Supplementary materials for: Consonant stability in Portuguese-based creoles

(05 January, 2023)

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1 Overview

Supplementary materials for, "Consonant Stability in Portuguese-based creoles". In this report, we provide code in R (RStudio Team 2020) and we use these R libraries (Wickham et al. 2019; Xie 2021; Slowikowski 2022; Kuznetsova, Brockhoff, and Christensen 2017; Wood 2004):

```
library(tidyverse)
library(knitr)
library(ggrepel)
library(lmerTest)
library(mgcv)

# Set the theme for all figures
theme_set(theme_bw())
```

Load the data set.

```
database <- read_csv("database.csv")</pre>
```

We extend the database with some additional variables. First, duration of contact.

```
database$duration <- database$`EndOfInfluence` - database$`FirstMajorSettlement`
```

Next, a variable of global stability.

```
database <- mutate(database, GlobalStability = (PlaceStability + MannerStability) / 2)</pre>
```

Also, a categorical variable for duration.

```
database <- database %>%
  mutate(duration_group = ifelse(duration <= 200, "short", "long"))</pre>
```

And a categorical variable for changes in manner and/or place. Stability in the database is '1' (no change) and '0' (change).

```
##
## manner/no place manner/place no manner/no place no manner/place
## 43 54 517 24
```

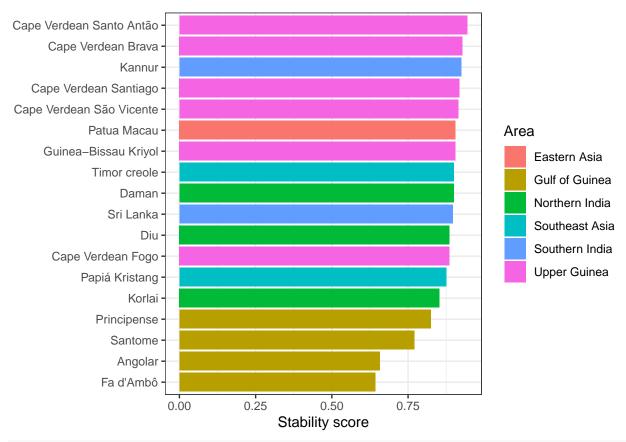
2 Creole stability

Which creoles in the sample are more or less stable overall?

```
creole_stability <- database %>%
  group_by(Language, Area, duration, duration_group, ContactConditions) %>%
  summarize(MeanStability = mean(GlobalStability, na.rm = TRUE))
```

Plot it by area.

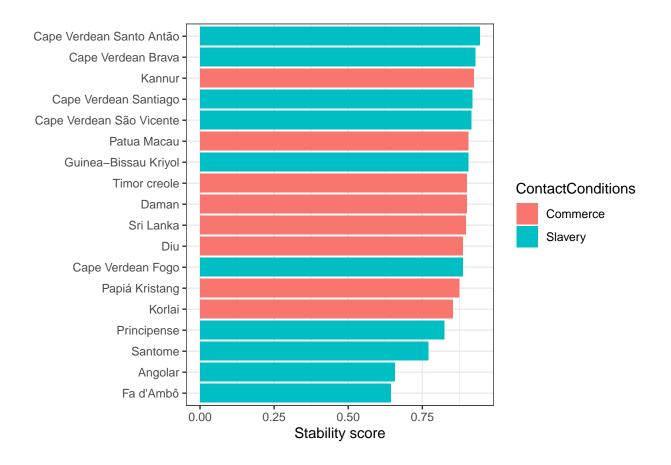
```
ggplot(creole_stability) +
  geom_bar(aes(x = MeanStability, y = reorder(Language, MeanStability), fill = Area),
    stat = "identity", show.legend = TRUE) +
  theme(axis.title.y = element_blank()) +
  labs(x = "Stability score")
```



table(creole_stability\$Area)

```
##
## Eastern Asia Gulf of Guinea Northern India Southeast Asia Southern India
## 1 4 3 2 2
## Upper Guinea
## 6
```

Plot it by conditions of contact.

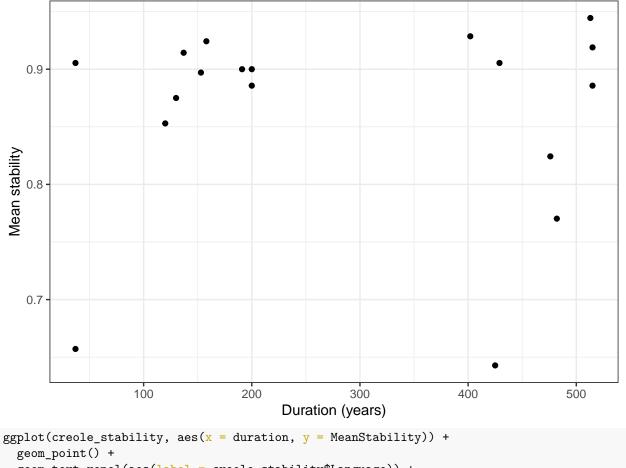


3 Duration

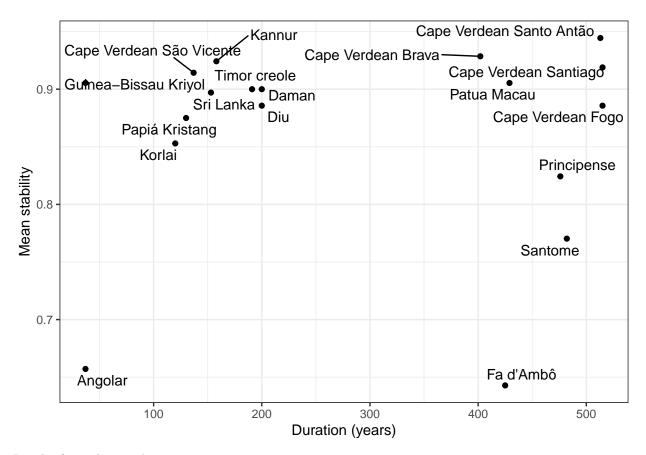
We have the overall stability values. What are these in relation to the duration of contact?

