

Sounds of some familiar languages

FRENCH ORAL VOWELS

Height	Vowel	example	Vowel	example	Vowel	example
	Front unrounded		Front rounded		Back	
High	i	vie	y	du	u	tout
Mid: tense	e	blé	ö	peu	o	mot
Mid: lax	ɛ	tête	œ	peur	ɔ	donne
Low:					a	plat

French nasal vowels

[ɛ̃]	plein	[ɔ̃]	bon
[œ̃]	brun	[ɑ̃]	dans

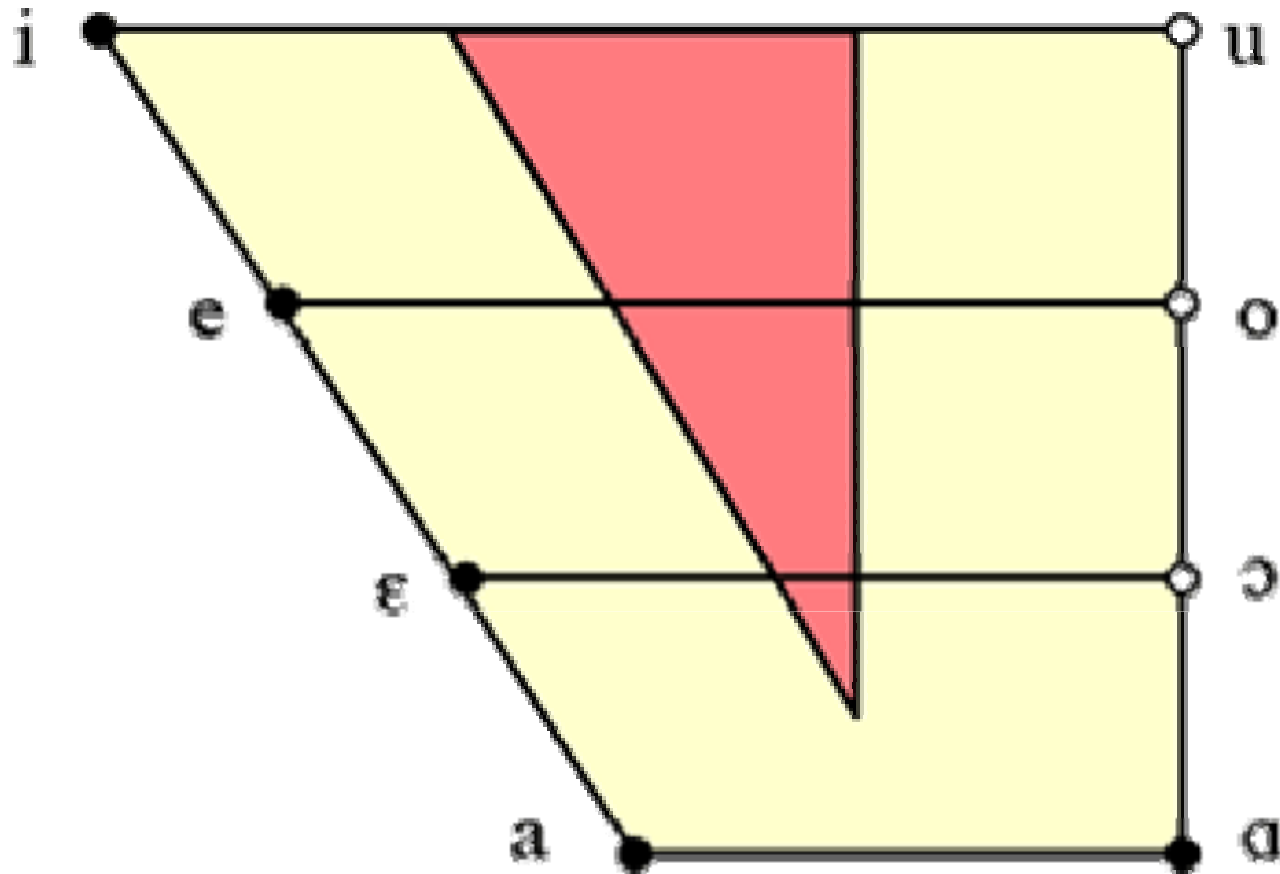
FRENCH NASAL VOWELS

Height	Vowel	example	Vowel	example	Vowel	example
	Front unrounded		Front rounded		Back	
Mid: lax	ẽ		œ		õ	bon
Low:					ã	dans

