

James Whang

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Linguistics
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Full name

James Doh Yeon Whang
/tʃeɪmz do jæn hˈwæŋ/

Education

09.2017	Ph.D. in Linguistics, NYU.
03.2007	B.A. in Linguistics and Japanese, UCLA.

Employment

03.2024–	<i>Associate Professor</i> , Department of Linguistics, Seoul National University, Korea.
03.2020–02.2024	<i>Assistant Professor</i> , Department of Linguistics, Seoul National University, Korea.
11.2018–12.2019	<i>Postdoctoral researcher</i> , Collaborative Research Centre (SFB 1102), Universität des Saarlandes, Germany. PI: Bernd Möbius & Bistra Andreeva.
10.2017–10.2018	<i>Postdoctoral fellow in computational modelling of language learning and processing</i> , MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour & Development, Western Sydney University, Australia. PI: Paola Escudero.

Grants and Awards

03.2022–02.2025	Samsung Electronics. “Analysis on Cognitive Bias Sources in Human Language Processing for Human-like AI Development and Big Data Analytics”
04.2020–03.2022	New Faculty Research Grant. Seoul National University.
06.2015–05.2017	National Science Foundation BCS-1524133. “Doctoral Dissertation Research: Predictability and recoverability of high vowel reduction in speech.”
09.2011–05.2016	MacCracken Graduate Fellowship, New York University.

Publications

Peer-reviewed

2023	K. Yazawa, J. Whang , M. Kondo, and P. Escudero. “Feature-driven new sound category formation: computational implementation with the L2LP model and beyond”. <i>Frontiers in Language Sciences</i> 2:1303511.
2023	K. Yazawa, J. Whang , and P. Escudero. “Australian English listeners’ perception of Japanese vowel length reveals underlying phonological knowledge”. <i>Frontiers in Psychology</i> 14:1122471.

2023	J. Whang and K. Yazawa. “Modeling a phonotactic approach to segment recovery: The case of Japanese high vowels”. <i>Studies in Phonetics, Phonology and Morphology</i> , 29(2):271-295.
2023	K. Yazawa, T. Konishi, M. Kondo, J. Whang , and P. Escudero. “Spectral and temporal implementation of Japanese speakers’ English vowel categories: A corpus-based study”. <i>Laboratory Phonology</i> , 14(1).
2021	J. Whang . “Multiple sources of surprisal affect illusory vowel epenthesis”. <i>Frontiers in Psychology</i> 12:3664.
2020	K. Yazawa, J. Whang , P. Escudero, and M. Kondo. “Language-dependent cue weighting: an investigation of perception modes in L2 learning”. <i>Second Language Research</i> .
2019	J. Whang . “Effects of phonotactic predictability on sensitivity to phonetic detail”. <i>Laboratory Phonology</i> , 10(1):8.
2018	J. Whang . “Recoverability-driven coarticulation: Acoustic evidence from Japanese high vowel devoicing”. <i>Journal of the Acoustical Society of America</i> 143(2):1159-1172.
2014	G. Gallagher and J. 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	A. Szabolcsi, J.D. Whang , and V. Zu. “Quantifier words and their multi-functional(?) parts”. <i>Language and Linguistics</i> 15(1):115-155.
under revision	J. Whang . “Mora and recoverability effects in Japanese vowel devoicing: An acoustic analysis of the Corpus of Spontaneous Japanese”.

Proceedings & published abstracts

2020	B. Andreeva, B. Möbius, and J. Whang . “Effects of surprisal and boundary strength on phrase-final lengthening”. <i>Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Speech Prosody</i> 2020:146-150.
2019	J. Whang , K. Yazawa, and P. Escudero. “Perception of Japanese vowel length by Australian English listeners”. In Sasha Calhoun, Paola Escudero, Marija Tabain & Paul Warren (eds.), <i>Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences</i> :2228-2232.
2019	A. Tuninetti, J. Whang , and P. Escudero. “Non-native vowel perception in a 4IAX task: The effects of acoustic distance”. In Sasha Calhoun, Paola Escudero, Marija Tabain & Paul Warren (eds.), <i>Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences</i> :240-244.
2019	J. Whang . “Reconciling CV phonotactics and high vowel deletion in Japanese”. In Katherine Hout, Anna Mai, Adam McCollum, Sharon Rose & Matt Zaslansky (eds.), <i>Supplemental Proceedings of the 2018 Annual Meeting on Phonology</i> .
2017	J. Whang and F. Adriaans. “Phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction”. <i>Proceedings of the 41st annual Boston University Conference on Language Development</i> .
2016	J.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	J.D. Whang . “Effects of predictability on vowel reduction”. <i>Journal of the Acoustical Society of America</i> 135(4): 2293-2293.

