Passing the Torch
Methods and Innovation

NWAV 47

New York University
October 18-21, 2018

Welcome

New York University hosted its first NWAV in 2005. Thirteen years later, my colleagues Greg Guy and Laurel MacKenzie, the NWAV Organizing Committee, and I warmly welcome you to NWAV 47. New York City continues to excite the senses with its wide array of sights, sounds, and experiences. We hope you appreciate the intellectual engagement that NWAV offers and while here, enjoy a taste of the "Big Apple". We are particularly excited to share NWAV with our friends and colleagues at the Graduate Center at CUNY.

This year, we have two themes for NWAV 47. The secondary theme, *Passing the Torch*, can be thought of as motivating the primary theme, *Methods and Innovation*. This year, we reflect on revered senior colleagues who have recently retired or will soon retire. While they continue to be productive scholars, they have opened up spaces for the field to take stock of their contributions, and further contemplate new and renewed areas for scientific inquiry and social application. NYU's very own John Singler retired recently, and on Thursday evening, we will salute him and some of our other esteemed colleagues. Our Saturday night plenary will be a public lecture by John Rickford on "Class and Race in the Analysis of Language Variation and the Struggle for Social Justice: Sankofa," indicating to us that his retirement will give him the opportunities to create anew, again gracing the field with innovative ways of seeing and being.

Erez Levon's plenary, "The Systematicity of Emergent Meaning," transforms ways of thinking about theory and analysis through interdisciplinary connections that both inform and are informed by sociolinguistics theory. The NWAV 47 organizing committee felt it important to offer a series of workshops that reflect its own intellectual diversity and interconnectedness with the inclusion of computational sociolinguistics, experimental sociolinguistics, and psycholinguistics.

In addition to the 6 workshops on Thursday, there are 136 papers, the exact same amount as NWAV 34. Posters have increased to 46 from 30. And while there are no panels, there are 3 lunchtime workshops that address areas that have grown important to our field: the application of our work to industry and public domains and the refinement of the tools integral to our discipline. The variationist sociolinguistic community has remained strong and continues to strive, and because of this the submission of quality papers was far greater than we were able to accommodate.

This year the NWAV Organizing Committee, following the lead of the LSA, replaced student paper and poster prizes with best student abstract awards. Winners received a cash prize, sponsored by the Philadelphia NWAV Committee, and free conference registration. There was a two-way tie. Congratulations to Kayla Palakurthy (UC Santa Barbara), and Jacob B. Phillips and Paige Resnick (University of Chicago). Nine student travel awards were also offered this year with the goal of enhancing the strength of linguistics through the inclusion of underrepresented populations.

Again, welcome to New York. Welcome to NYU. Welcome to NWAV 47. Enjoy the conference, the breaks and the social gatherings. On a personal note, this conference is because of the students, faculty, colleagues, communities, publishers and donors that have considered and continue to consider this a worthy endeavor. We thank you all.

-Renée Blake

We wish to add that NWAV 47 operates under NYU's commitment to equal treatment and opportunity for all and to maintaining an environment that is free of bias, prejudice, discrimination, and harassment. Prohibited discrimination (e.g., adverse treatment of any individual based on race, gender and/or gender identity or expression, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, disability, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or citizenship status), and prohibited harassment (e.g., unwelcome verbal or physical conduct, including conduct that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment or otherwise adversely affects academic opportunities or participation in an NYU activity or benefit) will not be tolerated.
[Drawn from NYU's Non-discrimination and anti-harassment policy and complaint procedure for students 2013]
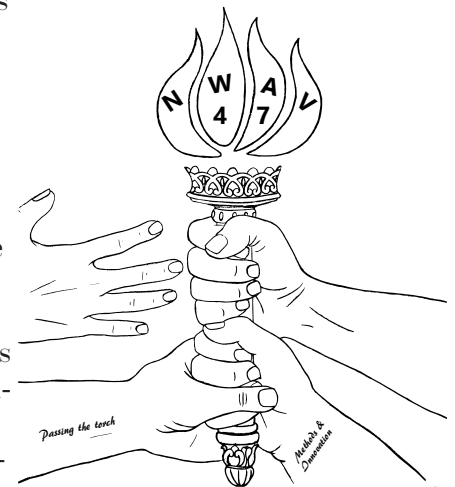
Getting Around

Events held at New York University (NYU) will be in one of the three buildings indicated in the map below:

- NYU Linguistics
  (10 Washington Place, New York NY 10003)
- Silver Center for the Arts and Sciences
  (31 Washington Place, New York NY 10003)
  includes Hemmerdinger Hall, Jurow Hall,
  Silverstein Lounge and 170 Waverly
- Kimmel Center for University Life
  (60 Washington Square S, New York NY 10012)

Events held on Thursday at the City University of New York (CUNY) will be on the 9th floor in the Graduate Center (365 5th Ave, New York NY 10016)

A gender neutral restroom can be found in each of the following places: the 7th floor of the Graduate Center (CUNY), the 2nd floor of NYU Linguistics, and the 1st floor of the Kimmel Center.
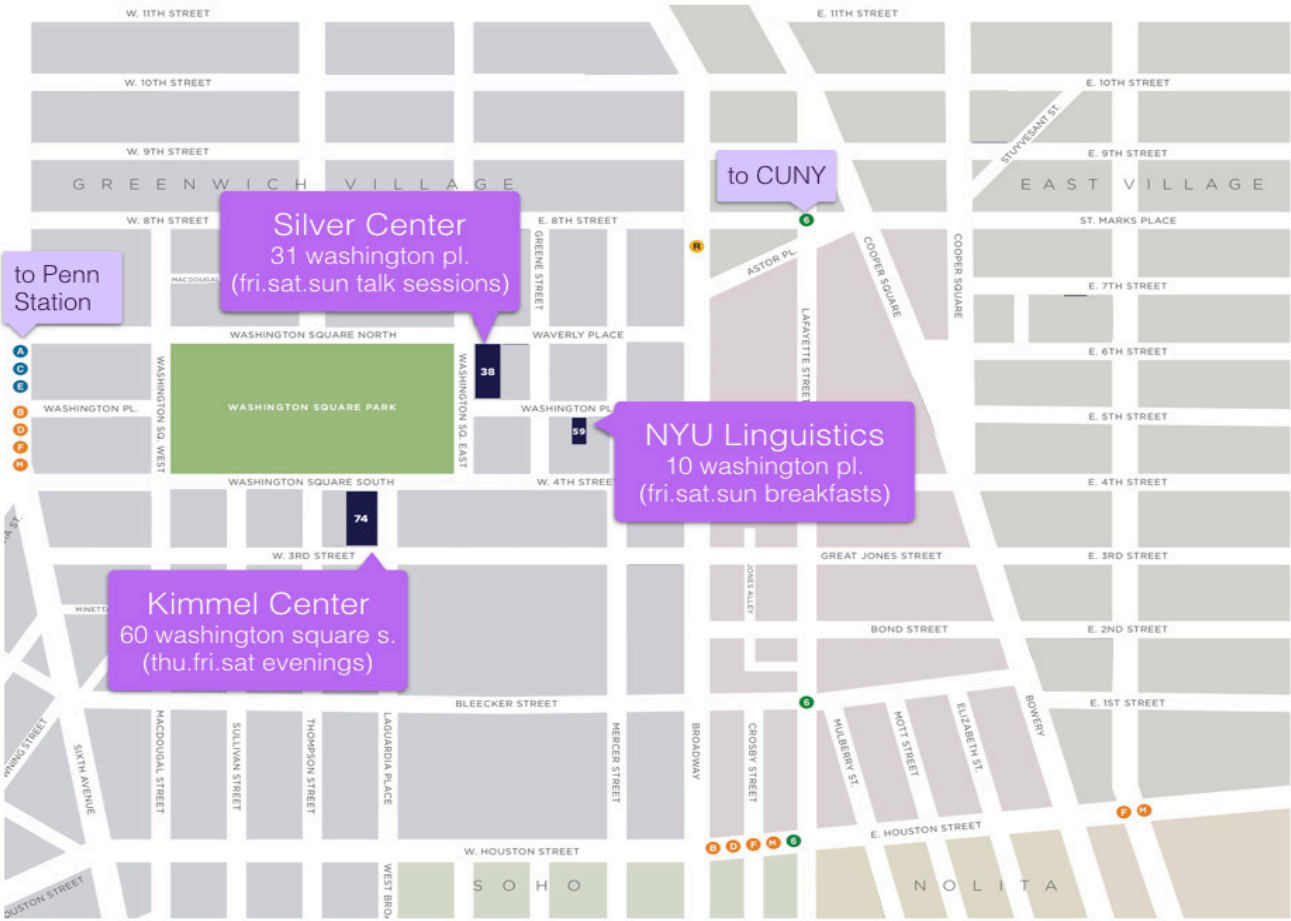
All events at both NYU and CUNY will require either your name badge (which includes our logo below) or an appropriate form of identification (e.g. driver's license, passport) in order to enter buildings.

Students will need an appropriate form of identification (e.g. driver's license, passport) in addition to their name badge for the student mixer.

Eating around NYU

The following establishments have offered discounts to NWAV47 attendees.
Please show your conference name badge in order to receive a discount.

For Thursday through Saturday:

- **Favela Cubana** (15% discount)
  543 LaGuardia Pl, New York NY 10012
  Popular Cuban & Brazilian restaurant with outdoor seating and a variety of drink options.

- **GRK** (15% discount)
  51 E 8th St, New York NY 10003
  Quick and affordable place to get Greek food with lots of vegetarian options.

- **Maison de Croque Monsieur** (15% discount)
  17 E 13th St, New York NY 10003
  Hot sandwiches with several vegetarian options. Seating is located upstairs.

- **Otto Enoteca Pizzeria** (15% discount, lunch only)
  One 5th Ave (at 8th Street), New York NY 10003
  Italian-style pasta and pizzeria, great for a quick snack or a large meal and can host large parties.

- **White Oak Tavern** (15% discount)
  21 Waverly Pl, New York NY 10003
  Casual yet classy pub-style food.

For Saturday only:

- **Bowllin'** (10% discount)
  27 Waverly Pl, New York NY 10003
  Quick Korean food that's a favorite among grad students.

Union Square, 2018

Conference Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, October 18
The Graduate Center, City University of New York

10:30 am – 4:00 pm: Registration (CUNY 9th Floor)
11:45 am – 1:45 pm: Workshop Session 1 (CUNY 9th Floor)
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm: Workshop Session 2 (CUNY 9th Floor)

New York University

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm: Erez Levon's Plenary Talk (Kimmel Center 10th Floor, Rosenthal Pavilion)*

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm: *Passing the Torch* Reception (Kimmel Center 9th Floor, Room 914)*

Friday, October 19
New York University

8:00 am – 3:55 pm: Registration (Silver Center, 1st Floor) & Book Display (Silver Center 1st Floor, Silverstein Lounge)
8:00 am – 8:50 am: Breakfast Served (NYU Linguistics)
9:00 am – 10:40 am: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 1st & 2nd Floor)
11:00 am – 12:40 pm: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 1st & 2nd Floor)
12:40 pm – 2:15 pm: Lunch Break
      12:40 pm – 2:15 pm: *Careers, Variation and Change* (NYU Linguistics, Room 104)
      1:15 pm – 2:15 pm: *Reporting Statistics for LVC* (NYU Linguistics, Room 103)
2:15 pm – 3:55 pm: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 1st & 2nd Floor)
4:15 pm – 6:15 pm: Poster Session (Kimmel Center 4th Floor, Eisner & Lubin Auditorium)*
8:00 pm – 12:00 am: Student Mixer (NYU Linguistics)

Saturday, October 20
New York University

8:00 am – 3:55 pm: Registration (Silver Center, 1st Floor) & Book Display (Silver Center, Room 410)
8:00 am – 8:50 am: Breakfast Served (NYU Linguistics)
9:00 am – 10:40 am: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 4th Floor)
11:00 am – 12:40 pm: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 4th Floor)
12:40 pm – 2:15 pm: Lunch Break (including COSWL Pop-Up Mentoring)
      1:15 pm – 2:15 pm: *Going Viral: Shopping sociolinguistic research to the media...* (Silver Center, Room 207)
2:15 pm – 3:55 pm: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 4th Floor)
4:15 pm – 5:05 pm: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 4th Floor)
5:15 pm – 6:30 pm: John Rickford's Plenary Talk (Kimmel Center 4th Floor, Eisner & Lubin Auditorium)*
8:30 pm – 10:30 pm: Party (Kimmel Center 10th Floor, Rosenthal Pavilion)*

Sunday, October 21
New York University

8:00 am – 1:10 pm: Registration (Silver Center, 1st Floor) & Book Display (Silver Center, Room 410)
8:30 am – 9:30 am: Breakfast Served/NWAV Business Meeting (NYU Linguistics)
9:30 am – 11:10 am: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 4th Floor)
11:30 am – 1:10 pm: Talk Sessions (Silver Center, 4th Floor)
2:30 pm – 4:30 pm: NYC *Fourth Floor* Walking Tour (NYU Linguistics)

*In addition to specific sessions indicated later in the program, ASL interpretation will be available during these events.

Acknowledgments

We are very grateful to the following organizations for their support of NWAV47:

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Cambridge University Press
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Language Variation and Change

The official journal of the annual New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV) conference

Editors
Rena Torres Cacoullos, Pennsylvania State University, USA
William Labov, University of Pennsylvania, USA

Language Variation and Change is the only journal dedicated exclusively to the study of linguistic variation and the capacity to deal with systematic and inherent variation in synchronic and diachronic linguistics. Sociolinguistics involves analysing the interaction of language, culture and society; the more specific study of variation is concerned with the impact of this interaction on the structures and processes of traditional linguistics. Language Variation and Change concentrates on the effects of linguistic structure in actual speech production and processing (or writing), including contemporary or historical sources.

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NWAV 48

will be held at

University of Oregon

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Or, visit:
nwav48.uoregon.edu

NYU Department of Linguistics, 2018

Thursday's Schedule

11:45 am - 1:45 pm *Best Practices in Sociophonetics* Di Paolo, Bell, & Johnson; Wassink, Squizzero, Fellin and Nichols (CUNY 9205)	11:45 am - 1:45 pm *Integrated Speech Corpus Analysis – ISCAN* Stuart-Smith, Sonderegger, & McAuliffe (CUNY 9206)	11:45 am - 1:45 pm *...Issues for Undergraduate Researchers in Large Corpus Projects* Hoffman, Stanford, Tagliamonte, Tortora, & Walker (CUNY 9207)
1:45 pm - 2:00 pm Coffee Break (CUNY 9th Floor)	
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm *Language Variation Suite Toolkit* Scrivner, Orozco, & Diaz-Campos (CUNY 9205)	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm *Computational Sociolinguistics* Grieve, Hovy, Jurgens, Kendall, Nguyen, Stanford, Sumner, & Tatman (CUNY 9206)	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm *Eye-tracking for LVC research* Arvindam & Cournane (CUNY 9207)
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Erez Levon's Plenary: *The Systematicity of Emergent Meaning* (NYU Kimmel Center 10th Floor, Rosenthal Pavilion)	
8:00 pm - 10:00 pm *Passing the Torch* Reception (NYU Kimmel Center 9th Floor, Room 914)	

Thursday Workshop Abstracts

Best Practices in Sociophonetics
Part I: myVoice
Marianna Di Paolo, Adrian Bell, Lisa M. Johnson
University of Utah

Our workshop will present myVoice, a web application written by Adrian Bell in the statistical program R (R Core Team, 2016) using the Shiny R package, The app automates the process of recording, uploading, analyzing, and displaying cultural and sociophonetic data. The app interface displays geospatial context; asks the user to respond to prompts eliciting answers to demographic, cultural, and recent-language-use questions; and then asks the user to record a sentence or list of words via the microphone on their computer or mobile device. In creating myVoice, Bell has integrated the Montreal Forced Aligner (McAuliffe, 2017) with Praat (Boersma & Weenink, 2017), and other R packages to (1) record survey responses, geoposition, and audio; (2) then align the audio files to text, and analyze the sociophonetic and cultural features, and (3) finally to present the analysis to the participant within a few seconds, returning geospatial social network displays of sociophonetic and cultural affinity with other users. myVoice will make crowdsourcing sociolinguistic data from any language possible from any mobile device. We are conducting tests to assure that the myVoice app records at levels comparable to the recording equipment we have been using for our field recordings. (We believe that it will, given Kardous and Shaw (2014, 2016) findings).

We will be using myVoice in a study of the ethnic group formation of the Tongan diaspora community in Utah based on linguistic and cultural data sampled over time from community members, including their use of both Tongan and/or English. The app will prompt them to respond as they go about their normal lives and thus capture the community dynamics as they are ongoing. We know that immigrant languages are typically replaced by English in three generations in U.S. diaspora communities (Bayley, 2004). However, we have as of yet no-fine grained empirical data needed to elucidate the day-to-day mechanism leading to language shift or to the formation of new contact varieties such as "Tongan Utah English".

Two additional enhancements will be added to the app and may be ready to present at the workshop: The first enhancement will allow the elicitation of participants' interpretation of the results displayed by the sociolinguistic app, e.g. "Can you explain why you are in this particular spot on the network?". The participants contribution can be in terms of open response or selection from a menu of possible explanations. The menu of candidate explanations will be populated by the researchers and previous open responses by participants. It is expected that through time the menu of explanations will converge to a salient set of factors most likely relevant to ethnic group formation and conformist assimilation. In the next phase, we will be working with video game designers to gamify the MyVoice crowd-sourcing app.

Part II: CLOx
Alicia Beckford Wassink, Robert Squizzero, Campion Fellin and David Nichols
University of Washington

Unscripted vernacular speech is often the desired object of sociolinguistic study. However, because it is labor-intensive and time-consuming, manual transcription of audio recordings remains a major obstacle to the analysis of conversational speech.

Client Libraries Oxford (CLOx) is a new, user-friendly application for sociolinguists developed by the Sociolinguistics Laboratory at the University of Washington. CLOx utilizes Microsoft Azure Cognitive Services Speech API recognition technology to automatically generate plain-text orthographic transcriptions.

CLOx saves time; we estimate that this tool enables transcription of a sociolinguistic interview to be completed in one-fifth or less of the time it would take to produce a fully manual transcription. Another significant advantage of CLOx is that timestamps indicating the start and end time of each audio sample are preserved. This facilitates a range of tasks further downstream in the process of linguistic analysis, including: forced alignment and extraction for phonetic analysis, conversation analysis, part-of-speech tagging, etc. Because transcriptions are in standard, plain-text format (.csv), output is readable by a variety of applications commonly used for analysis and processing of linguistic data (e.g., Microsoft Word, Excel, R, ELAN).

Thursday Workshop Abstracts

This workshop will demonstrate how to use CLOx to generate transcriptions and work with the output to perform different kinds of linguistic analysis. For demonstration purposes, we will be working with English language data, but CLOx allows users to select any of the languages that are supported by Microsoft Cognitive Services. These include: Arabic, Chinese, English (US & GB), French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. Participants will have an opportunity to work with their own audio files or use example files provided by the presenters. Participants will first learn how to format audio files for the service, then how to access CLOx to generate a transcription and download the .csv output. We will then cover importation of the transcript to ELAN and manual correction using sample data from the Pacific Northwest English Study. We will show an example workflow for correction in ELAN, including the transcription conventions used in the Pacific Northwest English Study, which include handling speaker overlap and dealing with disfluencies (following Du Bois, 1991), and marking speech to be redacted. Using the study corpus has allowed us to test CLOx's behavior with a range of vocal qualities, speech rates, and group sizes. Participants will have opportunities to ask questions and offer suggestions to improve CLOx.

Those who wish to actively participate should bring a laptop with ELAN pre-installed. ELAN is available at https://tla.mpi.nl/tools/tla-tools/elan/. Participants who wish to use their own audio files may bring 1-3 .wav recordings, each with a maximum file size of 6MB for stereo audio sampled at a 16 kHz rate. Mono audio is also acceptable. We request that sample recordings be in English and contain the voices of no more than two interlocutors for this demonstration. No prior transcription experience is required.
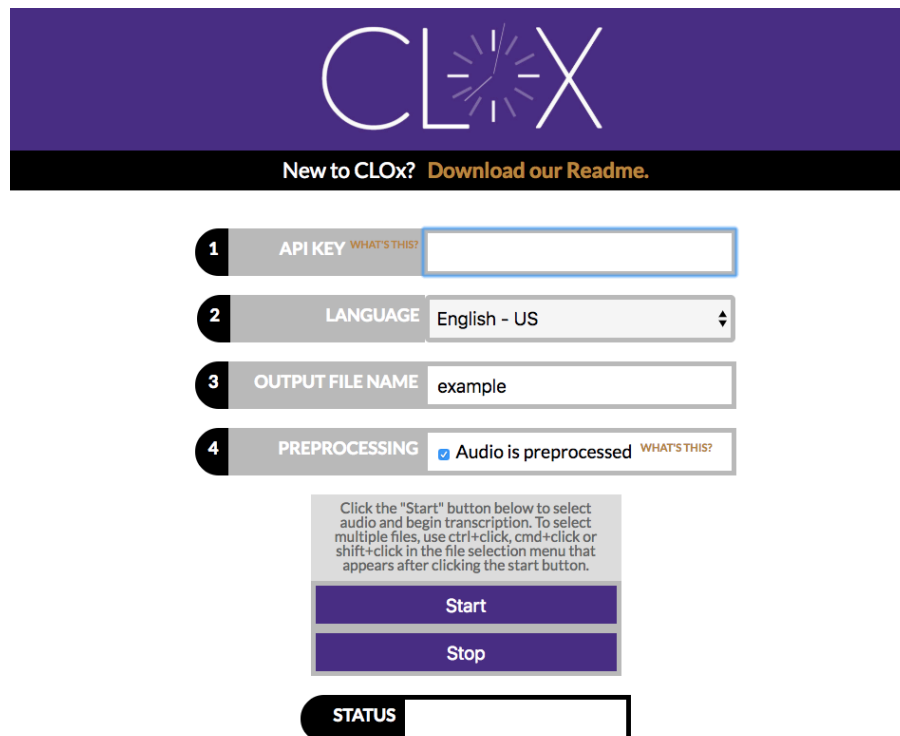
Figure 1: CLOx interface

Lexical	Onset (ss.ms)	Offset (ss.ms)
now when you were growing up you said there were two other japanese families	1267.88	1273.29
did you get to spend anytime with them or	1274.87	1277.32
um we were just children so we played together and	1278.27	1283.56

Figure 2: Sample CLOx-generated transcription

Thursday Workshop Abstracts

Integrated Speech Corpus ANalysis – ISCAN: A new tool for large-scale, cross-corpus, sociolinguistic analysis

Jane Stuart-Smith, Morgan Sonderegger, Michael McAuliffe
University of Glasgow, McGill University, McGill University

Our workshop will introduce variationist sociolinguists, especially those working with spoken language, to a new software system, Integrated Speech Corpus ANalysis (ISCAN), which enables fast, high-quality, large-scale automated acoustic phonetic analysis across multiple spoken corpora of diverse formats, simultaneously[1]. ISCAN features an easy-to-use graphical interface (in a web browser), and can also be used via a Python package for more complex analyses by technically-skilled users. We will describe how ISCAN works, and then give participants the opportunity to use the software themselves to carry out analyses of vowels and sibilants, examining commonly-measured variables (formants, COG, speech rate, etc.) across publiclyavailable datasets. Participants will gain sufficient experience with ISCAN to understand how to apply the system to their own data, and perhaps to do so on-site.

ISCAN is being developed as an open, freely-accessible, software system, by the SPeech Analysis across Dialects of English(SPADE) project, with colleagues from North America and the UK, specifically, Jane Stuart-Smith and Joe Fruehwald (UK), Morgan Sonderegger and Michael McAuliffe (Canada), Jeff Mielke, Erik Thomas, Robin Dodsworth, Tyler Kendall and Paul Fyfe (US) (2017-2020: https://spade.glasgow.ac.uk/). SPADE is primarily a methodological project, which is developing software tools to (a) assemble and import spoken language corpora of diverse formats, (b) enrich these corpora with additional linguistic information, e.g. lexical frequency, parts of speech, syllabic information, (c) carry out automated speech processing across one or more speech corpora to generate high-quality acoustic phonetic measures for speech segments, along with key durational and prosodic measures; and (d) allow users to query and extract measures for segments for subsequent analysis, using an accessible user interface, the ISCAN system which we will introduce at the workshop. Our linguistic remit is currently some varieties of English, but ISCAN can be used for any linguistic variety, provided that the sound file has an accompanying segmentation file (e.g. from a forced alignment using FAVE, MFA, or LABBCAT).

We are currently working with a number of sociolinguists and phoneticians in the UK and North America, who are sharing existing speech datasets, for the development of the software. Analyses so far, presented at LabPhon 2018, analyse data from about 10 English dialects (in the UK, US, and Canada). We are very keen that ISCAN will be as useful as possible for a wide range of users, from less to more experienced, and so feedback from NWAV47 participants will be extremely valuable. A key project goal is to build out more complex versions of the software by incorporating feedback from users about what does and does not work in the interface, and altering the software to accommodate users' request. Giving this workshop comes at a key stage in our project (start of year 2), which will lead to software which can be more responsive to the needs of sociolinguists.

SPADE is working with publicly available datasets, and private datasets, managed by team members, and members of the sociolinguistic and phonetic community. A key consideration for working with private datasets is the appropriate and ethical management of user access, to ensure that those who do not have permission to hear or identify speech recordings, are not able to do this. Only publicly-available datasets will be used for the workshop. One goal of SPADE is to enable private speech datasets to be analysed for their acoustic speech features, without the analysts needing to listen to the speech recordings, or see the transcripts, what we are calling, 'ethically non-invasive speech corpus analysis'. To this end, we are devising a set of inspection interfaces which allow users to see different 'views' of parts of the speech corpora, for example, to check likely erroneous items/measures, but which also work in conjunction with user permissions for access to the corpora, or parts of the corpora. A beta version of these inspection interfaces should be available by the workshop, which would be a valuable opportunity for users to provide feedback.

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[1] ISCAN is an updated version of Polyglot-SCT, see: McAuliffe, Michael, Elias Stengel-Eskin, Michaela Socolof, and Morgan Sonderegger. "Polyglot and Speech Corpus Tools: a system for representing, integrating, and querying speech corpora." Proc. Interspeech 2017 (2017): 3887-3891. See: https://github.com/MontrealCorpusTools/PolyglotDB

Thursday Workshop Abstracts

Methodological and Pedagogical Issues for Undergraduate Researchers in Large Corpus Projects
Michol Hoffman, James Stanford, Sali Tagliamonte, Christina Tortora, and James Walker
University of York, Dartmouth College, University of Toronto, City University of New York, La Trobe University
(Organizers: Christina Tortora, Bill Haddican, Michael Newman, and Cecelia Cutler [The City University of New York])

In recent years, many variationist labs have made efforts to increase participation of undergraduates in research projects–particularly those involving the creation of large speech corpora. This trend seems to reflect two changes that have shaped sociolinguistic practice in recent years: (i) a desire for larger data sets; and (ii) an increased awareness of the value of research apprenticeship in undergraduate teaching and learning outcomes. The workshop organizers take this to be a potentially positive development in the field, but we think it raises several issues that should be explicitly addressed by colleagues including:

1. How to ensure data quality.
2. How to handle sampling, in cases where undergraduates help recruit subjects.
3. How to make sure that the scientific goals of the researchers align well with the educational needs of our UG students, i.e. teaching/learning objectives of the undergraduate program.
4. Best practices in training of undergraduates for data collection.

The workshop will involve presentations from members of four different research groups that have worked with undergraduates, followed by a panel discussion.

Language Variation Suite Toolkit
Olga Scrivner, Rafael Orozco, Manuel Diaz-Campos
Indiana University, Louisiana State University, Indiana University

Given a current need in modern sociolinguistics for tools that reflect changes in modern technology and new methods, our workshop will contribute to the field by passing the torch from traditional sociolinguistic tools into new technology.

We have developed a cutting-edge tool for sociolinguistics that is based on state-of-the-art statistical methods: Language Variation Suite Toolkit – www.languagevariationsuite.com. We have applied a new technology, the interactive Shiny web application, to a sociolinguistics framework.

- LVS offers the flexibility of online web-based applications.
- It is accessible from any device, which is important for many sociolinguists who may need to process data during field trips.
- It is interactive, allowing researchers to view, pre-process and examine their data from various angles.
- In addition, with the current shift to R coding, this application provides a gateway into learning R.
- Finally, it is built entirely in R.

Our second web application is Text Mining Tool (http://www.interactivetextminingsuite.com), which might be of interest to many sociolinguists who are interested in learning about interactive text mining, for example, clustering and topic modeling.

Thursday Workshop Abstracts

Computational Sociolinguistics

Jack Grieve, Dirk Hovy, David Jurgens, Tyler Kendall, Dong Nguyen, James Stanford, Meghan Sumner, Rachael Tatman
University of Birmingham, Bocconi University, University of Michigan, University of Oregon, Alan Turing Institute, Dartmouth College, Stanford University, Kaggle

Over the past decade, a new approach to the study of language variation and change has emerged at the intersection of linguistics and computer science. Research in sociolinguistics, dialectology, and corpus linguistics has increasingly been using advanced quantitative methods to analyze larger and more complex datasets, often harvested from online sources, so as to understand patterns of language use across regions, social groups, and communicative situations. Concurrently, research in computational linguistics has increasingly been concerned with integrating social information into natural language processing systems. Recently these two lines of research have begun to converge, giving rise to the new field of computational sociolinguistics.

In this workshop, we will introduce the field and present a series of studies that exemplify a range of methods currently being applied, including the using large datasets consisting of social media corpora and crowdsourced surveys, and using techniques from data mining and machine learning for data analysis. The workshop will conclude with a panel discussion and a question period.

Eye-tracking for LVC research

Vishal Arvindam, Ailís Cournane
New York University

This workshop provides an introduction to the use of eye tracking for linguistic research, with particular focus on how implicit behavioural measures can be used effectively for (a) sociolinguistic research (e.g. McGowan, 2010; Koops et al., 2008; Fricke et al. 2016; Mitterer et al. 2007) and (b) syntactic and semantic variables. After an overview of the method and equipment, we will give a presentation of a sample study on semantic gender processing (Arvindam, 2018), and then run live demonstrations of both that reading study and a visual-world study we're currently developing at the Child Language Lab at NYU. We will enlist the help of a lucky audience member participant (or two) for these demonstrations using our SR Research Eyelink Duo machine!

Workshop participants will leave with an understanding of how eye tracking works, the kinds of questions it can and cannot address, the kinds of data eye trackers can collect and how to interpret them, and what running a study participant involves.

Selected References:

Arvindam, V. S. (2018). How stereotypical gender is linguistically represented: Evidence from eye movements. Honors thesis. University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Fricke, M., Kroll, J. F., & Dussias, P. E. (2016). Phonetic variation in bilingual speech: A lens for studying the production–comprehension link. *Journal of memory and language*, 89, 110-137.

Koops, C., Gentry, E., & Pantos, A. (2008). The effect of perceived speaker age on the perception of PIN and PEN vowels in Houston, Texas. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*, 14(2), 12.

McGowan, K.B. (2010). Examining Listeners' Use of Sociolinguistic Information During Early Phonetic Judgments: Evidence from eye-tracking. New Ways of Analyzing Variation 39. San Antonio,TX

Mitterer, H., & McQueen, J. M. (2007). Tracking perception of pronunciation variation by tracking looks to printed words: The case of word-final /t/. In J. Trouvain, & W. J. Barry (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 16th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (ICPhS 2007),1929-1932.

