### Psych 56L/ Ling 51: Acquisition of Language

Lecture 6
Phonological Development I

#### Announcements

HW1 due at the end of class today

Review questions for phonological development available

HW2 available (not due till 2/21/13 – after midterm), but helpful for studying for the midterm

All kinds of useful sound charts available (including interactive ones, in case you forget what sound corresponds to what symbol).

Resources available for typing IPA characters (useful for HW2) – if all else fails, you can always copy and paste from the IPA virtual keyboard (linked in the references).

# Sounds of Language

Forget Spelling!

Sounds ≠ Spelling

Courtesy of http://www.spellingsociety.org/news/media/poems.php

Our Strange Lingo, by Lord Cromer (1902)

When the English tongue we speak.
Why is break not rhymed with freak?
Will you tell me why it's true
We say sew but likewise few?
And the maker of the verse,
Cannot rhyme his horse with worse?
Beard is not the same as heard
Cord is different from word.
Cow is cow but low is low
Shoe is never rhymed with foe.
Think of hose, dose, and lose
And think of goose and yet with choose

Courtesy of http://www.spellingsociety.org/news/media/poems.php

Think of comb, tomb and bomb,
Doll and roll or home and some.
Since pay is rhymed with say
Why not paid with said I pray?
Think of blood, food and good.
Mould is not pronounced like could.
Wherefore done, but gone and lone Is there any reason known?
To sum up all, it seems to me
Sound and letters don't agree.

#### One Sound - Many Characters

h<u>e</u> s**ea**s ea bel<u>ie</u>ve ie am<u>oe</u>ba oe Caesar ae k<u>ey</u> ey machine i see ee p<u>eo</u>ple s<u>ei</u>ze ei eo

International Phonetic Alphabet: [i]

#### One Sound - Many Characters

 $t \underline{oo}$  oo thr<u>ew</u> ew t $\underline{o}$  o lieu ieu clue ue sh<u>oe</u> oe thr<u>ough</u> ough b<u>eau</u>tiful eau

**IPA**: [u]

	One Character - Many Sounds
d <u>a</u> me	e
d <u>a</u> d	æ
f <u>a</u> ther	α
c <u>a</u> ll	ο, α
vill <u>a</u> ge	ι, θ
m <u>a</u> ny	ε

	One Sound - Multiple Letters
shoot either character deal Thomas physics rough	S  N  K  i  t  f

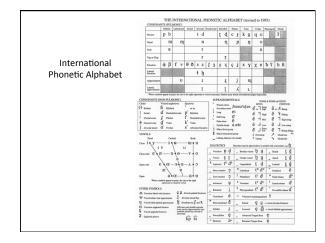
One Letter - 0, 1, 2 Sounds

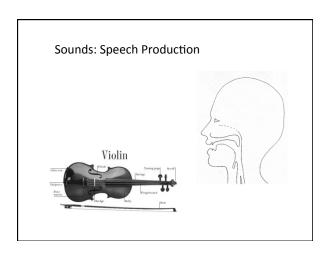
mnemonic
psychology
resign
ghost = no sound!
island
whole
debt

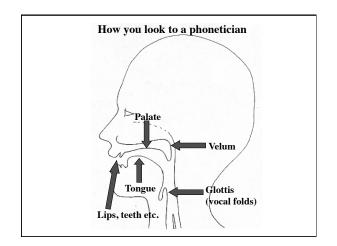
cute kjuwt
= 2 sounds!

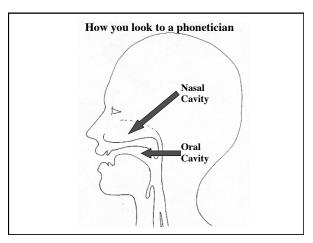
Differences across Languages

English: judge, juvenile, Jesus  $d_3$ Spanish: jugar, Jesus hGerman: Jugend, jubeln, Jesus jFrench: Jean, j'accuse, jambon 3









#### Major division: consonants vs vowels

Consonantal sounds: narrow or complete closure somewhere in the vocal tract.

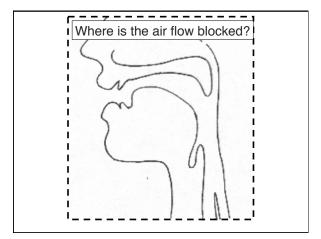
Vowels: very little obstruction in the vocal tract. Can form the basis of syllables (also possible for some consonants).

