

Do changes in shadowing predict those in subsequent productions?



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Background

Spontaneous speech imitation

- Speakers shift their production in the direction of what they just heard without being told to “imitate” (e.g., Goldinger 1998).
- Imitative changes are mediated by language-specific cue primacy: Seoul Korean speakers imitate an exaggerated non-primary cue (**stop VOT**) by enhancing the primary cue (**post-stop f_0**) for the relevant phonological contrast (**aspirated stops**).

English (e.g., Shockley et al. 2004, Nielsen 2011)

heard: voiceless stops with longer VOT → *produced (shadowing/post-exposure):* voiceless stops with longer VOT

Seoul Korean (Kwon 2019)

heard: aspirated stops with higher f_0 → *produced (post-shadowing):* aspirated stops with higher f_0
aspirated stops with longer VOT → aspirated stops with higher f_0 + longer VOT

Stop VOT and post-stop f_0 in Seoul Korean and English

Seoul Korean: three-way laryngeal contrast

- Maintained by at least two separate acoustic cues, **stop VOT** and **post-stop f_0**
- Post-stop f_0 : primary cue** for aspirated stops (Kim et al. 2002, Kang & Guion 2008)

high ↑ low ↓	tense p* t* k*	aspirated p ^h t ^h k ^h
		lax p t k
		short ← VOT → long

English voicing contrast

- Stop VOT: primary cue** for English voicing contrast
- Post-stop f_0** plays a non-negligible role in native English listeners' perception of voicing contrast (e.g., Whalen et al. 1993).

short ← VOT → long	voiced b d g	voiceless p t k
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Experiment 1: English stop VOT

Question 1.

Does a speaker who converges to, or diverges from, a model talker while shadowing retain the altered productions in her post-shadowing test productions?

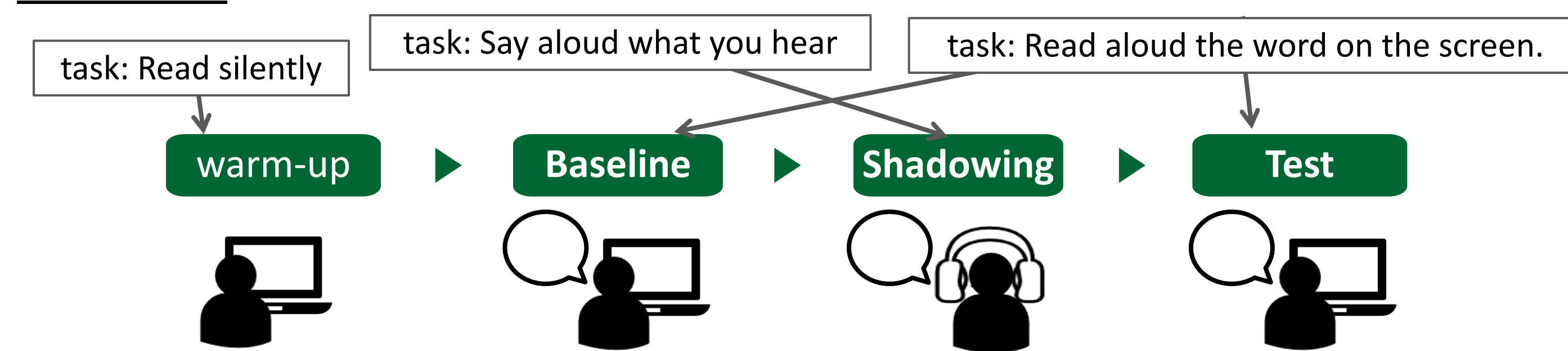
Methods

Participants: 14 American English speakers (7F/7M)

Stimuli: 25 English /t/-initial target words + filler words

- Target /t/ VOT extended (+60 ms): mean /t/ VOT after manipulation = 123.9 ms
- Disyllabic, initial stress, produced by a male American English speaker

Procedure:



Measurements:

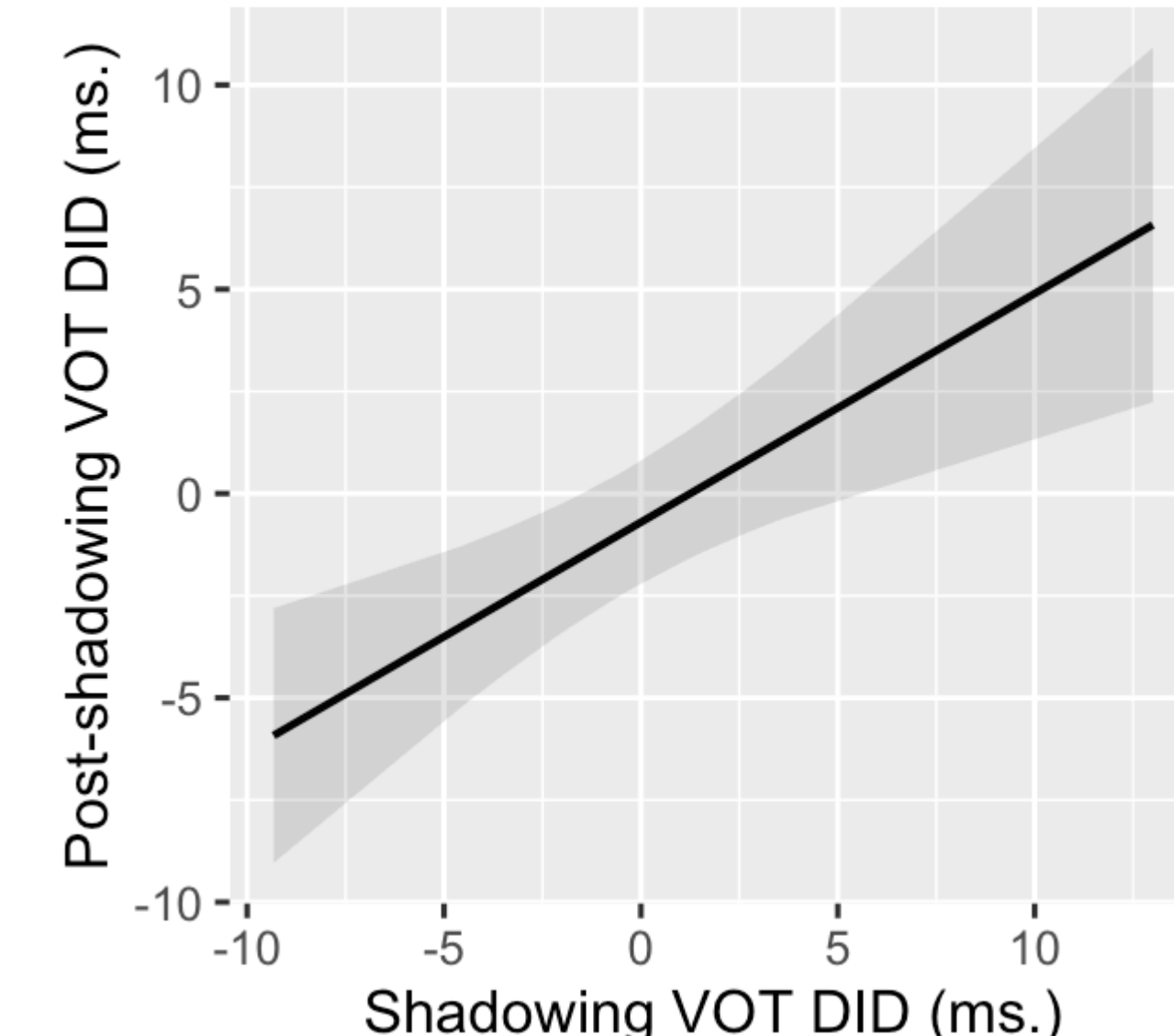
- /t/ VOT in targets measured and converted to difference-in-distance (DID) scores: DID = |Baseline – model| – |Shadowing or Test – model| (e.g., Pardo et al. 2017).

Results

- Shadowing DID predicts Test DID [$\beta = 0.45, t = 6.58, p < .001$]
- Perceptually induced changes during shadowing persisted to the subsequent productions without immediate targets to imitate.

Statistical analyses

- linear mixed-effects models
- DV: Test DID
- IV: shadowing DID (* manipulation: Exp.2)
- Random effects: (1|speaker) + (1|word)



Experiment 2: Seoul Korean stop VOT and post-stop f_0

Question 2.

Does phonology mediate the relation between the convergence patterns in the shadowing productions and those in the post-shadowing productions?

Methods (same data reported in Kwon 2019)

Participants: 19 Seoul Korean speakers (12F/7M, living in MI, USA)

Stimuli: 25 Korean /t^h/-initial target words + filler words

- Two manipulations
 - /t^h/ VOT extended (+60 ms): mean /t^h/ VOT after manipulation = 119.8 ms
 - Post-/t^h/ f_0 raised (+20%): mean post-/t^h/ f_0 after manipulation = 176.2 Hz
- Disyllabic, produced by a male Seoul Korean speaker

Procedure:

- Parallel to Experiment 1
- Each speaker tested twice for the two manipulations (at least 1 week apart, testing order counter-balanced)

