Speech physiology or more? Vowel duration and tongue height in Northwestern Italian



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Model prediction.

The vowel (/a, e, i, ɔ, u/) from which F1 and duration are taken.

The height of the predicted curve differs depending on vowel. Compare the position of the curves relative to the red horizontal

MATERIALS CVCo words, with C = /p, t, k/ in all permutations and V = /a, e, i, o, u/. 5 frame sentences.

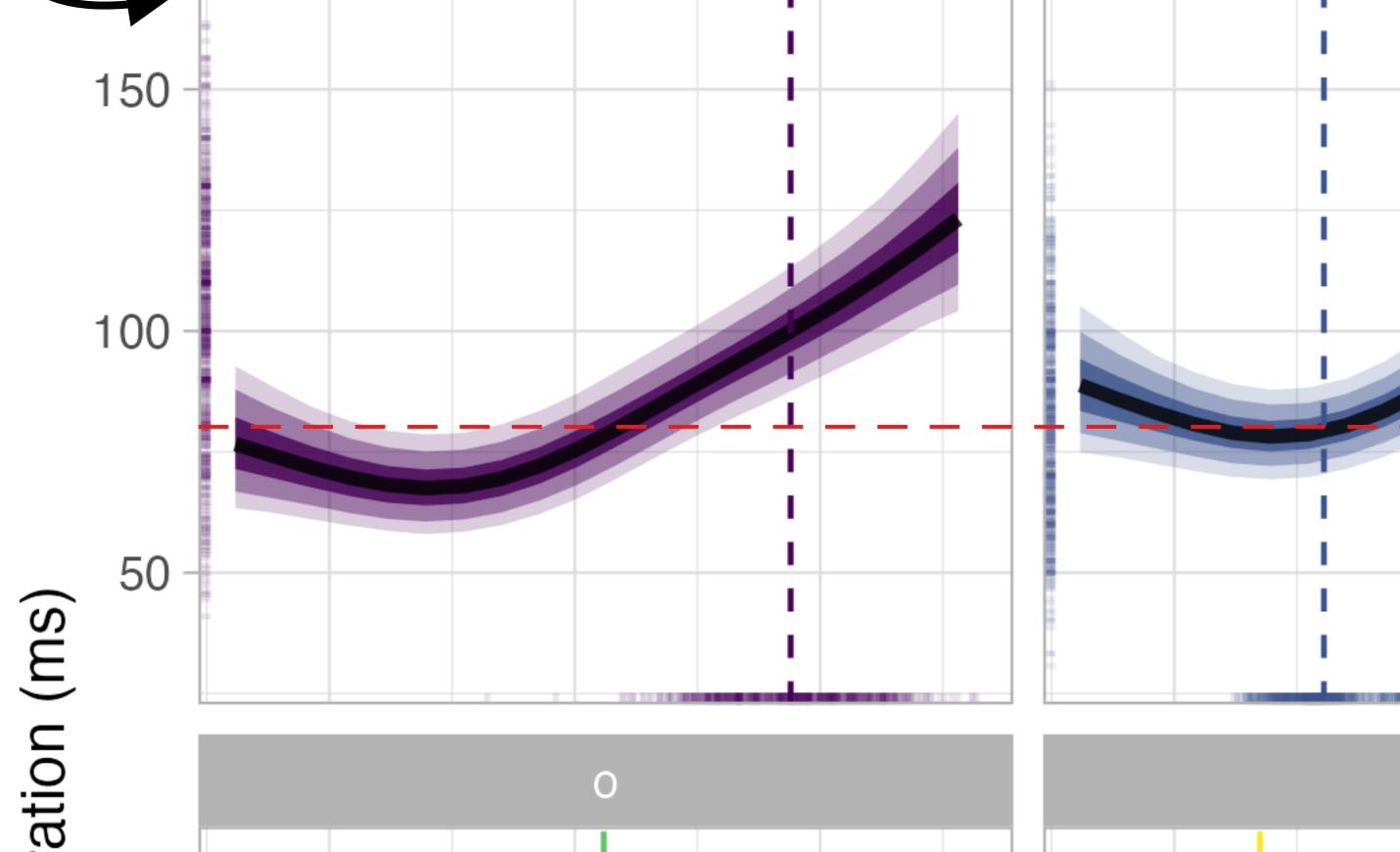
The coloured ticks on the y-axis are raw duration measurements of each vowel.

