

AUROMITA MITRA

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EDUCATION

PhD Linguistics

New York University, New York

2022 - present

M.A. Linguistics

The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad

2019 - 2021

GPA: 8.68 (on 9.0 scale)

Courses: Phonetics, Phonology (I,II), Morphology, Syntax (I,II,III), Semantics (I,II,III), Pragmatics, Quantitative methods in linguistics, Digital signal processing for linguistics, Head-driven phrase structure grammar, Python for NLP, Language acquisition, Language and reading disorders, ELT in multilingual contexts

B.A. English (honors)

The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad

2016 - 2019

GPA: 7.64 (on 8.0 scale)

Senior Secondary

Kendriya Vidyalaya N.E.H.U., Shillong

2016

Percentage: 93%

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Shastri Research Student Fellowship 2021

Nov 2020

Awarding body Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute

Details competitive funding for independent research project; 8 awardees across disciplines

Project title What we hear depends on where we hear it: Perceptual Adaptation in Bengali-English Bilingual Speech

Affiliate Dr. Molly Babel, Dept. of Linguistics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Grant amount INR 57,000

- UGC Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) in Linguistics

Dec 2019

Awarding body University Grants Commission, govt. of India

Details 5-year fellowship funding for Ph.D. at any Indian university; 18 awardees out of 1285 applicants

Amount monthly stipend of INR 31,000

- Qualified UGC National Eligibility Test (NET) in Linguistics

Dec 2019

Percentile: 100.00

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Independent research: Vowel harmony in Khalka Mongolian

Speech Dynamics Lab, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Jul 2021 - present

Supervisor: Prof. Indranil Dutta

- This project compares patterns of coarticulation in harmonic vs. non-harmonic vowel sequences to understand how a low-level phonetic process interacts with phonological constraints
- developed acoustic model for forced alignment of Khalka Mongolian
- processed large-scale speech data
- performed acoustic analyses in Praat
- data visualization and statistical analyses in R
- manuscript under preparation

Independent research: Perceptual adaptation

Speech in Context Lab, University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Jan 2021 - present

Supervisor: Dr. Molly Babel

- This project examines how cross-language interaction affects an adaptive speech behavior in multilingual listeners, and possible sources of individual differences
- conceptualized study and developed project proposal to secure funding
- processed and manipulated speech data to create perception stimuli
- designed and ran online speech perception experiment
- regularly present work to non-specialist audience as part of fellowship program

M.A. dissertation

EFLU, Hyderabad

Jan - Jun 2021

Supervisor: Dr. Utpal Lahiri

- Title: A presuppositional account of the *ach*- copula in Bangla
- Premise: The multi-copula system of Bengali shows a complex pattern of distribution and inference that has resisted satisfactory semantic accounts
- Research question: How can the gradient, context-sensitive acceptability of the copula *ach*- be formalized?
- Proposal: Formalizing contextual information as a presuppositional component of the word meaning better predicts patterns of actual use than existing categorical accounts

Independent research: Phonetic transfer

Speech and Language Processing Lab, EFLU, Hyderabad

Oct 2019 - Aug 2020

Supervisor: Prof. Indranil Dutta

- This project examined the phonetic outcome of mixed language processing in the speech of multilingual individuals
- conceptualized and designed speech production experiment
- recruited and recorded participants
- processed speech data in Praat
- data visualization and statistical analyses in R

Research intern: Project MELT

NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad

May - Jun 2018

P.I.: Dr. Uma Maheshwari

- analyzed findings from existing research on linguistic human rights and multilingualism in India
- collaborated with local educators and language researchers to develop effective tools for assessing phonemic awareness in multilingual children

- translated and adapted a language assessment tool (MAIN; Gagarina et al., 2012) to suit the needs of an indigenous community

SKILLS

Technical	R, Praat, Python, L ^A T _E X, Git, forced alignment, Kaldi
Language	Bengali (fluent), English (fluent), Hindi (fluent), Spanish (basic)

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mitra, A., Dutta, I. Mixed language processing increases cross-language phonetic transfer in Bengali-English bilinguals (2022, to appear).

Mitra, A., Dutta, I. (2022) Asymmetries in V-to-V coarticulation among harmonic and non-harmonic sequences in Khalkha Mongolian. Poster presented at Laboratory Phonology 18, virtual, June 23-25 2022. [[slides](#)][[presentation](#)]

Mitra, A., Bhaumik, M., Mondal, A., Dutta, I. (2019). Phonetic accommodation in English loanwords in Bengali. Paper presented at the National Conference on Phonetics: Theoretical Underpinnings and Research Explorations, EFL University, Hyderabad, 19th - 20th December 2019.

Gagarina, N., Klop, D., Kunnari, S., Tantele, K., Välimaa, T., Bohnacker, U. & Walters, J. (2019). MAIN: Multilingual Assessment Instrument for Narratives – Revised. Materials for use. ZAS Papers in Linguistics, 63. Hindi version for use with Gondi-Hindi and Halbi-Hindi bilinguals. Translated and adapted by Chimirala, U. M., Rao, S., Isaac, N. G., Chakraborty, P., **Mitra, A.**, Biswas, B., Jacob, L., Prithiviraj, P., Sai Priya, & Saradhi, N.

INVITED TALK

“NET...set...go: a workshop on preparing for NET-JRF Linguistics”. Jadavpur University, Kolkata. September 2021.

NLP TOOLS

- Phonetic word finder for Bengali [[github](#)]
- Acoustic model for Khalkha Mongolian forced alignment [[github](#)]

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kovida Limited

Content creator and editor

Jan - Feb 2017

Developed vocabulary and grammar content for language teaching textbooks for standards 6 to 8

OUTREACH

Akshar (student initiative of EFLU)

Student coordinator, teacher

Aug 2016 - Jun 2021

- Organize weekly classes for socially disadvantaged children near university campus, with a focus on building language proficiency for classroom: phonic skills, academic literacy, narrative skills
- Provide support for school admissions
- Individually tutor students taking secondary and senior secondary exams