

Nicholas Bamshad Aoki

Curriculum Vitae
as of September 6, 2024

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Phonetics/phonology, speech perception, psycholinguistics, speaking style variation, sociolinguistics, human-computer interaction

EDUCATION

- 2021- **University of California Davis**, Davis, CA
Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics
Cumulative GPA: 4.00/4.00
- 2021 **University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL
Master of Arts in Digital Studies of Language, Culture, and History
Cumulative GPA: 4.00/4.00
Thesis: Do Hillary Clinton and Kamala Harris Imitate the Accent of their Audience at Campaign Rallies?
- 2021 **University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics, Minor in Statistics
Cumulative GPA: 3.95/4.00
College Honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Student Marshal, *summa cum laude*

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2024 Vonessen, J., **Nicholas B. Aoki**, Michelle Cohn and Georgia Zellou. Comparing perception of L1 and L2 English by human listeners and machines: Effect of interlocutor adaptations. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 155(5), 3060-3070. <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0025930>
- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Being *clear* about clear speech: Intelligibility of hard-of-hearing-directed, non-native-directed, and casual speech for L1- and L2-English listeners. *Journal of Phonetics*, 104, 101328. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wocn.2024.101328>

- 2023 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Visual information affects adaptation to novel talkers: ethnicity-specific and ethnicity-independent learning of L2-accented speech. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 154(4), 2290-2304. <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0021289>
- 2022 **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Michelle Cohn and Georgia Zellou. The clear speech intelligibility benefit for text-to-speech voices: Effects of speaking style and visual guise. *JASA Express Letters*, 2(4), 045204. <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0010274>

Refereed Conference Proceedings

- 2023 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When clear speech does not enhance memory: Effects of speaking style, voice naturalness, and listener age. *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics*, 51(1), 060002. <https://doi.org/10.1121/2.0001766>
- 2023 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Speakers talk more clearly when they see an East Asian face: Effects of visual guise on speech production. In Radek Skarnitzl & Jan Volín (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (pp. 2294-2298). Guarant International. <https://guarant.cz/icphs2023/45.pdf>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When multiple talker exposure is necessary for cross-talk generalization: Social co-variation facilitates the emergence of sociolinguistic perception. Under review at *Glossa Psycholinguistics*.
- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Apparent talker and speaking style variation facilitate generalization of L2-accented speech: Teasing apart numerosity and heterogeneity accounts of perceptual learning. Under review at *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Santiago Barreda and Georgia Zellou. Effects of speaking rate on intelligibility and perceived vocal effort.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When multiple talker exposure is necessary for cross-talk generalization: Social co-variation facilitates the emergence of sociolinguistic perception. *99th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States.
- 2024 Baldwin, B., **Nicholas B. Aoki**, and Georgia Zellou. “Country Talk” in California’s Napa Valley. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 52. Miami Beach, Florida, United States.

- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When multiple talker exposure is necessary for cross-talker generalization: Social co-variation facilitates the emergence of sociolinguistic perception. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 52*. Miami Beach, Florida, United States.
- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Effects of speaking style and apparent talker variability on perceptual adaptation to L2-accented speech. *10th Annual UC Davis Symposium on Language Research*. Davis, California, United States.
- 2024 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Ethnicity-specific and -independent learning: Effects of guise on adaptation to novel foreign-accented talkers. *98th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. New York City, New York, United States.
- 2023 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. When speaking clearly does not enhance comprehension: Comparing intelligibility of hard-of-hearing- and non-native-directed speech for native and non-native listeners. *185th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America*. Sydney, Australia.
- 2023 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Ethnicity-specific and -independent learning: Effects of guise on adaptation to novel foreign-accented talkers. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 51*. New York City, New York, United States.
- 2023 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Speakers talk more clearly when they see an Asian face: Effects of visual guise on speech production. *20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Prague, Czech Republic.
- 2023 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Comparing intelligibility and recognition memory of human and text-to-speech voices. *184th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America*. Chicago, Illinois, United States.
- 2023 **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Masoud Jasbi, and Georgia Zellou. Under-informative utterances can be more accepted from digital devices than humans. *97th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Denver, Colorado, United States.
- 2022 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Georgia Zellou. Hey Alexa, are you a Valley Girl? Effects of social information on the perception of text-to-speech voices. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 50*. San Jose, California, United States.
- 2022 **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Michelle Cohn, and Georgia Zellou. The Clear Speech Intelligibility Benefit for TTS Voices: Effects of Speech Style and Guise. *The 18th Conference on Laboratory Phonology*, Virtual.
- 2021 **Aoki, Nicholas B.** and Alan C. L. Yu. Do Hillary Clinton and Kamala Harris Imitate the Accent of Their Audiences? Analysis and Interpretation of Stylistic Variability. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 49*, Virtual.
- 2021 **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Henry Mackall, and Alan C. L. Yu. Does Variation in Speech Production Impact Acoustic Cue Weighting in Speech Perception? *2021 University of Chicago Undergraduate Research Symposium*, Virtual.