FRENCH GLIDES

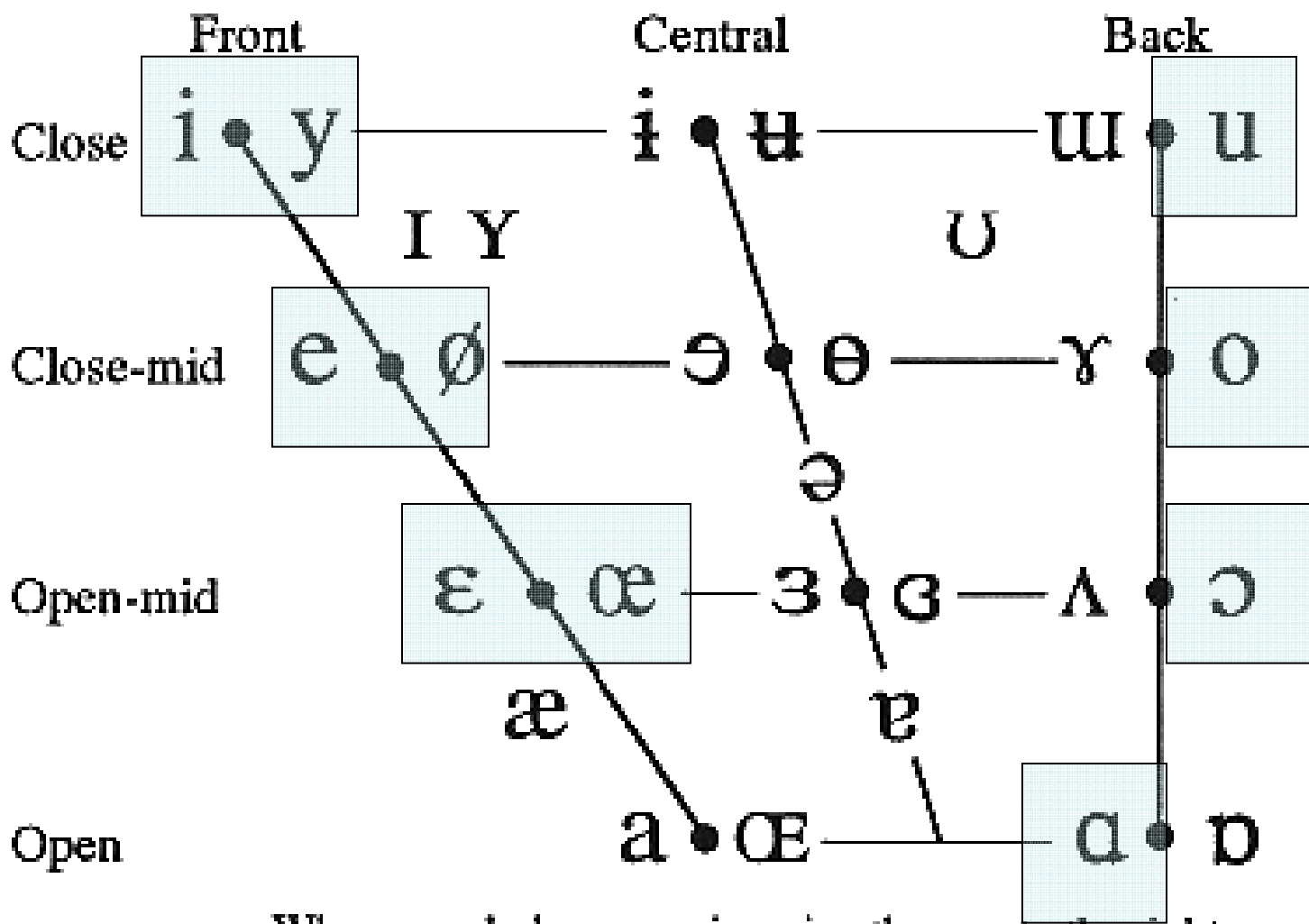
y yeux, paille, pied
w oui, Ouagadougou
ɥ huile, lui

