

The phonetics and phonology of  $\nu$  in Hungarian and Slovak  
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The seemingly odd phonological behaviour of the voiced labiodental fricative  $\nu$  in many unrelated languages (e.g. Russian, Hebrew, Hungarian, etc.) has attracted considerable attention in the phonological literature. With respect to Hungarian, most attention has been focused on its two-fold patterning in voicing assimilation, namely, that it patterns with obstruents in being targeted by voicing assimilation, but it behaves like a sonorant in that it does not trigger the process. Its static phonotactic distribution also displays asymmetrical properties. In this talk I will present evidence that there is a direct link between the surface phonetic properties of  $\nu$  in particular its articulatory and aerodynamic properties and its phonological patterning. I will focus on the double-faced phonological behaviour of  $\nu$  in Hungarian and Slovak. The study is backed up by two phonetic experiments examining the acoustic properties of  $\nu$  in these two languages.

Hungarian  $\nu$  in utterance-final position is mostly realized unphonated with considerable friction noise. I will also present an acoustic study and a perception experiment that investigate  $f$ - $\nu$  contrast in this position in Hungarian.