
IVAN FONG

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Master of Arts (MA) Student in the Department of Linguistics (Simon Fraser University)

Research Interest

Phonetics and Phonology of multiple languages including Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, and English, particularly prosody such as lexical tones, pitch accent, and stress accent. Language acquisition such as Language Transfer and Bilingualism. Syntax and Pragmatics of A-not-A Questions.

Education

- Sept 2022 - Present MA in Linguistics
Simon Fraser University
Under the supervision of Prof. Yue Wang in the Language and Brain Lab. Thesis on phonetic adaptation of Cantonese tone merger in a conversational setting with a non-merger.
- 2017 - 2020 Diploma in Linguistics
University of British Columbia (Vancouver Campus)
Knowledge in multiple fields of Linguistics. Personally investigating in Tone Mergers in Cantonese, Language Transfer and Bilingualism in Cantonese-English speakers.
- 2011 - 2017 B.Sc. Combined Major in Science (Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Sciences, and Life Science)
University of British Columbia (Vancouver Campus)
Knowledge in Microbiology and Earth and Ocean Science

Teaching/Professional Experience

- September 2022 - Present Lab Manager
SFU Department of Linguistics Language and Brain Lab
Responsible for managing, running, designing projects and hosting meetings
- September 2023 - Present Research Assistant
SFU Language Learning and Development Lab
Responsible for running multiple projects and spearheading a new project
- January 2023 - Present Teaching Assistant for LING 282W, 321, 330, 363, 401, 415
SFU Department of Linguistics
Responsible for attending classes, hosting tutorials, hosting office hours, marking assignments, and assessments of student performance
- September 2019 - Present Japanese Tutor
Private
Offers 1 on 1 or small group sessions, teaching basic Japanese and Japanese Linguistics.
- June 2023 - July 2023 Editor for the 30th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference Proceedings
SFU Department of Linguistics Experimental Syntax Lab
Responsible for editing 8 papers for the proceedings
- February 2023 - March 2023 30th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference Organising Committee
SFU Department of Linguistics Experimental Syntax Lab
Responsible for organising, running, chairing, tech trouble shooting of the conference

September 2022 - December 2022	JAPN 110 TA <i>SFU Department of World Languages and Literatures</i> Works under lecturer Chie Furukawa. Lectures up to 17 students focusing on speaking practice and kanji. Marks the assignments, quizzes, and exams of all students in one session.
December 2020 - September 2022	Phone Interpreter <i>Kelly Services (Language Line Solutions)</i> Offers clear and precise Cantonese-English consecutive interpreting for a wide variety of calls internationally. Received commendation within 6 months of working.
May 2019 - June 2019	Intern <i>Chinese University of Hong Kong Phonetics Lab under Peggy Mok</i> Audited LING 6941 - Proseminar in Linguistics which focused on phonetic analysis of Sinitic tones. Wrote a literature review on a pilot project which aims at investigating accents and prejudice.
September 2018 - April 2020	Teaching Assistant <i>UBC Japanese Language Program</i> Interacting with around 30 students weekly for a drill session to help improve Japanese pronunciations of students with personal linguistic knowledge. Student leader of the Language Table Programme, leading 11 TAs and 15 volunteer students. Hosted multiple workshops to help TAs understand the linguistics aspect of Japanese, wrote a comprehensive handout to facilitate that. Helped with organising the 32th Annual BC Speech Contest.
September 2018 - December 2020	Research Assistant <i>Speech in Context Lab in UBC</i> Helped run the Speech in Cantonese and English (SpiCE) corpus study spearheaded by PhD Khia Johnson
February 2018 - September 2018	Volunteer <i>Speech in Context Lab in UBC</i> Helped participating in pilot studies. Coded huge amount of Cantonese sound files for different purposes.
January 2018 - April 2018	Peer Tutor <i>Under the SALSA Peer Tutor Programme for LING 201 in UBC</i> Helped out students on a weekly basis with questions regarding course material. Helping students understand the scope of questions in assignments better in order to answer accordingly

Research/Field Work Experience

Adaptations in Conversations (AdaptiCon)

Helped spearhead the start of a new project run by Prof. Yue Wang. Created new methods on eliciting and recording conversational speech. Responsible for multiple sub-project, including Cantonese tone merging.