IPA cardinal vowel system

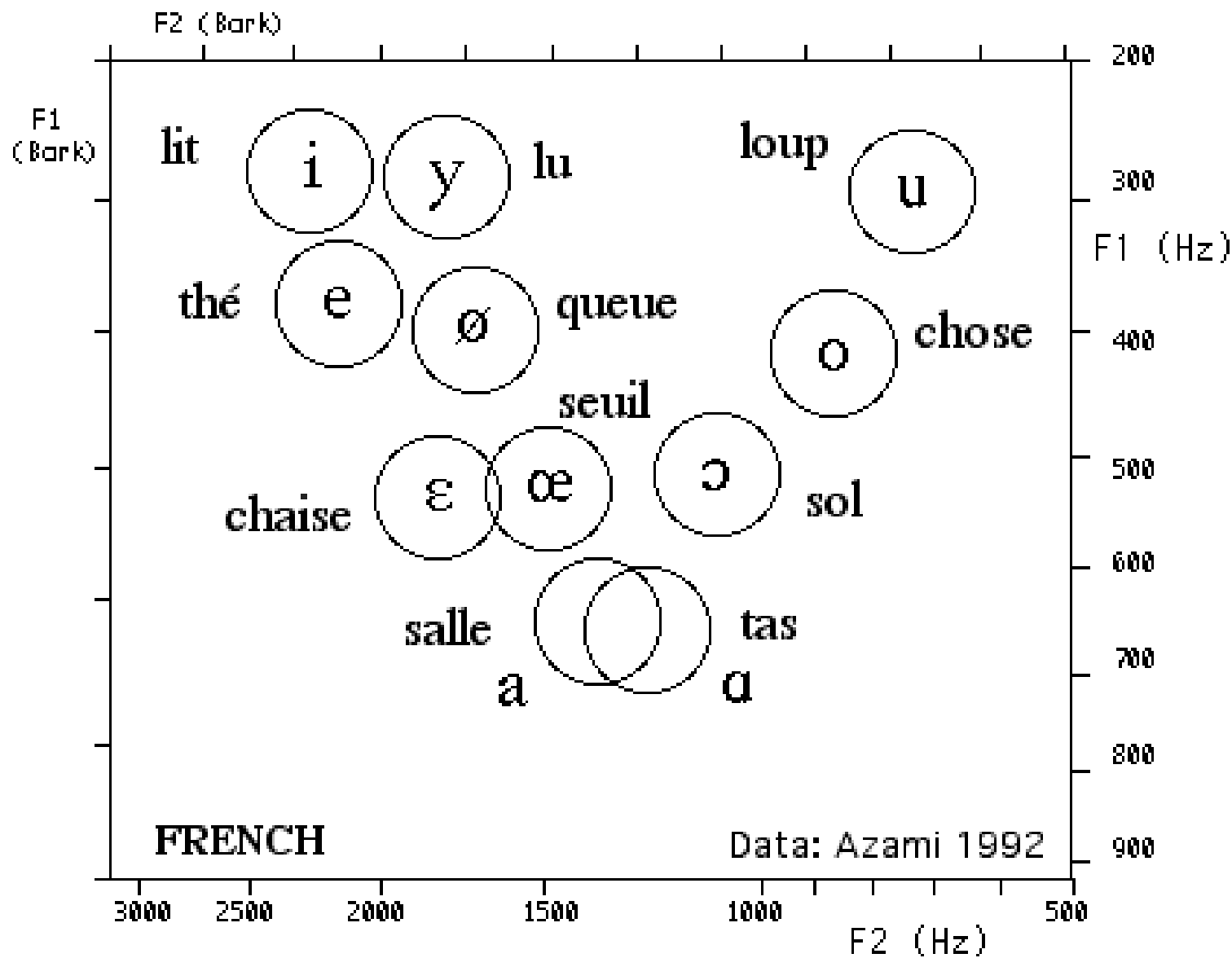


Source: KHWagner

VOWELS



Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a rounded vowel.



Mode d'articulation		Lieu d'articulation					
Occlusive		Bi-labiale	Labio-dentale	Apico-dentale	Dorso-palatale	Dorso-vélaire	Dorso-uvulaire
Sourde	Orale	p		t		k	
	Nasale						
Sonore	Orale	b		d		g	
	Nasale	m		n		ɲ	
Constrictive							
Sourde	Orale		f	s		ʃ	
Sonore	Orale		v	z		ʒ	
Liquide				l			R

French consonants

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 1993)

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b			t d		ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ
Nasal	m	ɱ		n		ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
Trill	ʙ			ʀ					ʀ		
Tap or Flap				ɾ		ɽ					
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
Lateral fricative				ɬ ɮ							
Approximant		ʋ		ɹ		ɻ	j	ɰ			
Lateral approximant				l		ɭ	ʎ	ʟ			

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

The other glides (IPA)

