

## PLOTNIK 10 INTERACTING WITH PRAAT

Using the Plotnik-Praat interaction features requires that *Praat* is installed in the “/Applications” folder<sup>1</sup> on your computer. You can download the latest version of Praat from [www.praat.org](http://www.praat.org).

Preliminaries:

1. Set up folder FAAV on your desktop.
  - a. Place in folder  
the file **PlotnikButton.praat**  
the file **praatval.praat**  
the file **PlotnikCluster\_direct.praat**
2. In Praat:
  - a. Open .wav file involved.
  - b. Edit file to display wave form window.  
Under window menu **Query : Log settings...**  
Be sure that Log Script 3 reads:  
~/Desktop/FAAV/praatval.praat
3. In Plotnik:
  - a. Menu **Tokens : Sound : Choose sound file**  
In answer to the first query, double click on the .wav file involved.  
In answer to the second query, double click on the  
corresponding .TextGrid file
  - b. Menu **Tokens : Sound : Call Praat**  
Be sure that this is checked.
  - c. Click on button **PLAY** at lower left so that it is highlighted.

Procedure for re-examining outliers

1. Display tokens of interest by
  - a. Selecting item from the VowelList or
  - b. Selecting vowel set from menu **Select** or
  - c. Select all tokens for a given word using menu **Tokens : Locate token** (CMD-L)
2. Pass the cursor over the outlying token to hear it.
3. Click on a token to call the Praat analysis of that token at the point in time indicated by the time stamp. Praat will open the selected TextGrid and sound file automatically and jump to the token in question.<sup>2</sup>
4. Examine the alignment of the vowel in the TextGrid to be sure that it is reasonable.

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<sup>1</sup> That is the global “/Applications” folder, *not* the folder of the same name under your user name (i.e. *not* “/Users/yourusername/Applications”).

<sup>2</sup> If it does not do this, but simply opens the Praat main menu, go back to Plotnik and click on the token once more. (This problem, if it occurs at all, usually only occurs the first time you try to open Praat from Plotnik.)

- a. If not, move the cursor to the appropriate point and make a note of an alignment error for that token
5. Examine the formants displayed at the cursor and see if they seem reasonable in relation to what you hear
  - a. If not, use Praat menu **Formant : formant settings** to change number of formants one unit up or down
6. Execute log script 3 by **Option – F12** (note: on a Mac laptop, you will need to hold down the **fn** key as well. The new F1-F2-F3 values will appear in a separate Praat window. (You should shrink this and move it to the side.)
7. Return to Plotnik by clicking on the Plotnik window.
8. Hold down the **Option** key and click on the token to see the red target graphic indicating the F1/F2 position of the new measurement.
9. If it seems to be an improvement according to what you hear (which you can check by passing the cursor over near-by tokens) hold down the Option key again and click moving the token to the new position.
10. If you change your mind, you can return the token to its original position by a third **Option-click** on the token.
11. If the token shows the wrong vowel class, is not measurable due to overlapping sounds, a defective formant analysis, or any other reason, remove it from the analysis by Shift-CMD-Click. You will then be given a choice of “New Class”, “Error” or Cancel.”
  - a. If you choose “New Class” You will see a dialog box showing the old word class and letting you enter the new class. Just enter the one or two digit integer: the decimals specifying the environment will be preserved. The token will disappear but on the next command of Plot Vowels (CMD-Y) it will be plotted with the new value.
  - b. If you choose “Error” you will then be given a choice of “Transcription”, “Alignment” or cancel.  
On the dialog box, still holding down the Shift and Command keys, select **Hide**. The token will then be placed in the Hidden Token window with a preceding question mark, and the question mark will also be placed before the token in the basic data file.
12. Before going on to a new token, it is helpful to remove all highlighting and labeling using CMD-U. This will make it easier to identify the token being examined in Praat, as it will be highlighted and labeled when you return.

Save the corrected file under a new name, in the form filename-rev.txt.