

Kochetov *et al.* (submitted) An MRI-based articulatory analysis of the Kannada dental-retroflex contrast. *The Journal of the International Phonetic Association*.

Supplementary material S1: Acoustic validation of static MRI recordings

This document provides results of formant (F2 and F3) measurements for vowels preceding (V1) and following (V2) the normally-produced and sustained dental and retroflex consonants (C) by both speakers.

Method

Audio recordings made during the MRI sessions with an optical microphone positioned close to the speaker's lips and using a denoising procedure (Kahana, Paritsky *et al.* (2003)). The audio signal sampled at 16000 Hz was annotated in Praat (Boersma & Weenink (2021)), marking onsets and offsets of preceding and following vowels /a i e o u/. This was done for both normal (non-sustained) and sustained productions. As mentioned in the text (Section 2.3), the speakers had to repeat each VCV word twice normally and then to sustain the consonant in the last repetition for the approximately 6.9 s duration of the scan. As our MRI images were based on the latter, a comparison between acoustic properties of sustained and normal productions was taken to assess the naturalness of these productions. We examined F2 and F3 formants, as primary correlates of vowel front/back and dental/retroflex contrasts, respectively. These formants were automatically extracted at 10 equally-spaced time points throughout preceding and following vowels (V1 and V2). Values beyond 3 standard deviations from the mean for each vowel by each speaker (less than 3% of the data) were considered to represent formant tracking errors, and were therefore excluded from the analysis. The package *ggplot2* (Wickham (2009)) was used to plot vowel formants in time using `geom_smooth()` using the 'loess' method. The plots below provide formant values for V1 and V2 by manner and vowel phoneme, focusing on place differences.

Results: F2

As shown in the following figures, the place contrast is not consistently distinguished by F2: both coronal places are characterised by higher values (rising transitions in V1 and falling transitions in V2) next to back vowels /a, o, u/ and slightly lower values (falling transitions in V1 and rising transitions in V2) next to front vowels. These patterns are similar for the normal and sustained conditions. (Note that somewhat wider confidence intervals, represented in grey, in the sustained condition are due to fewer tokens used – one repetition per item, compared to two repetitions for the normal condition.)

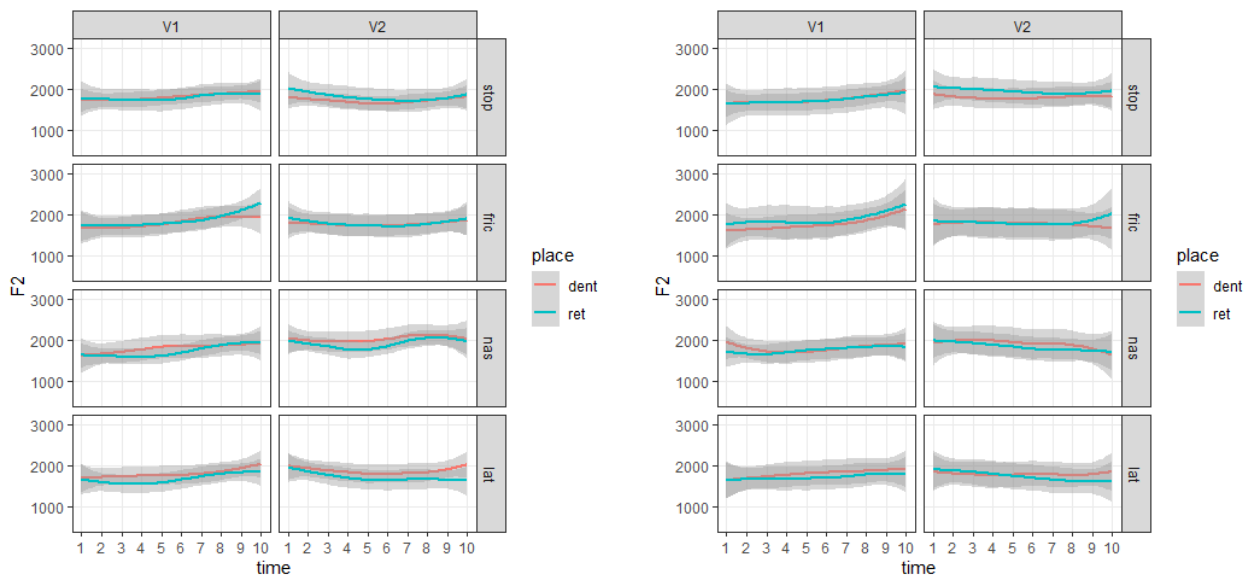


Figure 1. F_2 (Hz) for speaker KMU throughout the vowels before (V1) and after (V2) dental and retroflex consonants by manner across five vowel contexts, separately for normal (left) and sustained (right) conditions.

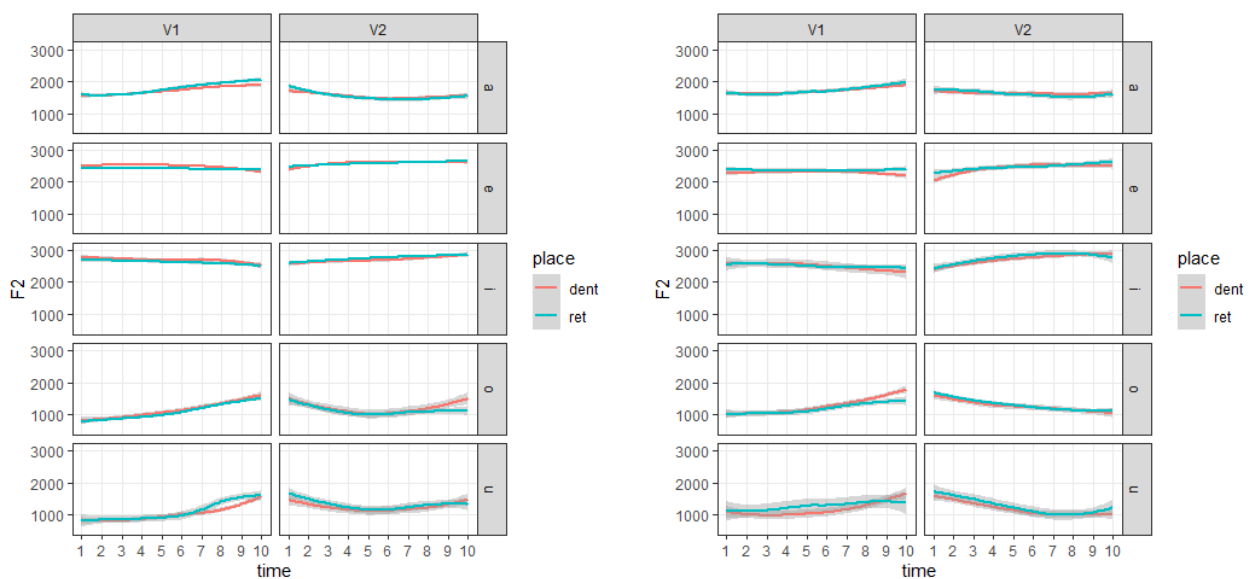


Figure 2. F_2 (Hz) for speaker KMU throughout the vowels before (V1) and after (V2) dental and retroflex consonants by vowel context across four manners, separately for normal (left) and sustained (right) conditions.

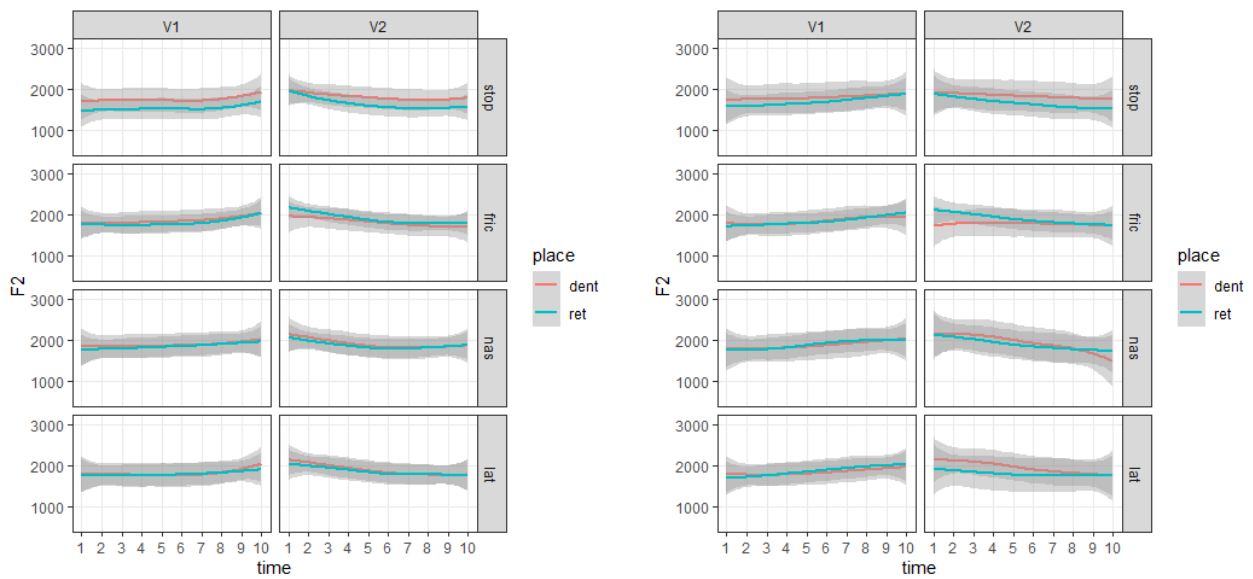


Figure 3. F_2 (Hz) for speaker KD throughout the vowels before (V1) and after (V2) dental and retroflex consonants by manner across five vowel contexts, separately for normal (left) and sustained (right) conditions.

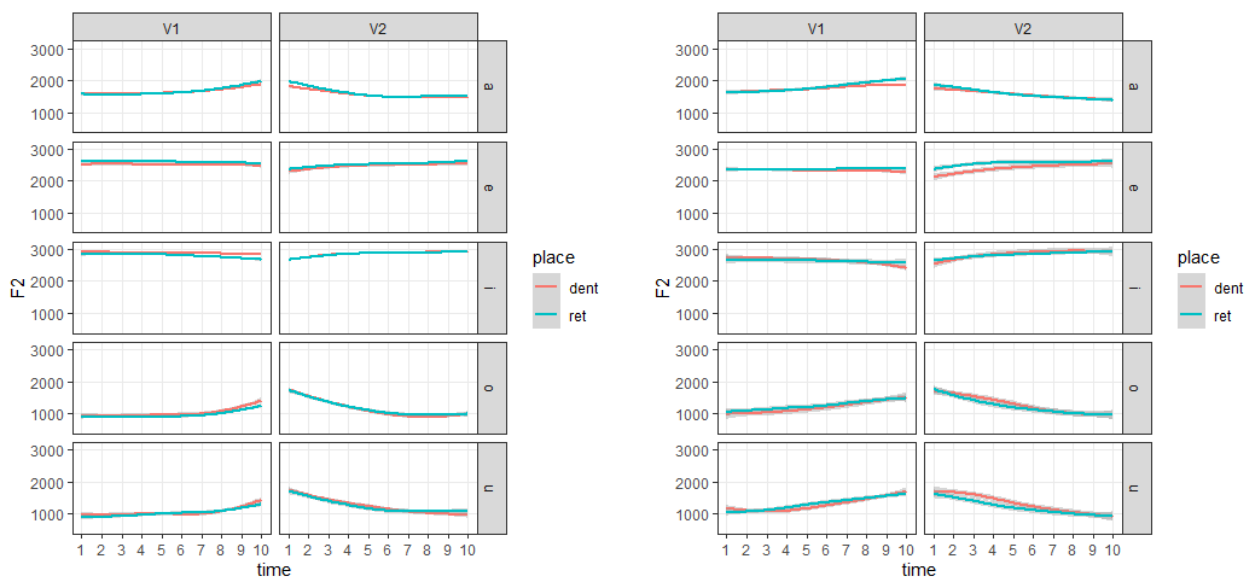


Figure 4. F_2 (Hz) for speaker KD throughout the vowels before (V1) and after (V2) dental and retroflex consonants by vowel context across five vowel contexts, separately for normal (left) and sustained (right) conditions.

Results: F_3

As shown in the following figures, the place contrast is distinguished by lowering transitions before retroflexes. Exceptions include the fricatives (by KMU) and front vowel contexts, for both normal and sustained conditions. Differences in the following vowel are also observed for some manners/vowel contexts, but are much lesser in magnitude.

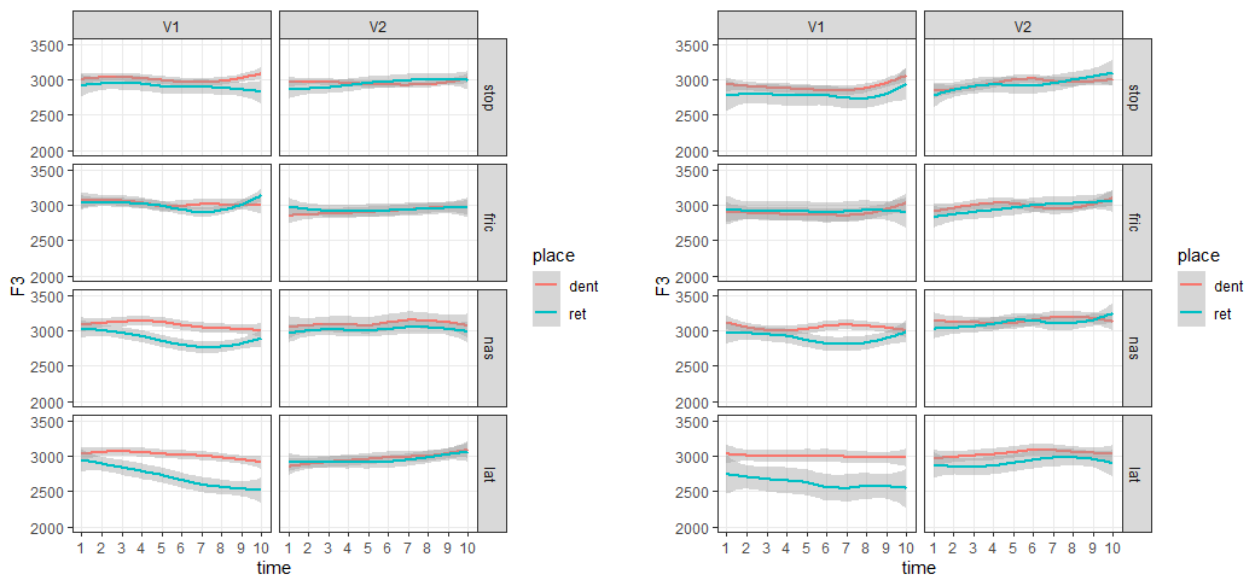


Figure 5. F_3 (Hz) for speaker KMU throughout the vowels before (V1) and after (V2) dental and retroflex consonants by manner across five vowel contexts, separately for normal (left) and sustained (right) conditions.

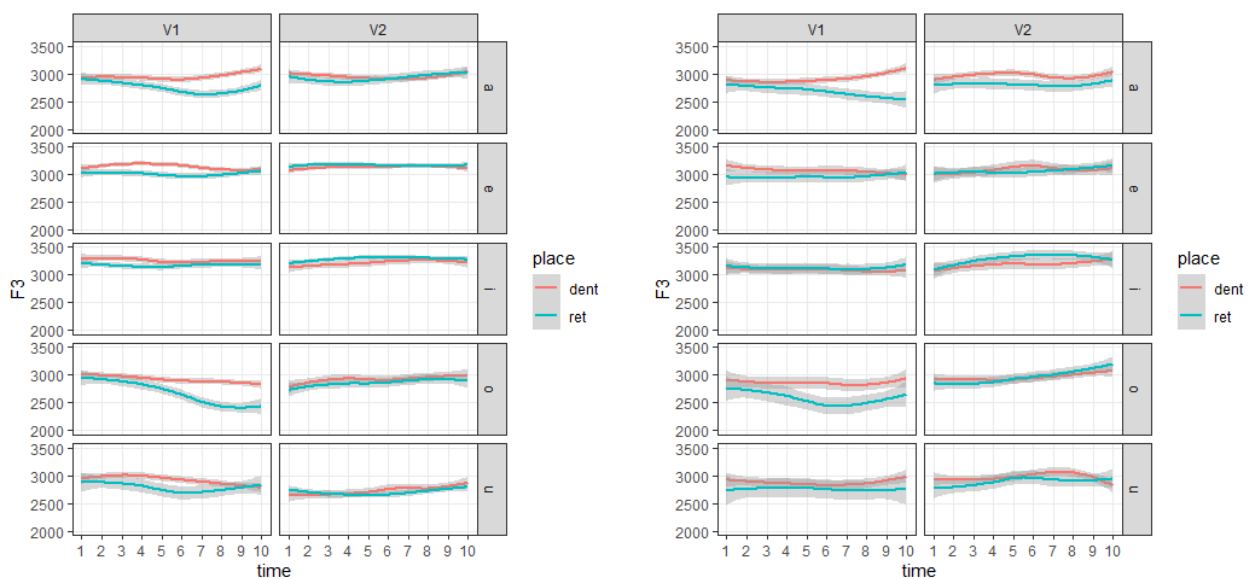


Figure 6. F_3 (Hz) for speaker KMU throughout the vowels before (V1) and after (V2) dental and retroflex consonants by vowel context across four manners, separately for normal (left) and sustained (right) conditions.

