Vowel duration and tongue root advancement in Italian and Polish

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Background

- tongue root advancement (TRA)
 - voicing (Westbury 1983)
 - · VOT (Ahn 2015)
 - · also vowel duration?
- · voicing effect
 - · House & Fairbanks (1953), Chen (1970), Klatt (1973), Lisker (1973)
 - · no consesus

Background

- · Italian
 - · voicing effect (Farnetani & Kori 1986)
- · Polish
 - · no voicing effect (Keating 1984)
- → Assessment of tongue contour using ultrasonography (part of a broader research project)

Methods

- pilot study (work in progress)
- · Italian (2 males), Polish (1 female, 1 male)
- \cdot $C_1V_1C_2V_2$

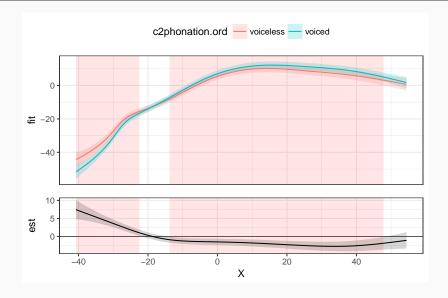
•
$$C_1 = /p/$$
, $V_1 = /a$, o, u/, $C_2 = /t$, d, k, g/

- · frame sentence
 - · Dico X lentamente, 'I say X slowly'
 - · Mówię X teraz, 'I say X now'

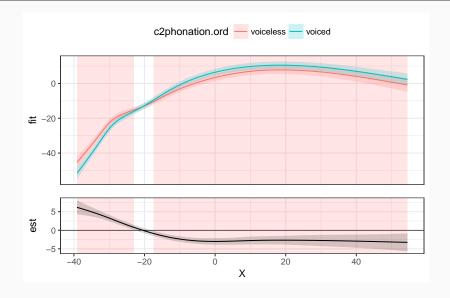
Methods

- Articulate Instruments set-up with probe stabilisation headset (Articulate Instruments Ltd 2011)
- · data
 - tongue contours at maximum tongue displacement (Strycharczuk & Scobbie 2015) and acoustic closure
 - · vowel, closure and consonant duration
- analysis
 - · linear mixed effects models (Bates et al. 2015)
 - generalised additive mixed effects models (Wood 2006)

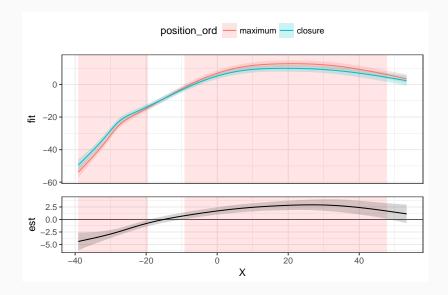
Results: Italian (maximum displacement)



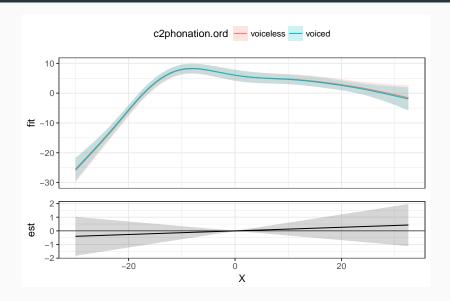
Results: Italian (closure)



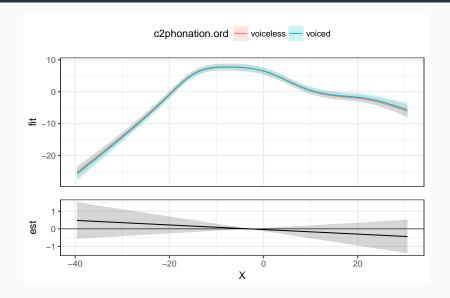
Results: Italian (closure vs. maximum displacement)



Results: Polish (maximum displacement)



Results: Polish (closure)



Discussion

- · no TRA in Polish
- TRA in Italian (at closure and maximum displacement)
- TRA in Italian increases from closure to maximum displacement
- → TRA is initiated **before closure** in voiced stops
 - · time to allow TRA → longer vowel
 - · cf. Halle & Stevens (1967)

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