

James Whang

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Linguistics
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Full name

James Doh Yeon Whang

Education

09.2017 | PhD in Linguistics, NYU.
03.2007 | BA in Linguistics and Japanese, UCLA.

Employment

03.2024– | *Associate Professor*,
Department of Linguistics,
Seoul National University, Korea.
03.2020–02.2024 | *Assistant Professor*,
Department of Linguistics,
Seoul National University, Korea.
11.2018–12.2019 | *Postdoctoral researcher*,
Collaborative Research Centre (SFB 1102),
Universität des Saarlandes, Germany.
PI: Bernd Möbius & Bistra Andreeva.
10.2017–10.2018 | *Postdoctoral fellow in computational modelling of language learning and processing*,
MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour & Development,
Western Sydney University, Australia.
PI: Paola Escudero.

Grants and Awards

03.2022–02.2025 | Samsung Electronics. “Analysis on Cognitive Bias Sources in Human Language Processing for Human-like AI Development and Big Data Analytics”
04.2020–03.2022 | New Faculty Research Grant. Seoul National University.
06.2015–05.2017 | National Science Foundation BCS-1524133. “Doctoral Dissertation Research: Predictability and recoverability of high vowel reduction in speech.”
09.2011–05.2016 | MacCracken Graduate Fellowship, New York University.

Publications

Peer-reviewed

2023 | K. Yazawa, **J. Whang**, M. Kondo, and P. Escudero. “Feature-driven new sound category formation: computational implementation with the L2LP model and beyond”. *Frontiers in Language Sciences* 2:1303511.
2023 | K. Yazawa, **J. Whang**, and P. Escudero. “Australian English listeners’ perception of Japanese vowel length reveals underlying phonological knowledge”. *Frontiers in Psychology* 14:1122471.
2023 | **J. Whang** and K. Yazawa. “Modeling a phonotactic approach to segment recovery: The case of Japanese high vowels”. *Studies in Phonetics, Phonology and Morphology*, 29(2):271-295.

2023 K. Yazawa, T. Konishi, M. Kondo, **J. Whang**, and P. Escudero. “Spectral and temporal implementation of Japanese speakers’ English vowel categories: A corpus-based study”. *Laboratory Phonology*, 14(1).

2021 **J. Whang**. “Multiple sources of surprisal affect illusory vowel epenthesis”. *Frontiers in Psychology* 12:3664.

2020 K. Yazawa, **J. Whang**, P. Escudero, and M. Kondo. “Language-dependent cue weighting: an investigation of perception modes in L2 learning”. *Second Language Research*.

2019 **J. Whang**. “Effects of phonotactic predictability on sensitivity to phonetic detail”. *Laboratory Phonology*, 10(1):8.

2018 **J. Whang**. “Recoverability-driven coarticulation: Acoustic evidence from Japanese high vowel devoicing”. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 143(2):1159-1172.

2014 G. Gallagher and **J. Whang**. “An acoustic study of trans-vocalic ejective pairs in Cochabamba Quechua”. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 44(2):133-154.

2014 A. Szabolcsi, **J.D. Whang**, and V. Zu. “Quantifier words and their multi-functional(?) parts”. *Language and Linguistics* 15(1):115-155.

under revision **J. Whang**. “Mora and recoverability effects in Japanese vowel devoicing: An acoustic analysis of the Corpus of Spontaneous Japanese”.

Proceedings & published abstracts

2020 B. Andreeva, B. Möbius, and **J. Whang**. “Effects of surprisal and boundary strength on phrase-final lengthening”. *Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Speech Prosody 2020*:146-150.

2019 **J. Whang**, K. Yazawa, and P. Escudero. “Perception of Japanese vowel length by Australian English listeners”. In Sasha Calhoun, Paola Escudero, Marija Tabain & Paul Warren (eds.), *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*:2228-2232.

2019 A. Tuninetti, **J. Whang**, and P. Escudero. “Non-native vowel perception in a 4IAX task: The effects of acoustic distance”. In Sasha Calhoun, Paola Escudero, Marija Tabain & Paul Warren (eds.), *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*:240-244.