Thursday Plenary: Erez Levon

The Systematicity of Emergent Meaning

It has become common over the past 15 years to identify two contrasting approaches to the study of language variation and change. The first, associated primarily with examinations of large-scale patterns of change at the level of the community, tends to view variation as reflecting a system of stable social contrasts at the macro-group level, i.e., along axes of social class, ethnicity, age, or gender (Labov 2001, 2007). The second approach focuses instead on variation as a system of emergent indexical meanings, which, while originally grounded in larger-scale demographic categories, can be recruited by individuals to serve more micro-level goals, such as stance-taking and the construction of culturally relevant personae in interaction (Eckert 2008, 2012). Because of their different emphases, the two approaches have often been characterized in opposing terms, such as automatic vs. agentive or systematic vs. idiosyncratic (e.g., Guy 2013; Guy & Hinskins 2016). In this talk, I argue against this type of simple binary classification. Instead, I draw on recent discussions in the literature (Labov 2012, 2018; Eckert 2016, 2017) to make the point that all processes of variation and change involve an agentive component and, at the same time, that all acts of emergent meaning-making respond to systematic constraints.

I support my arguments with a discussion of the different factors that influence how variation is perceived by listeners. Perception plays a central role in so-called third wave approaches to variation, since it is hypothesized that it is in the in-the-moment interpretation of a variant in context (i.e., construal) that variables can take on new meanings. In the talk, I present results from three experiments designed to test listeners' perceptual reactions to three different variables in Southern British English: /s/-fronting and TH-fronting (i.e., fink for 'think') (Levon 2014, 2016a), and the use of final rising intonation contours on declarative utterances ('uptalk') (Levon 2016b, 2018). My findings demonstrate that while there exists perceptual variability in how listeners interpret these variables, the meanings that emerge are reliably and consistently correlated with specific components of listeners' attitudes and social histories, the cognitive demands of the tasks in question, and the contexts in which variation occurs. This is important because it illustrates that, far from being unsystematic, emergent meaning is subject to orderly heterogeneity (cf. Preston 2011). By extension, the novel and agentive uses of variation that arise from these meanings are, similarly, systematic and predictable, as I also briefly illustrate.

Ultimately, my goals in this talk are twofold. First, I aim to demonstrate that assuming a distinction between systematic versus idiosyncratic approaches to variation and change perpetuates a false dichotomy, and that all forms of variation – whether established or emergent – are systematic in nature. Second, I hope to show that the key to revealing this systematicity lies in the detailed study of sociolinguistic perception. For it is only by understanding how listeners interpret variation that we can hope to model the transmission and diffusion of change.

References

Eckert, Penelope (2008). Variation and the indexical field. *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 12: 453–76.

Eckert, Penelope (2012). Three waves of variation study: The emergence of meaning in the study of sociolinguistic variation. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 41(1):87–100.

Eckert, Penelope (2016). Variation, meaning and social change. In Nikolas Coupland (ed.), *Sociolinguistics: Theoretical debates*, 68–85. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Eckert, Penelope (2017). The individual in the semiotic landscape. Plenary talk at Workshop on Sound Change IV, University of Edinburgh.

Guy, Gregory (2013). The cognitive coherence of sociolects: How do speakers handle multiple sociolinguistic variables? *Journal of Pragmatics* 52: 63–71.

Guy, Gregory & Frans Hinskens (2016). Linguistic coherence: Systems, repertoires and speech communities. *Lingua* 172–173: 1–9

Labov, William (2001). *Principles of linguistic change: Social factors*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Labov, William (2007). Transmission and diffusion. *Language* 83: 344–387.

Labov, William (2012). What is to be learned: The community as the focus of social cognition. *Review of Cognitive Linguistics* 10: 265–293.

Labov, William (2018). The role of the Avant Garde in linguistic diffusion. *Language Variation and Change* 30: 1–22.

Levon, Erez (2014). Categories, stereotypes and the linguistic perception of sexuality. *Language in Society* 43: 539–66.

Levon, Erez (2016a). Teasing apart social and cognitive factors in sociolinguistic perception. Plenary talk at Sociolinguistic Variation and Language Processing (SVALP) III conference, Virginia Institute of Technology.

Levon, Erez (2016b). Gender, interaction and intonational variation: The discourse functions of High Rising Terminals in London. *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 20: 133–163.

Levon, Erez (2018). Language, indexicality and gender ideologies: Contextual effects on the perceived credibility of women. Plenary talk at British Association of Applied Lingusitics (BAAL) annual conference, York St John University.

Preston, Dennis (2011). The power of language regard: Discrimination, classification, comprehension and production. *Dialectologia* Special Issue II: 9–33.

Erez Levon is Reader in Sociolinguistics at Queen Mary University of London. His work uses quantitative, qualitative and experimental methods to examine patterns of socially meaningful variation in language. In particular, he investigates how linguistic forms come to be associated with different categories of speakers, and how, in turn, speakers use these associations in their everyday linguistic interactions. His work has been published in journals such as *Language in Society*, *Language Variation and Change*, *American Speech*, and the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*. He is the author of *Language and the Politics of Sexuality* (2010, Palgrave) and the co-editor of *Language, Sexuality and Power* (2016, OUP). He is also currently Associate Editor of the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*.

Southeastern Conference on Linguistics
May 30 - June 2   Boca Raton FL

SECOL LXXXVI will be hosted by the Florida Atlantic University and arranged by local host Dr. Justin P. White. Please refer to our web site for further information and the call for papers:

www.SECOL.org

We look forward to seeing you.

The *Southern Journal of Linguistics* is looking for a successor to Dr. Felice Cole, who is stepping down from her office after many years of exemplary service. The editor is responsible for soliciting manuscripts, having them peer reviewed, and preparing the journal. As a SECOL officer, the editor should be a resident of the Southeast and be able to negotiate support from her/his department (an intern, a course load deduction, possibly some mailing support though the journal is mostly online these days). If you are interested in becoming our next editor for a 5-year period, please contact Ralf Thiede at rthiede@uncc.edu and we'll chat. Also keep us in mind for publishing your next article!

SJL

Friday's Schedule

	8:00 am - 8:50 am Breakfast Served (NYU Linguistics)			
	9:00 am - 10:40 am Session: *Tools of the Trade* (Silver 207)	9:00 am - 10:40 am Session: *Liquids* (Waverly 170)	9:00 am - 10:40 am Session: *English Morphosyntax* (Jurow Hall)	9:00 am - 10:40 am **Session Sponsored by SECOL** (Hemmerdinger Hall)
8:00 am - 3:55 pm Book Display (Silver Center 1st Floor, Silverstein Lounge)	10:40 am - 11:00 am Coffee Break (Silverstein Lounge)			
	11:00 am - 12:40 pm Session: *Processing* (Silver 207)	11:00 am - 12:40 pm Session: *English around the World* (Waverly 170)	11:00 am - 12:40 pm Session: *Morphosyntax more globally* (Jurow Hall)	11:00 am - 12:40 pm **Session Sponsored by LabPhon** (Hemmerdinger Hall)
	12:40 pm - 2:15 pm Lunch Break Workshop: *Careers, Variation and Change* (NYU Linguistics, Room 104) 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm Workshop: *Reporting statistics for LVC* (NYU Linguistics, Room 103)			
	2:15 pm - 3:55 pm Session: *Acquisition & Incrementation* (Silver 207)	2:15 pm - 3:55 pm Session: *Variation in Minority Languages* (Waverly 170)	2:15 pm - 3:55 pm Session: *Morphosyntax in Contact* (Jurow Hall)	2:15 pm - 3:55 pm Session: *Northern Cities Shift* (Hemmerdinger Hall)
	4:15 pm - 6:15 pm Poster Session (Kimmel Center 4th Floor, Eisner & Lubin Auditorium)			
	8:00 pm - 12:00 am Student Mixer (NYU Linguistics)			

Friday Talks by Session

Session: Tools of the Trade (Silver 207, Chair: Joe Fruehwald)
- 9:00–9:25: *Making FAVE ready for New Englishes: Applying and modifying FAVE for semi-automatic acoustic analyses of Trinidadian English vowels* (Meer and Matute Flores)
- 9:25–9:50: *NIEUW Audio Transcription and Forced Alignment* (Wright, Cieri and Fiumara)
- 9:50–10:15: *Two New Ways of Analyzing Vocalic Merger* (Jones)
- 10:15–10:40: *Opening the door for forced-alignment to minority languages* (Gonzalez, Grama, Ananthanarayan, Barth and Travis)

Session: Liquids (Waverly 170, Chair: Danielle Turton)
- 9:00–9:25: *When is sound change more than segmental change? Coda /r/ and voice quality shifts in Glasgow since 1890* (Soskuthy and Stuart-Smith)
- 9:25–9:50: *Philadelphia /l/-Vocalisation is Strictly Coda Lenition* (Purse)
- 9:50–10:15: *Afrikaans (r) variation in the Garden Route: patterns of frequency and clusters of use* (Ribbens-Klein)
- 10:15–10:40: *Analysing challenging variables: The case of intervocalic /l/-vocalisation in Bulgarian* (Hofmann)

Session: English Morphosyntax (Jurow Hall, Chair: Ailís Cournane)
- 9:00–9:25: *'As if' and 'as though' in earlier spoken Canadian English: Register and the onset of change* (Brook)
- 9:25–9:50: *Innovation in Research Design: Developing a Panel Survey to Address Basic Issues of Language Change* (Cukor-Avila and Bailey)
- 9:50–10:15: *Explaining variation with amn't using the Tolerance Principle* (Thoms, Adger, Heycock and Smith)
- 10:15–10:40: *Linguists be like "Where did it come from?"* (D'Arcy)

SECOL Sponsored Session (Hemmerdinger Hall, Chair: Dennis Preston) *ASL interpretation will be provided.
- 9:00–9:25: *How far North does the South go? Appalachian Adoption of the Southern Vowel Shift* (Hazen)
- 9:25–9:50: *Job Skills and the Southern Vowel Shift: Style on the Job* (Forrest)
- 9:50–10:15: *Sociolinguistic variation in an in-between place* (Gordon and Cochran)
- 10:15–10:40: *Participation networks: The role of social networks in constraining participation in a change-in-progress among Latinxs in New Orleans, LA* (Lewis)

Session: Processing (Silver 207, Chair: Meredith Tamminga)
- 11:00–11:25: *Prior experience with a linguistic variant affects the acquisition of its social meaning: An experimental simulation using alien language learning* (Lai, Rácz, and Roberts)
- 11:25–11:50: *Effects of the linguistic processing in real time: affricates in Brazilian Portuguese* (Freitag)
- 11:50–12:15: *Measuring sociolinguistic perception in real time* (Austen and Campbell-Kibler)
- 12:15–12:40: *Do listeners form grammatical expectations to African American Language?* (Weissler)

Session: English around the World (Waverly 170, Chair: Alex D'Arcy)
- 11:00–11:25: *Age vectors vs. axes of intraspeaker variation for North American and Scottish English vowel formants* (Mielke, Fruehwald, Thomas, McAuliffe, Sonderegger and Dodsworth)
- 11:25–11:50: *A new take on comparative variation analysis* (Szmrecsanyi and Rosseel)
- 11:50–12:15: *Expanding the envelope: formal variation in the expression of perfect meaning in World Englishes* (Suarez-Gomez)
- 12:15–12:40: *New approaches to scaling up: Tracking variation from individual to group and to language* (Meyerhoff, Arnold, Barth, Dunn, Greenhill, Klaere, Nagy, Niedzielski, Walker, Gray and Hazenberg)

Session: Morphosyntax more globally (Jurow Hall, Chair: Bill Haddican) *ASL interpretation will be provided.
- 11:00–11:25: *Variation in British Sign Language indicating verbs* (Schembri, Fenlon and Cormier)
- 11:25–11:50: *Variation in the use of the wo-relativizer in Swabian German* (Beaman)
- 11:50–12:15: *Who all cares if you say 'who all'?: Social perception of syntactic variation* (Robinson)
- 12:15–12:40: *Gradience and contrast in 2SG direct object pronouns in Brazilian Portuguese* (Schwenter, Hoff, Dickinson, Bland and Lamberti)

LabPhon Sponsored Session (Hemmerdinger Hall, Chair: Lisa Davidson)

- 11:00–11:25: *An ultrasound-tongue-imaging study of rhoticity in a socially-stratified spontaneous speech corpus of Scottish English* (Lawson)
- 11:25–11:50: *Changing accents changes syllables: The effect of diachronic phonetic change on syllabic representations in the Inland North* (Nesbitt)
- 11:50–12:15: *On the relationship between vowel nasalization and nasal weakening: Evidence from a Caribbean and non-Caribbean dialect of Spanish* (Bongiovanni)
- 12:15–12:40: *Audiovisual cue enhancement in the production and perception of the COT-CAUGHT contrast* (Havenhill)

Workshop: *Careers, Variation and Change: Sociolinguists in the Workplace* (Shousterman)[1]
　　　(NYU Linguistics, Room 104)
Workshop: *Reporting Statistics for LVC* (Torres Cacoullos and Guy)[2]
　　　(NYU Linguistics, Room 103)

Session: Acquisition & Incrementation (Silver 207, Chair: Sali Tagliamonte)

- 2:15–2:40: *Internal bias feeds incrementation: Experimental evidence from must in child Toronto English* (Cournane and Pérez-Leroux)
- 2:40–3:05: *Do birds of a feather flock together? Real time incrementation and type of sound change* (Holmes-Elliott)
- 3:05–3:30: */u/-fronting and /æ/-raising in Toronto families* (Hall and Maddeaux)
- 3:30–3:55: *The sociolinguistic sat-nav: tracking the development of community norms through the childhood years* (Smith and Holmes-Elliott)

Session: Variation in Minority Languages (Waverly 170, Chair: Zvjezdana Vrzic)

- 2:15–2:40: *The role of similarity in sound change: Variation and change in Diné affricates* (Palakurthy)[3]
- 2:40–3:05: *What about mie? Methodologies for investigating negation in Picard* (Auger and Burnett)
- 3:05–3:30: *Production matches prescription: Morphosyntactic variation in language maintenance communities* (Bleaman)
- 3:30–3:55: *Maintaining style in language death* (Kasstan)

Session: Morphosyntax in Contact (Jurow Hall, Chair: Ruth King)

- 2:15–2:40: *Structural and semantic conditioning of the New Mexican Spanish subjunctive: Maintenance in a contact variety* (Lacasse)
- 2:40–3:05: *Contact linguistics, restructuring and morphosyntactic variation: Past be regularization on St Helena* (Schreier)
- 3:05–3:30: *Language contact and social meaning from the perspective of 'new speakers' of Basque* (Rodríguez-Ordóñez)
- 3:30–3:55: *A variationist analysis of locative markers in Chengdu dialect* (Li)

Session: Northern Cities Shift (Hemmerdinger Hall, Chair: Matt Gordon) *ASL interpretation will be provided.

- 2:15–2:40: *Revisiting the Inland North Fringe* (Dinkin)
- 2:40–3:05: *Another Look at the Development of the Northern Cities Shift in Chicago* (Durian and Cameron)
- 3:05–3:30: *Reversal of the Northern Cities Shift in Buffalo, NY* (Milholland)
- 3:30–3:55: *Contextualizing reversal: Sociohistorical dynamics and the Northern Cities Shift in a Chicago neighborhood* (D'Onofrio and Benheim)

1　　　Lunch provided for PhD students
2　　　This is a brown bag event
3　　　Best student abstract award winner

List of Posters

A. Varieties of English

1. *Six Views of New England: Mapping Perceptions of New England Speech* (Chartier and Jones)
2. *Dialect property surveys: Marking features and making meaning in Newfoundland English* (Van Herk)
3. *Contemporary Appalachian English: Change from outside and within* (Childs and Hasty)
4. *The differences between and within BEG and BAG: Phonological, morphological, and lexical effects in prevelar raising* (Stanley)
5. *Pre-velar raising and categorization in Nevada* (Gunter, Clayton and Fridland)
6. *(Sub-)Urbanization, Local Identities, and Linguistic Behavior: Mapping /ai/ Variation Across Houston* (Jeon and Niedzielski)
7. *Revisiting t/d-deletion: New insights from the North-East of England* (Woolford)
8. *Policing Variation: Using the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Forensic Database to Examine Sociophonetic Variation in Canada* (De Decker)

B. Phonological Change

1. *Why some New Zealand vowels seem to be lowering* (Ross, Arnold, Ballard, Charters and Watson)
2. *4,000 flaps in Blackburn, Lancashire: Rule generalisation, competing variants and old men as the leaders of linguistic change* (Turton)
3. *The holy/holey distinction in Received Pronunciation English: morpho-phonological evidence for a change in progress* (Halfacre)
4. *Does phonetic reversal lead to phonological reversal?* (Sneller and Labov)

C. Style

1. *Stylistic variation in eliciting controlled but spontaneous speech* (Boyd and Hall-Lew)
2. *Stylistically Vowel-Rounding in Bahrain via sect, social class, and "chicken nuggets"* (Sokhey)
3. *Lexical variation and inverted style-shifting: 'Doing' Cornishness in careful speech styles* (Sandow)

D. Methods

1. *Computational sociolinguistics: methodological innovations in exploring conceptual variation and change* (Mehl, Fitzmaurice, Alexander, Hine, Dallachy and Robinson)
2. *Deep Learning and Sociophonetics: Automatic Coding of Rhoticity Using Neural Networks* (Gupta, DiPadova and Stanford)
3. *Lexical Racialization Examined through Machine Learning* (Wright)
4. *Input estimation as a predictor of phonetic variation* (Miatto, Hamann and Boersma)
5. *An ultrasound-tongue-imaging study of rhoticity in a socially-stratified spontaneous speech corpus of Scottish English* (Lawson)
6. *Studying variation and change at the articulatory level using ultrasound* (Kwon)
7. *Centralizing Individual Variation: "Relative Fluency" as a Measurement in Heritage-Speaker Speech Rate Analysis* (Stevens and Vicario)
8. *New methods to study the social meaning of language variation: exploring the potential of the Relational Responding Task* (Rosseel, Speelman and Geeraerts)

E. Perception

1. *Habitual pitch, political affiliation, and the perception of female politicians' voices* (Davidson)
2. *Developing different patterns of social evaluation in the speech community* (Melo and Gomes)
3. *Can exposure to culturally specific stuffed toys induce perceptual bias in Australian listeners?* (Walker, Szakay and Cox)
4. *What's in a Name?* (Jannedy and Weirich)
5. *Investigating ideological street renaming in Eastern Germany and Poland* (Buchstaller, Alvanides, Fabiszak, Brzezinska and Griese)
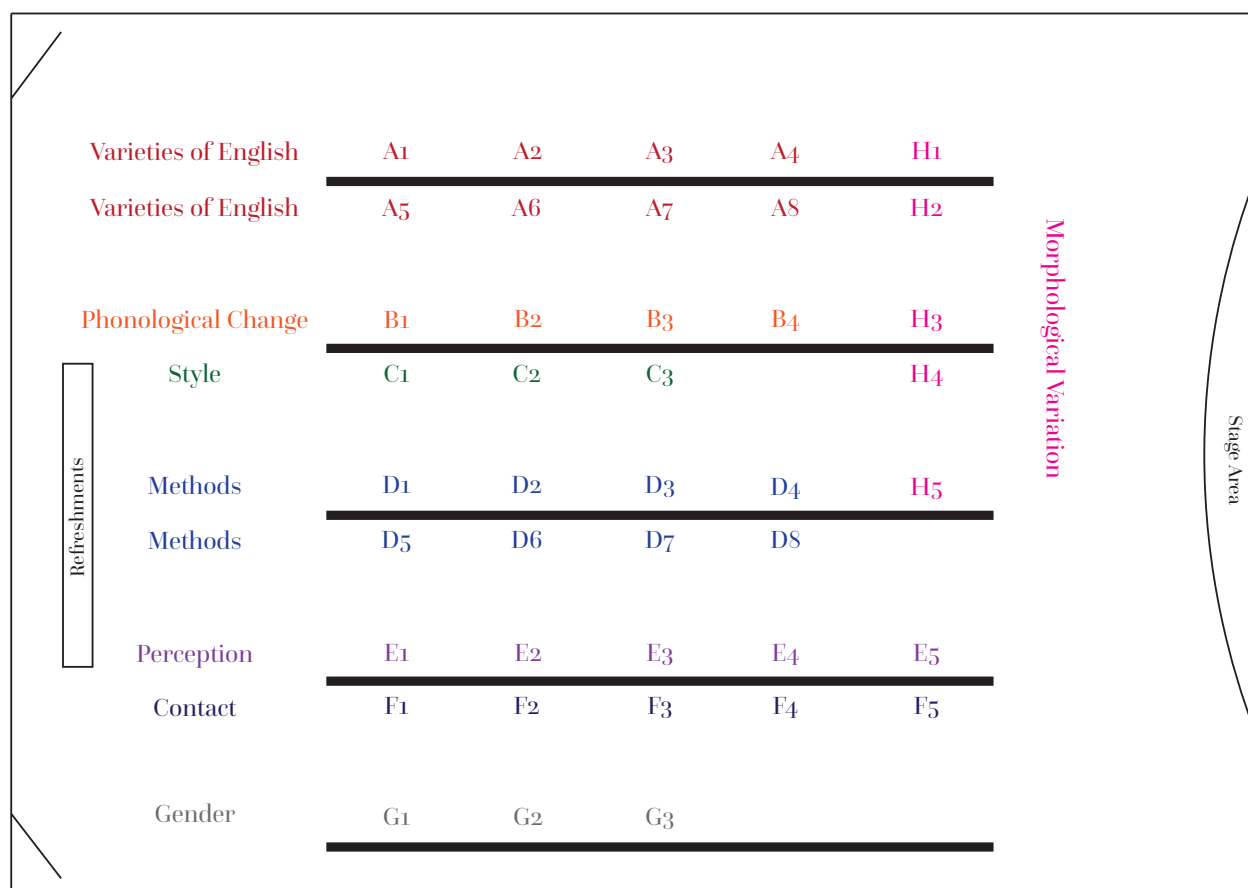
F. Contact

1. *When a new pronoun crosses the border: The spread of a gente along the Brazilian-Uruguayan frontier* (Pacheco, Carvalho and Pereira Scherre)
2. *Phonological maintenance in heritage Veneto /r/ spoken in the town of Santa Teresa, Brazil* (Loriato)
3. *Generational Effects for the Intonation of Nuclear Configuration in Palenquero and Vernacular Spanish Declaratives* (Lopez-Barrios)
4. *A language contact account of (ING) in New Mexico* (Jones and Koops)
5. *Sounding like a na[ʔ]ive: the acquisition of glottal replacement by Polish adolescents in Glasgow* (Ryan)

G. Gender

1. *Computational linguistic analysis of dehumanization of LGBTQ groups in the media* (Mendelsohn)
2. *Reverse Engineering the LGBTQ+ Voice: Utilizing Prototype Theory to Construct Linguistic Stereotypes of Sexual Identity* (Conner)
3. *"I am not that I play" – Linguistic variation as a marker of gender in Shakespeare's cross dressing plays* (Birchfield)

H. Morphological Variation

1. *The analysis of awesomeØ: Rule-governed nonstandardness at the edge of the grammar* (Brook and Blamire)
2. *Clock-time expressions: A case of coincident, broadly cross-linguistic shift* (Melnick)
3. *I'll tell you, this study is going to explore future temporal reference in Cape Breton* (Gardner)
4. *The effects of media exposure on regional association: A case study of Mandarin aspectual you* (Peng)
5. *Two Discourse Markers in Argentinean Internet/Youth Language* (Valentinsson)

Varieties of English	A1	A2	A3	A4	H1	
Varieties of English	A5	A6	A7	A8	H2	
Phonological Change	B1	B2	B3	B4	H3	
Style	C1	C2	C3		H4	
Methods	D1	D2	D3	D4	H5	
Methods	D5	D6	D7	D8		
Perception	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	
Contact	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	
Gender	G1	G2	G3			

Refreshments

Morphological Variation

Stage Area

Spanish in Colombia and New York City

Language contact meets dialectal convergence

Rafael Orozco
Louisiana State University

This volume fills a void in language variation and change research. It is the first to provide an empirical, comparative study of Spanish in Colombia and New York City. Remarkable similarities in the linguistic conditioning on language variation in both communities contrast with interesting differences in the effects of social predictors. The book provides a window into the effects of language and dialect contact on change and serves as a model for studies comparing diasporic populations to their home speech communities.

Table of contents

"Rafael Orozco's outstanding study of multiple sociolinguistic variables in Colombian Spanish in New York and Barranquilla is an important contribution to our understanding of language and dialect contact. Of particular interest is his finding that the Spanish of Colombians in New York is influenced not only by contact with English, but also by contact with Puerto Rican Spanish. This rigorous study has great relevance not only for students of Spanish, but for all who wish to understand the multiple influences that condition language variation and change in immigrant communities."

Robert Bayley, *University of California, Davis*

"Spanish in Colombia and New York City is a meticulously-designed volume examining language variation and change through variationist analyses of the future, the possessive, and pronominal expression. The findings provide evidence to support the theory of interdialectal parallelism, as the same linguistic factors condition language variation in both Colombia and New York City. The language contact situation of Colombian speakers in New York shows an interesting dynamic of dialectal convergence. Specialists and students in sociolinguistics will greatly benefit from this extraordinary and most needed book, where the author illustrates how to perform comparative analyses employing the most up-to-date methods in the field."

Manuel Díaz-Campos, *Indiana University, Bloomington*

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Saturday's Schedule

	8:00 am - 8:50 am Breakfast Served (NYU Linguistics)			
	9:00 am - 10:40 am Session: *Socially Mediated Perception* (Silver 405)	9:00 am - 10:40 am Session: *Mergers & Chain Shifts* (Silver 408)	9:00 am - 10:40 am Session: *Gender & Intonation* (Silver 411)	9:00 am - 10:40 am Session: *Dialect Contact* (Silver 401)
8:00 am - 3:55 pm Book Display (Silver 410)	10:40 am - 11:00 am Coffee Break (Silver 410)			
	11:00 am - 12:40 pm Session: *Borrowing & Code-Switching* (Silver 405)	11:00 am - 12:40 pm Session: *Ethnolects* (Silver 408)	11:00 am - 12:40 pm Session: *Sssibilantsss* (Silver 411)	11:00 am - 12:40 pm Session: *Identity Performance* (Silver 401)
	12:40 pm - 2:15 pm Lunch Break (including *COSWL Pop-Up Mentoring*) 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm Workshop: *Going Viral: Shopping sociolinguistic research...* (Silver 207)			
	2:15 pm - 3:55 pm **Session Sponsored by ADS** (Silver 405)	2:15 pm - 3:55 pm Session: *Perceptual Evaluation* (Silver 408)	2:15 pm - 3:55 pm Session: *Sounds in Contact* (Silver 411)	2:15 pm - 3:55 pm Session: *Theorizing Social Factors* (Silver 401)
	3:55 pm - 4:15 pm Coffee Break (Silver 410)			
	4:15 pm - 5:05 pm Session: *Institutions & AAE* (Silver 405)	4:15 pm - 5:05 pm Session: *Prosody & Social Meaning* (Silver 408)	4:15 pm - 5:05 pm Session: *Variation in ASL* (Silver 411)	4:15 pm - 5:05 pm Session: *Twitter/CMC* (Silver 401)
	5:15 pm - 6:30 pm John R. Rickford's Plenary: *Class and Race in the Analysis of Language Variation and the Struggle for Social Justice: Sankofa* (Kimmel Center 4th Floor, Eisner & Lubin Auditorium)			
	8:30 pm - 10:30 pm Party (Kimmel Center 10th Floor, Rosenthal Pavilion)			

Saturday Talks by Session

Session: Socially Mediated Perception (Silver 405, Chair: Tyler Kendall) *ASL interpretation will be provided.
- 9:00–9:25: *Variant expectations: Genre and enregisterment in experimental context* (Squires)
- 9:25–9:50: *Is there an influence of race on evaluations of writers who produce typographical errors?* (Weissler, Boland, Derricks, Queen and Sekaquaptewa)
- 9:50–10:15: *The effect of style-shifting on speech perception* (Walker, van Hell and Bowers)

Session: Mergers & Chain Shifts (Silver 408, Chair: Maciej Baranowski)
- 9:00–9:25: *The GOAT-THOUGHT Merger in Tyneside English: Evidence from static and dynamic data* (Warburton)
- 9:25–9:50: *It's a TRAP!: The trigger for the Elsewhere Shift in Lansing, Michigan* (Mason)
- 9:50–10:15: *What Do We Mean by Structure?: Mobile Speakers and the (Non-)Coherence of Chain Shifts* (Nycz)
- 10:15–10:40: *S[a]rry not s[ɔ]rry: (OR) in Toronto English* (Walker and Hoffman)

Session: Gender & Intonation (Silver 411, Chair: Erez Levon)
- 9:00–9:25: *Full Tone to Sound Feminine: Analyzing the role of tonal variants in identity construction* (Gao)
- 9:25–9:50: *Gender stereotypes affect the perception of tone and pitch* (Lai)
- 9:50–10:15: *Mean pitch and style: A focus on three individuals in Hawai'i* (Kirtley and Drager)
- 10:15–10:40: *Pitch, affect and gender: the interaction of social and physiological factors in the speech of non-binary individuals* (Jas)

Session: Dialect Contact (Silver 401, Chair: Jim Stanford)
- 9:00–9:25: *Partial /ai/-Raising as a Contact Phenomenon* (Kodner and Richter)
- 9:25–9:50: *Social Change and /s/ Variation in Concepción, Chile and Lima, Peru: The Role of Dialect and Sociolectal Contact* (Rogers and Klee)
- 9:50–10:15: *Multiple Negation in Latino English(es)* (Callahan and Thomas)
- 10:15–10:40: *Contrasting Age of Arrival and Length of Residence in Dialect Contact* (Oushiro)

Session: Borrowing & Code-Switching (Silver 405, Chair: Ana Maria Carvalho)
- 11:00–11:25: *Applying the Prosodic Sentence to the study of code-switching* (Steuck)
- 11:25–11:50: *Determining the language of the determiner in bilingual "mixed DPs"* (Torres Cacoullos, Lacasse, Dion and Poplack)
- 11:50–12:15: *The Ease of Codeswitching: Testing processing cost through the prosodic structure of bilingual speech* (Johns and Steuck)
- 12:15–12:40: *The rarer gender: Factors contributing to feminine determiners with lone-English origin nouns in Spanish discourse* (Trawick and Bero)

Session: Ethnolects (Silver 408, Chair: Naomi Nagy)
- 11:00–11:25: *Multiethnolect moves a round u in style* (Young)
- 11:25–11:50: *Sociolinguistic variables, integration and identity markers among Filipino Winnipeggers* (Li, Rosen and Tran)
- 11:50–12:15: *Definite change taking place: Determiner realization in multiethnic communities in New Zealand* (Meyerhoff, Ballard, Birchfield, Charters and Watson)
- 12:15–12:40: *Allophones of /æ/ in four ethnic groups of Vancouver, BC* (Presnyakova, Pappas and Umbal)

Session: Sssibilantsss (Silver 411, Chair: Danny Erker)
- 11:00–11:25: *Variation in /s/-fronting in a diverse sample of speakers for sex/gender/sexuality* (Becker and Stoddard)
- 11:25–11:50: *Dialectal and social factors affect the phonetic bases of English /s/-retraction* (Stuart-Smith, Sonderegger, Macdonald, McAuliffe and Mielke)
- 11:50–12:15: *Back to Bins- a mixed-methods reevaluation of categorization in sociophonetics* (Ahlers)
- 12:15–12:40: *Revisiting the importance of gradient analyses: /s/ in the Dominican diaspora* (Dixon)