There does not seem to be a relationship between overall duration and overall stability.

```
ggplot(creole_stability, aes(x = duration, y = MeanStability)) +
geom_point() +
xlab("Duration (years)") +
ylab("Mean stability")
```



```
ggplot(creole_stability, aes(x = duration, y = MeanStability)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_text_repel(aes(label = creole_stability$Language)) +
  xlab("Duration (years)") +
  ylab("Mean stability")
```



Results from the simple regression.

```
msd <- lm(MeanStability ~ duration, data = creole_stability)
summary(msd)</pre>
```

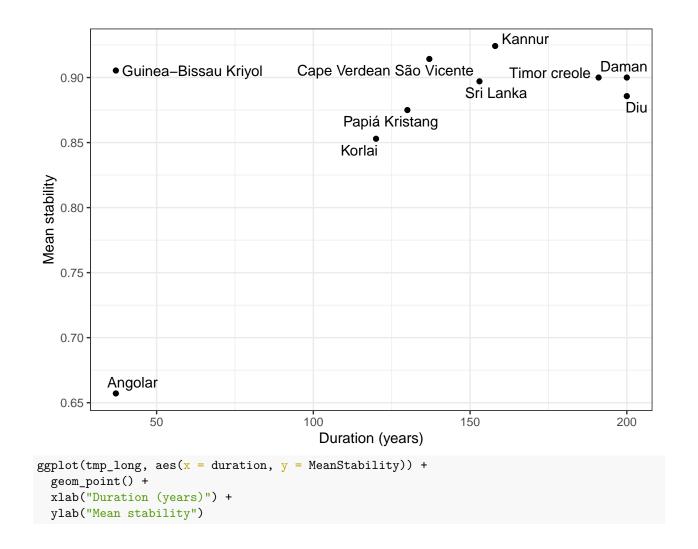
```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = MeanStability ~ duration, data = creole_stability)
##
## Residuals:
##
        Min
                   1Q
                         Median
                                       3Q
                                                Max
  -0.221577 -0.002688 0.036798 0.051036
##
## Coefficients:
##
               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 8.598e-01 4.086e-02 21.042 4.37e-13 ***
              1.088e-05 1.227e-04
                                     0.089
                                               0.93
## duration
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 0.09017 on 16 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.0004911, Adjusted R-squared:
## F-statistic: 0.007862 on 1 and 16 DF, p-value: 0.9304
```

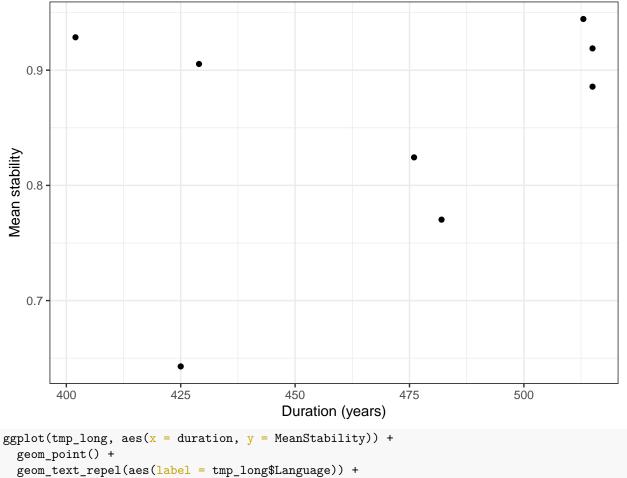
However, there does seem to be two groups of languages – ones that belong to "long duration" (>= 400 years) and those that below to "short duration" (<= 200 years).

We can try to split the data and rerun the models, but we note that there are very few data points.

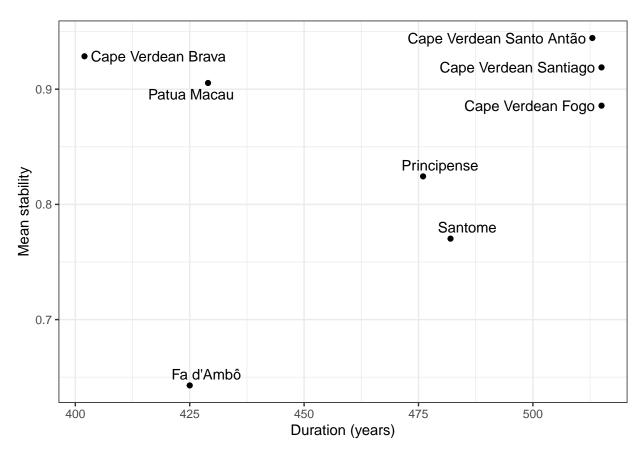
```
tmp_short <- creole_stability %>% filter(duration <= 200)</pre>
tmp_long <- creole_stability %>% filter(duration > 200)
ggplot(tmp_short, aes(x = duration, y = MeanStability)) +
  geom_point() +
  xlab("Duration (years)") +
  ylab("Mean stability")
   0.90
   0.85
Mean stability
   0.80
   0.75
   0.70
   0.65
                 50
                                         100
                                                                  150
                                                                                          200
                                            Duration (years)
ggplot(tmp\_short, aes(x = duration, y = MeanStability)) +
```

```
ggplot(tmp_short, aes(x = duration, y = MeanStability)) +
geom_point() +
geom_text_repel(aes(label = tmp_short$Language)) +
xlab("Duration (years)") +
ylab("Mean stability")
```





```
geom_text_repel(aes(label = tmp_long$Language)) +
xlab("Duration (years)") +
ylab("Mean stability")
```

