

Kristine M. Yu

CONTACT INFORMATION

Assistant Professor
Department of Linguistics
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Integrative Learning Center
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Prosody, from the speech signal on up: tone, intonation, phonetics, phonology, mathematical modeling of speech, language learning and variation, human language processing

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor September 2011 – present
Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts
• Affiliations:
◦ Institute for Computational and Experimental Study of Language
◦ UMass Phonetics Lab

Postdoctoral Researcher September 2011 – June 2012
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland College Park

EDUCATION

University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Ph.D., Linguistics, September 2011

- Thesis Topic: The learnability of tones from the speech signal
- Advisers: Professor Edward Stabler, Professor Megha Sundara

M.A., Linguistics, December 2008

- Thesis Topic: The prosody of second position clitics and focus in Zagreb Croatian
- Adviser: Professor Sun-Ah Jun

Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg, Magdeburg, Germany

Fulbright scholar, Abteilung Biophysik, September 2004 – August 2005

- Synchronization of glycolytic oscillations in yeast cell populations

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

B.S. Chemistry, June 2004

- With distinction
- Minor in physics

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

August 2000 – May 2001

- Trustee Scholar
- Resident Honors Program

HONORS

University of Massachusetts Institute for Social Science Research

- Social Science Research Scholar, 2014 – 2015

National Science Foundation

- Graduate Research Fellowship, 2008 – 2011

Ohio State University Research Foundation

- Machine Learning Summer School/Workshop 2009 Travel Grant

University of California Los Angeles

- Department of Linguistics Ladefoged Scholarship Award, 2010
- Graduate Research Mentorship Program Fellowship, 2007 – 2008
- Summer Graduate Research Mentorship Program Fellowship, 2007, 2008
- Linguistic Society of America Linguistic Institute Fellowship, 2007
- Humanities Dean's Fellowship, 2006 – 2007

Institute of International Education Fulbright Program

- Fulbright Scholarship, Germany, 2004 – 2005
- Fulbright Enterprise Scholarship, Germany (4/107 grantees selected), 2004 – 2005

Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst

- DAAD study scholarship, 2004 (Declined)

Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program

- Barry Goldwater scholarship, 2003

GRANTS

Principle Investigator, Andrew Mellon Foundation / Center for Teaching & Faculty Development at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, “Five Colleges Prosody Community”, \$10,000, 2013 – 2014.

- Mentoring network small group lunches
- Winter prosody bootcamp (regional): January 17-18, 2014
- UMass Tone Workshop (international): June 2-3, 2014

Consultant, “Effects of Syntactic Constituency on Phonology and Phonetics of Tone” (PI: Lisa Selkirk), NSF, [Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences](#), Award 1147083, \$361,283.00, July 1, 2012 – December 31, 2015.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- [1] Yu, Kristine M. (in prep) Tonal marking of absolutive case in Samoan.
- [2] Yu, Kristine M. (in prep) Temporal resolution in Cantonese tone perception.
- [3] Yu, Kristine M., and Dowla Khan, Sameer, and Megha Sundara. (in prep) Intonational phonology in Bengali and English infant-directed speech.

REFEREED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- [1] **Yu, Kristine M.** and Hui Wai Lam. (2014). The role of creaky voice in Cantonese tone perception. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 136(3), 1320-1333. [[web](#), [pdf](#), [supplementary materials](#)]
- [2] Yu, Kristine M. (2014). The experimental state of mind in elicitation: illustrations from tonal fieldwork. *Language Documentation & Conservation*, 8, 738–777. [[web](#), [pdf](#), [supplementary materials](#)]
- [3] Zuraw, Kie, **Yu, Kristine M.**, and Robyn Orfitelli. (2014). The word-level prosody of Samoan. *Phonology*, 31(2), 271–327. [[web](#), [pdf](#)]
- [4] J. Liu, S. Louie, W. Hsu, **K. M. Yu**, H. B. Nicholas, and G. L. Rosenquist. (2008). Tyrosine sulfation is prevalent in human chemokine receptors important in lung disease. *American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology*, 38: 738–743. doi:10.1165/rcmb.2007-0118OC
- [5] Y. R. Thorstenson, A. Roxas, R. Kroiss, M. A. Jenkins, **K. M. Yu**, T. Bachrich, D. Muhr, T. L. Wayne, G. Chu, R. W. Davis, T. M. U. Wagner, and P. J. Oefner. (2003). Contributions of *ATM* mutations to familial breast and ovarian cancer. *Cancer Research*, 63: 3325–3333. <http://cancerres.aacrjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/63/12/3325>
- [6] A. S. Torralba, **K. Yu**, P. Shen, P. J. Oefner, and J. Ross. (2003). Experimental test of a method for determining causal connectivities of species in reactions. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 100: 1494–1498. doi:10.1073/pnas.262790699

