

James Tanner

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Employment

2023-present	Postdoctoral Fellow , English Language & Linguistics, University of Glasgow	Glasgow, UK
2021-2023	Speech Scientist , Resemble AI	Montréal, Canada
2021-2021	Research Analyst , Data Sciences	Montréal, Canada
2020-2021	Research Assistant , Department of Linguistics, McGill University	Montréal, Canada
2017-2018	Language Engineer , Amazon	Gdańsk, Poland

Education

2016-2020	PhD, Linguistics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Title: <i>Structured phonetic variation across dialects and speakers of English and Japanese</i> (PDF)Advisors: Morgan Sonderegger, Jane Stuart-SmithCommittee: Meghan Clayards, Charles BobergExaminers: Francisco Torreira (internal), Gerry Docherty (external)Defence committee: Heather Goad (chair), Yoonjung Kang (external), Morgan Sonderegger, Meghan Clayards, Francisco Torreira	McGill University
2013-2015	MA, Linguistics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Title: <i>The representation and processing of inflectional morphology: the prosodic dual-route hypothesis</i>Advisor: Heather Goad	McGill University
2008-2011	BA (Honours), Linguistics	University of Kent

Journal Publications

2023	Tanner, J. 'Prosodic and durational influences on the formant dynamics of Japanese vowels'. <i>JASA Express Letters</i> , 3 (8), 085202. 10.1121/10.0020547
2020	Tanner, J. , Sonderegger, M., and Stuart-Smith, J. 'Structured speaker variability in Japanese stops: relationships within versus across cues to stop voicing'. <i>Journal of the Acoustical Society of America</i> , 148 (2), 793-804. 10.1121/10.0001734
2020	Tanner, J. , Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., and Fruehwald, J. 'Toward 'English' phonetics: variability in the pre-consonantal voicing effect across English dialects and speakers'. <i>Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence</i> , 3:38. 10.3389/frai.2020.00038
2019	Tanner, J. , Sonderegger, M., and Torreira, F. 'Durational evidence that Tokyo Japanese vowel devoicing is not gradient reduction'. <i>Frontiers in Psychology</i> , 10:821. 10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00821
2017	Tanner, J. , Sonderegger, M., and Wagner, M.. 'Production planning and coronal stop deletion in spontaneous speech'. <i>Laboratory Phonology</i> , 8(1), 15. 10.5334/labphon.96

Conference Proceedings

2022	Tanner, J. , Sonderegger, M., and Stuart-Smith, J. 'Multidimensional acoustic variation across English dialects'. In <i>Proceedings of the 19th SIGMORPHON Workshop on Computational Research in Phonetics, Phonology, and Morphology</i> , Seattle, Washington. Pages 72-82. 10.18653/v1/2022.sigmorphon-1.8
2019	Tanner, J. , Sonderegger, M., and Stuart-Smith, J. 'Structured speaker variability in spontaneous Japanese stop contrast production'. In <i>Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences</i> . Melbourne, Australia. Pages 666-670. Access

- 2019 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Vowel duration and the voicing effect across English dialects’. *Toronto Working Papers in Linguistics*, 41(1). [10.33137/twpl.v41i1.32769](https://doi.org/10.33137/twpl.v41i1.32769)
- 2015 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., and Wagner, M.. ‘Production planning and coronal stop deletion in spontaneous speech’. In *Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Glasgow, United Kingdom. [Access](#)

Invited Talks

- 2024 **Tanner, J.**, Stuart-Smith, J., Sonderegger, M., Mielke, J., Thomas, E., Boberg, C., Dodsworth, R., and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Vowel variation across English dialects: variation in formant dynamics and duration’. 29th May, Newcastle University, Newcastle, UK.