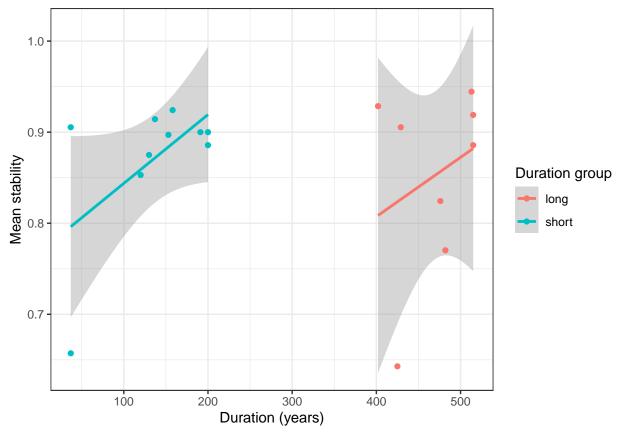


A single model with an interaction term MeanSim ~ duration, group * duration.

```
msd <- lm(MeanStability ~ duration + duration_group * duration, data = creole_stability)
summary(msd)</pre>
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = MeanStability ~ duration + duration_group * duration,
       data = creole_stability)
##
##
## Residuals:
##
                          Median
                    1Q
  -0.180674 -0.029112 0.006105 0.041142 0.120003
##
## Coefficients:
##
                                 Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                                0.5470360 0.3391096
                                                       1.613
                                                                 0.129
## duration
                                0.0006506
                                           0.0007192
                                                       0.905
                                                                 0.381
## duration_groupshort
                                                       0.638
                                                                0.534
                                0.2212025
                                           0.3465288
## duration:duration_groupshort 0.0001047
                                           0.0008665
                                                                 0.906
##
## Residual standard error: 0.08632 on 14 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.1984, Adjusted R-squared: 0.02667
## F-statistic: 1.155 on 3 and 14 DF, p-value: 0.3615
ggplot(creole_stability, aes(x = duration, y = MeanStability, color = duration_group)) +
 geom_smooth(method = "lm") +
 geom_point() +
```

```
xlab("Duration (years)") +
ylab("Mean stability") +
labs(color = "Duration group")
```



The variability in the two groups is very different. The direction of the effect is interesting: shorter durations yield more stability more consistently. Over time, the variability in mean stability increases. Time is "destabilizing the pattern of stability".

But it looks like you might have something tastier on your hands. The creoles appear to be bouncing back toward the lexifier over time (based on the duration findings; but perhaps I misunderstand).

And we can also increase the number of observations by running the analysis at the segment level, rather than on mean stability.

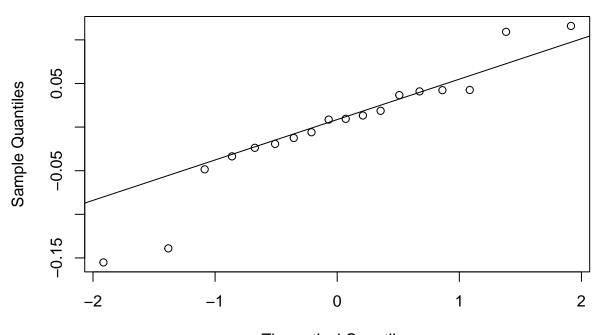
Exploratory analysis with a generalized additive model (GAM).

Family: gaussian
Link function: identity

```
##
## Formula:
   MeanStability ~ duration_group + s(duration, k = 3) + s(duration,
        by = duration_group, k = 3)
##
##
## Parametric coefficients:
##
                          Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                             4.705
                                          2.252
                                                   2.090
                                                            0.0565 .
## (Intercept)
   duration_groupshort
                            -3.722
                                          2.253
                                                 -1.652
                                                            0.1219
##
                    0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Signif. codes:
##
## Approximate significance of smooth terms:
##
                                           edf Ref.df
                                                            F p-value
## s(duration)
                                        0.6667 0.6667 4.160 0.1197
## s(duration):duration_grouplong 1.4242 1.6079 1.606
## s(duration):duration_groupshort 0.6667 0.6667 4.984 0.0914 .
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Rank: 7/8
## R-sq.(adj) = 0.204
                            Deviance explained =
## GCV = 0.008281 Scale est. = 0.0060923 n = 18
plot(msd.gam, all.terms = T, shade = T, pages = 1)
                                                   s(duration, 1.42):duration_grouplon
s(duration, 0.67)
     2
                                                        2
                                                        -5
     -5
             100
                    200
                           300
                                  400
                                         500
                                                                100
                                                                       200
                                                                                     400
                                                                              300
                                                                                           500
                       duration
                                                                          duration
s(duration, 0.67):duration_groupsho
                                                   Partial for duration_group
                                                                    duration_group
                                                        7
     2
                                                        φ
             100
                    200
                           300
                                  400
                                         500
                                                                     long
                                                                                    short
                       duration
                                                                       duration_group
```

```
qqnorm(resid(msd.gam))
qqline(resid(msd.gam))
```

