

# Knowing your /r/s from your elbow

*looking at variation and change in English rhoticity*

Danielle Turton

Edinburgh University English Language Society

31<sup>st</sup> January 2018



# Same or different?



spar



spa



Google

intrusive r |

intrusive r examples

intrusive r annoying

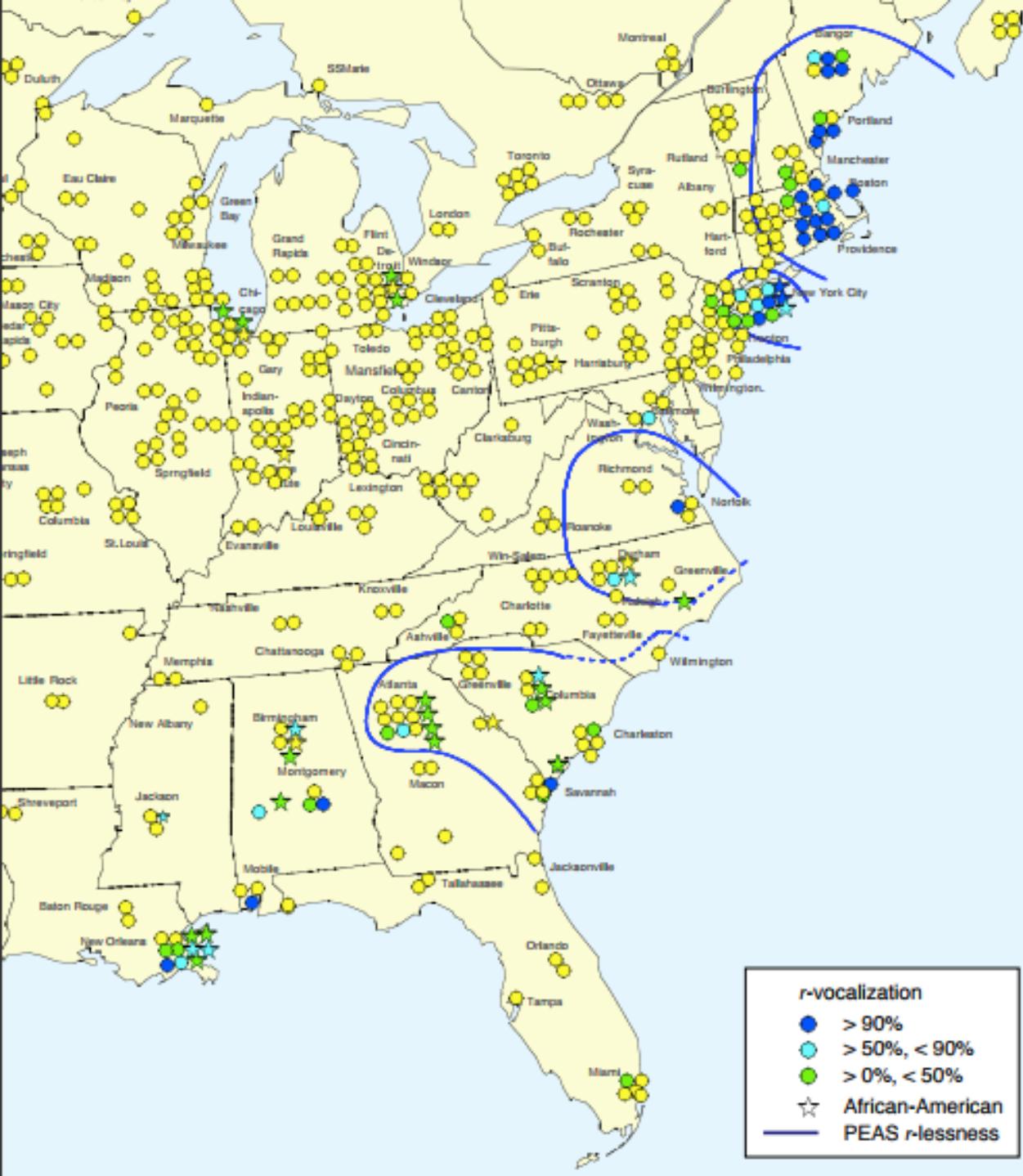
intrusive r and linking r

intrusive r definition

intrusive r in american english







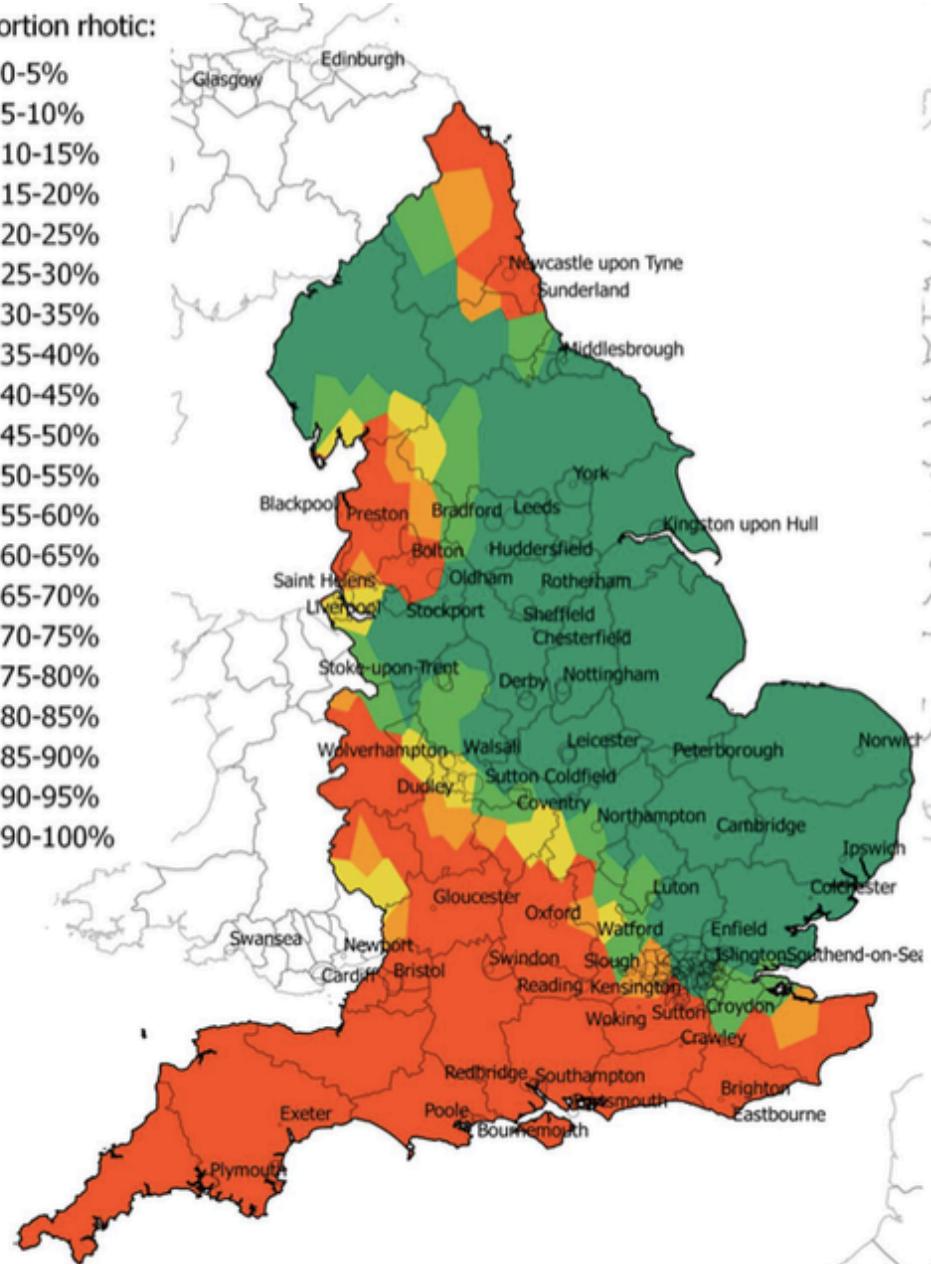
# Linguistic Atlas of North American English (Labov, Ash & Boberg 2006)





Proportion rhotic:

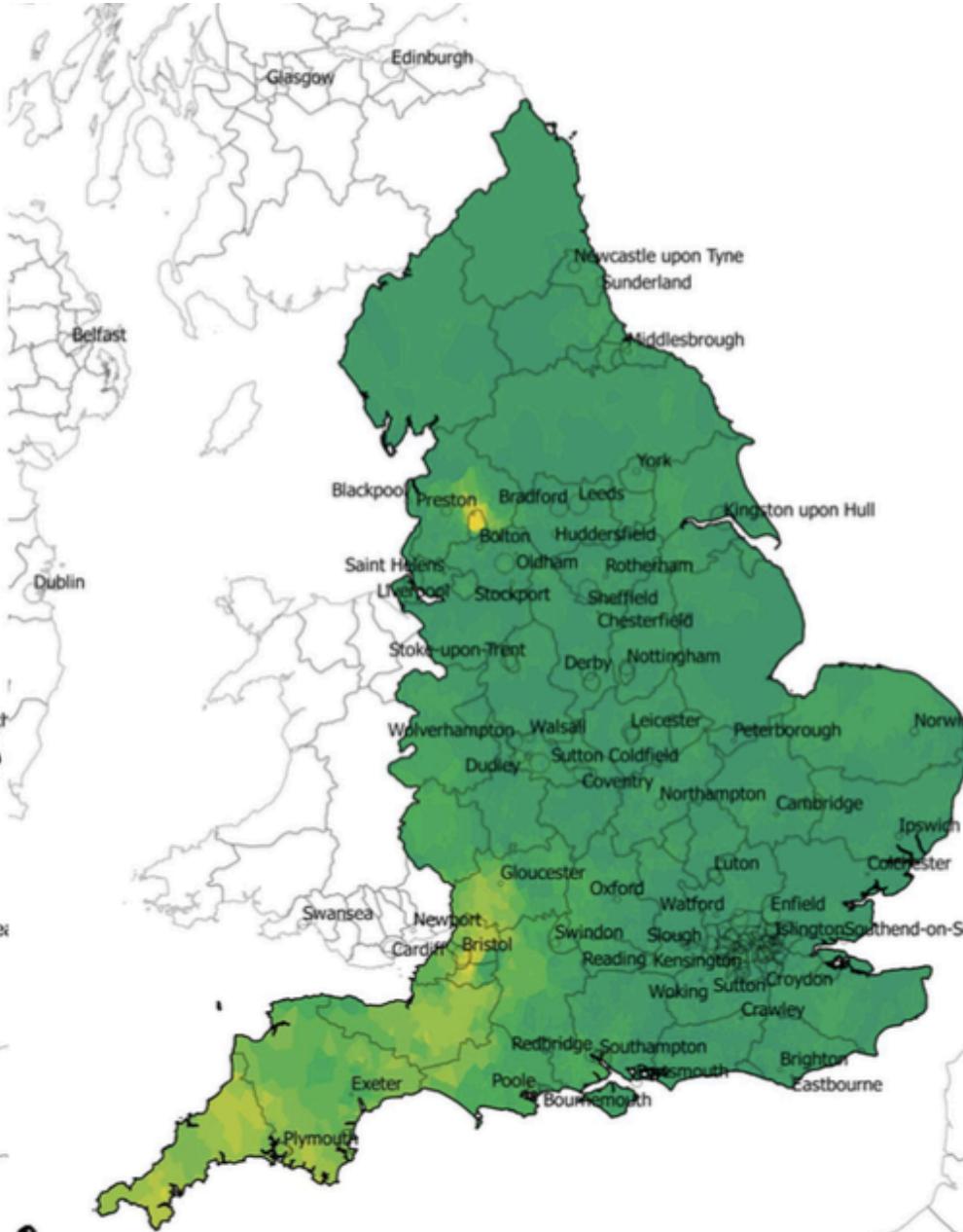
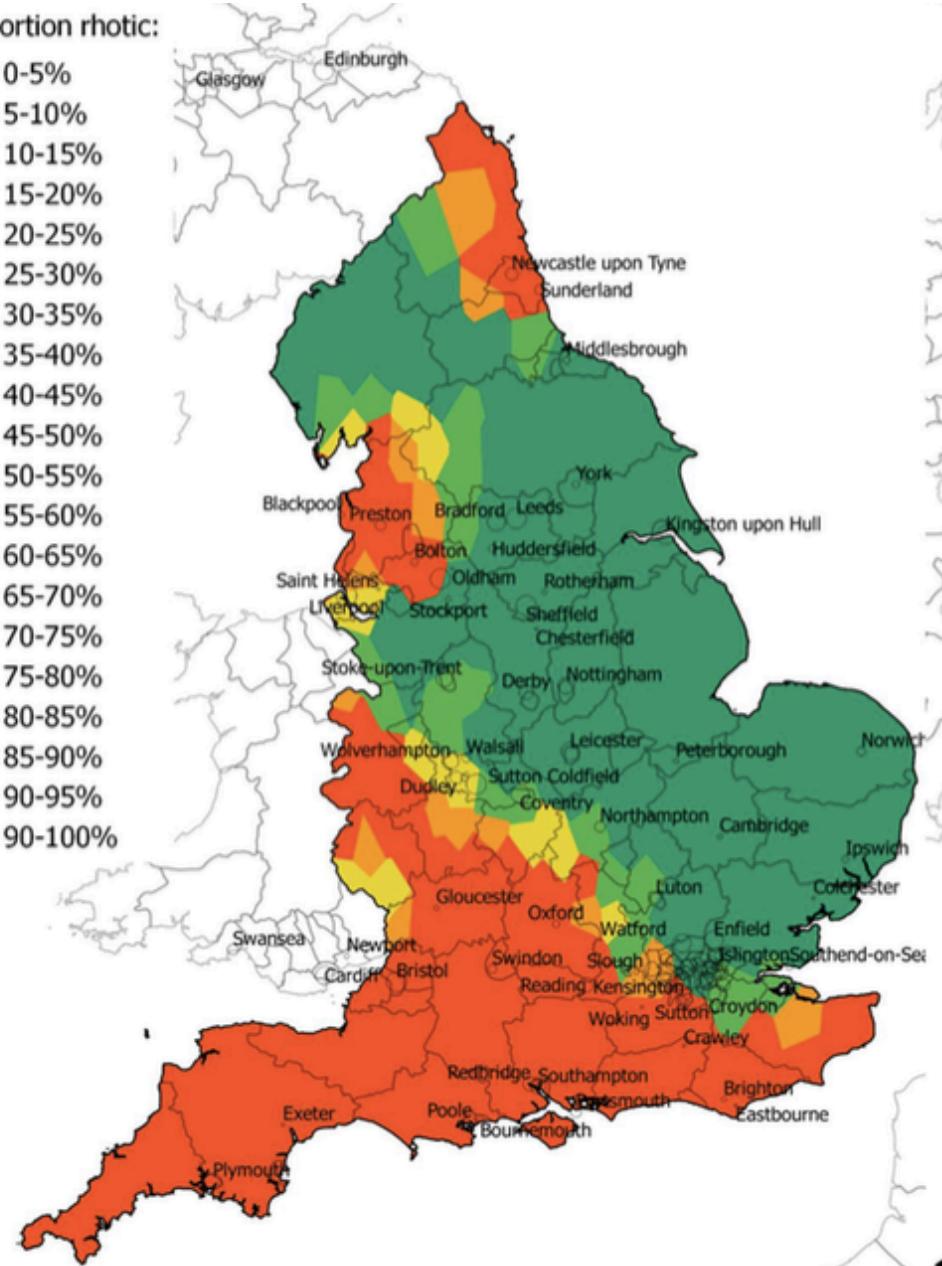
- 0-5%
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- 85-90%
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- 90-100%