- [7] **K. M. Yu**, J. Liu, R. Moy, H. C. Lin, H. B. Nicholas, and G. L. Rosenquist. (2002). Prediction of tyrosine sulfation in seven-transmembrane peptide receptors. *Endocrine*, 19: 333–337. doi:[10.1385/ENDO:19:3:333](https://doi.org/10.1385/ENDO:19:3:333)
- [8] S. Šale, R. Sung, P. Shen, **K. Yu**, Y. Wang, G. Duran, J. Kim, T. Fojo, P. J. Oefner, and B. I. Sikic. (2002). Conservation of the class I β -tubulin gene in human populations and lack of mutations in lung cancers and paclitaxel-resistant ovarian cancers. *Molecular Cancer Therapeutics*, 1: 215–225. <http://mct.aacrjournals.org/content/1/3/215.short>
- BOOK CHAPTERS
- [1] Kuo, Grace C.-H. and **Kristine M. Yu**. (2012). Taiwan Mandarin quantifiers. In *Handbook of Quantifiers in Natural Language*, ed. Edward Keenan and Denis Paperno, pp. 647 – 698. doi:[10.1007/978-94-007-2681-9_12](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-007-2681-9_12) [pdf]
- REFEREED
CONFERENCE
PROCEEDINGS
- [1] **Yu, Kristine M.**, Khan, Sameer ud Dowla, and Sundara, Megha. (2014). Intonational phonology in Bengali and English infant-directed speech. *Speech Prosody 2014*. 1130-1133. [pdf]
- [2] Yu, Kristine M. (2011).¹ The sound of ergativity: morphosyntax-prosody mapping in Samoan. In: Suzi Lima, Kevin Mullin, Brian Smith, eds., *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*, Vol. 2, Graduate Linguistic Student Association, Amherst, MA, pps. 825 – 838. [pdf]
- [3] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). Temporal resolution in Cantonese tone perception. In: *Proceedings of The Psycholinguistic Representation of Tone*.
- [4] **Yu, Kristine M.** and Hiu Wai Lam. (2011). The role of creaky voice in Cantonese tonal perception. In: *Proceedings of the 17th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 2240 – 2243. [pdf]
- [5] Shue, Yen-Liang, Keating, Patricia, Vicenik, Chad, and **Kristine Yu**. (2011). VoiceSauce: a program for voice analysis. In: *Proceedings of the 17th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* 1846 – 1849. [pdf]
- [6] Yu, Kristine M. Laryngealization and features for Chinese tonal recognition. (2010). In: *Proceedings of Interspeech 2010*, 1529 – 1532. [web, pdf]
- [7] Yu, Kristine M. (2009).¹ The prosody of second position clitics and focus in Zagreb Croatian. In: Maria Babyonyshev, Daria Kavitskaya, Jodi Reich, eds., *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics #17: The Yale Meeting 2008.*, Michigan Slavic Publications, Ann Arbor, MI, pps. 253 – 270. [pdf]
- TECHNICAL
REPORTS
- [1] Yu, Kristine M. (2010). Representational maps from the speech signal to phonological categories: a case study with lexical tones. In: Thomas Graf, ed., *UCLA Working Papers in Linguistics, Papers in Mathematical Linguistics 1*, Volume 15, Article 5: 1 – 30. [pdf]
- POPULAR
ARTICLES
- [1] **Kristine M. Yu**, Sameer ud Dowla Khan, Alejandrina Cristia, Huei-Mei Liu, Megha Sundara (2011). [The joint purpose of pitch patterns in "motherese": drawing attention and conveying language structure](#). ASA Lay Language Papers 162nd Acoustical Society of America Meeting.
- INVITED TALKS
- [1] Yu, Kristine M. (2015). Tonal marking of absolutive case in Samoan. Massachusetts Institute of Technology Linguistics Department Colloquium. February 2015.
- [2] Yu, Kristine M. (2014). Tonal marking of absolutive case in Samoan. University of California Santa Cruz Phlunch. October 2014.

¹Refereed abstract only.

