James WHANG
[ʤ͡eɪmz̥ hʷaŋ]

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Full Name: James Doh Yeon WHANG
Date of birth: 5 July 1984
Nationality: United States of America
Marital status: Married, no children

Job applied for

Postdoctoral Researcher (W1376, Project C1)

Education

09.2011–09.2017	*PhD Linguistics*, New York University.
	Dissertation: Shaping speech patterns via predictability and recoverability.
	Chairs: Frans Adriaans and Lisa Davidson.
	Committee: Gillian Gallagher, Maria Gouskova, Shigeto Kawahara.
09.2002–03.2007	*BA in Linguistics and Japanese*, University of California, Los Angeles.

Positions held

Research

10.2017–current	*Postdoctoral fellow in computational modelling of language learning and processing*, MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour & Development, Western Sydney University, Australia.
	PI: Paola Escudero.
05.2014–08.2014	*Research assistant*, Department of Linguistics, New York University, USA.
	PI: Frans Adriaans.
05.2013–08.2013	*Research assistant*, Department of Linguistics, New York University, USA.
	PI: Lisa Davidson.
05.2012–08.2012	*Research assistant*, Department of Linguistics, New York University, USA.
	PI: Gillian Gallagher.

Teaching

St. John's University

Fall 2016	*Introduction to Phonology*.

New York University (Teaching Assistant)

Spring 2017	*Science of Language* (introduction to linguistics), Prof. Tara McAllister Byun.
	Recitation leader.
Spring 2017	*Morphology*, Prof. Maria Gouskova.
	Course assistant (grader).
Fall 2015	*Language* (introduction to linguistics), Prof. Maria Gouskova.
	Recitation leader and guest lecturer.
Spring 2014	*Language* (introduction to linguistics), Prof. Anna Szabolcsi.
	Recitation leader and guest lecturer.
(Spring 2015)	Guest lecturer (speech perception).
Fall 2013/14	*Sound and Language* (phonetics), Prof. Lisa Davidson.
	Recitation leader and guest lecturer.
(Fall 2015)	Guest lecturer (acoustic analysis).

Grants and awards

External (as PI or Co-PI)

2015–2017	*Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant*, National Science Foundation, USA.

Other

07.2014	*Dean's Travel Grant*, New York University.
2011–2016	*Henry H. MacCracken Fellowship*, New York University.

Services

Reviewer

Articles	*Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition; Applied Psycholinguistics*.
Abstracts	"15th Conference on Laboratory Phonology" (LabPhon15).

At MARCS Institute

05.2018–current	*Coordinator*, Slider MAC (department-internal workshops and guest talks).

At New York University

06.2012–05.2013	*Vice President*, Linguistics Association of New York University (graduate student association).

Languages

English	Native
Korean	Native
Japanese	Fluent

Computer skills

Praat	Acoustic analysis.
Python	Corpus analysis, computational modeling.
R	Statistical analysis.

Non-academic professional experience

06.2010–08.2011	*Freelance translator and interpreter* (English, Japanese, Korean). Specialization in translation of legal documents and doctoral theses. Japanese-English business interpreter.
09.2007-06.2010	*Associate localization producer*, *XSEED Games*, Torrance, California. Coordination of Japanese video game developers and American production teams. Translate and edit game text from Japanese to English. Translate English marketing documents to Japanese for Japanese marketing clients.

James Whang
20 June 2018

James Whang: List of Publications

Publications

Peer-reviewed journals

submitted	Kakeru Yazawa, James Whang, Paola Escudero, and Mariko Kondo. "Learning to use a different primary cue for perceptually similar L1 and L2 contrasts".
under revision	James Whang. "Recoverability-conditioned sensitivity to phonetic detail".
under revision	James Whang and Frans Adriaans. "Learning to reduce and recover: the role of phonotactics and alternations in Japanese high vowel reduction".
2018	James Whang. "Recoverability-driven coarticulation: Acoustic evidence from Japanese high vowel devoicing". *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 143(2):1159-1172.
2014	Gillian Gallagher and James Whang. "An acoustic study of trans-vocalic ejective pairs in Cochabamba Quechua". *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 44(2):133-154.
2014	Anna Szabolcsi, James Doh Whang, and Vera Zu. "Quantifier words and their multi-functional(?) parts". *Language and Linguistics* 15(1):115-155.

Conference proceedings

2017	James Whang and Frans Adriaans. "Phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction". *Proceedings of the 41st annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*.
2016	James 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.

Other Manuscripts

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

Invited Talks

2018	James Whang. "Effects of predictability on the production and perception of high vowels in Japanese". Colloquium talk at Seoul National University; Seoul, Korea; May 16, 2018.
2015	James Whang. "Effects of recoverability on perception of illusory vowels: Preliminary results". Talk at the 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". Talk at the 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". Talk at the Keio Institute of Cultural and Linguistic Studies Research Group; Tokyo, Japan; May 19, 2015.