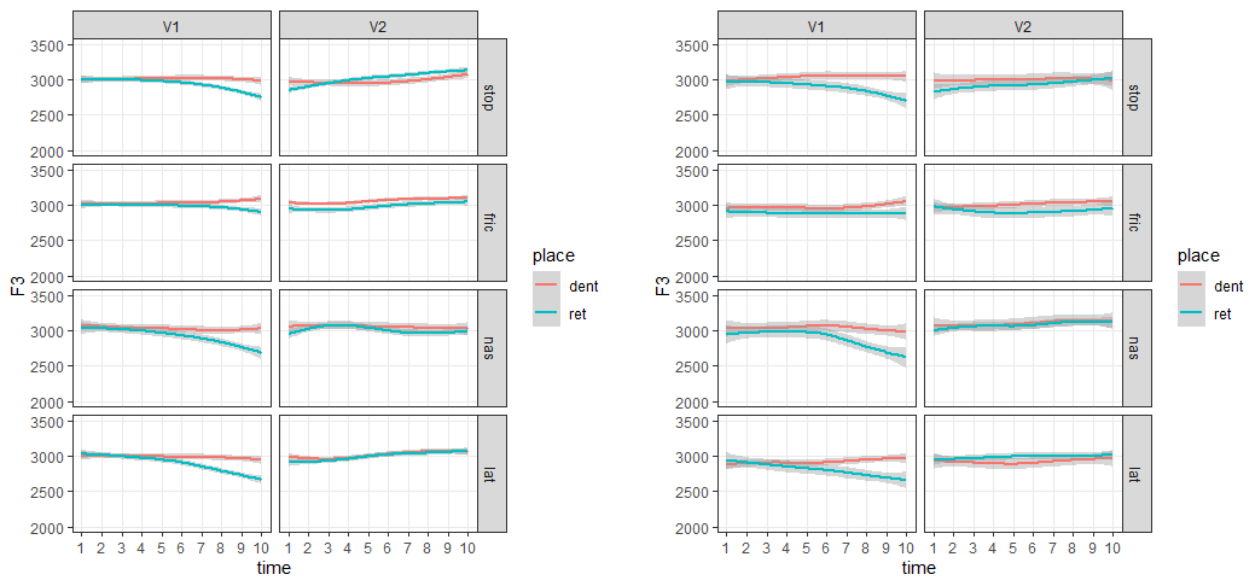


Figure 7. F_3 (Hz) for speaker KD throughout the vowels before (V1) and after (V2) dental and retroflex consonants by manner across five vowel contexts, separately for normal (left) and sustained (right) conditions.

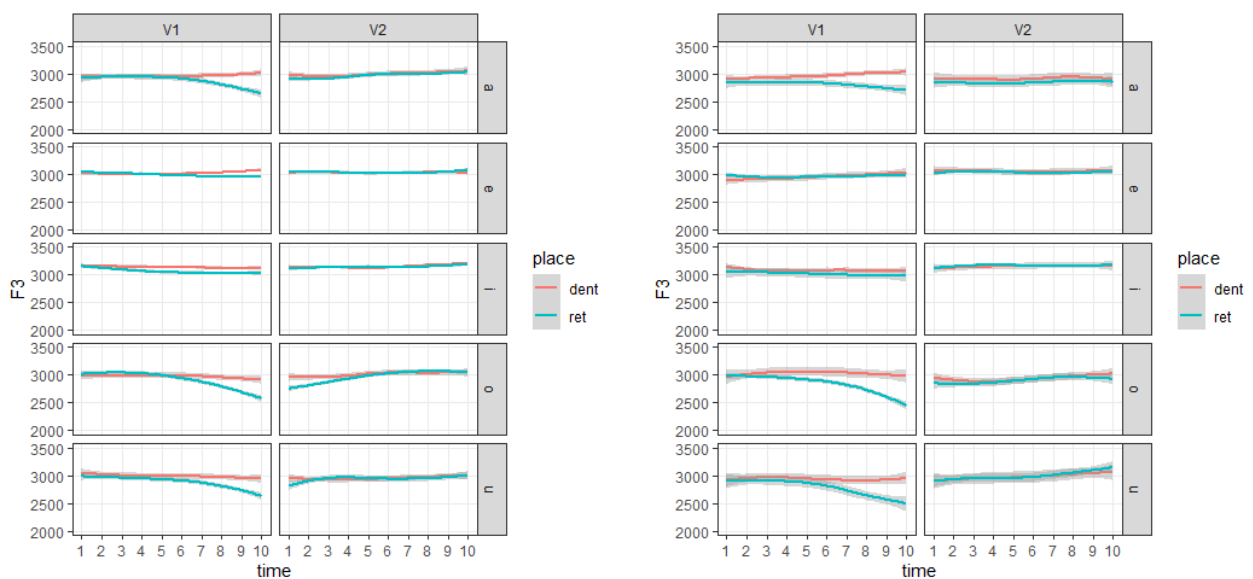


Figure 8. F_3 (Hz) for speaker KD throughout the vowels before (V1) and after (V2) dental and retroflex consonants by vowel context across four manners, separately for normal (left) and sustained (right) conditions.

Conclusion

The lack of consistent differences in F_2 and the presence of F_3 differences at the offset of the preceding vowel are consistent with previous observations about the dental-retroflex contrast in Kannada (Kochetov, Tabain *et al.* (2018)) and other South Asian languages (e.g. Dave (1977); McDonough & Johnson (2009); Narayanan, Byrd *et al.* (1999)). So is the effect of front vowels on the contrast (Hamann (2003)). The fact that these patterns clearly appear in both normal and sustained conditions confirm the relative naturalness of the productions in the static MRI recordings.

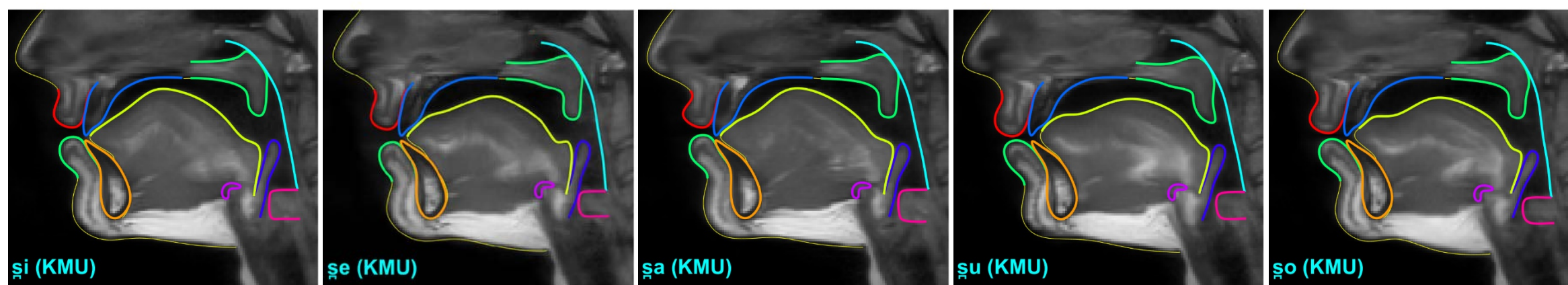
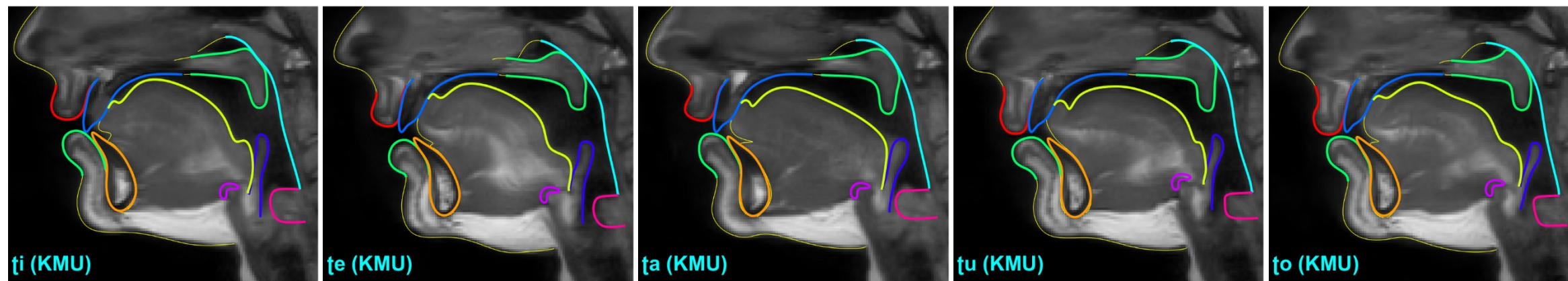
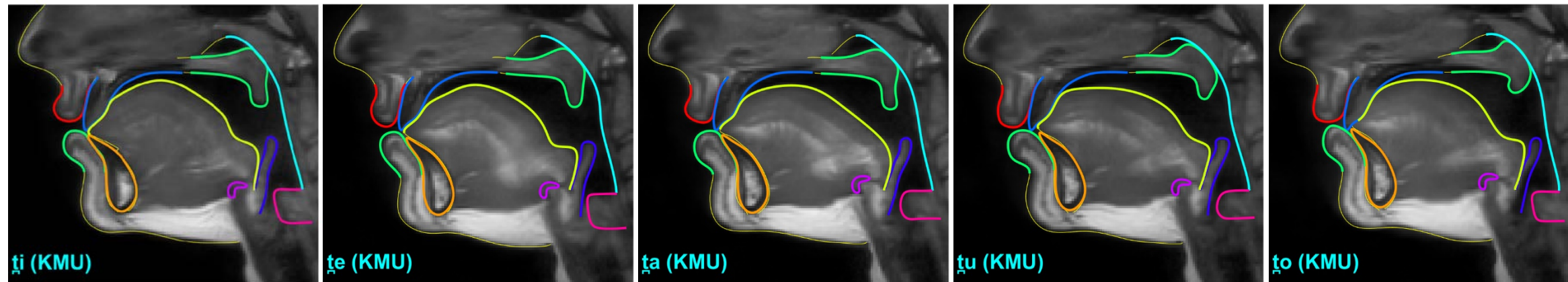
References

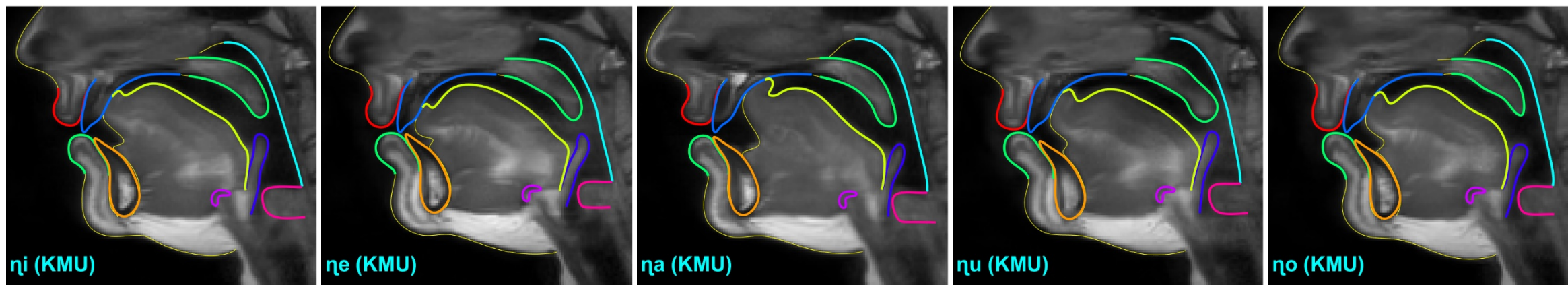
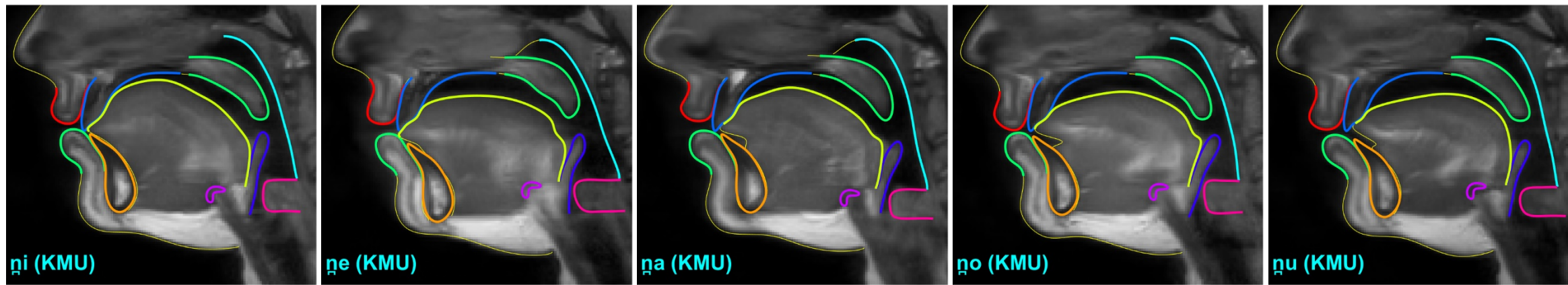
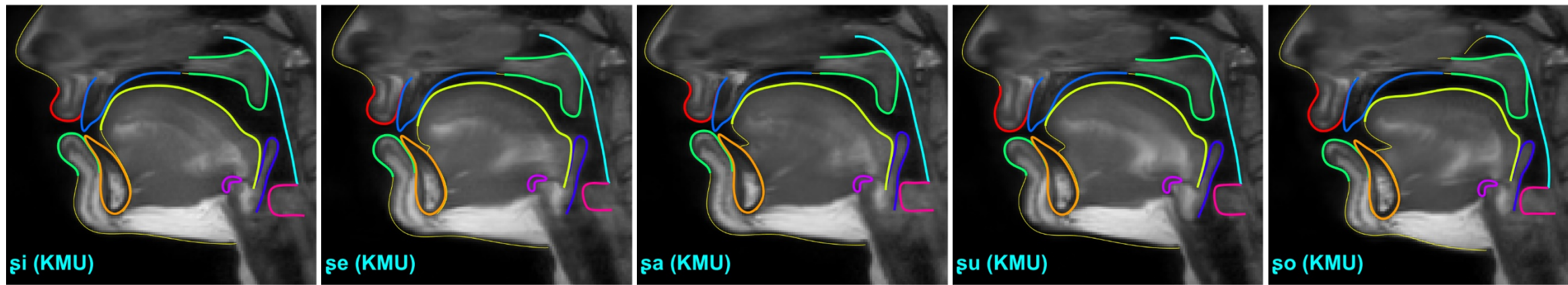
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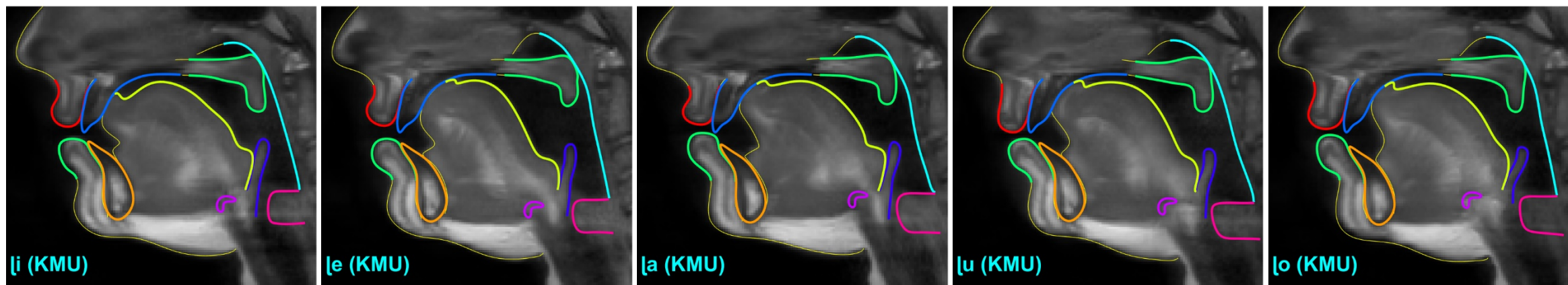
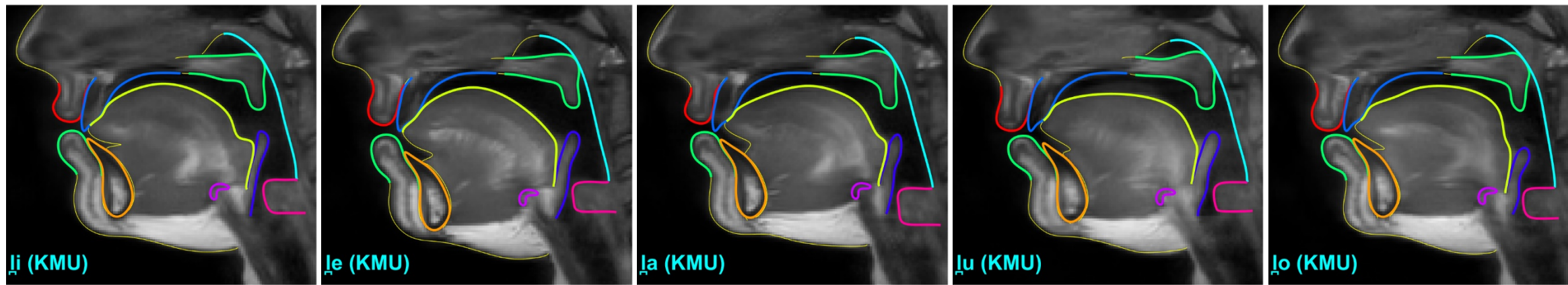
Supplementary material S2: MRI images overlaid with contours