- [3] Yu, Kristine M. (2014). The sound of ergativity: tonal marking of absolutive case in Samoan. McGill University Workshop on Syntax-Prosody Mapping in Verb-Initial Languages. May 2014.
- [4] Yu, Kristine M. (2013). Phonological structure in infant directed speech. Stonybrook University Linguistics Colloquium. September 2013.
- [5] Yu, Kristine M. (2012). The learnability of tones from the speech signal. New York University Linguistics Colloquium. November 30, 2012.
- [6] Yu, Kristine M. (2012). Samoan morphosyntax-prosody mapping. University of Maryland Linguistics Colloquium. February 3, 2012.
- [7] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). The learnability of tones from the speech signal. Macquarie University Linguistics Colloquium. November 30, 2011.
- [8] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). Speech rhythm and acquisition. Macquarie University Child Language Lab. November 29, 2011.
- [9] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). The learnability of tones from the speech signal. Harvard University Linguistics Colloquium. November 15, 2011.
- [10] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). The learnability of tones from the speech signal. University of California San Diego Linguistics Colloquium. November 7, 2011.
- [11] Yu, Kristine M. (2011) The learnability of language-specific f0-based rhythmic patterns. 162nd meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. November 4, 2011.
- [12] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). The learnability of tones from the speech signal. Northeast Computational Phonology Circle. Yale University. October 15, 2011.
- [13] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). The learnability of tones from the speech signal. University of Delaware Linguistics and Cognitive Science Colloquium. October 7, 2011.
- [14] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). Studying language learning from the speech signal. Institute for Computational and Experimental Study of Language Launch, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, April 1, 2011.
- [15] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). How to study how tones are learned. Workshop on how to study a tone language: from the first elicitation to the latest software. University of California, Berkeley, February 21, 2011.
- [16] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). Inductive biases for learning phonological categories. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, February 15, 2011.
- [17] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). Discovering the intonational phonology of Samoan: a fieldwork tutorial. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, February 14, 2011.
- [18] Yu, Kristine M. (2009). The sound of ergativity: morphosyntax-prosody mapping in Samoan. University of Chicago Workshop on Language, Cognition, and Computation, June 5, 2009.

REFEREED
CONFERENCE AND
WORKSHOP
PRESENTATIONS

- [1] Yu, Kristine M. and Edward Stabler. (2015). A parsing model for crowding, speech rate and syntax of tone. Experimental and Theoretical Approaches to Prosody 3, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, May 29, 2015.
- [2] Yu, Kristine M. (2015). Tonal marking of absolutive case in Samoan. Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association 22, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, May 23, 2015.

- [3] **Yu, Kristine M.**, Sameer ud Dowla Khan and Megha Sundara. (2014). Intonational phonology in Bengali and English infant-directed speech. *Speech Prosody 7*, Dublin, 2014.
- [4] Yu, Kristine M., and Hiu Wai Lam. (2011). The role of creaky voice in Cantonese tonal perception. *International Congress of Phonetic Sciences XVII*, Hong Kong, 2011.
- [5] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). Representations for learning phonological categories. *Linguistics Society of America*, Pittsburgh, PA, January 7, 2011.
- [6] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). Coarse representations for phonemic categories. *North Eastern Linguistic Society 41*, Philadelphia, PA, October 23, 2010.
- [7] Yu, Kristine M. (2009). The sound of ergativity: morphosyntax-prosody mapping in Samoan. *Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association XVI*, UC Santa Cruz, CA.
- [8] Yu, Kristine M. (2009). The sound of ergativity: morphosyntax-prosody mapping in Samoan. *Linguistics Society of America*, San Francisco, CA.
- [9] Yu, Kristine M. (2008). The sound of ergativity: morphosyntax-prosody mapping in Samoan. *North East Linguistic Society 39*, Ithaca, NY.
- [10] Zuraw, Kie, Orfitelli, Robyn, and **Kristine Yu**. (2008). Word-level prosody of Samoan. *Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association XV*, Sydney, Australia.
- [11] Yu, Kristine. (2008). The prosody of second position clitics and focus in Zagreb Croatian. *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 17*, New Haven, CT, May 11, 2011.
- [1] Khan, Sameer ud Dowla and **Kristine M. Yu**. (2014). Intonational phonology in infant-directed speech. *Linguistics Society of America*, Minneapolis, MN.
- [2] Silverstein, Kate and **Kristine M. Yu**. (2013). Investigating tonal spaces using an extension of VoiceSauce voice analysis software. *Acoustical Society of America*, San Francisco, CA, December 2013.
- [3] **Yu, Kristine M.**, Khan, Sameer ud Dowla and Megha Sundara. (2011). A cross-linguistic investigation of information structure in infant-directed speech. *Experimental and Theoretical Approaches to Prosody*, September 23, 2011.
- [4] Khan, Sameer, **Yu, Kristine M.**, and Jaime Roemer. (2011). Speech rhythm and f0 patterns in Bengali: implications for prosodic acquisition. *Acoustical Society of America*, Seattle, WA, May 27, 2011.
- [5] Yu, Kristine M. (2011). Acoustic representations for tonal phonological categories. *Acoustical Society of America*, Seattle, WA, May 23, 2011.
- [6] Yu, Kristine M. (2010). Laryngealization and features for Chinese tonal recognition. *Interspeech 2010*, Makuhari, Japan, September 14, 2010.
- [7] Yu, Kristine. (2010). Linear separability and feature selection in the acquisition of tone. *LabPhon 12*, Albuquerque, NM, July 8, 2010.
- [8] Lam, Hiu Wai and **Kristine M. Yu**. (2010). The role of creaky voice quality in Cantonese tonal perception. *Acoustical Society of America*, Baltimore, MD, April 23, 2010.
- [9] **Yu, Kristine M.**, Lam, Hiu Wai, and Shing-Yin Li. (2010). An acoustic and electroglottographic study of Cantonese tone. *Acoustical Society of America*, Baltimore, MD, April 23, 2010.

