

Abstraction, Diversity, and Speech Dynamics

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We solicit high-quality contributions on the topic of 'Abstraction, Diversity and Speech Dynamics' for a Special Issue of Laboratory Phonology. For information about the Laboratory Phonology Journal, see <http://www.journal-labphon.org/>

Producing and perceiving speech involves the parallel transmission of numerous types of signs or categories, both linguistic (e.g. words and their constituent consonants and vowels) and indexical (social class, regional affiliation, gender etc.). The production of speech also involves a coordinated activity of some hundred muscles per second that is adapted to speaking and situational contexts. While it has long become clear that the linguistic and social as well as the cognitive and physical aspects of speaking are tightly intertwined, quite how these multiple layers of semiotic and signal aspects of speech are connected and how those connections may be manifested differently in the world's languages and cultures remains poorly understood. The aim of the special issue is to advance the discussion on these issues by bringing together scientists from various disciplines engaged in research on areas such as memory and its relationship to abstraction, feedback and feedforward control systems, and modelling the association between discrete categories and continuous speech dynamics. It is only with a deeper understanding of the semiotic-signal association that breakthroughs can be achieved in understanding how the sounds of language are acquired, in how normal and disordered mechanisms of speech are related, and in the way that social and linguistic information interact and are transmitted in speech communication.

We will particularly welcome proposals on, though not limited to, one or more of the following topics:

- Models of lexical access and the lexicon and their relationship to speech perception and production
- The role of experience and social interaction for abstraction
- First and second language acquisition, lifelong learning, multilingualism
- Language dynamics over the lifespan of an individual as much as within a speaker community
- The emergence of linguistic diversity and sound change from interactions between speakers and hearers
- The link between perception and production and the role of feedback and feedforward mechanisms for stability and change in phonological systems, and their disruption in speech disorders
- Techniques for quantifying and categorising large samples of dynamic speech data

As a first step, contributors are asked to submit a 1-page abstract to the editors via the e-mail address dynamics@phonetik.uni-muenchen.de

Contributions will be evaluated based on relevance for the topic of the special issue and overall quality and contribution to the field. Contributors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit the full paper, which will undergo a regular peer review. Contributions that do not fulfill the criteria for this special issue can of course still be submitted for review to Laboratory Phonology in the usual way.

Timeline

Deadline for submission of 1-page abstract: **15 July 2017**

Invitation for full paper submission: **01 August, 2017**

Deadline of submission of full papers: **01 December, 2017**