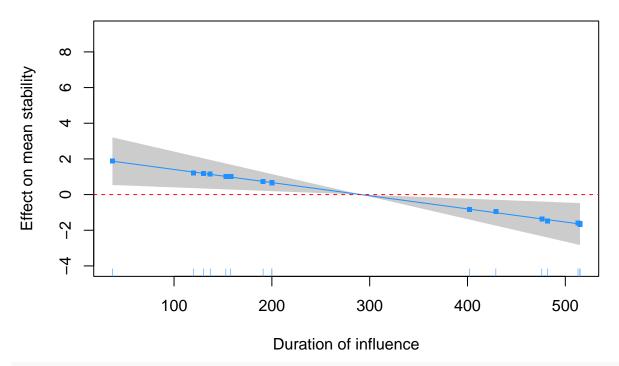
Normal Q-Q Plot



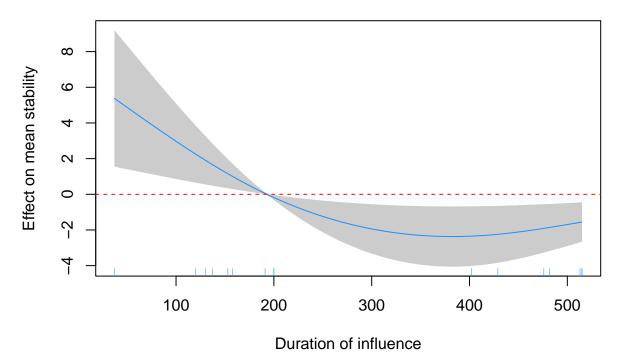
Theoretical Quantiles

```
##
## Family: gaussian
## Link function: identity
##
## Formula:
## MeanStability ~ duration_group + s(duration, k = 3) + s(duration,
##
      by = duration_group, k = 3)
##
## Parametric coefficients:
                      Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
## (Intercept)
                         4.110
                                    1.147
                                            3.583 0.00423 **
                                    1.148 -2.799 0.01716 *
## duration_groupshort
                        -3.212
##
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Approximate significance of smooth terms:
##
                                      edf Ref.df
                                                     F p-value
## s(duration)
                                  0.6667 0.6667 11.824 0.0170 *
## s(duration):duration_grouplong 1.5535 1.6538 4.984 0.0362 *
## s(duration):duration_groupshort 0.6667 0.6667 11.858 0.0169 *
```

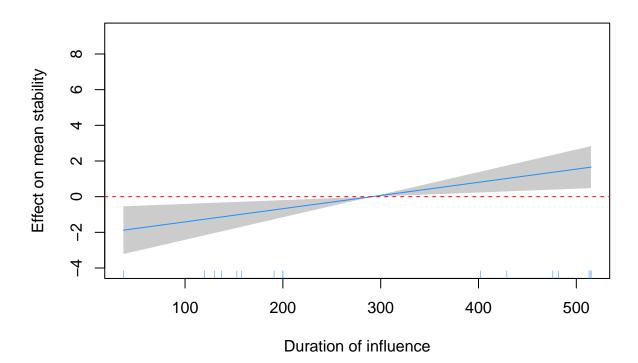
Main effect of duration

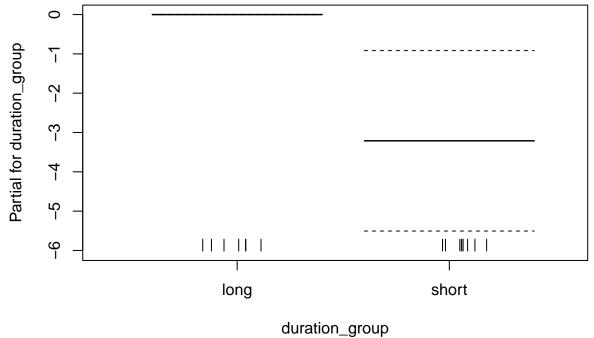


Long-term influence



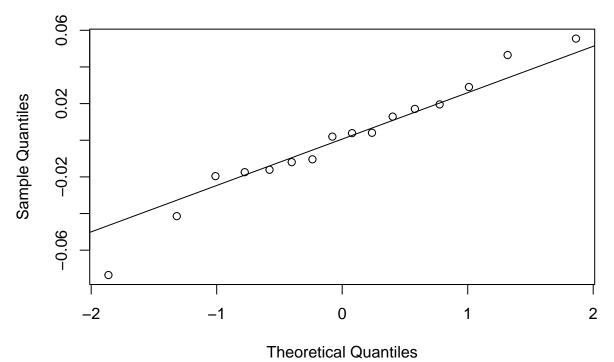
Short-term influence





```
# checking out the model performance
qqnorm(resid(msd.gam.trimmed))
qqline(resid(msd.gam.trimmed)) # meh
```

Normal Q-Q Plot

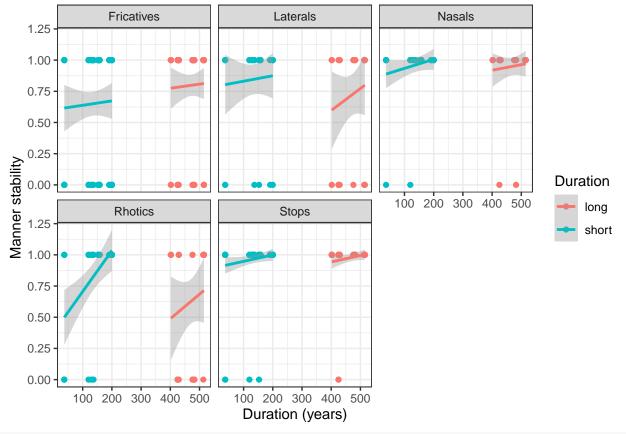


Removing the two creoles with the lowest scores produces significant effects. This doesn't seem very reliable though, especially given the small sample size. Also, the pattern is strange: a negative trend of duration for long-term influence and a positive one for short-term influence? Note that the model detected a mean difference between duration groups, with the short group having (slightly) lower mean stability. This appears to be the case – but again – we have so few observations.

