

ADAM MICKIEWICZ UNIVERSITY IN POZNAŃ

**Faculty of English** 

# The dynamics of multilingualism: exploring and modeling the acquisition of third language phonology

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Dynamic nature of multilingualism

Introduction to L3 phonological acquisition

Methodological & theoretical challenges

New research insights

Project results and way forward



#### Aims

- To advance our understanding of the acquisition of speech from a multilingual perspective
- To anchor it within a broader debate on multilingualism
- To zoom in on some theoretical and methodological considerations in research on third language (L3) phonological acquisition
- To offer a state-of-the-art overview of findings



# МНОГОЯЗЫЧИе বিষ্ণভোষাবাদ multilingüismo çoxdillilik bahubahasa बहुभाषावाद guassa ogethed brachidkoit ពហុភាសានិយម amlieithrwydd endering in the sector of th вишејезичности



#### Introduction

- Multilingualism a norm rather than exception in the contemporary world
  - large part of the population speaks several languages on a daily basis
  - default state of linguistic competence
  - "a natural state of a humankind" Aronin 2019
- "Monolingualism is the illiteracy of the 21st century" Gregg Roberts



#### Introduction

- Multilingual acquisition a dynamic and diversified process
- New insights into language learning beyond investigations into the first (L1) and second language (L2) (Flynn et al. 2004)
- Dynamic approach to multilingualism is in line with newest research outcomes from neuroscience, sociolinguistics or psychology (e.g. Kroll 2020, Sorace 2020)



#### Defining bi-/multilingualism

Perfect foreign language learning, not accompanied by loss of the native language, it results in bilingualism, nativelike control of two languages Bloomfield (1933)

Minimal bilingual skill: contact with possible models in a second language; "receptive bilingualism", "passive knowledge" Diebold (1961)

The alternate use of two or more languages by the same individual; mutually modifying linguistic practices varying in degree, function, alternation, and interference Mackey (1962)

Bilingualism is the regular use of two or more languages (or dialects) in everyday life **Grosjean (2008)** 



#### Conceptualising bi-/multilingualism

- Not a categorical variable (Luk & Bialystok, 2013)
- A natural category Berthele (2021):
  - radiality, gradient membership, fuzzy boundaries





#### Conceptualising bi-/multilingualism

- Natural category of bilingualism along two dimensions:
  - balance
  - language status (Berthele 2021: 86)





#### Bilingualism vs. multilingualism

- Traditionally conflating bi- & multilingualism
- Evidence for distinctness (neuro-, psycholinguistics)
- Quantitative differences
- Qualitative differences
- Extended interactions between languages
- **Prior** linguistic knowledge
- More extensive previous learning experience
- Increased metalinguistic awareness
- Enhanced language learning strategies

#### (De Angelis, 2019)



#### Dynamics of multilingualism

- All languages in multilinguals' repertoire constitute dynamic systems undergoing continuous change (Kroll et al. 2012, Sorace 2020)
- Cross-language interactions persistent from the very onset of multiple language learning (Kroll 2020)
  - in different linguistic domains i.e. lexis, grammar, and phonology
  - in divergent conditions (irrespective of non/convergent structures or language distance/proximity)
- Reconfiguration of cognitive network affecting linguistic and non-linguistic processing -> Convergence between L1 and L2 (Sorace 2020)



#### Dynamics of multilingualism

- L1 phonetic drift from the onset of L2 learning (Chang 2012)
- "L1 takes a hit" L1 performance on a lexical decision task altered even after brief exposure to L2/Ln (Kroll 2020)
- Passive language exposure in multilingual environment facilitates new language learning (Bice and Kroll 2015)
  - vowel harmony in an unfamiliar language in uni- vs. multilingual environment (Southern California > Pennsylvania) ERP study



# Dynamics of multilingualism

- language representation in the brain
- Robust neuroplastic changes in brain areas in multilinguals
- Functionally separate language-specific regions in each language, in addition to shared language areas (Połczyńska et al. 2016)
- Greater bilateral hemispheric involvement
- More widespread activations in less profficient L2/Ln (Połczyńska 2017, 2020)