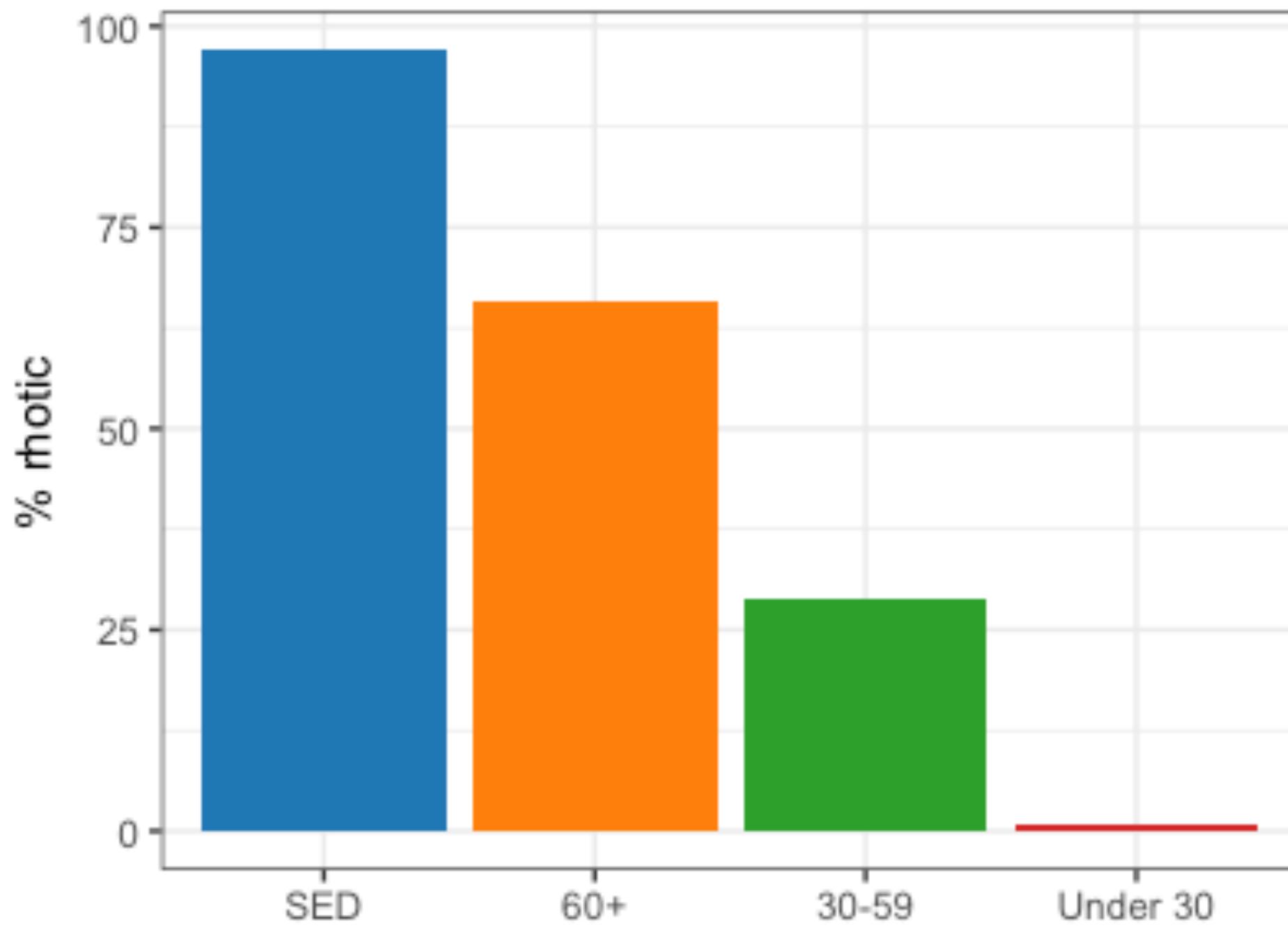
Survey of English dialects

Proportion rhotic:

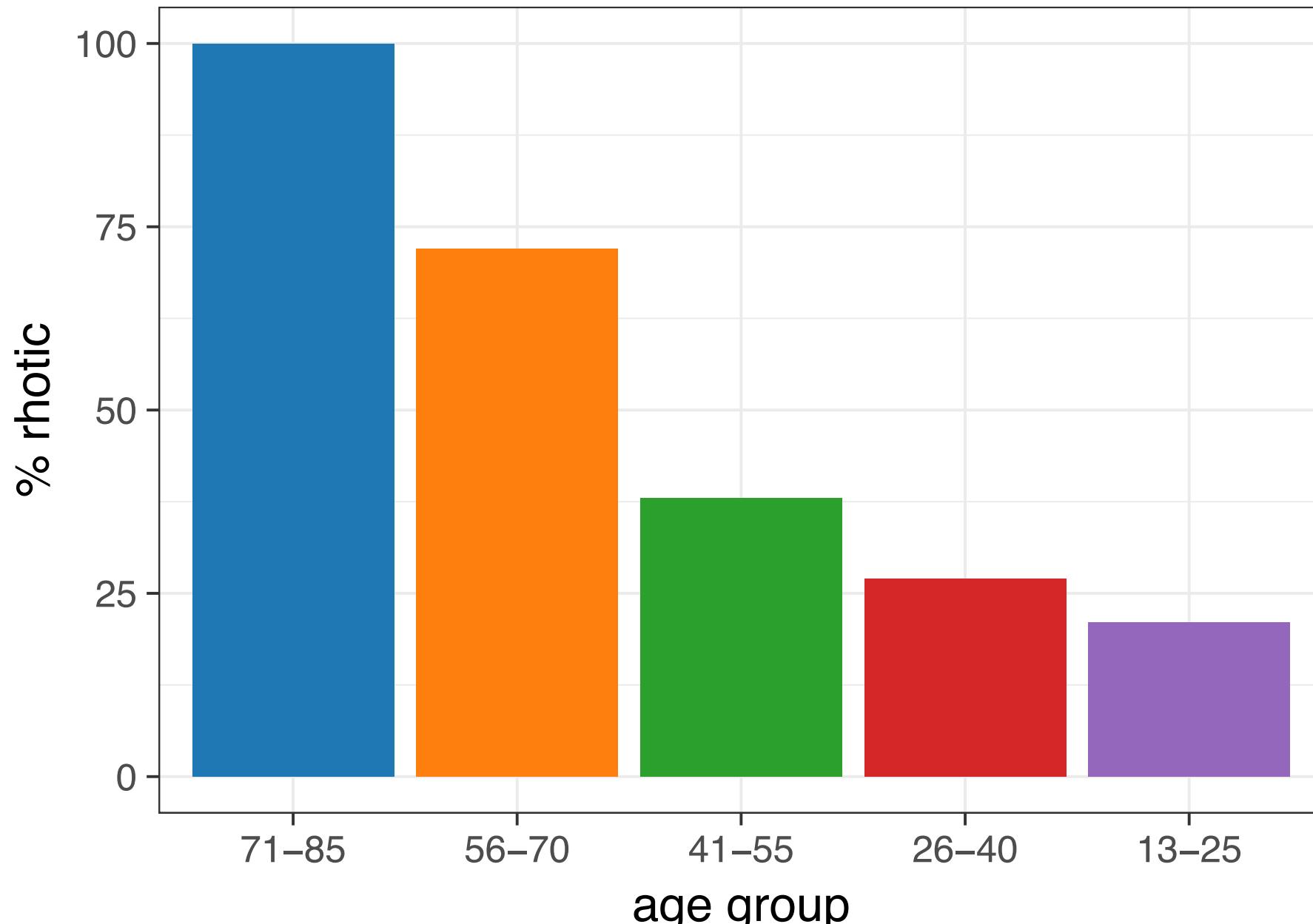
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- 60-65%
- 65-70%
- 70-75%
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- 80-85%
- 85-90%
- 90-95%
- 90-100%



English Dialects App: Leeman, Britain & Blaxter (2017)



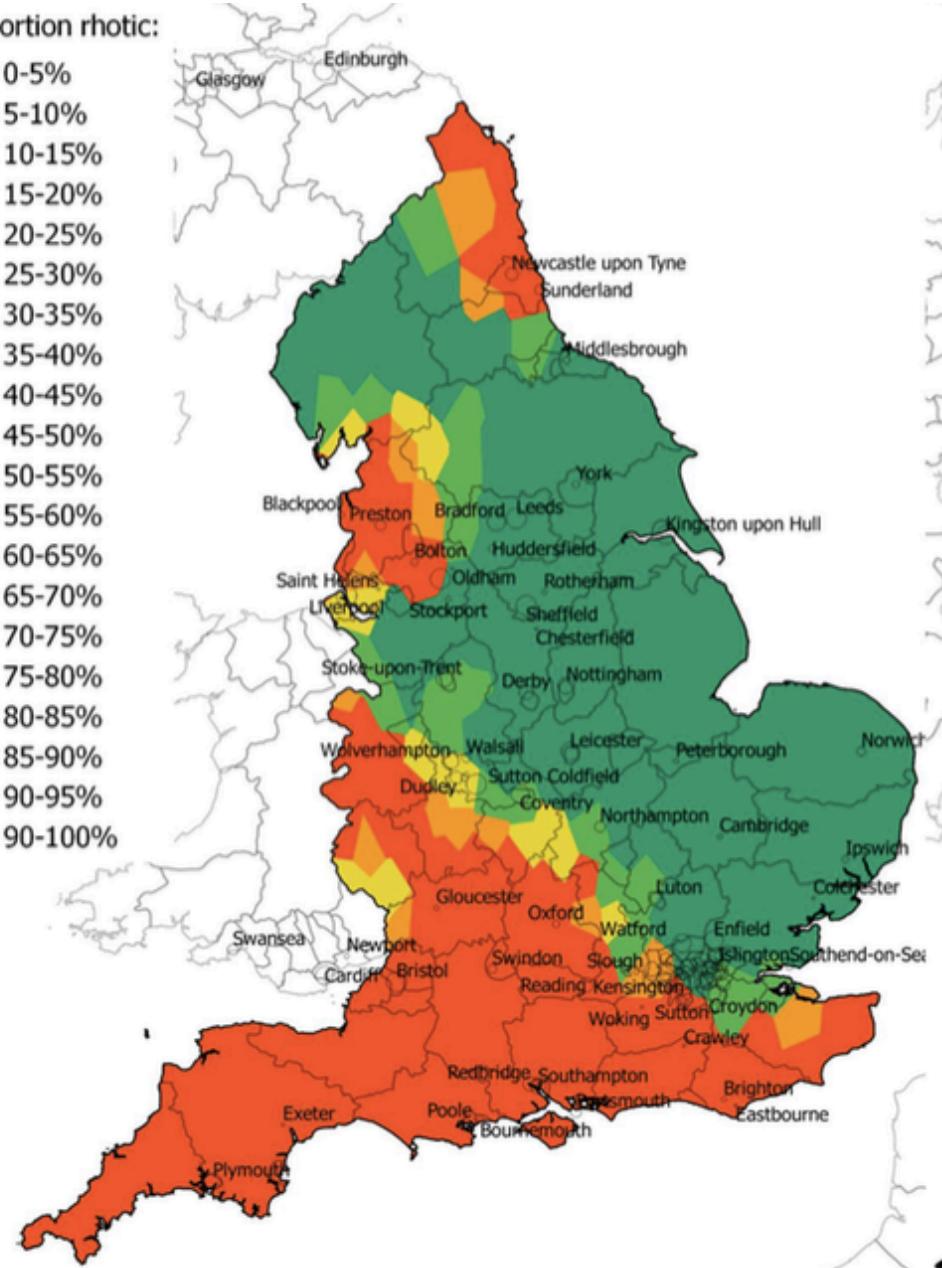
adapted  
from  
Piercy  
(2012)  
Dorset



