

Sinhala consonants, IPA

	Bilabial		Labio-dental		Denti-alveolar		Post-alveolar		Retro-flex		Palatal		Velar		Glottal	
Plosive or affricate	p	b			t̪	d̪	tʃ	dʒ	ʈ	ɖ	tɕ	dʑ	k	g		
Prenasalized plosive or affricate		^m b				ⁿ d̪		ⁿ dʒ		ⁿ ɖ				^ŋ g		
Fricative	[ɸ]		[f]	[v]	s̪		[ʃ]									h̥
Nasal		m				n										
Trill						r										
Approximant				ʋ								j				
Lateral approximant						l										

- Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant.
- Where symbols appear singly, they are placed to the left within their column if they represent a voiceless consonant, and to the right if they represent voiced.
- Symbols enclosed in brackets represent non-phonemic consonants.
- Blacked-out cells indicate phones judged to be impossible.
- Note that in the denti-alveolar column [n], [r], and [l] are purely alveolar.
- Among the fricatives, [ɸ] and [f] are variant pronunciations of the same phoneme; only used in loan words; and only by some speakers (others use [p] instead). Similarly, [ʃ] is used only in loan words, and only by some speakers (others pronounce it as [s]). For this reason, they are marked as non-phonemic.
- Some sources have the affricates as post-alveolar; some as palatal; some list both sets as allophones of each other. The choice to mark the palatal ones as non-phonemic was made because slightly more sources had these phonemes as post-alveolar.



Sinhala consonants, Akṣara Mālāva

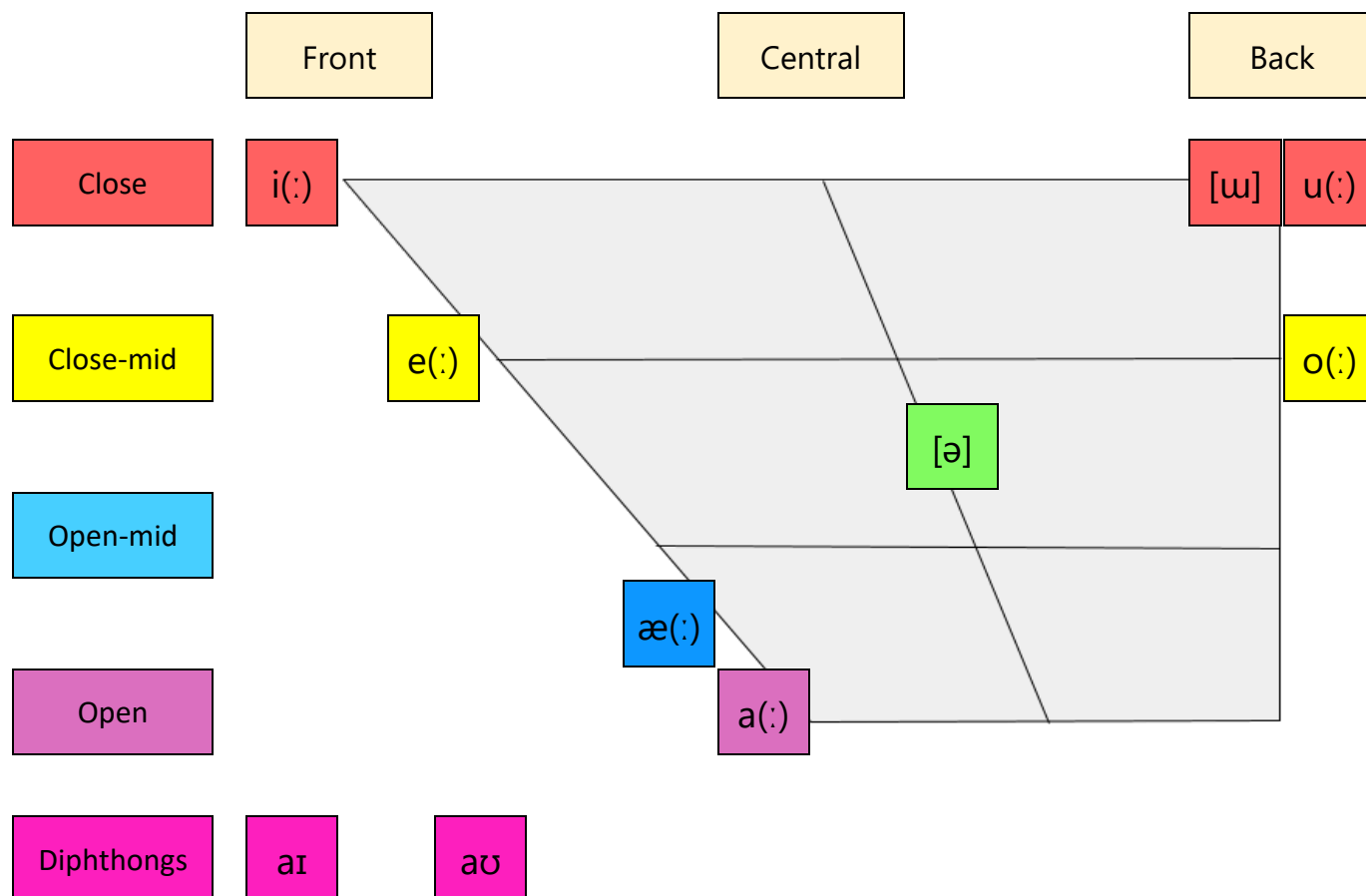
	Bilabial		Labio-dental		Denti-alveolar		Post-alveolar		Retro-flex		Palatal		Velar		Glottal	
Plosive or affricate	ප	බ			ක	ඳ	ච	ජ	ට	ඬ	(ච)	(ජ)	ක	ග		
Prenasalized plosive or affricate		ඞ				ඳ		ජ		ඬ				ඟ		
Fricative	(ඞ)		(ඞ)	(ච)	ඝ		(ඟ)									ඟ
Nasal		ඞ				ක										
Trill						ර										
Approximant		(ච)		ච								ය				
Lateral approximant						ල										

