



# Tracing FACE and GOAT across the Lifespan: From Student to Lecturer

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Tracing Language Variation and Change across the Lifespan

## **BACKGROUND Tyneside English: 3 variants associated with region:**

	FACE	GOAT
Closing diphthong	[eɪ]	[oʊ]
Monophthong	[e:]	[o:] / [e:]
Centring diphthong (inglide) (adapted from Wells 1982; Watt 2000, 2002)	[19]	[ʊə]

#### **Emerging Adulthood:**

- Stage of life between the ages 18 and 25
- Characterised by exploration of self (Arnett 2000)

### **Linguistic Marketplace Pressures:**

• Underlying pressures to shift towards a variety regarded as more appropriate or elite (Bourdieu & Bolanski 1975; Sankoff & Laberge 1978)

#### **Change over Lifespan?**

• Impact of Emerging Adulthood

# **M**ETHODS

- Forced aligned with LABB-CAT (Fromont & Hay 2012) Formant extraction in R
- → Script (James Grama & Simon Gonzalez)
- F1/F2 measurements extracted at 7 points 20-80%
- → Lobanov (1971) normalised
- Variants of FACE | GOAT coded auditorily

Variant	T1	T2	T3
Closing	17   12	9   7	7   16
Inglide	1   0	0   0	8   0
Monophthong	91   159	162   179	150   67
	109   171	171   186	165   183

FACE:  $X^2 = 172.98$ , df = 4, p < 0.001 GOAT:  $X^2 = 27.247$ , df = 2, p < 0.001

#### **Data:** real time panel – 3 recordings

- Speaker: Charlotte (from Northeast England)
- T1 = 2010: 20 years old, student • T2 = 2014: 24 years old, PhD candidate
- T3 = 2019: 29 years old, lecturer (humanities)

# **Findings:**

- Mostly monophthongs
- Closing diphthongs decreases over time for **FACE**
- Closing diphthong decreases and then increases for GOAT

#### **LMM FACE Monophthong:**

First Formant:

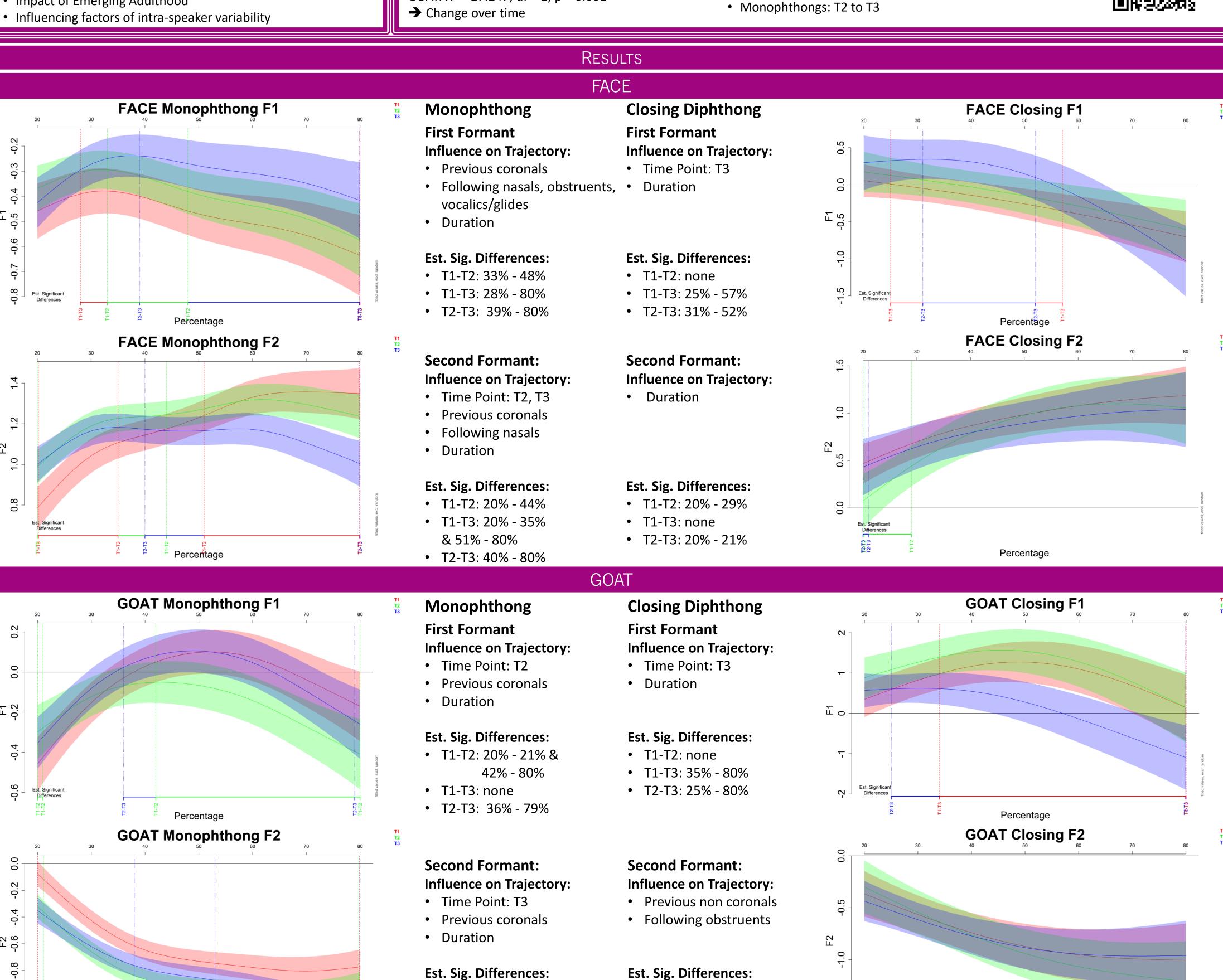
## **LMM GOAT Monophthong:**

First Formant:

- Closing diphthong: T2 to T3
- Monophthongs: T1 to T2 & T2 to T3
- → Higher vowels in T2 and lowered again in T3 Second Formant:
- Monophthongs: T1 to T3
- → Backer vowels in T2

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## DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

## Contrary to previous research FACE and GOAT do not behave in lockstep (Watt 2000, 2002; Haddican et al. 2013)

FACE: becoming more monophthongal GOAT: becoming less monophthongal

Percentage

→ more pan-northern

T1-T2: 20% - 80%

T1-T3: 20% - 80%

• T2-T3: 39% - 52% &

80% - 80%

→ less pan-northern

## Influences:

• T1-T2: none

• T1-T3: none

• T2-T3: none

- Emerging Adulthood
  - → receptive to change
- Linguistic Marketplace pressures (university context)
  - T1 to T2: movement towards supralocal variant
- Peer pressure: monophthongs (Watt 2002)
- Dialect awareness & dialect as identity: lecturer in humanities still North England
  - T2 to T3: movement back towards ingliding variant

## **Influence of Time Point on Trajectory:** FACE: Monophthong F2 & Closing F1

GOAT: Monophthong F1, F2 & Closing F1

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Percentage