, Speech Recognition!Databases, Speech Synthesis!Databases, Vowel Formant Frequency Database References: Peterson and Barney, "Control methods used in a study of the vowels", JASA 24, 175-184, 1952. Watrous, JASA, vol 89, May 1991

Last Web update on Mon Feb 13 10:28:18 1995

AI.Repository@cs.cmu.edu

Welcome

About Language and Speech

- Elements of study
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The Jewellers

Acoustic Phonetics

Speech sounds, like sounds in general, are transmitted through the air as small, rapid variations in air pressure that spread in longitudinal waves from the speaker's mouth and can be heard, recorded, visualized and measured. Differences between individual speech sounds are directly reflected as differences in either one or several or all of the parameters duration, pitch, loudness and quality of the belonging speech waves.

Acoustic phonetics, which deals with the study and description of the acoustical properties of individual speech sounds, prosody and voice quality, forms not only the immediate link between articulatory phonetics and speech perception, but is also important for applications in the fields of signal processing and speech technology.

Elements of study

Basic concepts of acoustic phonetics [see also [Speech Signal Processing](#)]

- **What is sound?**
 - Waveforms
 - Omnidirectionality
 - Air pressure and electrical analogies
 - Sinusoids and complex signals
 - Periodicity
 - Aperiodicity (random noise, transient noise)
- **Scales and Measurements**
 - Intensity
 - Duration
 - Frequency
 - Phase
- **Speech recording**
 - Microphones
 - Analog and digital recordings

Acoustic theory of speech production: Fant's source-filter model
[see also [Speech Signal Processing](#)]

- **The source component**
 - Glottal wave shape models
 - Random and transient noises
 - Source spectrum
 - Variability and individuality
- **The filter component**
 - Area functions
 - Poles and zeros
 - Formants (frequencies, amplitudes and bandwidths)
 - Variability and individuality
- **The radiation component**
 - Lip radiation
 - Nose radiation
 - Interference problems and effects

Experimental methods and tools [see also [Speech Signal Processing](#)]

[Elements of study](#)
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- **Sound oscillograph**
 - Waveforms
- **Sound spectrograph**
 - Spectrum and spectrogram
 - Wide-band and narrow-band spectrogram
 - Short-term and long-term spectra
 - Filtering, rectification and smoothing
 - Gain

Acoustic properties of speech sounds

- **Vowels**
 - Formant structure
 - intrinsic duration, fundamental frequency and intensity
 - Oral and nasal vowels; other vowel types
 - Vowel reduction
 - Diphthongs, triphthongs, glides
 - Duration: neutral, short, long, contextual, etc.
- **Consonants**
 - Stops
 - Nasals
 - Fricatives
 - Affricates
 - Laterals
 - Approximants
 - Thrills, taps and flaps
 - Ejectives and implosives
 - Coarticulation and transitions
- **Word level prosody**
 - Tone
 - Accent
 - Quantity
 - Stress
- **Sentence level prosody**
 - Intonation
 - Tempo (speech rate and articulation rate)
 - Stress
 - Rhythm
 - Final lengthening
 - Juncture
 - Pausing
- **Discourse level intonation**
 - Text and discourse intonation
 - Dialogue intonation
 - Speaking styles
- **Voice quality (phonetic settings)**
 - Laryngeal settings (phonation types)
 - Supra-laryngeal settings

Suggested reading

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- Clark, J. and Yallop, C.** (1995). An Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology, Second edition. Oxford & Cambridge, MA: Blackwell.
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- Pickett, J.M.** (1980). The Sounds of Speech Communication. A Primer of Acoustic Phonetics and Speech Perception. Baltimore.
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- Zwicker, E. & Zollner, M.** (1984). Elektroakustik. Berlin: Springer.

Journal

Journal of the Acoustical Society of America.

Products

| Product | Operating System | Web site information |
|--------------------|------------------|--|
| KAY CSL 4300 | PC/DOS | www.kayelemetrics.com/ |
| Signalyze | Macintosh | http://agoralang.com/signalyze.html |
| ESPS/Waves | UNIX | www.entropic.com/products/esps/esps.html |
| KAY 5500 | Special Purpose | www.kayelemetrics.com/ |
| KAY Multispeech | PC/Win | www.kayelemetrics.com/ |
| SFS | PC/Win or UNIX | www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/resource/sfs.html |
| MATLAB | Various OS | www.mathworks.com/ |
| HTK/HMM | UNIX | www-white.media.mit.edu/~nuria/HTKV2.0/htk.html |
| CSRE 3.0 | PC/Win | www.avaaz.com/products.html |
| SoundScope | Macintosh | www.gwinst.com/web-pages/products.html |
| KAY Visipitch 6087 | PC/DOS | www.kayelemetrics.com/ |
| PRAAT 3.7 | PC/Various | http://fonsg3.let.uva.nl/praat/praat.html |

Mounted by Gerrit Bloothoof

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