Session: Identity Performance (Silver 401, Chair: Uri Horesh) *ASL interpretation will be provided.
- 11:00–11:25: *Expecting a performance: Listener expectations and social meanings in Tweets* (Leigh)
- 11:25–11:50: *Script Variations on Tunisian Amazigh Facebook: Semiotic practices for the construction of a group identity* (Bahri)

- 11:50–12:15: *Hadi Hiya Lughat ɑz-Zənqɑ A [Xtʃi]: Phonetic Correlates of Street-Conscious Style in Moroccan Rap* (Schwartz)
- 12:15–12:40: *Crossing and its discontents: A corpus-based analysis of metalinguistic discourse surrounding Spanish used by non-Latinx rappers* (Garley)

Lunch Event: COSWL Pop-Up Mentoring Program[1]
Workshop: Going Viral: Shopping sociolinguistic research to the media and to the community (Poplack, Dion, Robillard, and Roussel)[2] (Silver 207)

ADS Sponsored Session (Silver 405, Chair: Kirk Hazen)
- 2:15–2:40: *Southcentral Alaska English: Developing a baseline for further study* (Bowie)
- 2:40–3:05: *Lateral production in Liberal, Kansas: Minority alignment to the new majority* (Garcia and Kohn)
- 3:05–3:30: *Regionality and Final Fricative Deletion in African American Language* (Farrington)
- 3:30–3:55: *Prosodic variation and rootedness in Appalachian English* (Reed)

Session: Perceptual Evaluation (Silver 408, Chair: Valerie Fridland)
- 2:15–2:40: *Do grammatical and phonetic variables interact in perception?* (Beline Mendes)
- 2:40–3:05: *The social meaning of a merger: Evidence from a matched-guise experiment in two speech communities* (Regan)
- 3:05–3:30: *Style and attitude: The social evaluation of the BET vowel* (Savage and Mason)
- 3:30–3:55: *Acoustic correlates of perceived Southernness ratings* (Gunter, Vaughn and Kendall)

Session: Sounds in Contact (Silver 411, Chair: Carol Klee)
- 2:15–2:40: *Minorities in the lead? Puerto Rican adoption of Philadelphia sound changes in-progress* (Berry)
- 2:40–3:05: *Interracial conflict as a source of feature borrowing* (Sneller)
- 3:05–3:30: *The roles of linguistic transfer, education, and identity in the Hebrew of bilingual Palestinians* (Horesh and Gafter)
- 3:30–3:55: *Language attitudes as predictors of phonological variation among local and expatriate children in Singapore* (Starr)

Session: Theorizing Social Factors (Silver 401, Chair: Tracey Weldon) *ASL interpretation will be provided.
- 2:15–2:40: *Disambiguating and denaturalizing the voice in sociolinguistics and on Catfish: Toward better theory and practice surrounding the phonetics of sex and gender* (Zimman)
- 2:40–3:05: *What's age got to do with it? Problematizing the temporal dimension for linguistic explanation* (D'Arcy and Tagliamonte)
- 3:05–3:30: *Doing raciolinguistics in Brazil: Challenges and possibilities* (Brito)
- 3:30–3:55: *Locating speakers in the socioeconomic hierarchy: towards the optimal indicators of social class* (Baranowski and Turton)

Session: Institutions & AAE (Silver 405, Chair: Sonja Lanehart)
- 4:15–4:40: *Producing a fragmented narrative: AAVE and the dynamics of courtroom interaction in the Zimmerman trial* (Angermeyer)
- 4:40–5:05: *When More Means Less: American Attitudes toward Learning Two Language Varieties* (Sweetland)

Session: Prosody & Social Meaning (Silver 408, Chair: Nicole Holliday)
- 4:15–4:40: *"Slooow talkin' Southerners": Intonation and speech rate in the perception of regional American English* (Holman)
- 4:40–5:05: *Rhythm and the embodiment of physical practices* (Esposito and Gratton)

Session: Variation in ASL (Silver 411, Chair: Ceil Lucas) *ASL interpretation will be provided.
- 4:15–4:40: *Documenting Individual Variation in ASL (DIVA)* (Occhino and Hill)
- 4:40–5:05: *Weak hand variation in Philadelphia ASL: A pilot study* (Tamminga, Fisher and Hochgesang)

Session: Twitter/CMC (Silver 401, Chair: Jack Grieve)
- 4:15–4:40: *Localising morphosyntactic variation in Welsh Twitter data* (Willis, Gopal, Blaxter and Leemann)
- 4:40–5:05: *"What's the 'uh' for?": Pragmatic specialization of uh and um in instant messaging* (Gadanidis)

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1   For more information, see < https://www.linguisticsociety.org/content/coswl-pop-mentoring-program>
2   This is a brown bag event

Saturday Workshop Abstract

Going Viral: Shopping sociolinguistic research to the media and to the community

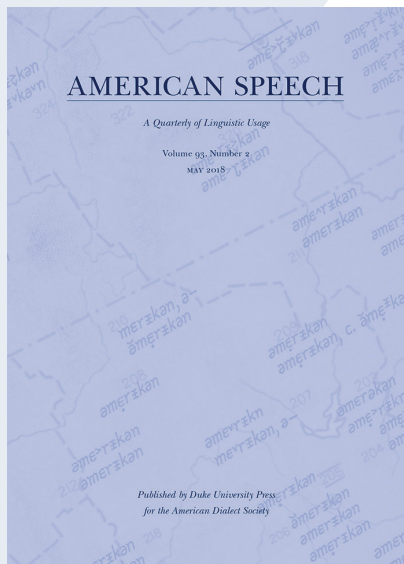*Shana Poplack, Nathalie Dion, Suzanne Robillard and Basile Roussel*
University of Ottawa (Sociolinguistics Lab)

Though Canada is an officially bilingual country, the language "problem" remains recalcitrant. Its poster child is lexical borrowing, especially from English into French, giving rise to the dreaded anglicismes, widely held to lead to the deterioration, if not death, of the recipient language. No surprise then that we at the uOttawa Sociolinguistics Lab have devoted decades to studying various facets of this issue, with a particular focus on the effects of language mixing on the grammars of the languages in contact. The results of a recently published synthesis of this work (Poplack, Borrowing: loanwords in the speech community and in the grammar; OUP 2018), were diffused by the University of Ottawa via a targeted media campaign, which in turn triggered intense interest from journalists. This led to a front-page story in the Globe and Mail (the Canadian NYT), a CBC News write-up (shared 2700 times), and radio and television interviews broadcast on 22 stations, including BBC World Service and Radio-Canada International. A university-produced video garnered over 2000 YouTube views. For us, and likely for many other sociolinguists, this has been one of the all-too rare occasions where the (rather technical) results of variationist sociolinguistic research have really hit a nerve with the public.

Headlines, like "Sociolinguistique: le franglais et le chiac 'sauvés par la science'", "English invasions of French short-lived, linguist finds" and "Le franglais ne menacerait pas le français", were uniformly positive. But the public response, expressed via Facebook posts and shares, (re)tweets, Reddit threads and blog posts, was deeply polarized. In this session, we wanted to share our experience of engaging with the media and the public, in the hopes of sparking a discussion on the role (and responsibility) of the sociolinguist in public discourse. We propose to first give a brief overview of the actual sociolinguistic findings, then show how these were distilled by the media for popular consumption, and discuss how they were subsequently interpreted by stakeholders.

For example, ongoing content analysis of the nearly 4000 responses we have tracked to date reveals a significant difference in propensity to accept the message (that (lexical borrowings adopt the grammatical structure of the recipient language, and as such do not alter it) which closely mirrors the sociopolitical divide between Francophones and Anglophones prevailing in Canada. Responses written in English are nearly twice as likely to be positive as those written in French (the minority language), while nearly 2/3 of the latter explicitly dismiss the results, which remarkably, are interpreted to mean exactly the opposite of what was found. We review the sociopolitical factors that led to the perception that these linguistic findings were newsworthy in the first place, illustrate how individual allegiances color the interpretation of scientific results, and explore whether -- and how! -- sociolinguists can mediate among competing interpretations of their work.
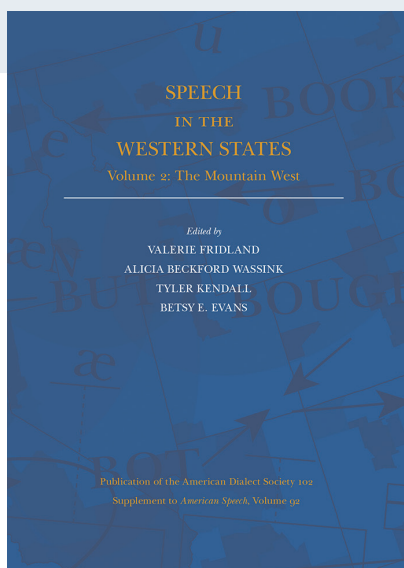
Saturday Plenary: John R. Rickford

Class and Race in the Analysis of Language Variation and the Struggle for Social Justice: *Sankofa*

Sankofa (<Twi san 'return,' ko 'go,' fa 'fetch') literally means "Go back and get it," or figuratively, "Look back to go forward." It is useful at this point in the study of socolinguistic variation to recall two aspects of our early history that are worth re-emphasizing: the relevance of social class and race, and the importance of social application. For instance, three of the most influential community studies of the 1960's--Labov et al (1968) in Harlem, and Shuy, Wolfram and Riley (1967) and Wolfram (1969) in Detroit--focused on class, race and language and were funded by the US Office of Education with the goal of improving the teaching of inner-city students.

To help us go forward, in this talk I will look back at 50+ years of research to address our theoretical understandings of the roles of race and class in sociolinguistic variation, and our applied efforts to curtail the discrimination and injustice experienced by African American and other vernacular speakers in schools, police interactions and the courts.

On the theoretical/analytical side, social class/socioeconomic status was at the heart of the genesis of quantitative sociolinguistics in the 1960s, but it has been pursued with less frequency and conviction since then. However, class does remain very relevant to sociolinguistic variation, and recent models of social class variation in sociology offer new strategies for analyzing it in language variation. How class and race shape sociolinguistic variation as they do needs further theorizing and explanation, I think, as is the question of why race often trumps class as the basis of socio-political action and speech alignment in the US.

On the applied/activist side, we have only recently begun to document the extent to which speakers of African American Vernacular English [AAVE] are discriminated against in US courtrooms because of jurors' unfamiliarity with and prejudice against their dialect. Rickford and King (2016) argue, for instance, that the vital courtroom testimony of Rachel Jeantel in the 2013 Florida trial of George Zimmerman for the murder of Trayvon Martin was neither understood nor believed, partly because it was delivered in AAVE. (Jeantel will read two of her poems before my talk.) Jones et al (2018) provide compelling experimental evidence that US court reporters simply do not understand AAVE speakers well enough. Other cases from the US, UK and Caribbean suggest that this is part of a more general problem, exacerbated when the speaker is poor or a person of color. And Voigt et al (2016) demonstrate that race is the salient basis of the relative respect shown (through language) to motorists stopped by Oakland police officers, regardless of officer ethnicity. Finally, re-segregation is increasing in the US since court-ordered efforts against it have been relaxed, with dire consequences for literacy education, job prospects, and unjust incarceration among Black and Brown vernacular speakers. There are encouraging examples of relatively new initiatives making a positive difference (e.g. Harambee youth employment accelerator in S. Africa, The Brotherhood Sister Sol in NYC). How sociolinguists can contribute to these initiatives and innovate new ones of our own is worth considering. We owe it to the communities that have fueled the development of our subfield.

References

Jones, Taylor, Jessica Kalbfeld, Ryan Hancock, and Robin Clark. 2018. Testifying while Black: An experimental study of court reporter accuracy in transcription of African American English. Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania. Presented at the January meeting of the Linguistics Society of New York. Under review.

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Shuy, Roger, Walter A. Wolfram, and William K. Riley. 1967. *Linguistic Correlates of Social Stratification in Detroit Speech*. Final Report, Cooperative Research Project No. 6-1347, United States Office of Education.

Voight, Rob, Nicholas P. Camp, Vinodkumar Prabhakaran, William L. Hamilton, Rebecca C. Hetey, Camilla M. Griffiths, David Jurgens, Dan Jurafsky and Jennifer Eberhardt. (June) 2017. Language from police body camera footage shows racial disparities in officer respect. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* [PNAS]

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John R. Rickford (PhD, U. of Pennsylvania, 1979) is Professor of Linguistics, J.E. Wallace Sterling Professor of the Humanities, and Bass University Fellow of Undergraduate Education at Stanford University, where he has taught since 1980. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2017. His research interests include sociolinguistic variation and change, ethnicity, social class and style; pidgins and creoles; African American Vernacular English [AAVE]; and activist sociolinguistics--the application of variation studies to the understanding and solution of educational, legal and other challenges facing AAVE and other vernacular speakers, including the achievement of versatility in reading and writing and the reduction/elimination of injustice in interactions with police and appearances in court.

John is the author of numerous scholarly articles, and author or editor of over a dozen books, including *Dimensions of a Creole Continuum*, *African American Vernacular English*, *Spoken Soul* (co-authored with Russell J. Rickford and winner of an American Book Award), *Style and Sociolinguistic Variation* (co-edited with Penny Eckert), *Raciolinguistics* (co-edited with H Samy Alim and Arnetha Ball) and *Variation, Versatility and Change in Sociolinguistics and Creole Studies* (in press).

Former President of the Linguistic Society of America, the Society for Pidgin-Creole Linguistics, and the Society for Caribbean Linguistics, John also served as Chair of the Stanford Faculty Senate and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Guyana. Other honors and awards include the Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching and a Bing Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching at Stanford, the Linguistics Society of America's Language and the Public Interest Award, and the Anthropology Association of America's Anthropology and the Media Award.

John is married to Angela E. Rickford, Professor of Education at San Jose State University. They have four children and six grand-children. For further information, see www.johnrickford.com

Sunday's Schedule

8:30 am - 1:10 pm Book Display (Silver 410)	8:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast Served NWAV Business Meeting (NYU Linguistics)			
	9:30 am - 11:10 am Session: *I <3 NY* (Silver 405)	9:30 am - 11:10 am Session: *French Morphosyn-tax & Discourse* (Silver 408)	9:30 am - 11:10 am Session: *Subject Pronoun Expression* (Silver 411)	9:30 am - 11:10 am Session: *Sounds in Contact* (Silver 401)
	11:10 am - 11:30 am Coffee Break (Silver 410)			
	11:30 am - 1:10 pm Session: *Gender & Sexuality* (Silver 405)	11:30 am - 1:10 pm Session: *Contact Languages* (Silver 408)	11:30 am - 1:10 pm Session: *Style* (Silver 411)	11:30 am - 1:10 pm Session: *Variation in L2* (Silver 401)
	2:30 pm - 4:30 pm NYC *Fourth Floor* Walking Tour (NYU Linguistics)			

Session: I <3 NY (Silver 405, Chair: John Singler) *ASL interpretation will be provided.
- 9:30–9:55: *Mapping Emerging Words in New York City* (Grieve)
- 9:55–10:20: *Computer simulations of the future of Spanish in NYC: The wall vs. high immigration* (Adli and Hemmer)
- 10:20–10:45: *Phonetic contrast in New York Hasidic Yiddish peripheral vowels* (Nove)
- 10:45–11:10: *Systemic change and parent first-dialect effects in NYC English short-a variation* (Haddican, Tortora, Newman, Cutler, Diertani, Eldridge, Lagreca and Tan)

Session: French Morphosyntax & Discourse (Silver 408, Chair: Gillian Sankoff)
- 9:30–9:55: *Connecting panel and trend studies: a cross-variety comparison of consequence markers in French* (Blondeau, Mougeon and Tremblay)
- 9:55–10:20: *Observing variation and change in Ontario French through speaker identity* (Bigot and Papen)
- 10:20–10:45: *Il s'adapte –tu ou est-ce qu'il reste constant? : Style and Yes-No questions in careful Québec French* (Villeneuve)
- 10:45–11:10: *Subject Relative Clauses and the Actuation Problem in Acadian French* (Comeau and King)

Sunday Talks by Session

Session: Subject Pronoun Expression (Silver 411, Chair: Gregory Guy)
- 9:30–9:55: *Sociolinguistics as a powerful tool to follow the course of a parametric change* (Duarte)
- 9:55–10:20: *Redefining 'Simplification': An Analysis of Third Person Subject Pronoun Expression in Mosquito Coast Spanish* (Critchfield)
- 10:20–10:45: *Assimilation and Acquisition Failure – A Comparative Variationist test of two hypotheses about U.S. Spanish* (Erker)
- 10:45–11:10: *The role of cognitive constraints in language variation: The relationship between working memory and subject expression variation in Spanish* (Zahler)

Session: Sounds in Contact (Silver 401, Chair: Roey Gafter)
- 9:30–9:55: *Coronal palatalization in the Greek of Greek-Canadians* (Pappas, Papazachariou, Presnyakova and Tsolakidis)
- 9:55–10:20: *Internal vs. contact-induced variability: Phonetic but not phonological fidelity in Heritage Italian VOT* (Nagy, Nodari and Celata)
- 10:20–10:45: *VOT of French-English bilinguals in Saint-Boniface, Canada* (Rosen and Bérubé)
- 10:45–11:10: *The vowels in 'pig' vs. 'tofu': A contact-induced merger in Toronto Heritage Cantonese?* (Tse)

Session: Gender & Sexuality (Silver 405, Chair: Sophie Holmes-Elliott) *ASL interpretation will be provided.
- 11:30–11:55: *Misgendering Is Related to Attitudes about Transgender Identities* (Conrod)
- 11:55–12:20: *Lexical change as sociopolitical change in talk about transgender bodies: New methods for the corpus analysis of internet data* (Zimman and Hayworth)
- 12:20–12:45: *Listeners' social attributes influence sensitivity to coarticulation in the perception of sibilants in nonce words* (Phillips and Resnick)[1]
- 12:45–1:10: *The Role of Social Expectation in the Perception of Gay Speech* (Bouavichith)

Session: Contact Languages (Silver 408, Chair: Michol Hoffman)
- 11:30–11:55: *Birth of a contact language did not favour simplification* (Meakins, Hua and Bromham)
- 11:55–12:20: *Vowel system or vowel systems? Variation in the monophthongs of Philippine Hybrid Hokkien* (Gonzales and Starr)
- 12:20–12:45: *New methods for measuring coherence: A case study from northern Australia* (Hua, Meakins, Algy and Bromham)
- 12:45–1:10: *Stance, Style and the Creole Continuum: Stylistic variation in the Bahamian copula system* (Laube)

Session: Style (Silver 411, Chair: Lauren Hall-Lew)
- 11:30–11:55: *Stance, style, and semantics: Operationalizing insights from semantic-pragmatics to account for linguistic variation* (Gadanidis, Hildebrand-Edgar, Kiss, Konnelly, Pabst, Schlegl, Umbal and Tagliamonte)
- 11:55–12:20: *English Clicks: Individual Variation in Speech Preparation and Stance Display* (Pillion)
- 12:20–12:45: *The Use of Implosive Consonants in Obama's Style Shifts* (Husain)
- 12:45–1:10: *The social meaning of stylistic variability: Sociophonetic (in)variance in presidential candidates' campaign rallies* (D'Onofrio and Stecker)

Session: Variation in L2 (Silver 401, Chair: Daniel Schreier)
- 11:30–11:55: *Acquiring sociolinguistic competence in a new language: A mixed methods study of Roma migrants in Manchester* (Howley)
- 11:55–12:20: *Subject doubling in advanced and near-native speakers of French* (Black)
- 12:20–12:45: *Acquisition of Variation in L2 Hebrew: Stylistic Constrains on Intervocalic Glottal Stop Deletion* (Wyschogrod)
- 12:45–1:10: *"It's an American symbol!": Non-native speakers' take on remarkable LIKE* (Zaykovskaya)

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1   Best student abstract award winner

Best Student Abstract Award Winners

Kayla Palakurthy is a PhD candidate in the Department of Linguistics at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She received a BA in Linguistics and Russian from Dartmouth College and a MA in Linguistics from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is primarily interested in language documentation and revitalization, and her research focuses on linguistic variation and language contact. Her dissertation on synchronic variation in Diné bizaad (Navajo) — a Southern Dene/Athabaskan language spoken in the American Southwest — documents three variable features in the speech of bilingual Diné bizaad-English speakers and analyzes the linguistic and social factors that condition the variation. In her work, supported by the National Science Foundation's Documenting Endangered Languages Program, she combines approaches from the fields of language documentation, language contact, and variationist sociolinguistics in order to understand the diverse ways in which speakers continue to adapt and maintain the Diné language at a time of significant sociolinguistic change.

Jacob B. Phillips is a PhD candidate in linguistics at the University of Chicago working on language variation and change. Much of his recent research, including his dissertation work, focuses on sibilant variation and /s/-retraction in particular, a sound change in progress in American English where /s/ is pronounced approaching /sh/ in /str/ clusters. He investigates this phenomenon from a variety of different theoretical and methodological approaches to better understand the factors contributing to the actuation and propagation of sound change.

Paige Resnick is a third year undergraduate at the University of Chicago persuing a bachelor's degree in linguistics. She contributes to research focusing in sibilant variation and s-retraction, with the objective of discerning and comprehending the motivation and social meaning of sound change. She plans to conduct her own research in socio-phonetics for her future BA thesis.

Student Travel Award Winners

Dom Bouavichith is a fourth-year PhD student at the University of Michigan, where he studies linguistics. His interests lie in sociophonetic perception and production, especially with regards to gender and sexuality. Before joining the UM Linguistics Department, he completed a BA in Linguistics and French and an MA in French Studies, both at New York University. Dom is originally from Minnesota, and he spends too much time he doesn't have cooking new things and catching up on television.

Fiona Dixon is a fifth year PhD student in Hispanic sociolinguistics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. As she is Jamaican in origin, her main interests in identity negotiation, diaspora communities and dialect contact have been motivated by her own immigrant experiences. Going forward, she plans to continue working with Spanish socio-phonetics and phonology and is interested in participating in projects on creole studies.

Wilkinson Daniel Wong GONZALES is a PhD student at the University of Michigan pursuing a degree in Linguistics. He works on language contact, language documentation, world Englishes, corpus linguistics, (variationist) sociolinguistics, as well as diaspora sociohistory. Specifically, he is interested in languages used by the Chinese Filipino community, such as Philippine Chinese English (PCE), Philippine Hybrid Hokkien (PHH) and/or Hokaglish codeswitching. He also works on Colloquial Singapore English (Singlish), generally investigating topics related to these varieties and their users.

Student Travel Award Winners

Caitlin Halfacre grew up in various little villages near Canterbury, South-East England. After a brief experiment with a Chemistry degree in London, she did a Linguistics BA at Newcastle University. She has just finished an MA and started a PhD at Newcastle with Dr. Danielle Turton and Dr. Ghada Khattab, funded by an ESRC 1+3 studentship. At Newcastle she's part of the Variation Lab and the Phonetics and Phonology Research Group, and runs the web admin and social media for the latter. Her research interests include the non-regional nature of RP (probably inspired by 5 years at boarding school), sociolinguistic variation, language change, phonetics, and phonology.

Monica Nesbitt is a PhD candidate in the Department of Linguistics and Languages at Michigan State University. She received a BA in English from Boise State University and a MA in Linguistics from the University of Texas, Arlington. Much of her current research utilizes ethnographic and psycholinguistic methods to investigate variation and change of phonological representations. Her dissertation investigates the linguistic/internal and social/external mechanisms by which two new phonological changes to TRAP – its reorganization from a raised NCS to a nasal system, and its shift from the tense to lax vowel class – have originated and are propagated in the Inland North community of Lansing, Michigan.

Irina Presnyakova grew up in a small mining village in the Far North East of Russia. Her career in academia started with an undergraduate degree in language teaching and MA in Linguistics from Russia and continued at Marshall University (WV, U.S.) where she was brought by a Fulbright grant. Irina has been working with Dr. Panayiotis Pappas at the Linguistics department at Simon Fraser University (B.C., Canada) since 2015 to investigate to what extent speakers with different ethnic backgrounds (Chinese, South Asian and Filipino) participate in the ongoing changes in Canadian English in Metro Vancouver area.

Student Travel Award Winners

Minnie Quartey is a sociolinguistics doctoral candidate at Georgetown University, and her dissertation explores how speakers of African American Language construct multifaceted local identities through storytelling as well as analyzes vowel centralization in the Washington, DC area. She serves as project coordinator for the Language and Communication in Washington, DC project (LCDC), and her research has been featured on the front page of the Washington Post, and she has been a guest on NPR. In addition to studying identity construction, Quartey also has an interest in linguistic diversity and awareness and its effects in the classroom and the boardroom. She has conducted workshops for private corporations, service organizations, and various student groups at Georgetown University. Additionally, Quartey studies language and gender and language in the workplace.

Navdeep Sokhey is a PhD student of Arabic sociolinguistics at The University of Texas at Austin. She has previously worked on palatalization (namely of the alveolar nasal) & the construction of gendered identities in Cairene Arabic, which resulted in her master's thesis. Expanding on her interests in identity construction, Navdeep is currently researching communal identity formation within the dialects of Bahrain. Navdeep was recently awarded a year-long Fulbright Student Research Grant for completing her dissertation fieldwork (2017-18) in Bahrain. She was a Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA) and Fulbright fellow at the American University in Cairo, Egypt in 2012-13, and has also spent time living and observing Arabic dialects in Jordan. Navdeep's research interests further include linguistic anthropology, the sociolinguistics of performance, youth culture & slangs, and teaching Arabic as a foreign language.

Pocholo Umbal is a PhD student in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Toronto. His main research interest lies in language variation and change in Canadian English as well as in heritage Tagalog. He is particularly interested in the construction of ethnic identities in multicultural settings, and how that relates to phonetic variation. His current projects focus on phonetic variation in the English spoken by various heritage groups in Canada (with particular focus on the Filipino-Canadian community).

Abstracts

Computer simulations of the future of Spanish in NYC: The wall vs. high immigration
A. Adli & C. Hemmer
Universität zu Köln

We present computer simulations of the change of Spanish pronoun rate in contact with English in NYC. We fit an agent-based model, drawing on the empirical results reported by Otheguy and Zentella (2012), and simulate the development for several future generations. The simulation creates a world in which speakers are either born in or immigrate to NYC, create friendships and partnerships, can have children, and die. Child language acquisition and lifespan change has been implemented, as well as maintenance and loss of heritage language. We have run simulations for three scenarios that differ with respect to immigration rate (wall, status quo, diversity). The lower the immigration rate, the higher the speed of change for all varieties due to a larger influence of English. The wall scenario shows high fluctuations. Finally, differences between the dialects are much smaller for speakers born in NYC, and largely disappear with 3rd generation heritage speakers.

Back to Bins- a mixed-methods reevaluation of categorization in sociophonetics
W. Ahlers
University of Osnabrueck

The retraction of the sibilant in triple-consonant-clusters has currently been established as field site for language change research. This study of /s/-retraction analyses 80 sociolinguistic interviews from Austin and introduces a rating technique for ternary categorization of /s/-retraction in consonant clusters. /s/-retraction research relies on normalization of acoustic measurements to preserve the continuous nature of the dependent variable. Contrastingly, the present approach retains the acoustic measurements of items but establishes bins based on the interquartile ranges of /s/ and /ʃ/ per speaker. Such bins cope with outliers and allow for a qualitative analysis of whether the choices in /str/-production are binary. Results indicate that some ethnically white speakers show a /str/-gap in their sibilant space, while Hispanic and African American identifying speakers are likelier to make a binary choice. It will be debated to what extent this methodology may better represent the dispersion of data and complement other research methods.

Producing a fragmented narrative: AAVE and the dynamics of courtroom interaction in the Zimmerman trial
P. Angermeyer
University of York

This paper adds to sociolinguistic literature on the role of language and race in the trial of George Zimmerman for the murder of Trayvon Martin (Hodges, 2015; Rickford & King, 2016; Slobe, 2016; Sullivan 2016) by drawing more generally on research in language and law on the effectiveness of witness testimony in the adversarial system (Conley & O'Barr, 2005; Eades, 2012; Harris, 2001). The paper shows how testimony by prosecution witness Rachel Jeantel is impacted by other participants' interruptions and by the prosecutor's constraining questioning strategy, both of which are shown to be related to her use of AAVE. These factors converge to cause extreme fragmentation of Jeantel's narrative, likely making her testimony appear less
persuasive to jurors (Harris 2001)s. The findings show how linguistic differences between individuals do not merely constitute a communication barrier, but that they also have pragmatic consequences that further undermine the provision of justice.

Abstracts

What about mie? Methodologies for investigating negation in Picard
J. Auger & H. Burnett
Indiana University Bloomington, CNRS-Université Paris Diderot

Picard, a Gallo-Romance variety, possesses two negative markers: e.g., point and mie. Are they variants of the same variable? Do they differ in meaning and/or pragmatic function? To answer these questions, we used texts written by two authors born in 1904 and in 1959. We extracted all the occurrences of point and mie (N = 840) and coded them for grammatical and discourse factors. Rather than being determined by medium (spoken vs written) or language stage (older vs newer), point/mie variation is governed by discourse factors. We also conducted a felicity judgment experiment with native Picard speakers. Point was subject to no discourse constraints; however, mie must be used to contradict a proposition in the common ground and/or to express annoyed or upset affect. Combining variationist studies with other kinds of corpus and experimental work is crucial to understanding how grammar, meaning and context combine to create patterns of linguistic variation.

Measuring sociolinguistic perception in real time
M. Austen & K. Campbell-Kibler
The Ohio State University

This study examines how listeners update their impressions of a speaker in real time in response to sociolinguistic cues, and how researchers may best employ continuous evaluation tools to study this updating process. Roughly 700 participants were asked to move a slider to indicate their developing social impression while listening to a stimulus containing either varying productions of (ING) or large-scale changes in levels of enthusiasm or fluency; afterwards, participants gave the speaker an overall rating. We find that (1) participants vary widely in how quickly they respond to a given cue, yielding poor time granularity, (2) social meanings of (ING) are integrated into the effects of message content rather than being evaluated independently, and (3) after-the-fact ratings are correlated closely with in-the-moment ratings, but only weakly with final in-the-moment ratings. Taken together, these results suggest caution with respect to in-the-moment tools which have not been tested on known stimuli.

Script Variations on Tunisian Amazigh Facebook: Semiotic practices for the construction of a group identity
S. Bahri
The Graduate Center at CUNY

The present study investigates the social meaning and ideological practices engendered in the multiorthographic choices made by Tunisian Imzighen on Facebook when writing in Tamazight language. The data for this study is a sample of a large online ethnographic study on reconstructing the Tunisian Tamazight language and identity on Face-book. The data was collected based on longitudinal and repeated observations of nine Facebook profiles for two years during 2015-2017. Findings of the study show that the highest percentage of Tifinagh appeared in ethnic and cultural interactions. The choice of Arabic was limited to religious greetings and closings. The Latin script was predominant over all the data regardless of the categories of functions. Applying the qualitative analysis, the study argues that the script variations are determined by linguistic ideologies (Tifinagh as a semiotic marker of indigeneity; Arabic as semiotic marker of religiosity; and Latin in connection to French, a language that indexes power).

Abstracts

Locating speakers in the socioeconomic hierarchy: towards the optimal indicators of social class
M. Baranowski & D. Turton
University of Manchester, Newcastle University

This study revisits the question of the optimal indicators of socioeconomic position with data from a large-scale study of Manchester, UK, based on the acoustic analysis of 122 speakers stratified by age, gender, ethnicity, and social class, operationalised as: occupational levels; educational levels; number of years in education; socioeconomics of the speaker's neighbourhood based on Census data.