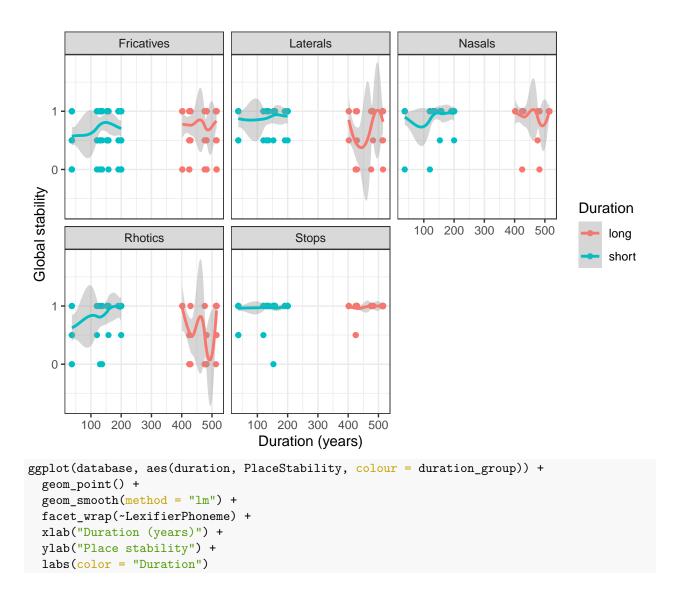
4 Duration effects on the segment level

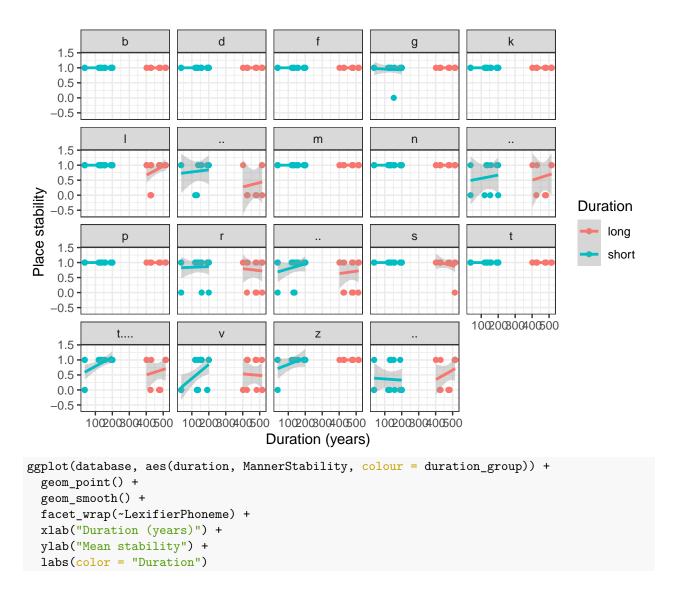
Does duration affect the stability values of specific segments or segment classes?

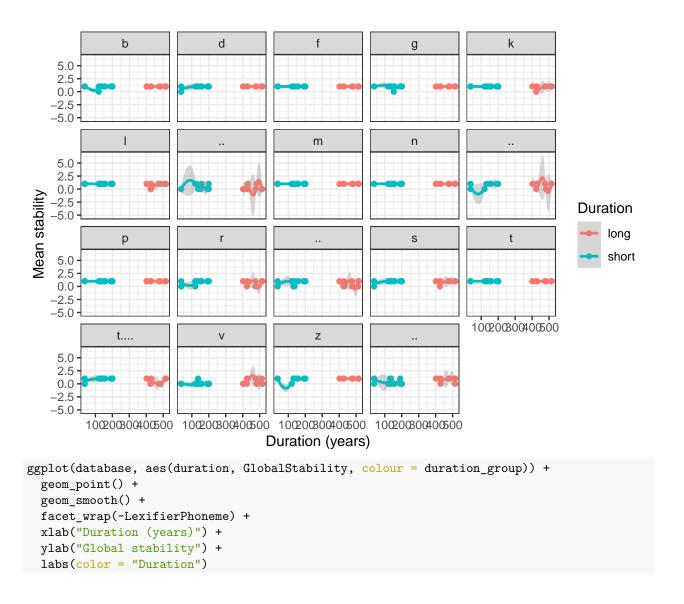
```
ggplot(database, aes(duration, MannerStability, colour = duration_group)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm") +
  facet_wrap(~Class) +
  xlab("Duration (years)") +
  ylab("Manner stability") +
  labs(color = "Duration")
```

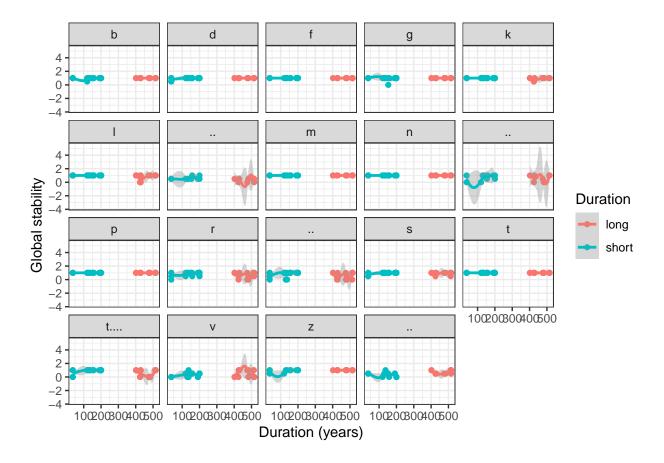


```
ggplot(database, aes(duration, GlobalStability, colour = duration_group)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_smooth() +
  facet_wrap(~Class) +
  xlab("Duration (years)") +
  ylab("Global stability") +
  labs(color = "Duration")
```









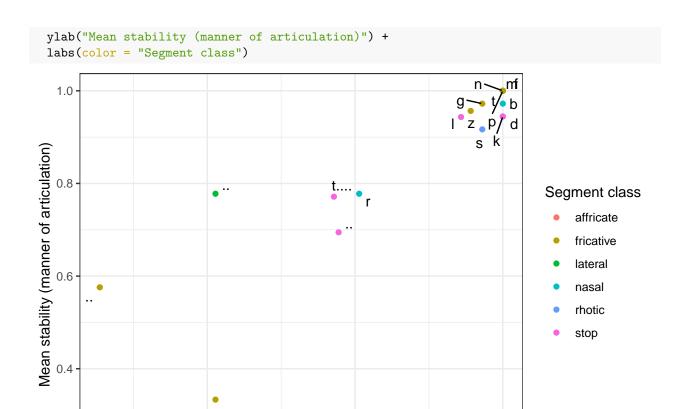
5 Segment stability

Which segments are the most stable across creoles in the language sample?

