

## Resyllabification of Preconsonantal /-s/ in a Southern Spanish Variety. Acoustic Correlates on an Ongoing Linguistic Change in Malaga

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This research focuses on the innovative southern variety of Spanish spoken in Malaga town where deletion of word-final or word-medial /-s/ is nearly accomplished, except for the cases of word-medial /-s/ before a voiceless stop where aspiration is the most frequent realization.

When word-medial /-s/ is followed by the voiceless dental plosive phoneme /t/ (e.g. /ˈpasta/ ‘dough’), it is very usual to hear to an allegedly new variant which is perceived as an affricate [ts] ([ˈpatsa] ‘dough’ instead of the standard [ˈpasta]). This new realization, which is very commonly used by young university students in Málaga, could be the result of an ongoing linguistic change consisting in the resyllabification of word-medial /-s/.

The aim of this poster is to describe the acoustic features of word-medial /-s/ in this particular context. The hypothesis is that word-medial aspiration of /-s/ influences the following context in such a way that differences between acoustic features of [t] are significant when different realizations of word-medial /-s/ are compared.

Confirmation of this hypothesis will support the idea that these cases of word-medial aspiration should not be analysed as codas but as part of next syllable onsets. If this comes to be true, syllabic well-formedness can be considered a prevailing constraint in this particular context and it could be said that a process of resyllabification is taking place.

Data are taken from a representative sample of speakers designed to obtain social and stylistic variation. The sample has been stratified according to three social variables: age, sex and educational level so that the social dimension of the resyllabification process can be described.

### References

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