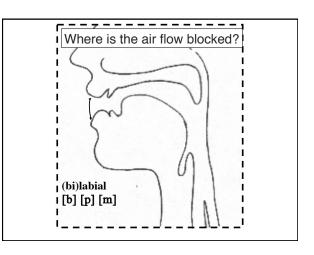
#### **Describing Speech Sounds**

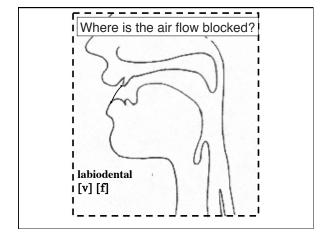
Where/how is the air flowing? (manner of articulation) nasal/oral, stop, fricative, liquid, tap/flap etc.

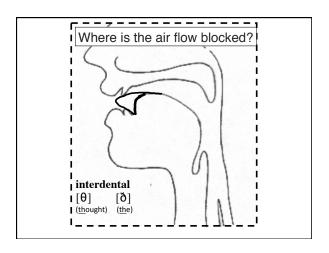
Where is the air-flow blocked? (place of articulation) labial, alveolar, palatal, velar etc.

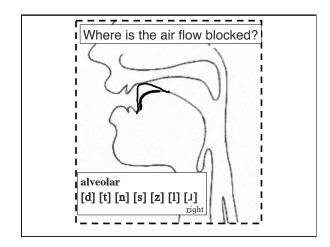
What are the vocal folds doing? (voicing) voiced vs. voiceless

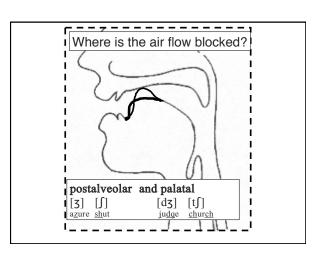


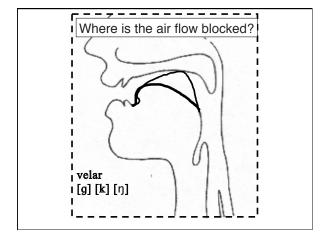


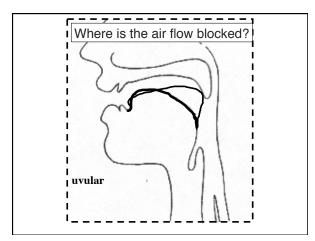


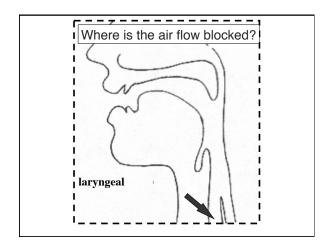












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#### Fricatives & Affricates

Palatal sounds [3]  $\iint$  [d3]  $[t\int]$ 

Palatal Fricatives – [3] [ʃ] [note: according to IPA chart these are strictly 'post-alveolar']

Affricates - combination of stop + fricative -  $[d\mathfrak{z}]$   $[t\mathfrak{f}]$ , as in *judge, church* 

Ex: affricate in fast speech: "What should...?",

"What did you do? = Whad ja do)

 $[t\, \text{\Large f}] \qquad \qquad [d\, \text{\Large 3}]$  Said fast, this sounds like "Whachould...?" or "Whajado?"

#### What are the vocal folds doing?

closed voiced



open voiceless



#### **Voiced & Voiceless Consonants**

Consonants either voiced or voiceless.

English pairs:

d t v f b p ſ3

ðθ ZS

t∫ dʒ

**Describing Sounds** 

#### Features

Ways of *describing* sounds e.g., [t] = voiceless, alveolar, stop

Stronger claim: features are the *smallest building blocks of language*, used to store sounds in the mind

Atoms of Speech



Roman Jakobson, 1896-1982

#### Features

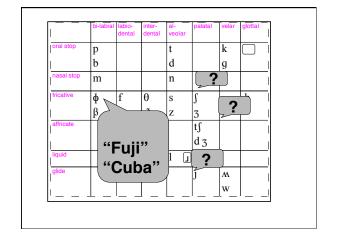
Prediction: by combining a small number of atomic features, it should be possible to create a larger number of speech sounds

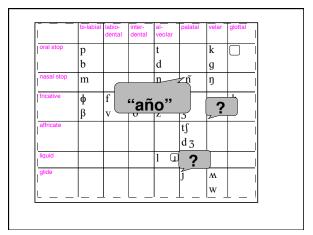
Goal: a set of universal features should make it possible to describe the speech sounds of all of the languages of the world

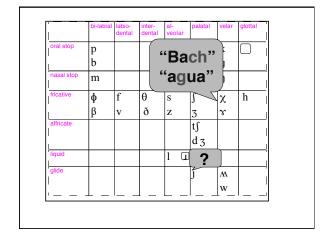
Different languages choose different feature combinations

	bi-labial	labio- dental	inter- dental	al- veolar	palatal	velar	glottal
oral stop	p			t		k	
	b			d		g	
nasal stop	m			n		ŋ	
fricative		f	θ	s	ſ		h
		v	ð	z	3		
affricate					t∫		
					d3		
liquid				1 J			
glide					j	M	
ļ I						w	

