

CURRICULUM VITAE

Simone Ashby, PhD

Instituto de Linguística Teórica e Computacional (ILTEC)
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Research Interests

Acoustic and segmental phonetics, variationist studies, dialectology, adaptive speech interfaces, post-colonial digital language resources, hyperarticulation, lexicography

Education

Doctor of Philosophy, School of Computer Science and Informatics, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland 2001-2004

- Dissertation: *Is Infant Directed Speech Hyperspeech? An Acoustical Analysis of Speech to Infants and Other Accommodative Speech Styles*
- Supervisors:
 - Fred Cummins, University College Dublin (primary supervisor)
 - Alice Turk and Catherine Mayo, University of Edinburgh (secondary supervisors)
- Dissertation review panel members:
 - Franck Ramus, University College London (external examiner)
 - Jule Carson-Berndsen, University College Dublin (internal examiner)
- Work in connection with the Adaptive Speech Interfaces research group, Media Lab Europe

Master of Arts, Linguistics, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA 1998-2000

- Supervisors:
 - Alan Bell, University of Colorado at Boulder
 - Daniel Jurafsky, currently at Stanford University
- Dean's List honoree 1999 and 2000

Bachelor of Arts, Journalism, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, USA 1989-1991

- Graduated with *cum laude* distinction
- Dean's list honoree 1990 and 1991

Research Experience

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Lexicon and Computational Modeling Group, Instituto de Linguística Teórica e Computacional (ILTEC), Lisbon, Portugal 2008-Present

- Coordination of the Fundação para Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) project for maintaining and improving the *Portal da Língua Portuguesa* online knowledge base, October 2008-Present
- Authorship and coordination of the FCT R&D project 'The Portuguese Unisyn Lexicon (LUPo): An accent-independent pronunciation lexicon for Portuguese' for developing an accent-independent lexicon and rule system for generating accent-specific phonetic transcriptions for

regional variants of Portuguese, March 2010-Present

- Supervision of two graduate research assistants
- Collaboration with LUPo's international research team partners and consultants
- Member of ILTEC's Direction Board, October 2009-Present

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Human Communication Research Centre, Centre for Speech Technology Research, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland 2003-2006 (with intervening maternity leave)

- Work towards the development of multimedia conferencing, meeting browsing, and speech recognition technologies for the AMI – Augmented Multi-party Interaction project
- Management of a 100-hour multimodal corpus
- Translation of user requirements into written schemes for annotating audio and video data
- Supervision of eight transcribers and annotators
- Management of a subproject for the video annotation of head and hand gestures

Research Assistant, Department of Linguistics and English Language, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland 2002-2003

Collecting children's speech perception data for the Wellcome Trust funded project, 'The Development of Cue Weighting in Speech Perception'

Research Assistant, Department of Linguistics, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA 1998-1999

Providing editorial assistance to Prof. Zygmunt Frazynsier in his *A Grammar of Hdi*

Teaching Experience

Invited Lecturer, Department of Clinical Linguistics, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Lisbon, Portugal (appointment begins March 2011)

Teaching Language Engineering to Master's degree students in Clinical Linguistics

Stand-in Lecturer, Department of Linguistics and English Language, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland 2005

Leading three sessions of the second year Empirical Methods tutorial group

Tutor, Department of Computer Science, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland 2001-2002

Leading graduate and postgraduate level practical demonstration and tutorial modules for Introduction to Java and Introduction to Multimedia courses

Tutor, Department of Computing Science, Griffith College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland 2001

Leading the postgraduate-level practical demonstration and tutorial module for Introduction to Multimedia

Instructor, Department of Linguistics, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA

Teaching Intermediate Spoken English to undergraduate- and postgraduate-level university students

English Instructor, Seoul Academy International School, Seoul, South Korea 1996-1997

Teaching English as a second language to kindergarten through 8th grade students

English Instructor, Ewha Women's Hospital, Seoul, South Korea 1997

Other Professional Experience

Senior Lead Technical Writer, Rocket Gaming Systems, Vancouver, BC, Canada 2006-2008

Leading a team of four documentation specialists to create and maintain user manuals and online help content for a gaming software company

Computational Lexicographer, InQuizit Technologies, Santa Monica, CA, USA 2000-2001

Building, editing and maintaining the concept lexicon and ontological database for a natural language search engine, text/domain analysis, product testing, and HTML design of project demonstrations

Awards and Grants

- €103,000 grant for the R&D project 'The Portuguese Unisyn Lexicon (LUPo): An accent-independent pronunciation lexicon for Portuguese' (PTDC/CLE-LIN/100335/2008), awarded by the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia 2010-Present
- Full doctoral scholarship to attend University College Dublin, awarded by the Higher Education Authority of Ireland 2001-2004
- Grant for participation at the 145th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Nashville, Tennessee, awarded by the Acoustical Society of America 2003
- Grant for participation at the NATO Advanced Study Institute, Castelvecchio, Italy, awarded by the International Speech Communication Association 2002

Refereed Publications and Abstracts

Ashby, S., Barbosa, S. & Campaniço, N. (2011) 'Bantu substratum interference Mozambican Portuguese speech varieties', under review by *Africana Linguistica*

Ashby, S., Viaro, M. E., Barbosa, S. & Campaniço, N. (2010) 'Modeling Phonetic Variation in Pluricentric Languages: An Integrative Approach', under review by *Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics*

Ashby, S., Barbosa, S. & Ferreira, J. P. (2010) 'Introducing Non-Standard Luso-African Varieties into the Digital Domain', in *Proceedings of FALA 2010*, Vigo, Spain

Ashby, S., Viaro, M. E., Ferreira, J. P. & Barbosa, S. (2010) 'Modeling Phonetic Variation in Pluricentric Languages: An Integrative Approach', in *Proceedings of the International Conference on Pluricentric Languages*, Braga, Portugal, forthcoming

Ashby, S. & Ferreira, J. P. (2010) 'Reuse of Lexicographic Data for a Multipurpose Pronunciation Database and Phonetic Transcription Generator for Regional Variants of Portuguese', in *Proceedings of Euralex 2010*, Leeuwarden, The Netherlands

Ashby, S. & Ferreira, J. P. (2010) 'The Role of Morphology in Generating High-Quality Pronunciation Lexica for Regional Variants of Portuguese', in Branco, A., Klautau, A., Vieira, R., Lima, V. L. S. de & Pardo, T. A. S. (eds.), *Computational Processing of the Portuguese Language – Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence*, v. 6001, Berlin Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag

Ashby, S., Ferreira, J. P. & Barbosa, S. (2009) 'Adapting the Unisyn Lexicon to Portuguese: Preliminary Issues in the Development of LUPo', in *Proceedings of Iberian SL Tech*, Porto Salvo, Portugal

Ashby, S., Ferreira, J. P. & Barbosa, S. (2009) 'Introducing the Portuguese Unisyn Lexicon (LUPo): An Accent-Independent Pronunciation Lexicon for Portuguese', abstract in *Proceedings of Phonetics and Phonology in Iberia 2009*, Gran Canaria, Spain

- Carletta, J., Ashby, S., Bourban, S., Flynn, M., Guillemot, M., Hain, T., Kadlec, J., Karaiskos, V., Kraaij, W., Kronenthal, M., Lathoud, G., Lincoln, M., Lisowska, A., McCowan, I., Post, W., Reidsma, D. & Wellner, P. (2005) 'The AMI Meetings Corpus', in *Proceedings of the 2005 symposium on Annotating and measuring Meeting Behavior*, Enschede, The Netherlands
- Carletta, J., Ashby, S., Bourban, S., Flynn, M., Guillemot, M., Hain, T., Kadlec, J., Karaiskos, V., Kraaij, W., Kronenthal, M., Lathoud, G., Lincoln, M., Lisowska, A., McCowan, I., Post, W., Reidsma, D. & Wellner, P. (2005) 'The AMI Meeting Corpus: A Pre-announcement', in *Proceedings of the 2nd Joint Workshop on Multimodal Interaction and Related Machine Learning Algorithms (MLMI05)*, Edinburgh, Scotland
- Ashby, S. & Cummins, F. (2003) 'Acoustic characteristics of listener-constrained speech: An Analysis of Speech to Foreigners, Infant-Directed Speech, Noisy-Channel Speech, and Speech to Computers', abstract in *Proceedings of the 145th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America*, Nashville, TN, USA
- Ashby, S., Cummins, F. & Roy, D. K. (2002) 'The ADS-to-IDS Continuum: Developing an Index for the Study of Infant-Directed Speech Prosody', abstract in *Proceedings of ISCA International Tutorial and Research Workshop 'Temporal Integration in the Perception of Speech'*
- Ashby, S., Carson-Berndsen, J. & Joue, G. (2001) 'A Testbed for Developing Multilingual Phonotactic Descriptions', in *Proceedings of Eurospeech 2001*

Conferences, Summer Schools, and Workshops Attended

- Participation at SDH (Supporting Digital Humanities) and NEERI (Networking Event for the European Research Infrastructures), Vienna, Austria, October 2010
- Oral presentation at the International Conference on Pluricentric Languages, Braga, Portugal, September 2010
- Oral presentation at Euralex 2010, Leeuwarden, The Netherlands, July 2010
- Oral presentation at the International Conference on Computational Processing of the Portuguese Language (PROPOR) 2010, Porto Alegre, Brazil, April 2010
- Participation at the CLARIN (Common Language Resources & Technology Infrastructure)/NEERI event, Helsinki, Finland, October 2009
- Participation at the FlaReNet – CLARIN Standards Workshop, September 2009
- Oral presentation at the Phonetics & Phonology Workshop, Edinburgh, Scotland, January 2010
- Poster presentation at Iberian SL Tech, Porto Salvo, Portugal, September 2009
- Poster presentation at Phonetics & Phonology in Iberia (PaPI) 2009, Gran Canaria, Spain, June 2009
- Oral presentation at the meeting of the Interdisciplinary Speech Research Laboratory, Vancouver, BC, Canada, January 2008
- Oral presentation at the Phonetics & Phonology Workshop, Edinburgh, Scotland, July 2004
- Oral presentation at the 145th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Nashville, TN, USA, April 2003
- Oral presentation at the Phonetics & Phonology Workshop, Edinburgh, Scotland, December 2002
- Participation at the NATO Advanced Study Institute: Dynamics in Speech Production and Perception, Castelvecchio, Italy, July 2002

- Attendance at Speech Prosody 2002, Aix-en-Provence, France, April 2002
- Poster presentation at the ISCA International Tutorial & Research Workshop ‘Temporal Integration in the Perception of Speech’, Aix-en-Provence, France, April 2002
- Poster presentation at Eurospeech 2001, Aalborg, Denmark, September 2001
- Participation at the Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Edinburgh, Scotland, July 2001
- Participation at the 9th ELSNET Summer School, Prague, Czech Republic, July 2001
- Participation at XML: The Nuts & Bolts, Dublin, Ireland, June 2001

References

Dr. Fred Cummins

Lecturer in the School of Computer Science and Informatics, University College Dublin
Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland

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