

DRIFT QUICK START

DRIFT is an open-source scholarly tool for producing data about voice audio. We're using it for poetry. It provides information about pitch variation (intonational contour), volume, tempo, and pausing. The tool provides visualizations (which you can capture) and provides some quantitative data that you can export and analyze with an Excel spreadsheet or other tools. Drift can be easily installed on a Mac. It is possible to install on other machines. You may want/need to use the web demo version. This is on a shared server, so performance will vary a bit.

Homepage: <http://rmozone.com/drift/>

Demo: <http://drift3.lowerquality.com/>

1. Choose Audio

I recommend a shorter file (i.e. one poem) from [Pennsound](#). You must have this audio in mp3 or wav format.

a. download audio to your desktop

2. Listen / Transcribe

Drift requires a simple, text transcript of the words in the audio. So you can start with the poem text. But if there are introductory remarks or if the poet announces the title, etc., this must be included in the transcript.

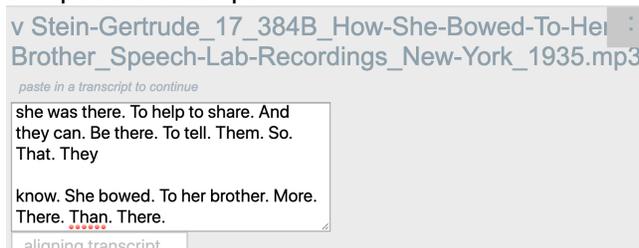
3. Upload to Drift

a. visit <http://drift3.lowerquality.com/>

b. Upload the audio file

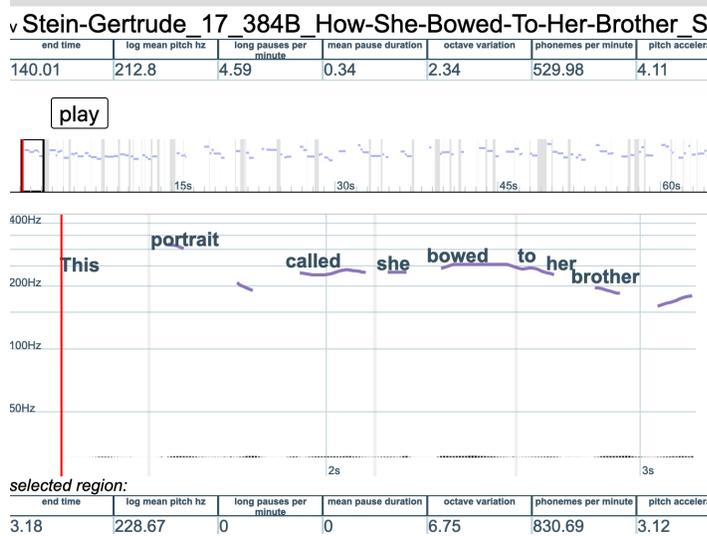


c. Input a transcript



4. Audition, Navigation, Analysis

The visualization represents fundamental pitch (i.e. the intonational contour), time, and volume/amplitude.



a. play the audio and observe the intonational contours.

b. highlight a sub-section to replay; also see sub-section statistics.

Are there variations in average pitch, tempo, length of pauses? Where do you "hear" something interesting expressively? And what is happening there on an acoustic level?

c. Download a CSV of pitch and time data

Click on the dots to the right of the file. Select "CSV".

This will download a file you can open with Excel or another spreadsheet. The visualization you saw earlier was produced from this data. You can use Excel to present it or analyze it in other ways.

1	time (s)	pitch (hz)	word	phoneme	speaker
185	1.83	0	portrait	t_E	
186	1.84	0	portrait	t_E	
187	1.85	0	portrait	t_E	
188	1.86	0	portrait	t_E	
189	1.87	0	[gap]		
190	1.88	0	called	k_B	
191	1.89	0	called	k_B	
192	1.9	0	called	k_B	
193	1.91	0	called	k_B	
194	1.92	233.17	called	k_B	
195	1.93	233.17	called	k_B	
196	1.94	233.17	called	k_B	
197	1.95	233.17	called	k_B	
198	1.96	226.53	called	ao_I	
199	1.97	226.53	called	ao_I	