The linguistic variables:

Stable:	Changes in progress:
GOOSE-fronting before /l/	GOAT-fronting
HAPPY-laxing	LETTER-lowering
STRUT-lowering	Intervocalic t-glottalling

Predictors are considered individually and in combination with each other. Different methods for dealing with collinear data are discussed, including mixed-effects models, random forests and variance-inflation factors.

The results show that although occupation is the best predictor for some variables, e.g. GOOSE -fronting before /l/, adding education improves the explanation for others. For STRUT -lowering, education is better than occupation, supporting the hypothesis that education has a cumulative effect, affecting variables whose realisation may change across the speaker's lifespan.

Variation in the use of the wo-relativizer in Swabian German
K. Beaman
Queen Mary, University of London/ Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen

This paper presents the findings from a variationist analysis of the polysemic wo-relative pronoun ('where', 'who', 'that'), which varies with standard German relatives (der, die, das, etc.) in many southern dialects. It has generally been assumed that wo-relatives in German are used to signal some abstract notion of place and that their usage has spread to other contexts. To investigate this phenomenon, 1458 relative clauses were extracted from a panel study of 20 speakers of Swabian, a dialect spoken in southwestern Germany, who were recorded in 1982 and again in 2017. Results from the multivariate analysis show that, over a 35-year timespan, use of wo-relatives has decreased in nominative cases with animate antecedents and increased in oblique cases. External factors, most notably community (urban/rural), education, occupation and notions of 'Swabian Identity', also influence speakers' choice between standard dxx-pronouns and wo-relatives.

Variation in /s/-fronting in a diverse sample of speakers for sex/gender/sexuality
K. Becker & M. Stoddard
Reed College

This study explores variation for /s/-fronting with a diverse sample of speakers for sex, gender, and sexuality. The data come from 37 young people stratified across six cells for gender (female, male, and non-binary) and sex assignment (AMAB or AFAB). Results show that both sex assignment and sexuality predict the center of gravity of /s/, aligning with the prior literature, but gender does not. Further, cis men and women do not define the envelope of variation (instead, non-binary speakers do), suggesting the need to look beyond binaries to understand how variation constructs SGS identifications.

Minorities in the lead? Puerto Rican adoption of Philadelphia sound changes in-progress
G. Berry
The Pennsylvania State University

Philadelphia Puerto Ricans (N = 36, 25 F) highlight the relationship of minorities to advancing sound change. Three key changes in-progress in Philadelphia English were evaluated. First, EY-raising, where bait sounds like beet, shows social stratification without social commentary: interior social groups raise more than peripheral groups (Labov, 2001, pp. 336–353, 2010, pp. 188–189). Puerto Ricans exhibit this robustly. Second, ay-raising, where rice sounds like Royce, increases in formal speech (Labov, 2001, pp. 292, 300–303). Puerto Ricans follow suit. Moreover, younger females increase the distinction (Figure 3), suggesting ongoing change. Finally, raised /ɔ/ (e.g., water [wʊɾ,e˞]) has lowered, possibly due to stigmatization (Labov, Rosenfelder, & Fruehwald, 2013, pp. 49–50). Puerto Ricans also lower: women lowered a generation before men, but younger men lower to a greater degree. Taken together, these data suggest that minority sub-communities adopt wider sound changes, even when segregated from the local majority.

Observing variation and change in Ontario French through speaker identity
D. Bigot & R. Papen
Concodia University, Université du Québec à Montréal

The alternation of the markers of consequence (ça) fait que, donc, alors, so in Laurentian French has recently attracted a lot of attention on the part of linguists. Our presentation focuses on the internal and external factors which condition this alternation in Ontario French and we explore the relationship between these markers and the language identity of 62 speakers living in the town of Casselman, Ontario, a majority French-speaking community. Our analysis shows that 1) so is rare among adult speakers but frequent in teenager discourse, 2) while donc and alors are still used by adults, the latter has all but disappeared in the speech of the young and that 3) language identity plays an important part in explaining the variation of the four variants: so is mostly used by those claiming a specific Franco-Ontarian identity, while (ça) fait que is used by speakers claiming a general French-Canadian identity.

"I am not that I play" – Linguistic variation as a marker of gender in Shakespeare's cross dressing plays
A. Birchfield
Victoria University of Wellington

Constructed dialogue in fiction has generally been considered a poor substitute for conversational data in sociolinguistic studies of variation. In this presentation, I argue that, in the hands of a master, constructed dialogue can be reliable data. I use data that is documented in non-fiction sources as a basis for triangulation of the dialogue of characters playing what are known as the "breeches parts" (female characters playing at being men) in four of Shakespeare's comedies. The results indicate that Shakespeare clearly perceived gender differences in Elizabethan English and employed this variation to construct a linguistic performance for the breeches parts that is "more manly than the men". As well as arguably positioning Shakespeare as an early variationist sociolinguist, this work contributes to discussion about the validity of historical fiction data as a source of information about sociolinguistic variation in the past (Blaxter 2015, Froehlich 2012).

Abstracts

Subject doubling in advanced and near-native speakers of French

M. Black
Indiana University Bloomington

Subject doubling in French (see 1b below) constitutes an acquisitional challenge for certain adult L2 French learners, as this informal discourse marker is largely absent from classroom-based input, is absent/marginal in L1 English, and is subject to stylistic variation in spoken French. In addition to linguistic constraints, social factors such as interlocutor native language status, heretofore largely ignored when evaluating sociolinguistic performance, may influence learners' production of this variable. Previous research has shown intermediate-advanced study-abroad learners' French ne-deletion was susceptible to interlocutor L1 status (more nativelike ne-deletion in conversation with native French speakers but more non-nativelike use with other learners); near-native speakers in similar situations showed no such susceptibility. I question whether the same patterns in frequency and distribution maintain in subject doubling across equivalent learner proficiency levels.

      1a) Standard French :   Ma mère   travaille.
                              my mother works
      1b) Spoken French :   Ma mère   elle travaille.
                              my mother   she works

Production matches prescription: Morphosyntactic variation in language maintenance communities

I. Bleaman
New York University

This talk investigates the effect of standardization on morphosyntactic variation in Yiddish, a minority language spoken in New York by two distinct communities: (1) Hasidic Jews, for whom standardization is not a goal of language maintenance; and (2) Yiddishists, who are overtly committed to language planning. An analysis of variable number agreement in sentences with postverbal plural subjects was carried out using sociolinguistic interviews with forty native speakers, balanced for community and gender. After controlling for relevant linguistic predictors, the best-fit logistic regression model finds significant main effects for community (Yiddishists favor the standard plural variant) and gender (women favor the plural). The model also finds a significant interaction between community and construction type, suggesting that the prescriptive standard endorsed by Yiddishists has leveled the constraint effect across constructions. These differences in production data are matched by speakers' prescriptive intuitions, as indicated by the results of a novel post-interview task in which participants were asked to edit a written text for grammatical and stylistic errors.

Connecting panel and trend studies: a cross-variety comparison of consequence markers in French

H. Blondeau, R. Mougeon & M. Tremblay
University of Florida, University of York, University of Montreal

This paper provides an analysis of the use of the consequence markers ça fait que, so (vernacular variants), donc, and alors (Standard French variants), all meaning 'so', in two genetically-related varieties of Canadian French, spoken in Montreal (a majority francophone setting) and Welland, Ontario (a minority francophone setting). The focus is on two cohorts of twelve speakers (one in each community) interviewed in 1971 and in 1995, in Montreal, and in 1975 and 2012, in Welland. The goal is to describe how individuals positioned themselves vis-à-vis the community changes documented by trend studies in Montreal and Welland. The combination of trend and panel studies allows to disentangle Age Grading, which describes changes in individuals unrelated to the community changes but associated with life trajectory: professional life or retirement, from Lifespan Change, which reflects the contribution of inviduals to the linguistic changes in the community.

On the relationship between vowel nasalization and nasal weakening: Evidence from a Caribbean and non-Caribbean dialect of Spanish
S. Bongiovanni
Michigan State University

Spanish dialectology observes that dialects with a preference for velarized variants of /n/ (e.g. Caribbean dialects) have phonologized nasality in the pre-nasal vowel due to weakening of the word-final consonant. However, the relationship between the two has not been instrumentally tested. To this end, twenty-eight speakers from the Dominican Republic and twenty-six from Argentina were recorded with a nasometer, and measurements of nasal and oral energy, as well as duration, were extracted to characterize the time-course of nasality and word-final nasals acoustically. Results indicate that Dominican speakers present more extensive anticipatory vowel nasalization albeit not more weakened consonants than Argentine speakers. Thus, these findings challenge how the envelope of variation has been operationalized previously and indicate that Spanish anticipatory vowel nasalization and nasal weakening co-vary but one is not a pre-requisite for the other.

The Role of Social Expectation in the Perception of Gay Speech
D. A. Bouavichith
University of Michigan

Lengthened /s/ has been characterized as one of several acoustic correlates of gay(-sounding) speech (Linville 1998). Additionally, there is evidence that listeners adjust perceptual expectations when given social information about a speaker (e.g. McGowan 2015). Levon (2007) demonstrated that /s/ duration can cue perceived gayness, but only when paired with another acoustic cue. Can a social cue serve this role instead?

The present investigation addresses this question using eye tracking to examine the effect of socioindexical expectation on the perceptual timecourse of lexical activation. Participants (N=22) heard /CVs/ and /CVsC/ words, with digitally lengthened /s/, in two conditions. First, participants had no social information about the speaker; second, the speaker's sexuality was given implicitly. Gaze patterns differed based on listeners' experience levels with gay speech, with a higher latency to response for high-experience listeners. This suggests that social expectation varies as a function of listener experience with a sociolinguistic variety.

Southcentral Alaska English: Developing a baseline for further study
D. Bowie
University of Alaska - Anchorage

While the Southcentral region of Alaska is easily the main population center of Alaska, English has had a sizable presence in the area for only about a century. There has been a very limited amount of research done on the variety spoken there to date; this study builds on that to develop a baseline for further work in the region.

Lifelong residents of Southcentral were recorded reading a word list and a reading passage. As expected, features of the Western Vowel System were found. Analysis of the results shows that adoption of the Western Vowel System is a change in progress. In addition, speakers from the urban core of the region exhibited Western Vowel Shift features more strongly than speakers from elsewhere in Southcentral, suggesting that the Western Vowel Shift is a feature of the central city, and is spreading out from there.

Stylistic variation in eliciting controlled but spontaneous speech
Z. Boyd & L. Hall-Lew
The University of Edinburgh

Sociolinguistic data collection traditionally includes interviews, reading passages, and word lists (Labov 1972). Researchers have increasingly sought out elicitations tasks that have the benefits of read tasks (studying infrequently occurring variables; controlling for linguistic factors) while also eliciting styles more comparable to interview speech (see, e.g., Drager 2018). But how comparable are they? We consider four speakers' US English vowel production in interviews and four 'lab tasks' (silent film narration, Chafe 1980; MapTask, Brown et al. 1984; picture book narration, Troiani et al. 2008; Diapix, Baker & Hazan 2011). Our results suggest subtle stylistic differences between interviews and lab tasks, namely in F1: all differences indicate a more closed vowel in lab task speech and a more open vowel in interview speech. While lab tasks offer compelling methodological resources for sociolinguists, we suggest that they also present new register demands (Silverstein 2003) that must be understood empirically.

Doing raciolinguistics in Brazil: Challenges and possibilities
E. Brito
University of Arkansas Fayetteville

This paper addresses some of the major issues related to the study of the intersections of language, race, and power in Brazil. It departs from the fact that issues of race are still understudied in sociolinguistic studies in this country, especially in urban communities, even though it has the largest population of people of African descent outside Africa. While building on important scholarship done by both Brazilian and international scholars, this discussion takes as an example a 2015 sociolinguistic variation study of postvocalic /s/ among residents of City of God, a predominantly-Black neighborhood in Rio de Janeiro that is mostly known as a favela (roughly slum or shantytown) in order to shed light on some of the main challenges encountered during the realization of this research project and to offer some possibilities for raciolinguistic research in Brazil.

As *if* and *as though* in earlier spoken Canadian English: Register and the onset of change
M. Brook
University of Toronto

I have proposed (Brook 2017, 2018) a multiple-tiered change involving the complementizers linking seem, look, sound, and feel to finite subordinate clauses. Apparent-time data suggest that the incoming like competed first with as if and as though, then that and Ø, and finally infinitival subordination after seem. To better examine the earlier stages, I look to the Diachronic Corpus of Victoria English (DCVE) (D'Arcy 2011-2014, 2015). While the results are consistent with a three-level change, there is a surprising lack of as if (N = 5) and as though (N = 6). Since these variants are well-attested in contemporaneous Canadian writing (Brook 2014), this is a register effect. As if and as though are robust in spoken British English (Brook 2018), but if they were always low-frequency in speech in North America, the earlier emergence of like on this side of the Atlantic (López-Couso and Méndez-Naya 2012) finds an explanation.

The analysis of awesomeØ: Rule-governed nonstandardness at the edge of the grammar

M. Brook & E. Blamire
University of Toronto

Following up on our earlier work (Brook and Blamire 2015), we investigate adjectives converted to nouns via zero derivation, e.g. made of awesomeØ, in computer-mediated communication (Whitman 2009; Zwicky 2009, 2010; Francis 2013; Lighter 2015; Modra 2018). In two corpora - the forums of the webcomic xkcd and a sample of the Complete Public Reddit Comments Corpus (Baumgartner 2015) - we find uncanny parallels in the linguistic factors. In both, there is a large lexical effect with the same constraint ranking (crazy > awesome > cute > smug > sad in terms of Ø), an identical effect of determiner absence/presence, and extremely similar conditioning of the tokens in prepositional phrases. These results provide quantitative evidence for the idea that even in playful linguistic subversion, language users still end up conforming to rules (cf. McCulloch 2014; Blamire 2017) as per the notion of orderliness (Weinreich et al. 1968).

Investigating ideological street renaming in Eastern Germany and Poland

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Our paper reports on a pilot project on ideologically-driven changes in street naming patterns in Eastern Europe. We contrast commemorative renaming in two cities, Annaberg-Bucholtz (Germany) and Zbąszyń (Poland), from the end of WWII up until last year. Our interdisciplinary research relies on variationist sociolinguistics, social geography, collective memory and urban ethnology. By tracing the waves of instatement and erasure of Nazi officials and socialist revolutionaries in the urban toponymy, we illustrate the power of commemorative renaming as a mechanism for obliterating the memory of the former regime. Detailed spatio-temporal visualisation techniques allow innovative mapping to identify patterns of renaming practices across the quick succession of regime changes and provide the input for variationist analysis. Qualitative methods build on these findings to provide a contextualisation of the quantitative results through the interpretation of data collected from mass media and ethnographic interviews.

Multiple Negation in Latino English(es)

E. Callahan & E. Thomas
Western Carolina University, North Carolina State University

Multiple negation (MN) is one of the few morphosyntactic structures to have been analyzed in Spanish-origin/Latinx varieties of English using quantitative, variationist methods (Wolfram 1974; Fought 2003). This study investigates MN in Durham, NC (n=161) and 'North Town,' Texas (n=369) in terms of linguistic categories (e.g. matrix vs. embedded clause) and social factors (e.g. Length of Residency (LOR)) using the generalized linear model (glm) function in R. Both indefinite type (non-human) and indefinite position (post-verbal) were significantly correlated with MN in the North Town sample ($p<0.1$) as well as generation ($p<0.1$). A comparison of five communities (North Town, Durham, New York PRE, Los Angeles ChE) reveals that while there are some token types that all Latino communities share (e.g. neg aux + pronoun), there are others (e.g. neg aux + det) that may be diagnostic for contact with AAE.

Six Views of New England: Mapping Perceptions of New England Speech
N. Chartier & B. Jones
University of Washington

Contemporary studies on the New England dialect have demonstrated that traditional New England dialect variables are receding among younger New Englanders and posit that one possible reason for change is negative attitudes towards both Boston and rural New England (Nagy, 2001; Stanford, Leddy-Cecere, & Baclawski, 2012). However, our current understanding of language attitudes in the region depends on a handful of studies that examine sub-regional attitudes (Fernandes, Routhier, & Ravindranath, 2014; Babcock, 2014; Hartley, 2005). Our study supplements previous perceptual dialectology research in New England by including residents from all six states with an online implementation of Preston (1986)'s draw-a-map task. Results suggest that New Englanders have a nuanced view of regional linguistic identity where some attitudes are shared across state borders. Furthermore, we demonstrate that the use of innovative tools allows us to broaden our reach of participants while maintaining the consistency of methods needed for such studies.

Contemporary Appalachian English: Change from outside and within
B. Childs & J. D. Hasty
Coastal Carolina University

This paper reports on linguistic and attitudinal data from younger speakers across Appalachia and evaluates both traditional and more contemporary features of the variety. Analysis shows traditional Appalachian English features to be in flux in the region with variability seen across subregions of Appalachia, indicating that different communities within Appalachia appear to have different ways of renegotiating Appalachian identity. Additionally, we argue that the curvilinear pattern of reclamation found for some of the relic features in Appalachia doesn't happen on a wholesale level. Rather it is the most salient and most local features that are recycled by younger speakers but with constraints differing from those of the previous generations and showing variability across subregions of Appalachia. We find that these changes are important to consider in the overall identity building of the different Appalachian communities as New Appalachia reimagines itself.

Subject Relative Clauses and the Actuation Problem in Atlantic Canada Acadian French
P. Comeau & R. King
Université de Québec à Montréal, University of York

We examine subject-verb agreement in two Atlantic Canada Acadian French varieties, L'Anse-à-Canards, NL and Grosses Coques, NS, for which there is a long history of low normative pressure. Both maintain rich verbal morphology for all other clause types but differ dramatically for subject relative clauses. While Grosses Coques has near-categorical plural agreement, L'Anse-à-Canards shows very high rates of singular marking in this context. Only in the case of subject relatives of the il y en a qui... "there are some who..." subtype, which we argue lacks an identifiable head, does L'Anse-à-Canards show (variable) plural marking. This variation obtains at the level of the individual speaker rather than any social group; we are witnessing a change nearing completion. All other subtypes are subject to a constraint whereby an overt plural head triggers singular marking for L'Anse-à-Canards but is absent for Grosses Coques, where the potential for change has not been exploited.

Reverse Engineering the LGBTQ+ Voice: Utilizing Prototype Theory to Construct Linguistic Stereotypes of Sexual Identity
K. Conner
The Ohio State University

Utilizing previous work by scholars such as Munson (2007, 2005), Pierrehumbert et al. (2004), Moonwomon-Baird (1997), and Levon (2006), this study looked at stereotypes that English-speakers hold about gay males, lesbian females, and bisexual males and females. This study differs from previous, similar, research in that it interrogates the attitudes and ideas about what gay, lesbian, and bisexual speech is "thought" to be (for example, stereotypes concerning pitch, enunciation, and sex typicality) in the minds of study participants, without audio aids and cues, as opposed to what it "actually" is. The study utilized prototype theory to get directly at the 171 study participants' ideations of the aforementioned linguistic identities. Principal Components Analysis and regression analysis support the initial hypotheses that gay males would show stronger prototypical profiling, and that the LGBTQ+ females would not have as well-defined prototypes. The data also supports the hypothesis that age will affect participant responses, to an extent.

Misgendering Is Related to Attitudes about Transgender Identities
K. Conrod
University of Washington

I investigate whether there is a connection between pronominal misgendering of transgender people and attitudes towards transgender identities. I use dyadic and solo sociolinguistic interviews to elicit pronouns with transgender referents, and social psychological measures of attitudes towards transgender identities.

The results of these data suggest that there is a relationship between misgendering and attitudes towards transgender identities. Participants who misgendered their interview partners rated a fictional transgender woman in a film clip rating task less positively. The proportion of pronominal misgendering to all third-person pronouns in the interviews correlated with two measures of attitudes towards transgender women were significant (p<0.05).

I propose two sociopragmatic constraints for preserving a referent's face, which can vary in their relative ordering when the speaker must 'guess' at a referent's gender.

    (1) <u>Do not fail to attribute a person's gender</u> to them
    (2) <u>Do not assert an incorrect gender</u> for a person

Instances of misgendering in this study were a reflex of either "guessing wrong" (1>2) or "avoiding a guess" (2>1).

Internal bias feeds incrementation: experimental evidence from must in child Toronto English
A. Cournane & A. T. Pérez-Leroux
New York University, University of Toronto

We test child incrementation with modal verbs. A picture preference task compared interpretations for must with bare verb complements (variably deontic or epistemic) versus must with grammatical aspect-marked complements (epistemic). By 5-years-old children become adult-like for aspect-marked epistemic sentences, but for variable sentences they begin to significantly overgenerate epistemic interpretations relative to young adults in the same speech community (Toronto). A second study confirmed that preschoolers maintain access to root interpretations for must, showing they do not simply posit must as categorically epistemic. We propose children overgenerate epistemic interpretations because must uniformly precedes aspect (must have X-ed) in the input syntax, isomorphically keying its higher epistemic interpretation at LF (above aspect; Hacquard 2006). Once children reliably learn this complex construction, they overextend the epistemic interpretation to variable-meaning must sentences in an effort to regularize form-meaning relations in their grammar. We argue this internal learning bias underlies the gradual deontic>epistemic interpretation shift.

Abstracts

Redefining 'Simplification': An Analysis of Third Person Subject Pronoun Expression in Mosquito Coast Spanish
M. Critchfield
University of Georgia

This analysis compares third person subject pronoun expression (SPE) in monolingual Nicaraguan Spanish (NS) with bilingual Mosquito Coast Spanish (MCS) (spoken by first language Miskitu speakers in Nicaragua). Often explained as a simplification strategy, previous studies show increased SPE or weakening of pragmatic constraints in bilingual and contact varieties of Spanish (Lapidus and Otheguy 2005; Otheguy, Zentella, and Livert 2007; Barnes 2010; Michnowicz 2015). This analysis argues that simplification can also result in a decrease in SPE, based on MCS speakers producing lower rates of subject pronouns compared to NS speakers (15.5% vs. 28.8%). In addition, MCS speakers produce lower rates of overt pronouns in contexts of switch reference (22.8% compared to 68% for NS speakers), reflecting the weakening of pragmatic constraints found in cases of simplification in other bilingual varieties. This provides further evidence that the process occurring in MCS is the same mechanism, but with a different directionality.

Innovation in Research Design: Developing a Panel Survey to Address Basic Issues of Language Change
P. Cukor-Avila & G. Bailey
University of North Texas

This paper reports on a panel survey done in Springville, Texas, over the last thirty years. The panel provides a cross sectional sample, confronts problems of panel surveys such as attrition, and addresses problems specific to sociolinguistics, such as Small Ns and contact gaps. It enables us to contrast incremental and catastrophic changes. The incremental change examined is habitual be. It evolved over four generations, with an expansion of be, followed by semantic restriction to habitual contexts, and then by syntactic restriction before V+ing. The catastrophic change is quotative be like. It spread rapidly into Springville but with two differences from its spread elsewhere: it occurred a generation later and it adapted the distinctive copula/auxiliary system of Springville AAVE. The panel survey shows how invariant be developed incrementally over a half century and how be like diffused in a single generation and built on incremental changes such as invariant be.

Linguists *be like* "Where did it come from?"
A. D'Arcy
University of Victoria

Despite the ample research targeting *be like*, its origins remain under-explored. This marks a critical gap, particularly in light of evidence that the underlying system of direct quotation has reconfigured over c.150 years (e.g. Buchstaller 2011, D'Arcy 2012). This talk aims to address this gap. On the basis of diachronic and synchronic evidence, it lays out the development of *be like* as a construction that emerged from pre-existing resources in quotative contexts. The data come from multiple corpora, from multiple locales, spanning the middle of the 19th century to the present; the argumentation is based on nearly 8000 tokens of direct quotation and close analysis of individual contexts. The data reveal that *be like* developed internally, and it did so in parallel across varieties of English. In short, *be like* is not a contact phenomenon but an evolutive one, highlighting the need for historical perspectives on synchronic phenomena.

What's age got to do with it? Problematizing the temporal dimension for linguistic explanation
A. D'Arcy & S. Tagliamonte
University of Victoria, University of Toronto

This paper problematizes the question of speaker age versus date of birth in attempts to tap the effects of time by targeting three changes having both apparent time and real time data: intensifying *really*, preterit *come*, and relative *who*. We corroborate that when a change is captured by the age range of individuals in a sample, it will show generations patterning in tandem (Labov 1994, 2001) and modelling either date of birth or age at time of interview is sound practice. When change is nuanced by lifespan shifts, associated with particular life stages, or impacted by social constraints and/or cultural developments ('zeitgeist effects', Fruehwald 2017), both date of birth and age at time of interview are necessary. Viable explanation of variation and change thus requires careful interpretation of the time dimension, weighed by the nature of the data, the type of linguistic variable, and the circumstances of the external situation.

The social meaning of stylistic variability: Sociophonetic (in)variance in presidential candidates' campaign rallies
A. D'Onofrio & A. Stecker
Northwestern University

While work on sociolinguistic style has shown that speakers use packages of linguistic features to project personae, less commonly examined are the ways that an individual's overall variability or consistency in the use of features across contexts can construct a socially-meaningful image. This study explores how two well-studied variables — ING and t-release — are recruited by three presidential candidates in campaign rallies. We quantify the variability a given candidate shows in deploying these features across eight campaign rallies in different locations. Differences emerged in the degree and nature of variance a given candidate exhibited in the use of these features across rally locales and topics discussed. We argue that the degree of linguistic variability a candidate exhibits across speech events can itself contribute to an ideological public image of flexibility or consistency, suggesting that the amount of variability a speaker exhibits across contexts is itself a dimension of sociolinguistic style.

Contextualizing reversal: Sociohistorical dynamics and the Northern Cities Shift in a Chicago neighborhood
A. D'Onofrio & J. Benheim
Northwestern University

Despite Chicago's status as the largest urban center in the Inland North, recent dynamics of the region's Northern Cities Vowel Shift have remained relatively understudied in this city. This study examines the vowel systems of 40 speakers from one Chicago neighborhood area. Results reveal a reversal of the NCS in apparent time, paralleling findings in other NCS locales. However, while results indicate a robust community-wide trend, not all speakers engage with the shift in the same way. Through a qualitative examination of individual speakers' vowel spaces, we find that shifting demographics and ideological concerns across the neighborhood's history help explain which community members are likely to use NCS-shifted vowels at different points in apparent time. More broadly, we suggest that reversals of local sound changes are not always indicators of increased supralocal orientation or contact, but instead can be driven by shifts in what it means to index local identity.

Abstracts

Habitual pitch, political affiliation, and the perception of female politicians' voices
L. Davidson
New York University

Studies of politicians' speech show that speakers (male and female) with lower habitual F0 are judged as more qualified and professional. At the same time, right-leaning voters prefer female candidates with more gender-typical physical attributes, suggesting that these voters could have a bias for associating higher habitual F0 with Republican female politicians. This study examines (1) what gradations within natural F0 ranges are distinguished by listeners who listen to a political sentence ("And I approve this message"), and (2) whether right-leaning voters are more likely to associate higher pitched voices with Republican candidates. Results show that listeners appropriately distribute the sentences along a 1-5 scale by average pitch, but all listeners are at chance on categorizing the voices as belonging to either Democratic or Republican politicians. One possibility is that voters regardless of political leaning may treat F0 cues as more critical for signaling professional qualification than for gender typicality.

Policing Variation: Using the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Forensic Database to Examine Sociophonetic Variation in Canada
P. De Decker
Memorial University of Newfoundland

The role of nasality in short-a raising is examined here among on English-French bilinguals and English monolinguals from Toronto and Ottawa. F_2-F_1 values and A_1-P_0 ratios (Chen 1997) were calculated from short-a productions of forty speakers. Three-hundred sixty tokens for each measure were normalized to z-scores and submitted to linear regression models (fixed effects for Gender, Birth Place, and Bilingual Ability). A significant effect of Bilingual Ability on A_1-P_0 was found: cf monolinguals, bilinguals produced less nasality in oral environments (estimate=0.21, SE=0.08623, z=2.444, p=0.015), and higher levels in contextually nasal environments (estimate=-0.27, SE=0.12171, z=-2.235 p=0.027) suggesting interaction from French (Flege et al. 2003), as well as within-dialect, lingual variation on short-a tensing (De Decker & Nycz 2012). We assess the Voice ID Database (Kavanagh 2014) collected by the RCMP (from which recordings for the current study was obtained) for studying sociophonetic variation in Canada.

Revisiting the Inland North Fringe
A. Dinkin
San Diego State University

Although Labov et al. (2006) report formant measurements using log-mean normalization, more recent research tends to use Lobanov normalization. This means newer sociophonetic research may produce results not directly comparable to ANAE benchmarks.

This paper compares two normalizations of the same data set: Dinkin (2013)'s data on the Northern Cities Shift in upstate New York. Overall, individuals have lower NCS participation scores under Lobanov normalization; but each community's range of scores is similar under both methods. The two normalizations thus produce similar results for NCS participation on the community level, but not the speaker level.

Reassured that the Inland North is defined the same way under Lobanov normalization, I extend Thiel & Dinkin (2017)'s investigation of NCS style-shifting to additional Inland North fringe communities from Dinkin (2013). I find that in communities near the eastern edge of the region, younger speakers tend to shift away from NCS in careful style.

Revisiting the importance of gradient analyses: /s/ in the Dominican diaspora
F. Dixon
University of Massachusetts - Amherst

The present study provides acoustic and segmental analyses of syllable final /s/ variation among Dominicans living in Madrid, Spain. With a rate of 7-10% alveolar [s] production (Alba, 2004), the reduction of syllable final /s/ to [h] or [ø] is one of the most studied features of Dominican Spanish. However, studies on this phenomenon, both in the Dominican Republic and in diaspora contexts, have largely used categorical analyses to treat the variable nature of syllable final /s/ weakening, ignoring both the social and linguistic information that may be found in the sub segmental aspects of speech (Erker, 2010). Consequently, this investigation adopts both categorical and continuous analyses (COG, duration, intensity) to examine the effects of dialect contact on this variation. In doing so the project also re-examines the merits of sub-segmental measurements in variation studies.

Sociolinguistics as a powerful tool to follow the course of a parametric change
M. Duarte
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro / National Council for Scientific and Technological Development

This paper presents a new contrastive analysis of the expression of referential pronominal subjects in European Portuguese (EP) and Brazilian Portuguese (BP), using two recent samples, recorded in Lisbon and Rio de Janeiro, according to the same social stratification. The results reinforce EP status of a "consistent" Null Subject Language and allow to follow the change in course in BP by offering answers to the empirical problems posed by WLH (1968), particularly those related to the constraints and the embedding of the change. Quantitative and qualitative differences have been pointed out. Inherently human referents have been the most remarkable feature in the process affecting 2nd person, which has reached completion, followed by 1st person. A multivariate analysis of 3rd person for both varieties selects the same structural factors: the cluster of semantic features of the referent [±animate/±specific], the structural patterns (function of the antecedent and its discursive prominence) and the structure of the Complementizer Phrase.

Another Look at the Development of the Northern Cities Shift in Chicago
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Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, University of Illinois Chicago

What are the current facts of the Northern Cities Chain Shift (NCS) in Chicago? Based on instrumental analyses of the vowel systems of five generations of speakers we trace the inception and development of the NCS in *both* real and apparent time drawing on data from earlier studies and data collected more recently. With analysis of 50 European-American speakers born between 1875-1990, our study is the largest acoustic study of Chicago speech to date. Results reveal significant unreported patterns of variation and possible reinterpretations of the onset and development of the NCS. Among speakers born after 1975, we find some indications of reversal of the NCS among some speakers, but also signs that the NCS has become more focused as a marker of blue-collar speech. Finally, we explore implications for the refinement of models of vowel shifts, sound change transmission, and the stages of the NCS.