We calculate stability of place and manner for each phoneme.

Next, we plot the results.

```
ggplot(consonant_stability, aes(y = mmanner, x = mplace)) +
geom_point(position = "dodge", aes(color = class)) +
geom_text_repel(aes(label = LexifierPhoneme), size = 4) +
xlab("Mean stability (place of articulation)") +
```



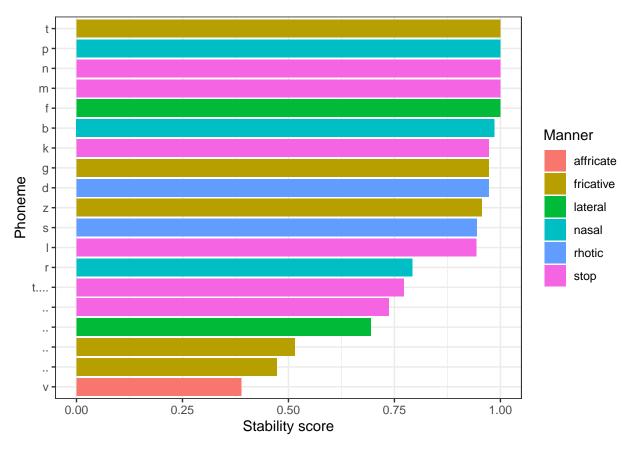
Here is an alternative view for the global results.

• V

8.0

Mean stability (place of articulation)

1.0



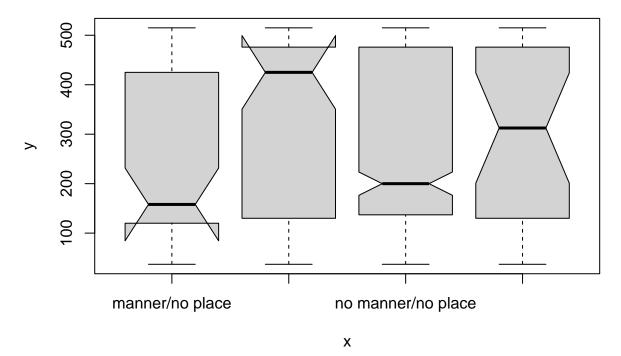
And we can also increase the number of observations in duration regression by running the analysis at the segment level, rather than on mean stability.

```
# Factorizing
mod.db <- database %>%
    as.data.frame() %>%
    mutate(
        categorical_stability = as.factor(categorical_stability),
        Lexifier = as.factor(Lexifier),
        CreolePhoneme = as.factor(CreolePhoneme),
        Language = as.factor(Language)
)

# Remove singletons/doubletons
# goodies = names(table(mod.db$CreolePhoneme)>2)

# mod.db = mod.db %>%
# filter(CreolePhoneme %in% goodies)

plot(mod.db$categorical_stability, mod.db$duration, notch = T)
```



Hugely skewed in favor of no manner/place (10x as frequent as the next most frequent level; this could cause problems for the models).

```
table(mod.db$categorical_stability)
##
##
      manner/no place
                            manner/place no manner/no place
                                                                 no manner/place
##
# Place stability
cat.mod.place <- glmer(PlaceStability ~ log(duration) + (1 | CreolePhoneme),</pre>
                       data = mod.db, family = "binomial")
summary(cat.mod.place)
## Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
     Approximation) [glmerMod]
##
   Family: binomial (logit)
## Formula: PlaceStability ~ log(duration) + (1 | CreolePhoneme)
##
      Data: mod.db
##
##
        AIC
                 BIC
                       logLik deviance df.resid
                       -145.4
      296.8
               310.2
                                  290.8
                                             635
##
##
## Scaled residuals:
##
       Min
                1Q Median
                                 3Q
                                        Max
## -6.2517 0.0388 0.0432 0.1725 2.1540
##
## Random effects:
   Groups
                  Name
                               Variance Std.Dev.
    CreolePhoneme (Intercept) 31.32
## Number of obs: 638, groups: CreolePhoneme, 34
##
```