Conferences & workshops

2024	J. Ko and J. Whang . “The time course of phonetic cue integration in Seoul Korean sibilant fricatives”. 19th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 19). Seoul, Korea; June 27-29, 2024.
2023	J. Whang . “Quantifying cross-linguistic differences in phonetic feature informativity”. International Workshop on Phonetic and Phonological Processing and Learning (PPPL). Tsukuba, Japan; December 21, 2023.

- 2023 **J. Whang.** “Quantifying phonetic informativity: An information theoretic approach”. Limits and benefits of information-theoretic perspectives in spoken communication (Interspeech 2023 Satellite Workshop). Dublin, Ireland; August 19, 2023.
- 2023 **J. Whang.** “Quantifying phonetic informativity: An information theoretic approach”. Hanyang International Symposium on Phonetics and Cognitive Sciences of Language 2023 (HISPhonCog 2023). Seoul, Korea; May 26-27, 2023.
- 2020 A. Tuninetti, **J. Whang**, and P. Escudero. “Effects of acoustic similarity in the MMN response during L2 speech perception”. 12th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language (SNL 2020). Brisbane, Australia; October 21-24, 2020.
- 2020 **J. Whang**, J. Shaw, and S. Kawahara. “Acoustic consequences of vowel deletion in devoicing environments”. 17th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 17). Vancouver, Canada; July 6-8, 2020.
- 2020 B. Andreeva, B. Möbius, and **J. Whang**. “Effects of surprisal and boundary strength on phrase-final lengthening”. 10th International Conference on Speech Prosody 2020. Tokyo, Japan; May 25-28, 2020.
- 2019 **J. Whang**, K. Yazawa, and P. Escudero. “Perception of Japanese vowel length by Australian English listeners”. 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Melbourne, Australia; August 5-9, 2019.
- 2019 A. Tuninetti, **J. Whang**, and P. Escudero. “Non-native vowel perception in a 4IAX task: The effects of acoustic distance”. 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Melbourne, Australia; August 5-9, 2019.
- 2018 **J. Whang.** “Reconciling CV phonotactics and high vowel deletion in Japanese”. Annual Meeting on Phonology 2018 (AMP 2018); San Diego, California; October 5-7, 2018.
- 2018 **J. Whang.** “Syllabification of consonant clusters by L1 Japanese L2 English speakers”. Hanyang International Symposium on Phonetics and Cognitive Sciences of Language 2018 (HISPhonCog 2018); Seoul, Korea; May 18-19, 2018.
- 2018 P. Escudero, A. Tuninetti, and **J. Whang**. “Effects of cognitive development in speech perception”. Hanyang International Symposium on Phonetics and Cognitive Sciences of Language 2018 (HISPhonCog 2018); Seoul, Korea; May 18-19, 2018.
- 2016 **J. Whang** and F. Adriaans. “Phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction”. 41st Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 41); Boston, MA; November 4-6, 2016.
- 2016 **J. Whang** and F. Adriaans. “The role of phonotactics and alternations in the acquisition of Japanese high vowel reduction”. 24th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (J/K 24); Tokyo, Japan; October 13-16, 2016.
- 2016 **J. Whang.** “Illusory epenthesis and recoverability-conditioned sensitivity to phonetic detail”. 15th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 15); Ithaca, NY; July 13-16, 2016.
- 2016 S. Kawahara, J. Shaw, and **J. Whang**. “Targetless /u/ in Tokyo Japanese”. 15th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 15); Ithaca, NY; July 13-16, 2016.
- 2016 **J. Whang.** “Recoverability-conditioned sensitivity to phonetic detail in cross-language perception”. PhoNE 2016; New York, N.Y.; April 9, 2016.
- 2016 **J. Whang.** “Effects of recoverability on perception of illusory vowels”. 90th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2016); Washington, D.C.; January 7-10, 2016.
- 2014 **J. Whang.** “Acoustic effects of predictability and gender on Japanese high vowel reduction”. 14th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon14); Tokyo, Japan; July 25-27, 2014.
- 2014 **J. Whang.** “Effects of predictability on vowel reduction”. 167th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America; Providence, Rhode Island; May 5-9, 2014.
- 2010 **J.D.Y. Whang.** “Perception of illegal contrasts: Japanese adaptations of Korean coda obstruents”. 36th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS36); Berkeley, California; February 5-7, 2010.