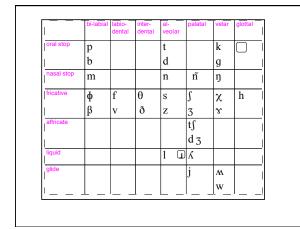
	bi-labial	labio- dental	inter- dental	al- veolar	palatal	velar	glottal
oral stop	p			t		k	
	b			d		g	
nasal stop	m			n	?		
fricative	2		θ	S	S		
	2	[√	ð	Z	3	2.	
affricate					t∫		
					d 3		
iquid				l [	?		
glide					Ĵ	M	
						w	

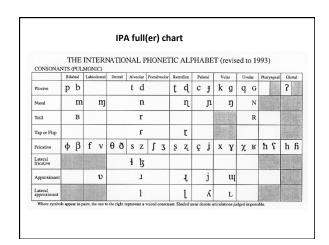


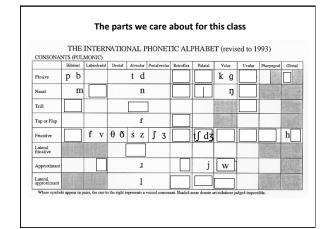


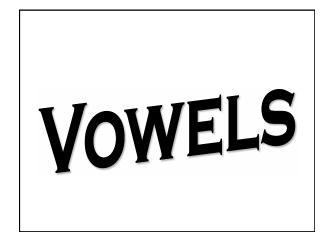


	bi-labial	dental	inter- dental	al- veolar	palatal	velar	glottal
oral stop	p			t		k	
I	b			d		g	
nasal stop	m			n	ñ	ŋ	
fricative	ф	f	θ	s	S	χ	h
I	β	v	ð	z	3	x	
affricate					t∫		
l I					d 3		
liquid				1 4	Y		
glide		"c	aba	illo'	"	M	
L	.	Γ_	L _	l	$\Gamma_{-}$	W	

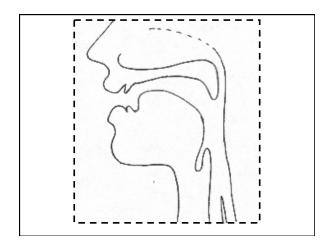


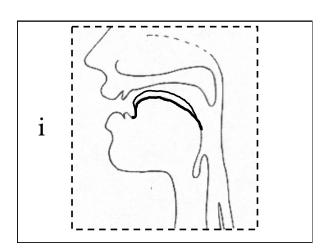


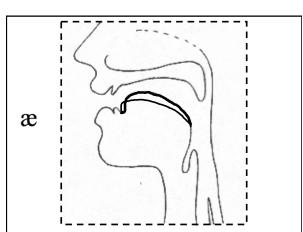


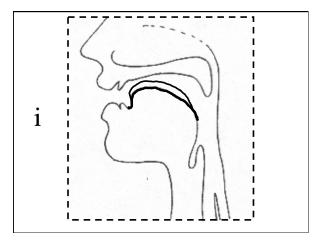


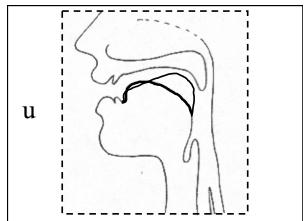
What can you do to alter the shape of your vocal tract?





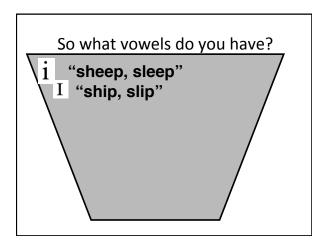


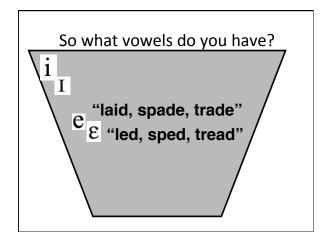


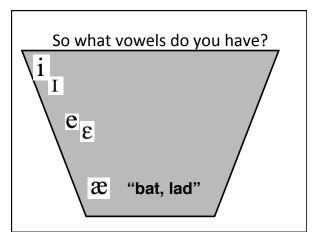


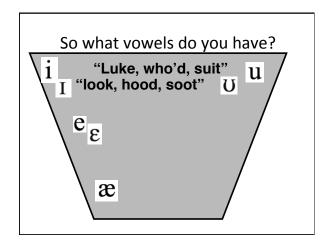
#### You can....

