Introduction

- Hungarian mid and close long vowels are being shortened in a sound change in progress (Mády 2012).
- Quantity perception of unstressed /o:/ and /u:/ is different by old and young listeners (Mády 2010).
- This difference can be linked to a relative age difference, without assuming a sound change in progress (Harrington, Palethorpe & Watson 2007).
- Perception differs also according to implicit attitude measurements (Mády 2012).

Methods

Set 1: sustained vowels /a e i o u/.
Set 2: stressed and unstressed /o:/ and /u:/ in carrier words, embedded in sentences. Flanking consonants were alveolars.

Speakers: 13 young speakers (18–20 y.), 12 old speakers (> 50 y.). Even distribution of gender. 5 repetitions.

Implicit attitude: utterances with substandard linguistic forms + spotting of “incorrect” utterances → conservative and liberal participants.

Results

Sustained vowels

Stressed vowels:

Unstressed vowels:

Discussion & conclusions

- Vowels were more close and more back for old speakers ~ Harrington et al. 2007.
- Tendency less true for liberal old speakers than for conservative ones.
- Same tendency for young speakers.
- Boundaries of sound categories are affected by age as well as attitude in both perception and production – this assumption can be modelled by exemplar theory (Pierrehumbert 2001, Walker & Hay 2011).
- Attitude is a separate dimension of sound change on its own.

References