Introduction

- /s/-aspiration in Spanish: estanco ‘kiosk’ [eˈtanko]
- Sound change from pre- to post-aspiration (Ruch & Harrington 2014)
- Indexical function of phonetic variation (e.g. Clopper & Pisoni 2004, Foukess et al. 2011, Mack & Munson 2012)

Andalusian Spanish

/sp, st, sk/

/pt, ht, k/ → /pt, t’, k’/
edestanco [eˈtanko]
estanco [eˈtanko]

• Do listeners of Andalusian Spanish have (explicit or implicit) knowledge of this variation and change?

Hypotheses

H1: Post-aspirated stops are associated with speakers from Seville, pre-aspirated stops with speakers from Granada.

H2: Post-aspirated stops are associated with younger, pre-aspirated stops with older speakers.

H3: The effect of the phonetic variant on the hearer’s response is more marked in words with /s/ than in words with /sp, sk/.

Method

Manipulation of duration in Praat

- 31 isolated words (e.g. estando, escapa, Española) spoken by Andalians
- Pre-test: AXB, 16 subj. Are differences perceptible?

Perception experiment

18 stimuli pairs A-B from 17 speakers (11 SE, 6 GR; 11 < 55y, 6 > 55y), 19 filler pairs (e.g. secaron – secaron) from 19 other speakers; randomized

Where do you think is this speaker from? How old do you think is he/she?

- 59 listeners: 28 from Seville, 31 from Granada; 50 < 55 y., 9 > 55 y.

References


Discussion

- Andalusian listeners deduced speaker’s age and geographic origin from fine-phonetic detail (pre-/post-aspirated stops)
- Participants mentioned stop aspiration as a typical feature of Seville Spanish, but not of younger speakers
- explicit knowledge of geographical variation
- implicit knowledge of change
- Speakers who were perceived as being from Seville were at the same time judged as being younger, consistent with the production data (Ruch 2013).
- no knowledge of sound change in Granada Spanish
- Although Eastern Andalusian varieties tend to converge towards the Castilian standard (Hernández-Campoy & Villena Ponsoda 2009), younger Granada speakers are adopting a typically Western feature
- Granada: independent process or context-induced change?