A bottom-up approach to operationalizing linguistic predictor variables: The impact of verb class on Spanish subject-verb word order

D. Erker
Boston University

This study examines the behavior of 332 Spanish speakers, 272 immigrants to the U.S. and 62 native-born individuals, through questionnaires and sociolinguistic interviews. Results show that increased U.S. life experience correlates with expanded use of English in both private and public domains. They also show that greater use of English co-occurs with maintenance of fine-grained patterns of linguistic variation in Spanish, such that U.S born speakers are remarkably similar to the immigrant generation along three sociolinguistic variables: (i) pronoun presence vs. absence, (ii) subject position, and (iii) coda /s/. The co-occurence of language shift towards English and intergenerational structural continuity in variable linguistic behavior in Spanish challenges two misconceptions: (1) That Spanish-speaking immigrants and their U.S. born children are unwilling, unmotiaved, or unable to learn English, and (2) That regular use of English entails attrition and/or failed acquisition of Spanish. Neither of these views finds empirical support in the data.

Rhythm and the embodiment of physical practices

L. Esposito & C. Gratton
Stanford University

Only recently has work shown that uses of the body, like gesturing (Mendoza-Denton & Jannedy 2011) and smiling (Podesva forthcoming), play an important role in constructing linguistic styles. Research has yet to explore the impact that ideologies of body movement have on linguistic variation. We explored rhythm — linked semiotically to body movement (Goodridge 1999) — to demonstrate how fitness instructors adopt styles iconically linked to the physical nature of their practices. Focusing on body-building and yoga instructors on YouTube, we found that the former employed more animated rhythmic patterns than their yoga counterparts, exhibiting faster speech rates and a greater use of accented syllables. These stylistic differences are iconically tied to ideologies surrounding each group and allow these speakers to present themselves as ideal instantiations of their practice, potentially contributing to their success in a competitive online market in which self-presentation is paramount.

Regionality and Final Fricative Deletion in African American Language

C. Farrington
University of Oregon

The deletion of word final fricatives in African American Language (AAL) has remained under-examined, though it is often cited in AAL feature lists (e.g., Bailey & Thomas 1998). This study examines regional variation in the deletion of post-vocalic word final fricatives /f, v, s, z/ in monomorphemic words from Princeville, NC, Memphis, TN, and Washington DC, three field sites in the greater South. All tokens of post-vocalic consonants (~400 per speaker) were coded using a combination of acoustic and auditory analyses for consonant absence or presence. Mixed effect logistic regressions were run with consonant absence as the dependent variable (overall rate of absence is 10%). Results indicate that regional differences are apparent, such that Memphis shows the most deletion across the fricatives studied, while Princeville and DC were not significantly different from each other. Such patterns shed light on the role of AAL phonology in the development and current trajectory of regional varieties.

Abstracts

Job Skills and the Southern Vowel Shift: Style on the Job

J. Forrest
North Carolina State University

This paper incorporates sociological measures of job skills into sociolinguistic analysis. I correlate job skills with linguistic behavior in situ to illuminate exactly what aspects of work affect style while on the job. The dataset for this analysis is drawn from self-recorded audio collected by 16 workers at Southern Tech, a technology firm in the greater Raleigh, NC area. Acoustic analyses were conducted on vowels implicated in the Southern Vowel Shift (SVS), including /i/, /ɪ/, /e/, /ɛ/, /æ/, and /aɪ/. Participants whose jobs require a high level of interpersonal skill (communicating with others; sales) or analytical skill (creative problem solving) show significantly less Southern pronunciations while at work than in more casual contexts, while those with higher levels of managerial skill (coordinating others; mentoring) show more Southern pronunciations overall. These results suggest that the presentation of self at work is sensitive to the negative social connotations of Southern dialects.

Effects of the linguistic processing in real time: affricates in Brazilian Portuguese

R. Freitag
Federal University of Sergipe

This paper provides new empirical support to the sociolinguistic monitor replicating Labov et al.'s study, with an experiment that examines perceptual reactions to alternating distributions of the /t,d/ variable in Brazilian Portuguese, in the context of a professional news broadcast on health and welfare. Two different simulated passages were constructed, containing tokens of /t,d/ before and after /i/, respectively, that were read with stops and affricates. The participants (N=304) rated each reading test on a seven-point scale of "professionalism and competence". Results suggest that can there be a cognitive effort to process incoming changes and that speakers pay more attention to the social context, which is learned at school. Effects of gender, area of residence and education are significant in both contexts: less educated judges don't distinguish the levels of frequency of the affricate variant in either context, and male and non-urban judges rate the speaker better than do women and urban residents.

"What's the 'uh' for?": Pragmatic specialization of *uh* and *um* in instant messaging

T. Gadanidis
University of Toronto

Recent work on *uh* and *um* (UHM) indicates that in both apparent and real time, *um* is gaining frequency relative to *uh* (Fruehwald, 2016; Tottie, 2011; Wieling et al., 2016). However, whether this change is simple lexical replacement or due to potential emerging functional differences is unclear; most (UHM) tokens in speech appear to be nonlexical, unconscious planners (Tottie, 2017). I use instant messaging (IM), a written but casual and synchronous medium in which (UHM) use appears more intentional, to identify (UHM)'s functions and test for functional differentiation. Using corpora of teen/student IM data from 2004–2006 and 2014–2017, I conduct a quantitative and qualitative analysis on 1513 tokens of (UHM) in IM, identifying both distributional and pragmatic differences between the two variants. I attribute these patterns to specialization (Kroch, 1994): *um*'s rise has put it in competition with *uh*, leading the forms to diverge and develop different meanings in IM.

Stance, style, and semantics: Operationalizing insights from semantic-pragmatics to account for linguistic variation

T. Gadanidis, N. Hildebrand-Edgar, A. Kiss, L. Konnelly, K. Pabst, L. Schlegl, P. Umbal and S. Tagliamonte
University of Toronto, University of York, University of Toronto, University of Toronto, University of Toronto, University of Toronto, University of Toronto, University of Toronto

Attention to stance, speakers' expression of their relationship to talk and their expression of their relationship to interlocutors (Kiesling 2009), is increasingly important in variationist studies. However, due to the challenge of applying qualitative approaches to large data sets, the collaborative and "shifting relationships among speakers, talk, and figures presented in the talk" (Kiesling 2016:19) have rarely been explored quantitatively (though see Kiesling et al. 2012). This paper takes a novel approach to this problem by developing a stance-analytic framework founded in the semantic-pragmatic literature (Brown & Levinson 1987; Ochs & Schieffelin 1989; Potts 2007; inter alia), providing a formal guide to coding stance, and demonstrating how it can be operationalized quantitatively. Using a unique corpus of 9 individuals self-recorded in three "event types" (casual, medium, formal), we apply this method to variation between English complementizer *that/zero*, showcasing an exploratory approach both grounded in formal theory and explanatory to variation.

Full Tone to Sound Feminine: Analyzing the role of tonal variants in identity construction

F. Gao
Indiana University - Bloomington

Full tone realization, which refers to the phenomenon in which tones of the weakly stressed syllables are fully realized, is widely considered as a linguistic feature of non-mainland Mandarin varieties (Găngtái-accented Mandarin). Zhang (2005) is one of the first endeavors to account for the correlations between full tone feature and social identity. In my current research, I revisited the linguistic phenomenon of full tone realization with a specific focus on the young Mandarin speakers who are raised in (upper-)middle class and currently study/work overseas. The result shows that besides a gender-orientated contrast on full tone usage, which corroborates to Zhang (2005), personal characteristics also seem to play a significant role on the tonal variations; specifically, full tone variant is likely to serve as a symbol of cute and feminine characteristic.

Lateral production in Liberal, Kansas: Minority alignment to the new majority

T. Garcia & M. Kohn
The University of Kansas, Kansas State University

Rapid demographic changes among agricultural communities in the US offer the opportunity to study new contact scenarios. This study focuses on Liberal, Kansas, where the Latinx community grew from 19.5% to 59.1% since 1990 (US Census Bureau). We compare the realization of /l/ in the speech of 18 Latinx and 8 Anglx young adults from Liberal to 10 young Kansans from two majority Anglx communities (>95% Anglx). Latinx English has been found to utilize light variants of syllable-initial /l/, corresponding to higher f2 values, due to a substrate influence from Spanish. As expected, regression results confirm that Latinx youth produce /l/ with higher normalized f2 values than Anglx youth from surrounding majority Anglx communities (t=2.316). However, within Liberal there is no significant difference between young Latinx and Anglx /l/ production (t=1.187). These findings reveal partial Anglx youth accommodation to new Latinx majority norms.

I'll tell you, this study is going to explore future temporal reference in Cape Breton
M. H. Gardner
Saint Mary's University

The English of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, is a transported variety said to straddle North American and Scottish (and Irish/Northern British) English. Building on past variationist studies of these two major varieties, this paper probes the grammatical constraints governing the alternation between will and be going to in order to a) assess the genetic similarity between Cape Breton English and mainstream Canadian/Scottish English and b) to provide a new benchmark study of future temporal reference (FTR) using the largest spoken vernacular FTR dataset from a single community (292 speakers born 1878–1999, N = 4,698). For each grammatical constraint considered Cape Breton English aligns with patterns reported for mainstream Canadian English and diverges from patterns reported for Scottish English suggesting a link between Canadian varieties and calling into question Cape Breton English's putative Scottish roots.

Crossing and its discontents: A corpus-based analysis of metalinguistic discourse surrounding spanish used by non-Latinx rappers
M. Garley
York College & The Graduate Center at CUNY

This study examines varieties of Spanish used by non-Latinx rappers in popular US hip hop music, particularly in terms of motivations for Spanish use and uptake of often nonstandard and L2 Spanish by Spanish-speaking and non-Spanish-speaking fans. The study focuses on a selection of hip hop tracks available on YouTube and a corpus of fan responses in YouTube comments and through annotations on genius.com. The study applies Rampton's (1995[2018]) notion of crossing to this digital discourse and examines the ideological co-construction and positioning of Spanish by both rappers and hip hop fans. The study finds that Spanish, even produced by non-native speakers, often has value to some hip hop artists and fans precisely because of dominant ideologies in the US which construct it as a dangerous, threatening, and incomprehensible language.

Vowel system or vowel systems? Variation in the monophthongs of Philippine Hybrid Hokkien
W. D. W. Gonzales & R. L. Starr
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The study takes a sociophonetic approach to investigating variation in the vowels of Philippine Hybrid Hokkien (PHH), assessing the extent to which it has developed a unified vowel system, in which phonemes are shared across lexical items from different source languages. Using MANOVA, a Pillai-Bartlett statistic was calculated for each speaker in order to assess the degree of overlap between vowels produced in words originating in the three source languages, and between tense and lax vowels. Social factors considered included age, sex, education level, etc. Overall, PHH is found to have a unified monophthongal system that is distinct from its source languages, maintaining a partial tense-lax distinction not typical of Hokkien, Tagalog, or varieties of Philippine English. The fact that male speakers show less consistency between source languages suggests that women have led in the Chinese Filipino community's shift from code-switching to the development of PHH as a conventionalized language.

Abstracts

Opening the door for forced-alignment to minority languages

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The Australian National University

Recent developments have made crucial steps in extending forced-alignment to minority languages. However this process is not free of challenges, a major one being the lack of available acoustic models for such languages. We present work on an endangered minority language of Papua New Guinea, Matukar Panau, focusing on the process of force-aligning the data, and strategies we developed to address the challenges we encountered. A recursive implementation of the Montreal Forced Aligner results in acoustic alignment accuracy equivalent to benchmarks typical of forced-alignment of languages with existing acoustic models. The resulting alignment facilitates sociophonetic analysis of 50,000 monophthongs from 7 hours of recordings. With a dataset of this size, we are able to observe community-wide retraction of /e/ in apparent time, and variation in size of the vowel space depending on the speaker's village. We show how applying these methods can benefit researchers working in similar contexts.

Sociolinguistic variation in an in-between place

M. Gordon & N. Cochran
University of Missouri

This paper explores variation in Southeastern Missouri, an area on the dialect border between the South and the Midland. Drawing on a large-scale dialect survey of Missouri and southern Illinois and a more in-depth study of an important urban hub in the region (Cape Girardeau), we consider how speakers in a transition zone negotiate their regional identities sociolinguistically. We focus on phonological variables with broad regional distributions such as the low back vowel merger (lot = thought), the pre-nasal merger (pin = pen), and /ai/-monophthongization. The general picture we uncover shows Midland and Southern features coexisting in this region with the former representing a more recent overlay. We consider the implications of this in terms of regional affiliations by drawing on available qualitative evidence.

Mapping Emerging Words in New York City

J. Grieve
University of Birmimgham

This study maps the origin and spread of two new and related emerging words, "litty" and "lituation", in New York City based on a corpus of over 20 million geocoded Tweets posted from within the five boroughs during 2014. The results of this analysis show that both words likely originated, at least on Twitter, in African American and Hispanic areas of Harlem and the South Bronx, attesting to the influence of these communities on the language of New York City and the US more generally. These results also show that the spread of these words is constrained not only by geography and population density, as predicted by the wave and hierarchical models of linguistic diffusion, but by ethnic patterns, providing evidence for an alternative cultural model of linguistic diffusion. Finally, these results demonstrate how new approaches to sociolinguistics can help us better understand the actuation and diffusion of linguistic innovations.

Acoustic correlates of perceived Southernness ratings
K. Gunter, C. Vaughn & T. Kendall
University of Oregon

The Southern US has been the subject of extensive sociophonetic research. Specific phonetic features, like the Southern Vowel Shift (SVS) and /aɪ/ monophthongization, are often cited as characteristic of Southern speech and are the focus of most perceptual work. Additionally, speaker-level proxy measures have been used as diagnostics for a speaker's degree of participation in the SVS and Southernness more generally (e.g., /e/-/ɛ/ ED), however how well those measures accord with listeners' percepts of speakers' Southernness is untested. Using an accent rating task, we examine what acoustic cues contribute to non-Southern listeners' evaluations of words as sounding more or less Southern accented, examining a range of vowels. In addition, we explore the relationship between speaker-level measures (like /e/-/ɛ/ ED) and token-level measures. Results indicate that listeners rate back vowels as most Southern, and speakers' /e/-/ɛ/ ED does correlate with listeners' ratings across a range of vowels.

Pre-velar raising and categorization in Nevada
K. Gunter, I. Clayton & V. Fridland
University of Oregon, University of Nevada Reno, University of Nevada Reno

Pre-velar vowel raising in the BAT and BET class is reported in parts of the US, sometimes co- occurring with the California Vowel Shift (CVS; Becker et al. 2016). We investigated the relationship between pre-velar raising and the CVS in 20 Nevadans, finding that BEG raising strongly correlates with BET retraction, particularly in young females. A possible explanation is that speakers have re-phonologized /eg/ and /ɛg/ into the same vowel class, so that BEG fails to retract with BET. To test this hypothesis we examined word-class affiliation using a vowel- categorization task (Di Paolo 1988). Results suggest that some participants find the /e/ class a better match than /ɛ/ for some, but not all, pre-velar words. Additionally, certain lexical items are more consistently raised, suggesting there is a re-phonologization process occurring for a subset of /ɛg/ words. Finally, using correlations, we examine links between speakers' production and perception.

Deep Learning and Sociophonetics: Automatic Coding of Rhoticity Using Neural Networks
S. Gupta, A. DiPadova & J. Stanford
Dartmouth College

Automated extraction methods are widely available for vowels (FAVE, Rosenfelder et al. 2014; DARLA, Reddy & Stanford 2015), but automated methods for coding rhoticity have lagged far behind. R-fulness versus r-lessness (in words like park, store, etc.) is a classic and frequently cited variable (Labov 1966), but it is still commonly coded by human analysts rather than automated methods. Human-coding requires extensive resources and lacks replicability, making it difficult to compare large datasets across research groups (Yaeger-Dror et al. 2009; Heselwood et al. 2008). Can reliable automated methods be developed to aid in coding rhoticity? In this study, we use Neural Networks/Deep Learning (Deng & Yu 2014), which is one of the most effective, fastest-growing approaches in machine-learning. We train our model on 200 Boston-area speakers, and then examine its effectiveness in a dataset of over 600 New Englanders.

Systemic change and parent first-dialect effects in NYC English short-a variation
W. Haddican, C. Tortora, M. Newman, C. Cutler, C.E.A Diertani, L. Eldridge, S. Lagreca and Z. Z. G. Tan
City University of New York

This paper reports on a production study examining change in the New York City English (NYCE) short-a system. We report two main findings related to recent literature on short-a. First, the data suggest independent effects of parent L1, age and ethnicity. Subjects with ≥ 1 native NYCE-speaking parent better preserve the traditional tensing system than do subjects without native-NYCE-speaking parents (Payne 1976). Moreover, among subjects with ≥ 1 native NYCE-speaking parent, both age and ethnicity effects obtain, with whites and older subjects favoring the traditional system. Second, Labov et al. (2016) report that constraints in the Philadelphia traditional system are not being lost piecemeal, but rather in one fell swoop. Our results suggest a similar change in NYCE, with no interaction between subject age and traditional tensing contexts. Together, the results support similar processes of short-a change in NY and Philadelphia.

The holy/holey distinction in Received Pronunciation English: morpho-phonological evidence for a change in progress.
C. Halfacre
Newcastle University

> George Weasley: "Saintlike [...] I'm holy. Holey, Fred, geddit?"
> Fred Weasley: "Pathetic! With the whole wide world of ear-related humour before you, you go for holey? Pathetic." (Rowling, 2007, p. 67)

This study investigates GOAT-backing in pre-/l/ position in speakers of modern RP. The research questions are: (1) Is the GOAT vowel different in pre-/l/ position, e.g. hole vs. hope? (2) Is a change in progress occurring?

605 tokens from 8 speakers reveal that the diphthong in *hole*-type words is significantly backed compared to *hope*-type words; *holey* (bimorphemic) and *holy* (monomorphemic) words show far more variation. Social factors are not significant but each of the speakers is internally consistent and morphological environment is a significant effect. This suggests that the appearance of the backed allophone is moving through the grammar, following the pattern of the lifecycle of phonological processes (Bermúdez-Otero, 2015), which is alternative evidence for a change in progress.

/u/-fronting and /æ/-raising in Toronto families
E. Hall & R. Maddeaux
University of Toronto

We examine the acquisition of both stable contextual variation and a change in progress by children ages four to twelve. Comparing children and their parents directly, we ask whether transmission and incrementation effects can be found in two vowel variables in Canadian English: /æ/ and /u/.

For both variables, children acquire the contextual differences displayed by adults by age four. In the case of a change in progress (/u/-fronting), children increment the change over the school years, fronting beyond the level of their parents particularly in the favouring coronal context. In the case of stable variation (/æ/-raising), no clear incrementation effects are observed; children tend to stay within the ranges produced by their parents in each contextual environment. These results corroborate earlier findings about the acquisition of both types of variation, and highlight the need to investigate the understudied age range between initial acquisition and adolescence.

Audiovisual cue enhancement in the production and perception of the COT-CAUGHT contrast
J. Havenhill
The University of Hong Kong

This paper is an articulatory and perceptual investigation of the COT-CAUGHT contrast among speakers from Chicago. Results from two experiments will be presented. Ultrasound tongue imaging shows that the articulatory strategy used to produce the COT-CAUGHT contrast varies between speakers. While some speakers produce the contrast with differences in both tongue position and lip rounding, others distinguish the two vowels through lip rounding alone. A single speaker maintains the contrast solely with a difference in tongue position, producing CAUGHT with unround lips. A perception experiment employing congruous and incongruous audiovisual stimuli (à la McGurk & MacDonald 1976) shows that visually unround variants of CAUGHT are significantly more likely to be (mis)perceived as COT than visually round variants. These results suggest that the presence of visible lip rounding helps to preserve the COT-CAUGHT contrast, and that articulatory strategies in which fronted CAUGHT loses its rounding will be dispreferred on perceptual grounds.

How far North does the South go? Appalachian Adoption of the Southern Vowel Shift
K. Hazen
West Virginia University

The Southern Vowel Shift (SVS) has had its ups and downs over the last hundred years. In some rural areas, the SVS expanded geographically over decades throughout the US South except urban areas. These SVS geographic divides provide a testing tool for the embedding of language change in Appalachia. For this corpus, there are both regional and age divisions in the vowel patterns. All evidence indicates that in this Appalachian transition zone, the SVS breaks down during its embedding and little of it is transmitted in communities at the end of the 20th century. The changing geographic identity of the region along with sharp attention to social class distinctions halted front-vowel SVS changes. The rising social stigma of "hillbilly" speech and the echoes of the Civil War WV secession appear to have colluded to dismantle the SVS as it transitioned north across Appalachia.

Analysing challenging variables: The case of intervocalic /l/-vocalisation in Bulgarian
V. Hofmann
University of Oxford

/l/-vocalisation, a process by which a velarised lateral [ɫ] changes into a labiovelar approximant [w], is a challenging variable to analyse. Since [ɫ] and [w] are difficult to distinguish from each other acoustically, most research on /l/-vocalisation has relied on auditory coding. In this study, we re-examine the possibility of analysing /l/-vocalisation acoustically by looking at the case of intervocalic /l/-vocalisation in Bulgarian, which has never been subject to variationist investigation before.

First, we used the Bulgarian speech corpus BulPhonC (Hateva, Mitankin & Mihov 2016) to examine intervocalic /l/-vocalisation auditorily, showing that it is most likely in the onset of unstressed syllables as well as before back vowels. We then tried to replicate these results acoustically by analysing the RMS amplitude difference between laterals and adjacent vowels. We found a significant link between the acoustic measurements and the auditory coding evaluations, but the method needs to be further refined.

Abstracts

"Slooow talkin' Southerners": Intonation and speech rate in the perception of regional American English
J. Holman
University of Colorado Boulder

This study examines the production and perception of speech rate and intonation as socially meaningful in regional American Englishes. Descriptions of prosody have been cited in folk explanations of sociolinguistic variation (e.g., Preston 1989) and recent sociophonetic work has focused on the social meaning-making potential of prosody (e.g., Burdin 2016; Reed 2016). In a two-part study, I examined the acoustics of intonation and rhythm in speech samples from four geographic regions of the US and then presented those speech samples as gammatone filtered stimuli in a perception study. The original measures of rhythm as syllables over time supported my hypothesis that samples from the South would be slowest; listeners' perception ratings also supported this. Measures of mean f0 slope and average pitch peaks per second, meant to capture 'sing-song' quality, showed little quantitative difference between regions but perceptions of monotonous intonation strongly patterned with identification of sample speech as Southern.

Do birds of a feather flock together? Real time incrementation and type of sound change
S. Holmes-Elliott
University of Southampton

Do all sound changes increment in the same way? In this paper I present a real time investigation of two different types of sound change in Southern British English : 1) GOOSE-fronting which is phonetically gradual and socially invisible, and 2) TH-fronting a phonetically abrupt and socially stigmatised change and target incrementation of these forms across two key periods, childhood (9-11 years) and adolescence (13-15 years).

Analysis reveals very different trajectories for these sound changes: for GOOSE-fronting, speakers flock uniformly towards the vanguard in a linear fashion. For TH-fronting, in contrast, there is marked interspeaker variability and an aggregate withdrawal from the change. Taken together, these results illustrate the intersection of two developmental processes: incrementation, and the acquisition of sociolinguistic competence. More broadly, they demonstrate how linguistic, social and developmental factors interact to constrain and propel different types of sound change.

The roles of linguistic transfer, education, and identity in the Hebrew of bilingual Palestinians
U. Horesh & R. J. Gafter
University of Essex, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Palestinians in Israel are typically bilingual in Palestinian Arabic and Modern Hebrew. The pharyngeal segments (ʕ) and (ħ) exist in both languages, exhibiting different variation patterns. Most Jewish speakers of Hebrew replace them with non-pharyngeals, whereas Palestinian speakers generally do produce pharyngeals in Arabic.

We analyze the Hebrew component of an Arabic/Hebrew bilingual corpus of sociolinguistic interviews with Palestinian speakers from Jaffa. Unlike the majority Jewish pattern, all but one speaker produced pharyngeals in Hebrew. A multivariate analysis of the Hebrew data shows that higher rates of pharyngeal production in Arabic do not predict higher rates of pharyngeals in Hebrew, suggesting that the Hebrew patterns cannot be attributed solely to linguistic interference. Taking into account social factors such as language of education, we argue that the use of pharyngeals is not simply a carryover from Arabic, but rather a socially meaningful resource indexically linked to the speakers' Arab identity.

Acquiring sociolinguistic competence in a new language: A mixed methods study of Roma migrants in Manchester
G. Howley
The University of Sheffield

This mixed methods study examines the acquisition of vernacular English dialect variation by adolescent Roma (Romani) migrants in Manchester, England. Drawing on two years' ethnography in high school, I analyze vocalic variation from recordings of 27 Roma participants across three variables (LETTER, HAPPY and GOOSE). Results of multivariate analyses show friendship network to be the most significant social factor.

Ethnography exposes the unreliability of participants' self-report data on friendships, and case studies taken from participant observation provide context to the quantitative results. Even in cases where factors of age, gender and family membership are held constant, the closer an individual's network ties are with their non-Roma peers, the closer his or her vocalic variation approximates to Manchester vernacular norms. As one of the first studies of Romanian Roma acquisition of English, this work speaks to ongoing discussions about migration, integration, and social factors impacting upon new language acquisition.

New methods for measuring coherence: A case study from northern Australia
X. Hua, F. Meakins, C. Algy & L. Bromham
Australian National University, The University of Queensland, The University of Queensland, Australian National University

Sociolinguists have long demonstrated how variation in a speech community indexes social categories such as age, gender, social class and ethnicity. Most analyses have been based on the indexical nature of individual variants, however some studies have also examined whether clusters of variants co-occur in speech of individuals of particular social categories, i.e. linguistic coherence. Few studies show strong support for linguistic coherence, which we suggest may be the result of the limited size of data sets and the methods used. Our Gurindji Kriol dataset from northern Australia consists of 78 speakers from three generations coded for their use of Gurindji, Kriol and Innovative variants across 120 variables (with 292 variants) and a range of social factors. We demonstrate how a large data set and three different modes of statistical analysis, in particular discriminant correspondence analysis, can reveal important patterns in language change within speaker communities.

The Use of Implosive Consonants in Obama's Style Shifts
T. Husain
University of Kentucky

Barack Obama, like most politicians, has been shown to change the way he speaks through style shifts based on his audience. In front of primarily black audiences, he adopts more features of AAVE such as coronal stop deletion, r-deletion, and lax final vowels. Previous studies have also found that implosives are used in American dialects, and it has been suggested that these features are more prominent in Southern dialects and in AAVE. If Obama also used more implosive consonants in front of black audiences, this would provide further evidence that implosives are considered to be a feature of AAVE. We analyzed acoustic data from a number of talks, speeches, and interviews in front of audiences of different ethnicities and in different levels of formality, differentiating implosives from normal voiced plosives through both auditory and acoustic analysis.

What's in a Name?
S. Jannedy & M. Weirich
Leibniz-ZAS Berlin, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

Alternation of /ç/ to [ʃ] or [ɕ], found in many varieties of German can carry social meaning in both speech production and perception (Jannedy & Weirich 2014). This alternation is found in the multiethnic Berlin youth variety, in a French learner's foreign accent when speaking German, and also in the middle German dialect area (Cologne area). We report here on several perception experiments in the vein of Hay & Drager (2010) by crossing them with social perception studies (Osgood et al. 1957), to investigate the impact of a) the geographic area in which the experiment is conducted and b) the speakers' supposed ethnicity indicated by a first name - in particular a German (native) vs. a foreign sounding name - on perceived (interpreted) language competency and personality traits. Our experimental results show that language external factors such as the name of a speaker (and by this his/her inferred origin) and location affect speaker ratings.

Pitch, affect and gender: the interaction of social and physiological factors in the speech of non-binary individuals
Y. Jas
Queen Mary University of London

I examine the role of social and physiological factors in pitch variation via eight non-binary speakers from Southeast England, using ~300 intonational phrases from interviews per speaker. Individuals are split evenly by birth-assigned gender, age, presentation and sexuality. Models considered how well these factors predict pitch mean, range and slope, as well as the role of affect.

No predictor is significant for mean; only birth assignment is significant for range. For slope, sexuality and age are significant. Masc-presenting speakers have significantly lower pitch in affect-neutral contexts and greater range in positive contexts. All social factors interact significantly with affect for slope, but the interaction with birth assignment and age is strongest: younger speakers assigned male show significantly less dynamism in neutral and positive contexts.

While physiology is important, social and contextual factors condition how pitch is employed, supporting Zimman's (2017) call for more nuanced approaches to studying gendered voices.

(Sub-)Urbanization, Local Identities, and Linguistic Behavior: Mapping /ai/ Variation Across Houston
L. Jeon & N. Niedzielski
Rice University

Major demographic transformations have shifted the country's population into large urban areas, and have reshaped its dialect boundaries. This study investigates the impact of (sub-)urbanization on local identities and linguistic behavior by examining phonetic variation among Anglo natives of Houston's three most populous counties. Acoustic phonetic and statistical analyses of /ai/ variation shows that these speakers are moving toward diphthongal production in apparent time, in parallel with other regions of the South. However, some speakers still produce monophthongal /ai/, regardless of age, education, or county, suggesting that variant /ai/ pronunciations carry important social meanings in the local community. Spatial GIS analyses of /ai/ variation also indicate substantial differences among speakers from neighborhoods with different urbanness levels. We argue that these patterns are particularly likely in Houston because of its socio-geographic context and history of urban development across the community.

The Ease of Codeswitching: Testing processing cost through the prosodic structure of bilingual speech
M. Johns & J. Steuck
The Pennsylvania State University

While sociolinguistic approaches often focus on where codeswitching is permitted within an utterance (e.g. Poplack 1980), the difficulty of switching has dominated psycholinguistic studies. In the present study, we capitalize on prosodically-based transcription of spontaneous bilingual speech to determine if cognitive constraints impact codeswitching. One such constraint is the Easy First Bias (EFB; MacDonald 2013), which states that more difficult elements tend to be postponed in production. If codeswitching is difficult, the EFB predicts it will occur later in a production unit.

In 226 prosodic sentences containing multiword codeswitching (Chafe 1994:139-140) from the New Mexico Spanish-English Bilingual corpus (Torres Cacoullos & Travis 2018), codeswitches occur significantly more often in the second half of the sentence. However, we found that speech rate significantly increased after a codeswitch, suggesting that, rather than being postponed due to supposed cognitive costs (e.g. Silva-Corvalán 1994:6), codeswitching serves a facilitative role for when production becomes difficult.

A language contact account of (ING) in New Mexico
F. Jones & C. Koops
University of Pennsylvania, University of New Mexico

We study (ING) in the speech of monolingual Hispanic and Anglo English speakers native to Northern New Mexico, where maintenance of Spanish as the traditional community language has historically been strong and shift to English happened only within the last 1-2 generations in many families. We document the frequent use of tense [i], rather than lax [ɪ], in (ING), yielding the two variants [in] and [iŋ], with Hispanic speakers showing a surprisingly high incidence of the [n]-variant. For some of these speakers, the [n] variant unexpectedly extends to careful speech. We attribute the high incidence of [n] to the influence of Spanish, which does not have phonemic /ŋ/, making it more likely for ethnolectal speakers to revert to an invariant [n]. These findings suggest a language-contact account of the little-understood "een" variant of (ING), which has been documented in California (Fought 2003, Eckert 2008), and beyond (Rose et al. 2004).