REFEREED
CONFERENCE
POSTERS

- [10] Yu, Kristine M. (2010). Linear separability and feature selection in the acquisition of tone. Computational Modelling of Sound Pattern Acquisition, University of Alberta, Feb. 14, 2010.
- [11] Yu, Kristine M. (2009). Contextual tonal variation in level tone languages. Acoustical Society of America, Portland, OR.
- [12] Orfitelli, Robyn and **Kristine Yu**. (2009). The intonational phonology of Samoan. Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association XVI, UC Santa Cruz, CA.
- [13] Yu, Kristine. (2008). The prosody of second position clitic placement and focus in Zagreb Croatian. Acoustics'08, Acoustical Society of America, Paris, France.

STUDENT
ADVISING

Doctoral dissertation committees

- Mullin, Kevin (in progress).
- Pizzo, Presley (in progress).

Comprehensive paper committees

- Hauser, Ivy (2015).
- Conner, Tracy (2014). *Questioning Inversion and Truncation as Constraints on Variation in African American English Polar Question Intonation*
- Fainleib, Yelena (2014). *Evidence for Syllable Weight Sensitivity and Stratum Conditioning in Modern Hebrew Nouns Stress System*.
- Nazarov, Aleksei (2013). *Generalization in phonological representations: a learning-based argument for grammars with multiple levels of representation*.
- Fainleib, Yelena (2013). *Relative scaling of prosodic boundaries size in sentence production*.
- Elsmann, Minta (2013). *Vowel devoicing and syllable position in Uzbek*.
- Moore-Cantwell, Claire (2012). *Syntactic probability influences duration*.
- Also: Pizzo, Presley; Mullin, Kevin (2012).

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA

Instructor

September 2012 – present

- **LINGUIST 592B**: Speech processing (Undergraduate/Graduate)
 - Spring 2014 (TA: Kate Silverstein)
- **LINGUIST 751**: Topics in Phonology (Graduate)
 - Spring 2014 (co-taught with Brian Dillon; *Prosodic parsing*)
- **LINGUIST 716**: Topics in Phonetics (Graduate)
 - Fall 2013 (co-taught with John Kingston; *Categories*)
- **LINGUIST 606**: Phonological Theory (Graduate)
 - Spring 2013, Spring 2015
- **LINGUIST 748**: Structure of a non Indo-European Language (Graduate)
 - Spring 2013 (co-taught with Alice Harris; Language: **Dzongkha**)
- **LINGUIST 730**: Proseminar Phonological Theory (Graduate)
 - Fall 2012 (*Prosodic theory*)

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

Conference organization

- Organizer, UMass Tone Workshop (June 2-3, 2014)
 - Principle Investigator, Andrew Mellon Foundation / Center for Teaching & Faculty Development at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, “Five Colleges Prosody Community”, \$10,000, 2013 – 2014.

- Local committee, 5th Tonal Aspects of Language (TAL) Symposium (May 19-22, 2016)

Ad-hoc reviewing

Journals

- *Journal of East Asian Linguistics*, 2015
- *Phonology*, 2014 – 2015
- *Lingua*, 2013 – 2015
- *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*, 2013 – 2014
- *Language Documentation & Conservation*, 2013
- *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 2011 – 2013
- *Journal of Phonetics*, 2011

Grants

- *National Science Foundation Linguistics Program*, 2014

Conferences

- *International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 2015
- *Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association*, 2015
- *Generative Linguistics in the Old World*, 2015
- *2014 Joint Meeting of SIGMORPHON and SIGFSM*, 2014
- *Exploring the Interfaces 3*, 2014
- *Tonal Aspects of Language*, 2014
- *Annual Meetings on Phonology*, 2013 – 2014
- *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*, 2012 – 2014
- *West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, 2012 – 2014

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Linguistic Society of America (2007 – present)
- Acoustical Society of America (2008 – present)
- International Speech Communication Association (2008 – present)
- Cognitive Science Society (2010 – present)

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- Strategic Planning for Undergraduate Education: research sub-committee, 2015
- Search Committee, 2014 – 2015
- Annual departmental professional development workshop series for graduate students: giving talks and posters, 2014 – present
- Library liaison, 2013 – present
- Admissions Committee, 2012 – 2013
- Personnel Committee, 2011 – present

OUTREACH

- Talk on tone and intonation at MacDuffie School Linguistics after-school program, February 27, 2014
- Talk on prosody at Williston-Northampton School linguistics high school class, March 26, 2015