

Stephen Politzer-Ahles
20 March 2017
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
stephen.politzerahles@polyu.edu.hk

EDUCATION

2013	Ph.D, Linguistics, University of Kansas
2011	M.A., Linguistics, University of Kansas
2008	B.A., Modern Languages and Literatures, Kenyon College

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2016-	Assistant Professor The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies
2015-2016	Post-doctoral associate The University of Oxford Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
2013-2015	Post-doctoral associate New York University Abu Dhabi NYUAD Institute

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed journal articles

accepted	Politzer-Ahles, S., Xiang, M., & Almeida, D. "Before" and "after": investigating the relationship between temporal connectives and chronological ordering using event-related potentials. <i>PLoS ONE</i> .
in press	Politzer-Ahles, S., & Zhang, J. Evidence for the role of tone sandhi in speech production. <i>Journal of Chinese Linguistics</i> .
2017	Politzer-Ahles, S. An extension of within-subject confidence intervals to models with crossed random effects. <i>The Quantitative Methods for Psychology</i> , 13, 75-94.
2016	Politzer-Ahles, S., Holliday, J., Girolamo, T., Spsychalska, M., & Berkson, K. Is linguistic injustice a myth? A response to Hyland (2016). <i>Journal of Second Language Writing</i> , 34, 3-8.

- 2016 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Schluter, K., Wu, K., & Almeida, D. Asymmetries in the perception of Mandarin tones: evidence from mismatch negativity. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, 42, 1547-1570.
- 2016 Schluter, K., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. No place for /h/: ERP investigation of English fricative place features. *Language, Cognition, and Neuroscience*, 31, 728-740.
- 2015 Fiorentino, R., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Pak, N., Martínez-García, M., & Coughlin, C. Probing the dynamics of complex word recognition: An ERP Investigation of the processing of novel compounds. *The Mental Lexicon*, 10, 413-434.
- 2015 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Gwilliams, L. Involvement of prefrontal cortex in scalar implicatures: evidence from magnetoencephalography. *Language, Cognition, and Neuroscience*, 30, 853-866.
- 2013 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Fiorentino, R. The realization of scalar inferences: context sensitivity without processing cost. *PLoS ONE*, 8, e63943.
- 2013 Lee, H., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Jongman, A. Speakers of tonal and non-tonal Korean dialects use different cue weightings in the perception of the three-way laryngeal stop contrast. *Journal of Phonetics*, 41, 117-132.
- 2013 Hunt, L., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Gibson, L., Minai, U., & Fiorentino, R. Pragmatic inferences modulate N400 during sentence comprehension: evidence from picture-sentence verification. *Neuroscience Letters*, 534, 246-251.
- 2013 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Fiorentino, R., Jiang, X., & Zhou, X. Distinct neural correlates for pragmatic and semantic meaning processing: An event-related potential investigation of scalar implicature processing using picture-sentence verification. *Brain Research*, 1490, 134-152.

Chapters

- in press **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Chen, S. Significance. *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Human Communication Sciences and Disorders*.

Conference proceedings and working papers

- in press Cheung, C., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Hwang, H., Chui, R., Leung, M., & Tang, T. Comprehension of presuppositions in school-age Cantonese-speaking children with and without autism spectrum disorders. *Clinical Linguistics and Phonetics*.
- 2015 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Schluter, K., Wu, K., & Almeida, D. Asymmetries in the perception of Mandarin tones: evidence from mismatch negativity. *International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*.
- 2015 **Politzer-Ahles, S.** "Maybe" not all scalar implicatures are created equal. *LSA Extended Abstracts*.