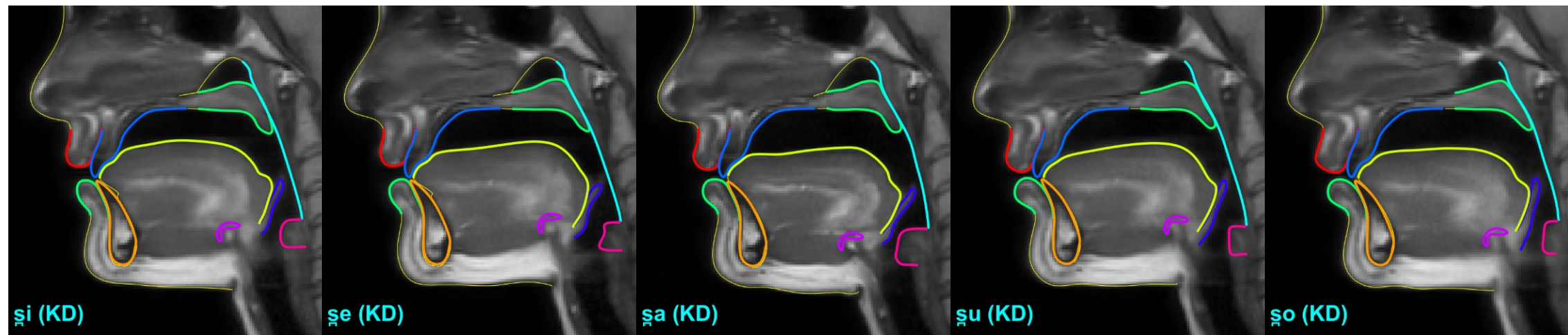
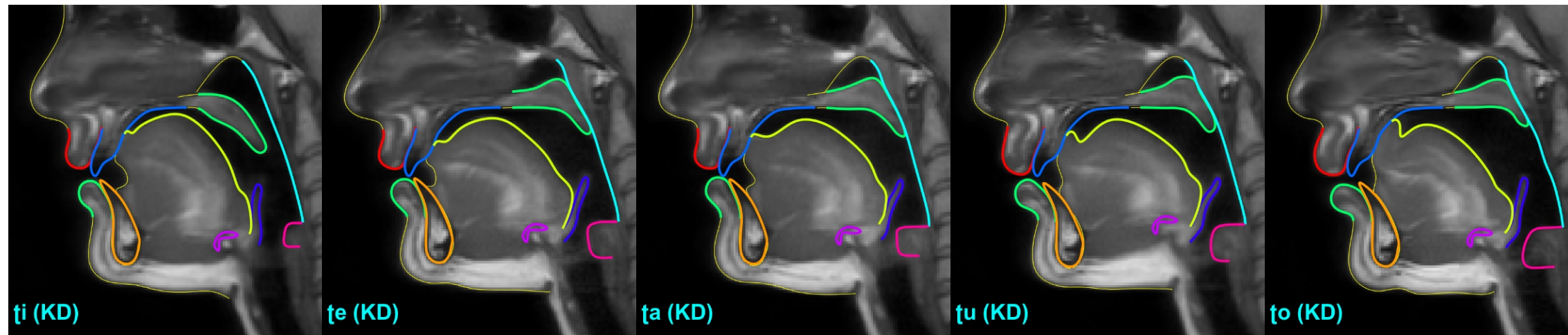
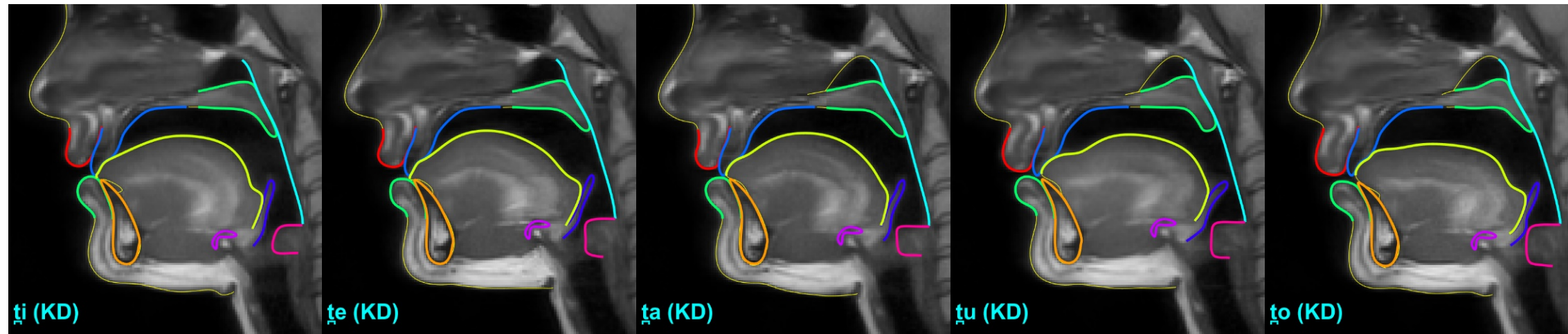
This document displays articulator contours superimposed on midsagittal MRI images (as in Figure 1 of the main text) for eight consonants (ʈ ɖ ʂ ʃ ɳ ɻ ɽ ɳ) in five vowel contexts (/i e a o u/), separately by speaker. Resampled contours are indicated by different colours, in a clockwise rotation along the vocal tract walls: upper lip, palate, velum, naso-oropharyngeal wall, laryngeal articulator, epiglottis, hyoid bone, tongue, jaw, and lower lip. The original contours are displayed in thin yellow lines. See Section 2.4 of the main text for further details.

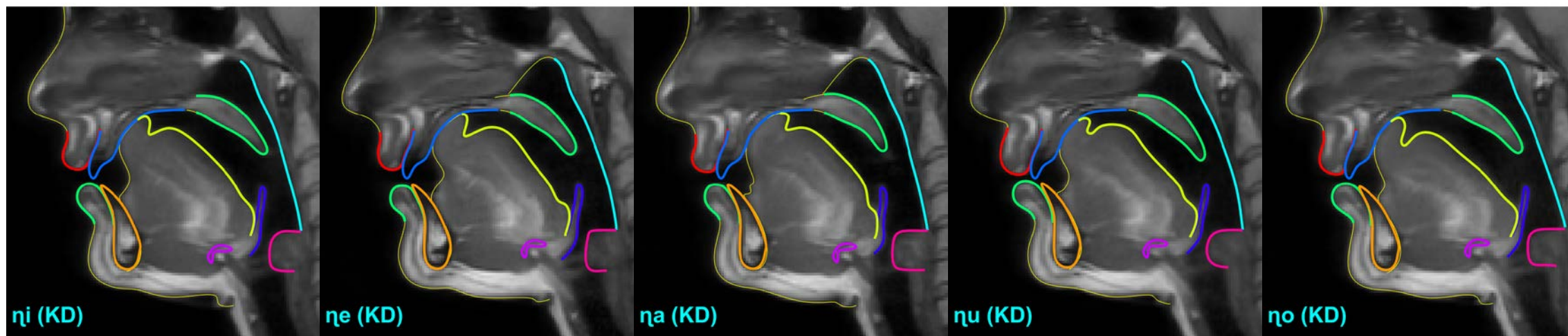
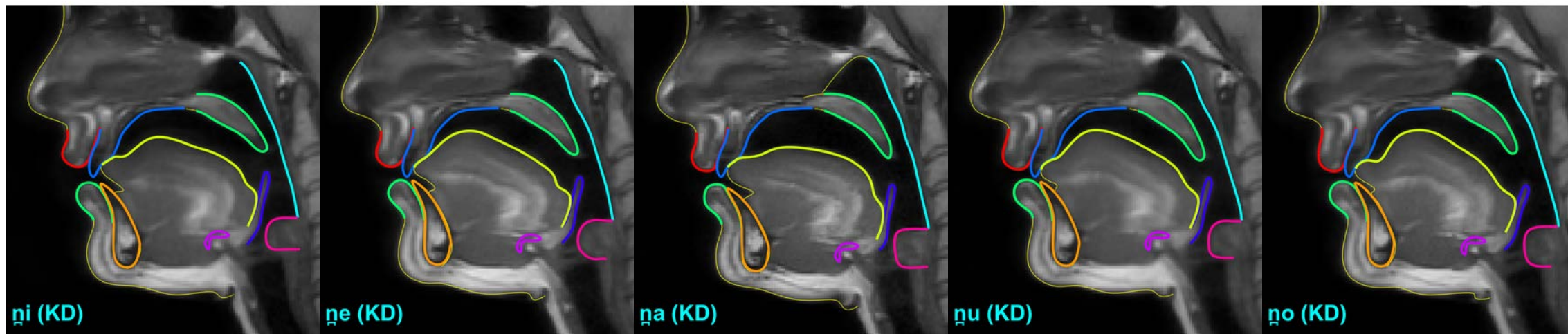
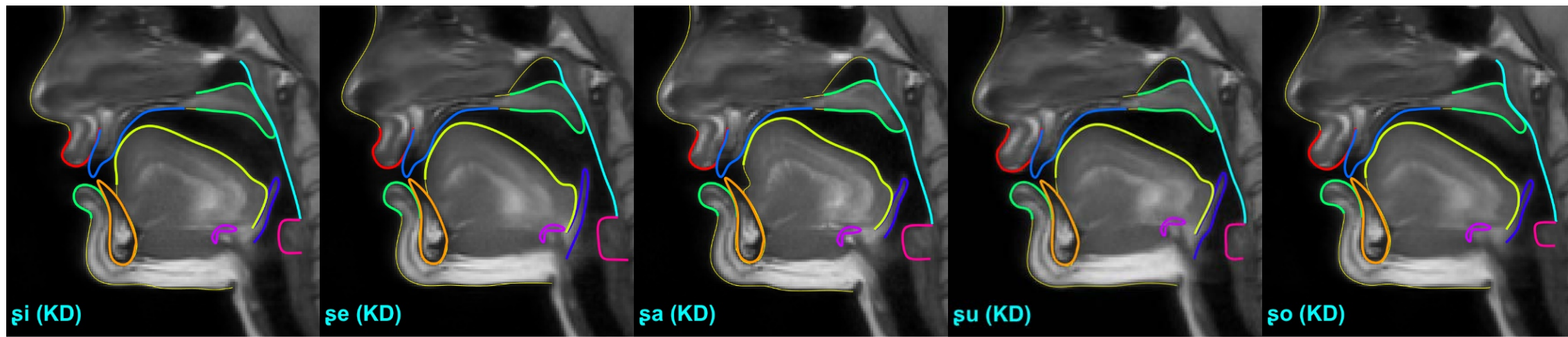
Speaker KMU

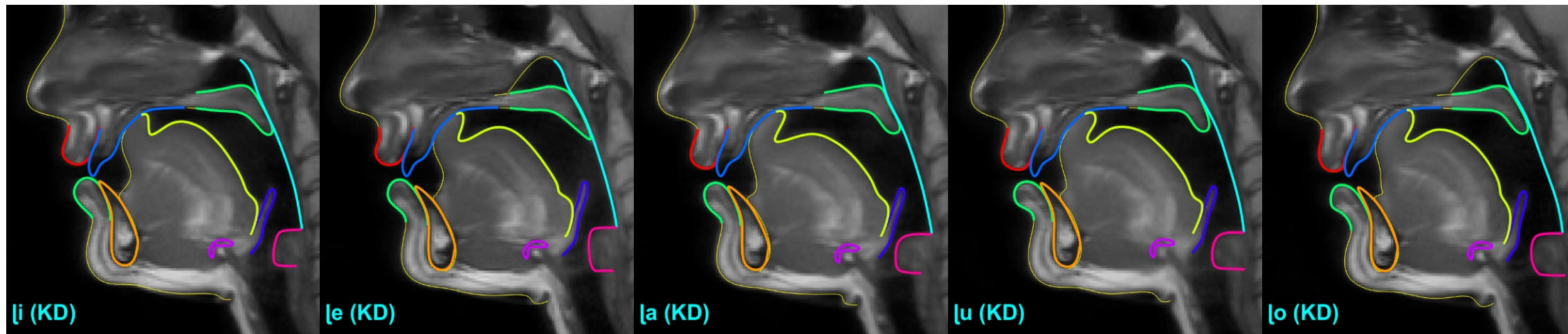
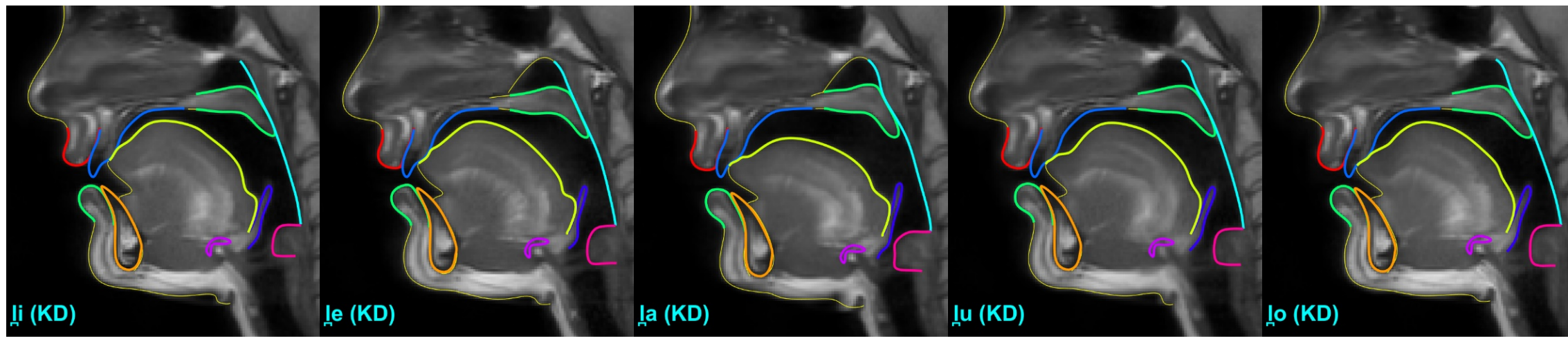












Supplementary material S3: Tongue Constriction location plots

The figures in this document constitute a complement to Figure 3 of the main article. They display articulatory contours and tongue tip constriction values for eight consonants (/t̪ t̪ʃ s̪ ʂ ŋ ŋ̠ l/) in five vowel contexts (/i e a o u/), separately by speaker. The parts of tongue and hard palate represented by thicker lines correspond to the tongue constriction defined in more details in section 2.5 of the main article; as well the angle of the straight line that crosses the constriction in its middle constitutes a measure the constriction location.

Tongue tip constriction geometry determination

First, we describe in details the approach to determine the TTC geometry. The determination of the constriction location along the vocal tract on real contour data is prone to noise, as small details in contours may induce the location of the minimum to vary in an irrelevant or unrealistic way. As well, determining useful constriction lengths and cross-dimensional distances may be prone to errors. We have therefore adopted a method based on a low frequency approximation of the constriction tube impedance LFI^1 (cf. Fant (1960), p. 80) to smooth out acoustically irrelevant details. First, we divided the vocal tract into a chain of quadrilaterals hooked on points which sample both inner and outer contours (see Figure 1): their lengths, computed along the VT midline of the midpoints (see Figure 2) and transverse distances constitute a sampling of the midsagittal function. Then, we considered the region with a cross-dimensional distance below a given threshold (0.5 cm)² (see Figure 3 for the midsagittal image, and Figure 4-top for the midsagittal distance along the VT midline), and computed the LFI for each quadrilateral in this region (see Figure 4-mid): the centre of the constriction was considered as the section upstream and downstream of which the cumulated LFI are equal (Figure 5-bottom displays the cumulated LFI, the horizontal line marking the half of the total). Next, the whole constriction duct was considered as the set of all contiguous sections with an LFI below a given ratio of the maximum LFI (1/20), which provides its acoustically equivalent length. Finally, we computed the cross-dimension of the constriction duct as the cross-dimension of a uniform tube having the same length and the same cumulated LFI over all the quadrilaterals belonging to the constriction. The centre of the constriction coordinate was finally expressed as the angle of this point in reference to the centre of the vocal tract, referred to as *TTCL* (Tongue Tip Constriction Location) in the following. The results of this approach are illustrated in Figure 5, where the constriction limits are outlined by coloured contours on the inner and outer walls, and the centre of the constriction is marked by a radial line. The acoustically equivalent length will be referred to as *TTClength*, while the cross-dimension of the acoustically equivalent constriction duct will be referred to as *TTCD*.