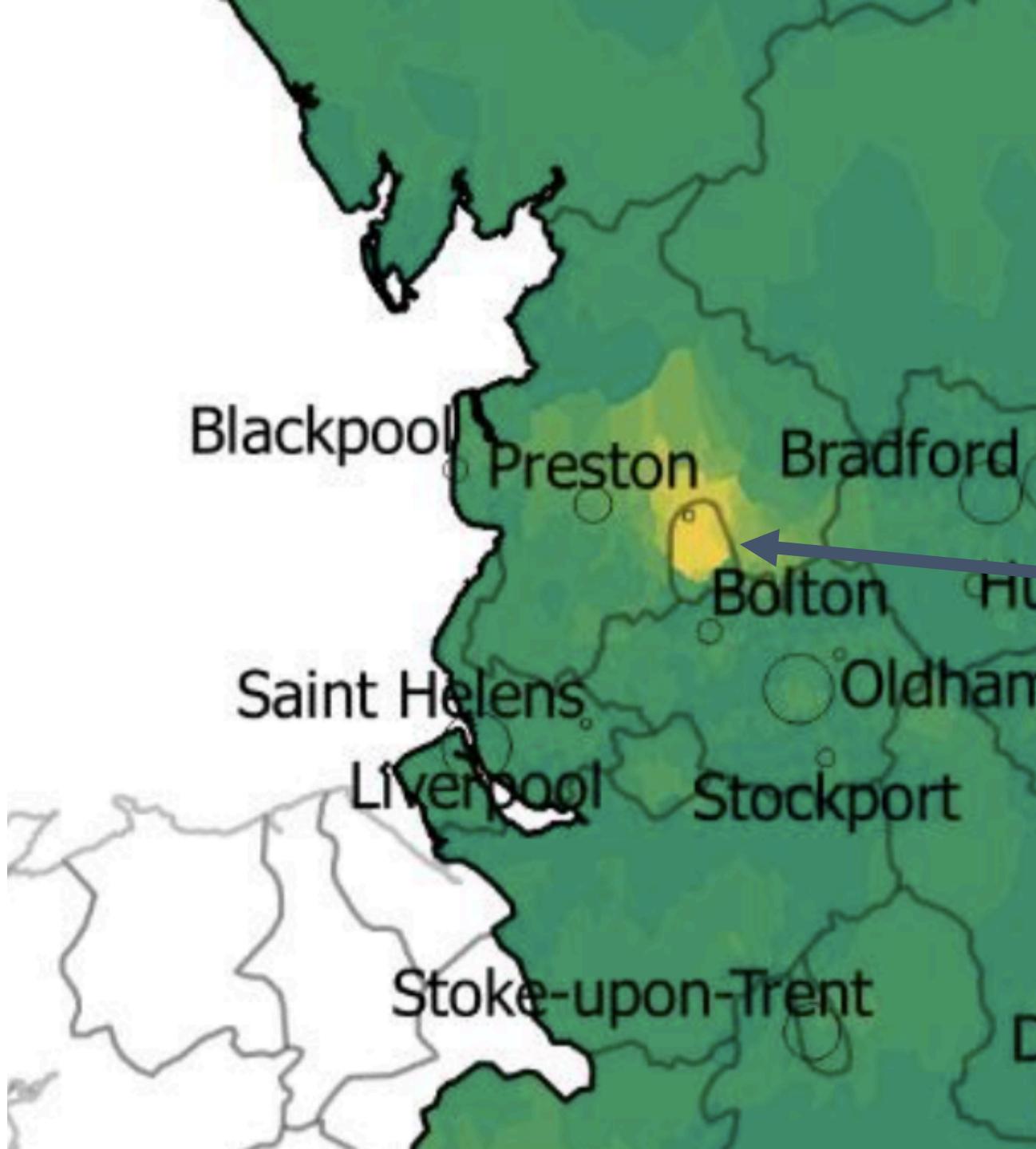
Jordan  
(2018)  
Cornwall  
Survey

Proportion rhotic:

- 0-5%
- 5-10%
- 10-15%
- 15-20%
- 20-25%
- 25-30%
- 30-35%
- 35-40%
- 40-45%
- 45-50%
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- 75-80%
- 80-85%
- 85-90%
- 90-95%
- 90-100%

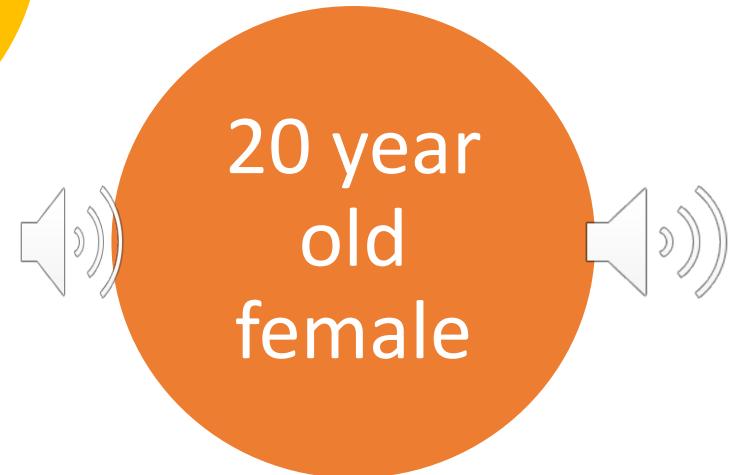


English Dialects App: Leeman, Britain & Blaxter (2017)



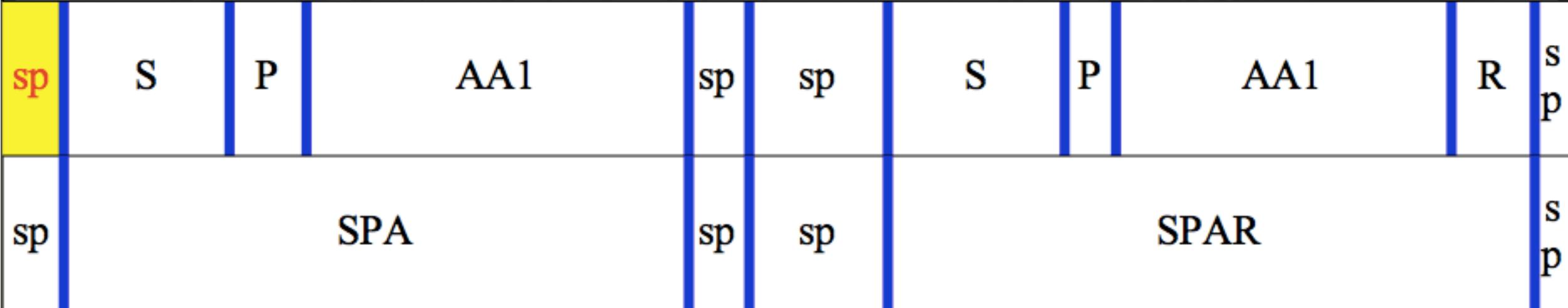
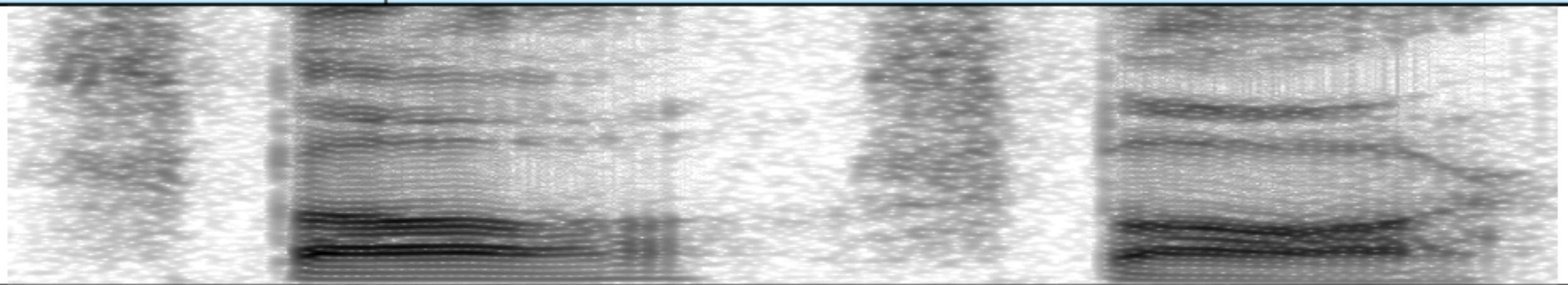
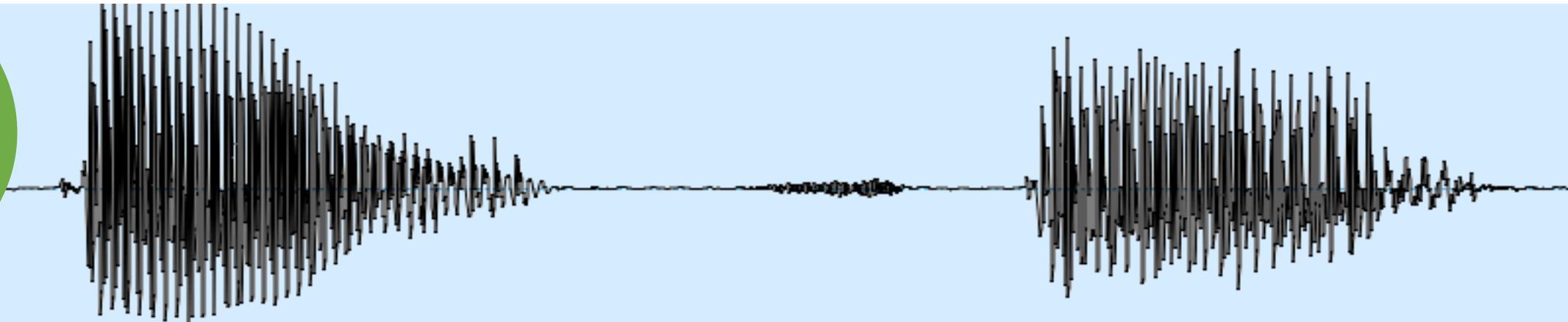
**Blackburn,  
Lancashire**

