

THOMAS SOSTARICS

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Department of Linguistics
Northwestern University

EDUCATION

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

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

APPOINTMENTS & EXPERIENCE

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

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^AT_EX
 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

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. (accepted). 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

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 **Sostarics, T.**, Ronai, E., & Cole, J. (accepted). *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
Physical Fitness Officer	Spring 2017
Big Event Planner	2016 – 2017
Webmaster	2016 – 2017
Flight Commander	Fall 2016

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

Acoustical Society of America

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

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

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