



Increasing evidence for a “General Northern English” Phonetic and grammatical dialect levelling in the North of England

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The idea that dialects in the North of England have become increasingly indistinguishable and may be being replaced by a supra-regional variety “General Northern English” is gaining traction (cf. Strycharczuk et al. 2020). In this talk, I present new evidence that support this notion. A production study of non-standard grammar in Sheffield shows rapid obsolescence of local forms, and a perception study of phonetic features shows that listeners seem unable to distinguish between speakers from Sheffield, Leeds, and Manchester, instead near-exclusively noticing pan-northern features. At the same time, other parts of the North do not seem to be equally affected.