

# THOMAS SOSTARICS

CURRICULUM VITAE

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tsostarics.com

Department of Linguistics  
Northwestern University

## EDUCATION

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**Northwestern University**, Evanston, IL

Ph.D., Linguistics

(Expected) Aug 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

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Phonetics; Phonology; Prosody; Prosody-Pragmatics Interface; Data Science

## APPOINTMENTS & EXPERIENCE

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**Teaching Assistant**

2020 – 2023

*Department of Linguistics*

*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*

## GUEST LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

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**Guest Lectures**

Introduction to Intonational Meaning for *Experimental Pragmatics*

Winter 2023

Praat for Prosody Research for *Graduate Prosody Seminar*

Winter 2023

NLP Applications for Intonational Meaning for *Graduate Prosody Seminar*

Winter 2023

Introduction to Praat for *Introduction to Laboratory Phonology*

Fall 2020

Phonological Perspectives on Aphasia for *Introduction to Laboratory Phonology*

Fall 2020

**Workshops**

Understanding Ordinal Models for Rating Data

*Linguistics Noon Colloquium* 2024

Introduction to R

*Cognitive Science Workshops* 2023

Conferences and Poster Presentations

*Cognitive Science Workshops* 2023

Structure of Experimental Papers

*Cognitive Science Workshops* 2023

Presentation Skills and Slide Design

*Cognitive Science Workshops* 2023

Applying to Graduate Programs in Cognitive Science

*Cognitive Science Workshops* 2023

Data Visualization in R

*Linguistics Noon Colloquium* 2023

Introduction to Simulations  
 Contrast Coding for Categorical Variables  
 Introduction to Ordinal Regression  
 Stimulist: A Package for Counterbalancing Experiments  
 Introduction to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X  
 Diversity and Inclusion at Northwestern  
 Introduction to Version Control

*Prosody and Speech Dynamics Lab* 2022  
*Linguistics Noon Colloquium* 2022  
*Prosody and Speech Dynamics Lab* 2021  
*Data Science Research Sessions* 2021  
*Linguistics Noon Colloquium* 2021  
*Linguistics Summer Workshop Series* 2020  
*Linguistics Summer Workshop Series* 2020

## PUBLICATIONS

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### 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. (accepted). PitchMendR: A tool for the diagnosis and treatment of F0 tracking errors. In *Proceedings of speech prosody 2024*
- 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
- 2023 **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

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### Refereed Conference Presentations

- 2024 **Sostarics, T.**, & Cole, J. (accepted). *PitchMendR: A tool for the diagnosis and treatment of F0 tracking errors*. Poster presentation at Speech Prosody 2024.
- 2024 Cole, J., Sandberg, K., **Sostarics, T.**, Stanhope, R., & Ronai, E. (accepted). *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.** (accepted). *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
- 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.

## 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
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Physical Fitness Officer	Spring 2017
Big Event Planner	2016 – 2017
Webmaster	2016 – 2017
Flight Commander	Fall 2016

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

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<b>International Phonetics Association</b> (€180) IPA Student Award (for Speech Prosody 2024)	May 2024
<b>Acoustical Society of America</b> (\$250) 1st Place Best Paper in Speech Communication at 2023 Annual Meeting	May 2023
<b>Northwestern University</b> (\$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
<b>University of Chicago</b> (\$500) Sapir Scholar Award	March 2018
(\$500) Sapir Scholar Award	January 2018
<b>United Services Automobile Association (USAA)</b> (\$1500) Air Force ROTC Scholarship Award	November 2016

## ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

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<b>University of Potsdam</b> Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology: Introduction to Bayesian Data Analysis	August 2021
<b>University of Chicago</b> Traveling Scholar: Cue Integration in Language Processing	Spring 2021

## SKILLS OVERVIEW

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**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