Hormonal Organizing Effects and Sound Change from Below

If gender is not binary and is influenced by biological factors, could "gender effects" be (in part) biological effects?

Change from below the level of consciousness:
- Young women lead language change, e.g., [1,2,3]

What are the underlying mechanisms?
- Social cohesion for men? [e.g., 1]
- Social capital for women? [e.g., 2]
- Is change from below involved in social signals?

Why biological influence?
- Change from below sex effects carry little information about speaker sex [4]
- Prenatal hormone exposure affects gender ID [5,6,7]
  - And social behaviors [8,9], including learning [10]
- See also Yu (2010) on AQ and speech perception [11]
- Preaspiration duration normalised to overall word duration
- Annotations done in Praat; FAVE-aligned to transcripts
- Recorded interviews (one hour of speech per informant)
- 22 informants, aged 20–45 (AFAB; female-identified)

Hypothesis: Differences should show up between and within sex cohorts (genetic, genital, assigned-at-birth), according to gradient or continuous T exposure and gender

References


Discussion:
- Preaspiration duration is correlated with 2D:4D ratio
- Main effect of 2D:4D suggests that gradient hormone exposure within a sex cohort affects production of variant
- Could no age effect indicate change is near completion?
- Is this effect from attending to younger social models more narrowly? Or is it due to the way social groups are differentially formed, mediated by biological factors?