

“r-sounds”

Examples: 1. Czech, 2. Sindhi, 3. Catalan, 4. German

1. Czech

Contrasts two trills: a “normal” alveolar apical trill, and a (probably) laminal trill with a much greater tendency to frication and devoicing. Following the IPA handbook, p.71, the latter is transcribed [$\underset{\cdot}{r}$]

r u k a

▶ “hand”

$\underset{\cdot}{r}$ ε k a

▶ “river”

2. Sindhi

Contrasts alveolar tap (also occurring as trill) with flap (breathy flap is also found)

tap/trill

r o l u

▶ “wanderer”

g̣ ə r o

▶ “heavy”

flap

p^h o ɽ o

▶ “sore” (n)

g^h o ɽ o

▶ “horse” (n)

3. Catalan

Contrasts tap and trill

tap

s e r a

▣ “wax”

trill

s e r a

▣ “saw” (n)

4. German

When realised at the uvular place of articulation, the German r-sound can include the following variants (see IPA handbook, p. 87): *uvular trill*, *voiced uvular fricative*, *uvular approximant*, *voiceless uvular fricative*.

“reisse” ▣ <sona>

“Rasse” ▣ <sona>

slight trill; also weak voiced frication in “Rasse”

“verreisen” ▣ <sona>

weak voicing, with some frication

“Herren” ▣ <sona>

“reise” ▣ <sona>

approximant, with regular voicing throughout

“trat” ▣ <sona>

“tret” ▣ <sona>

voiceless with strong frication

In addition, there are contexts (especially postvocally and word-finally) where /r/ vocalizes completely to [ɐ]: e.g. words like “hart”, “Ohr”, “besser”.