

Phonetics in Language and Gender

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This workshop will explore the use of phonetic data in language and gender research in two domains: intonation/voice quality and segmental (consonants/vowels) variation. For both types of data, we will review the kinds of social information phonetic data can provide, focusing on both acoustics and perception. Then participants will learn to make measurements, using free or low-cost software. Topics likely to be touched on include recording techniques and trade-offs, intonational variation, falsetto, /t/ release, vowel quality measures, research on gay speech, effect of perceived sex on vowel and fricative identification, choosing manageable phonetic characteristics to measure. We warmly welcome contributions of data from participants. If you have recorded data you would like to share in the workshop, please contact Lisa Lavoie (lavoie@fas.harvard.edu) or Rob Podesva (podesva@stanford.edu) to make arrangements.