2019 **J. Whang**. “Reconciling CV phonotactics and high vowel deletion in Japanese”. In Katherine Hout, Anna Mai, Adam McCollum, Sharon Rose & Matt Zaslansky (eds.), *Supplemental Proceedings of the 2018 Annual Meeting on Phonology*.

2017 **J. Whang** and F. Adriaans. “Phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction”. *Proceedings of the 41st annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*.

2016 **J.D.Y. Whang**. “Perception of illegal contrasts: Japanese adaptations of Korean coda obstruents”. *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*: 488-498.

2014 **J.D. Whang**. “Effects of predictability on vowel reduction”. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 135(4): 2293-2293.

Conferences & workshops

2023 **J. Whang**. “Quantifying cross-linguistic differences in phonetic feature informativity”. International Workshop on Phonetic and Phonological Processing and Learning (PPPL); Tsukuba, Japan; December 21, 2023.

2023 **J. Whang**. “Quantifying phonetic informativity: An information theoretic approach”. Limits and benefits of information-theoretic perspectives in spoken communication (Interspeech 2023 Satellite Workshop); Dublin, Ireland; August 19, 2023.

2023 **J. Whang**. “Quantifying phonetic informativity: An information theoretic approach”. Hanyang International Symposium on Phonetics and Cognitive Sciences of Language 2023 (HISPhonCog 2023); Seoul, Korea; May 26-27, 2023.

- 2020 A. Tuninetti, **J. Whang**, and P. Escudero. “Effects of acoustic similarity in the MMN response during L2 speech perception”. 12th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language (SNL 2020). Brisbane, Australia; October 21-24, 2020.
- 2020 **J. Whang**, J. Shaw, and S. Kawahara. “Acoustic consequences of vowel deletion in devoicing environments”. 17th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 17). Vancouver, Canada; July 6-8, 2020.
- 2020 B. Andreeva, B. Möbius, and **J. Whang**. “Effects of surprisal and boundary strength on phrase-final lengthening”. 10th International Conference on Speech Prosody 2020. Tokyo, Japan; May 25-28, 2020.
- 2019 **J. Whang**, K. Yazawa, and P. Escudero. “Perception of Japanese vowel length by Australian English listeners”. 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Melbourne, Australia; August 5-9, 2019.
- 2019 A. Tuninetti, **J. Whang**, and P. Escudero. “Non-native vowel perception in a 4IAX task: The effects of acoustic distance”. 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Melbourne, Australia; August 5-9, 2019.
- 2018 **J. Whang**. “Reconciling CV phonotactics and high vowel deletion in Japanese”. Annual Meeting on Phonology 2018 (AMP 2018); San Diego, California; October 5-7, 2018.
- 2018 **J. Whang**. “Syllabification of consonant clusters by L1 Japanese L2 English speakers”. Hanyang International Symposium on Phonetics and Cognitive Sciences of Language 2018 (HISPhonCog 2018); Seoul, Korea; May 18-19, 2018.
- 2018 P. Escudero, A. Tuninetti, and **J. Whang**. “Effects of cognitive development in speech perception”. Hanyang International Symposium on Phonetics and Cognitive Sciences of Language 2018 (HISPhonCog 2018); Seoul, Korea; May 18-19, 2018.
- 2016 **J. Whang** and F. Adriaans. “Phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction”. 41st Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 41); Boston, MA; November 4-6, 2016.
- 2016 **J. Whang** and F. Adriaans. “The role of phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction”. 24th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (J/K 24); Tokyo, Japan; October 13-16, 2016.
- 2016 **J. Whang**. “Illusory epenthesis and recoverability-conditioned sensitivity to phonetic detail”. 15th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 15); Ithaca, NY; July 13-16, 2016.
- 2016 S. Kawahara, J. Shaw, and **J. Whang**. “Targetless /u/ in Tokyo Japanese”. 15th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 15); Ithaca, NY; July 13-16, 2016.
- 2016 **J. Whang**. “Recoverability-conditioned sensitivity to phonetic detail in cross-language perception”. PhoNE 2016; New York, N.Y.; April 9, 2016.
- 2016 **J. Whang**. “Effects of recoverability on perception of illusory vowels”. 90th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2016); Washington, D.C.; January 7-10, 2016.
- 2014 **J. Whang**. “Acoustic effects of predictability and gender on Japanese high vowel reduction”. 14th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon14); Tokyo, Japan; July 25-27, 2014.
- 2014 **J. Whang**. “Effects of predictability on vowel reduction”. 167th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America; Providence, Rhode Island; May 5-9, 2014.
- 2010 **J.D.Y. Whang**. “Perception of illegal contrasts: Japanese adaptations of Korean coda obstruents”. 36th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS36); Berkeley, California; February 5-7, 2010.