Invited Talks

2023	James Whang. “Tackling integration of multi-level perception: The case of Japanese high vowels”. The Phonology-Morphology Circle of Korea; Seoul, Korea; September 9, 2023.
2023	James Whang. “Predictability effects on phonetic cue manipulation”. University of Tsukuba; Tsukuba, Japan; June 19, 2023.
2021	James Whang. “The mechanisms and consequences of high vowel deletion in Japanese”. Laboratoire de Phonétique et Phonologie; Paris, France; January 8, 2021.
2018	James Whang. “Effects of phonotactic predictability on Japanese high vowel processing”. SimPhon.Net: Workshop 6; Bad Krozingen, Germany; December 9-11, 2018.
2018	James Whang. “Effects of phonotactic predictability on Japanese high vowel processing”. Saarland University; Saarbrücken, Germany; July 18, 2018.
2018	James Whang. “Effects of predictability on the production and perception of high vowels in Japanese”. Seoul National University; Seoul, Korea; May 16, 2018.
2015	James Whang. “Effects of recoverability on perception of illusory vowels: Preliminary results”. 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”. 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”. Keio Institute of Cultural and Linguistic Studies Research Group; Tokyo, Japan; May 19, 2015.

Other Manuscripts

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

Thesis advising

Ph.D.

2024	Eunjung Yeo (Postdoctoral fellow at Carnegie Mellon U. [Spring 2024~]) <i>Voice biomarker analysis and automated severity classification of dysarthric speech in a multilingual context</i> Advisor: Minhwa Chung Committee: Hoi-Rin Kim, Hoyoung Lee, Hyungmin Park, James Whang
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M.A.

2024	Joohee Ko (Ph.D. student at U. Chicago [Fall 2024~]) <i>The time course of phonetic cue processing: The case of Seoul Korean sibilant fricatives</i> Advisor: James Whang
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2023	Committee: Jongho Jun, Harim Kwon
	Haneul Lee (Ph.D. student at SNU English Dept. [Fall 2024~]) <i>An acoustic study of voice quality variations in Korean-English bilinguals</i> Advisor: Harim Kwon
	Committee: Jae-Young Lee, James Whang
	Hanyoung Byun (Ph.D. student at UC Santa Cruz [Fall 2023~]) <i>Aggressive Reduplication in Japanese high vowel devoicing</i> Advisor: Jongho Jun
	Committee: Hoyoung Lee, James Whang
	Seokyoung Kim (Intern at NCSOFT [2023~]) <i>The interference of the L1 pitch accent in the perception and production of the foreign language pitch accent</i> Advisor: Hoyoung Lee
	Committee: Jongho Jun, James Whang

Teaching

Graduate	<i>Acoustic Phonetics</i>
	<i>First and Second Language Acquisition of Speech Sounds</i>
	<i>On Mechanisms and Representations</i> (Tribute to Anne Cutler)
	<i>Perception and Production</i>
	<i>Predictability and Recoverability</i>
Undergraduate	<i>Speech Perception</i>
	<i>Applied Phonetics</i>
	<i>Phonetics</i>
	<i>Phonology I</i>
	<i>Statistics for Linguistics</i>

Services

Reviewer Journals	<i>Applied Psycholinguistics</i>
	<i>Attention, Perception & Psychophysics</i>
	<i>Cognitive Science</i>
	<i>Journal of the Acoustical Society of America Express Letters</i>
	<i>Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition</i>
	<i>Journal of Phonetics</i>
	<i>Laboratory Phonology: Journal for the Association of Laboratory Phonology</i>
	<i>Language</i>
	<i>Language and Speech</i>
	<i>Language Acquisition</i>
	<i>Linguistic Vanguard</i>
	<i>Phonetica</i>
	<i>Speech Communication</i>
Conferences	Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon); Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP).
At MARCS 05.2018-10.2018	Coordinator, Slider-MAC (department-internal workshop and guest talks).
At NYU 2012-13	Vice President, Linguistics Association of New York University (for graduate students).

Languages

English	Native
Japanese	Fluent
Korean	Native