

## **Creaky voice in Australian English**

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Creaky voice is a complex voice quality that has been associated with several linguistic, paralinguistic and social functions across many languages including English. In this talk, I will present on a selection of work from my PhD and Postdoctoral research that explores creaky voice in Australian English. Firstly, I will present a perception study that investigates the role of pitch and speaker gender in the identification of creak. Following this I will discuss two production studies which draw on data from the Multicultural Australian English – Voices of Sydney corpus (Cox & Penney, 2024). The first explores variation in creak prevalence by area in Sydney, which are characterised by differences in linguistic diversity. The second is a real-time comparison of creak prevalence from recordings collected 30 years apart. Findings suggest that listeners are strongly influenced by their expectations of pitch given speaker gender when identifying creak, and that speakers are using creak in complex and nuanced ways to express identity. Additionally results provide empirical evidence for generational change over time in creak prevalence for female speakers.

Cox, F., and Penney, J. (2024). Multicultural Australian English – The New Voice of Sydney. *Australian Journal of Linguistics*, 44(2–3), 200–219.