In the figures, the top line displays *TTCL* (Loc) in °, *TTCD* (Dist) in cm, and *TTClength* (Leng) in cm.

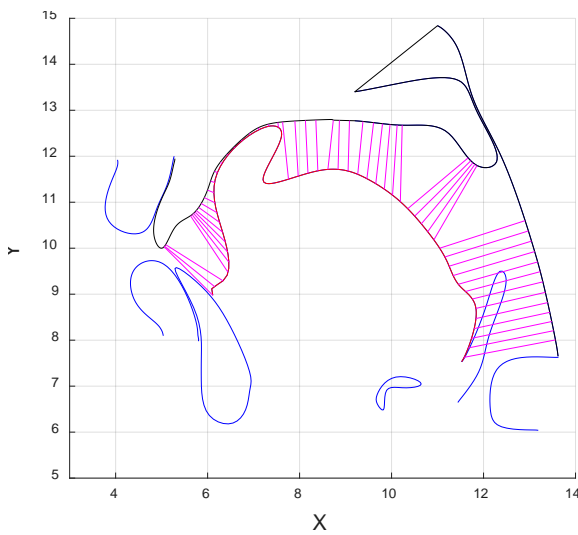


Figure 1. Articulatory contours and quadrilaterals representing the midsagittal function (for better visibility, every 10th quadrilateral only is shown).

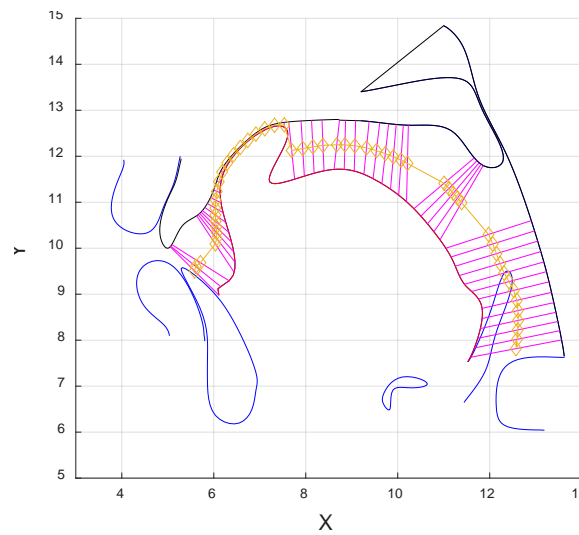


Figure 2. Same as Figure 1, with segments on the midline added.

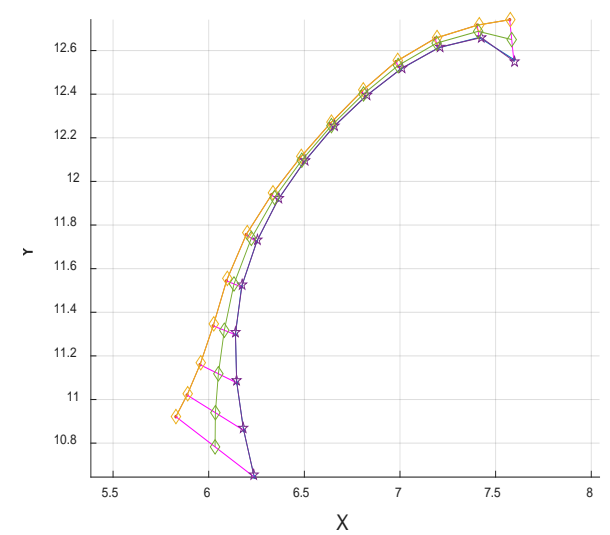


Figure 3. Zoom of Figure 2 on the constriction area.

¹ as its length divided by the square of the cross-sectional distance.

² Note that if more than one region was eligible, the most front one was selected, with some exceptions, in particular for velar articulation for which the back constriction was selected even though there might be tighter constriction in the front.

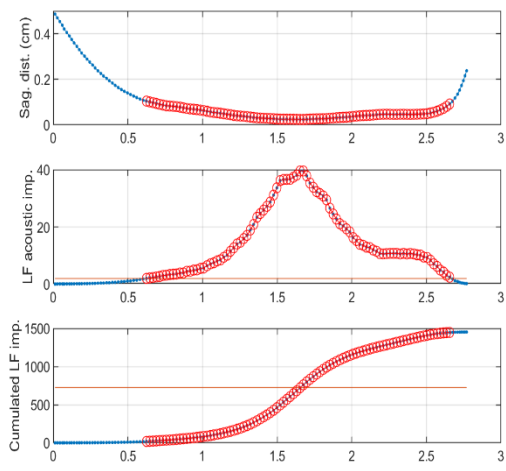


Figure 4. Top: midsagittal distance as a function of the curvilinear abscissa along the VT midline in the vicinity of the constriction (for distance below 0.5 cm). Mid: LFI along the midline (the horizontal red line is 1/20 below the maximum of LFI). Bottom: cumulated LFI along the midline (the horizontal red line is at half the total LFI).

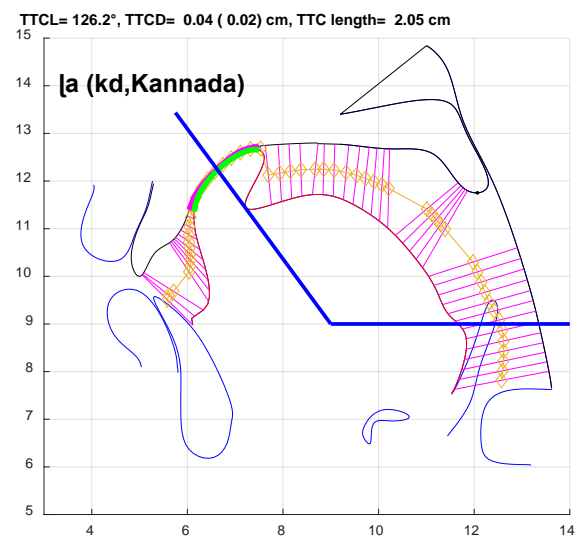
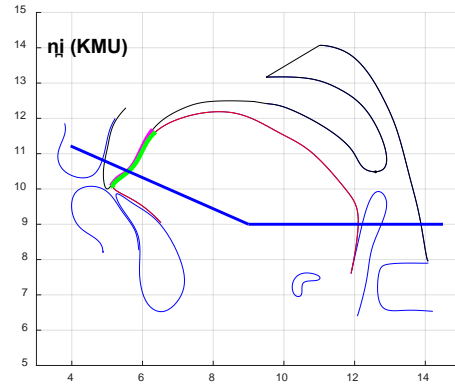
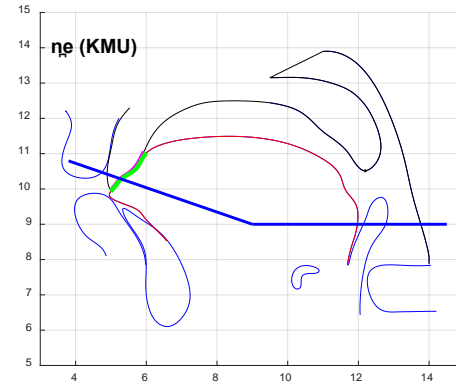


Figure 5. Same as Figure 2, with contours of the constriction in thick lines (cyan for the palate, green for the tongue) and the polar grid lines (thick blue) allowing the determination of TTCL in $^{\circ}$.

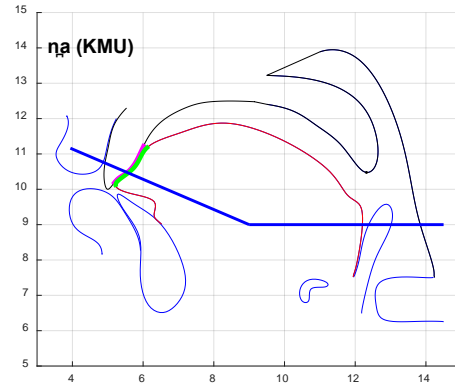
Loc 156.2°, Dist 0.04 cm, Leng 2.04 cm



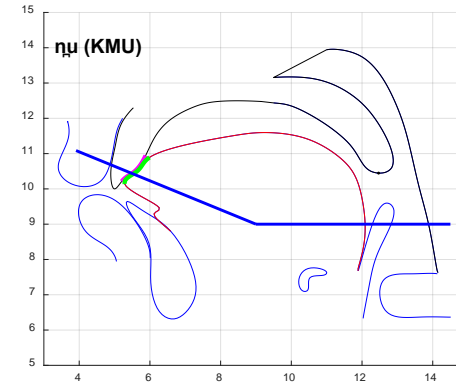
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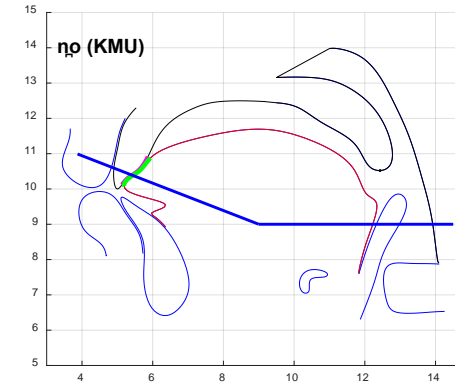
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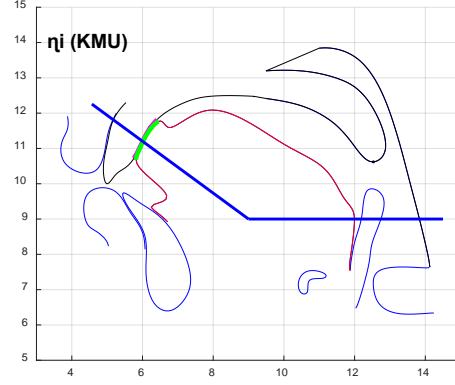
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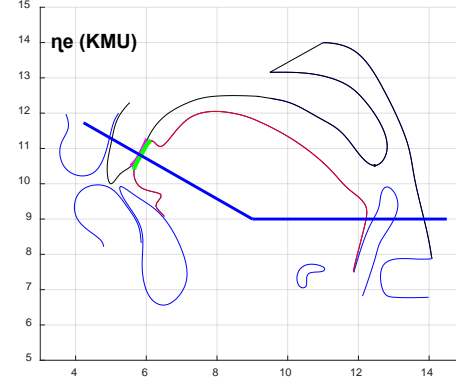
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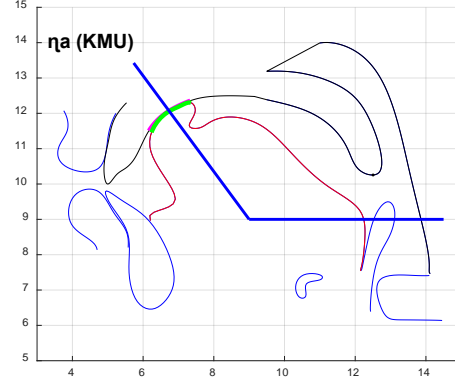
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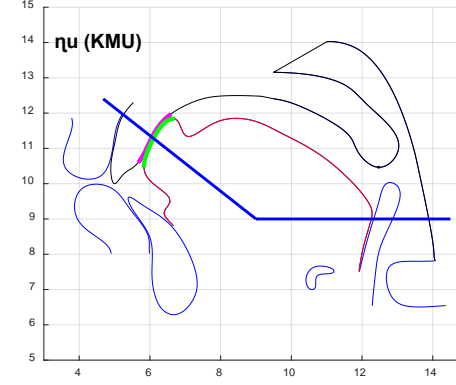
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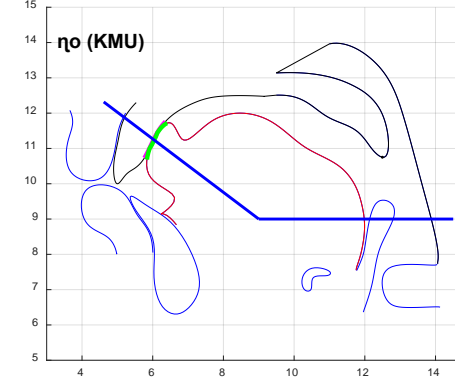
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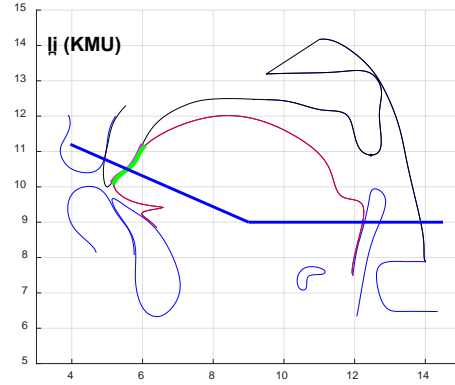
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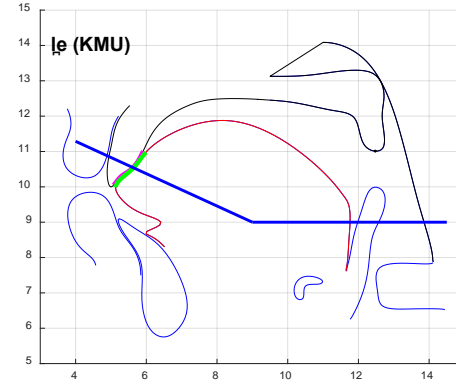
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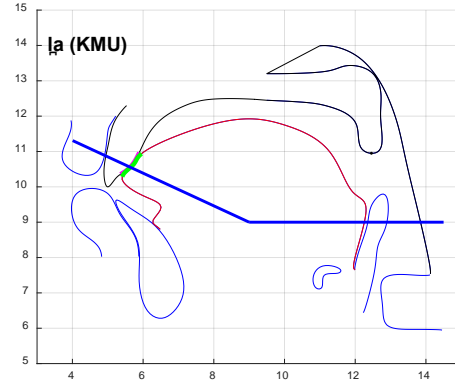
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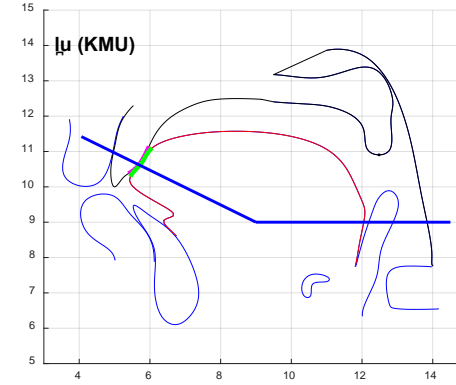
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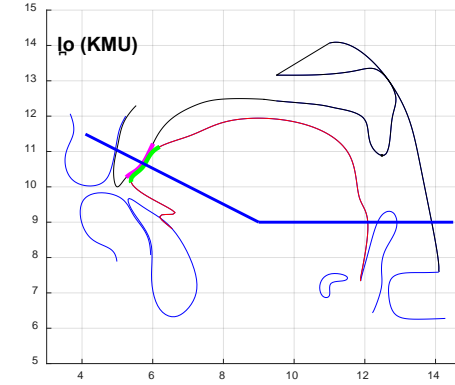
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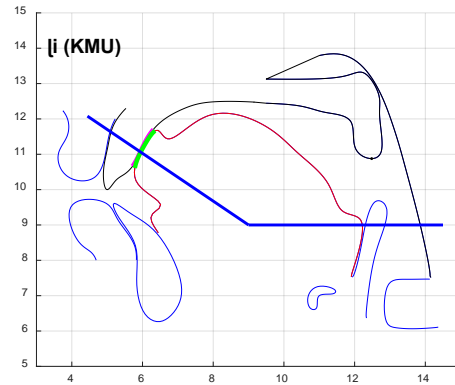
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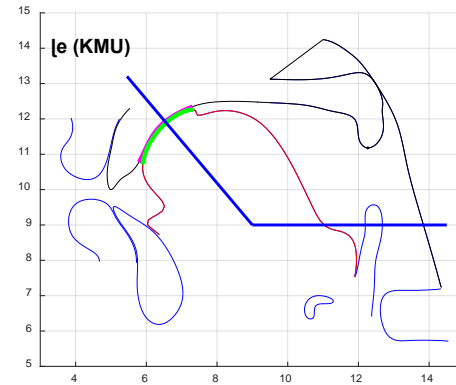
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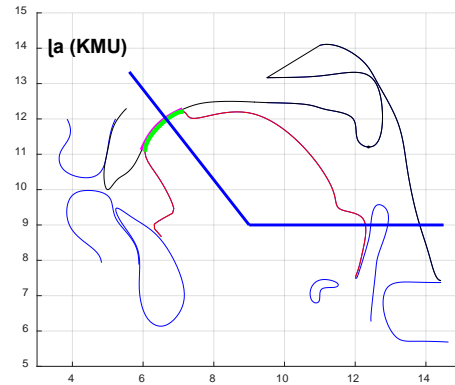
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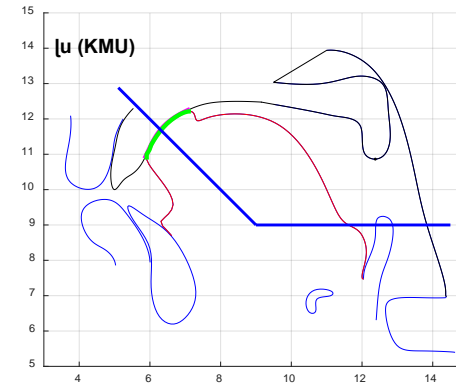
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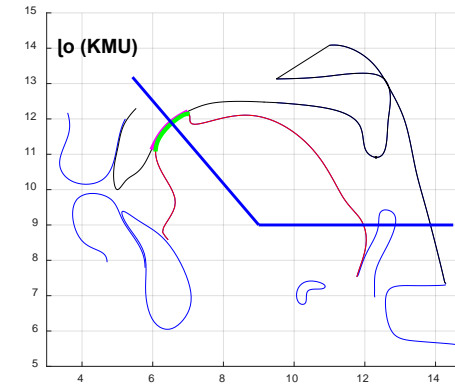
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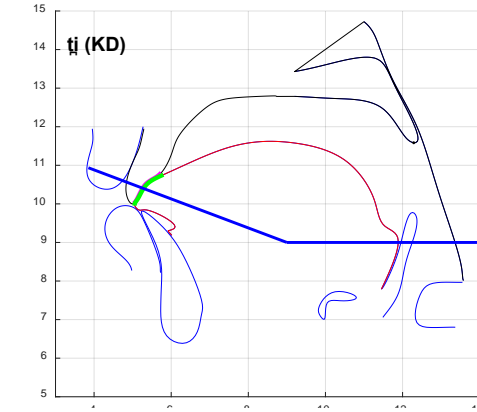