# spa - spar

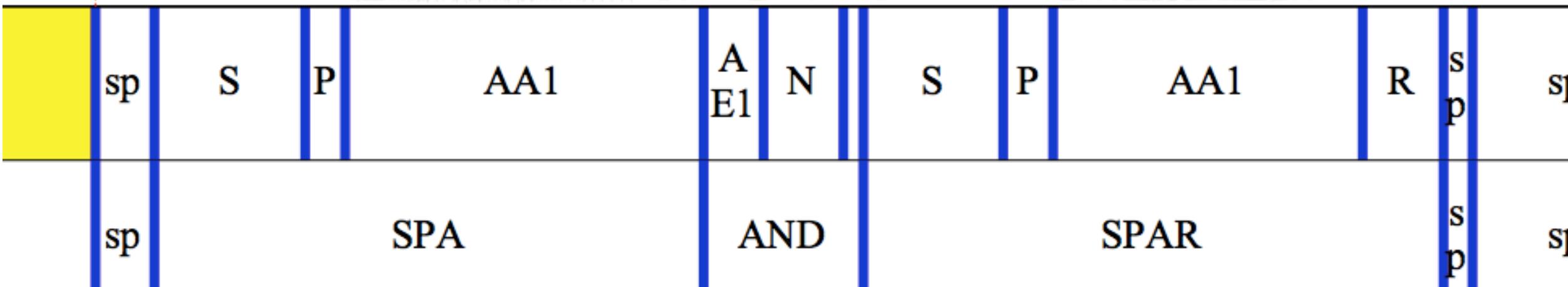
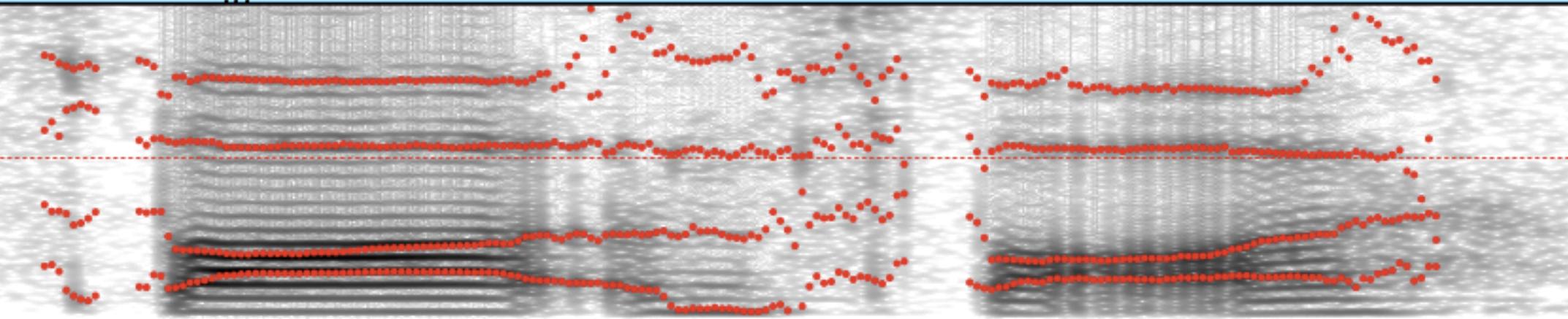
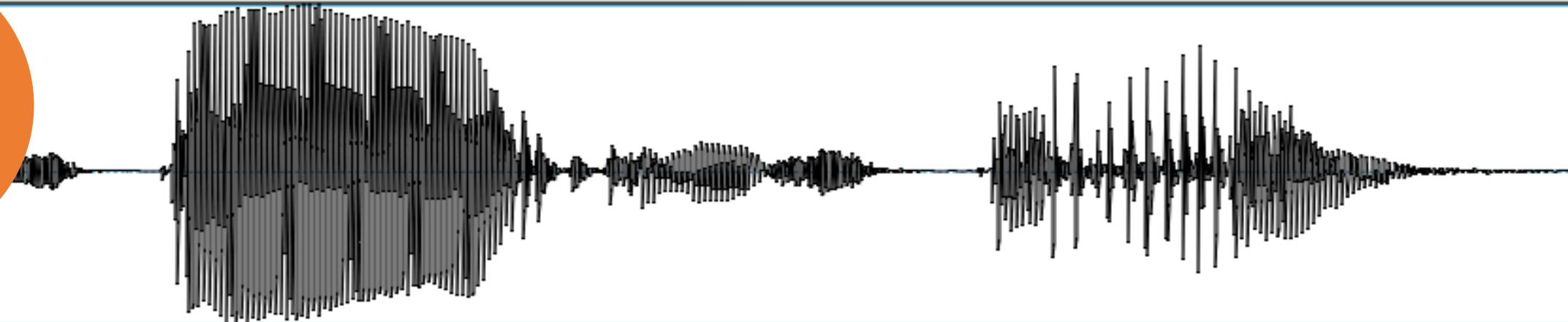