Two New Ways of Analyzing Vocalic merger
T. Jones
University of Pennsylvania

We propose two further methods of analysis of vocalic merger, both of which seek to better answer what we believe is the fundamental underlying question about vocalic mergers than existing "best practices" (Nycz & Hall-Lew 2013): given two sets of observations, are these two sets drawn from the same n-dimensional distribution? The two methods proposed are the Rosenbaum Multivariate Cross-Match test, and the use of confusion matrices from Support Vector Machines (SVMs). Both better address whether observations are sampled from the same underlying distribution (unlike Spectral Overlap which measures 2D overlap but not similarity of distributions, and Pillai Scores, which measure the amount of variance explained by class label). Both also can be extended to higher dimensions, allowing the inclusion of much more phonetic data than two formants. The behavior of these statistics is demonstrated on artificial data before being used to characterize actual speech.

Abstracts

Maintaining style in language death
J. Kasstan
Queen Mary University of London

Contrary to Labov's *Principle of style shifting*, studies in language obsolescence portray speakers of dying languages as 'monostylistic', a characterization questioned here. Variationist methodology is adopted in a context of gradual language death. By combining quantitative and interactional analyses of data from older, younger, and new speakers of Francoprovençal in France and Switzerland, the article considers (a) to what extent variability in language obsolescence differs from that found in 'healthy' languages, and (b) how innovations might spread through communities speaking threatened languages characterized as 'monostylistic' and lacking overt normative infrastructure. It is argued that style shifting (not monostylism) emerges from linguistic decay: among more fluent speakers, a categorical rule of /l/-palatalization before obstruents becomes underspecified, rendering palatalization available for strategic use. Among new speakers, novel palatal variants form part of an emergent sociolinguistic norm. The study offers fresh insights on the origins of sociolinguistic variation with implications for variationist theory.

Mean pitch and style: A focus on three individuals in Hawai'i
M. J. Kirtley & K. Drager
Chrysalis, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

In this talk, we present work conducted on the speech of three individuals in Hawai'i, exploring the ways in which the speakers manipulate their mean pitch in the construction of style.

The results demonstrate that all three speakers use a low pitch when being romantic. However, one of the speakers – a Native Hawaiian, māhū speaker who uses she/her – raises her pitch when doing toughness. Using high pitch to do toughness is surprising given previous work on pitch and perceived physical dominance (cf. Puts et al. 2007), but it is consistent with perception work conducted in Hawai'i for talkers who are identified as Native Hawaiian (Drager et al., forthcoming).

Taken together, the results highlight how pitch contributes to a speaker's style. Further, they demonstrate the importance of considering local language use and understudied speaker populations, even for linguistic cues, like pitch, that are often assumed to be iconic.

Partial /ai/-Raising as a Contact Phenomenon
J. Kodner & C. Richter
University of Pennsylvania

/aɪ/-Raising describes the phonological raising of /aɪ/ before underlyingly voiceless segments in varieties of North American English (ANAE, p. 205). It is a famous example of phonological opacity because it occurs before flapped-/t/ but not flapped-/d/, allowing minimal pairs like "writer-rider." Its origins remain a mystery, as highlighted in the recent back-and-forth between Fruehwald (2016, 2017) and Berkson et al. (2017). Berkson et al. find evidence that some speakers in Fort Wayne, IN, an area where /aɪ/-raising is spreading but not entrenched, exhibit transparent-only raising before surface voiceless segments only (i.e., "write" is raised but not "writer"), the first evidence for such a grammar since Joos's (1942) mention of it in 1940s Ontario. We demonstrate that transparent-only raising can arise as the consequence of native language acquisition in mixed full-/non-raising populations. This casts transparent-raising as a contact phenomenon, rather than an an incipient form of full raising.

Studying variation and change at the articulatory level using ultrasound

S. Kwon
University of Pennsylvania

This paper shows how articulatory data provide a refined account of a phonological change by demonstrating an on-going phonological restructuring in /w/-deletion in Seoul Korean is driven by quantitative changes in lip rounding rather than tongue raising. Using ultrasound and side-view camera, tongue and lip movements of speakers of different age groups were recorded and the magnitude of tongue and lip gestures were quantified using Optical Flow Analysis. The results show that old speakers still exhibit much smaller lip gestures when /w/ is preceded by bilabials than alveolars or velars, whereas younger speakers produce /w/ with similar amount of lip gestures across contexts. The patterns for the magnitude of tongue gestures, in contrast, do not show any apparent-time difference. These findings not only support the diachronic trajectory of change found in the previous corpus studies but also enrich the account by showing different articulatory execution across the different age groups.

Structural and semantic conditioning of the New Mexican Spanish subjunctive: Maintenance in a contact variety

D. Lacasse
The Pennsylvania State University

This paper probes simplification as a mechanism of contact-induced change, by examining subjunctive vs. indicative use in Spanish complement clauses in a Spanish-English bilingual corpus (N=550) and a monolingual benchmark (N=1153). Subjunctive loss is tested through replicable operationalizations of semantic and structural conditioning of mood choice: Matrix polarity, sentence type, tense-aspect-mood (TAM), and intervening material between the matrix and its complement. All four factors show the same direction of effect in both corpora; only one, intervening material, did not reach significance in the bilingual corpus, though it trends in the same direction as the benchmark. Results thus reveal virtually no difference between the two corpora, and fail to provide evidence for contact-induced simplificatory change in New Mexican Spanish. The difference from other studies of U.S. Spanish stems from the speech community--in which bilinguals regularly use both their languages--and from the evaluation metrics—variation patterns rather than overall rates.

Gender stereotypes affect the perception of tone and pitch

W. Lai
University of Pennsylvania

This study investigated the integration of speaker gender in Cantonese level tone perception. 2 female-sounding voices, 2 male- sounding voices, and 1 gender-ambiguous voice were selected by masculinity/femininity rating, and were superimposed with 6 F0 steps. After randomization, 26 native Cantonese speakers categorized these stimuli as either a high-tone word or a mid-tone word twice: once to gender-prototypical stimuli in bare sounds, and a second time to all stimuli each patterned with a gendered name. Crucially, the gender-prototypical stimuli always co-occurred with a name of their own gender, and the gender-ambiguous stimuli occurred once with a female name and a second time with a male name. The result showed that with equalized pitch, listeners tend to hear a lower tone for female-sounding stimuli and a higher tone for male-sounding stimuli. Gendered names strengthened this effect when combined with gender voices, but hardly showed any effect on its own.

Prior experience with a linguistic variant affects the acquisition of its social meaning: An experimental simulation using alien language learning
W. Lai, P. Rácz & G. Roberts
University of Pennsylvania, University of Bristol, University of Pennsylvania

We report two artificial-language-learning experiments investigating the effect on acquisition of sociolinguistic variation of two kinds of experiential unexpectedness: encountering a variant for the first time (Experiment 1) or in an ungrammatical context (Experiment 2). An "alien" language was designed with two dialects used by two alien species: Gulus and Norls. The dialects differed with regard to a plural suffix: Gulus mostly use "dup" while Norls mostly use "nup". Participants were exposed to the language without aliens to establish "prior experience", and were then exposed to it with alien interlocutors. We manipulated whether, in the prior experience stage, "nup" occurred at all (Experiment 1) and whether "nup" was linguistically conditioned (Experiment 2). Finally, sociolinguistic learning was evaluated by suffix selection given aliens and alien selection given suffixes. The result showed that sociolinguistic learning was facilitated by the first encounter of "nup", indicating that unexpectedness facilitates the acquisition of sociolinguistic variation.

Stance, Style and the Creole Continuum: Stylistic variation in the Bahamian copula system
A. Laube
Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

This paper examines copula variation in the speech of Bahamians and considers linguistic, social, and stylistic factors conditioning the observed variation. Building on Kiesling's (2009: 172) idea "that people's primary way of organizing interaction [...] is through stances" and that stance is thus at the heart of stylistic variation, the study attempts to model the effects of style on variable copula use in Bahamian (Creole) English, i.e., copula deletion and present and past be leveling.

Building on a corpus of mesolectal creole data from the late 1990s as well as a range of conversational data from the Bahamas subcomponent of the International Corpus of English, the study finds that different speech activities, i.e., stances, do indeed condition the variation and, to some extent, "style takes precedence over social status" in influencing speakers' linguistic choices (Deuber 2014: 242).

An ultrasound-tongue-imaging study of rhoticity in a socially-stratified spontaneous speech corpus of Scottish English
E. Lawson
Queen Margaret University - Edinburgh

Previous ultrasound-tongue-imaging (UTI) research, based on word-list recordings, shows that socially-stratified coda /r/ weakening in Scottish English results from variation in anterior tongue gesture timing – working-class speakers have delayed tongue-tip raising gestures, resulting in audible weakening of /r/, while middle-class speakers do not. The current study aimed to determine if this phenomenon is also evident in spontaneous speech. Tokens of coda /r/ were extracted from UTI-recordings of conversational speech from eight male and female Glaswegian Scottish adolescents (half middle-class, half working-class) and gesture timing was measured and normalised. Mixed-effects modelling confirmed the presence of the same socially-stratified articulatory timing patterns found in word-list speech; class was found to be the biggest predictor of gesture delay. However, prosodic boundary effects also have an effect on gesture timing, as the utterance-final context (Vr###) was found to condition significantly longer gesture delays in /r/ than any other phonological context, for both social-class groups.

Expecting a performance: Listener expectations and social meanings in Tweets
D. Leigh
Stanford University

How and why listeners reach certain interpretations of speakers remains a pressing theoretical question. I suggest that contextual expectations of language use shape distinct interpretations of variant meanings, even in the absence of other socioindexical cues. Using a novel experimental paradigm, I examine how the highly performative modality of (constructed) Twitter posts shape 'listener' expectations of 'speaker' performance, thereby generating distinct sets of social evaluations for particular realizations of (ING). For example, a Tweeter using the form walkin' is considered 'funnier' and more 'masculine' (both $p < 0.05$) than a Tweeter using the form walkin. I argue that this effect derives from listeners' perceptions of –in' (but not –in) as a performative move. I discuss the results of two similar experiments, that likewise suggest that such interpretations are shaped by ideologically-motivated expectations of linguistic performance, and in particular, expectations of gendered language use.

Participation networks: The role of social networks in constraining participation in a change-in-progress among Latinxs in New Orleans, LA
T. Lewis
Tulane University

This paper explores the participation of immigrant groups in local changes in progress by evaluating the extent to which Latinx immigrants to New Orleans are acquiring a nasal /ae/ system. Speakers of New Orleans English have traditionally exhibited an allophonic split /ae/ system (Labov 2007). However, recent evidence suggests a shift to a nasal system (Labov 2007, Carmichael 2014). Latinx English speakers, however, have been noted to resist /ae/ rising (Thomas 2001, Carter, Lopez, & Sims 2015). I argue here that while first generation Latinx immigrants are not participating in the traditional New Orleans split system, some Latinx immigrants to New Orleans are acquiring a nasal /ae/ system. Using an innovative approach to network structures drawing on Dodsworth & Benton (2017) and Sharma (2017), I illustrate that depth of embeddedness in the local Latinx community proves to be a significant predictor of participation in the local change in progress.

A variationist analysis of locative markers in Chengdu dialect
A. Li
Shanghai Jiao Tong University

This paper studies the variation that is subject to language contact between the suffix - tou, a locative marker in Chengdu dialect spoken in Southwest China, and its standard Chinese counterpart -mian. The data are drawn from sociolinguistic interviews with 40 native speakers of Chengdu dialect. It is shown that the standard variant -mian has outnumbered -tou and come to dominate. Multivariate analysis implied by factor weight indicates that the variable use of locatives in Chengdu dialect can be best explained through social constraints with a ranking of age > language attitude > education level. The persistence of both categorical -tou (the dialectal use of -tou) and non-categorical -tou (where variation occurs) embodies competition between local solidarity and stance-seeking in language standardization and helps to better our understanding of convergence and divergence in language contact. To our knowledge, this is the first study that systematically investigates the variation of Chinese locatives.

Sociolinguistic variables, integration and identity markers among Filipino Winnipeggers
L. Li, N. Rosen & H. Tran
University of Manitoba

In this talk, we draw together studies investigating different loci of variation among Canadian-born Winnipeggers of Filipino descent. Variables under study fall into three categories; i) changes in progress in the local community (Canadian shift, æg-raising, general extenders, quotative use), ii) language transfer from Tagalog (VOT), and iii) inherent variation (vowel duration). We find that while Filipino Winnipeggers (FW) participate in ongoing changes with their Traditional Winnipegger (TW) peers, they do not adopt TW features wholesale, adapting them to reflect their own identity. More crucially, while many aspects of Filipino Winnipeggers speech show that they are well-integrated into the local community, we argue that they make use of non-socially marked variables such as VOT and vowel duration to act as identity markers, maintaining an integrated but distinct identity within the local linguistic landscape.

Generational Effects for the Intonation of Nuclear Configuration in Palenquero and Vernacular Spanish Declaratives
W. Lopez-Barrios
University of Massachusetts - Amherst

Palenquero is an Afro-Hispanic creole language spoken in San Basilio de Palenque, Colombia, with around 200 elements of Bantu origin, and those who speak Palenquero also speak a local Spanish variety—Vernacular Spanish (VS). Previous work (Hualde & Schwegler, 2008) suggested that Palenquero stressed syllables correlate with a H level tone, and nuclear contours involving oxytonic words trigger the occurrence of this level tone without a boundary tone. New language revitalization efforts have resulted in younger community members acquiring Palenquero as an L2, and previous studies did not test for differences between older and younger speakers. We explore the intonational nuclear contours for unmarked declaratives ending with oxytonic and paroxytonic words, in Palenquero and VS. A total of 182 utterances were collected using the discourse completion task—culturally adapted to this speech community— for Palenquero and VS. The data analyzed in this study supports our hypotheses that age is a significant predictor (p<0.05) because adults realized L+H*L% in VS declaratives with oxytonic words, whereas young speakers display level H tones favoring flat contours.

Phonological maintenance in heritage Veneto /r/ spoken in the town of Santa Teresa, Brazil
S. Loriato
University of Bergamo/University of Pavia

This paper will present the findings of a study of inter-generational variation in the articulation of word-initial /r/ among heritage speakers of Veneto residing in the rural village of Santa Teresa. In Veneto spoken in Italy, word-initial /r/ can be pronounced as [ɾ] or as [r]. Considering the fact that Veneto and Portuguese have co-existed in Santa Teresa for 144 years, it would be possible for the Portuguese [h] to have been transferred into the Veneto of bilingual speakers. To investigate this hypothesis, 1020 tokens of word-initial /r/ were extracted from a corpus of spontaneous speech of 28 residents of Santa Teresa speaking Veneto. Results of multivariate analysis show that Portuguese-influenced [h] has had very little penetration into the Veneto of bilingual speakers. In fact, only a few speakers had any [h] at all, and most [h] tokens were found in proper names, borrowings from Portuguese and Portuguese/Veneto cognates.

It's a TRAP!: The trigger for the Elsewhere Shift in Lansing, Michigan
A. Mason
Michigan State University

The Elsewhere Shift (ES), also known as the Canadian/California Shift, has typically been thought to be triggered by LOT backing towards merger with THOUGHT, pulling TRAP, DRESS and KIT down and back, in that order. This timeline is challenged when examining recent findings on the incipient adoption of the ES by younger speakers in Lansing, Michigan (Wagner et al. 2016).

 Interviews with 50 Lansingites born between 1908 and 1996 find women leading the robust backing of TRAP, advanced perhaps because of possible negative associations garnered by the older, raised TRAP variant (Nesbitt 2017). In contrast, men lead a weaker backing trend for LOT; much of the youngest generation (including some advanced TRAP-backers) are replicating the moderate to fronted LOT realizations of older generations. These findings are contrary to the chain-shifting expectations we would have if LOT initiated the shift, suggesting that TRAP is actually the trigger for the ES in Lansing.

Birth of a contact language did not favour simplification
F. Meakins, X. Hua & L. Bromham
The University of Queensland, Australian National University, Australia National University

This study is the first investigation of contact-induced change within a single speaker population which uses multiple variants. It also represents an innovative modification of the Wright-Fisher population genetics model to investigating temporal change in linguistic data. We report on the rapid birth of a new language in Australia, Gurindji Kriol, from the admixture of Gurindji and Kriol. We use data from 78 speakers coded for their use of Gurindji, Kriol and Innovative variants across 120 variables (with 292 variants). We track changes in variant use over three generations of Gurindji people. We show that the adoption of variants into Gurindji Kriol was not random, but biased towards Kriol variants and Innovations. This bias is not explained by simplification, as is often claimed for contact-induced change. There is no preferential adoption of less complex variants and, in fact, complex Kriol variants are more likely to adopted over simpler Gurindji variants.

Making FAVE ready for New Englishes: Applying and modifying FAVE for semi-automatic acoustic analyses of Trinidadian English vowels
P. Meer & J. A. Matute Flores
University of Muenster

FAVE-align and FAVE-extract (Rosenfelder et al. 2014) are useful tools for semi-automatic acoustic analyses of vowels. However, they are based and trained on Standard American English and therefore difficult to apply to non-American Englishes.

This paper analyzes how FAVE can be used and modified for semi-automatic acoustic analyses of Trinidadian English (TrE) vowels. First, we report on the changes that had to be implemented in FAVE's dictionary. Second, we analyze the performance of FAVE-align. Third, based on 1,948 manual vowel measurements, we replace the priors that FAVE-extract uses for its formant prediction with our own priors, and have the program use lexical sets (Wells 1982) for the prediction. Fourth, we evaluate the performance of the modified version of FAVE-extract compared to the original and the manual measurements.

Our results have implications for using semi-automatic procedures in sociophonetic studies of Caribbean and other New Englishes.

Computational sociolinguistics: methodological innovations in exploring conceptual variation and change
S. Mehl, S. Fitzmaurice, M. Alexander, I. Hine, F. Dallachy & J. Robinson
The University of Sheffield, The University of Sheffield, University of Glasgow, The University of Sheffield, University of Glasgow, University of Sussex

We introduce new computational methods innovated by the Linguistic DNA project and show their application in discovering new sociolinguistic dimensions of lexical variation and change. The Linguistic DNA project is a collaboration among linguists, historians and digital humanities developers at the Universities of Sheffield, Glasgow and Sussex (AHRC-funded AH/M00614X/1). The project maps semantic and conceptual variation in Early Modern English. In order to identify concepts, the project assumes the existence of discursive concepts which are realised by the combination of various textual cues, for example words, which are related syntagmatically (Fitzmaurice et al 2018). The project uses a data-driven approach based on computational analysis of lexical co-occurrence in Early English Books Online. To do this, first we analyse lexical co-occurrence for thousands of content words simultaneously, producing extremely large data sets of co-occurrence. Second, we analyse co-occurrence across wide discursive windows of 20, 50, and 200 tokens. Third, we perform statistical analyses of co-occurrence using grammatical baselines. Finally, we identify not just co-occurrence pairs, but co-occurrence trios.

Clock-time expressions: A case of coincident, broadly cross-linguistic shift
R. Melnick
Pomona College

Technology change can precipitate coordinated shift in lexical frequency—in every language indexed by Google Books, the word for "telephone" is more common today than a hundred years ago—but coincident cross-linguistic shift in functional expressions is rare. The present work details such a shift in the broad decline of relative-time expressions ("half past five", "10 to seven") in favor of absolute-time forms ("seven forty-five", "8:02 p.m."). Time expressions were programmatically extracted from Google Books Ngrams for seven languages—Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish. Relative-time expressions significantly decline over the past 30-50 years in six of the seven languages. (German is a puzzling outlier.) A companion crowdsourced experiment supports the notion that this shift may follow from the rapid adoption of digital time devices (clocks, smartphones). In captioning images, participants produced significantly fewer relative-time expressions for digital displays than for analog clock faces.

Developing different patterns of social evaluation in the speech community
M. A. S. Melo & C. A. Gomes
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

This study addresses the results of an evaluation test of two sociolinguistic variables – coda (s) and (r) – applied to three sets of speakers from the Rio de Janeiro speech community, representing two social groups with different degrees of social insertion: a) middle-middle and low-middle class speakers; and b) two sets of slum-living adolescents from the lower class: one formed by socially excluded adolescents, with no access to formal education, and the other formed by socially included adolescents with regular schooling. The variants which were tested correspond to glottal and postalveolar fricatives for coda (s), such as me[ɦ]mo ~ me[ʒ]mo (same); and presence and absence of internal coda (r), such as cerveja ~ ceØveja (beer). The results revealed the existence of different patterns of social evaluation among different social groups in the speech community, probably related to different access to institutions responsible for the maintenance and diffusion of sociolinguistic values.

Computational linguistic analysis of dehumanization of LGBTQ groups in the media
J. Mendelsohn
Stanford University

I adapt several computational linguistic techniques, including vector space models and sentiment analysis, to measure various components of dehumanization. I apply these techniques to quantify the dehumanization of LGBTQ people in the New York Times over a span of 30 years. Results suggest that LGBTQ people have become increasingly humanized over time; more positive language is used to discuss LGBTQ people and issues, reporting gives more attention to LGBTQ people's stories and experiences, and LGBTQ terms are associated less with moral disgust. However, the label homosexual occurs in more dehumanizing contexts than other labels, such as gay or lesbian, suggesting that these terms have vastly different social meanings despite denotational similarity. This work's use of computational approaches to address social and linguistic questions not only demonstrates the potential for such tools in future LVC research, but also has implications for improving automatic detection of harmful biases and abusive language online.

Do grammatical and phonetic variables interact in perception?
R. B. Mendes
University of São Paulo

This paper asks whether the independence of morphosyntactic and phonetic variables in perception is related to their level in the grammar or to their covariation in production. Using the matched-guise technique, three variables are combined in the natural speech of one male and one female: (EN) – nasal /e/ (diphthong or a monophthong), coda (r) (tap or retroflex), and standard or nonstandard (NP-agreement). Participants rated stimuli on a variety of scales. All three variables have an effect on perceived "paulistanity" and masculinity/femininity. However, only the two phonetic variables show a significant conjoint interaction. The experiment provides evidence that absence of covariation in production does not necessarily imply independence in perception, and that some variables that do covary in production are independent in perception. Further, it appears that grammatical variables seem less prominent for combining with phonetic ones in their effects on perception.

New approaches to scaling up: Tracking variation from individual to group and to language
M. Meyerhoff, R. Arnold, D. Barth, M. Dunn, S. Greenhill, S. Klaere, N. Nagy, N. Niedzielski, J. Walker, R. Gray and E. Hazenberg
Victoria University of Wellington, Victoria University of Wellington, The Australian National University, Uppsala University, MPI for the Science of Human History, Wilfred Laurier University, University of Toronto, Rice University, La Trobe University, MPI for the Science of Human History, University of Sussex

Variation between individuals gives rise to differences between varieties and – ultimately – languages. Or so the thinking goes. No-one has ever shown this. In this paper, we tackle this problem of scaling up.

We use likelihood based finite mixture clustering methods to prevent the clustering being dominated by features in very common use, or speakers with many utterances in the data set. We focus on the patterning of 36 morphosyntactic variables common to the eWAVE and Bequia datasets.

We find five key features do the most work in separating eWAVE varieties into five groups and Caribbean Englishes into three groups. The results support the idea that differences between individuals are what ultimately give rise over time to differences between varieties. This suggests that it should be possible to track the same features through deep time.

Definite change taking place: Determiner realization in multiethnic communities in New Zealand

M. Meyerhoff, E. Ballard, A. Birchfield, H. Charters & C. Watson
Victoria University of Wellington, The University of Auckland, Victoria University of Wellington, Independent Scholar, The University of Auckland

This paper examines data from three communities in New Zealand's largest and most ethnically diverse city, Auckland, to determine whether previous results from communities where there has been considerable migration generalise to other urban areas where there is no ethnic majority.

We examine the realisation of *the* prevocalically (N=747): Standard English prescribes [ði], but [ðə] is generalised for many speakers and typifies contact varieties of English. Our research confirms that this variant is a diagnostic of highly mixed communities; it occurs principally in the speech of L1 speakers of English exposed to large numbers of L2 English speakers in the two preceding generations; we don't find young men leading the change as they do in London. In the early stages of change, specific linguistic constraints are significant, but as an innovation diffuses through the community more general linguistic principles are important.

Input estimation as a predictor of phonetic variation

V. Miatto, S. Hamann & P. Boersma
Stony Brook University, University of Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam

English loanwords ending with consonants are usually adapted into Italian with the insertion of a schwa-like vocalic element in word-final position, although variation has been attested. While previous literature has focused on intra-speaker variation, inter-speaker variation has been noticed as well. In the analysis of linguistic variation, 'language proficiency', determined through self-assessment tests, is often included as an inter-speaker factor influencing the variable studied. In contrast, stochastic theoretical frameworks argue for speech categories being established from the statistics of the speech signal, meaning that categories or constraints can be modified or formed if enough input is received. This study therefore aims to establish whether the amount of native English input received through both passive and active interaction determines variation in the production of these vocalic elements, regardless of the speaker's language proficiency. Results show that Italian speakers exposed to greater amounts of native English input insert a vocalic element less frequently, confirming the predictions.

Age vectors vs. axes of intraspeaker variation for North American and Scottish English vowel formants

J. Mielke, J. Fruehwald, E. Thomas, M. McAuliffe, M. Sonderegger & R. Dodsworth
North Carolina State University, The University of Edinburgh, North Carolina State University, McGill University, McGill University, North Carolina State University

We examine vowel formant variation in several natural speech corpora of North American and United Kingdom English. Labov (1994) has suggested that a speaker's tokens of a particular vowel will be aligned along an axis coinciding with the direction that vowel is shifting diachronically in a given community. We compare the direction of change in apparent time with the axis of intraspeaker variation in F1 and F2 for several vowel phonemes in several corpora of North American and Scottish English, using Polyglot/ISCAN (www.spade.glasgow.ac.uk). For most vowels, the axis of intraspeaker variation was aligned vertically, presumably corresponding to the degree of jaw opening for individual tokens, but for the North American GOOSE vowel, the axis of intraspeaker variation was aligned with the (horizontal) axis of diachronic change for this vowel across North America. This may help to explain why fronting and unrounding of high back vowels are common shifts across languages.

Abstracts

Reversal of the Northern Cities Shift in Buffalo, NY
A. Milholland
University of Rochester

The Northern Cities Shift (NCS) is a chain shift affecting the short vowels of English, part of the dialect of the Inland North (Labov, Ash and Boberg 2006). Increasingly researchers are describing a reversal of the NCS: in Syracuse (Driscoll & Lape 2014), Chicago (McCarthy 2011), and Lansing (Wagner et al 2016). Labov, Yeager and Steiner (1972) include Buffalo, NY in their early description of the NCS, and Labov et al 2006 confirm its maintenance there; I revisit this core Inland North city to determine the extent to which Buffalo speakers are currently participating in the NCS. Apparent time results, taken from recordings of a word list and semantic differential task, suggest a retreat from the NCS in Buffalo, and in general younger ages and higher education levels correlate with low NCS scores. In contrast with Driscoll and Lape's (2014) findings in Syracuse, there is no correlation between perceptions of Buffalo/the Buffalo accent and NCS score based on responses to the questions asked after formal testing. However, the youngest speakers also show greater participation in the 'Elsewhere Dialect' (Fridland, Kendall & Fickle 2013) than the NCS, pointing to a possible adoption of the Elsewhere Dialect in response to increasing stereotypes of the Inland North dialect. This suggests that there is a complex relationship between the increasing level of consciousness of the Inland North dialect and speaker perceptions.

Internal vs. contact-induced variability: Phonetic but not phonological fidelity in Heritage Italian VOT
N. Nagy, R. Nodari & C. Celata
University of Toronto, Scuola Normale Superiore, Scuola Normale Superiore

Do contact-induced changes proceed differently from internal changes? If the variable has an established indexical value in the homeland variety – how is this manifest in the heritage context? 3,414 tokens illustrate aspiration patterns in Heritage Calabrian Italian or 23 Toronto speakers. In English, aspiration preferentially applies to voiceless onsets in stressed syllables; this might operate as a contact-induced rule in Heritage Italian (as in Heritage Russian and Ukrainian in Toronto). In contrast, Calabrian Italian has an internal socioindexed rule that preferentially aspirates unstressed syllables: lengthening is favored among speakers with positive 'local' orientation. MEMs of normalized VOT illustrate cross-generational stability for the contact-induced but not the internal rule, where the indexical pattern is intact through the second generation. Ethnic orientation, speech rate and vocabulary size differences don't correlate to the internal pattern , while, the more one orients toward Italian identity/language, the less one adopts the English or contact-induced pattern.

Changing accents changes syllables: The effect of diachronic phonetic change on syllabic representations in the Inland North
M. Nesbitt
Michigan State University

TRAP in the Inland North region of North America is described as [tense] as it moves upward along the periphery of the vowel space. Recent studies note the back and downward trajectory of TRAP over time in the dialect area which suggests a shift in this phoneme from tense to lax. We test this hypothesis utilizing a syllable judgement task on 63 Michiganders, as syllabic judgements for intervocalic consonants in American English are conditioned by the tenseness of the preceding vowel, i.e. when preceded by a long/tense vowel, speakers parse them as onsets of the following syllable. Our results show a diachronic change in syllable judgements for consonants following TRAP; older Michiganders parse them as onsets and younger Michiganders parse them as codas. We observe that TRAP in the Inland North has been reassigned to the lax vowel class making it indistinguishable from TRAP in Canada, the West, and Midland.

Phonetic contrast in New York Hasidic Yiddish peripheral vowels
C. R. Nove
The Graduate Center at CUNY

This study describes change in the phonetic properties of the long and short correlates of /i/, /u/ and /a/ in New York Hasidic Yiddish. Utilizing audio-recorded words lists from 24 native speakers, vowel duration and formants (F1 & F2) are compared across word class and speaker generations. The results indicate a qualitative (tense-lax) difference in the high vowel pairs, i.e., [i] vs. [ɪ] and [u] vs. [ʊ]. Regression models suggest an increase in Euclidean distance and a diminution in the durational difference in apparent time (i.e., across speaker generation) between the correlates of the /i/ and /u/ pairs. Long and short /a/, on the other hand, appear to overlap in phonetic space and be distinguished primarily by length, with a similar reduction in durational difference across speaker generation. Taken together, the analyses point to a change toward a more quality-based contrast for the high vowels, but not the low vowel pair.

What Do We Mean by Structure?: Mobile Speakers and the (Non-)Coherence of Chain Shifts
J. Nycz
Georgetown University

A long-standing issue in sociolinguistics is the relationship between community and individual - how closely do patterns at one level map to the other, and to what extent does variation across both levels submit to similar explanation? Variables correlating at the community level don't necessarily align in individuals; while variables which are structurally connected may align, those lacking grammatical connection may vary more freely. This talk analyses data from 22 native-Torontonians-turned-New-Yorkers in varying stages of reversing their Canadian Shift. As a group, speakers exhibit fronted LOT and fronted/raised TRAP/DRESS. At the speaker level, however, there is no correlation between the position of LOT and that of TRAP/DRESS, suggesting that systemic pressures shape the vowel system of a community, but are not part of a grammar that enforces dispersion or otherwise maintains specific relationships between vowels.