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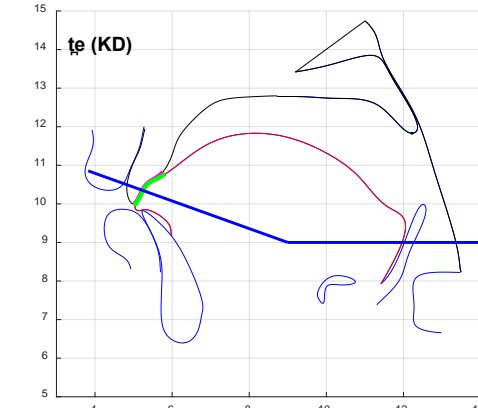


Speaker KD

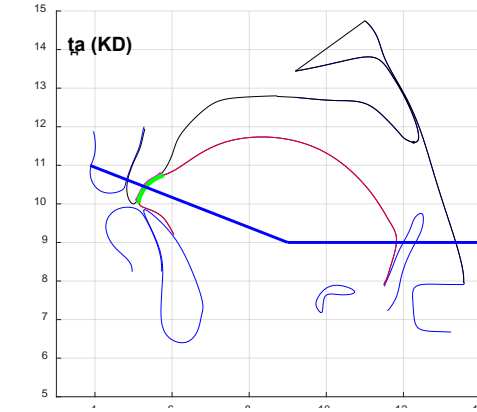
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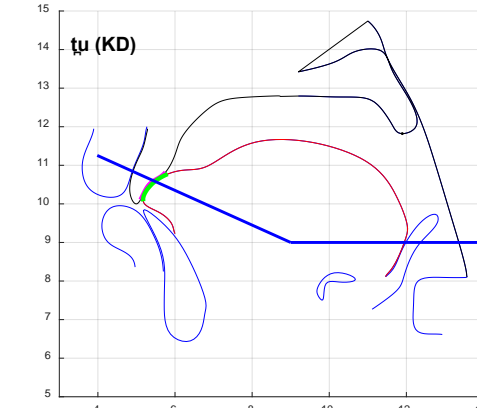
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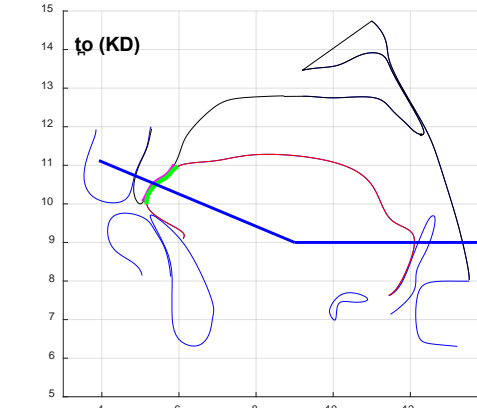
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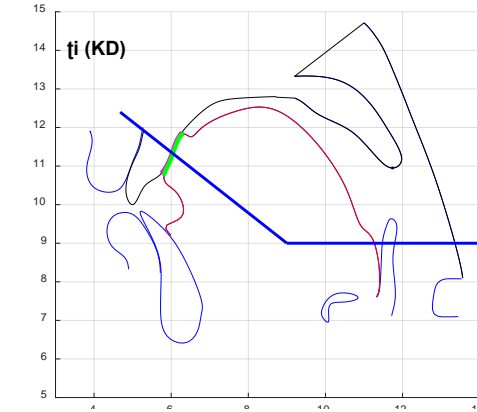
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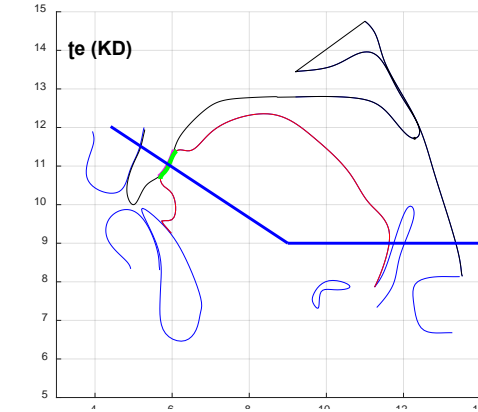
Loc 157.3°, Dist 0.04 cm, Leng 1.31 cm



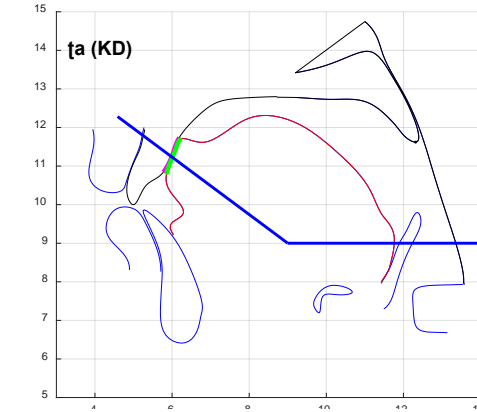
Loc 141.8°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 1.22 cm



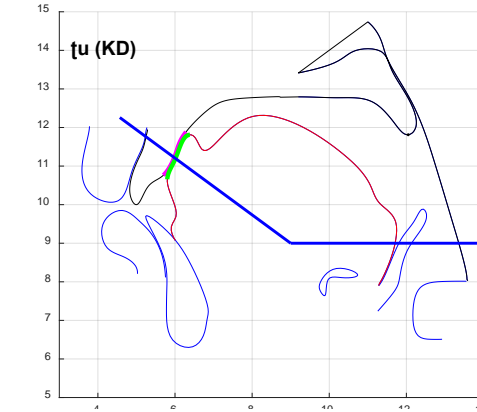
Loc 146.6°, Dist 0.02 cm, Leng 0.84 cm



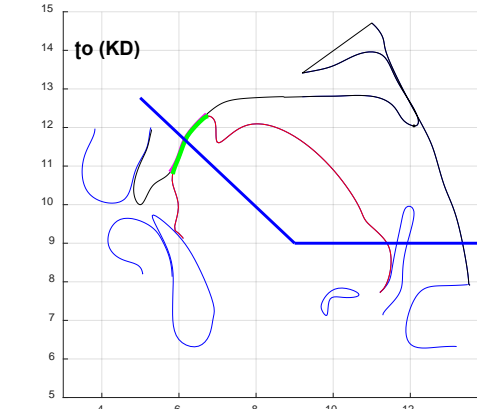
Loc 143.4°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 1.02 cm



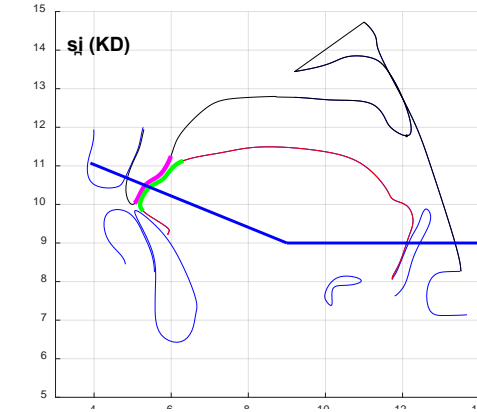
Loc 143.7°, Dist 0.05 cm, Leng 1.31 cm



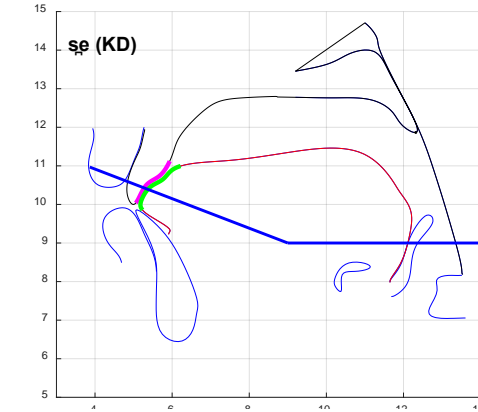
Loc 136.7°, Dist 0.02 cm, Leng 1.82 cm



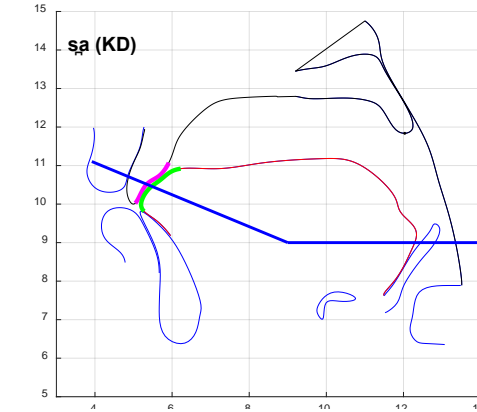
Loc 157.9°, Dist 0.13 cm, Leng 1.70 cm



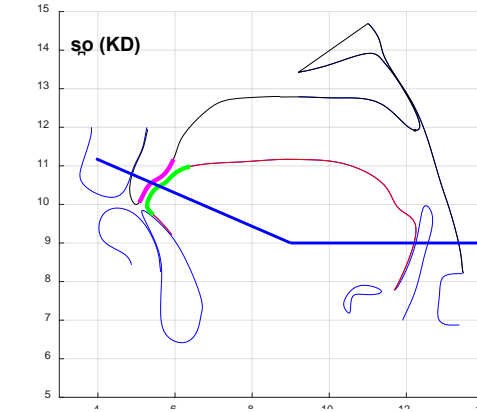
Loc 159.0°, Dist 0.11 cm, Leng 1.54 cm



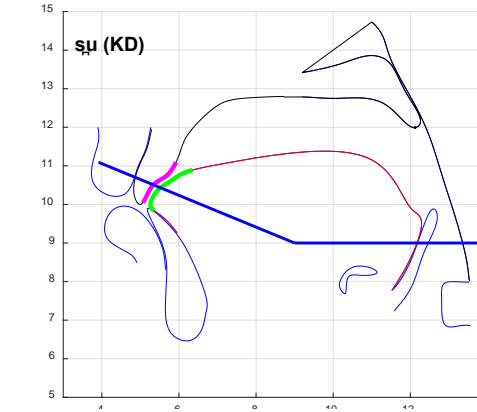
Loc 157.5°, Dist 0.12 cm, Leng 1.51 cm



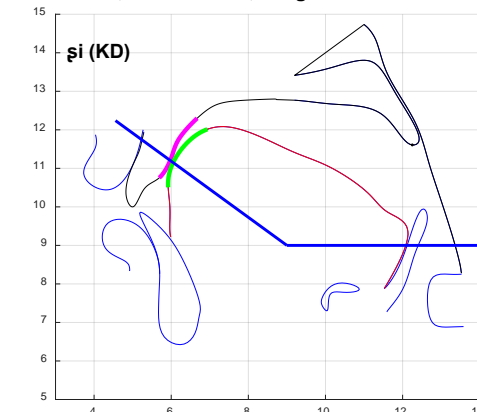
Loc 156.6°, Dist 0.20 cm, Leng 1.65 cm



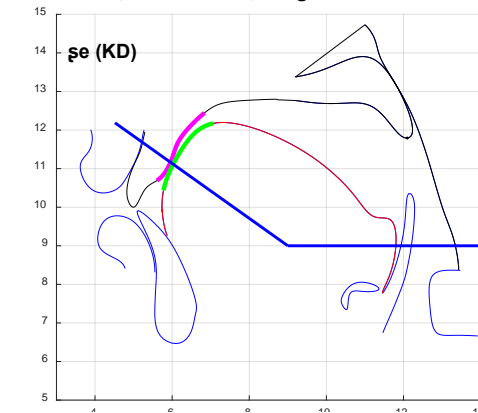
Loc 157.6°, Dist 0.19 cm, Leng 1.52 cm



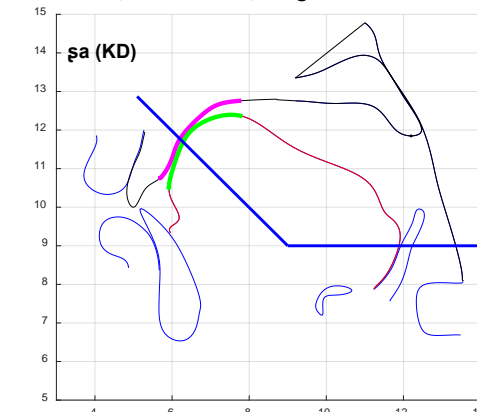
Loc 143.9°, Dist 0.15 cm, Leng 1.89 cm



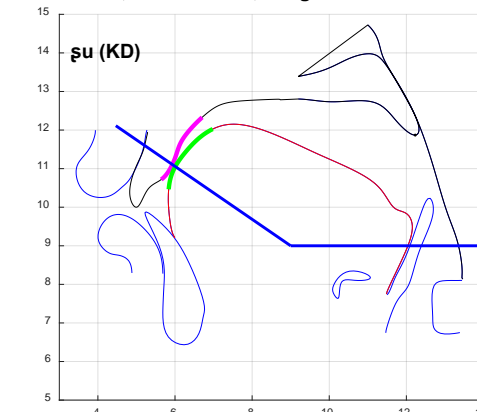
Loc 144.6°, Dist 0.14 cm, Leng 2.22 cm



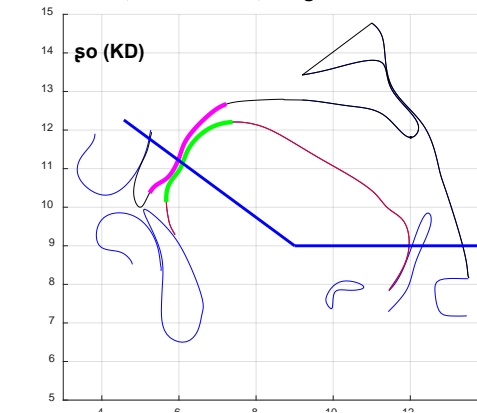
Loc 135.3°, Dist 0.14 cm, Leng 3.13 cm



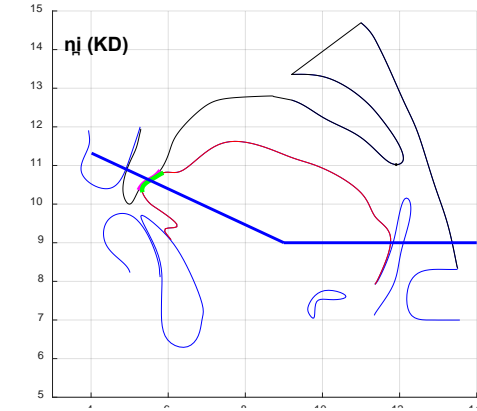
Loc 145.5°, Dist 0.16 cm, Leng 1.98 cm



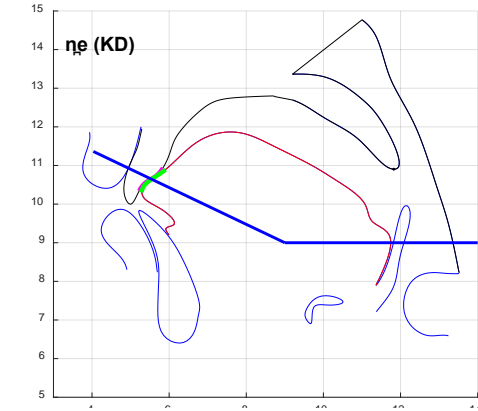
Loc 143.6°, Dist 0.18 cm, Leng 3.00 cm



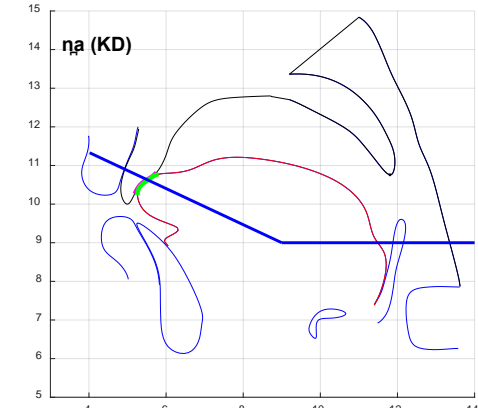
Loc 155.1°, Dist 0.04 cm, Leng 0.79 cm



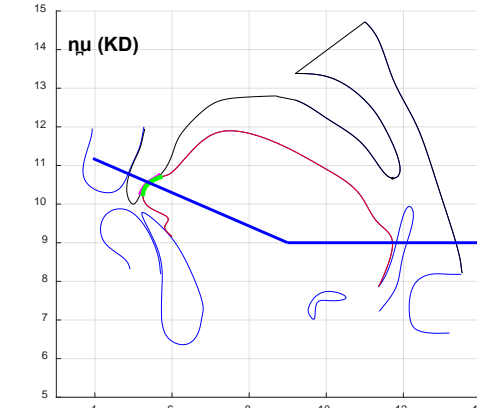
Loc 154.6°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 0.89 cm