- 2012 **Politzer-Ahles, S.** Are intermediate levels of the scale used during online comprehension of scalar implicatures? *Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics*, 33, 1-15.
- 2012 **Politzer-Ahles, S., & Zhang, J.** The role of phonological alternation in speech production: Evidence from Mandarin tone sandhi. *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics*, 18, 060001.
- 2012 **Politzer-Ahles, S., & Zhang, J.** The role of tone sandhi in speech production: evidence for phonological parsing. *Tonal Aspects of Languages*.
- 2011 **Politzer-Ahles, S.** A Minimalist account of Uyghur genitives. *Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics*, 32, 106-119.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Extramural fellowships

- 2010 East Asia & Pacific Summer Institutes #1015160, National Science Foundation, “An ERP investigation of the processing of visually-presented Mandarin sentences”

Institutional fellowships

- 2012 NIDCD T32 Pre-Doctoral Training in Language Impairment, Child Language Doctoral Program – University of Kansas.
- 2010 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Center for Global & International Studies – University of Kansas
- 2009-2010 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Center for East Asian Studies – University of Kansas

Awards

- 2013 One-University Open Access Publishing Fund, University of Kansas
- 2013 CUNY Travel Award, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing
- 2012 Doctoral Student Research Fund, University of Kansas
- 2012 IPA Student Award, International Phonetic Association
- 2011-2012 France Ingemann Scholarship, Linguistics Department – University of Kansas
- 2009 Linguistics Honors Fellowship, Linguistics Department – University of Kansas
- 2008-2009 Graduate Studies Scholarship, University of Kansas

INVITED TALKS

- 2017 Revising formal semantic and pragmatic theories from a neurocognitive perspective, Ruhr-Universität Bochum. 19 June

- 2017 The UChicago Language Research Forum, UChicago Center in Hong Kong. 17 March
- 2015 Psychology and Language Sciences, University College London. 19 May
- 2015 School of Languages, Linguistics & Film, Queen Mary University London. 2 December
- 2015 Department of Clinical Language Sciences, University of Reading. 1 December
- 2014 Department of Linguistics, Indiana University. 5 December

CONFERENCE POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Oral presentations

- 2015 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Schluter, K., Wu, K., & Almeida, D. Asymmetries in the perception of Mandarin tones: Evidence from mismatch negativity. 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Glasgow, United Kingdom, 10-14 August
- 2015 Schluter, K., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. Underspecification of voice features in the mental larynx. 23rd Manchester Phonology Meeting. Manchester, United Kingdom, 28-30 May
- 2015 **Politzer-Ahles, S.** "Maybe" not all scalar implicatures are created equal. 89th Linguistic Society of America. Portland, United States, 8-11 January
- 2015 Tucker, M., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, King, J., & Almeida, D. Errors in the brain: magneto- and electroencephalographic evidence from English agreement. 89th Linguistic Society of America. Portland, United States, 8-11 January
- 2014 Schluter, K., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. No place for /h/: ERP investigation English fricative place features. 20th Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing Conference. Edinburgh, United Kingdom, 3-6 September
- 2012 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Zhang, J. The role of phonological alternation in speech production: evidence from Mandarin tone sandhi. 164th Acoustical Society of America. Kansas City, United States, 22-26 October. Invited talk
- 2012 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Zhang, J. The role of tone sandhi in speech production: evidence for phonological parsing. 3rd Tonal Aspects of Languages. Nanjing, China, 26-29 May
- 2008 **Politzer-Ahles, S.** The puzzle of Mandarin *le*: an integrated approach. 20th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics. Columbus, United States, 25-27 April

Posters

- 2017 Cheung, C., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Cheung, G., Choi, H., Lai, L., Leung, M., & Tang, T. Knowledge of presupposition triggers in Cantonese-speaking children with and without autism spectrum disorders. 62nd Annual Conference of the International Linguistic Association. Hong Kong, 26-28 May.