Conference Presentations

- 2024 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., Kendall, T., Mielke, J., Thomas, E., Dodsworth, R., and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Dialect and speaker variation, and the role of the anticipatory shortening effect in English articulation rate’. Presented at *The Colloquium of the British Association of Academic Phoneticians*, 25-27th March, University of Cardiff & Cardiff Metropolitan University, Cardiff, UK.
- 2022 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Multidimensional acoustic variation in vowels across English dialects’. Presented at *The 19th SIGMORPHON Workshop*, 14th July, Seattle, Washington.
- 2021 Stuart-Smith, J., MacDonald, R., **Tanner, J.**, and The SPADE Consortium. ‘The sociolinguistic dynamics of word-final /r/ in Scottish English’. Presented at *UK Language Variation & Change 13*, 8th-10th September, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK.
- 2020 Stuart-Smith, J., MacDonald, R., **Tanner, J.**, and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Viewing accent variation from a large corpus perspective: rhoticity in Scottish English’. Presented at *The 25th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference Satellite Workshop on Experimental Phonetics*, 28th December, Seoul, South Korea.
- 2020 Stuart-Smith, J., Mielke, J., MacDonald, R., **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Persuading birds of a feather to flock together – reflections on managing and measuring diverse speech corpora in SPADE’. Presented at *The 2020 Australian Linguistic Society Conference*, 14th December, Australia.
- 2020 Stuart-Smith, J., Sonderegger, M., Mielke, J., **Tanner, J.**, Willerton, V., and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Desperately seeking English sibilants: Discovering dialect norms and speaker variability for /s S/ from large-scale multi-dialect analysis’. Presented at *LabPhon 17*, 6-8th July, University of British Columbia/Simon Fraser University.
- 2020 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Vowel variation across English dialects’. Presented at *SPADE-PAC-PFC Workshop*, 20-21st February, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK.
- 2019 Stuart-Smith, J., Macdonald, R., **Tanner, J.**, and The SPADE Consortium. ‘Large-scale automatic acoustic analysis of word-final /r/ in Scottish English’. Presented at *R-atics 6*, 7-8th November, Laboratoire de Phonétique et Phonologie, UMR 7018 - CNRS/Université Sorbonne Nouvelle - Paris - 3.
- 2019 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., and The SPADE Consortium. ‘How consistent is the voicing effect across dialects of English?’. Poster presented at *UK Language Variation & Change 12*, 3-5th September, Queen Mary’s University of London & University College London.
- 2019 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., and Stuart-Smith, J. ‘Structured speaker variability in spontaneous Japanese stop contrast production’. Presented at *The 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 5-9th August, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2019 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J. and The SPADE Data Consortium. ‘Vowel duration & the “voicing effect” across English dialects and speakers’. Presented at *The Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto*

- 2018 *Phonology Workshop*, 29-31 March, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada. Stuart-Smith, J., Sonderegger, M., McAuliffe, M., **Tanner, J.**, and Willerton, V. 'Integrated Speech Corpus ANalysis (ISCAN): a new tool for large-scale cross-corpus sociolinguistic analysis'. Presented at *NWAV 47*, 17th October, NYU/CUNY.
- 2017 **Tanner, J.** 'Phonetic and phonological mechanisms of Tokyo Japanese vowel devoicing'. Presentation at *The Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto Phonology Workshop*, 22-24 March, Université du Québec à Montréal, Montreal, Canada.
- 2015 **Tanner, J.**, Sonderegger, M., and Wagner, M. 'Production planning and coronal stop deletion in spontaneous speech'. Presented at *The 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 10-14th August, Glasgow, UK.

Data

- 2020 Sonderegger, M., Stuart-Smith, J., **Tanner, J.**, Willerton, V., Macdonald, R., and Mielke, J. *SPADE: Speech Across Dialects of English*. [10.17605/OSF.IO/4JFRM](https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/4JFRM)

Teaching

- Jan-April 2020 **Technical Assistant** Experimental Linguistics: Methods McGill University
 • Regression analysis, R & shell programming.
- Jan-April 2019 **Teaching Assistant** Phonetics McGill University
 • Acoustic & articulatory phonetics, dialectology, prosody, connected speech, phonetic reduction.
- Jan-April 2015 **Teaching Assistant** Introduction to Linguistics McGill University
 • Formal methods in phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.
- Sept-Dec 2014 **Teaching Assistant** Introduction to the Study of Language McGill University
 • Language acquisition, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, dialects of English.

Awards

- 2023-2025 Postdoctoral Fellowship – 'Tracking talker dynamics within and across English dialects', *British Academy*
- 2022 Best Paper Award, *SIGMORPHON/North American Association for Computational Linguistics*
- 2020 Lara Riente Memorial Prize, *Department of Linguistics, McGill University*
- 2020 Student Travel Award, *Centre for Research on Brain, Language and Music*
- 2019 International Internship Award, *Fonds de Recherche Nature et Technologie*
 • Award to support 4-month research fellowship at the University of Glasgow
- 2019 Best Student Paper (Shortlist), *International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*
- 2015, 2019 Student Travel Award, *International Phonetic Association*
- 2014, 2016 McCall McBain Fellowship in Arts, *McGill University*
- 2013, 2014 Graduate Excellence Fellowship, *McGill University*

Service

Article review

- 2022 *Phonology*
- 2022 *JASA Express Letters*
- 2019 *International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*
- 2017 *Glossa*

Grant review

- 2022 National Science Foundation (NSF)

Editor

- 2013-2015 McGill University Working Papers in Linguistics

Conference organisation

2014 North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO)
2011 University of Kent Undergraduate Linguistics Conference

Skills

Languages: English (native), Japanese (approx JLPT N4/N3, research)

Technical: R, Python, Praat, SQL, \LaTeX , UNIX/shell