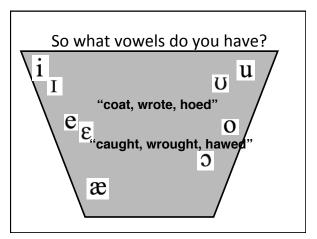
- (1) Raise or lower your tongue
- (2) Advance or retract your tongue
- (3) Round or spread your lips
- (4) Tense or not tense your mouth

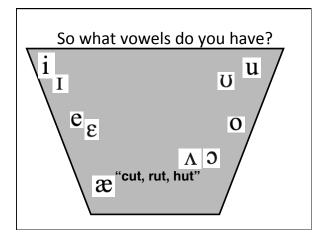


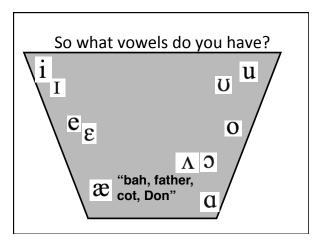


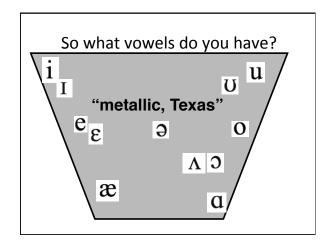


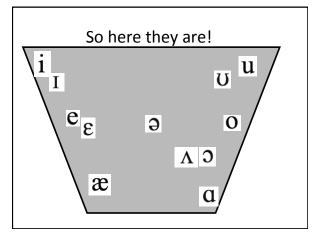




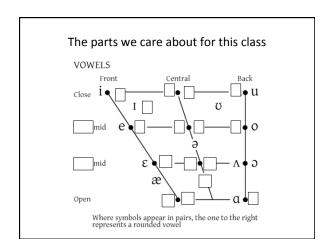








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#### **Cross-language Differences**

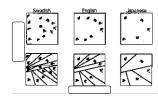
#### **Feature Combinations**

English: back vowels are rounded, others are not German/French has high, front, rounded vowel [y] Russian has high back unrounded vowel [ $\mu$ ]

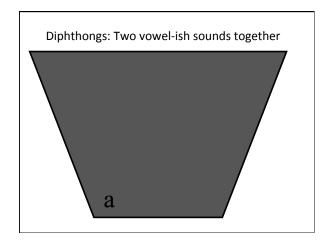
Many languages don't make the tense/lax distinction found in English (ex: Spanish [i], rather than [i] and [I])

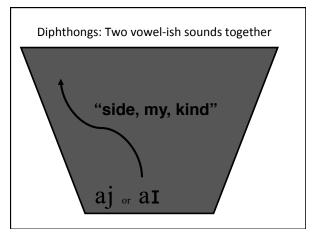
Many languages distinguish short and long vowels (unlike English), ex: Japanese [i] vs. [i:]

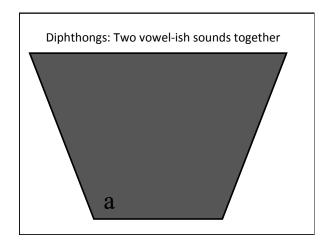
#### **Cross-language Differences**

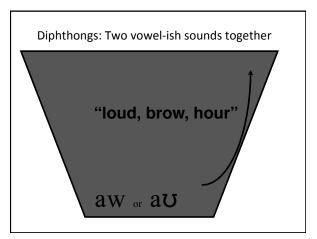


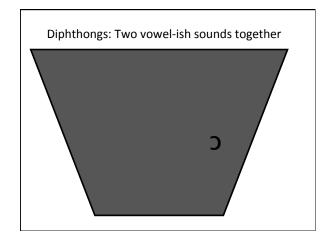
Languages carve up the acoustic space in different ways. Children find these categories (called phonemes), based on the distributions of sounds they hear in their linguistic environment (using statistical learning).

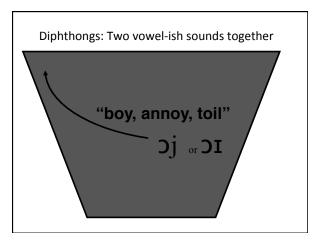












## 

# Speech Production - Summary Airflow set in vibration by vocal folds Airflow modified by vocal tract Consonants: narrowing or blocking of oral/nasal cavity Vowels: shaping of oral cavity Different languages choose different selections of these

#### **Speech Perception**

Speech production processes must be *undone* by the ear

Motions of articulators must be *reconstructed* from patterns of air vibration

Requires extremely precise hearing, possibly a system specialized for hearing speech

Substantially developed at birth



#### Questions?



You should be able to do question 3 on HW2, and up through question 3 on the phonological review questions.