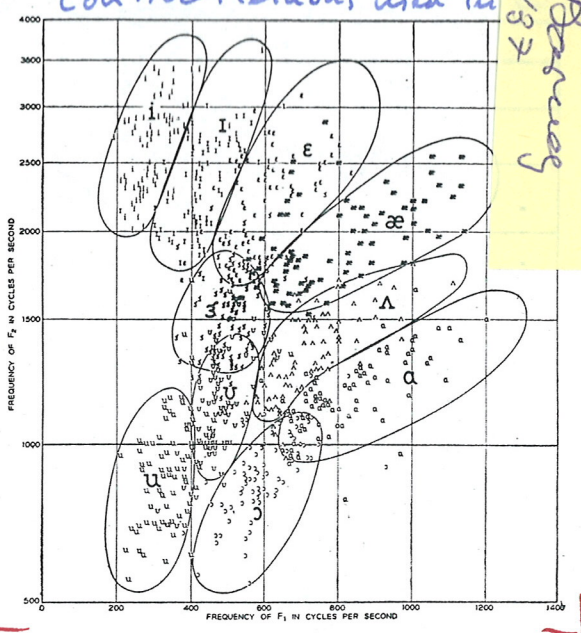


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FIG. 8. Frequency of second formant versus frequency of first formant for ten vowels by 76 speakers.

steady state period of the vowel. When corrected, these 88 points were within the $\pm 3 \sigma$ limits. Of the remaining 30 points which were still outside the limits, 20 were the result of the individuals' having produced pairs of sounds which were unlike phonetically, as shown by the results of the listening tests.

The duplicate measurements may also be used to show that the difference between successive utterances of the same sound by the same individual is much less significant statistically than the difference between utterances of the same sound by different individuals. An analysis of variance of the data in Fig. 7 shows that the differences between callings of pairs are not significant. However, the value for the variance ratio when comparing speakers is much larger than that corresponding to a 0.1 percent probability. In other words, if the measurements shown in Fig. 7 for all callings by all speakers were assumed to constitute a body of statistically random data, the probability of having a variance ratio as high as that found when comparing speakers would be less than one in a thousand. There-

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fore it is assumed that the data are random, but that there are systematic differences between speakers. Since the differences for pairs of callings were so near zero with the measurements on the same speakers, this indicated that the differences in measurements with the sound spectrograph do not resolve satisfactorily the differences in individuals' pronunciations of the

RESULTS OF ACOUSTIC MEASUREMENTS

In Fig. 3, as discussed previously, the points are plotted in the plane of the second formant F_2 versus the first formant F_1 . These areas enclosed by the closed curves are repetitions of the sustained vowels by the same writers. It is clear that here the vowels are not readily distinguished simply by plotting F_2 against F_1 . In the F_2-F_1 plane, points for each vowel are scattered in areas, with no overlapping of the areas, although there exists the variation in the measurements which we have discussed above.

The variation of the measurements for the same speakers is much larger than the variation in repetitions with the same speaker. This can be shown by the data for F_1 and F_2 for the same speaker. In Fig. 8 are plotted the points for each speaker, with the points identified by the speaker's word list. The closed curves have been drawn arbitrarily to enclose the points; the more extreme and isolated points are regarded so that in general they enclose 90 percent of the values. The frequency plots in Fig. 9 are spaced according to an aural scale described by Koehn and are spaced logarithmic above 1000 cps and logarithmic above.

Considerable overlapping of the points is particularly between [ɜ] and [ɛ], [u] and [ɔ], and [ɑ] and [ɔ]. In the case of [u] and [ɔ] it may be easily distinguished from the third formant frequency is used, since the third formant is very close in frequency to the second.

The data of Fig. 8 show that the points in the F_1-F_2 plane is considerably scattered from sound to sound; these distributions

TABLE I. Classifications of vowels by speakers and by listeners. Vowels as classified by li

i I E æ a o U