

Is there missing coarticulation?

An EMA study of plosives in CV syllables in German and other selected languages

Coarticulation and articulatory invariance have long been a topic of phonetic research. Plosives especially have been theorized to exhibit invariant acoustic cues in their burst spectra. While acoustic evidence has been rather sparse there have been some findings suggesting invariance in the articulatory dimension.

In this ongoing study we attempt to add to this evidence by measuring the shared information about several articulators between unvoiced plosives and the following vowel in EMA (electromagnetic articulography) recordings. The data includes a group of native German speakers as well as 3 people speaking Urdu, Hungarian and Turkish respectively in order to both add to the evidence for articulatory invariance in German and give insight into the potential of generalizing these findings across languages in future work.