

## Acoustic and articulatory cues to phrase-final glottalization in Italian

Jessica Di Napoli

This study explores how speakers realize glottalization, here intended as a glottal gesture (see Dilley *et al.* 1996), at the end of utterance-internal phrases in Tuscan and Roman Italian read speech. Glottalization, characterized by creak, breathiness or even glottal stop, has been reported to occur in the final portion of word-final vowels which are also phrase-final in the language. This study examines speech from seven native speakers of Italian, first determining the type of glottalization present in phrase-final vowels (*e.g.* creak, diplophonia or aperiodicity) and then performing acoustic and articulatory measures to estimate the glottal contact over the course of the vowel, in order to better understand how speakers use voice quality to mark utterance-internal phrase edges. Results show that speakers vary in the acoustic characteristics they display, but that overall, glottalized vowels are characterized by an *increase* in glottal contact as compared to modal vowels (reflected in small but significant decreases in  $H1^*$ - $H2^*$  values and increases in electroglottographic contact quotient), particularly in the second half of the vowel.