- Symbols enclosed in parentheses represent non-phonemic consonants.
- Because Sinhalese characters represent syllables, the character representing the given consonant

plus the “default” vowel [a] was chosen, since it is the plain form.

- The pre-nasalized affricate ජ is not actually attested in any words, but seems to be included in Sinhala teaching materials for the sake of completeness.

Sinhala vowels, IPA

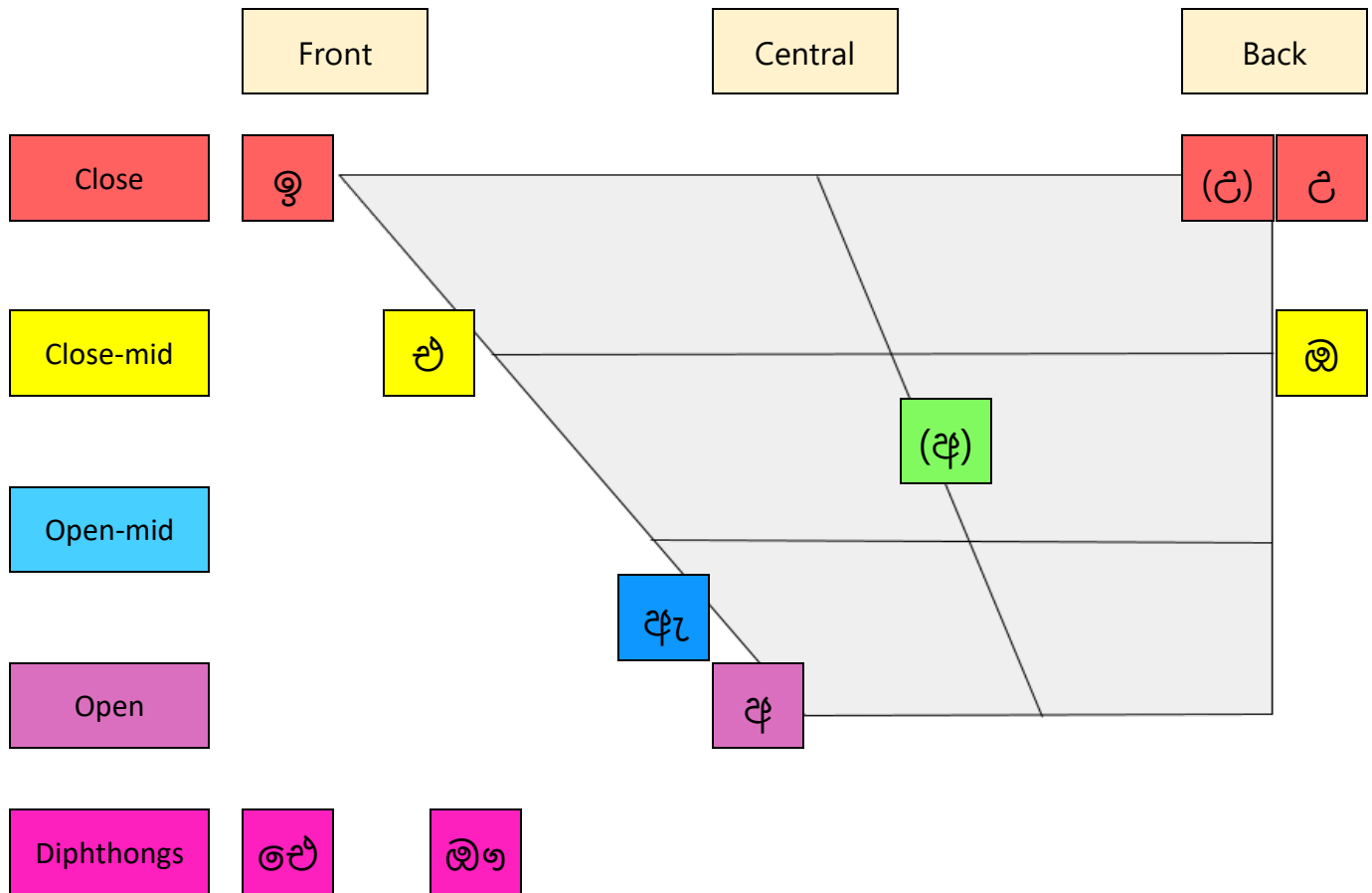


- Symbols enclosed in brackets represent non-phonemic vowels.
- All back vowels are rounded; all others, unrounded.
- In Sinhala, vowel length is phonemic; so for example, [a] and

[a:] are different phonemes. The audio clips are intended to represent only vowel quality, not duration, so both phonemes are represented in the same cell as [a(:)].



Sinhala vowels, Akṣara Mālāva



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References

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