*same or different?*

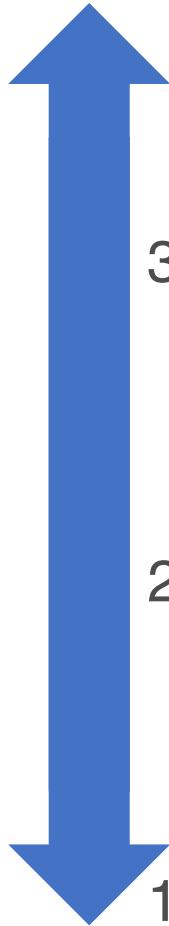
61 year  
old  
male



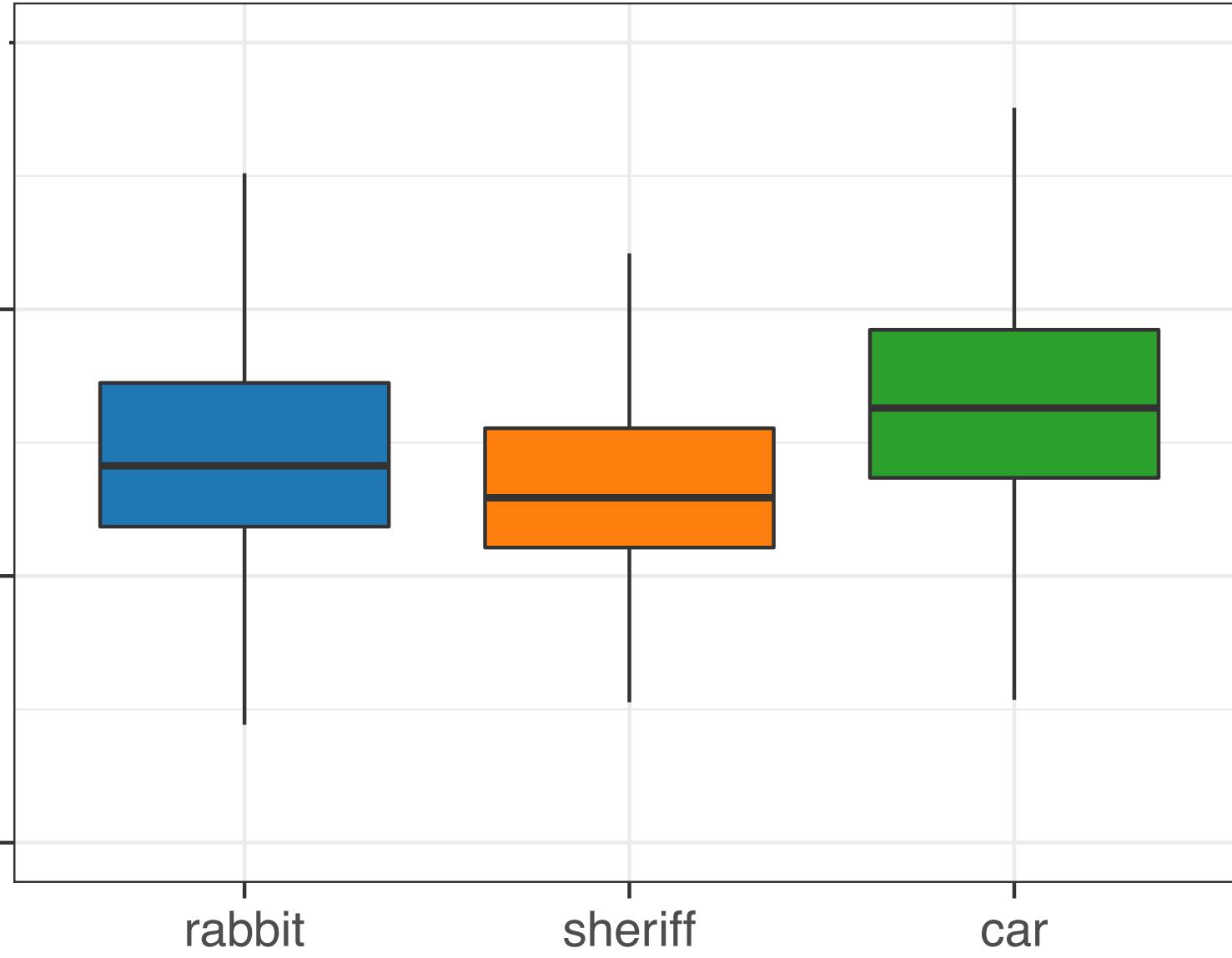
33 / 129  
20 year  
old  
female



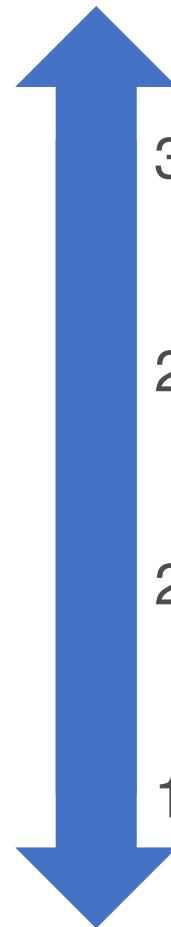
weakerrrr



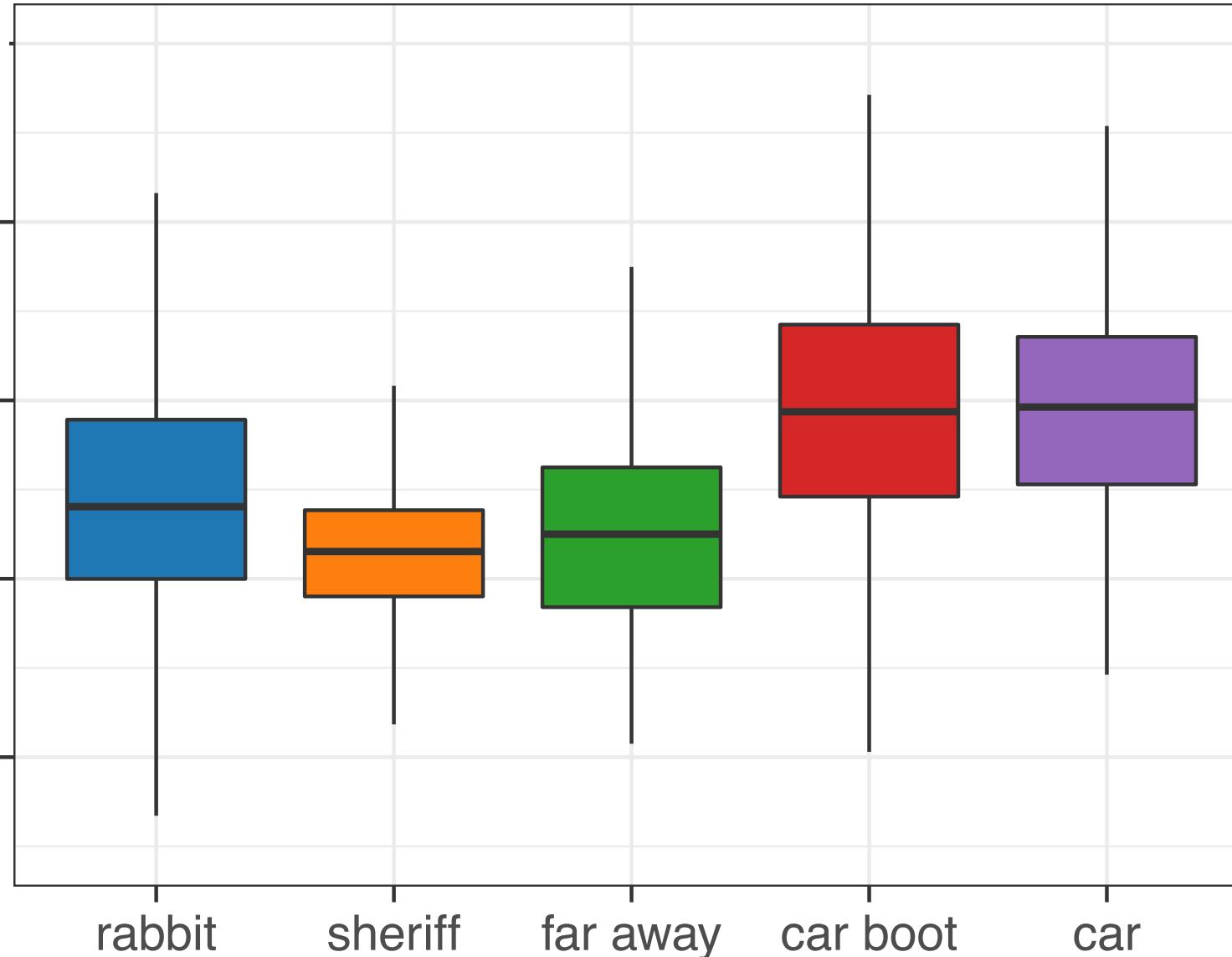
strongerrrr



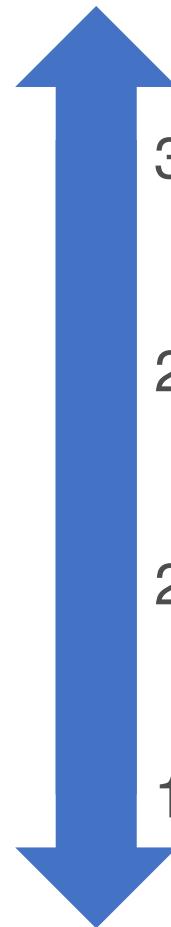
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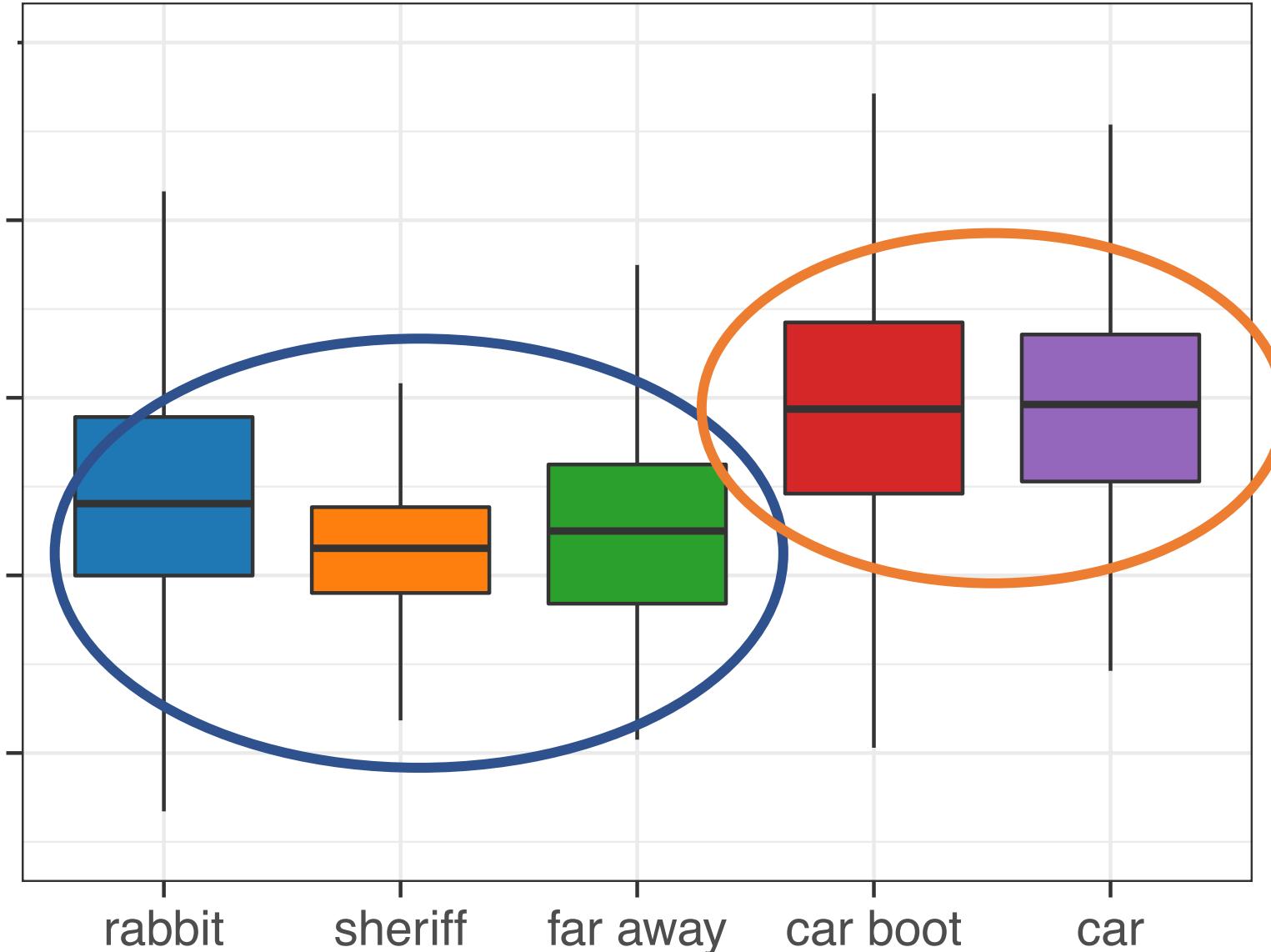
strongerrrr