ANALYSIS

Bayesian model fitted to duration with vowel as a linear predictor and F1 as a non-linear smooth.

> **H.a**: coefs of vowel are 0

> **H.b**: coefs of vowel are far from 0



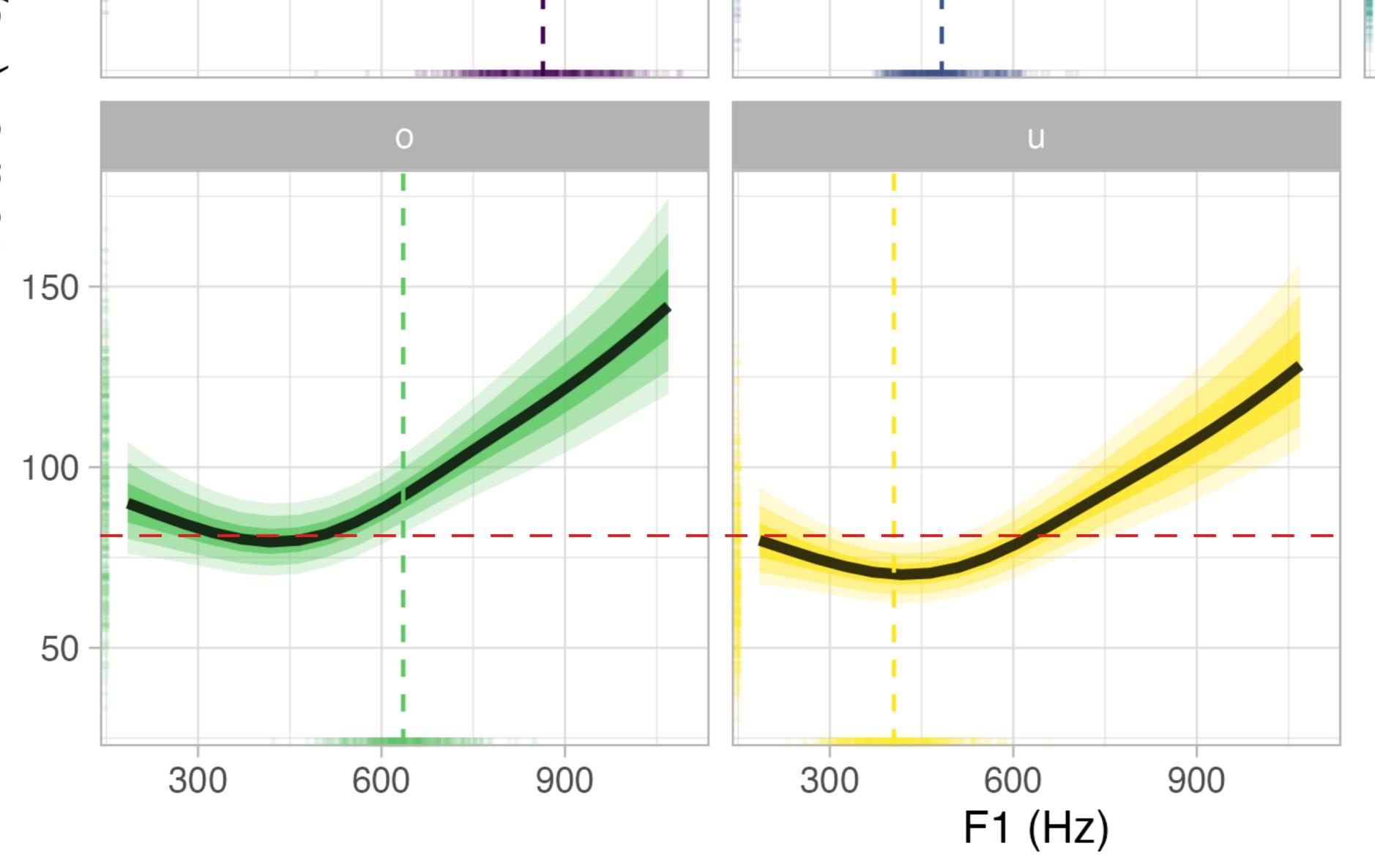
dashed line. Compatible with H.b.

