Instrumental articulatory phonetics and dialectological fieldwork. Strange bedfellows?

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Traditionally, articulatory phonetics was limited to a laboratory setting. As of recently, however, the collection of articulatory data is also possible in the field, thanks to Ultrasound Tongue Imaging, which is non-invasive, portable, and inexpensive compared to most other instrumental articulatory techniques. Studies using ultrasound have already shown that this method provides new insights concerning sociolinguistic and dialectal variation. In addition, the combination of acoustic and articulatory measurements can show a more complete picture of a sound change in progress.

However, several challenges arise when using ultrasound, such as obtaining valid data, synchronizing articulatory and audio data, extracting comparable measures, and developing methods for quantitative analysis. All these have been the topic of active research related to the use of ultrasound in different linguistic subfields.

This workshop will serve as a forum for scientific exchange on the advances in sociolinguistic fieldwork that are made possible by the use of ultrasound, as well as on the current limitations and development of methodological approaches. We invite abstracts for oral presentations of 30 minutes. Each presentation will be followed by a 15 minute discussion by a fellow researcher, and 15 minutes for plenary questions and discussion. Topics may include dialectal and sociophonetic studies using ultrasound, but may also be more general. For instance, we welcome abstracts which address methodological issues related to using ultrasound in dialectal and sociophonetic fieldwork.

However, there is also a clear need for conceptual and theoretical reflection. For example, how can ultrasound data shed light on phonological or sociolinguistic questions? What do covert articulations, in which the articulation of a sound is made, but has no acoustic effect, tell us about phonological representations?

The workshop that is proposed here will be part of the conference Methods in Dialectology XV. This conference will be held in August 2014 in Groningen, The Netherlands. More information about the conference can be found on: http://linguistlist.org/confservices/customhome.cfm?Emeetingid=5202JA4458B6725A40A050441. Abstracts should be no more than 300 words (excluding references). Abstracts should be in .txt or .doc(x) format and should be made anonymous. Abstracts for talks at the workshop should be sent to the following email address: etske.ooijevaar@meertens.knaw.nl.

Deadline 31-Dec-2013

Notification of acceptance 05-Jan-2014

Conference Date From 11-Aug-2014 to 15-Aug-2014

Location
University of Groningen, The Netherlands

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