

THOMAS SOSTARICS

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Department of Linguistics
Northwestern University

EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Ph.D., Linguistics

(Expected) Jun 2024

M.A., Linguistics

Jan 2023

Data Science Fellow

Sep 2019 – Present

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

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

Prosody and Speech Dynamics Lab 2022

Contrast Coding for Categorical Variables

Linguistics Noon Colloquium 2022

Introduction to Ordinal Regression

Prosody and Speech Dynamics Lab 2021

Stimulist: A Package for Counterbalancing Experiments

Data Science Research Sessions 2021

Introduction to L^AT_EX

Linguistics Noon Colloquium 2021

Diversity and Inclusion at Northwestern

Linguistics Summer Workshop Series 2020

PUBLICATIONS

Walenski, M., **Sostarics, T.**, Mesulam, M., & Thompson, C. (2023). The production of adjectives in narratives by individuals with primary progressive aphasia. *Submitted to Journal of Neurolinguistics*

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2023a). Pitch Accent Variation and the Interpretation of Rising and Falling Intonation in American English. In *Interspeech 2023*

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2023c). Testing the Locus of Speech-Act Meaning in English Intonation. In *International Congress of the Phonetic Sciences 2023*

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2021b). 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

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2023b). *Pitch Accent Variation and the Interpretation of Rising and Falling Intonation in American English*. Oral presentation at Interspeech 2023

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2023d). *Testing the Locus of Speech-Act Meaning in English Intonation*. Poster presentation at International Congress of the Phonetic Sciences 2023

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2023e). *Tonal center of gravity predicts variation in the interpretation of rising and falling intonation in american english*. Poster presentation at 184th Acoustical Society of America. **1st Place Best Paper in Speech Communication Award.**

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2022a). *Exploring the voice quality of nuclear tunes*. Poster presentation at 27th Mid-Continental Conference on Phonetics and Phonology.

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2022b). *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.

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2021c). *Epistemic meaning and the LLL tune in american english*. Poster presentation at 1st International Conference on Tone and Intonation.

Sostarics, T., & Cole, J. (2021a). *Assessing contrasts in intonation through contrasts in speaker commitment*. Oral presentation at 26th Mid-Continental Conference on Phonetics and Phonology.

Sostarics, T., Walenski, M., Mesulam, M., & Thompson, C. (2020a). *Adjective use by individuals with agrammatic primary progressive aphasia*. Poster presentation at Society for the Neurobiology of Language 2020.

Sostarics, T., Walenski, M., Mesulam, M., & Thompson, C. (2020b). *Adjective use by individuals with agrammatic primary progressive aphasia*. Oral presentation at Academy of Aphasia 2020.

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

Sostarics, T. (2023). *Priming perspectives on pitch accents and rise-fall-rise*. Seminar in Semantics/Pragmatics. The University of Chicago, Apr 12 2023.

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

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

1st Place Best Paper in Speech Communication at 2023 Annual Meeting	May 2023
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Northwestern University

Graduate Research Grant (\$2970)	December 2022
Dept. of Linguistics Graduate Research Grant (\$490)	October 2022
Dept. of Linguistics Graduate Research Grant (\$435)	October 2022
Data Science Fellowship (\$12,500)	September 2019

University of Chicago

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

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

University of Potsdam

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

Traveling Scholar: Cue Integration in Language Processing	Spring 2021
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TECHNICAL SKILLS

R Expertise: Package development, reproducible workflows, RMarkdown/Quarto reporting, tidyverse
Other Programming: Python, SQL, JavaScript, bash scripting, automated signal processing
Statistics: Regression, classification, ordinal data analysis, hypothesis testing, Bayesian modeling
Data Science: Data collection, wrangling, and analysis; code review; data quality assurance
Graphic Design: Data visualization and communication, ggplot, Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator