

THOMAS SOSTARICS

CURRICULUM VITAE

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tsostarics@u.northwestern.edu
tsostarics.com

Department of Linguistics
Northwestern University

EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Ph.D., Linguistics

(Expected) Dec 2024

M.A., Linguistics

Jan 2023

Data Science Fellow, Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems

Sep 2019 - Present

Kellogg School of Management, Evanston, IL

Business Management Certificate for Scientists and Engineers

Aug 2023

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

B.A. Linguistics

Jun 2018

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Phonetics; Phonology; Prosody; Pragmatics; Intonational Meaning; Psycholinguistics; Data Science

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- 2024 Walenski, M., **Sostarics, T.**, Mesulam, M. M., & Thompson, C. K. (2024). The production of adjectives in narratives by individuals with primary progressive aphasia. *Journal of Neurolinguistics*, 69, 101179. doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jneuroling.2023.101179>

Conference Proceedings

- 2024 Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2024). PitchMendR: A Tool for the Diagnosis and Treatment of F0 Irregularities. In *Proc. speech prosody 2024* (pp. 289–293). doi:10.21437/SpeechProsody.2024-59
- 2024 **Sostarics, T.**, Ronai, E., & Cole, J. (2024). Relating scalar inference and alternative activation: A view from the rise-fall-rise tune in american english. In *Proceedings of experiments in linguistic meaning 3*
- 2023 **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2023). Pitch Accent Variation and the Interpretation of Rising and Falling Intonation in American English. In *Proc. INTERSPEECH 2023* (pp. 97–101). doi:10.21437/Interspeech.2023-315
- 2023 **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2023). Testing the Locus of Speech-Act Meaning in English Intonation. In R. Skarnitzl & J. Volín (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (pp. 1240–1244). Guarant International
- 2021 **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2021). Epistemic Meaning and the LLL Tune in American English. In *Proc. 1st international conference on tone and intonation (tai)* (pp. 11–15). doi:10.21437/TAI.2021-3

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed Conference Presentations

(●=oral, ▼=poster. Filled=presenting author.)

- 2024▼ **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2024). *PitchMendR: A tool for the diagnosis and treatment of F0 tracking errors*. Poster presentation at Speech Prosody 2024. doi:10.21437/SpeechProsody.2024-59
- 2024▼ Cole, J., Sandberg, K., **Sostarics, T.**, Stanhope, R., & Ronai, E. (2024). *Intonation and its meaning: Beyond essential differences*. Poster presentation at Intonation at the Crossroads (CROSSIN) Workshop, Speech Prosody 2024

- 2024[○] Iskarous, K., Cole, J., & **Sostarics, T.** (2024). *Intonational tunes as compositional, but also autonomous, dynamical objects*. Oral presentation at Variance and invariance in phonological representation: Insights from articulation workshop, Laboratory Phonology 19
- 2024[●] **Sostarics, T.**, Ronai, E., & Cole, J. (2024). *Relating scalar inference and alternative activation: A view from the rise-fall-rise tune in american english*. Oral presentation at Experiments in Linguistic Meaning 3.
- 2023[▼] **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2023). *Accommodation of rising and falling intonation in american english*. Poster presentation at the 28th Mid-Continental Conference on Phonetics and Phonology.
- 2023[●] **Sostarics, T.**, Ronai, E., & Cole, J. (2023). *Scalar inference and rise-fall-rise in american english: Towards a priming perspective*. Oral presentation at the Voices in Contexts workshop at The University of Cologne, Oct 12-13 2023.
- 2023[●] **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2023). *Pitch Accent Variation and the Interpretation of Rising and Falling Intonation in American English*. Oral presentation at Interspeech 2023. doi:10.21437/Interspeech.2023-315
- 2023[▼] **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2023). *Testing the Locus of Speech-Act Meaning in English Intonation*. Poster presentation at International Congress of the Phonetic Sciences 2023
- 2023[▼] **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2023). Tonal center of gravity predicts variation in the interpretation of rising and falling intonation in American English. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 153(3_supplement), A78–A78. Poster presentation at 184th Acoustical Society of America. **1st Place Best Paper in Speech Communication Award**. doi:10.1121/10.0018225
- 2022[▼] **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2022). *Exploring the voice quality of nuclear tunes*. Poster presentation at the 27th Mid-Continental Conference on Phonetics and Phonology.
- 2022[●] **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2022). *What listeners can tell us about epistemic meaning and the LLL tune in american english*. Oral presentation at 96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America.
- 2021[▼] **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2021). *Epistemic meaning and the LLL tune in american english*. Poster presentation at 1st International Conference on Tone and Intonation.
- 2021[●] **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (2021). *Assessing contrasts in intonation through contrasts in speaker commitment*. Oral presentation at the 26th Mid-Continental Conference on Phonetics and Phonology.
- 2020[▼] **Sostarics, T.**, Walenski, M., Mesulam, M., & Thompson, C. (2020). *Adjective use by individuals with agrammatic primary progressive aphasia*. Poster presentation at Society for the Neurobiology of Language 2020.
- 2020[●] **Sostarics, T.**, Walenski, M., Mesulam, M., & Thompson, C. (2020). *Adjective use by individuals with agrammatic primary progressive aphasia*. Oral presentation at Academy of Aphasia 2020.
- 2019[▽] Arkhipova, L., **Sostarics, T.**, Law, R., Xiang, M., & WingYee, C. (2019). *‘Nonetheless’ can reverse predictions immediately: Evidence from ERPs*. Poster presentation at AMLAP 2019

Invited Talks

- 2023 **Sostarics, T.** (2023). *Priming perspectives on pitch accents and rise-fall-rise*. Seminar in Semantics/Pragmatics. The University of Chicago, Apr 12 2023.
- 2021 **Sostarics, T.** (2021). *Pragmatic contributions of the L*L-L% contour in american english*. Language Evolution, Acquisition, and Processing Workshop. The University of Chicago, Feb 19 2023.