Fixed effects:

```
##
                 Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
                  5.3041
                             2.5433 2.086
                                                0.037 *
## (Intercept)
                                                0.564
## log(duration) -0.1279
                             0.2215 - 0.577
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
##
               (Intr)
## log(duratn) -0.511
# Manner stability
cat.mod.manner <- glmer(MannerStability ~ log(duration) + (1 | CreolePhoneme),</pre>
                        data = mod.db, family = "binomial")
summary(cat.mod.manner)
## Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
     Approximation) [glmerMod]
   Family: binomial (logit)
## Formula: MannerStability ~ log(duration) + (1 | CreolePhoneme)
     Data: mod.db
##
##
       AIC
                       logLik deviance df.resid
##
      251.1
              264.4
                      -122.5
                                 245.1
                                            635
##
## Scaled residuals:
               1Q Median
                                3Q
      Min
## -6.2224 0.0043 0.0046 0.1928 0.7464
## Random effects:
                              Variance Std.Dev.
## Groups
                 Name
## CreolePhoneme (Intercept) 396.3
## Number of obs: 638, groups: CreolePhoneme, 34
##
## Fixed effects:
                 Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
                10.11364
                            2.42778
                                       4.166 3.1e-05 ***
## (Intercept)
## log(duration) 0.08086
                            0.22973
                                       0.352
                                                0.725
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
##
               (Intr)
## log(duratn) -0.517
# Duration group
cat.mod.group <- glmer(as.factor(duration_group) ~ PlaceStability +</pre>
                        MannerStability + (1 | CreolePhoneme),
                       data = mod.db, family = "binomial", nAGQ = 0)
## boundary (singular) fit: see help('isSingular')
summary(cat.mod.group)
## Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Adaptive
## Gauss-Hermite Quadrature, nAGQ = 0) [glmerMod]
```

```
## Family: binomial (logit)
## Formula: as.factor(duration_group) ~ PlaceStability + MannerStability +
       (1 | CreolePhoneme)
##
     Data: mod.db
##
##
##
       ATC
                BIC
                      logLik deviance df.resid
      882.3
               900.2
                       -437.2
                                 874.3
##
##
## Scaled residuals:
##
      Min
                1Q Median
                                3Q
                                       Max
  -1.3362 -1.1102 0.8246 0.9007
                                    1.2288
##
## Random effects:
                              Variance Std.Dev.
  Groups
                 Name
## CreolePhoneme (Intercept) 0
## Number of obs: 638, groups: CreolePhoneme, 34
##
## Fixed effects:
##
                  Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)
                   -0.04164
                               0.24231 -0.172
## PlaceStability
                  0.62124
                               0.29861
                                         2.080
                                                 0.0375 *
## MannerStability -0.37043
                               0.27504 -1.347
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
##
               (Intr) PlcStb
## PlaceStblty -0.521
## MannrStblty -0.339 -0.580
## optimizer (bobyqa) convergence code: 0 (OK)
## boundary (singular) fit: see help('isSingular')
```

Some indication that place stability is more often associated with shorter periods of influence.

Numerically, the manner/place category has 50% of its observations in the longest duration from the sample. At the same time, no manner/no place is associated with the shortest duration.

6 Word position

Next we ask, does word position influence stability?

First, data preparation.

```
data_by_position <- database %>%
   select(Position, LexifierPhoneme, PlaceStability, MannerStability) %>%
   mutate(Position = tolower(Position))

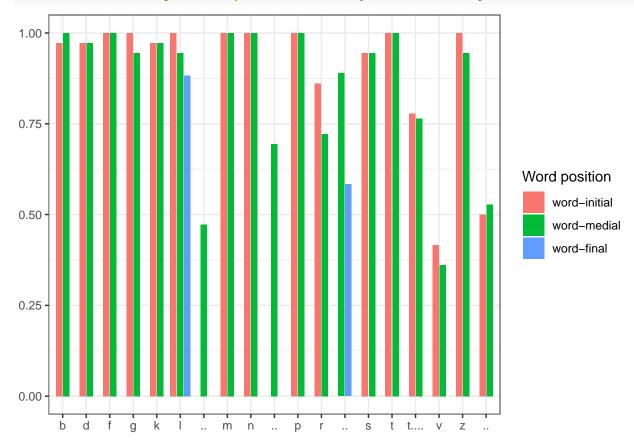
data_by_position$PlaceStability <- as.numeric(data_by_position$PlaceStability)

data_by_position$MannerStability <- as.numeric(data_by_position$MannerStability)</pre>
```

Next, calculate stability for each segment according to its word position.

```
position_results <- position_stability %>%
  group_by(LexifierPhoneme, Position) %>%
  summarize(m = mean(GlobalStability, na.rm = TRUE))
```

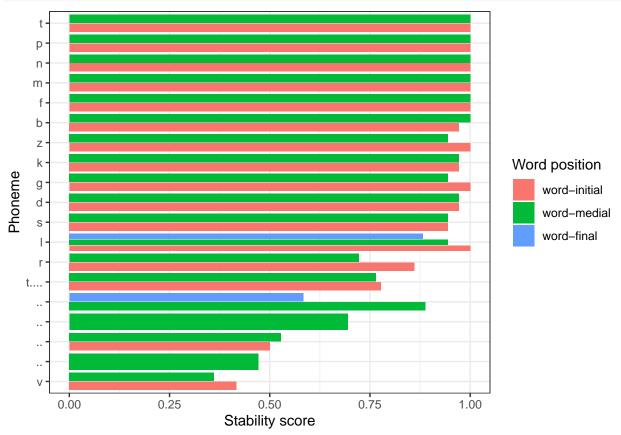
And plot the results for all segments.



Flip horizontally.

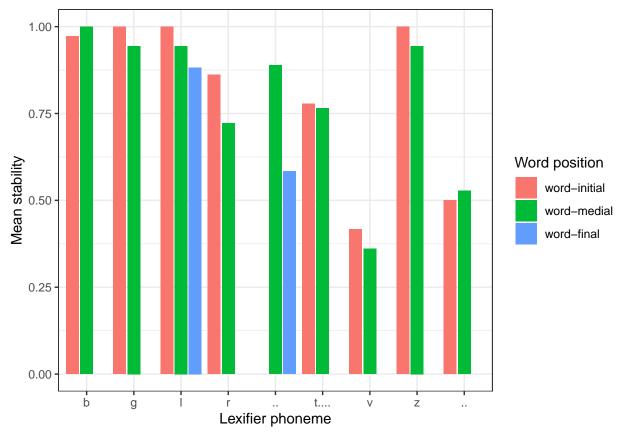
```
ggplot(position_results) +
  geom_bar(
  aes(
    x = m,
    y = reorder(LexifierPhoneme, m),
    fill = Position
  ),
```

```
stat = "identity",
show.legend = TRUE,
position = "dodge2"
) +
labs(x = "Stability score", y = "Phoneme", fill = "Word position")
```