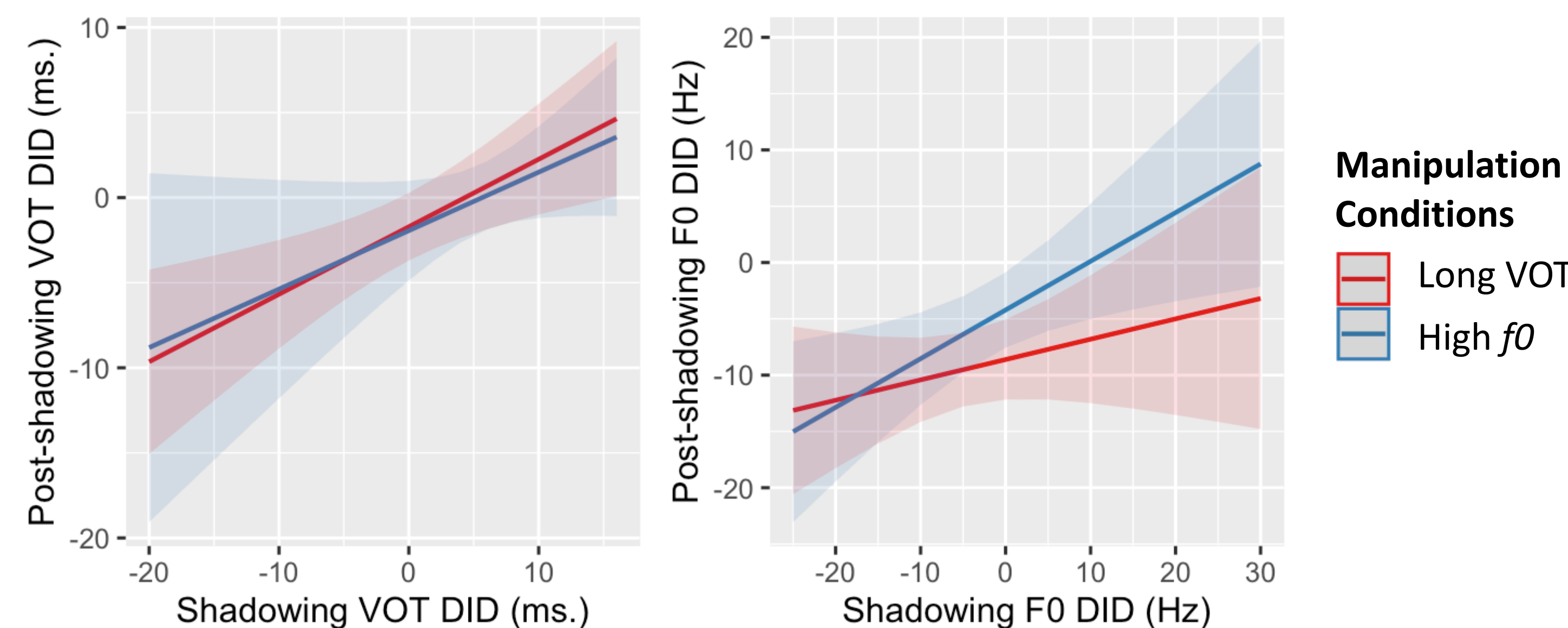
Measurements:

- VOT DID and f_0 DID separately calculated
- Post-/t^h/ f_0 measured at the temporal midpoint of the following vowel

Results

- Shadowing DID predicts Test DID when the measured acoustic property matches the property enhanced in the stimuli.

- Stop VOT:** Shadowing DID predicts Test DID in long VOT condition [$\beta = 0.40, t = 3.06, p = .004$], but not in high f_0 condition [$\beta = 0.34, t = 1.70, p = .098$]
- Post-stop f_0 :** Shadowing DID predicts Test DID in high f_0 condition [$\beta = 0.43, t = 2.63, p = .013$], but not in long VOT condition [$\beta = 0.18, t = 1.09, p = .282$]



Discussion

Summary of findings

Exp 1: English speakers

Heard: voiceless stops with longer VOT → *Shadowing:* VOT DID → *Test:* (post-shadowing reading) VOT DID predicts VOT DID

Exp 2: Seoul Korean speakers

Heard: Aspirated stops with higher f_0 → *Shadowing:* f_0 DID predicts f_0 DID, VOT DID predicts VOT DID
Aspirated stops with longer VOT → *Shadowing:* f_0 DID predicts f_0 DID, VOT DID predicts VOT DID

Changes during the shadowing are related to those in subsequent productions, when the acoustic property matches the property enhanced in the stimuli.

- Imitative changes in the unmanipulated acoustic property in the post-shadowing productions, i.e., the increase in **post-stop f_0** after shadowing aspirated stops with longer VOT in Seoul Korean (Kwon 2019), may not stem from the imitative changes during the shadowing.
- The changes targeting in the abstract phonological category arguably emerge in the post-shadowing productions distal from the immediate acoustic targets to imitate.

Selected References

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