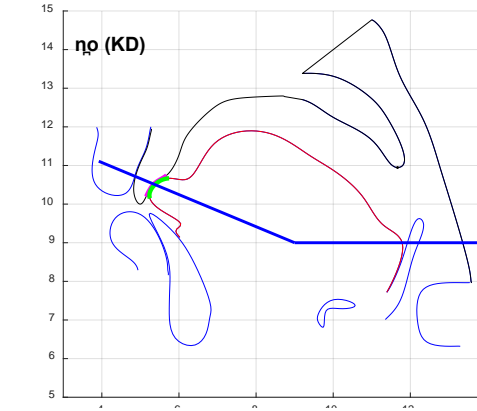
Loc 154.9°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 0.82 cm



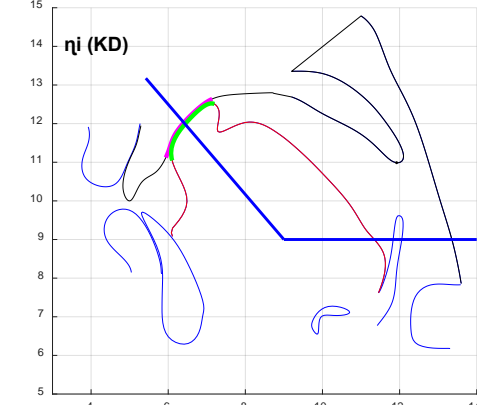
Loc 156.6°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 0.78 cm



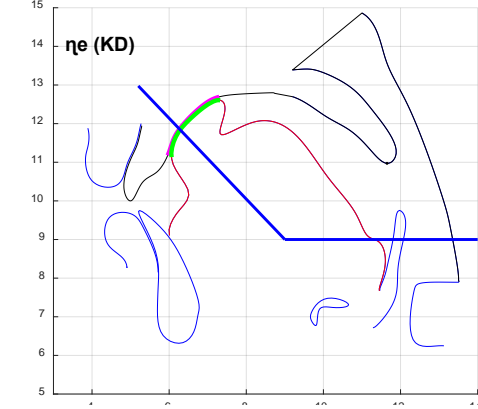
Loc 157.4°, Dist 0.04 cm, Leng 0.81 cm



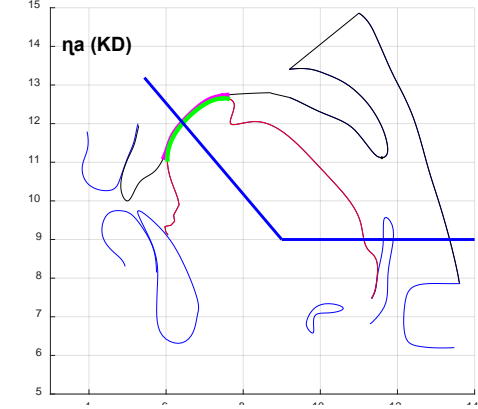
Loc 130.6°, Dist 0.05 cm, Leng 2.00 cm



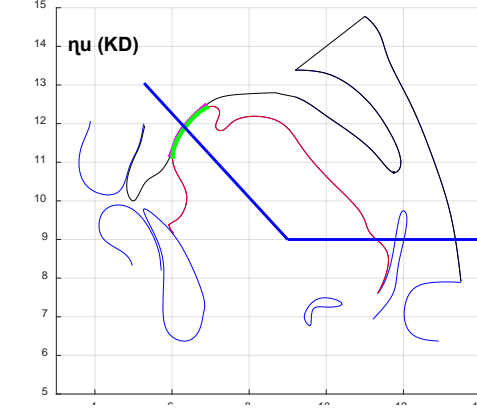
Loc 133.7°, Dist 0.04 cm, Leng 2.10 cm



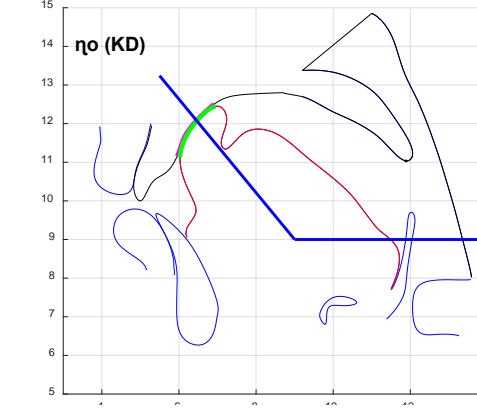
Loc 130.4°, Dist 0.04 cm, Leng 2.59 cm



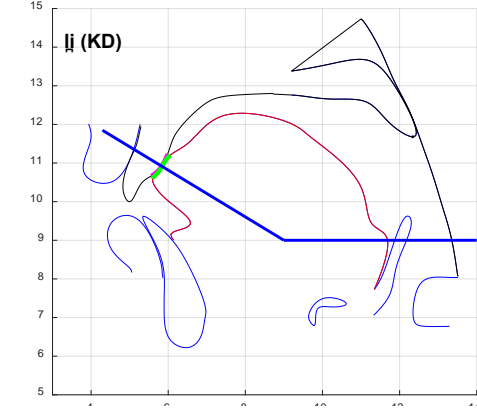
Loc 132.6°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 1.73 cm



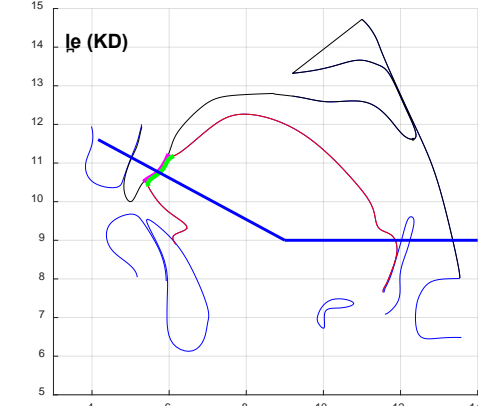
Loc 129.6°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 1.71 cm



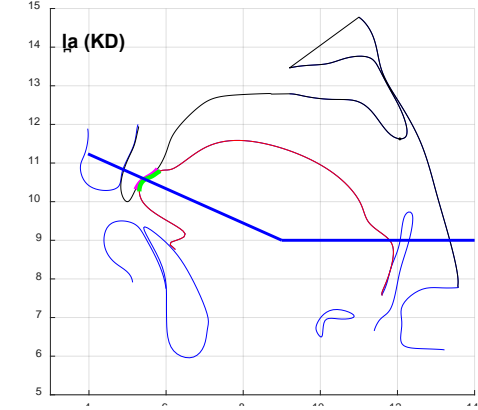
Loc 148.8°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 0.75 cm



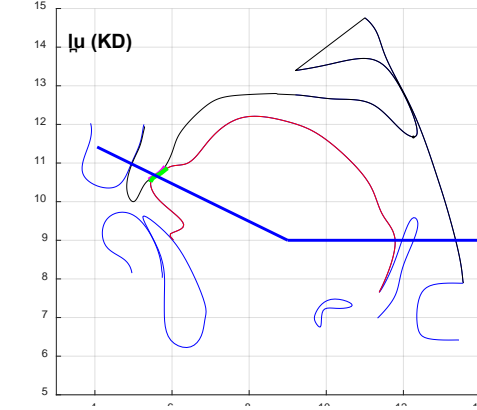
Loc 151.7°, Dist 0.05 cm, Leng 1.04 cm



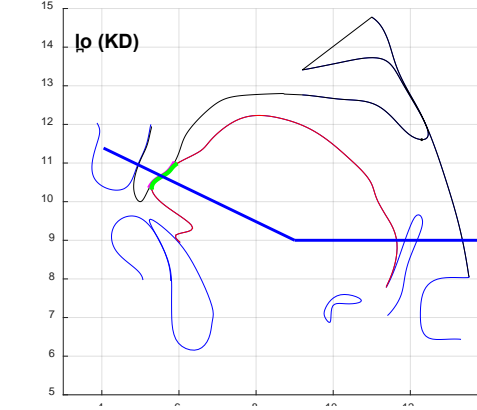
Loc 156.0°, Dist 0.04 cm, Leng 0.82 cm



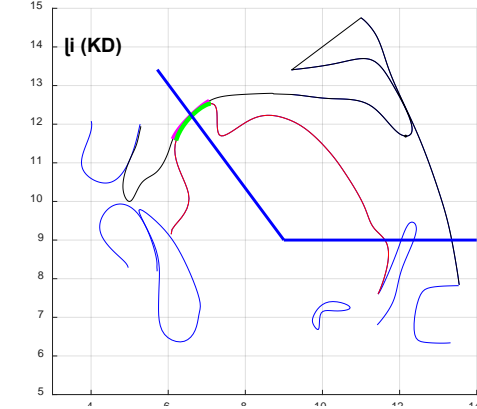
Loc 154.0°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 0.58 cm



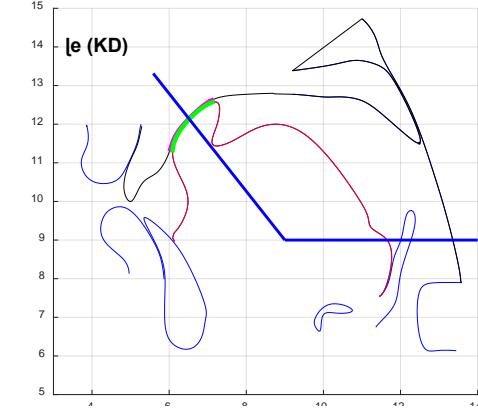
Loc 154.3°, Dist 0.02 cm, Leng 0.99 cm



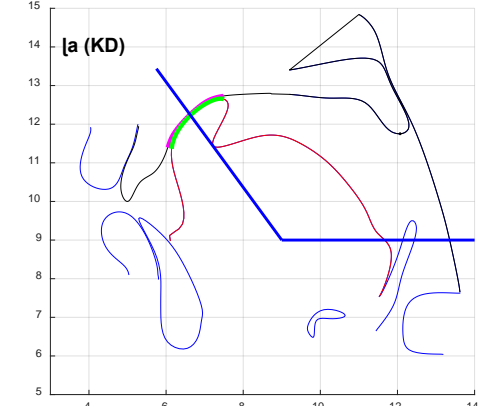
Loc 126.7°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 1.39 cm



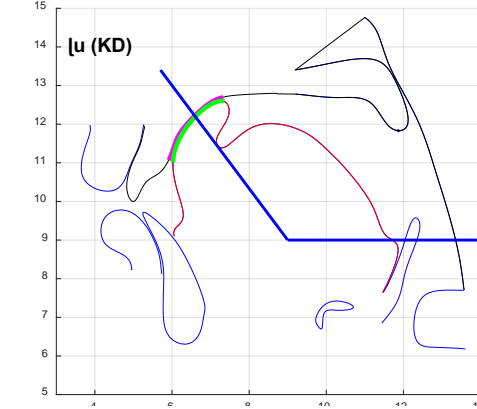
Loc 128.3°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 1.83 cm



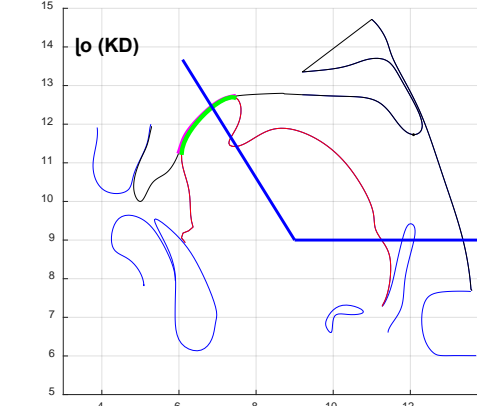
Loc 126.2°, Dist 0.04 cm, Leng 2.05 cm



Loc 126.9°, Dist 0.05 cm, Leng 2.25 cm



Loc 121.9°, Dist 0.03 cm, Leng 2.22 cm



Kochetov et al. (submitted) An MRI-based articulatory analysis of the Kannada dental-retroflex contrast. The Journal of the International Phonetic Association.

Supplementary material S4: Results of LMER models and `rpart` classification matrices

This document provides formulae and outputs (likelihood ratio tests) of Linear Mixed Effects models and pairwise tests described in the sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the main text. It also includes confusion matrices for `rpart` classification from the same sections. The data used in the analysis are provided in the supplementary file S4. The R packages used are `ggplot2`, `lme4`, `phia`, `lmerTest`, and `rpart` (see the main text for references).

Analyses by place

Sample formulae:

- `lmer(TTF ~ Place + (1|Manner) + (1|V), kn_kmu) -> fit`
- `Anova(fit)`

Results: Speaker KMU

Table 1. LMER model comparisons for the analysis of place (dental and retroflex) based on all constriction parameters and articulatory components for the full set and the set without fricatives produced by speaker KMU (Analysis of Deviance Table, Type II Wald χ^2 tests, significance levels: '*' <.001, '**' <.01, '*' <.05).**

	Full set				Set without fricatives			
	Chisq	Df	Pr(>Chisq)		Chisq	Df	Pr(>Chisq)	
TTCL	69.021	1	< 2.20E-16	***	49.639	1	1.85E-12	***
TTClength	0.4707	1	0.4927		0.2843	1	0.5939	
TTCD	3.9032	1	0.04819	*	2.4	1	0.1213	
TTF	127.54	1	< 2.20E-16	***	92.058	1	< 2.2e-16	***
TTH	0.291	1	0.5896		11.1	1	0.000863	***
TB	37.274	1	1.03E-09	***	97.543	1	< 2.2e-16	***
TD	4.7912	1	0.02861	*	12.347	1	0.000442	***
HYH	0.7296	1	0.393		0.9699	1	0.3247	
JA	4.0184	1	0.04501	*	1.6997	1	0.1923	
JH	0.0135	1	0.9075		4.00E-04	1	0.9837	
VH	1.988	1	0.1585		0.7288	1	0.3933	
LAH	3.1354	1	0.07661		4.7948	1	0.02855	*

Results: Speaker KD

Table 2. LMER model comparisons for the analysis of place (dental and retroflex) based on all constriction parameters and articulatory components for the full set and the set without fricatives produced by speaker KD (Analysis of Deviance Table, Type II Wald χ^2 tests, significance levels: ‘*’ <.001, ‘**’ <.01, ‘*’ <.05).**

	Full set			Set without fricatives			
	Chisq	Df	Pr(>Chisq)	Chisq	Df	Pr(>Chisq)	
TTCL	311.32	1	< 2.2e-16 ***	319.28	1	< 2.2e-16 ***	***
TTClength	48.355	1	3.56E-12 ***	35.372	1	2.72E-09 ***	***
TTCD	0.4453	1	0.5046	1	1	0.3173	
TTF	221.07	1	< 2.2e-16 ***	256.28	1	< 2.2e-16 ***	***
TTH	0.0937	1	0.7595	2.8845	1	0.08943	
TB	6.9171	1	0.008537 **	49.414	1	2.07E-12 ***	***
TD	4.7376	1	0.02951 *	0.8816	1	0.3478	
HYH	3.6427	1	0.05632	3.0904	1	0.07876	
JA	0.6106	1	0.4345	0.1425	1	0.7058	
JH	2.9289	1	0.08701	1.4771	1	0.2242	
VH	0.263	1	0.6081	0.046	1	0.8302	
LAH	5.7811	1	0.0162 *	9.8878	1	0.001664 **	**

Table 3. Confusion matrices for consonant classification by Place based on constriction parameters for (a) the full dataset and (b) without fricatives, separately by speaker; dent =dental, ret = retroflex.

C	Speaker KMU			Speaker KD		
	dent	ret	correct	dent	ret	correct
a. ṭ	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
ṭ	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
ʂ	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
ʃ	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
ɳ	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
ŋ	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
ɭ	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
l	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
<i>Mean</i>			<i>100%</i>			<i>100%</i>
b. ṭ	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
ṭ	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
ɳ	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
ŋ	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
ɭ	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
l	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
<i>Mean</i>			<i>100%</i>			<i>100%</i>

Table 4. *rpart* confusion matrices for consonant classification by Place based on articulatory components for (a) the full dataset and (b) without fricatives, separately by speaker; dent = dental, ret = retroflex.

	C	KMU			KD		
		dent	ret	correct	dent	ret	correct
a.	t̥	4	1	80%	5	0	100%
	t	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
	s̥	5	0	100%	3	2	60%
	s	1	4	80%	0	5	100%
	ɲ	4	1	80%	5	0	100%
	ŋ	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
	l̥	3	2	60%	5	0	100%
	l	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
	<i>Mean</i>			88%			95%
b.	t̥	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
	t	1	4	80%	0	5	100%
	ɲ	5	0	100%	0	5	100%
	ŋ	0	5	100%	5	0	100%
	l̥	5	0	100%	5	0	100%
	l	0	5	100%	0	5	100%
		<i>Mean</i>			97%		100%

Analyses by manner

Sample formulae:

- `lmer(TTCL ~ Manner + (1|Place) + (1|V), kn_kmu) -> fit`
- `Anova(fit)`
- `testInteractions(fit, pairwise = "Manner", adjustment = "bonferroni")`

Results: Speaker KMU

Table 5. LMER model comparisons for the analysis of manner (stops, fricatives, nasals, and laterals) based on all constriction parameters and articulatory components for the full set and the set without fricatives produced by speaker KMU (Analysis of Deviance Table, Type II Wald χ^2 tests, significance levels: ** <.001, *** <.01, * <.05).**

	Chisq	Df	Pr(>Chisq)	
TTCL	16.864	3	0.000754	***
TTClength	3.0265	3	0.3876	
TTCD	282.39	3	< 2.20E-16	***
TTF	40.508	3	8.32E-09	***
TTH	3.2158	3	0.3595	
TB	7.0945	3	0.06895	
TD	15.02	3	0.0018	**

HYH	163.13	3	<	2.20E-16	***
JA	24.284	3		2.18E-05	***
JH	38.282	3		2.46E-08	***
VH	278.76	3	<	2.20E-16	***
LAH	32.376	3		4.36E-07	***

Table 6. Results of pairwise comparisons by manner (stops, fricatives, nasals, and laterals) based on all constriction parameters and articulatory components for speaker KMU (‘*’ <.001, ‘**’ <.01, ‘*’ <.05).**

		Value	Df	Chisq	Pr(>Chisq)	
TTCL	stop-fric	-1.03	1	0.2001	1	
	stop-nas	2.44	1	1.1232	1	
	stop-lat	7.62	1	10.9543	0.005603	**
	fric-nas	3.47	1	2.2716	0.790578	
	fric-lat	8.65	1	14.1159	0.001031	**
	nas-lat	5.18	1	5.0621	0.146724	
TTCD	stop-fric	-0.106	1	181.2258	<2e-16	***
	stop-nas	0.003	1	0.1452	1	
	stop-lat	0.003	1	0.1452	1	
	fric-nas	0.109	1	191.629	<2e-16	***
	fric-lat	0.109	1	191.629	<2e-16	***
	nas-lat	0	1	0	1	
TTF	stop-fric	-0.75	1	13.5843	0.001369	**
	stop-nas	0.1	1	0.2415	1	
	stop-lat	0.52	1	6.5301	0.063638	
	fric-nas	0.85	1	17.4482	0.000177	***
	fric-lat	1.27	1	38.9512	2.61E-09	***
	nas-lat	0.42	1	4.26	0.234116	
TD	stop-fric	-0.92	1	11.4945	0.004188	**
	stop-nas	-0.09	1	0.11	1	
	stop-lat	-0.11	1	0.1643	1	
	fric-nas	0.83	1	9.3555	0.013339	*
	fric-lat	0.81	1	8.9101	0.017016	*
	nas-lat	-0.02	1	0.0054	1	
HYH	stop-fric	-0.11	1	0.3091	1	
	stop-nas	-1.93	1	95.1671	< 2.2e-16	***
	stop-lat	-1.74	1	77.3519	< 2.2e-16	***
	fric-nas	-1.82	1	84.6282	< 2.2e-16	***
	fric-lat	-1.63	1	67.8809	1.04E-15	***
	nas-lat	0.19	1	0.9223	1	
JA	stop-fric	-1.78	1	23.0963	9.25E-06	***
	stop-nas	-0.55	1	2.2051	0.825332	
	stop-lat	-0.7	1	3.5719	0.352592	
	fric-nas	1.23	1	11.0284	0.005384	**

	fric-lat	1.08	1	8.5026	0.021279	*
	nas-lat	-0.15	1	0.164	1	
JH	stop-fric	0.39	1	1.1773	1	
	stop-nas	0.63	1	3.0721	0.47787	
	stop-lat	2.08	1	33.4877	4.30E-08	***
	fric-nas	0.24	1	0.4458	1	
	fric-lat	1.69	1	22.1071	1.55E-05	***
	nas-lat	1.45	1	16.274	0.000329	***
VH	stop-fric	0.71	1	22.2703	1.42E-05	***
	stop-nas	2.34	1	241.9034	< 2.2e-16	***
	stop-lat	0.41	1	7.4264	0.03856	*
	fric-nas	1.63	1	117.3777	< 2.2e-16	***
	fric-lat	-0.3	1	3.9761	0.27691	
	nas-lat	-1.93	1	164.5602	< 2.2e-16	***
LAH	stop-fric	-1.29	1	15.5192	0.00049	***
	stop-nas	-1.62	1	24.4748	4.52E-06	***
	stop-lat	-0.37	1	1.2767	1	
	fric-nas	-0.33	1	1.0156	1	
	fric-lat	0.92	1	7.8934	0.029769	*
	nas-lat	1.25	1	14.5717	0.00081	***

Results: Speaker KD

Table 7. LMER model comparisons for the analysis of manner (stops, fricatives, nasals, and laterals) based on all constriction parameters and articulatory components for the full set and the set without fricatives produced by speaker KD (Analysis of Deviance Table, Type II Wald χ^2 tests, significance levels: '*' <.001, '**' <.01, '*' <.05).**

		Chisq	Df	Pr(>Chisq)	
TTCL	Manner	62.35	3	1.85E-13	***
TTClength	Manner	27.151	3	5.47E-06	***
TTCD	Manner	394.31	3	< 2.20E-16	***
TTF	Manner	132.29	3	< 2.20E-16	***
TTH	Manner	5.51	3	0.138	
TB	Manner	3.3742	3	0.3374	
TD	Manner	82.843	3	< 2.20E-16	***
HYH	Manner	207.81	3	< 2.20E-16	***
JA	Manner	51.038	3	4.80E-11	***
JH	Manner	72.18	3	1.46E-15	***
VH	Manner	216	3	< 2.20E-16	***
LAH	Manner	48.883	3	1.38E-10	***

Table 8. Results of pairwise comparisons by manner (stops, fricatives, nasals, and laterals) based on all constriction parameters and articulatory components for speaker KD (** <.001, *** <.01, * <.05).**

		Value	Df	Chisq	Pr(>Chisq)	
TTCL	stop-fric	0.22	1	0.0178	1	
	stop-nas	6.82	1	17.103	0.000212	***
	stop-lat	10.89	1	43.6073	2.41E-10	***
	fric-nas	6.6	1	16.0174	0.000377	***
	fric-lat	10.67	1	41.8632	5.87E-10	***
	nas-lat	4.07	1	6.0911	0.081521	
TTClength	stop-fric	-0.827	1	24.4427	4.59E-06	***
	stop-nas	-0.235	1	1.9737	0.960353	
	stop-lat	-0.205	1	1.5019	1	
	fric-nas	0.592	1	12.5251	0.002409	**
	fric-lat	0.622	1	13.8267	0.001203	**
	nas-lat	0.03	1	0.0322	1	
TTCD	stop-fric	-0.124	1	284.4128	<2e-16	***
	stop-nas	-0.008	1	1.1838	1	
	stop-lat	-0.007	1	0.9064	1	
	fric-nas	0.116	1	248.8982	<2e-16	***
	fric-lat	0.117	1	253.208	<2e-16	***
	nas-lat	0.001	1	0.0185	1	
TTF	stop-fric	-1.12	1	37.4177	5.72E-09	***
	stop-nas	0.32	1	3.0545	0.48308	
	stop-lat	0.93	1	25.7993	2.27E-06	***
	fric-nas	1.44	1	61.8538	2.22E-14	***
	fric-lat	2.05	1	125.3572	< 2.2e-16	***
	nas-lat	0.61	1	11.0994	0.005181	**
TD	stop-fric	-0.39	1	4.2841	0.230819	
	stop-nas	1.2	1	40.5598	1.14E-09	***
	stop-lat	0.63	1	11.1793	0.004963	**
	fric-nas	1.59	1	71.2077	< 2.2e-16	***
	fric-lat	1.02	1	29.3044	3.71E-07	***
	nas-lat	-0.57	1	9.1513	0.014913	*
HYH	stop-fric	-0.73	1	16.1699	0.000347	***
	stop-nas	1.35	1	55.3004	6.21E-13	***
	stop-lat	1.47	1	65.5686	3.37E-15	***
	fric-nas	2.08	1	131.2767	< 2.2e-16	***
	fric-lat	2.2	1	146.8609	< 2.2e-16	***
	nas-lat	0.12	1	0.4369	1	
JA	stop-fric	-0.99	1	14.3885	0.000892	***
	stop-nas	0.3	1	1.3213	1	
	stop-lat	0.82	1	9.8713	0.010073	*
	fric-nas	1.29	1	24.4301	4.62E-06	***
	fric-lat	1.81	1	48.0954	2.44E-11	***

JH	nas-lat	0.52	1	3.9697	0.277963	
	stop-fric	-0.43	1	4.511	0.202066	
	stop-nas	0.47	1	5.3893	0.121564	
	stop-lat	1.21	1	35.7196	1.37E-08	***
	fric-nas	0.9	1	19.7615	5.26E-05	***
	fric-lat	1.64	1	65.6181	3.28E-15	***
VH	nas-lat	0.74	1	13.3598	0.001542	**
	stop-fric	-0.23	1	1.9776	0.9579	
	stop-nas	1.89	1	133.5364	<2e-16	***
	stop-lat	0.06	1	0.1346	1	
	fric-nas	2.12	1	168.0149	<2e-16	***
	fric-lat	0.29	1	3.1439	0.4573	
LAH	nas-lat	-1.83	1	125.1925	<2e-16	***
	stop-fric	-0.53	1	3.0614	0.481048	
	stop-nas	0.67	1	4.8923	0.161862	
	stop-lat	1.47	1	23.5503	7.30E-06	***
	fric-nas	1.2	1	15.6937	0.000447	***
	fric-lat	2	1	43.5935	2.43E-10	***
	nas-lat	0.8	1	6.975	0.049595	*

Table 9. rpart confusion matrices for consonant classification by Manner based on constriction parameters, separately by speaker; cells with largely incorrect classification are shaded; fric = fricative, nas = nasal, lat = lateral.

C	Speaker KMU					Speaker KD				
	stop	fric	nas	lat	correct	stop	fric	nas	lat	correct
t̥	3	0	2	0	60%	5	0	0	0	100%
t	5	0	0	0	100%	4	0	1	0	80%
s̥	0	5	0	0	100%	0	5	0	0	100%
s	0	5	0	0	100%	0	5	0	0	100%
ɲ̥	0	0	5	0	100%	0	0	5	0	100%
ɲ	1	0	0	4	0%	0	0	5	0	100%
l̥	4	0	1	0	0%	1	0	4	0	0%
l	0	0	0	5	100%	0	0	5	0	0%
Mean					70%					73%

Table 10. rpart confusion matrices for consonant classification by Manner based on articulatory components, separately by speaker; cells with largely incorrect classification are shaded.

C	Speaker KMU					Speaker KD				
	stop	fric	nas	lat	correct	stop	fric	nas	lat	correct
t̥	5	0	0	0	100%	5	0	0	0	100%
t	5	0	0	0	100%	5	0	0	0	100%
s̥	1	4	0	0	80%	0	5	0	0	100%
s	0	5	0	0	100%	2	3	0	0	60%

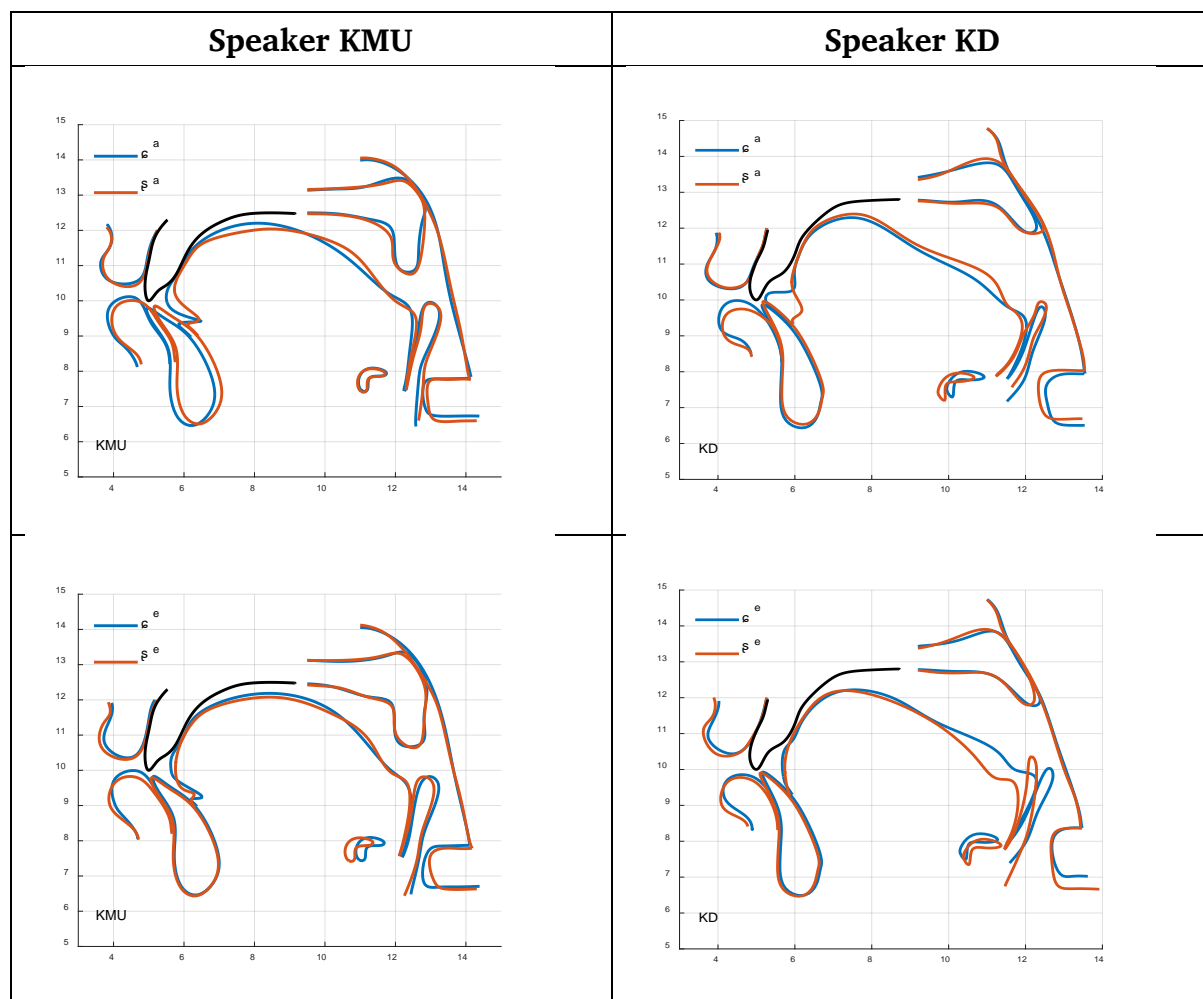
n	0	0	5	0	100%	1	0	0	4	0%
n	0	0	5	0	100%	0	0	0	5	0%
l	1	0	0	4	80%	0	0	0	5	100%
l	0	0	0	5	100%	0	0	0	5	100%
<i>Mean</i>					95%					70%