- 2017 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Wiener, S., & Zhang, C. Predictive tones facilitate Mandarin lexical identification: evidence from ERPs. 1st International Conference on Theoretical East Asian Psycholinguistics. Hong Kong, 10-12 March.
- 2016 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Husband, E. Consequences of scalar inference derivation revealed through eye movement measures. 22nd Architectures and Mechanisms in Language Processing. Bilbao, Spain, 1-3 September
- 2016 Husband, E., & **Politzer-Ahles, S.** Coercing events or inserting structure? Eye-tracking evidence for a distinction between semantic and syntactic enrichment. 22nd Architectures and Mechanisms in Language Processing. Bilbao, Spain, 1-3 September
- 2016 Schluter, K., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. An MMN investigation of the Russian voicing contrast. 22nd Architectures and Mechanisms in Language Processing. Bilbao, Spain, 1-3 September
- 2016 Schluter, K., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. An MMN investigation of the Russian voicing contrast. 8th Neurobiology of Language. London, United Kingdom, 17-20 August
- 2016 Bovolenta, G., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Husband, M. Differential ERPs to local vs. global prediction failures. 29th CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. Gainesville, United States, 3-5 March
- 2015 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Xiang, M., & Almeida, D. "Before" and "after": investigating the relationship between temporal connectives and chronological ordering using event-related potentials. 7th Neurobiology of Language. Chicago, United States, 15-17 October
- 2015 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Schluter, K., Wu, K., & Almeida, D. Asymmetries in the perception of Mandarin tones: Evidence from mismatch negativity. 169th Acoustical Society of America. Pittsburgh, United States, 18-22 May
- 2015 Berkson, K., & **Politzer-Ahles, S.** Phonation type contrasts and vowel quality in Marathi. 169th Acoustical Society of America. Pittsburgh, United States, 18-22 May
- 2015 **Politzer-Ahles, S.** Asymmetrical mismatch negativity effects in Mandarin tone perception. 22nd Cognitive Neuroscience Society. San Francisco, United States, 28-31 March
- 2015 Fiorentino, R., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Liao, K. Morpheme-based combinatorial processing of English compounds: evidence from magnetoencephalography and lexical decision. 22nd Cognitive Neuroscience Society. San Francisco, United States, 28-31 March
- 2014 Tucker, M., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. Agreement attraction in the neural language system. 20th Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing Conference. Edinburgh, United Kingdom, 3-6 September
- 2014 Schluter, K., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. No place for [h]: an ERP investigation English fricative place features. 6th Neurobiology of Language. Amsterdam, Netherlands, 27-29 August
- 2014 Tucker, M., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. Agreement attraction in the neural language system. 6th Neurobiology of Language. Amsterdam, Netherlands, 27-29 August

- 2014 Schluter, K., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Almeida, D. No place for /h/: an ERP investigation of [Place] in English intervocalic fricatives. 22nd Manchester Phonology Meeting. Manchester, United Kingdom, 29-31 May
- 2014 **Politzer-Ahles, S.** Neural correlates of realizing scalar inferences: an MEG study. 27th CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. Columbus, United States, 13-15 March
- 2014 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Fiorentino, R., Durbin, J., & Li, L. The role of working memory in the online realization of scalar inferences. 27th CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. Columbus, United States, 13-15 March
- 2013 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Fiorentino, R. Sensitivity of online scalar inferencing to context and to processing load. 5th Experimental Pragmatics Conference. Utrecht, Netherlands, 4-6 September
- 2013 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Fiorentino, R. The realization of scalar inferences: context sensitivity without processing cost. 26th CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. Columbia, United States, 21-23 March
- 2012 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Jiang, X., Fiorentino, R., & Zhou, X. Individual differences in logical ability predict ERP responses to underinformative sentences. 4th Neurobiology of Language Conference. San Sebastian, Spain, 25-27 October
- 2012 Fiorentino, R., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, & Pak, N. Probing the dynamics of complex word recognition: An ERP investigation of the processing of novel compounds. 4th Neurobiology of Language Conference. San Sebastian, Spain, 25-27 October
- 2012 Lee, H., Jongman, A., & **Politzer-Ahles, S.** Speakers of tonal and non-tonal Korean dialects use different cue weightings in the perception of the three-way laryngeal stop contrast. 164th Acoustical Society of America. Kansas City, United States, 22-26 October
- 2012 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Jiang, X., Fiorentino, R., & Zhou, X. Independence of pragmatic and lexico-semantic processing in picture-sentence verification. 19th Cognitive Neuroscience Society. Chicago, United States, 31 March – 3 April
- 2012 Fiorentino, R., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Popescu, E., & Popescu, M. The role of morphological juncture identification in complex word processing: an MEG investigation. 41st Society for Neuroscience. Washington, United States, 12-16 November
- 2011 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Fiorentino, R., Jiang, X., & Zhou, X. Event-related potential investigation of scalar implicature processing using picture-sentence verification. 3rd Neurobiology of Language. Annapolis, United States, 9-11 November
- 2011 Hunt, L., **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Minai, U., & Fiorentino, R. N400 is elicited by pragmatic as well as semantic anomalies: a visual-world study of scalar implicatures. 3rd Neurobiology of Language. Annapolis, United States, 9-11 November
- 2011 **Politzer-Ahles, S.**, Fiorentino, R., Jiang, X., & Zhou, X. Online processing of scalar implicatures in Chinese as revealed by event-related potentials. 18th Cognitive Neuroscience Society. San Francisco, United States, 2-5 April