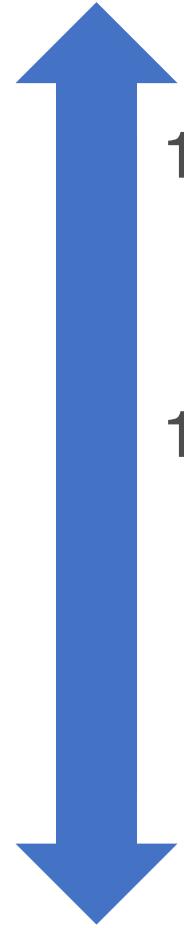
weakerrrr



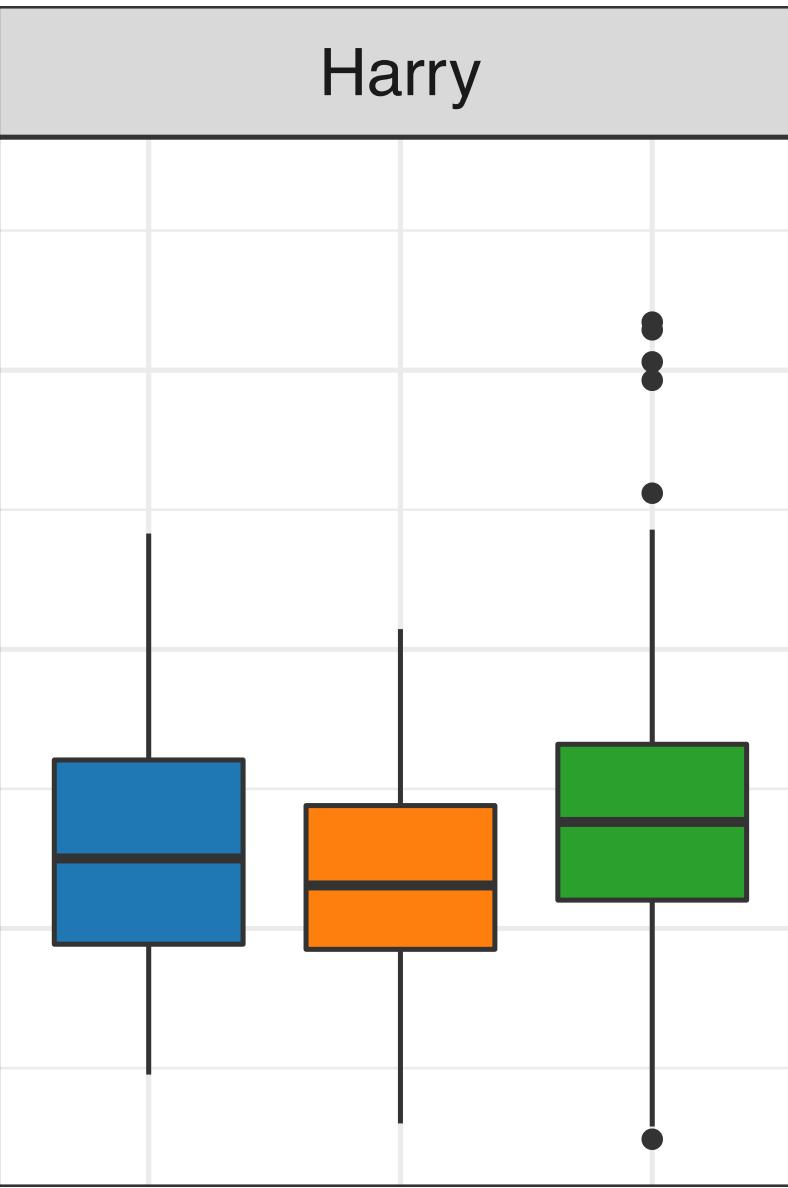
strongerrrr



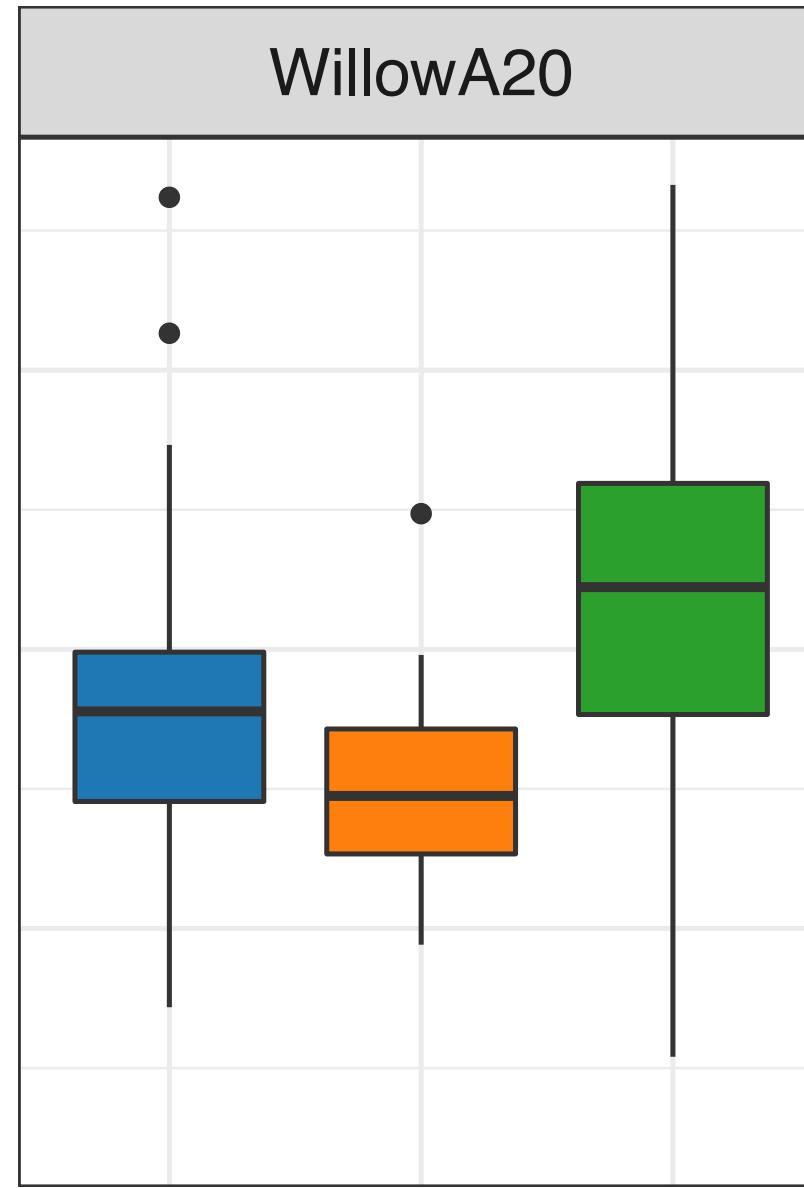
weakerrrr



Harry

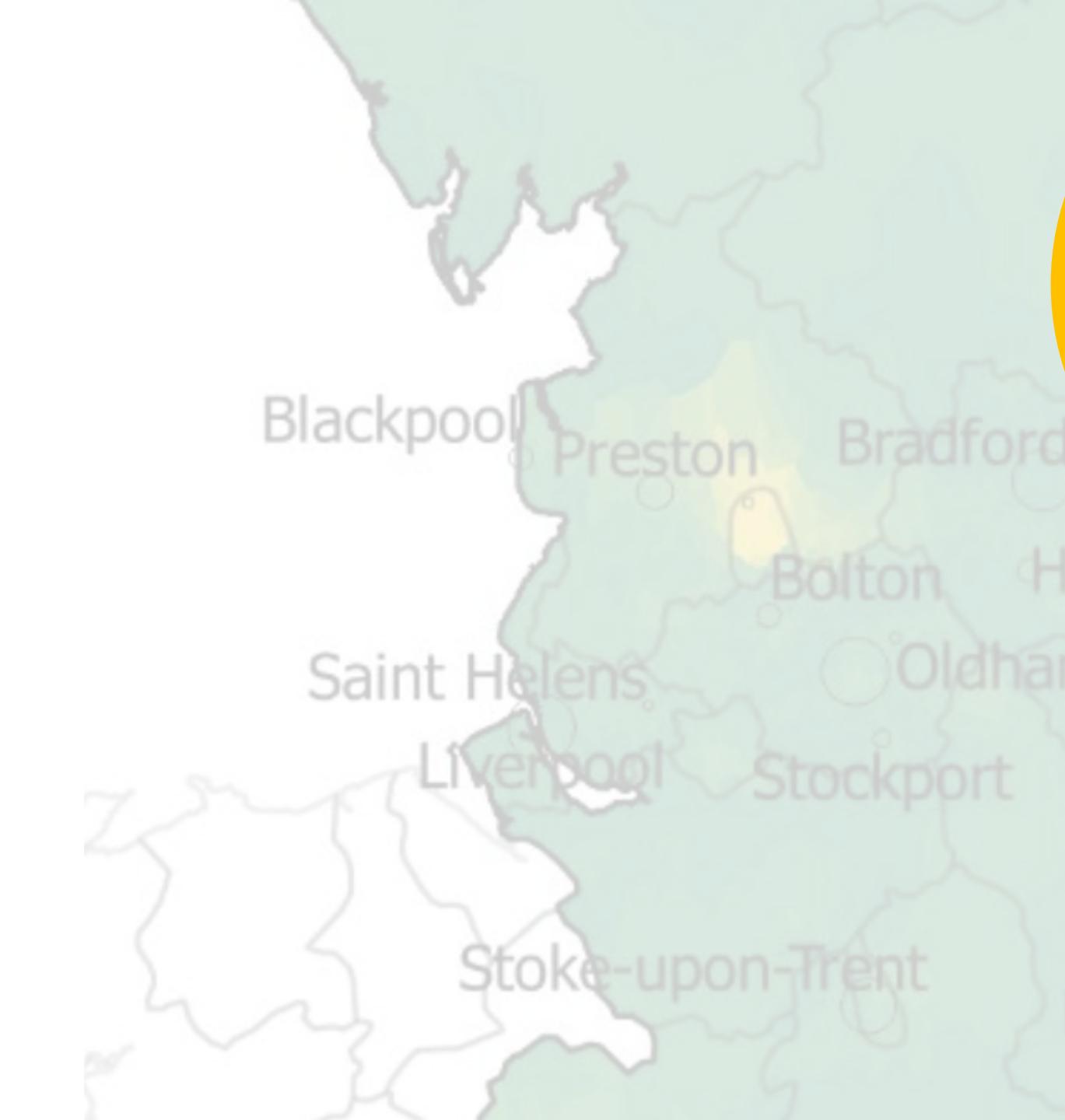


WillowA20



strongerrrr



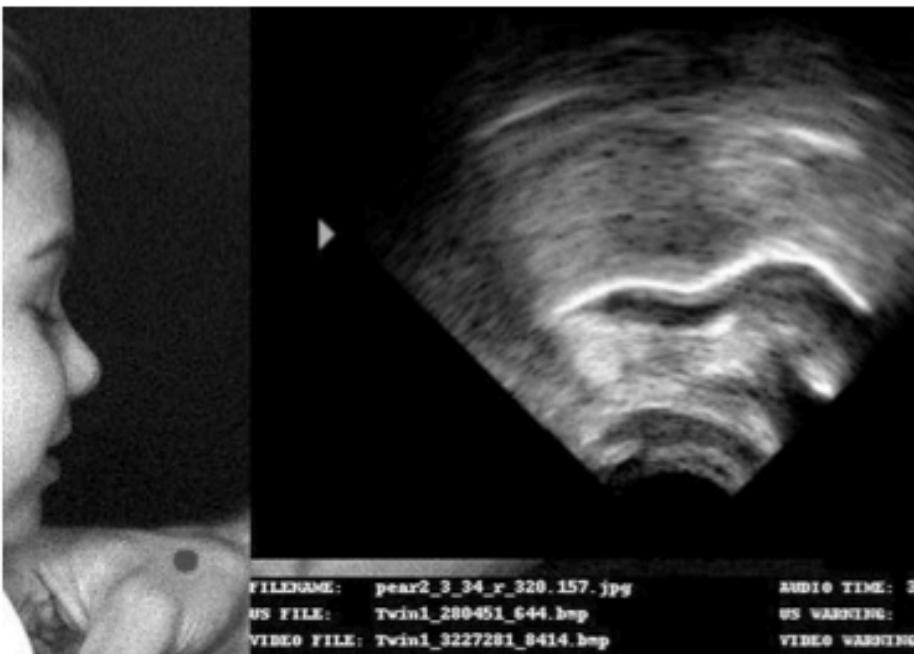


Thanks for  
listening!