Conferences

2018	James Whang. "Syllabification of consonant clusters by L1 Japanese L2 English speakers". Poster at the Hanyang International Symposium on Phonetics and Cognitive Sciences of Language 2018 (HISPhonCog 2018); Seoul, Korea; May 18-19, 2018.
2018	Paola Escudero, Alba Tuninetti, and James Whang. "Effects of cognitive development in speech perception". Talk at the Hanyang International Symposium on Phonetics and Cognitive Sciences of Language 2018 (HISPhonCog 2018); Seoul, Korea; May 18-19, 2018.
2016	James Whang and Frans Adriaans. "Phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction". Poster at the 41st Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 41); Boston, MA; November 4-6, 2016.
2016	James Whang and Frans Adriaans. "The role of phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction". Poster at the 24th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (J/K 24); Tokyo, Japan; October 13-16, 2016.
2016	James Whang. "Illusory epenthesis and recoverability-conditioned sensitivity to phonetic detail". Poster at the 15th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 15); Ithaca, NY; July 13-16, 2016.
2016	Shigeto Kawahara, Jason Shaw, and James Whang. "Targetless /u/ in Tokyo Japanese". Poster at the 15th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 15); Ithaca, NY; July 13-16, 2016.
2016	James Whang. "Recoverability-conditioned sensitivity to phonetic detail in cross-language perception". Talk at PhoNE 2016; New York, N.Y.; April 9, 2016.
2016	James Whang. "Effects of recoverability on perception of illusory vowels". Talk at the 90th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2016); Washington, D.C.; January 7-10, 2016.
2014	James Whang. "Acoustic effects of predictability and gender on Japanese high vowel reduction". Poster presentation at the 14th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon14); Tokyo, Japan; July 25-27, 2014.
2014	James Whang. "Effects of predictability on vowel reduction". Poster presentation at the 167th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America; Providence, Rhode Island; May 5-9, 2014.
2010	James D. Y. Whang. "Perception of illegal contrasts: Japanese adaptations of Korean coda obstruents". Talk at the 36th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS36); Berkeley, California; February 5-7, 2010.

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Sydney, 20 June 2018

Application for W1376, Project C1, Postdoctoral Researcher

Dear Prof. Dr. Elke Teich,

My name is James Whang, and I am applying for the Postdoctoral Researcher position for the "Information Density and the Predictability of Phonetic Structure" project (C1), which was advertised on Linguist List. I received my PhD in linguistics at New York University in September 2017, under the supervision of Frans Adriaans and Lisa Davidson. I am currently a postdoctoral research fellow at the MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development, the contract for which expires in October 2018.

My research incorporates experiments, corpus analyses, and computational modeling to investigate the role of predictability on how phonetic cues are implemented during production and interpreted during perception. To highlight some of my previous research, my most recently published paper in the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* focuses on the effects of phonotactic predictability (quantified using Shannon's entropy and surprisal) on the likelihood of high vowel deletion in Japanese. I also propose a computational model in a paper currently under revision for resubmission that aims to tease apart the respective roles of lexical learning and surface-level phonotactic learning on the processing of high vowels by Japanese speakers. A preliminary version of the model was published in the *Proceedings of the 41st annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*. During my time at MARCS, I was involved in a second-language perception study (as second author, focusing on theoretical framework) investigating how second-language listeners learn different cue-weightings depending on the target language through experiments and computational modeling.

I am applying to the postdoctoral position for the "information density and the predictability of phonetic structure" project because the position provides an opportunity to enrich my ongoing research on predictability, particularly with respect to the effects of predictability on phonetic implementation in different languages, how conflicting predictions that arise from multiple sources of predictability (e.g., lexical, prosodic, phonotactic) might be resolved during speech processing, and more theoretically, how predictability might be represented in our phonetic/phonological grammar. My background as a phonetician and a computational phonologist allows me to utilize a wide array of methodologies and also to collaborate with speech scientists from diverse backgrounds. Together with my research interests, I believe this flexibility makes me a great fit for the project, as well as the Collaborative Research Center at Saarland University.

Although my current position officially ends in October 2018, it is possible to resign earlier with a month's notice if necessary. Thank you for taking the time to consider my application, and please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions. I can be reached Monday through Friday during normal business hours in Germany. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

James Whang

Attachments: CV, list of publications, PhD and BA certificates, and information for two potential referees.

James Whang: Referee information

Lisa Davidson
Professor
Department of Linguistics
New York University
10 Washington Place
New York, NY 10003, USA
lisa.davidson@nyu.edu

Paola Escudero
Associate Professor
MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour & Development
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