Documenting Individual Variation in ASL (DIVA)
C. Occhino & J. Hill
National Technical Institute for the Deaf (Rochester Institute of Technology)

Documenting Individual Variation in ASL (DIVA) is a grant funded initiative investigating linguistic variation and language attitudes in ASL users. 100 Deaf students, representing 46 states and Puerto Rico, will be recruited from the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). Using a targeted lexical elicitation task, semi-scripted personal narratives, and a language attitude survey, we are assembling an ASL database, which is the first of it's kind to document individual variation within a significant population of Deaf students. In this presentation we report our preliminary analysis of variation collected during the first quarter of the study. Phonetic, lexical, and grammatical variation are discussed in both individual signs and signed narratives. Ultimately, the database collected at NTID/RIT will serve as a micro-study intended to represent regional and socio-cultural intersections in the overall ASL signing community.

Abstracts

Contrasting Age of Arrival and Length of Residence in Dialect Contact
L. Oushiro
University of Campinas

This paper reports on the analysis of a corpus built to disentangle the effects of Age of Arrival (AoA) and Length of Residence (LoR) in the dialect contact situation of rural Northeastern migrants living in São Paulo/Brazil, whose speech differs both in Northeastern/Southeastern and rural/urban traits. Mixed-effects models of four sociolinguistics variables–(i) coda /r/ (porta 'door'); (ii) /t,d/ before [i] (tia 'aunt'); (iii) sentential negation (não vi/não vi não 'I haven't seen'); and (iv) nominal agreement (os menino-s/menino-ø 'the boys')–show that AoA correlates only with the phonetic variables and LoR correlates only with coda /r/. Self-reported "identity" indices align with the variables' geographical distribution, correlating with coda /r/ and negation (the Northeastern/Southeastern variables) and but not with /t,d/ and nominal agreement (the rural/urban variables). Thus, while AoA and LoR distinguish phonetic and morphosyntactic variables, dialect acquisition also involves a complex web of differently defined regional and individual identities.

When a new pronoun crosses the border: The spread of a gente along the Brazilian-Uruguayan frontier
C. Pacheco, A. M. Carvalho & M. M. P. Scherre
Universidade de Brasília, University of Arizona, Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo/Universidade de Brasília

The use of the first-person plural pronoun a gente, which resulted from the grammaticalization of the noun phrase a gente, meaning "the people", is well attested in Brazilian Portuguese and increasingly displacing the pronoun nós ("we"). Spanish, however, uses the pronoun nosotros categorically and reserves the cognate la gente for its purely lexical meaning 'the people'. Here we show that this ongoing linguistic change in Brazilian Portuguese has crossed the border and entered Uruguayan Portuguese, a variety spoken in northern Uruguay by Portuguese-Spanish bilinguals. This finding is based on the quantification of the a gente/nós variable in sociolinguistic interviews carried out in two border communities: Aceguá, Brazil, and Aceguá, Uruguay. The analysis of 38 speakers, 19 on each side of the border, points to similar trends in both communities, indicating that bilinguals continue to assimilate Brazilian linguistic innovations despite of long-term contact with Spanish.

The role of similarity in sound change: Variation and change in Diné affricates[1]
K. Palakurthy
University of California - Santa Barbara

Studies have documented an increase in variation and frequency of change in communities undergoing language shift. Segments that are similar across languages appear particularly vulnerable to change through phonemic transfer or subphonemic convergence with the dominant language. However, phonetic documentation of specific changes in minority languages is limited, and what constitutes similarity remains vague. This paper presents a study of incipient sound change in the Diné (Navajo) affricates: /tl/ > /gl/ and /tɬ'/ > /kɬ'/. Variation among proficient speakers points to the relevance of phonetic similarity in these changes, confirmed through acoustic analysis, while the strong correlation with age suggests external pressure, as younger speakers have less exposure to the Diné language and are more likely to substitute the English cluster /gl/ for /tl/. This study shows how multiple motivators can be identified for changes in a threatened language that otherwise appear to be straightforward substitutions from a dominant language.

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1   Best Student Abstract Winner

Coronal palatalization in the Greek of Greek Canadians
P. Pappas, D. Papazachariou, I. Presnyakova & S. Tsolakidis
Simon Fraser University, University of Patras, Simon Fraser University, University of Patras

We present the results of a variationist analysis of coronal palatalization in the Greek of Greek-Canadians, a feature stigmatized since the mid-1990s. The few studies that exist do not agree on its geographical distribution. We attempt to recover it from the speech pattern of Greek-Canadians who emigrated two decades before stigmatization. Based on a dataset constructed from the interviews of 70 speakers and 7000 tokens of /l/ and /n/ before palatalizing and non-palatalizing environments, our results show that alveolar variants are predominantly found in speakers from Athens. Palatal variants are used by speakers from the Ionian islands, and Lesbos. Finally, speakers from the Peloponnese, and northern Greece exhibit a more variable pattern that includes palatalized variants as well.

The effects of media exposure on regional association: A case study of Mandarin aspectual *you*
C. Peng
CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College

There is a long-standing tradition discounting the effect of media exposure on language variation, this study shows that televised media play a role in formulating and reinforcing regional associations of linguistic features. The Mandarin aspectual marker *you* provides empirical evidence in this regard because it is often associated with Taiwan Mandarin by many Chinese mainlanders, even though the feature is in fact also observed in many southern Mandarin varieties on the mainland. The goal of this study is to demonstrate that exposure to Taiwanese televised media contributes to such asymmetry between the regional association and geographical distribution. The results support Agha's (2007) claim that televised media facilitates the dissemination of registers and enables connection to shared understandings of sociological types or memberships.

Listeners' social attributes influence sensitivity to coarticulation in the perception of sibilants in nonce words[1]
J. Phillips & P. Resnick
University of Chicago

Past work has robustly demonstrated that listeners are sensitive to coarticulatory variation as well as social information about the speaker. The present study combines these two lines of research in an investigation of /s/-retraction, a sound change in progress in American English where /s/ is produced approaching /sh/ in /str/ clusters. Listeners were presented with faces contrasting for masculinity and heard auditory stimuli containing a sibilant continuum from /s/ to /sh/ in /S1p,t,klr/ nonce words. In a forced choice discrimination task, all listeners exhibited some degree of sensitivity to coarticulation, compensating for retraction in /str/ environments but not in /spr/ or /skr/ environments, but only listeners with a stronger alignment toward masculine stereotypes of toughness exhibited sensitivity to the faces presented in this task. Taken together, these results suggest significant individual variation in the perception of /s/-retraction, with additional variation in its indexed social meaning.

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1   Best Student Abstract Winner

English Clicks: Individual Variation in Speech Preparation and Stance Display
B. Pillion
University of Chicago

This study describes the distributional and phonetic properties of clicks used in American English by speakers in the Buckeye Corpus (Pitt, et al. 2007). Previous research shows that speakers of English use clicks frequently in conversation (Ogden, 2013; Wright, 2005), despite the fact that they are not considered a part of the phonemic inventory of the language. Clicks in the corpus are categorized by their conversational function: percussive, discourse management, or stance-displaying. Clicks that display the stance of the speaker are very low in frequency, while percussive clicks – sounds that result from the separation of articulators to prepare for speech (Scobbie, Schaeffler & Mennen, 2011; Ogden, 2013) – are plentiful. Men click at a higher rate than women, but women use stance-displaying clicks more frequently. This research builds on the growing body of work examining the relationship of extra-phonemic and paralinguistic sounds to phonology.

Allophones of /æ/ in four ethnic groups of Vancouver, BC
I. Presnyakova, P. Pappas & P. Umbal
Simon Fraser University, Simon Fraser University, University of Toronto

We present results of a variationist analysis of the allophones of /æ/ (/æg/, /æN/, and /æŋ/) in 57 native speakers of English in Vancouver, BC, from the four most prominent heritage groups: British, Cantonese, Filipinos, and South-Asians. The results of a MANOVA analysis of 910 normalized tokens show that Gender and Heritage are significant, while the interaction between Gender and Heritage is not. Gender is a significant predictor for raising of all three allophones, with females in all cases raising more than males. The allophone /æŋ/ shows the greatest Euclidean distance from /æ/ for all heritage groups, but the distances of /æg/ and /æN/ vary: for British speakers, /æN/ is more distant from /æ/ than /æg/, whereas for the other three groups, the obverse is true. We also present evidence from the content analysis of the interviews to determine whether speakers' stance towards their heritage influences production of these variables.

Philadelphia /l/-Vocalisation is Strictly Coda Lenition
R. Purse
University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia English has extremely prevalent /l/-vocalisation in many environments such that 'balance' and 'bounce' are said to form quasi-homophones. To explore this, 4058 /l/ tokens from 8 white speakers in the Philadelphia Neighborhood Corpus (PNC) were coded 'light', 'dark', or 'vocalised' using spectrographic and auditory cues. Non-surface-coda vocalisation was strictly limited to before morpheme boundaries (e.g. 'actually') and mediating stressed-unstressed syllable pairs (e.g. 'dollar'). Since the former type are codas at earlier strata in word-formation and the latter are candidates for ambisyllabicity, vocalisation seems limited to coda position.

Moreover, where previous research on /l/ has been somewhat agnostic as to the relationship between vocalisation and the light-dark dichotomy, we find evidence supporting an apparent time trend in relative frequency of use from light to dark to vocalised, suggesting an extended continuum of lenition. Simultaneously, every speaker produced at least one token per category, confirming all three can coexist.

Abstracts

Prosodic variation and rootedness in Appalachian English
P. Reed
University of Alabama

Prosodic rhythm differences have been noted in many varieties of English. Reed (2018) found that Appalachian English rhythm was more stressed timed than a non-Appalachian Southern variety. Thus, the present paper seeks to determine if there is prosodic variation within this Appalachian variety.

The present study analyzes prosodic rhythm from 24 Appalachian English speakers. Results suggest that the Appalachian speakers are distinct from a cohort of Southern speakers. Further, findings indicate that speakers with a greater attachment to place, what I term 'rootedness', have a greater nPVI than that of less-rooted speakers.

These results suggest that prosodic rhythm might be a means to 'sound Appalachian'. Further, these results indicate that rhythm might also be dynamic way of signaling one's attachment to the local Appalachian area, highlighting one's rootedness.

The social meaning of a merger: Evidence from a matched-guise experiment in two speech communities
B. Regan
Texas Tech University

This study analyzes the social evaluations of the Andalusian Spanish merger of *ceceo* and its split, *distinción*, to test the notion that mergers and splits lack social affect. The study employed a matched-guise experiment created by digitally manipulating spontaneous speech from twelve Western Andalusian speakers, varying only in syllable-initial realizations between [s] and [θ] for orthographic <s> and <z,ci,ce>, creating 24 recordings (12 *ceceo*, 12 *distinción*). Based on 214 listeners from the city of Huelva and nearby town of Lepe, Spain, the mixed effects linear regression models indicate that listeners evaluate the speaker guises with *distinción* as higher socioeconomic status, more educated, more urban, more formal, and of more occupational prestige than those with *ceceo*. The implications are that listeners perceive the merger of *ceceo* as less prestigious than *distinción* (i.e. its split), indicating that a merger may acquire social meaning, and it turn, such meaning may promote its demerger.

Afrikaans (r) variation in the Garden Route: patterns of frequency and clusters of use
Y. Ribbens-Klein
University of Duisburg-Essen

This paper discusses the variation patterns of the Afrikaans (r) variable used by participants from South Africa's Garden Route (Western Cape Province). The alveolar trill [r] is generally considered to be standard Afrikaans and uvular realisations of /r/ are regarded as a non-standard dialect feature of regions in the Western Cape. The participants are residents of a peri-urban, Afrikaans-dominant town in the George region; historically, a pre-colonial Khoekhoe settlement, a mission station during European colonialization, and racially demarcated as a "Coloured" residential area during Apartheid. The quantitative analyses are based on sociolinguistic interview data from seventy-two participants grouped according to macro-social categories, and emic social categories based on notions of locality and belonging. The results are discussed from two perspectives: frequency patterns according to etic and emic social categories, and cluster analyses based on (r) use. The results show the benefit of focussing on individuals in conjunction with statistical averages.

Who all cares if you say *who all*?: Social perception of syntactic variation
M. Robinson
New York University

Sociolinguists have long assumed that while phonological variables can evoke social evaluation, syntactic variables are less likely to do so. I define 'social evaluation' as the perception, rather than the production, of variants as indexing some social group or personal traits. This poster presents a pseudo-matched guise experiment that tested whether the variants in (1), different ways of expressing a plural question in American English, carried any social evaluation.

    1. a. Who was at the party?
       b. Who all was at the party?
       c. Who was all at the party?

The experiment showed no evidence that the presence or absence of all, or the position of all when present, had a significant impact on personality trait ratings or perceived geographic region. This suggests that variants (1b) & (1c) were below the level of consciousness of participants, even when they were specifically asked to pay attention to and evaluate a speaker's language.

Language contact and social meaning from the perspective of 'new speakers' of Basque
I. Rodríguez-Ordóñez
Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

The strong revitalization efforts of Basque in Spain have given rise to a new Basque-speaking population known as 'new speakers'. This study examines the social meaning behind the contact-induced phenomenon of Basque Differential Object Marking among 42 'new speakers' of Basque. Covert attitudes were gathered by means of a Matched-Guise Task and compared to their use and metapragmatic commentary. Results from the MGT show that Basque-DOM indexes a number of social meanings that range from "authentic Basque" to "defective", "polluted" and "unauthentic" depending on the association with type of speaker and type of dialect: Basque DOM is judged as 'bad' if spoken by 'new speakers'. Building upon recent work that explains the enregisterement of new speakers' variety as illegitimate (Urla et al., 2018), I propose that the enregisterment of Basque DOM is the result of a complex interaction between three ideologies: mother tongue, nationalist ideology and monoglot ideology.

Social Change and /s/ Variation in Concepción, Chile and Lima, Peru: The Role of Dialect and Sociolectal Contact
B. Rogers & C. Klee
Ball State University, University of Minnesota

This study compares /s/ variation in the Spanish of Concepción, Chile, and Lima, Peru in the context of sociolectal and dialect contact. An innovative statistical approach — a proportional-odds mixed effects model (ordinal regression) — was used to analyze categorically coded data on an acoustic continuum (s>h>Ø), permitting comparison with previous studies. Results for the Chilean data stand in stark contrast to previous studies in Chile, revealing an overwhelming tendency for elision in all social groups and providing support for the hypothesis that in Chile sociolectal leveling is occurring. In contrast, in Lima, where Andean migrants encounter overt discrimination and where almost exclusive use of [s] indexes Andean speech, there is an increase in /s/ weakening across the second and third generations of migrants, whose production approximates coastal norms. Thus, in contrast to Chile, /s/ reduction in Lima continues to serve as a marker of dialectally and sociolectally salient differences.

Abstracts

VOT of French-English bilinguals in Saint-Boniface, Canada
N. Rosen & D. Bérubé
University of Manitoba, University of Ottawa

Saint-Boniface is a historically French region in Winnipeg, Canada, where French language and culture remain significant, albeit of minority status. Today, Franco-Manitobans (FM) are bilingual, learning English at a young age and interacting with the surrounding population mostly in English. Here we investigate what kind of VOT system FMs use in their French and their English, as the two languages display different VOT contrasts. We analyzed the VOT of French and English reading passages for a group of 19 FMs. Results show that while FMs maintain two separate systems for each language, the French of FMs is not characterised by typical French long-lead (prevoiced) VOT. Furthermore, this remains consistent regardless of language use or first language learned. Conversely, the English VOT of these bilinguals appears to be statistically similar to local monolingual English speakers, suggesting that these Francophone bilinguals achieve English monolingual-like VOT productions.

Why some New Zealand vowels seem to be lowering
B. Ross, R. Arnold, E. Ballard, H. Charters and C. Watson
Victoria University of Wellington, Victoria University of Wellington, The University of Auckland, Independent Scholar, The University of Auckland

This study presents an acoustic analysis of the vowels of English from speakers in Auckland. Over 7000 monophthong and 4000 diphthong tokens were analyzed from speakers in three suburbs: a predominantly white community, a long standing ethnically mixed community and one transitioning to ethnic plurality. Speakers (N=33) aged 18-25 years were recorded in 1-2 hour conversations with local peers. Each suburb was evenly balanced for male and female participants. An older group (N=7) of women, aged 45- 70 years were included as a reference point for evaluating change among the younger speakers. Findings show clear age effects. Some of the most iconic vowels are noticeably different for young Aucklanders compared to findings from the older speakers and previous research. Most notably, the TRAP and DRESS monophthongs were lower than expected, indicating an apparent distancing by younger speakers from the raised short vowels traditionally associated with NZ English.

New methods to study the social meaning of language variation: exploring the potential of the Relational Responding Task
L. Rosseel, D. Speelman & D. Geeraerts
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

To what extent does the evaluation of language drive language variation and change? This is a highly debated topic in sociolinguistics, amongst others, because it has proven difficult to obtain valid and reliable measures of (implicit) language attitudes. Recently, however, new social psychological implicit attitude measures have been introduced to sociolinguistics. One such measure is the Relational Responding Task (RRT), a computer based task which requires participants to quickly react to a number of statements about language, judging whether these are true or false based on a set of imposed rules. In this paper, we explore the RRT alongside a direct rating task to investigate the social meaning of two varieties of Belgian Dutch. The results corroborate previous work suggesting implicit attitudes may drive a change in standardization dynamics in Belgium, but at the same time raise questions regarding the role of implicit and explicit attitudes in language change.

Sounding like a na[ʔ]ive: the acquisition of glottal replacement by Polish adolescents in Glasgow
S. Ryan
University of Glasgow

In moving to a new community, migrant speakers need to acquire not only the syntax, phonology and lexis of a new language, but also the sociolinguistic norms of their new environment. In this paper I investigate the speech of Polish adolescents who have moved to Glasgow, Scotland, and compare their speech to adolescents born in this community.

The paper examines a widespread, yet highly stigmatized, vernacular variable in the UK, the replacement of [t] by [ʔ]. Quantitative analysis shows that the Polish adolescents have replicated a number of native constraints. They have also innovated a new one: they use higher rates of [t] in more formal contexts, while the Glasgow-born adolescents do not. I suggest that these results arise from hypercorrection, which may stem from their precarious position as new migrants in the community.

Lexical variation and inverted style-shifting: 'Doing' Cornishness in careful speech styles
R. Sandow
University of Sussex

In this presentation, I provide new insights into the sociolinguistic study of style. I showcase the dynamic nature of lexis as a semiotic resource through which speakers construct their identities. Data collected from 80 speakers in Cornwall, Great Britain, reveal an *inverted* style pattern. Specifically, overtly stigmatised and obsolescing Anglo-Cornish dialect words, e.g. *crib/croust* ≈ 'lunch', *maid* ≈ 'woman', and *stank* ≈ 'walk', are observed most often in careful speech styles.

Some speakers subvert dominant standard language ideological orthodoxies, whereby the relative value of the cultural capital conferred by Anglo-Cornish and Standard English is inverted. This alternative value system is linguistically reflected in an inverted style pattern for speakers with a strong Cornish identity. The use of Anglo-Cornish dialect lexis in careful contexts of elicitation is an act of identity whereby speakers are volitionally resisting linguistic attrition by 'doing' Cornishness. This pattern is very much supported by meta-linguistic commentaries from informants, e.g. '[the Anglo-Cornish dialect] is a performance, a deliberate performance'.

Style and attitude: The social evaluation of the BET vowel
M. Savage & A. Mason
Michigan State University

Recent research by Wagner et al. (2016) found that young inhabitants of Lansing, MI, appear to be abandoning the Northern Cities Shift (NCS), possibly in favor of another shift, namely the Elsewhere Shift (ES), also known as the Canadian/California Shift. In both the NCS and the ES, the BET vowel lowers and backs, and Wagner et al. found that this was the one feature of the NCS that Lansingites retained, with women leading in apparent time.

To account for BET's continued movement from a social standpoint, we first conducted a matched-guise survey, finding that for women, BET-lowering is associated with intelligence, confidence, articulateness, and friendliness. Second, we examined style-shifting in sociolinguistic interviews with young Lansingites. Findings show speakers lower BET more in careful speech, with women doing so more than men. Overall, we find that BET-lowering has positive associations, especially among women, mirroring the apparent time production data in Lansing.

Variation in British Sign Language indicating verbs

A. Schembri, J. Fenlon & K. Cormier
University of Birmingham, Heriot-Watt University, Heriot-Watt University

Indicating verbs in sign languages can be directed towards locations in space associated with their arguments. In a recently published major study, Fenlon et al. (2018) showed that directionality in British Sign Language is not obligatory (contrary to claims in the literature), and is conditioned by several linguistic factors. In this paper, we investigate additional factors that may influence when a sign is modified directionally for argument reference. Using the BSL Corpus indicating verb dataset, we investigated the influence of definiteness, lexical frequency and phonological form of the verb. Initial results suggest that none of these factors are significant, unlike previous work on Australian Sign Language. We also examined variable argument presence, and find that verb modification was not as important as coreference and person in conditioning argument drop. Thus, the widely proposed assumption that verb modification 'licences' argument drop appears to be only partly supported.

Contact linguistics, restructuring and morphosyntactic variation: Past be regularization on St Helena

D. Schreier
University of Zurich

Past be regularization has been widely documented in English varieties around the world (e.g. British English, White American English, New Zealand English, etc.; Hazen 2014). This paper focuses on past be regularization under language contact, restructuring and creoloidization conditions by providing a first analysis of St Helenian English, which has a complex contact history (dialect, language, and restructured second-language varieties). Analyzing past be in this setting offers new insights into this variable's development in high-contact conditions, particularly on internal constraints that emerge in language contact and creoloidization processes. These are assessed with the aim of contextualizing local contact demographics, historical interaction patterns and regional feature pools on the island of St Helena.

Hadi Hiya Lughat az-Zənqa A [Xtʃi]: Phonetic Correlates of Street-Conscious Style in Moroccan Rap

S. Schwartz
The University of Texas at Austin

This study explores the occurrence of street-conscious style shifting amongst Moroccan rappers, comparing on the rappers' realization of the /t/ phoneme in causal speech and in performance speech, with the goal of understanding what constitutes "street-conscious style" (per Alim 2003) in the Moroccan Hip Hop style community. In the multi-dialectal Moroccan speech community, where /t/ is alternately realized as [tʃ] (Casablanca, Rabat, and Salé) and [ts] (Meknès, Fès, and Tangier), is the language of the streets (lughat az-zənqa) represented by the [tʃ] found in Casablanca, home to the country's largest and most productive rap scene, or does keepin' it real imply local dialect loyalty? The study compares spectral measurements of the frication periods of affricated realizations of /t/ in the speech of 8 rappers. Results indicate that some rappers do shift their style closer to the Casablancan [tʃ] in performance speech, regardless of their pronunciation of /t/ in casual speech.

Gradience and contrast in 2SG direct object pronouns in Brazilian Portuguese
S. Schwenter, M. Hoff, K. Dickinson, J. Bland & L. Lamberti
The Ohio State University

We examine the alternation in Brazilian Portuguese 2SG DO pronoun expression between clitic te and tonic você using data from an online forced-choice survey completed by 146 native-speaker respondents. Results of mixed-effects logistic regressions show that dialectal subject pronoun preference (tu vs. você) and contrast both play a significant role in conditioning this choice. While te is preferred overall- a preference stronger among users of tu- você is the variant preferred in contrastive contexts. In double contrast contexts, where both the DO and the predicate are contrastive, você is even more strongly preferred. Thus contrast, despite its traditional treatment as binary, shows gradient effects on pronoun choice- the stronger the contrast, the greater the likelihood of você selection. Ultimately, we argue that what counts as the "unmarked" 2SG DO pronoun in BP is context-dependent and can only be determined taking type of contrast and speakers' subject pronoun preferences into account.

On the relationship between syntactic and prosodic structures: Variation in free relatives in Appalachian English
I. Shport & G. Johnson
Louisiana State University

In the Appalachian English dialect spoken in the U.S., the meaning of sentences like I gave what-ever you left to charity and I gave ever-what you left to charity is identical. We examined the hypothesis that the head-movement of ever across the free relative (FR) clause boundary in ever-wh forms parallel prosodic re-grouping even in this case of semantically vacuous variation in FR clauses. To do so, we compared a set of acoustic correlates that encode prosodic boundaries across the two FR types (e.g., duration and amplitude in what- and ever- morphemes). This study provides evidence of syntax-driven prosodic variation.

***The sociolinguistic sat-nav*: tracking the development of community norms through the childhood years**
J. Smith & S. Holmes-Elliott
University of Glasgow, University of Southampton

What sociolinguistic pathway do speakers take en route from caregivers and home, through to peers and the playground, and on into adult life? In this talk we address this question through a real-time panel study of children in a community in north east Scotland, first recorded in the preschool years, and later in preadolescence.

Quantitative analysis of variation in negative declaratives (1) reveals that the two non-standard forms (1b, c) dominate in adult data. In sharp contrast, the standard variant (1a) dominates in preschool speech. In preadolescence, the standard variant is almost entirely absent: children now parallel community norms.

> Lucy, age 12
> 1. a. Well I just don't know.
>   b. But most of the time we dona watch a film.
>   c. I na think it's that scary.

We discuss how these results contribute to our understanding of the sociolinguistic journey that children undertake in the formative years of language acquisition.

Abstracts

Interracial conflict as a source of feature borrowing

B. Sneller
University of Pennsylvania

The adoption of a phonological feature through dialect contact is often correlated with a speaker's positive affiliation towards speakers of the source dialect (Cutler 1999; though see also Milroy and Milroy 1985) as well as to the social characteristics that are indexed by that dialect (Eckert 2008, Silverstein 2003). Here, I present evidence of phonological transfer in a somewhat surprising context: the adoption of (TH)-fronting (a feature of AAVE) by white speakers who espouse overtly hostile attitudes toward African Americans.

 The ethnographic details of this study reveal that interracial conflict provides an evident path for cross-dialectal borrowing. Furthermore, I demonstrate (TH)-fronting works as a marker of street or hegemonic masculinity within this community: neither the female participants nor the one openly gay participant exhibit fronting, while each straight-presenting male exhibits some level of adoption. I argue that the transfer of (TH)-fronting occurs because, rather than in spite of, inter-group conflict.

Does phonetic reversal lead to phonological reversal?

B. Sneller & W. Labov
University of Pennsylvania

Recent studies of sound change have shown a number of cases of reversal, as in the fronting of the back upgliding vowels /ow/ and /uw/ in Philadelphia English. Both classes undergo an allophonic split, whereby tokens preceding /l/ remain phonetically back while all others shift to the front for speakers born between 1888 and 1960. From 1960 onward, both /ow/ and /uw/ show a reversal in acoustic space.

Bhattacharyya's Affinity (BA) score is used as a measure of vowel class similarity. We analyze the speech of all speakers in the Philadelphia Neighborhood Corpus..As retreating /ow/ and /uw/ begin to overlap /owl/ and /uwl/ in phonetic space after 1960, BA scores do not subsequently increase. Instead, BA scores steadily decrease (p = 0.006), meaning that even as the vowel means get closer, speakers retain and even increase the phonological distinction between these two classes.

Stylistically Vowel-Rounding in Bahrain via sect, social class, and "chicken nuggets"

N. Sokhey
The University of Texas at Austin

This study examines the variation of vowel-rounding, namely of the variable (a:) realized as [ɔ:] in the speech of 40 Bahraini speakers by examining the speakers' interactions with other Bahraini interlocutors of various perceived communal and socioeconomic backgrounds. It traces the construction of social meanings surrounding vowel-rounding alongside communal identity and social class among Bahraini speakers using a simulated Q&A interview with pre-recorded questions. These pre-recorded questions were produced by 4 native speakers in either the Sunni or Shi'i dialect, each question containing either a rounded or unrounded vowel occurring in a stressed, closed syllable, surrounded by voiced or voiceless consonants. Participants answered by restating the questions, revealing their selection of features indexing a particular community alongside a rounded or unrounded vowel. Using a mixed effects logistic regression model, variation of vowel-rounding was examined against sex, actual and perceived communal identity, and perceived social class. This study employs a nontraditional approach to studying style-shifting as well as communal identity as perceived identities that covary with language production.

Abstracts

When is sound change more than segmental change? Coda /r/ and voice quality shifts in Glasgow since 1890
M. Soskuthy & J. Stuart-Smith
University of York, University of Glasgow

We present an acoustic study of voice quality (VQ) shifts and changes to coda /r/ in Glasgow English. We used mixed models (LMERs/GAMMs) to analyse both F3 measures for seven vowels, and F3 tracks for vowel+/r/ sequences, from a real-time sample of 24 Glaswegians born in the 1890s–1920s. We found a significant F3 rise over real-time in the vowels, suggesting a change in VQ. We also found a significant overall F3 rise for the vowel+/r/ sequences, reflecting /r/-weakening (Lawson et al, JASA, 2018). But when speaker-specific F3 averages from the vowels were included in the vowel+/r/ models, the F3 rise for vowel+/r/ disappeared. This suggests the VQ shift was a catalyst to /r/-weakening. Much LVC work focuses on the realisation of individual segments. These findings show that segmental changes may sometimes be linked to broader systemic shifts that cannot be identified by looking at segments alone.

Variant expectations: Genre and enregisterment in experimental context
L. Squires
The Ohio State University

This talk will discuss results from experimental investigations into the "variation concepts" of genre and enregisterment. My project explores whether and how genre information influences speakers' interpretation of the language they encounter. I will overview two self-paced reading experiments, each testing participants' processing of different kinds of features. Experiment 1 tested participants' reading of sentences from song lyrics including invariant don't. Context participants were told the sentences came from song lyrics; NoContext participants were not told anything about the sentences. Experiment 2 tested participants' reading of sentences from social media including abbreviations for function words, such as <2> for to. Again, Context participants were told where the sentences came from. While Context had an effect for song lyrics, it did not have an effect for social media. I suggest that this difference can be partially explained by the nature of the enregisterment between the two sets of features and genres.

The differences between and within BEG and BAG: Phonological, morphological, and lexical effects in prevelar raising
J. A. Stanley
University of Georgia

Prevelar raising is the conditioned raising of TRAP (BAG) and/or DRESS (BEG) before voiced velar consonants. However, because so few words contain these vowels, most of what is known about them is based on short, frequent, or common words. This paper expands this list of prevelar tokens to include polysyllabic, polymorphemic, and borrowed words. A categorization task was distributed via Reddit, yielding 560,000 observations from 7,000 participants. Overall, BEG was more variable than BAG and was subject to more phonological, morphological, and lexical effects. In particular, BEG-raising was common when the velar was word-final or intervocalic (*egg, leggings*) and rare when followed by sonorants (*pregnant, segue*) and especially liquids (*negligent, integrity*). BAG was more homogeneous with fewer language-internal effects. This data suggests that if the motivation for raising is the same for both vowels (be it articulatory or otherwise), they appear to react to this underlying cause in different ways.

Language attitudes as predictors of phonological variation among local and expatriate children in Singapore
R. L. Starr
National University of Singapore

Although orientation towards local norms is increasing in Singapore, Singapore English (SgE) is still perceived by some as a non-native variety; variation in attitudes towards SgE may shape local and expatriate children's acquisition of SgE features. The present study investigates how children's (-t/d) deletion patterns relate to their attitudes and social background. A significant correlation between attitude towards SgE and (-t/d) deletion rate is observed among Singaporean children, highlighting that this variety is in the process of endonormative stabilization. However, while Expats in local schools delete more than their peers in international schools, even Expats with extensive exposure to and positive attitudes towards SgE did not match the deletion rates of their Singaporean peers. This gap reflects the persistence of ideologies that delegitimize SgE and the growing prominence of SgE as a marker of local identity.

