Project Overview

- Motivation: Analyze the physical and perceptual differences between phonemes that have different forms of phonological contrast
- Looking at the [k] and [c] sounds in English, Turkish, and Vietnamese
 - English: allophones non-contrastive, usually non-distinctive
 - Turkish: quasi-phonemes non-contrastive, distinctive
 - Vietnamese: separate phonemes contrastive, distinctive

Palatograms/Spectrum Analysis

- o English
 - [ci], [kap], [tʃip]
 - key, cop, cheap
 - key, cop, cheap
- Turkish
 - [ici], [kapɨ], [tʃim]
 - iki, kapı, çim
 - two, gate/door, grass
- Vietnamese
 - [cia], [ca], [kao], [tʃîp]
 - chia, cha, cao, English[cheap]
 - divide, dad, high, cheap
 - Note: can't even find high/front vowels with [k]

• Phoneme Confusion Test

- All Languages
 - Consonants: [c, k, t], [t, t]
 - Vowels: [a, o, u, i, o, ∧, ε, æ, ø, y, e, i]
 - Test with all 60 pairs
- o English as in...
 - key, car, chat, ship, tap
 - Prep English speaker for key vs car beforehand
- o Turkish as in...
 - kir, kol, çok, şeker, tuz
 - dirt, arm, a lot, sugar, salt
- Vietnamese as in...
 - cha, cơm, chat, ship,tên
 - dad, rice, chat, ship, name
 - Red words in English because Vietnamese doesn't have those sounds

Learnability

- Rule: all words receive suffix -[ci] or -[ka] depending on vowel harmony (to simplify all root words will end in [i] or [a]
- Training samples will all have correct pronunciation

- Test samples will include examples with correct/incorrect vowel harmony paired with correct/incorrect palatalization
- Potential Sources of Error
 - o I may not pronounce words perfectly