TEACHING

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

2016-7 Psycholinguistics [Chinese and Bilingual Studies]
2016-7 Contrastive Analysis of Chinese and English [Chinese and Bilingual Studies]

University of Kansas

2013 Psycholinguistics [Linguistics], teaching assistant

Mentoring

2016-7 Master of Speech Therapy programme final projects [Chinese and Bilingual Studies, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University]

Ad hoc

2016 Workshop on mixed-effects modeling in R [Linguistics, University College London], 18-20 May

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2010-2013 Graduate research assistant, Neurolinguistics and Language Processing Laboratory – University of Kansas (PI: Robert Fiorentino)
2008-2009 Graduate research assistant, Department of Anthropology – University of Kansas (PI: Arienne Dwyer)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Ad-hoc grant reviewing

National Science Foundation
Swiss National Science Foundation
FWO - Flanders

Ad-hoc article reviewing

Bilingualism: Language and Cognition
Brain and Language
Cognition
Cognitive, Affective, & Behavioral Neuroscience
Developmental and Cognitive Neuroscience
Developmental Neuropsychology
Developmental Science
Frontiers in Psychology

Frontiers in Neuroscience
JASA Express Letters
Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition
Journal of Memory and Language
Language and Speech
Language, Cognition and Neuroscience
Neuropsychologia
Psychonomic Bulletin and Review
Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology

Ad-hoc conference reviewing

Experimental Pragmatics
Neurobiology of Language
Linguistic Society of America
Tonal Aspects of Languages

Departmental and institutional service

2013-2014	Member of post-doc council and representative to faculty council, New York University Abu Dhabi
2010-2012	President of Linguistics Graduate Student Association, Department of Linguistics – University of Kansas
2010-2011	Editor of <i>Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics</i> , Department of Linguistics – University of Kansas
2008-2010	Student representative for Linguistics Graduate Student Association, Department of Linguistics – University of Kansas

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Software

Data analysis and statistics: R, MATLAB, SPSS, Microsoft Excel / OpenOffice Calc
Electrophysiological and neuroimaging: EEGLAB, FieldTrip, Neuroscan Edit, BESA, Brain Vision Analyzer, CTF DataEditor, FreeSurfer, MNE
Experimental control: Presentation, Paradigm, Experiment Builder
Acoustic: Praat, MultiSpeech, Audacity
Other: Transcriber, GNU Image Manipulation Program, Apache

Programming, markup, and typesetting languages

Python, Perl and Perl CGI, C++, TCL, Windows cmd, Unix (bash, tcsh), LaTeX, HTML, MediaWiki

Languages

English (native), Mandarin (advanced), French (intermediate), Uyghur (basic), Hindi (bare-bones), Northern Monguor (bare-bones)