OTHER SYMBOLS

ʍ Voiceless labial-velar fricative

w Voiced labial-velar approximant

ɥ Voiced labial-palatal approximant

ħ Voiceless epiglottal fricative

ʕ Voiced epiglottal fricative

ʔ Epiglottal plosive

ç ʑ Alveolo-palatal fricatives

ɺ Alveolar lateral flap

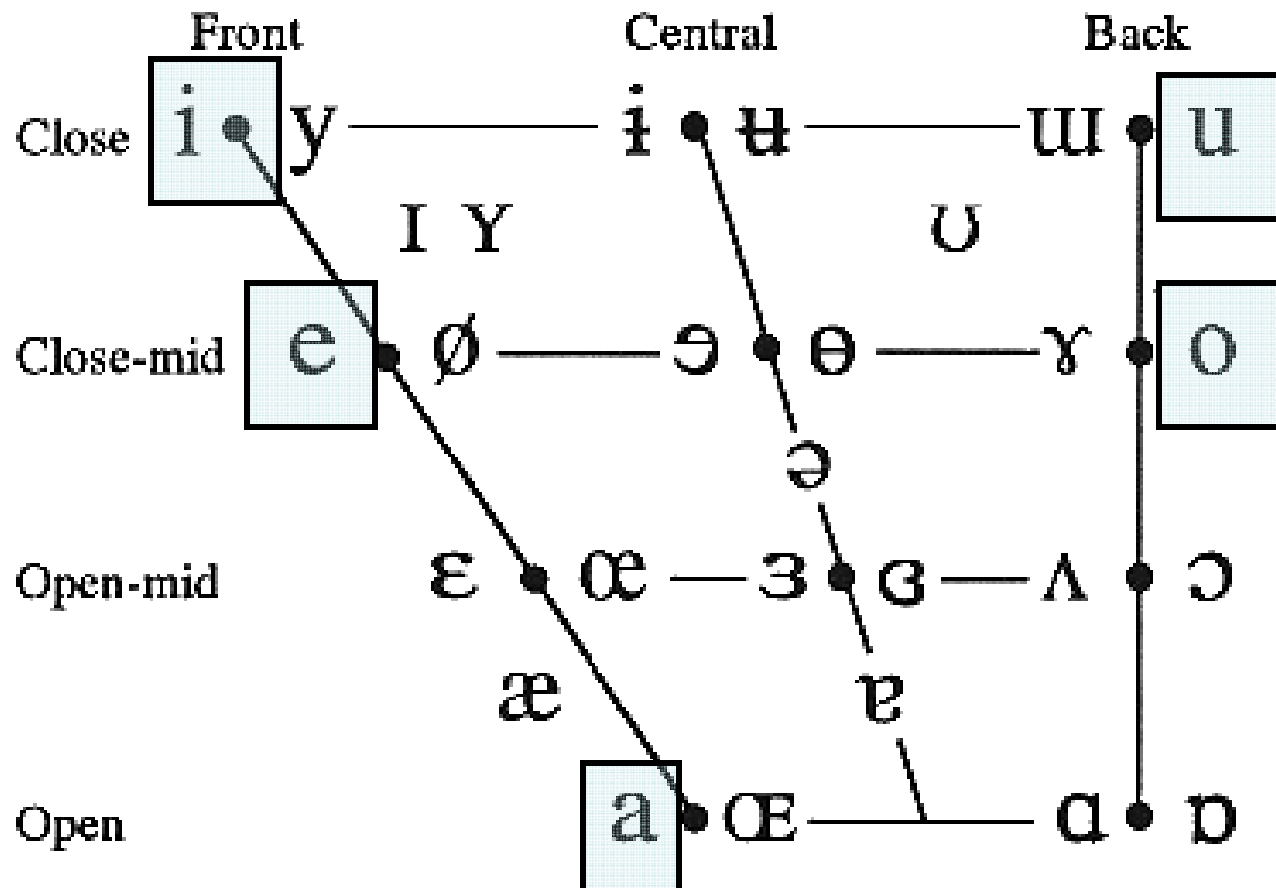
ɥ̥ Simultaneous **ɥ** and **X**

Affricates and double articulations can be represented by two symbols joined by a tie bar if necessary.

k͡p **t͡s**

Spanish vowels

VOWELS



Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a rounded vowel.

Sounds of Spanish

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 1993)

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b			t d		ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ
Nasal	m	ɱ		n		ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
Trill	ʙ			ʀ					ʀ		
Tap or Flap				ɾ		ɽ					
Fricative	ɸ β f v		θ ð s z	ʃ ʒ		ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
Lateral fricative				ɬ ɮ							
Approximant		ʋ		ɹ		ɻ	j	ɰ			
Lateral approximant				l		ɭ	ʎ	ʟ			

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Castilian

Mexico

Porteño

Caribbean

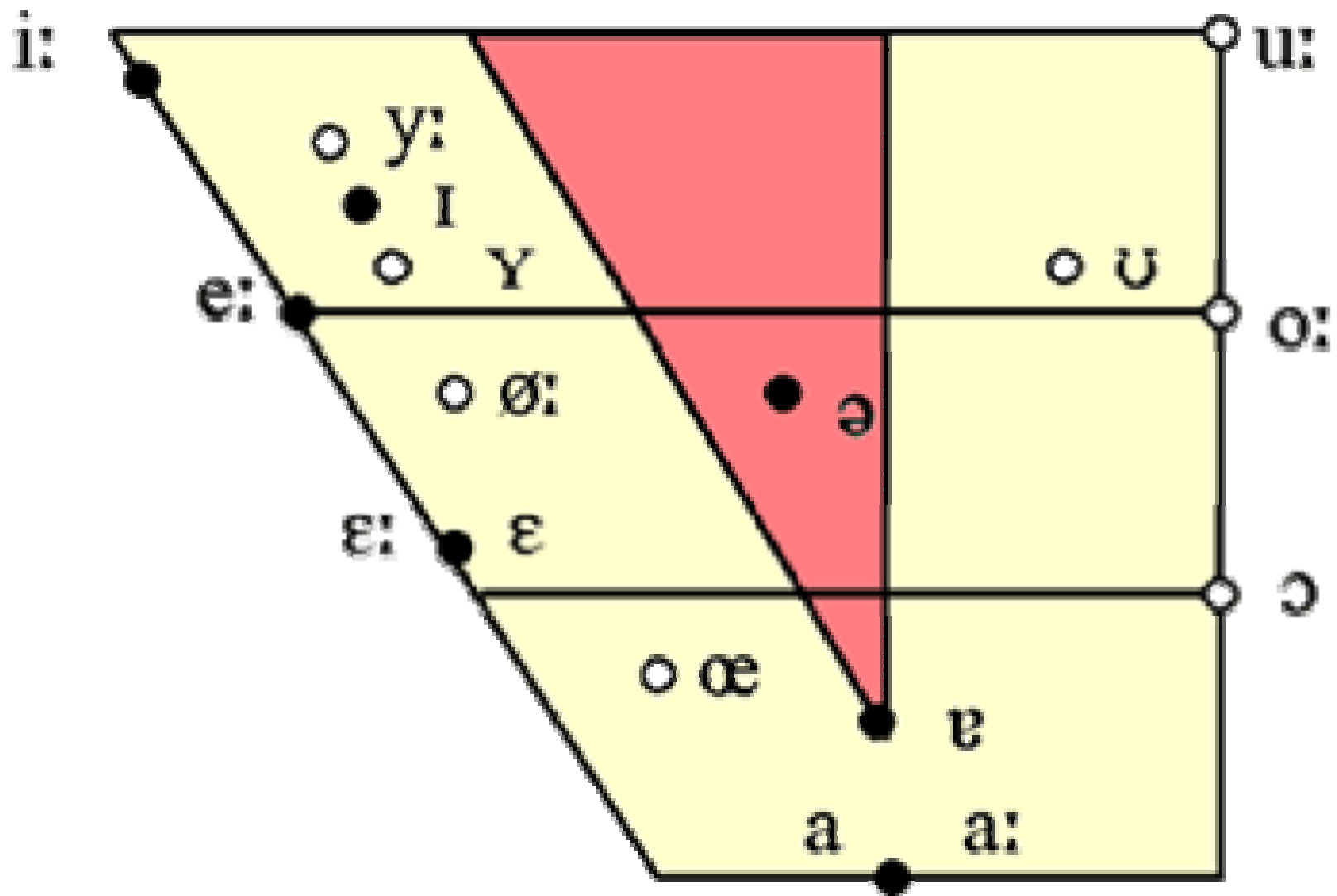
German obstruents

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 1993)

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

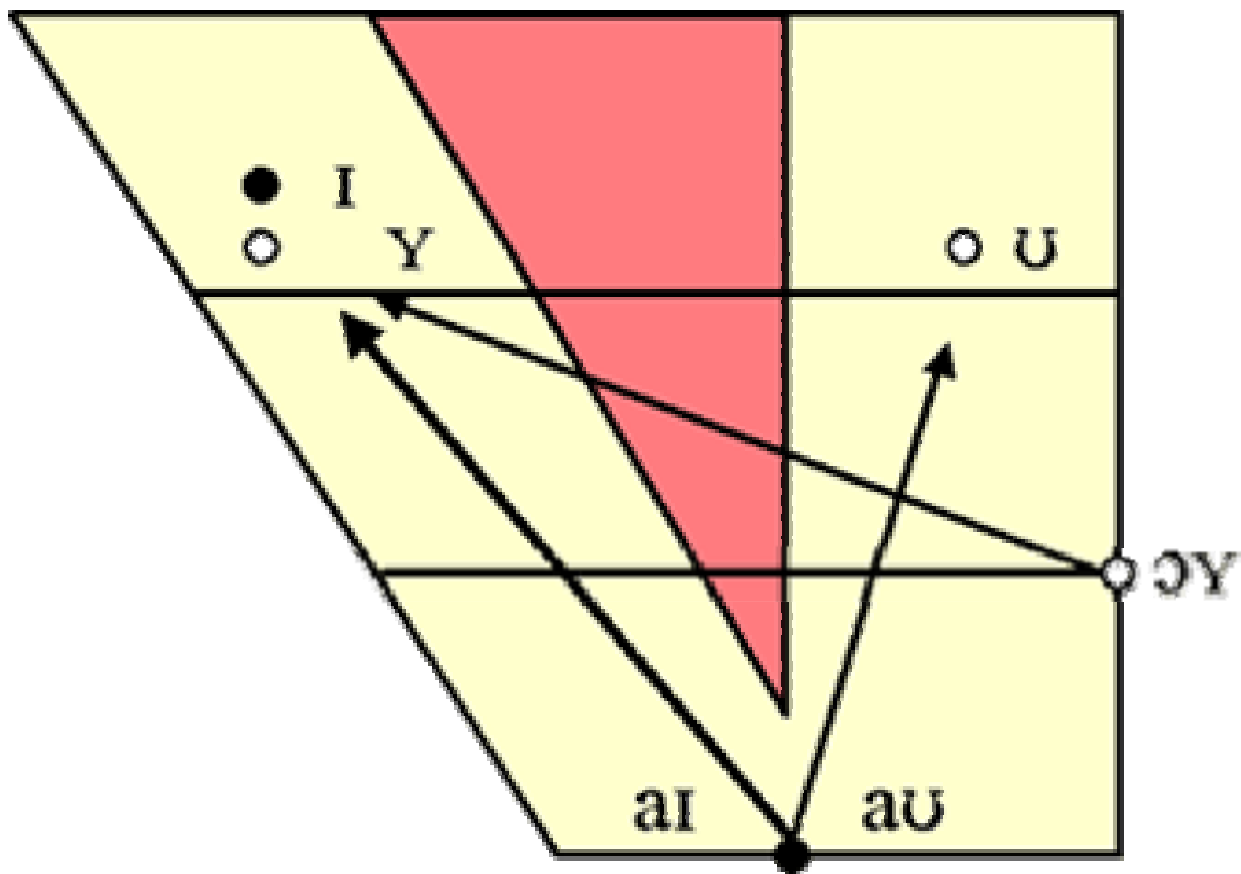
	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b			t d		ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ
Nasal	m	ɱ		n		ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
Trill	ʙ			ʀ					ʀ		
Tap or Flap				ɾ		ɽ					
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z ʃ ʒ		ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
Lateral fricative				ɬ ɮ							
Approximant		ʋ		ɹ		ɻ	j	ɰ			
Lateral approximant				l		ɭ	ʎ	ʟ			

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

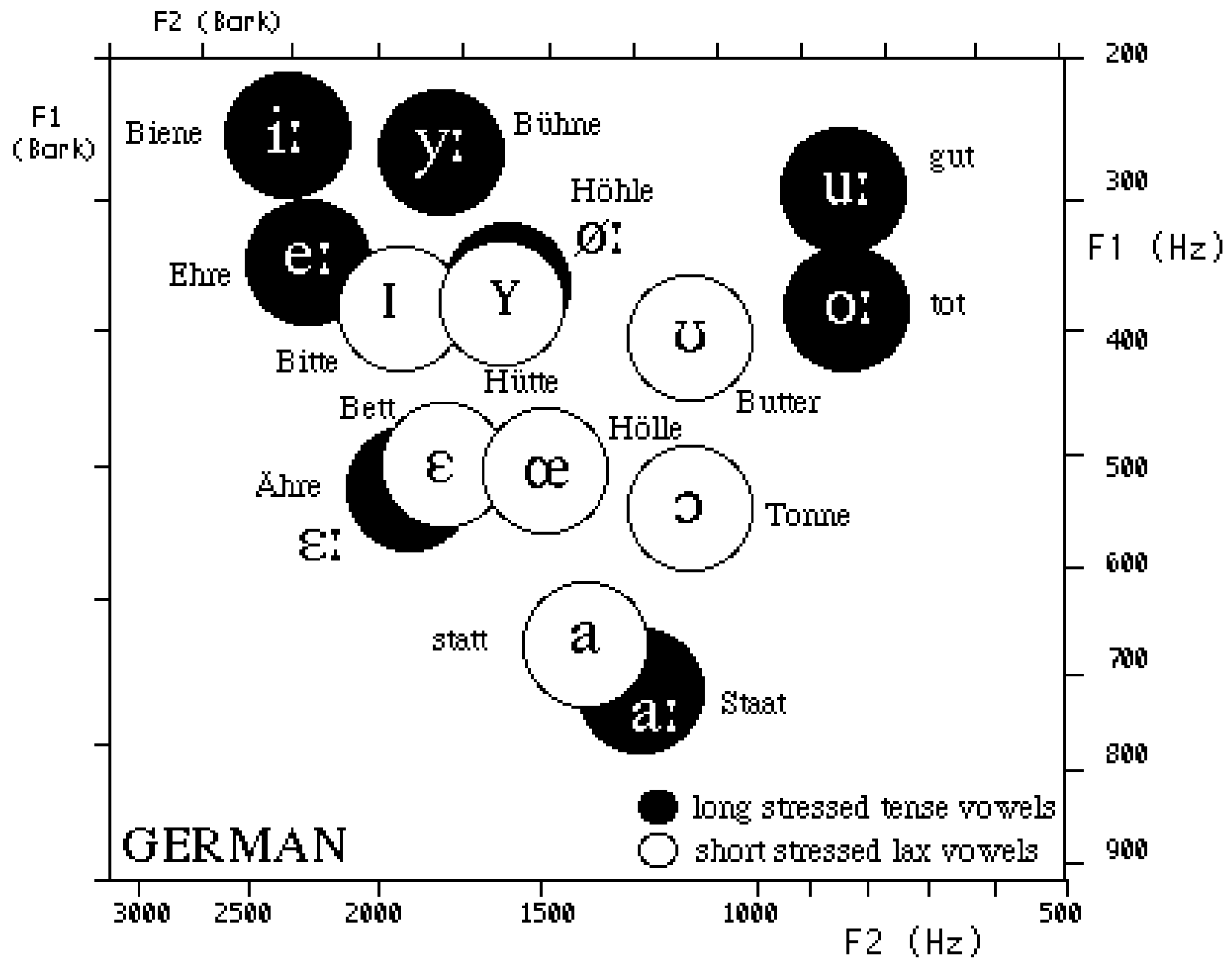


Source: KHWagner

German diphthongs



Source: KHWagner



French

- Bourgeois educated Parisian French
- Educated Bordeaux French (*a kind of southern French*)
- Québécois (le français canadien)

Issues involving French mid vowels

Gloss	Bordeaux	Parisian
<i>give (3rd sg.)</i>	[dɔ̃n]	[dɔ̃n]
<i>give (infinitive)</i>	[done]	[dɔ̃ne]
<i>beautiful (masc.)</i>	[bo]	[bo]
<i>Paul</i>	[pɔ̃l]	[pɔ̃l]
<i>Paula</i>	[pɔ̃l]	[pol]
<i>shoulder</i>	[epɔ̃l]	[epol]
<i>thing</i>	[ʃɔ̃z]	[ʃoz]
<i>left (opp. of right)</i>	[gɔ̃ʃ]	[goʃ]
<i>dress</i>	[rɔ̃b]	[rɔ̃b]
<i>hot</i>	[ʃo]	[ʃo]
<i>telephone</i>	[telefɔ̃n]	[telefɔ̃n]
<i>to telephone</i>	[telefone]	[telefɔ̃ne]
<i>hot (fem.)</i>	[ʃɔ̃d]	[ʃod]

Spelling	English	Québécois	Continental
petit	small	ptsi	pəti
tiroir	drawer	tsirwæʁ	tirwæʁ
diable	devil	dʒjab	djablə
Adèle	(name)	adɛl	adɛl
terre	earth	tɛʁ	tɛʁ
tâche	task	ta:f(<i>or</i> tawf)	taʃ
tout	all	tut	tu
il dit	he says	i dʒi	i(l)di
elle dit	she says	adʒi	ɛldi
planter	to plant	plānte	plānte
torchon	dish towel	tɔʁʃɔ̃	tɔʁʃɔ̃
tiens	hold, take	tsjɛ̃	tjɛ̃
tuer	to kill	tsye	tye
dur	hard	dʒyr	dyr
diable	devil	dʒjab	djablə
dans	in	dɑ̃	dɑ̃
petite image	small picture	ptsitima:ʒ	pətitimaʒ

Table 1: Québécois affrication (abstracting away from diphthongization)

Spelling	English	Québécois	Continental
tout, toute	all	tʊt	tu, tut
vous, nous	you, us	vu, nu	vu, nu
riz	rice	ri	ri
du	of the, some	dzy	dy
vite	quickly	vit	vit
parler	to speak	paʁle	paʁle
Colette	(name)	kɔlət	kɔlət

Table 2: Québécois laxing (relâchement vocalique)