Applying the Prosodic Sentence to the study of code-switching
J. Steuck
The Pennsylvania State University

A long-standing challenge in the study of code-switching is that "the principle of accountable reporting poses special problems" (Poplack 1993:275). Based on the segmentation of speech into Intonation Units (IUs), this study applies a novel unit, the prosodic sentence (PS) (Chafe 1994:139-140), to infer the non-applications by comparing bilingual PSs (N=323) containing multi-word code-switches (MWCS; N=407) with unilingual PSs (N=584). In the northern New Mexico bilingual community, speakers tend to prosodically separate languages: Within bilingual PSs, they prefer to code-switch across (72%) rather than within-IUs and, when CS occurs within the IU, they are also more likely to use pauses than in non-code-switched IUs (14% vs. 4%). Nevertheless, MWCS occur no more after truncation (18%) as compared to unilingual IUs in the same PS (22%). Thus, code-switching is no less fluid than unilingual speech. In sum, the PS can be profitably used to reveal the unique prosodic-syntactic signature of code-switching.

Centralizing Individual Variation: "Relative Fluency" as a Measurement in Heritage-Speaker Speech Rate Analysis
L. Stevens & A. Vicario
The Graduate Center at CUNY

This study proposes a "relative fluency" (RF) score to better measure speech rate among New York City Spanish-English heritage speakers (HS) and late bilinguals (LB). RF scores take into account individual speech rates by comparing cross-language rates within an individual. We compare RF scores, English/Spanish WPM, filler use, region of origin, and self-rated fluency across and by bilingual group. Results showed that RF score indicated a significantly higher speech rate in English for HSs and a significantly higher speech rate in Spanish for LBs, which is consistent with aspects of group dominance differences found in previous studies. No other factors reflected significant group differences. We argue that this RF score is an innovative technique that controls for individual speech rate differences, obviates the need for monolingual comparisons, and suggests dominance differences among unique bilinguals. This methodology is advantageous in the pursuit of better analyzing fluency and understanding diverse bilingual speakers.

Dialectal and social factors affect the phonetic bases of English /s/-retraction

J. Stuart-Smith, M. Sonderegger, R. Macdonald, M. McAuliffe & J. Mielke
University of Glasgow, McGill University, University of Glasgow, McGill University, North Carolina State University

The retraction of /s/ in /str/, eg string, is a sound change found in certain dialects of English. Previous work suggests that the phonetic bases for /s/-retraction arise lower frequency /s/ in /str/. We still don't know the extent to which /s/-retraction differs across dialects of English. This paper presents the results from a large-scale, acoustic phonetic study of /s/-retraction in 420 speakers, from 6 corpora/9 dialects of North American and Scottish English. We modelled spectral Centre of Gravity (CoG), extracted and measured using Polyglot/ISCAN (www.spade.glasgow.ac.uk). Female speakers show higher frequency /s/ than males, but also greater /s/-retraction; this may result from coarticulation with female /r/ variants, suggesting that social factors mediate coarticulation. /s/ is higher frequency in American than Canadian/Scottish dialects; /ʃ/ is surprisingly variable; and American dialects show larger differences in /s/-retraction than Scottish/Canadian. We conclude that determining /s/-retraction in English is strongly dependent on which are considered.

Expanding the envelope: formal variation in the expression of perfect meaning in World Englishes

C. Suarez-Gomez
University of the Balearic Islands

The perfect in World Englishes has attracted much attention recently, especially from a semasiological perspective, in which the analytic HAVE + participle is analyzed in comparison with the synthetic preterite. This paper intends to achieve a more holistic picture of the expression of perfect meaning in World Englishes by adopting a function-to-form approach which allows us to identify how perfect meaning is formally expressed in all pragmatic contexts. The specific focus will be on ten different varieties of the *International Corpus of English* (8.8m words). A total of c.153,000 tokens are examined in order to single out those forms expressing perfect meaning. These are analysed following both internal and language-external predictors used in studies of language variation and change. The results show that the envelope of variation is expanding with respect to the one traditionally acknowledged, since co-occuring forms that fall outside the traditional variable paradigm have proved to be nativized in World Englishes.

When More Means Less: American Attitudes toward Learning Two Language Varieties

J. Sweetland
FrameWorks Institute

This presentation explores American attitudes toward early dual language learners, debuting an analysis conducted by the FrameWorks Institute, a nationally recognized think tank that applies social science methods to reframe social issues. The study is based on in-depth individual interviews with members of the public in four US cities. Interview data was analyzed using techniques from discourse analysis and cognitive anthropology to discern underlying cultural models, or shared assumptions, about language learning. By identifying how people reason with these models to come to conclusions about language in schools, this study offers new insights into how to more effectively address unproductive attitudes toward vernacular and non-English language varieties. As part of larger, national research initiative designed to identify and empirically test more effective ways of shifting American attitudes toward language diversity, this study responds to variationists' call for applied research that addresses pressing needs in marginalized communities. Dominant attitudes need not be taken as fixed, firm, or immutable. With a systematic approach to navigating public thinking, linguists can move public discourse to higher terrain.

Abstracts

A new take on comparative variation analysis

B. Szmrecsanyi & L. Rosseel
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

This talk presents a variationist method for calculating the grammatical similarity between language varieties. As a case study, we discuss similarity patterns between nine regional varieties of English, fuelled by a variationist analysis of three syntactic alternations (dative, genitive and particle placement) using materials from ICE and GloWbE. To evaluate the similarity between region-specific variation patterns, we draw inspiration from comparative socio-linguistics: are the same constraints significant across varieties? Do the constraints have similar effect sizes? Is the overall ranking of constraints similar? Quantitative similarity measures derived from multivariate analyses indicate that the probabilistic grammars regulating variation are overall fairly similar across varieties of English. That said, we do find more or less subtle probabilistic differences both between regional varieties and between syntactic alternations (e.g. L1 vs. indigenized L2 varieties of English). In conclusion, we sketch ways to complement variationist evidence on the similarity of probabilistic grammars with experimentalist approaches.

Weak hand variation in Philadelphia ASL: A pilot study

M. Tamminga, J. Fisher & J. Hochgesang
University of Pennsylvania, University of Pennsylvania, Gallaudet University

In this pilot study of variation in Philadelphia ASL, we connect two forms of weak hand variability to the diachronic location asymmetries that Frishberg 1975 observed for changes between one- and two-handed sign realizations. We hypothesize that 1) variable weak hand involvement is a pathway for change from one- to two-handed and thus should be more frequent for body signs than head signs, and 2) variable weak hand lowering is a pathway for change from two- to one-handed and thus should be more frequent for head signs than body signs. Conversational data from four signers provides quantitative support for hypothesis (1) but not (2). We additionally observe differences in weak hand height based on sign location and one/two-handedness. The results motivate further work to investigate the possibility that weak hand involvement is a mechanism for diachronic change in sign languages. We discuss hypotheses and methods for future inquiry.

Explaining variation with *amn't* using the Tolerance Principle

G. Thoms, D. Adger, C. Heycock & J. Smith
New York University, Queen Mary University of London, The University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow

Bresnan (2001) notes a puzzle concerning the distribution of *amn't* across varieties (1): it is not accepted at all in most Englishes, only in inversions in Scots (1b) and in all environments in Hiberno-English (1a,b).

1. a. I amn't your friend.   *StE, *Sc, ☺ HbE
   b. I'm your friend, amn't I?   *StE, ☺ Sc, ☺ HbE

We present data from the *Scots Syntax Atlas* (Smith 2015-2019) which shows that the picture in Scotland is more complex than what Bresnan describes, as many speakers of Scots (1a), in some regions in particular. We explain the observed variation by building on Yang's (2017) productivity-based account of the *amn't* gap, which makes crucial use of the *Tolerance Principle* (Yang 2016). We show how the Tolerance Principle can explain the variation across constructions and varieties when combined with an independently motivated analysis of the syntax and morphology of Scots negation.

Determining the language of the determiner in bilingual "mixed DPs"
R. Torres Cacoullos, D. Lacasse, N. Dion & S. Poplack
The Pennsylvania State University, The Pennsylvania State University, University of Ottawa, University of Ottawa

This paper tests formalist accounts of the language choice of determiners in "mixed DPs" (*los* 'the' _redheads_, *the* _pelo_ 'hair') in an unusually rich bilingual (Spanish-English) corpus. We consider three intersecting but orthogonal binary variables: speakers' choice between 1) a mixed vs. unmixed DP; (2) incorporating other- language nouns as (DET +) single-word insertions vs. code-switching to (DET+) noun-initial multiword strings; and (3) an English vs. Spanish noun. Results show that Northern New Mexico bilinguals avoid unmixed DPs and disfavor lengthier noun-initial code-switches, with no significant difference by language directionality. The preferred strategy is to incorporate lone nouns (84%, N=1291) -- overwhelmingly English ones (88%) -- into otherwise Spanish discourse, and to integrate them into its morphosyntax (i.e. to borrow them, e.g., *unas* _carrots_ *grandotas*, with feminine gender, postnominal adjective). The observed predominance of Spanish determiners in mixed DPs is thus shown to be due to community norms rather than abstract features.

The rarer gender: Factors contributing to feminine determiners with lone-English origin nouns in Spanish discourse
S. Trawick & T. Bero
The Pennsylvania State University

This study analyzes gender assignment to lone English-origin nouns in New Mexican Spanish, to offer an account of the disproportionately lower use of feminine gender with such items reported in studies of U.S. Spanish varieties. Here, too, of English-origin nouns displaying gender via the determiner (more than half of all tokens extracted, N=505), approximately 15% are feminine. Logistic regression analysis shows that phonological adaptation favors feminine gender, suggesting that bilinguals are applying the Spanish phonological mechanism of gender assignment; the low feminine rate follows from the lack of phonological adaptation. Also favoring feminine gender is feminine an- alogical gender (e.g., *machine* for *máquina*), highlighting the importance of simultaneous access to both languages in determiner choice. Additionally, a previously unexplored factor is the syntactic role of the English-origin noun, with subjects tending to favor feminine gender assignment, suggesting a role for discourse topicality and referentiality in gender assignment to lone other-language nouns.

The vowels in 'pig' vs. 'tofu': A contact-induced merger in Toronto Heritage Cantonese?
H. Tse
University of Pittsburgh

Aside from Herold (1997), variationists have described very few cases of contact-induced vowel mergers. In this presentation, I discuss a previously undocumented example involving the two high round tense vowels (/y/ and /u/, ex: [t͡sy̍] 'pig' vs. [tɛ̀w.fù] 'tofu') in Toronto Heritage Cantonese. Second-generation speakers (Canadian raised, English-dominant bilinguals) have decreased the acoustic difference between these two vowels compared to first generation speakers (Hong Kong born, immigrated to Canada as adults, Cantonese- dominant). This leads to partial overlap in the distribution of these two vowels for some speakers, with those who code-mix the most and report En- glish as primary home language leading in the merger. These factors suggest a contact-induced change influenced by linguistic dominance in Toronto English (which has only a fronted /u/). Further supporting contact-induced change is lack of the same change in Hong Kong. These findings contribute towards a better cross-linguistic understanding of vowel system variation and change.

4,000 flaps in Blackburn, Lancashire: rule generalisation, competing variants and old men as the leaders of linguistic change
D. Turton
Newcastle University

This paper presents a synchronic analysis of t-flapping in an accent of English which is not commonly associated with this phonological process: a variety of Northern British English. The data, taken from sociolinguistic interviews shows variation between fully realised [t], flapped/voiced [ɾ], and full glottal replacement [ʔ]. The results show that flapping is restricted after long vowels for most speakers e.g. Katie, computer, providing potential evidence of an intermediate stage of flapping. However, a small number of tokens show that flapping in this environment is indeed possible, but is restricted to the speech of older males. It is argued that, in their youth, these males were the most advanced users of the flapping pattern and the leaders of the change. This process has now run out of sociolinguistic steam and younger speakers have reversed this trend due to potential associations of antiquated speech, as well as competition from the glottal stop.

Two Discourse Markers in Argentinean Internet/Youth Language
M. Valentinsson
University of Arizona

This poster examines two discourse/pragmatic markers in the written language of Spanish speakers in Argentina, '*ahre*' and '(?'. In a corpus of online language use by Argentineans, the distribution of 266 tokens of *ahre* and 100 tokens of (? suggests that *ahre* can be used to key an entire turn or utterance as nonserious or teasing, whereas (? has a similar pragmatic function but more limited scope.

These findings are further examined in light of iconic and stereotyped uses of these markers (e.g. in Internet memes and in metalinguistic comments), collected during 4 months of fieldwork in Buenos Aires. By combining quantitative analysis of these markers with qualitative analysis of metalinguistic commentary and iconic language use, this poster allows us to interrogate the indexical relationship(s) between linguistic styles associated with 'Internet' and 'youth' cultures, and the way that social meaning mediates the way these markers are understood and used.

Dialect property surveys: Marking features and making meaning in Newfoundland English
G. Van Herk
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Large-scale language-use survey findings illuminate the role of salience and social factors in dialect change in Newfoundland, Canada (N=4215, 0.8% of the province's population).

Results suggest that younger Newfoundlanders are reclaiming and reworking traditional verb marking: socially symbolic stative uses (*I loves it*) are favoured by women and increasing in apparent time. The importance of salience is indicated by findings for interdentals: voiced stopping (*dare/there*) is favoured by men, youth, and rural people, while more-salient voiceless stopping (*tree/three*) is infrequent, especially among prescriptively-influenced middle-aged speakers. We also see local constructions of prestige – variants stigmatized elsewhere (*I seen it*, *should have went*) are frequent and steady.

Some features shared with AAE or Creoles are widely claimed, including preverbal habitual forms (*I bees hungry*, *he's steady hungry*) and pronoun levelling (give it to he). Their robustness here argues that they might be retentions from shared SW English input varieties.

Abstracts

Il s'adapte –tu ou est-ce qu'il reste constant? : Style and Yes-No questions in careful Québec French
A. J. Villeneuve
University of Alberta

Few studies have focused on formal Québec French (QF) spontaneous speech. To do so, this paper examines stylistic variation in Yes-No questions (YNQ) in the idiolect of a TV host conducting sit-down interviews with Québec public figures. Quantitative analyses show that the interviewer adapts to overhearing camera operators and to the absent audience, but above all he accommodates to his addressee. On the one hand, the distribution of the four variants (N = 416) reproduces the Continental French pattern (rising intonation> *est-ce que*) while rates of postverbal particle *-tu* are well below those recorded in QF vernaculars (7.3%). On the other hand, variants reflect the host's familiarity with interviewees, as measured by pronouns of address (*tu* or *vous*): *-tu* is used exclusively with guests addressed informally. The effect of linguistic factors (negation and 2nd person subjects) is consistent with that found in QF vernaculars, and is robust across addressee groups.

The effect of style-shifting on speech perception
A. Walker, J. van Hell & M. Bowers
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, The Pennsylvania State University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Four white women from Southwest Virginia who self-identified as able code-switchers recorded real and nonsense words in two guises (Southern and Standard). Two women from Northern Virginia (NOVA) also recorded these stimuli (Standard only). 136 native speakers of American English completed an auditory lexical decision task and a speeded dialect classification task that used these recordings. In the lexical decision task, listeners made more mistakes and were slower with the Southern speakers in the Southern guise than the NOVA speakers, but were fastest with this guise in the dialect classification task. In both tasks there is evidence that the Southerner's Standard guise is different both from their Southern guise and the NOVA speakers' Standard guise. The results suggest that listeners are sensitive to style-shifting at both the level of dialect classification and lexical access, and support previous work suggesting that rather than moving categorically between two poles, bidialectalism is a cline.

Can exposure to culturally specific stuffed toys induce perceptual bias in Australian listeners?
M. Walker, A. Szakay & F. Cox
Macquarie University

Stuffed toy koalas/kangaroos and kiwis have been shown to induce biases in speech perception in New Zealand listeners, who in the Australian toy context were biased to select more Australian-like KIT tokens when matching synthetic vowel-like tokens with naturally produced vowels contained within an utterance (Hay & Drager, 2010). We investigated whether a similar regional dialect priming effect could be observed in 75 Australian listeners, and found no effect of stuffed toys on speech perception, perhaps a result of cultural asymmetry. However, reversing the continuum presentation order did significantly affect vowel selection, raising questions about the inherent task design itself.

S[a]rry not s[ɔ]rry: (OR) in Toronto English

J. Walker & M. Hoffman
La Trobe University, University of York

Prerhotic /o/ (OR) in Canadian English is traditionally realized as [ɔ] but is currently perceived as lowering and fronting to a more 'American' [a]. Extracting 11,144 tokens from sociolinguistic interviews with 121 residents of Toronto stratified by sex, ethnic background and generation, we use mixed-effects linear regression to test the effects of social and linguistic factors on the first two formants of (OR). Lower, more fronted realizations are favored by younger speakers, especially those of particular ethnic groups, who appear to be leading the change. The most frequent word sorry, especially when it is used as a stand-alone apology, is more advanced than less frequent words. These results support the perception that (OR) is shifting from its traditional pronunciation and suggest a role for both social and linguistic factors in the phonetic change.

The GOAT-THOUGHT Merger in Tyneside English: Evidence from static and dynamic data

J. Warburton
Newcastle University

This paper investigates the potential merging of the GOAT and THOUGHT vowels in Tyneside English. Using sociolinguistic interview data from the *Diachronic Electronic Corpus of Tyneside English*, multiple methods of static and dynamic analysis (mixed-effects regression, Pillai scores, GAMMs) were employed to determine the extent of this vowel merger in contemporary Tyneside speech.

Results suggest that, due to raising of the THOUGHT vowel, GOAT-THOUGHT merging is present in Tyneside. Young female speakers show the greatest overlap of GOAT and THOUGHT; however, young male speakers in the region appear to be increasing the distinction between these two vowels. This could indicate that young males and females are instigating sound change in opposite directions.

Evidence from production is also compared with data taken from Tyneside listeners who participated in vowel perception tasks. Analysis highlights perceptual confusability between GOAT and THOUGHT for many listeners, providing further evidence of a merger-in-progress in Tyneside English.

Do listeners form grammatical expectations to African American Language?

R. E. Weissler
University of Michigan

This study investigates how listeners alter grammatical expectations, whether they have specific knowledge of multiple grammars, or whether they relax expectations for stigmatized dialects. The auxiliary "be" must be overt in combination with the progressive aspect in Mainstream U.S. English (MUSE), but can be omitted in African American Language (AAL). Alternative auxiliaries like "will" are disallowed in both varieties. Using EEG to monitor implicit linguistic and social expectations, I looked at ERPs, specifically the P600. I hypothesized that the presence of ungrammatical "ll" would elicit a P600 across dialects, whereas auxiliary deletion would elicit a P600 in MUSE, but not in AAL. Stimuli come from a black male speaker of both MUSE and AAL. A within-subjects design was used with 114 items per condition. Participants were Ann Arbor, MI residents. Preliminary results are in accordance with my hypothesis, contributing to further understanding of how social information interfaces with online processing.

Abstracts

Is there an influence of race on evaluations of writers who produce typographical errors?
R. E. Weissler, J. Boland, V. Derricks, R. Queen & D. Sekaquaptewa
University of Michigan

Building on research indicating bias against writers who produce typographic errors, we present three experiments exploring whether racial stereotypes moderate the bias against those writers. We hypothesize main effects of race and errors, and an interaction between race and error conditions.

The first experiment examines errors in the context of an email about university club membership. There were main effects of both error condition (more bias against writers who made errors) and race, with the direction of the race bias being against the white writer. There were no interactions. Experiment 2 examines errors in a job setting and the results mirrored those of the first experiment.

The third experiment elicits objective and subjective judgements. We hypothesize a main effect of error condition, with interactions between race, errors, and type of rating scale, predicting a greater bias against the black applicants in the error condition when an objective scale is used.

Localising morphosyntactic variation in Welsh Twitter data
D. Willis, D. Gopal, T. Blaxter & A. Leemann
University of Cambridge, University of Cambridge, University of Cambridge, Lancaster University

Social-media data produce corpora of essentially unprecedented size and granularity, which should allow us to examine the propagation of variation in very fine detail. The limiting factor is reliability: how do we acquire enough metadata to connect an individual user's 'production' and sociolinguistic position? For geographic information, we argue that datasets based solely on the automated tags provided with raw Twitter data mispredict real patterns of variation; locations automatically derived from users' self-descriptions predict patterns that more closely resemble those in traditional datasets. We base these results on corpora of Welsh Tweets collected from October 2017 to October 2018, and morphosyntactic variables for which distributions can be predicted by traditional dialectological methods (the Welsh Dialect Survey, Thomas 2000; the Syntactic Atlas of Welsh Dialects, Willis 2017): the innovation of the second-person pronominal form <chdi>, the loss of the present-tense auxiliary 'be', and the use of the innovative embedded focus particle <taw>.

Revisiting t/d-deletion: New insights from the North-East of England
K. Woolford
Newcastle University

While t/d-deletion has been well-studied across dialects of American English, existing research on British English has produced conflicting results on the presence of a morphological effect. The present paper addresses this debate with new evidence from Tyneside English, a variety spoken in the North-East of England. 4,263 tokens were extracted from a stratified sample of the Newcastle Electronic Corpus of Tyneside English 2 (NECTE2) (Corrigan et al. 2012). The resulting dataset was coded for linguistic and social factors and subjected to generalized mixed-effects modelling in R. Results indicate that morphological class is a robust predictor of t/d-deletion in this dataset and that the deletion rate of monomorphemes and semi-weak forms is increasing across apparent time. These results not only provide support for higher organization of the grammar in the process of t/d-deletion, but also suggest that t/d-deletion may not be a stable linguistic variable across all dialects of English.

NIEUW Audio Transcription and Forced Alignment
J. Wright, C. Cieri & J. Fiumara
University of Pennsylvania

The National Science Foundation sponsored NIEUW project explores novel incentives for eliciting linguistic data. Central to the effort is the Universal Annotator toolkit, a web application LDC developed that enables a wide variety of annotation functions. Here we demonstrate a workflow of interest to sociolinguists: audio segmentation via speech activity detection, web-based manual transcription and forced alignment. We also show how a manager (e.g. professor or PI) configures the workflow for a group of transcriptionists. This tool allows users to upload audio or access select data from the Linguistic Data Consortium such as the Penn Sociolinguistic Archive, and output the labels or measurements created, evaluate transcription quality and monitor individual and group progress. We also briefly demo the ability to customize the annotation interface by adding widgets, modifying layout, sizes and colors, verifying inputs and adding behavior like disabling parts of the tool based on user actions.

Lexical Racialization Examined through Machine Learning
K. E. Wright
University of Michigan

This work endeavors to show the extent to which lexical semantic field renegotiation is effected as novel (racialized) meaning is contextually linked to extant (non-racialized) words. Here, the Wright (2017) corpus of sports journalism articles was expanded to contain texts describing 120 individual athletes (not teams)—balanced for race and gender. Results exemplify biased racial ideologies in extant frequency asymmetries across published texts. Subsequent analyses using Support Vector Machines and RandomForests tasked with classifying athlete race from lexical frequency alone reveal that prediction of athlete race was highly successful, and that the words used to describe Black athletes are *predictably different* than those used to describe White athletes. Combining these data allows us to visualize how covert racialization renegotiates the semantic field, providing an avenue for facing the perennial "bad data" (Labov 1994) problem, filling the dearth of evidence for the development of linguistic ideologies over time.

Acquisition of Variation in L2 Hebrew: Stylistic Constrains on Intervocalic Glottal Stop Deletion
E. Wyschogrod
Georgetown University

Intervocalic glottal stop deletion (IGSD) is a variable in L1 Hebrew (Rosen, 1955; Rabin, 1972; Bolozky, 2013). This study examines Jewish American L2 IGSD and its phonetic and social triggers. Speakers read both secular Modern Hebrew and Biblical Hebrew texts. The recordings were coded for occurrence of glottal stops both auditorily and based on amplitude measurements. The findings suggest that IGSD does occur among American Jewish L2 Hebrew speakers, especially in unstressed syllables, in accordance with literature on Israeli Hebrew (Rosen, 1955; Rabin 1972). IGSD occurs more frequently in the reading of secular Modern Hebrew texts than in Biblical Hebrew texts. Regression analysis shows that younger speakers employ IGSD significantly more frequently in Modern texts than in Biblical ones. The older speakers do not possess this difference significantly. This generational difference suggests that religion is an emerging sociophonetic variable in the occurrence of IGSD.

Multiethnolect moves a round u in style: F3 of /ʉː/ is stylistically and socially stratified in Stockholm Swedish
N. Young
Queen Mary University of London

This is a study of the LUS vowel (/ʉː/, henceforth 'LUS') among adult male speakers in Stockholm. Its main finding is that speakers from the immigrant-dense periphery de-round in casual speech and move toward the conservative rounded variant in formal styles. LUS is quite salient in Stockholm's multiethnolect (aka 'Rinkeby Swedish'), but there is no research on it to date. Is this supposed variant acoustically measurable? Is it widespread? Has it reached marker or stereotype status?

The analysis examines three speech styles of 36 male Stockholmers: interview, reading, and word list. A mixed-effects linear regression model (n = 6206) predicts that speakers from high-immigrant neighborhoods will have a lower F3 in casual speech; however, this effect disappears in the reading and word list styles. My interpretation is that the multiethnic working class is de-rounding LUS and that there is social salience that attenuates it with formality. The analysis is still underway but it would appear that de-rounded LUS is a marker – or perhaps a stereotype – for Stockholm's multiethnolect.

The role of cognitive constraints in language variation: The relationship between working memory and subject expression variation in Spanish
S. Zahler
State University of New York at Albany

Recent research has proposed that cognitive constraints may affect and/or give rise to linguistic constraints on variation. Consequently, in this study, I examine the linguistic constraints affecting subject expression in the oral speech of native Spanish speakers who differ according to working memory (WM) as assessed via an Operation Span Task. Results indicate that high and low WM speakers differed from each other regarding the effects of continuity of reference, distance, and TMA ambiguity. High WM speakers were more likely to use overt subjects in contexts where subject referent is ambiguous. Additionally, high WM native speakers were less affected by distance between mentions of the subject referent, increasing their use of overt subjects at further distances than low WM native speakers. These results indicate that some of the discursive constraints on subject expression in Spanish may be affected by or arise from constraints on online processing in language production.

"It's an American symbol!": Non-native speakers' take on remarkable LIKE
I. Zaykovskaya
Michigan State University

Remarkable (D'Arcy, 2017) usages of LIKE (rLIKE) in English (i.e., as discourse marker or discourse particle) are a steady element of native speakers' sociolinguistic repertoire but are not exclusive to that group. This paper presents initial findings from a holistic analysis of rLIKE as perceived, used, and reflected upon by non-native speakers (NNSs) of English.

Twenty-six NNSs were interviewed and completed two experimental tasks: a matched-guise experiment and a syntactic judgment task. The following findings emerged: 1) NNSs use and are aware of rLIKE as a sociolinguistic phenomenon; 2) their listener perceptions are mediated by the speakers' social personae (D'Onofrio, 2015), e.g., speakers largely perceived as "nerdy girl" or "frat guy" were judged more harshly, while "party girl" and "nerdy guy" were described more positively in rLIKE guises; 3) NNSs recognize local patterns of rLIKE usage and do not perceive clause-final LIKE and constrained/innovative usages (e.g., pre-NP rLIKE) as natural.

Abstracts

Disambiguating and denaturalizing the voice in sociolinguistics and on Catfish: Toward better theory and practice surrounding the phonetics of sex and gender

L. Zimman
University of California - Santa Barbara

In an age of unprecedented attention to transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming identities, sociolinguists are increasingly open to including non-normatively gendered speakers in studies of variation and change. This form of inclusion, however, requires critical reexamination of the field's assumptions about the gendered voice. This paper focuses on the way trans+ speakers trouble the conceptualization of phonetic sex/gender differences as 1) static throughout (adult) life, 2) non-agentive and caused largely by physiology, 3) consisting of two, internally homogeneous categories, and 4) an objective fact that can be unproblematically observed by researchers. To explore an alternative model for talking about the gendered voice, an unlikely comparison is drawn between sociolinguistics and MTV's reality television show, Catfish, on which the gender of the voice is of central concern. Drawing on these discussions, best practices are identified for addressing the phonetics of sex/gender in trans-affirming ways that account for a fuller range of human voices.

Lexical change as sociopolitical change in talk about transgender bodies: New methods for the corpus analysis of internet data

L. Zimman & W. Hayworth
University of California - Santa Barbara, Google

While variationists tend to prefer linguistic variables that live below "the level of awareness," the lexicon is an under-utilized domain of investigation, particularly in contexts of rapid, agentive sociopolitical change. The paper's first contribution derives from the examination of lexical change in the everyday counter-hegemonic discourse of an online transgender community over the course of 15 years, with a focus on tracing the expansion of self-identification to include not only gender identity, but bodily sex. While most corpus studies of language, gender, and sexuality focus on oppressive discourses, this study highlights linguistic strategies of empowerment. Our second contribution comes through the demonstration of novel, general purpose computing tools for the analysis of relatively unstructured internet data. This includes the use of a crawling pipeline that parses social media data, stores it in a cloud database, and allows for analysis with commodity tools, providing a reference architecture for the analysis of Internet-based data.

Washington Square Park, 2018

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Updates, Errors, and Additional Info

Friday's Workshop Abstracts

12:40 pm - 2:15 pm
NYU Linguistics, Room 104

Careers, Variation and Change: Sociolinguists in the Workplace
Cara Shousterman

This panel features sociolinguists from an array of professions beyond the professoriate. Panelists will tell all about their journeys from PhD to the workplace, and answer audience questions from those who are considering similarly alternative career trajectories. "Careers, Variation and Change" is for anyone interested in better understanding the array of options open to sociolinguists as they navigate their careers post PhD. Panelists include Nate Lafave (Data Specialist, Amazon), Caroline Latterman (Founder/CEO, Linguistic Consulting), Brittany McLaughlin (Founder/CEO, ScribbleUp) and Amy Wong (Language Engineer, Amazon); hosted by Cara Shousterman (Program Director, QCC CUNY Techworks) in collaboration with the LSA special interest group Linguists Beyond Academia.

1:15 pm - 2:15 pm
NYU Linguistics, Room 103

Careers, Variation and Change: Sociolinguists in the Workplace
Rena Torres Cacoullos, Gregory Guy
Pennsylvania State University, New York University

Variationist research has experienced a substantial proliferation in models and methods for quantitative statistical analysis. Results obtained from general-purpose statistical software largely designed for other fields must be adapted to the study of language variation and change, and accommodate the data types encountered in language. With a focus on regression analysis for natural production data, this brown bag will suggest author guidelines for providing sufficient information in tables and figures for reviewers and readers to evaluate the quantitative argumentation. Presentation by Greg Guy will be followed by Q&A.

Wireless Internet Information

At the Graduate Center, CUNY

Wireless Network Name: **GCGuest**
Username and password are not required; just a valid e-mail address.

At New York University

Wireless Network Name, Option 1: **nyuguest**
Wireless Network Name, Option 2: **nyuguest-legacy**
Username: **guest1**
Password: **myclactk**

Errors: Poster Session

Please note the following poster change:

H3. *On the relationship between syntactic and prosodic structures: Variation in free relatives in Appalachian English* (Shport & Johnson)

The "Morphological Variation" section on the map is now "Morpho-/Syntactic Variation"

Errors: Affiliations

Errors were made on the affiliations associated with each of the following authors. Please note these corrected affiliations:
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Notice: Eating around NYU

Please note that NWAV discounts are not applicable with Happy Hour specials or any other promotional deals.
We apologize for these errors, additions, and last-minute changes,
and we are happy to have you here for NWAV47!
-NWAV47 Organizing Committee