Speech in Cantonese and English (SpiCE) Corpus

Involved in the creation of a open-access corpus of conversational bilingual named Speech in Cantonese and English (SpiCE) under the supervision of Khia Johnson. Work included creating stimuli, recording audio of participants, transcribing audio, writing guidelines for transcriptions, and forced alignment

Pragmatics of Korean A-not-A Question

Helping with designing of online experiment to test the pragmatics of Korean A-not-A Questions.

Independent Projects

- Carried out an independent project looking at Cantonese syllable-fusion.
- Principal investigator on a series of production, perception, and recognition experiments investigating Cantonese tone merger.

Publications/Presentations

1. Fong, I., Wong, E., Wang, F., Chan, K., Fung, A., Johnson-Dhillon, T., Trasolini, J., Behne, D.M., Jongman, A., Sereno, J.A., Tupper, P., Wang, Y. (2024, May). Phonetic adaptation in conversation: The case of Cantonese tone merging. Poster presentation at the joint 186th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) and 2024 Acoustics Week in Canada conference (AWC2024), Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
2. K. Ehret., L. Bosman., Babayode, A., N. Chan., I. Fong., N. Harris., A. Hewton., D. Reid., R. Wong., M. Taboada. (2023). Podcasts as an emerging register of computer-mediated communication. In Review at Register Studies.
3. Fong, I., Song, M.Y. (2024, October). The supposed presuppositionality of Korean A-not-A Questions. Accepted poster presentation at the 31st Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (JK31), Monash University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
4. Williamson, S., Babayode-Lawal, A. A., Bosman, L., Chan, N., Cho, S., Fong, I., & Holubowsky, K. (2023). Japanese/Korean Linguistics: Volume 30. CSLI Publications. <https://web.stanford.edu/group/cslipublications/cslipublications/site/JK30Abstract.shtml>
5. Babayode, A., L. Bosman, N. Chan, K. Ehret, I. Fong, N. Harris, A. Hewton, D. Reid, M. Taboada, R. Wong (2023) Structural linguistic characteristics of podcasts as an emerging register of computer-mediated communication. Poster presentation at the International Conference on CMC and Social Media Corpora for the Humanities (CMC-Corpora 2023), Mannheim, Germany. September 14-15, 2023.
6. Fong, I., To, Samuel., (2023, February). Reversing a Cantonese tone-merger through conversation tasks. Oral presentation at the 7th Annual Language Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference (LSURC 2023), University of British Columbia, Vancouver. BC. Canada
7. Johnson, K. A., Babel, M., Fong, I., & Yiu, N. (2020). SpiCE: A new open-access corpus of conversational bilingual speech in Cantonese and English. Proceedings of The 12th International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC 2020). <http://www.lrec-conf.org/proceedings/lrec2020/pdf/2020.lrec-1.503.pdf>
8. Fong, I. (2020, February). Crossing the language boundary: Syllable fusion in Cantonese-English code-mixing speech. Oral presentation at The 4th Annual Language Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference (LSURC 2020), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
9. Song, MY., Fong, I., & Eliora, A. (in press). "Korean A-not-A questions: Is it neutral or not?". In: D. K. E. Reisinger (ed.), Papers in Pragmatics. Vancouver, BC: UBCWPL.
10. Song, MY., Fong, I., & Eliora, A. (2020, February). Korean A-not-A Questions: Is it neutral or not? Poster presentation at The 4th Annual Language Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference (LSURC 2020), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Honours/Awards

- SFU GSS Professional Development Grant (May 2024)
- SFU Graduate Fellowship 2023 Fall
- SFU Graduate Fellowship 2023 Spring
- SFU Graduate Fellowship 2022 Fall
- Second place for poster presentation at The 4th Annual Language Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference (LSURC 2020)

Languages

Cantonese (Native), English (Native), Mandarin (Near Native), Japanese (Near Native)