Spanish stop/spirants

[bala]	ball
[beso]	kiss
[suβeso]	his/her kiss
[umbeso]	a kiss
[elβeso]	the kiss
[darβesos]	to give kisses
[deðo]	finger
[eldeðo]	the finger
[suðeðo]	his/her finger
[miðeðo]	my finger
[undeðo]	a finger
[gato]	cat
[uŋgato]	a cat
[miγato]	my cat
[elγato]	the cat

Zulu

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 1993)


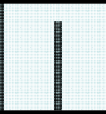

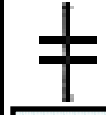

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d			ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ
Nasal	m	ɱ	n			ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
Trill	ʙ		r						ʀ		
Tap or Flap			ɾ			ɽ					
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
Lateral fricative			ɬ ɮ								
Approximant		ʋ	ɹ			ɻ	j	ɰ			
Lateral approximant			l			ɭ	ʎ	ʟ			

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Clicks from IPA

CONSONANTS (NON-PULMONIC)

Clicks		Voiced implosives		Ejectives	
	Bilabial	ɓ	Bilabial	'	as in:
	Dental c	ɗ	Dental/alveolar	p'	Bilabial
	(Post)alveolar q	ɟ	Palatal	t'	Dental/alveolar
	Palatoalveolar	ɠ	Velar	k'	Velar
	Alveolar lateral	ʄ	Uvular	s'	Alveolar fricative

x

[l]	ukucula [uɣu ^l u:la]
[l ^h]	ukuchaza [uɣu ^{l^h} a:za]
[g̃]	isigcobo [isi ^{g̃} ɔ:bo]
[ñ]	incwancwa [i ^{ñ} wa:ñwa]
[ŋ̃]	ukungcwaba [uɣu ^{ŋ̃} wa:ba]
[!]	iqaqqa [i [!] a:! ^a]
[! ^h]	iqhude [i ^{!^h} u:de]
[g [!]]	ugqozi [u ^{g[!]} o:zi]
[n [!]]	inqola [i ^{n[!]} ɔ:la]
[ŋ [!]]	ingqondo [i ^{ŋ[!]} ɔ:ndo]
[ll]	xoxa [! ^{ll} ɔ:! ^{ll} a]
[ll ^h]	ukuxhasa [uɣu ^{ll^h} a:sa]
[g̃ll]	ukugxoba [uɣu ^{g̃ll} ɔ:ba]
[ñll]	inxeba [i ^{ñll} ε:ba]
[ŋ̃ll]	ingxenye [i ^{ŋ̃ll} ε:ne]

Vowels

a	ukuthanda	to love
e	leli	this
o	olubisini	in the milk
u	thuma	send
i	nina	you

	bilabial	labio-dental	alveolar	palato-alveolar	velar	glottal
stop	p ph bh		t th d		k kh g	
nasal	m		n	ɲ (ny)	ŋ (ng)	
fricative		f v	s z	ʃ (sh)		h
lateral			l hl dl			
affricate		mf mv	ts ns nz	č (tsh) ǰ		
semi-vowels				y	w	

[a] amakhaza [ama'k^haza]

[e] umgibeli [umgi'ɓe:li]

[ɛ] ihembe [i'hɛ:mbe] 🗣️

[i] isibili [isi'ɓi:li] 🗣️

[o] iGoli [i'go:li] 🗣️

[ɔ] ogogo [ɔ'gɔ:go] 🗣️

[u] ubusuku [ubu'su:ɡu] 🗣️

[ɓ] ubisi [u'ɓi:si]

[b] ubhuti [u'bu:ti] 🗣️

[d] dade ['da:de]

[ɓ] ukudla [u'ɡu:ɓa]

[ɖ] uju ['u:ɖu]

[f]	ifu ['i:fu]
[g]	ukupheka [ugʊpʰɛ:ɡa]
[g]	ogogo [ɔ'gɔ:go]
[k]	iKapa [i'ka:pa]
[k ^h]	ikhanda [i'k ^h a:nda]
[h]	ihembe [i'hɛ:mbe]
[h̥]	ihhovisi [i̥ho'vi:si]
[t]	isihlahla [isi'ta:tla]
[j]	yebo ['jɛ:bo]
[l]	leli ['le:li]
[m]	mama ['ma:ma]
[n]	nina ['ni:na]
[ŋ]	amanga [a'ma:ŋa]
[ɲ]	inyosi [i'ɲo:si]

[p] ipentshisi [ipen'tʃi:si]

[p^h] isiphukuphuku [isip^huɣu'p^hu:ɣu]

[r] none found

[s] isisu [i'si:su]

[ʃ] ishiya [i'ʃi:ya]

[t] isitambu [isi'ta:mbu]

[t^h] isithathu [isi't^ha:t^hu]

[v] iva ['i:va]

[w] wena ['we:na]

[z] umzuzu [um'zu:zu]