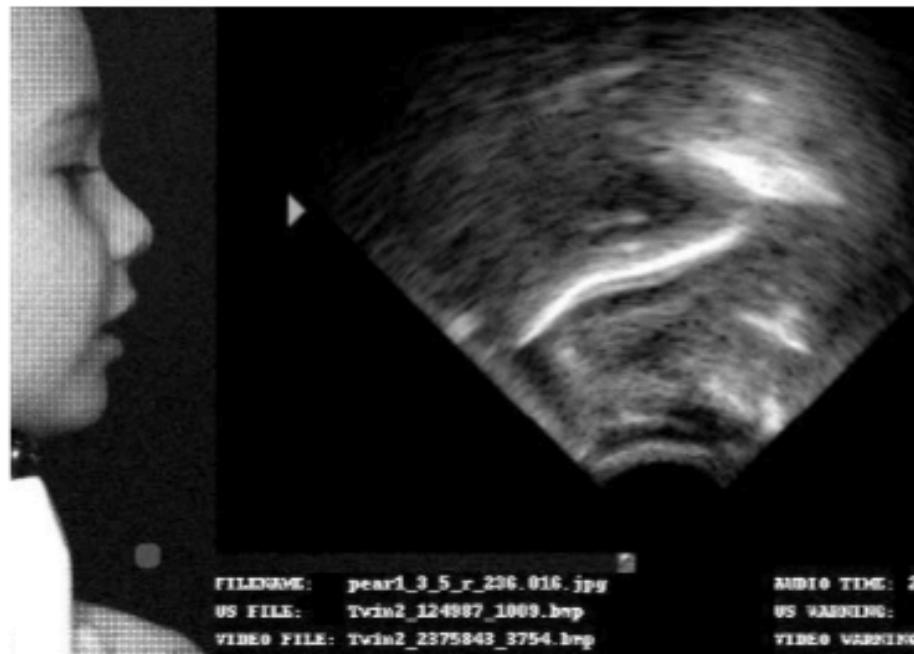
If you liked this,  
you'll love the  
Northern Englishes  
Workshop: 27-28  
March, Newcastle  
University

@northernew8

# Ultrasound /r/s



Twin 1, bunched “pear”



Twin 2, retroflexed “pear”

MacLoughlin (2013, 2016)

**spa - spar**

*same or different?*