Invited Talks

- 2023 James Whang. “Tackling integration of multi-level perception: The case of Japanese high vowels”. The Phonology-Morphology Circle of Korea; Seoul, Korea; September 9, 2023.

2023	James Whang. “Predictability effects on phonetic cue manipulation”. University of Tsukuba; Tsukuba, Japan; June 19, 2023.
2021	James Whang. “The mechanisms and consequences of high vowel deletion in Japanese”. Laboratoire de Phonétique et Phonologie; Paris, France; January 8, 2021.
2018	James Whang. “Effects of phonotactic predictability on Japanese high vowel processing”. SimPhon.Net: Workshop 6; Bad Krozingen, Germany; December 9-11, 2018.
2018	James Whang. “Effects of phonotactic predictability on Japanese high vowel processing”. Saarland University; Saarbrücken, Germany; July 18, 2018.
2018	James Whang. “Effects of predictability on the production and perception of high vowels in Japanese”. Seoul National University; Seoul, Korea; May 16, 2018.
2015	James Whang. “Effects of recoverability on perception of illusory vowels: Preliminary results”. Keio Institute of Cultural and Linguistic Studies Research Group; Tokyo, Japan; July 30, 2015.
2015	James Whang. “Learning high vowel reduction in Japanese: Combining empirical and computational approaches”. RIKEN Brain Science Institute – Laboratory for Language Development; Saitama, Japan; July 30, 2015.
2015	James Whang. “Recoverability-driven speech patterns: The case of Japanese high vowel reduction”. Keio Institute of Cultural and Linguistic Studies Research Group; Tokyo, Japan; May 19, 2015.

Other Manuscripts

2017	James Whang. <i>Shaping speech patterns via predictability and recoverability</i> . Dissertation, NYU. Chair: Frans Adriaans and Lisa Davidson Committee members: Gillian Gallagher, Maria Gouskova, and Shigeto Kawahara
2014	James Whang. <i>Modeling a phonotactic approach to segment recovery: Japanese high vowel reduction</i> . Second qualifying paper, NYU. Chair: Frans Adriaans Committee members: Adam Buchwald and Lisa Davidson
2013	James Whang. <i>Recoverability-driven vowel reduction: Evidence from Japanese high vowel devoicing</i> . First qualifying paper, NYU. Chair: Lisa Davidson Committee members: Gillian Gallagher and Kathryn Pruitt

Teaching

Undergraduate

100.131	<i>Phonetics</i>
108.208	<i>Phonology 1</i>
108.415	<i>Applied Phonetics</i>
M1246.001000	<i>Statistics for Linguistics</i>

Graduate

108.523A	<i>Studies in Experimental Phonetics: On Mechanisms and Representations</i>
108.523A	<i>Studies in Experimental Phonetics: Perception and Production</i>
108.523A	<i>Studies in Experimental Phonetics: Acoustic Phonetics</i>
108.620	<i>Seminar in Phonology: Predictability and Recoverability</i>
108.716	<i>Studies in Phonetics 2: First and Second Language Acquisition of Speech Sounds</i>
108.717	<i>Studies in Phonology 2: Speech Perception</i>

Services

Reviewer

Journals

Applied Psycholinguistics
Attention, Perception & Psychophysics
Journal of the Acoustical Society of America Express Letters
Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition
Journal of Phonetics
Laboratory Phonology: Journal for the Association of Laboratory Phonology
Language
Language and Speech
Language Acquisition
Linguistic Vanguard
Phonetica
Speech Communication

Conferences

Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon); Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP).

At MARCS

05.2018-10.2018

Coordinator, Slider-MAC (department-internal workshop and guest talks).

At NYU

2012-13

Vice President, Linguistics Association of New York University (for graduate students).

Languages

English

Native

Japanese

Fluent

Korean

Native