Public Outreach

- 2022 **Sostarics, T.** (2022). *Understanding how it’s said: Speech and its melodies*. Taste of Science. Chicago, IL, Sep 12 2022.

OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE

contrastable: R package for setting contrast matrices for categorical factors in regression analyses. Available at: github.com/tsostarics/contrastable.

PitchMendR: A Shiny app written in R that provides a GUI to interactively annotate and correct time-series data. Available at: github.com/tsostarics/PitchMendR.

GUEST LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

Guest Lectures

Introduction to Intonational Meaning for <i>Experimental Pragmatics</i>	Winter 2023
Praat for Prosody Research for <i>Graduate Prosody Seminar</i>	Winter 2023
NLP Applications for Intonational Meaning for <i>Graduate Prosody Seminar</i>	Winter 2023
Introduction to Praat for <i>Introduction to Laboratory Phonology</i>	Fall 2020
Phonological Perspectives on Aphasia for <i>Introduction to Laboratory Phonology</i>	Fall 2020

Workshops

Understanding Ordinal Models for Rating Data	<i>Linguistics Noon Colloquium</i> 2024
Introduction to R	<i>Cognitive Science Workshops</i> 2023
Conferences and Poster Presentations	<i>Cognitive Science Workshops</i> 2023
Structure of Experimental Papers	<i>Cognitive Science Workshops</i> 2023
Presentation Skills and Slide Design	<i>Cognitive Science Workshops</i> 2023
Applying to Graduate Programs in Cognitive Science	<i>Cognitive Science Workshops</i> 2023
Data Visualization in R	<i>Linguistics Noon Colloquium</i> 2023
Introduction to Simulations	<i>Prosody and Speech Dynamics Lab</i> 2022
Contrast Coding for Categorical Variables	<i>Linguistics Noon Colloquium</i> 2022
Introduction to Ordinal Regression	<i>Prosody and Speech Dynamics Lab</i> 2021
Stimulist: A Package for Counterbalancing Experiments	<i>Data Science Research Sessions</i> 2021
Introduction to L ^A T _E X	<i>Linguistics Noon Colloquium</i> 2021
Diversity and Inclusion at Northwestern	<i>Linguistics Summer Workshop Series</i> 2020
Introduction to Version Control	<i>Linguistics Summer Workshop Series</i> 2020

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

International Phonetics Association

(€180) IPA Student Award (for Speech Prosody 2024)	May 2024
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Acoustical Society of America

(\$250) 1st Place Best Paper in Speech Communication at 2023 Annual Meeting	May 2023
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Northwestern University

(\$2077) Graduate Research Grant, Dept. of Linguistics	December 2023
(\$2970) Graduate Research Grant, The Graduate School	December 2022
(\$490) Graduate Research Grant, Dept. of Linguistics	October 2022
(\$435) Graduate Research Grant, Dept. of Linguistics	October 2022
(\$12,500) Data Science Fellowship, Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems	September 2019

University of Chicago

(\$500) Sapir Scholar Award	March 2018
(\$500) Sapir Scholar Award	January 2018

United Services Automobile Association (USAA)

(\$1500) Air Force ROTC Scholarship Award	November 2016
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APPOINTMENTS & EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

Department of Linguistics

2020 – 2023

Northwestern University

- Experimental Pragmatics (with E. Ronai) Winter 2023
- Introduction to Computational Linguistics (with R. Voigt) Fall 2021
- Introduction to Programming and Text Processing for Linguists (with R. Voigt) Winter 2021
- Introduction to Laboratory Phonology (with J. Cole) Fall 2020

English Instructor 2021 – 2022
English Language Programs Northwestern University

Volunteer Analyst 2019 – 2022
Aphasia and Neurolinguistics Research Lab Northwestern University

Research Assistant 2018 – 2019
Language Processing Lab The University of Chicago

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP ROLES

Northwestern University, Dept. of Linguistics
 Cognitive Science Professional Development Workshop Facilitator 2023
 Graduate Student Liaison 2022 – 2023
 Admissions Committee Member 2020 – 2022

University of Chicago
 Assistant Residential Director, Summer Session 2018 – 2019
 Volunteer Instructor, SPLASH! at UChicago 2018
 Resident Assistant, Housing and Residence Life 2016 – 2018
 Resident Assistant, Chicago Academic Achievement Program 2017

Illinois Institute of Technology, Air Force ROTC Detachment 195
 Cadet Wing Inspector General Fall 2017
 Physical Fitness Officer Spring 2017
 Big Event Planner 2016 – 2017
 Webmaster 2016 – 2017
 Flight Commander Fall 2016

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

University of Potsdam August 2021
 Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology: Introduction to Bayesian Data Analysis

University of Chicago Spring 2021
 Traveling Scholar: Cue Integration in Language Processing

SKILLS OVERVIEW

Interpersonal: Mentoring, teaching, team collaboration, communication, presentation skills
Languages: English (native), Japanese (advanced), Spanish (basic listening and reading)
Data Science: Project management, creating documented pipelines, automation
Statistics: Regression, classification, ordinal/rating data, Bayesian modeling, simulation
R Expertise: Package development, reproducible workflows, Shiny, RMarkdown, tidyverse, targets
Other Technologies: Python, SQL, JavaScript, bash scripting, git, Quarto, Qualtrics
Graphic Design: Data visualization and communication, ggplot2, Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator