

RYTIS AMBRAZEVIČIUS

Kaunas University of Technology
rytisamb@gmail.com

Lithuanian consonants in the context of IPA

A distribution of the Lithuanian consonant system in the frame of IPA is proposed. Compared to the standard IPA, most of the consonants split into two variants, plain (non-palatalized) and palatalized consonants. Besides of their differences in secondary articulation, their inequalities in primary articulation should be noted as well, possibly resulting in different positions in IPA chart. In the context of standard IPA, articulations of plain consonants tend to be more anterior while those of palatalized consonants are predominantly more retracted. Moreover, even conventional homorganic consonants show quite noticeable diversity of primary articulations.

Because of the discussed phenomena, the question of denominations of the consonant articulations arises. It concerns conventional (Lithuanian) dental and alveolar consonants tending to shift, respectively, to dental-alveolar (or even alveolar) and postalveolar (or even palatoalveolar) positions.

Results of acoustical measurements of F2 loci and other characteristics are presented to visualize and objectivize the issues under investigation.