

## Review by Ane Icardo Isasa

### **Does the paper make a novel contribution to the understanding of the topic under investigation? [max 250 words]\***

I believe the paper does a novel contribution to the understanding of the topic under investigation. These phonetic data on Spanish vowels could change the way we view Spanish vowels, which are often considered "consistent" or "unproblematic".

### **Is the empirical content of the paper sound (i.e. the data are collected and presented properly, the experiments are well designed, the statistics is well done, the examples contain no spelling mistakes, etc)? [max 400 words]\***

Every aspect of data collection was very detailed, as well as the preparation of the experiment and treatment of outliers. Grammar and spelling were good.

However, I would suggest some changes:

- 1) A reanalysis of the formant data. A midpoint analysis of the data can be misleading and hide relevant centralization effects at the beginning and/or end of the segment. If the authors are trying to consider centralization, the analysis needs to be applied to the entirety of the vocalic segment. I would suggest using a Generalized Additive Model (GAMs) or another non-linear statistical analysis.
- 2) Another aspect I would like to see explained was whether there were differences between CVC segments according to the coda consonant. Considering the coda consonants stated, there could be some r-coloring or l-coloring that affects the vowel quality, so I would suggest the authors analyze that in case there are significant effects.
- 3) I would suggest the authors add an appendix with the reading passage used for the experiment or a reference to it, in case it has already been published by the first author in another publication.

### **Is the argument coherent and sound, with no major flaws and/or shortcomings, within the context of the theoretical assumptions made by the author? [max 500 words]\***

Yes. I believe the authors do a really good job in presenting their argument, how the experiment satisfies the research questions and how they recognize the limitations.

### **Are there any relevant scholarly works that have been overlooked by the author? If the answer is YES, please provide the full references.\***

Although the main works are cited, I would suggest looking at more recent publications on CSVS, even if they study the phenomenon in different languages.

### **Have you seen this paper, its content, the proposed analysis, or the conclusions published in other venues? [If your answer is YES, please add the relevant reference.]\***

No

### **If you accept the paper with minor revisions, please list the revisions you would advice (you are not required to proofread the paper) [max 500 words]**

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4) I would add more recent literature on CSVS, if available