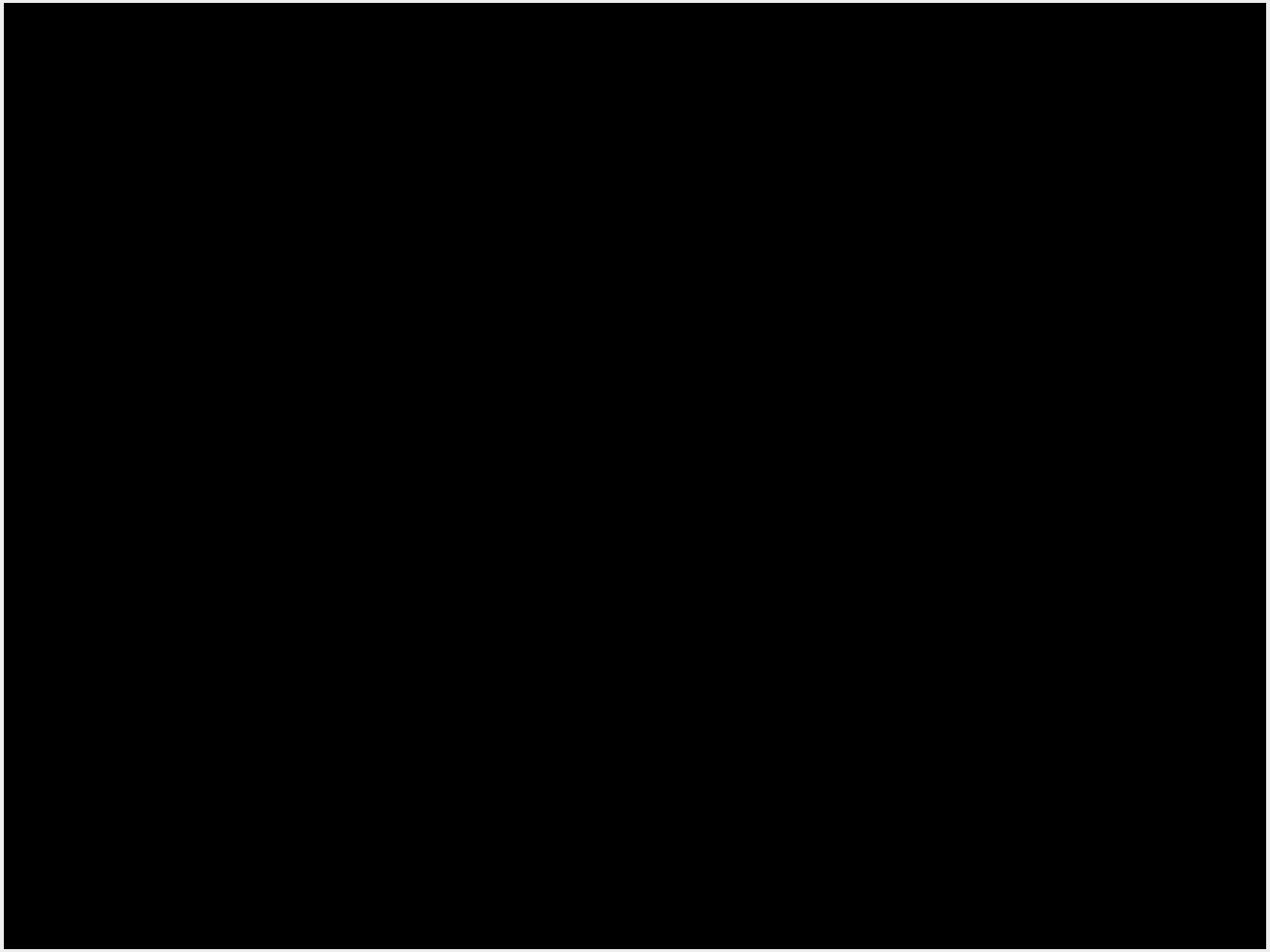
ONE SPEAKER
TWO DIALECTS

# DRESSING DOWN UP NORTH

Sophie Holmes-Elliott
Jennifer Smith

NWAV 44| TORONTO | OCT 2015

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-1rQ_GIuUPM

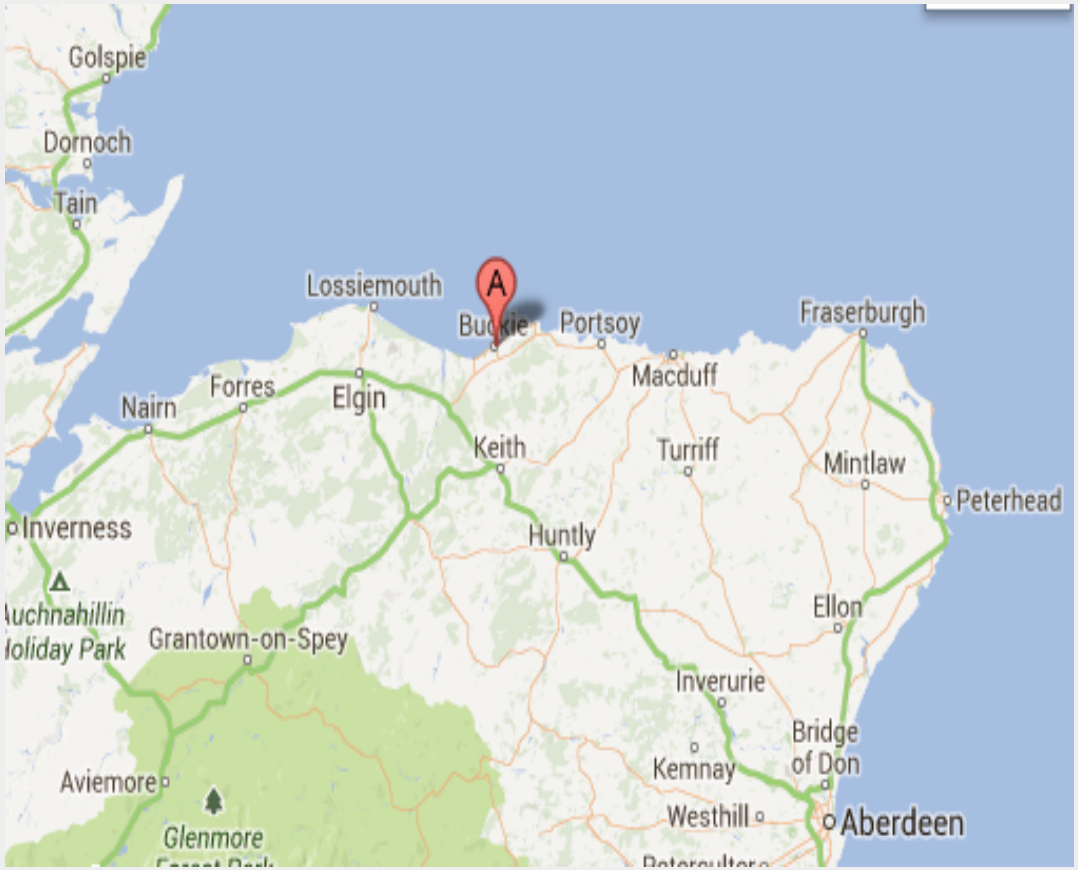


# DRESS-lowering

- *dress – drass*
- *neck - nack*

# DRESS-lowering

# Buckie


Golspie
Dornoch
Tain
Lossiemouth
A
Buckie
Portsoy
Fraserburgh
Macduff
Nairn
Forres
Elgin
Keith
Turriff
Mintlaw
Peterhead
Inverness
Huntly
Ellon
Grantown-on-Spey
Inverurie
Bridge of Don
Kemnay
Aviemore
Westhill
Aberdeen
Glenmore

# Sound clip

*Cream dress with like roses down the front,* Joan 83

*My bloody dress,* Cathy 32

*Erm Professor Snape like the person that was dressed as him,* Gillian 12

**Old**

**Middle**

**Young**

# Misunderstandings

- Jennifer S [trad. Buckie]: what's your name?
- Student [innov. Buckie]: Erin
- Jennifer S.: Aaron?
- Student: 'Erin

# ESRC ES/K000861/1


- One speaker, two dialects: bidialectalism across the generations in a Scottish community

# Data

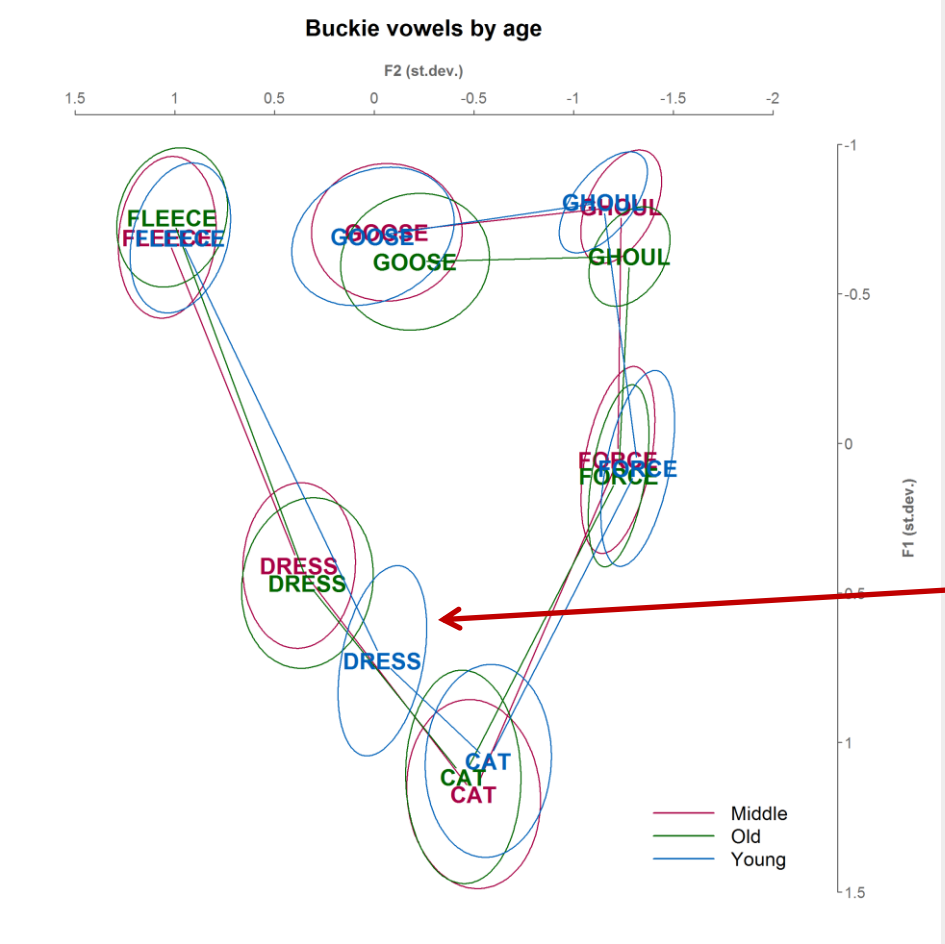
- Sociolinguistic interview data
- Community insider
- 24 speakers: stratified by age and gender

| | Old | Middle | Young |
|---|---|---|---|
| Male | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Female | 4 | 4 | 4 |

# Method

- FAVE-aligned text to sound file
- Extracted all relevant contexts (hand-checked)
- Height measured by F1
- Normalised modified Watt & Fabricius method
- Stats using lmer models

# DRESS in Buckie (n=12,039)

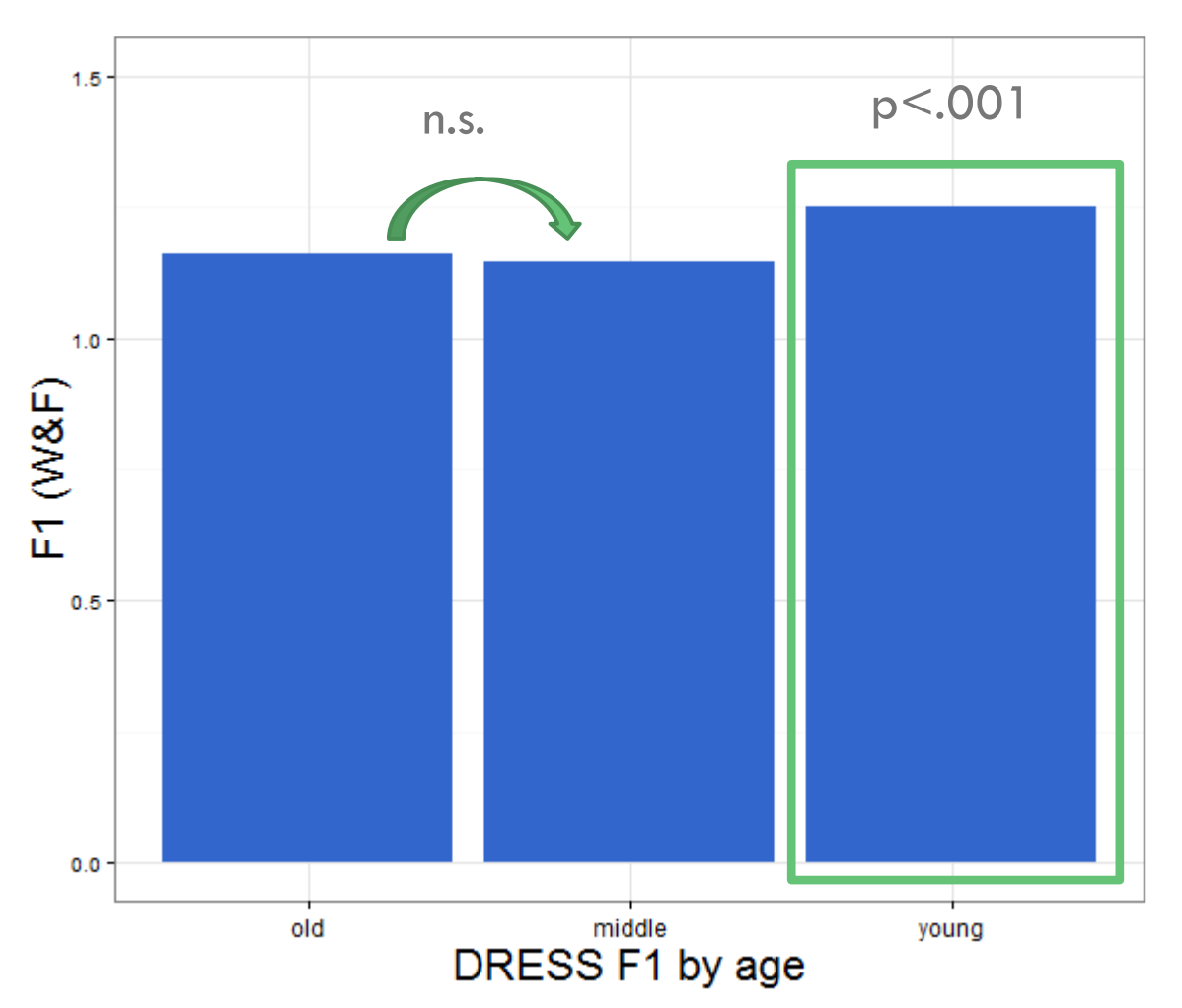



Young cohort markedly lower DRESS vowel

# Research questions

- Is DRESS-lowering significantly in apparent time?
- How is this conditioned by internal and external factors? How do these compare to previous analyses?
- How does this change relate to other changes occurring in the system more generally?

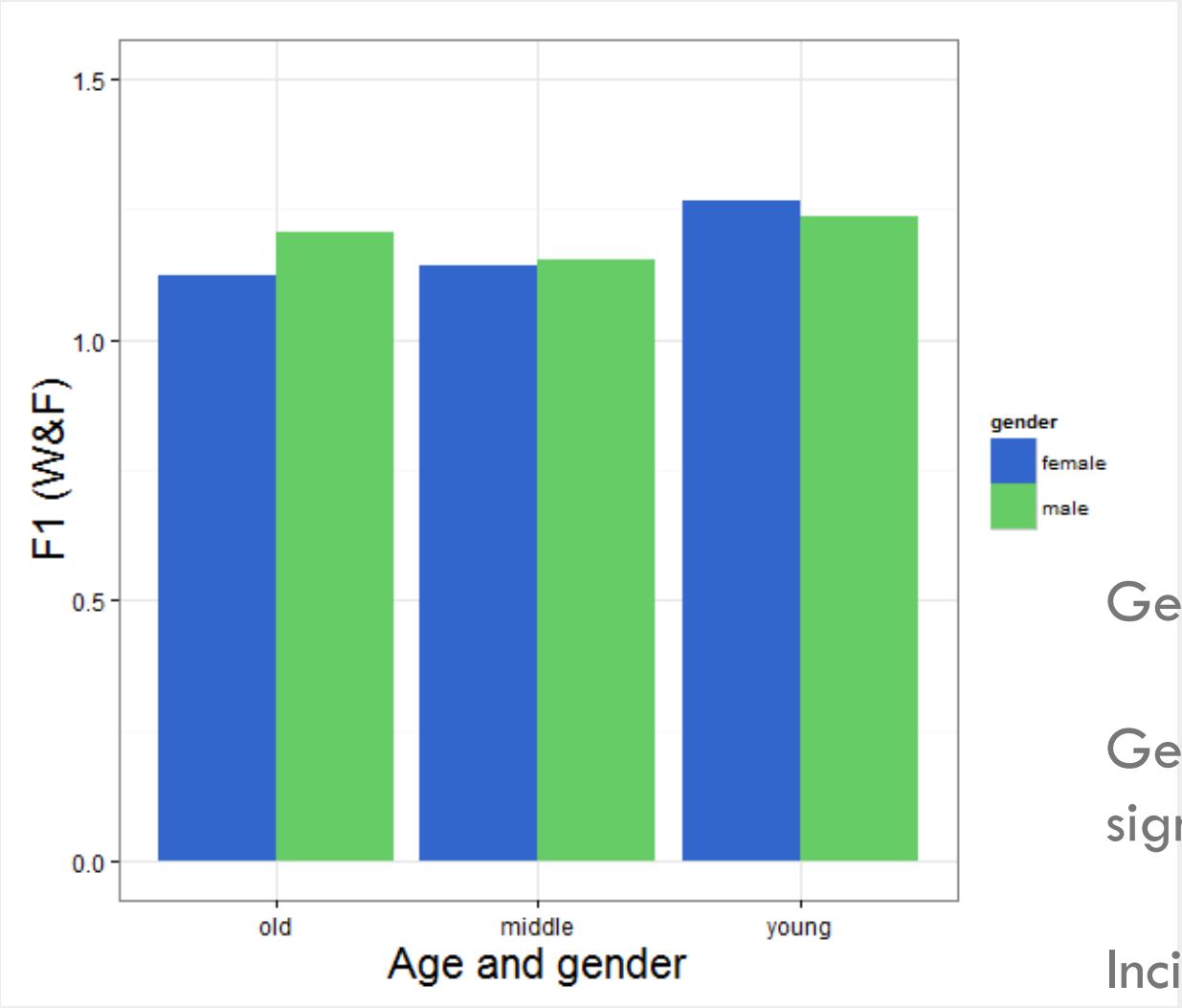
# DRESS by age



# Gender?

- Female led change (Hinton et al, 1987; Clarke et al, 1995; Boberg, 2005; Hickey, 2013

# DRESS by age and gender




Gender not sig

Gender*age not significant

Incipient change?

# Phonetic conditioning?

- Lateral and rhotic environments promote lowering (Hinton et al, 1987; DeDecker & MacKenzie, 2000; Hickey, 2013)

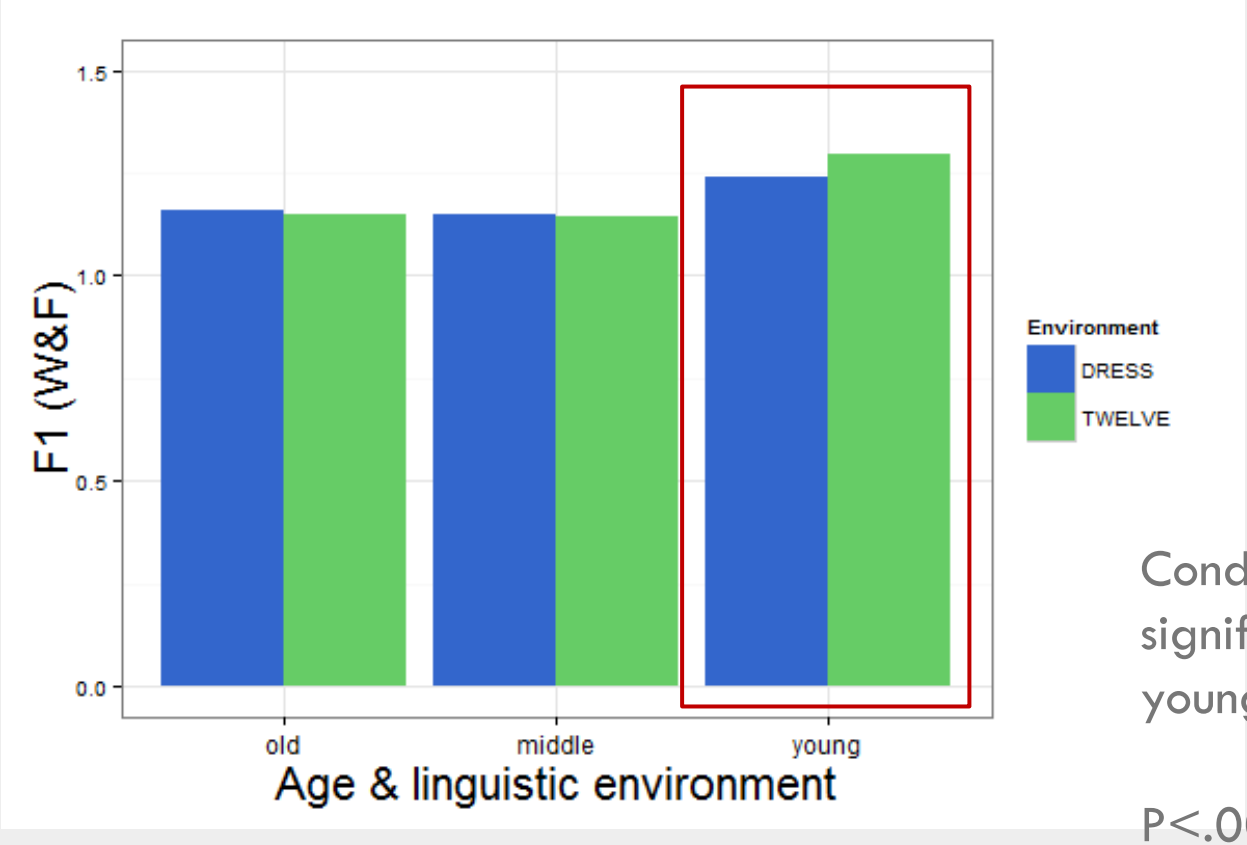
**Sell, tell, terror, ferry**

# Following phonetic environment

- Two way split in the data:

1. Following /l/: ***sell, tell, melt, gel*** : TWELVE
2. All other envs: ***ten, set, stress, very*** : DRESS

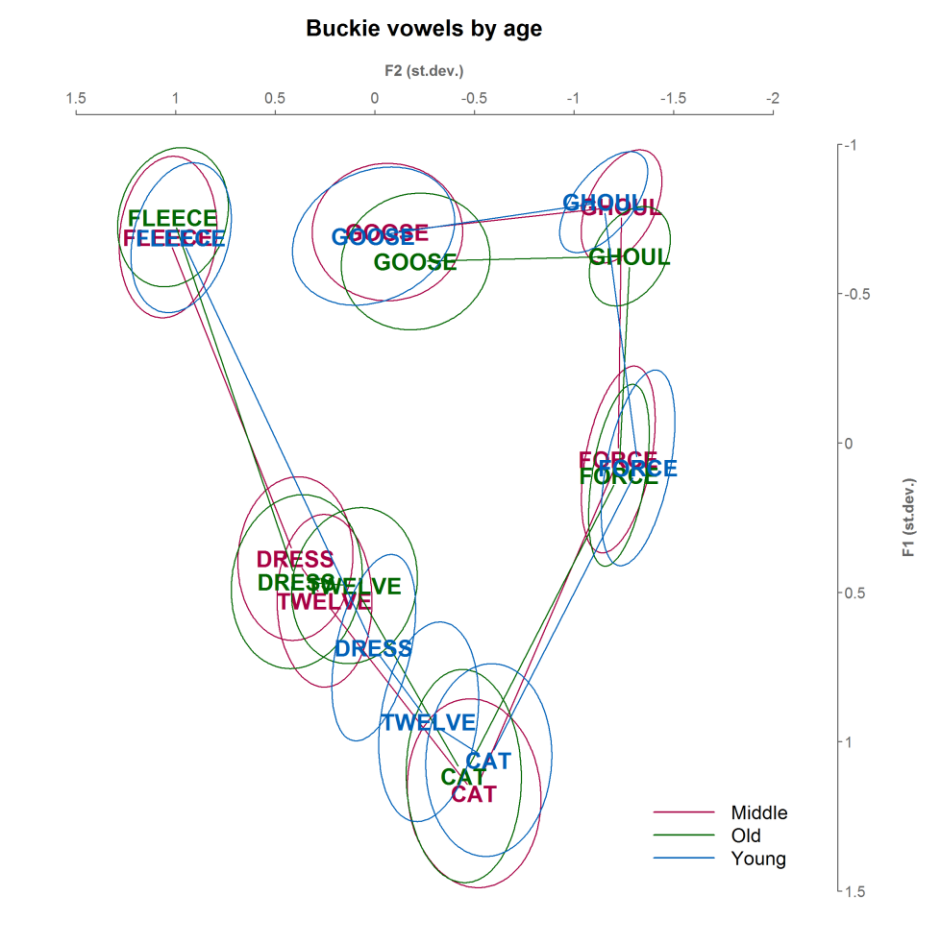
# DRESS by age and environment




Conditioning only significant for young cohort

P<.001

# DRESS vs TWELVE



# /l/ and DRESS?

- Are there any ongoing changes in /l/ quality?
- Is there a relationship between changes in /l/ and changes in DRESS?

- Examine /l/ quality in apparent time

# L-quality

- Clear/dark
- Allophony:
  - Clear initial: *leep, lip*
  - Dark final: *peal, pill*

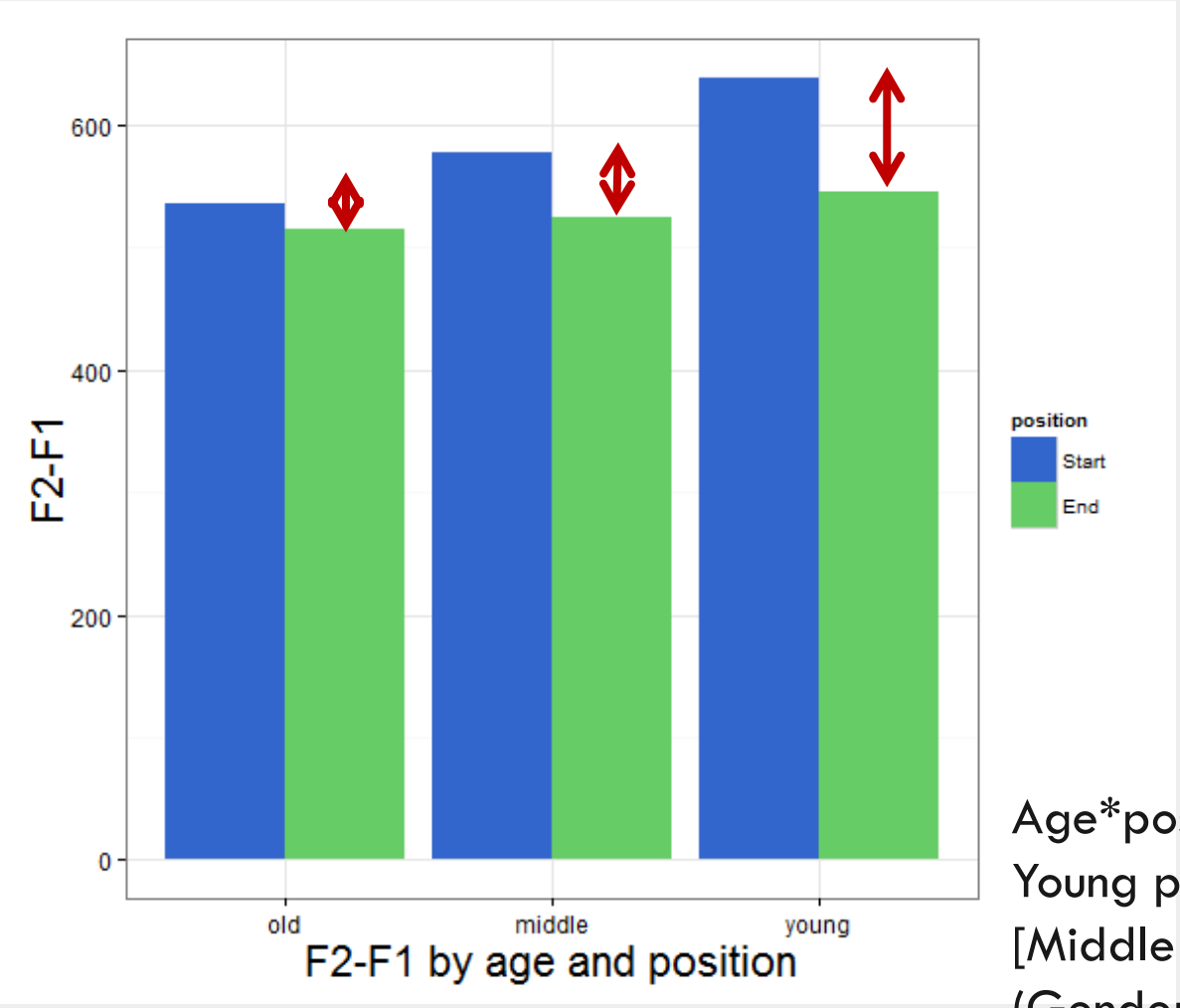
- Acoustically: F1 F2
  - Clear: big F2-F1 difference
  - Dark: small F2-F1 difference

# /l/ in Buckie

- /l/ in Buckie traditionally dark in all positions

- Sproat & Fujimura ave F2-F1 dark /l/ 656.9Hz
- Buckie: 558Hz difference

# L




Age*position sig
Young position p<.001
[Middle position p=.058]
(Gender n.s.)

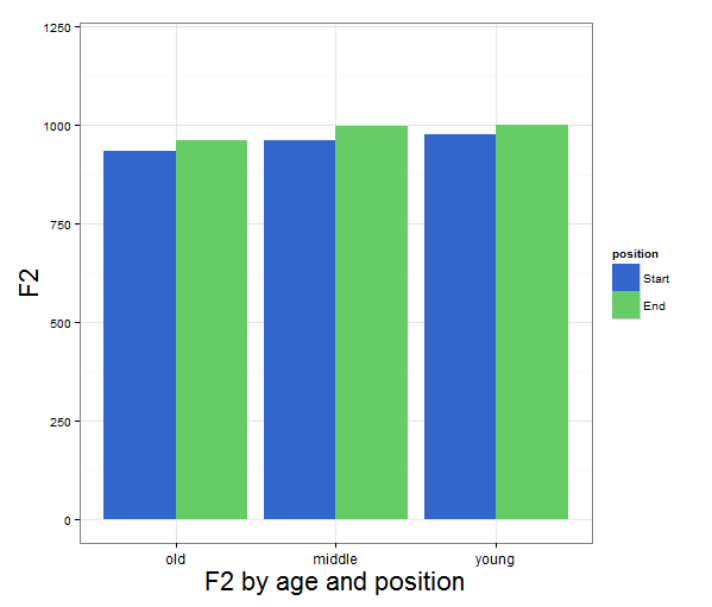
# How is the allophony developing?

- Is the work being done by F1 or F2?
- Typically associated with F2, however…

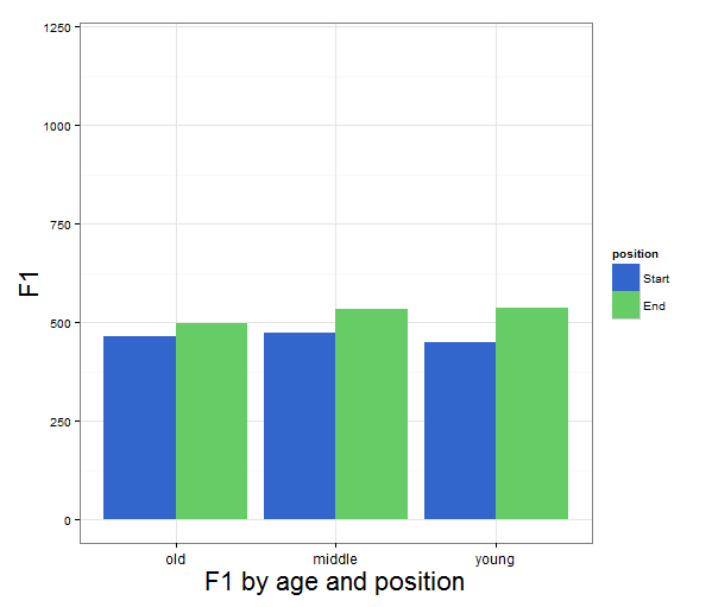
- Oxley et al (2007) "…there might be an interplay between F2 and F1 in the **form of F1 raising to effect darker codas when F2 was already low.**"

# Allophony developing through F1

F2




F1




F2 steady over time:
Age, position, age*position n.s.

F1 changing by position:
age*position ($p<.001$)
**Sig diff for position:**
middle ($p<.05$)
young ($p<.001$)

# DRESS and /I/

- 2 changes same acoustic correlate: rise in F1
- Complementary changes

# Research questions

- Is DRESS-lowering significantly in apparent time?
- How is this conditioned by internal and external factors? How do these compare to previous analyses?
- How does this change relate to other changes occurring in the system more generally?

# Next

- Incipient change
- How this change behaves at the start of its life.

- Development?
- How does it become embedded within the social and linguistic system?
- Examine change in preadolescent speakers

# ONE SPEAKER TWO DIALECTS

THANKS!

s.holmes-elliott.1@research.gla.ac.uk
jennifer.smith@glasgow.ac.uk

thevariationist.com