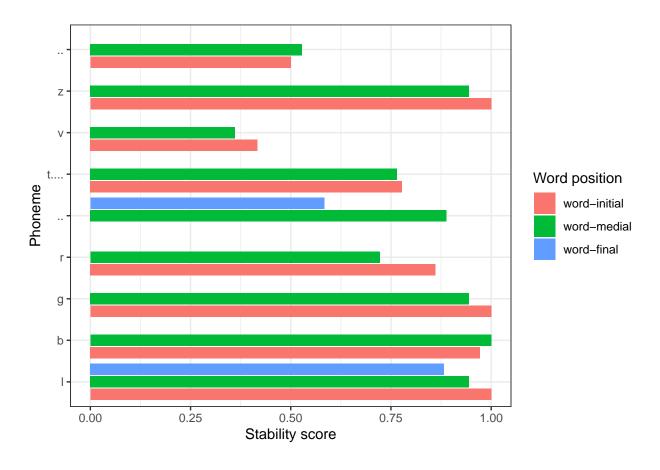
Plot the results for segments that show differences.

```
aes(x = LexifierPhoneme, y = m, fill = Position)
) +
geom_col(position = position_dodge2(width = 0.9, preserve = "single")) +
labs(x = "Lexifier phoneme", y = "Mean stability", fill = "Word position")
```



Flip horizontally.

```
ggplot(different_position_results) +
  geom_bar(
    aes(
        x = m,
        y = reorder(LexifierPhoneme, m),
        fill = Position
    ),
    stat = "identity",
    show.legend = TRUE,
    position = "dodge2"
    ) +
    labs(x = "Stability score", y = "Phoneme", fill = "Word position")
```



7 Conditions of contact

The finding that "slavery has a negative impact on stability" was mainly observational and also literature-based (e.g. Faraclas et al. (2007); Carvalho and Lucchesi (2016); Upper Guinea light creoles = slavery but with lighter contact conditions versus Gulf of Guinea hard creole = slavery and harder contact conditions).

Test whether there's a relation between type of contact situation and overall mean stability.

```
m <- lm(MeanStability ~ ContactConditions, data = creole_stability)</pre>
summary(m)
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = MeanStability ~ ContactConditions, data = creole_stability)
##
## Residuals:
##
                    10
                           Median
                                         3Q
                                                   Max
##
  -0.196336 -0.016876 0.007455
                                  0.061289
                                             0.105251
##
## Coefficients:
##
                             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                              0.89255
##
  (Intercept)
                                         0.03030
                                                   29.459 2.28e-15 ***
## ContactConditionsSlavery -0.05335
                                         0.04065
                                                  -1.313
                                                             0.208
##
                  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Signif. codes:
##
## Residual standard error: 0.08569 on 16 degrees of freedom
```

```
## Multiple R-squared: 0.0972, Adjusted R-squared: 0.04078
## F-statistic: 1.723 on 1 and 16 DF, p-value: 0.2079
ggplot(creole_stability, aes(x = ContactConditions, y = MeanStability,
                             fill = ContactConditions)) +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm") +
  geom_violin() +
  xlab("Contact condition") +
  ylab("Mean stability") +
  guides(fill = "none")
   0.9
Mean stability
   0.7
                          Commerce
                                                                  Slavery
                                         Contact condition
m <- lm(MeanStability ~ duration + ContactConditions * duration,</pre>
        data = creole_stability)
summary(m)
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = MeanStability ~ duration + ContactConditions * duration,
       data = creole_stability)
##
## Residuals:
##
         Min
                    1Q
                          Median
                                         3Q
                                                   Max
## -0.203607 -0.023472 0.007634 0.056201 0.098616
##
## Coefficients:
```

##

(Intercept)

duration

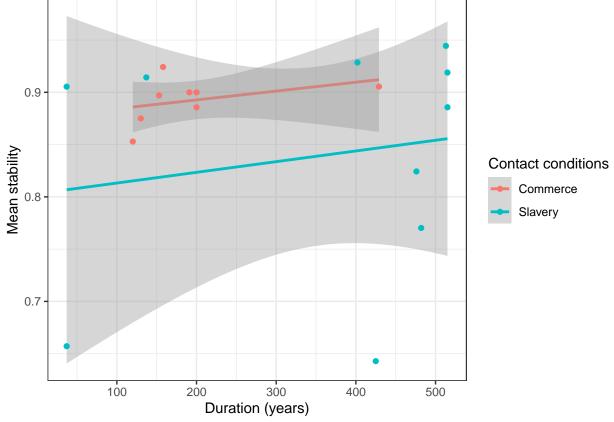
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)

8.459e-05 3.455e-04 0.245

8.758e-01 7.531e-02 11.629 1.4e-08 ***

0.810

```
## ContactConditionsSlavery
                                     -7.282e-02 9.625e-02
                                                            -0.757
                                                                      0.462
## duration:ContactConditionsSlavery 1.766e-05 3.763e-04
                                                                      0.963
                                                             0.047
##
                  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Signif. codes:
##
## Residual standard error: 0.08992 on 14 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.1302, Adjusted R-squared: -0.05624
## F-statistic: 0.6983 on 3 and 14 DF, p-value: 0.5685
ggplot(creole_stability, aes(x = duration, y = MeanStability,
                             color = ContactConditions)) +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm") +
  geom_point() +
  xlab("Duration (years)") +
  ylab("Mean stability") +
  labs(color = "Contact conditions")
```



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