- 2020 **Aoki, Nicholas B.**, Jacob B. Phillips, Daniel Chen, and Alan C. L. Yu.
Convergence of the lot-thought merger in the U.S. Supreme Court. *94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*, New Orleans, Louisiana, United States.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2023 Setzer, Kat. Student Paper Competition: Chicago [19:49-30:53]. Across Acoustics [Official Podcast of the Acoustical Society of America].
<https://acrossacoustics.buzzsprout.com/1537384/14065240-student-paper-competition-chicago>

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2024 Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, UC Davis [Nominee]
2024 Phi Kappa Phi, UC Davis
2023 Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics Student Paper Competition Winner, Acoustical Society of America, \$300
2023 “Down Under Funder” Travel Grant, Acoustical Society of America, \$1,000
2023 Steven Lapointe Award, UC Davis Department of Linguistics, \$850
2023 Student Award, International Phonetic Association, GBP 600
2022 Travel Award, UC Davis Graduate Student Association, \$250
2022-2023 Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship, UC Davis, \$48,900
2021-2022 Provost’s Fellowship in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, UC Davis, \$59,802
2021 Latin Honors (summa cum laude), Univ. of Chicago
2021 Leonard Bloomfield Prize in Linguistics, Univ. of Chicago
2020 Phi Beta Kappa (Early Induction), Univ. of Chicago
2020 Student Marshal, Univ. of Chicago
2020 College Summer Research Fellow, Univ. of Chicago, \$5,000
2019-2020 College Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities Scholar, Univ. of Chicago \$5,000
2019 Jeff Metcalf Internship, Univ. of Chicago
2019 Dean’s Fund for Undergraduate Research Award, Univ. of Chicago, \$1,271
2019 Liew Family College Research Fellow, Univ. of Chicago, \$1,000
2017-2021 Dean’s List, Univ. of Chicago
2017-2021 National Merit Scholarship, \$8,000

TEACHING***Teaching Assistant***

LIN 171 – Introduction to Psycholinguistics (Winter 2024)

LIN 160 – American Voices (Fall 2024)

LIN 103A – Linguistic Analysis I: Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology (Fall 2024)

LIN 001/001Y – Introduction to Linguistics (Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Summer 2024)

RESEARCH MENTORSHIP

2024- Bayleigh Baldwin, “Sociolinguistic variation in Napa Valley” (Undergraduate Honors Thesis), UC Davis [Co-Mentor with Georgia Zellou]

SERVICE***Reviewing***

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewing: Journal of the Acoustical Society of America (Co-Reviewer with Georgia Zellou, 2022)

Conference Abstract Reviewing: UC Davis Cluster on Language Research Symposium (2022, 2023, 2024)

Organized Sessions and Symposia

2023 UC Davis Cluster on Language Research Symposium (co-organized with Roxanne Elliott and Ana Ortega Pérez)

Other Service

2024- Website Manager, UC Davis Phonetics Laboratory

2023-2024 Website Manager, UC Davis Linguistics Department [Creator of Position]

2023-2024 UC Davis Graduate Student Association Representative

2022-2023 Sacramento Public Library Adult Literacy Program Tutor

2021- UC Davis Cluster on Language Research Committee

2021-2022 UC Davis Graduate and Professional School Events Grant Review Board

2020-2021 Univ. of Chicago Senior Class Gift Committee

2017-2021 Univ. of Chicago Phoenix Tutoring (President, Session Coordinator, Tutor)

LANGUAGES

English (L1 or “native”), French (advanced), Spanish (advanced), Japanese (intermediate), Farsi (beginning)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Proficient in: R, Python, Praat, Qualtrics, LaTeX, HTML, CSS, FAVE, ProsodyPro, WebMAUS, MS Word, MS Excel, Zoom

Knowledge of: MySQL, JavaScript, ELAN, E-Prime, eye-tracking, electroencephalography (EEG)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2024- Phi Kappa Phi
- 2023- Acoustical Society of America
- 2023- International Phonetic Association
- 2022- Association for Laboratory Phonology
- 2020- Linguistic Society of America
- 2020- Phi Beta Kappa

REFERENCES

Dr. Georgia Zellou
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Dr. Fernanda Ferreira
Professor of Psychology
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Dr. Alan C. L. Yu
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