Materials, methods, and analyses

Voiceless aspirated stops are described by the following parameters:

1. **Prop. duration (SoE)**
2. **Aspiration**
3. **Unaspirated consonants**

Yemba voiced aspirates

- **Voiceless aspirates**
- **Unaspirated consonants**

Research goals

Yemba voiced aspirates are best described as voiced, with voiceless aspiration at release. However, some voicing in each voiced gesture is also present. Effortful articulation of voiceless period after release in Yemba may make the consonant partially devoiced.

Q1: Cʰ closures have consistently modal voice.

Q2: Cʰ aspiration is voiceless:

Q3: Vowels are consistently voiced.

Discussion

... (Grassfields Bantu, Cameroon) has historically been described as voiceless, with voiced aspiration at release and voiceless breathy fricatives and stops. However, this description is confounded with variable duration of voiceless release.

Some breathiness during consonant closures, which increases near release; seems to partly devoice.

Voiceless aspirated stops cannot be aspirated, including voiced fricatives and stops. However, some voicing in each voiced gesture is also present. Effortful articulation of voiceless period after release may make the consonant partially devoiced.