

James Whang

Curriculum Vitae

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Full Name

James Doh Yeon Whang

Research Interests

Acoustic phonetics, computational modeling, crosslinguistic perception, laboratory phonology, language acquisition, lexical representation, loanword phonetics and phonology, phonotactic learning, reduction and recoverability, speech perception.

Education

2011-	PhD in Linguistics, NYU (expected August 2016).
2007	BA in Linguistics and Japanese, UCLA (cum laude).

Grants and Awards

2015-17	National Science Foundation BCS-1524133. "Doctoral Dissertation Research: Predictability and recoverability of high vowel reduction in speech." \$10,786.
2014	Dean's Student Travel Grant, New York University.
2011-16	MacCracken Graduate Fellowship, New York University.

Publications

Submitted	James Whang and Frans Adriaans. Learning to reduce and recover: the role of phonotactics and alternations in Japanese high vowel reduction.
Under revision	James Whang. Recoverability-driven gestural coordination: Acoustic evidence from Japanese high vowel reduction. <i>Journal of the Acoustical Society of America</i> .
2016	James D. Y. Whang. Perception of illegal contrasts: Japanese adaptations of Korean coda obstruents. <i>Proceedings of the 36th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society</i> : 488-498.
2014	Gillian Gallagher and James Whang. An acoustic study of trans-vocalic ejective pairs in Cochabamba Quechua. <i>Journal of the International Phonetic Association</i> 44(2):133-154.
2014	Anna Szabolcsi, James Doh Whang, and Vera Zu. Quantifier words and their multi-functional(?) parts. <i>Language and Linguistics</i> 15(1):115-155.

Invited Talks

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| 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

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| 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. |

Other Manuscripts

In prep	James Whang. Shaping speech patterns via predictability and recoverability. Dissertation, NYU. 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, NYU. 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, NYU. Chair: Lisa Davidson Committee members: Gillian Gallagher and Kathryn Pruitt

Teaching

NYU

Fall 2015	Language (undergraduate introduction to linguistics). Teaching assistant to Maria Gouskova.
Fall 2014	Sound and Language (undergraduate phonetics). Teaching assistant to Lisa Davidson.
Spring 2014	Language (undergraduate introduction to linguistics). Teaching assistant to Anna Szabolcsi.
Fall 2013	Sound and Language (undergraduate phonetics). Teaching assistant to Lisa Davidson.

Non-academic

2007-11	Discovering Sounds. Los Angeles, CA Instructor and curriculum creator. English accent reduction for Japanese and Korean speakers.
Summer 2011	21st Century Foreign Language Institute. Suwon, South Korea. Instructor. Intermediate English conversation for professionals.

Research Assistantships

2014	Research assistant for Frans Adriaans. Checking and remeasuring vowel pitch information of English infant-directed speech corpus.
2013	Research assistant for Lisa Davidson. Checking and resegmentation of forced aligner segmented English speech recordings.
2012	Research assistant for Gillian Gallagher. Segmentation of Quechua speech recordings.

Services

2016	Reviewer for the 15th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon15).
2012-13	Vice President, Linguistics Association of New York University.

Languages

English	Native
Japanese	Fluent
Korean	Native

Professional Experience

2003-11	Freelance translator and interpreter (Japanese and Korean) Specialized in translation of legal documents and doctoral thesis in theology. Interpreter for Japan-US business meetings.
2007-10	Associate localization producer (XSEED JKS, Inc. Torrance, CA) Correspond with Japanese clients via email and phone. Translate and edit game text from Japanese to English. Translate English marketing documents to Japanese for Japanese marketing firm.