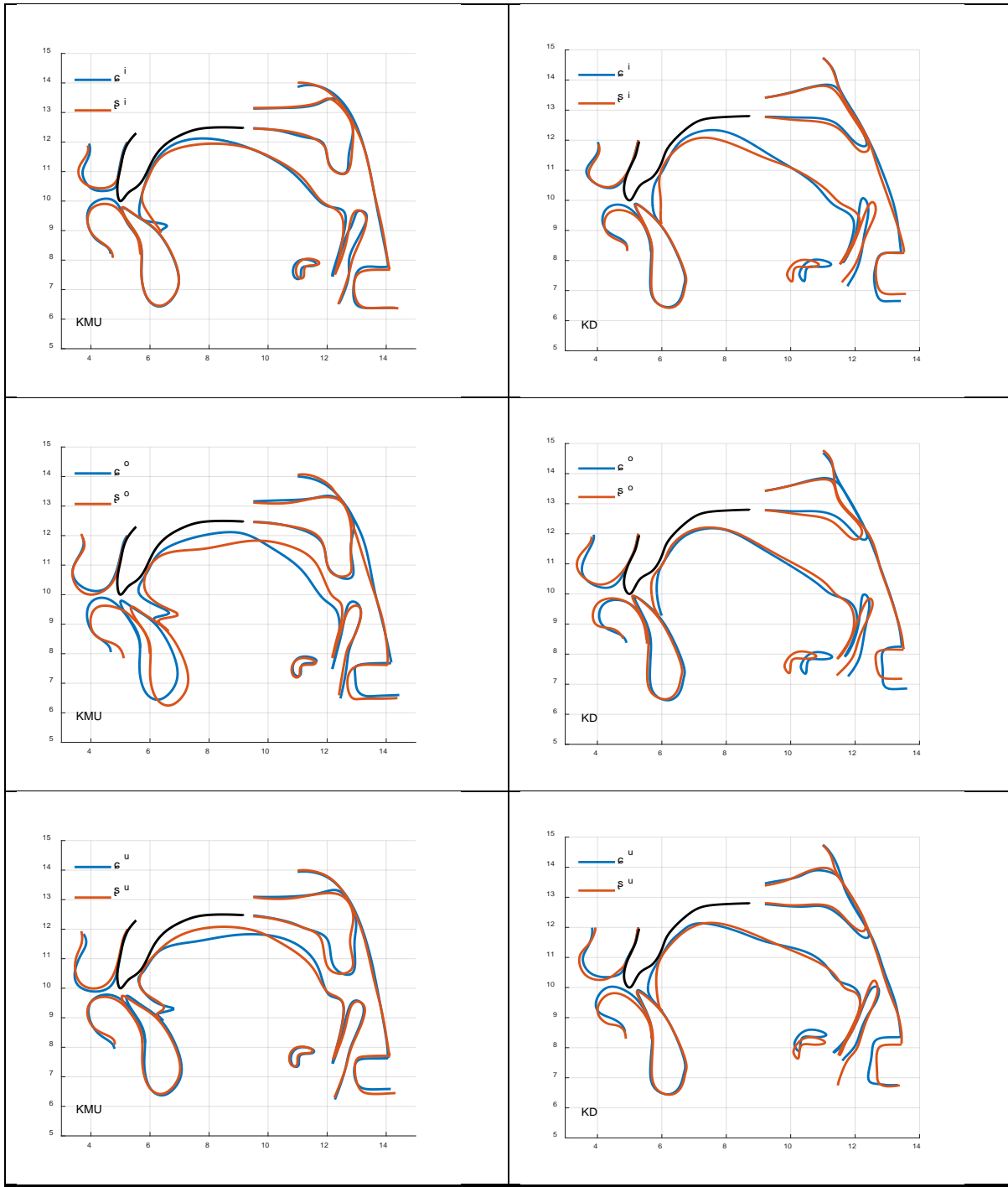
K1_KMU	_ro	L	o	ret	lat	-2.3	2.3	-0.3	0.5	0.2	-1.1	-0.1	1.8	-0.2	1.7	-0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	-1.6	-0.6	-1.6	0.4	-1.6	1.6	131	0.04	1.67	0.5	0.36	1.11	0.33	131	0.04	1.67	131	0.04	1.67	450	1287	2081	457	1227	2146	770	919
K1_KMU	_ru	L	u	ret	lat	-1.3	-0.3	-1	0.3	-0.3	-2.9	1.1	1.3	-2.1	-0.8	-1.7	-1	0	-2.1	-2.1	-1.6	-1.6	-0.5	-2.6	1.5	135	0.02	1.98	0.5	0.44	0.92	0.32	135	0.02	1.98	135	0.02	1.98	499	1545	2443	460	1439	2648	980	1208
K1_KMU	SH_r	S	a	ret	fric	0.7	-1.2	1.1	0.4	-1	0.8	-1.3	-1.3	0.5	0	0.5	0.4	-1	1.9	-0.4	0.3	-0.1	1.5	0.7	-1.2	148	0.12	1.97	0.5	0.49	0.91	0.15	148	0.12	1.97	148	0.12	1.97	765	2021	2965	580	1855	2581	1275	727
K1_KMU	SH_r	S	e	ret	fric	0.4	-0.1	0.6	0	-1.4	0.6	0.1	-0.4	1.4	0.7	-0.9	0.9	-0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.2	-0.3	1.3	0.7	-1.7	146	0.16	2.78	0.5	0.59	0.91	0.33	146	0.16	2.78	146	0.16	2.78	481	2414	3169	459	2430	3103	1971	673
K1_KMU	SH_r	S	i	ret	fric	0.4	0.1	1.3	0.7	-0.4	0.4	-0.7	-1.3	0.3	0.5	-0.3	1	-1.1	0.3	-0.1	0	0.5	1.2	0	-1	145	0.18	2.83	0.5	0.63	0.92	0.27	145	0.18	2.83	145	0.18	2.83	352	2634	3246	405	2593	3255	2188	662
K1_KMU	SH_r	S	o	ret	fric	-0.9	2.2	-1.1	0	-1.7	0.1	0.6	-0.7	-0.2	-0.3	-2.5	-0.8	-0.4	0	-0.5	1.4	0	1.3	0.2	-0.2	149	0.12	1.26	0.5	0.54	0.92	0.46	149	0.12	1.26	149	0.12	1.26	568	1771	2757	451	1575	2856	1124	1281
K1_KMU	SH_r	S	u	ret	fric	0	1.3	-1.1	-0.3	-2.4	0.5	-1	-0.7	0.8	0.6	-1.8	1	-0.9	-1.2	-0.2	0.5	-0.1	1.4	0.3	-1.1	152	0.1	1.34	0.5	0.42	1.01	0.42	152	0.1	1.34	152	0.1	1.34	328	1784	2985	463	1312	2713	849	1401
K2_KD	_ra	L	a	ret	lat	-0.7	-0.5	0.4	0.6	0.1	-1.9	-1.5	-1.7	-0.8	-0.9	-0.7	-0.5	-1.5	-1.4	-1.3	-0.7	-1.7	-0.7	-2.2	0.3	126	0.04	2.05	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.3	126	0.04	2.05	126	0.04	2.05	726	1924	2652	559	2112	2883	1552	771
K2_KD	_re	L	e	ret	lat	-0.7	0	1.1	0.4	-1.9	-1.1	0.5	-1.2	-1	-0.1	0.3	-1	-0.8	-0.9	-1.2	-0.6	-1.8	-0.1	-1.5	-0.7	128	0.03	1.83	0.5	0.73	0.7	0.21	128	0.03	1.83	128	0.03	1.83	528	2455	2896	577	2320	2892	1743	573
K2_KD	_ri	L	i	ret	lat	0.5	-0.3	1.2	0.6	-0.3	-1.2	-0.2	-1.1	-0.7	-0.1	0.8	0	-1.1	-1.3	-1.5	0.1	-1.9	-0.2	-1.3	-0.6	127	0.03	1.39	0.5	0.66	0.6	0.12	127	0.03	1.39	127	0.03	1.39	451	2585	2874	496	2376	2700	1880	324
K2_KD	_ro	L	o	ret	lat	-0.9	-0.5	-0.2	0.6	0	-2.1	1.2	-1.2	-1.3	-0.3	-1.3	-1.2	-0.6	-2.4	-1.4	-0.9	-2	-0.7	-2.5	-1.1	122	0.03	2.22	0.5	0.68	0.7	0.41	122	0.03	2.22	122	0.03	2.22	652	1124	2638	624	1494	2606	870	1112
K2_KD	_ru	L	u	ret	lat	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.7	1.2	-1.8	0.2	-1	-0.6	0.4	-0.3	0	-1	-0.9	-1	0	-1.9	-1	-2	-0.9	127	0.05	2.25	0.5	0.62	0.8	0.28	127	0.05	2.25	127	0.05	2.25	455	1213	2554	543	1740	2371	1197	631
K2_KD	SH_r	S	a	ret	fric	1.4	0	0.5	0.9	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3	0.3	0.8	0.7	-0.6	0.8	0.1	1.5	-0.3	0.6	-0.2	1.7	0.1	-0.6	135	0.14	3.13	0.5	0.69	0.81	0.33	135	0.14	3.13	135	0.14	3.13	707	1761	2922	732	1879	2751	1147	873
K2_KD	SH_r	S	e	ret	fric	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.5	1.2	0.8	1.4	-2.7	1.1	-0.3	1.5	0.2	0.4	0.2	-0.2	0.4	1	0.4	-2.2	145	0.14	2.22	0.5	0.71	0.7	0.32	145	0.14	2.22	145	0.14	2.22	550	2506	3007	652	2374	3083	1722	709
K2_KD	SH_r	S	i	ret	fric	0.9	-0.1	1	0.6	-1.1	0.8	0.4	0.7	-0.1	0	-1.1	0.6	-0.6	1.2	0.1	0	0.7	1.1	1	-1.6	144	0.15	1.89	0.5	0.85	0.5	0.37	144	0.15	1.89	144	0.15	1.89	487	2750	3075	504	2584	3058	2080	474
K2_KD	SH_r	S	o	ret	fric	1.4	3	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.5	2.7	0.2	1.6	-0.4	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.4	1	1.7	-1.5	144	0.18	3	0.5	0.59	0.9	0.28	144	0.18	3	144	0.18	3	601	1383	2758	626	1552	2718	926	1166
K2_KD	SH_r	S	u	ret	fric	1	2.4	0.1	1	0.3	0.1	1.1	1.8	-0.4	1.6	-0.1	0.2	-0.7	0.8	-0.4	0.7	0.5	1.7	0.4	-1.3	146	0.16	1.98	0.5	0.62	0.91	0.32	146	0.16	1.98	146	0.16	1.98	463	1480	2938	536	1756	2893	1219	1137

Supplementary material S6: Comparisons of retroflex and alveopalatals sibilants

Articulation

Figure 1 displays the superposition of the retroflex sibilants (in blue) and alveopalatals sibilants (in red) in the five separate vowel contexts for the two speakers (first five rows) and averaged over the five contexts (last row). These comparisons show that both sibilants are produced nearly in the same way as alveopalatals, with the entire tongue fronted and raised towards the hard palate. One apparent exception is the context next to /o/, where /ʂ/ is produced by KMU with a somewhat flatter tongue shape and a lower jaw, relative to /ç/. Next to /u/, however, it is /ç/ that shows a somewhat flatter tongue shape. These few differences may not be therefore representative of distinct articulations, but reflect token-to-token variation.





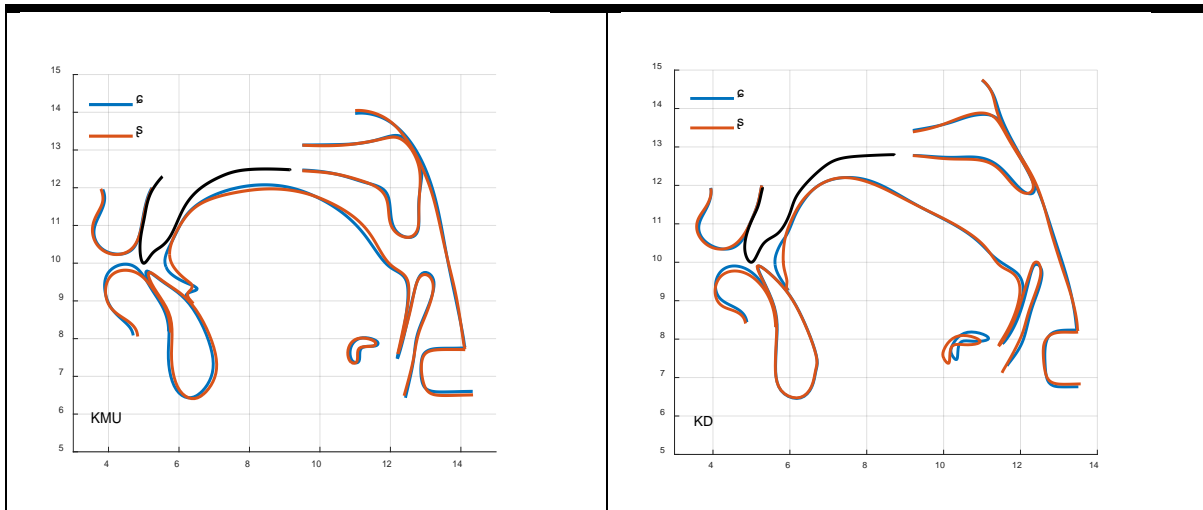
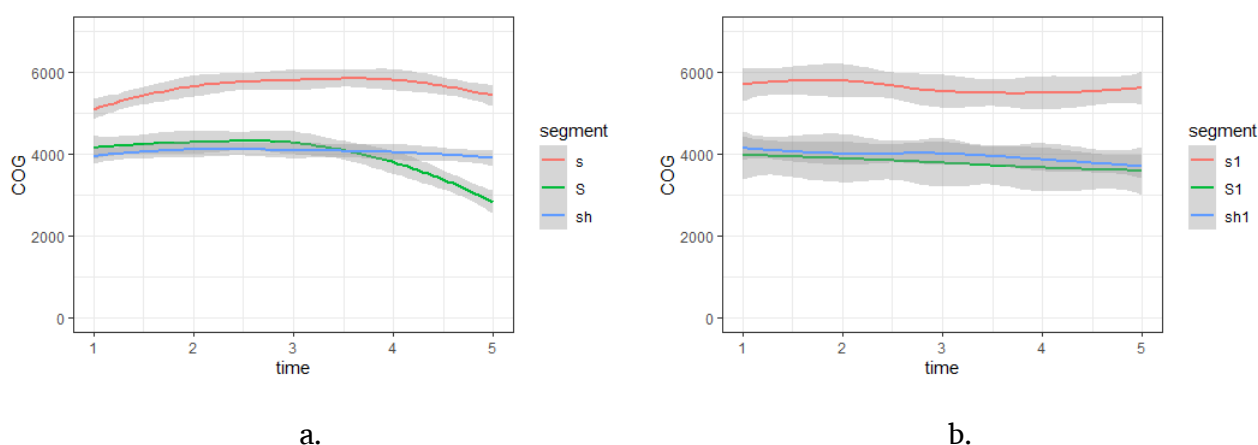


Figure 1. MRI tracings of /ʃ/ and /ç/ by speakers KMU and KD, separately by vowel context (first five rows) and averaged across vowels (last row).

Acoustics

Figure 2 shows measurements of Centre of Gravity (COG) of fricative noise¹ for the sibilant fricatives /ʃ/, /ç/, and /s/ (as a control) measured over time in normal (left) and sustained (right) productions by the speakers KMU (top) and KD (bottom). It can be seen that the COG trajectories for the two posterior sibilants are near-identical and are much lower than the trajectory for the anterior fricative. The only difference we can observe between /ʃ/ and /ç/ is towards the end of the frication interval for KMU (a). This is because this speaker tended to produce /ʃ/ with some aspiration.

Speaker KMU



Speaker KD

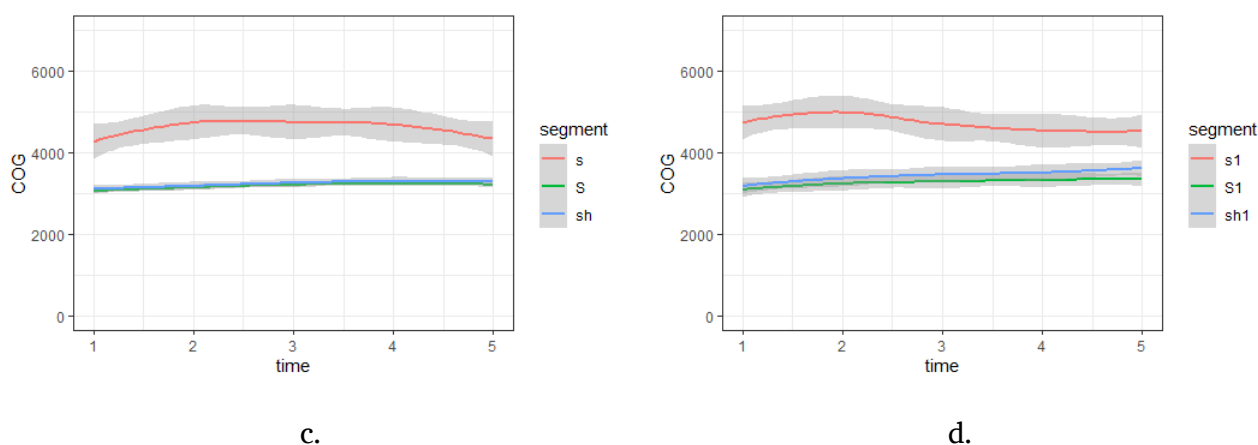


Figure 2. Measurements of Center of Gravity of fricative noise taken at five equidistant points during the frication interval for /ʃ/ ('S'), /ç/ ('sh'), and /s/ produced across five vowel contexts in normal productions (a, c) and at the beginning of the sustained productions (b, d) by speakers KMU (a, b) and KD (b, d); the trajectories were plotted using the `geom_smooth()` function and the 'loess' method in `ggplot2` (Wickham (2009)).

¹ The annotation of fricatives and COG measurements were performed in Praat (Boersma & Weenink (2021)).

Conclusion

To conclude, both articulatory and acoustic measurements point to a lack of contrast between /ʂ/ and /ʐ/ as produced by our speakers (with the exception of post-aspiration possibly distinguishing the two consonants by KMU). The contrast appears to be neutralized towards the alveopalatal.

References

- Boersma, P. & Weenink, D. (2021). *Praat: doing phonetics by computer [Computer program]. Version 6.1.40*, retrieved 27 February 2021 from <http://www.praat.org/>.
- Wickham, H. (2009). *ggplot2: Elegant graphics for data analysis*. New York: Springer-Verlag.