The Phonetics of Geminates: An Overview

Shigeto Kawahara The Keio Institute of Cultural and Linguistic Studies

To open up the workshop, I will begin this talk by laying out issues concerning the phonetics of geminates. Drawing on the phonetic data from different languages, I discuss similarities and differences of the phonetics of geminates across different languages. The issues addressed in this part of the talk include:

- duration ratios between geminates and singletons
- the effects of geminates on the duration of preceding vowels
- the differences (or lack thereof) in terms of VOT and burst
- spectral correlates of geminates
- how these properties do—and do not—affect the perception of geminates

Then, I briefly touch on several topics that need to be addressed concerning the phonetics of geminates. These include:

- the issue of invariance across different speaking styles
- the effect of manner of articulation on the phonetic realizations of geminates
- the phonetics of voiced obstruent geminates
- the phonetics of derived geminates vs. underlying geminates
- the phonetics of non-intervocalic geminates