The shaded areas around the Mean F1 from black thick line (mean prediction) the raw data. are 60%, 90% and 98% CrIs from darker to ligher shade. Predicted across-vowel mean duration at F1 = 600 Hz for reference. The coloured ticks on the x-axis are raw F1 measurements of each vowel. 300 900

RESULTS

CrI-lo CrI-hi 95% +0.02 +0.37 -0.32

CrIs generally far from 0.



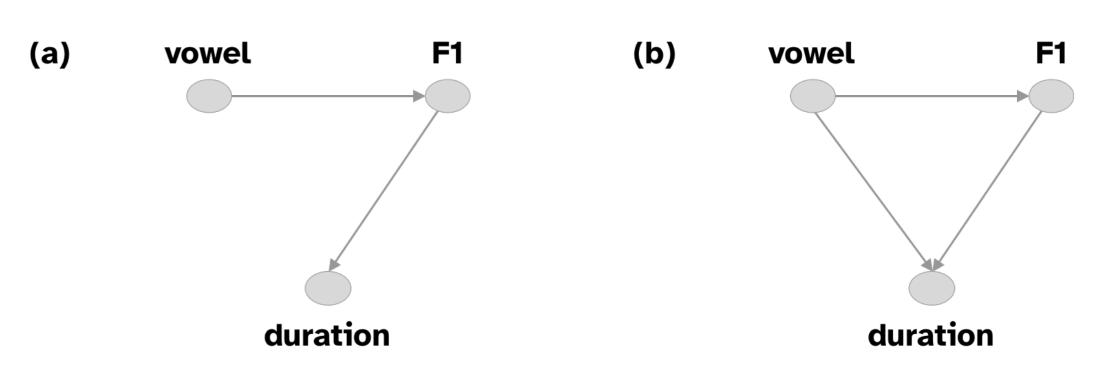
HYPOTHESES

(a) Full-mediation hypothesis

The vowel category determines F1 (and the tongue position), which in turn determines the gesture duration (and hence, the vowel's). (Turk et al 1994)

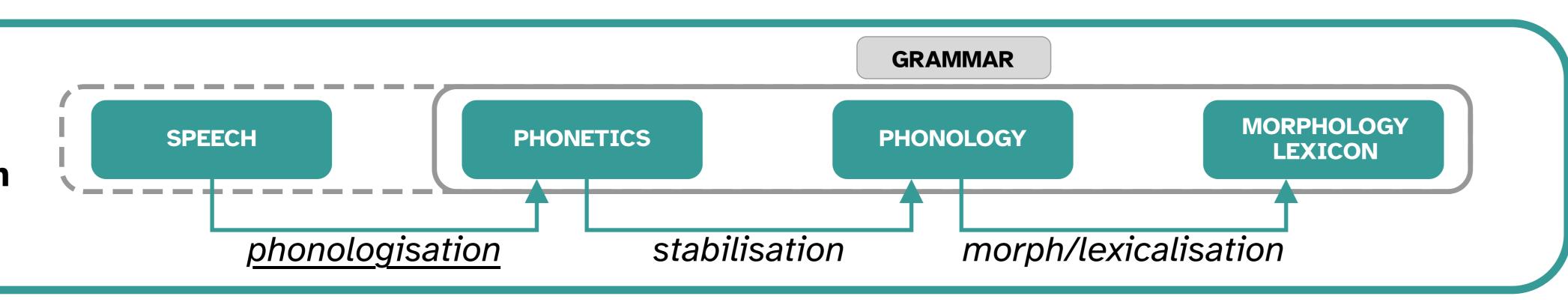
(b) Partial-mediation hypothesis

Vowel category determines F1 and duration, and duration is also partially determined by F1. (Toivonen 2015, BermúdezOtero 2010)



LIFE-CYCLE Bermúdez-Otero and Trousdale 2012

Rule-scattering between speech and phonetics?



The results are compatible with the partial-mediation hypothesis