# **L3 PHONOLOGY: NEW INSIGHTS**

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#### Reseach in L3 speech

- Third language acquisition (TLA): zooming in on L3 phonology
  - an understudied domain, e.g. Hammarberg 1997; Cabrelli Amaro 2012
  - growing body of research, e.g. Cabrelli Amaro & Wrembel 2018
- Upsurge of interest
  - ICPhS workshop on L3 phonology Freiburg 2007
  - Workshop on Advances in the Investigation of L3 Phonological Acquisition at SLE 2014 Poznań
  - Workshop "Modelling the acquisition of foreign language speech: old meets new" at SLE 2017 Zürich
  - Special poster session at ICPhS 2019 Melbourne "Theoretical and methodological challenges in L3 phonological acquisition"
  - Special session on L3 phonology at ISB 2021

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#### Key research areas (1)

Sources and nature of cross-linguistic influence (CLI) on L3 phonology

- L1 $\rightarrow$ L3, L2 $\rightarrow$ L3, L2 $\rightarrow$ L1, L3 $\rightarrow$ L1, etc
- Simultaneous or sequential influence
  - Barkley 2010 simultaneous L1 English and L2 Spanish influence on L3 BP (also Wrembel 2015)
  - Hammarberg & Hammarberg 2005 sequential influence of L2 German then L1 English on L3 Swedish (Wrembel 2010)
- Multiple sources of CLI across different phenomena
  - Wrembel 2010, 2012, 2016 hybrid VOT productions in L3
  - Blank and Zimmer 2009 hybrid vowels in L3
- Transfer determined by complexity of subsystems
  - Benrabah 1991 Arabic/French bilinguals acquiring L3 English
  - consonants transferred from Arabic, vowels from French

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#### Key research areas (2)

#### Bilingual advantage/facilitation in L3 phonology

- Multilingual advantage in perception of novel contrasts
  - Antoniou et al. 2015, Enomoto 1994, Kopečková 2015, Tremblay & Sabourin 2012, Onishi 2016, Wrembel et al. 2019
- No differences between monolingual and bilingual acquisition of novel contrasts
  - Díaz 2011, Gabriel et al. 2014, Patihis et al. 2015
- Conflicting evidence possibly due to differences in:
  - typological distance
  - acquisition context
  - language dominance and proficiency

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#### Methodological challenges: Design

- Focus: outcome of L3 acquisition -> process
  - cross-sectional vs. longitudinal
    - several testing times
    - dense data collection
      - DSCT framework, e.g. Kopečková et al.
- Types of L3 learners
  - Foreign language learners (late sequential)
    - Emerging multilinguals
    - Initial state vs. more advanced L3 learners
  - Active bi/multilingual (early, simultaneous)
  - Heritage speakers L1/L2 -> 2L1s

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#### Methodological challenges: Tasks

- Tasks and procedures
  - Speech sample elicitation in all (3 or more) languages
  - Degree of control vs. ecological validity
  - Perceptual paradigms for separate languages or cross-linguistic
- Language modes in testing
  - Induced monolingual (separate testing days)
  - Encouraged multilingual (favouring CLI, codeswitching)

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#### Methodological challenges: Controls

- Comparison groups
  - Monolingual controls?
  - Bilingual control groups
    - e.g. Llama & Lopez-Morelos 2016
  - Mirror-design groups
    - L1 **X**, L2 **Y**, L3 Z vs. L1 **Y**, L2 **X**, L3 Z
    - L1 X, L2 Y, L3 Z vs. L1 Z, L2 Y, L3 X
      - e.g. Gut, Wrembel, Kopečková, Balas 2019
  - Same group over time

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#### **Theoretical frameworks**

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# Third language (L3) acquisition models

- Cumulative Enhancement Model Flynn et al., 2004
  - Language learning is cumulative
  - All previously learnt languages may influence subsequently acquired languages (if facilitative)
- L2 Status Factor Model Bardel & Falk 2007
  - L2 influence prevails over L1, 'foreign language effect'
  - Psycho & neurolinguistically motivated: greater cognitive similarity of L3 and L2 (not L1)
- Typological Primacy Model Rothman 2011, 2015
  - Typology determines source of CLI
  - Structural proximity determined by parser at early stages of L3 acquisition
  - Holistic transfer

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# Third language (L3) acquisition models (2)

- Linguistic Proximity Model Westergaard et al. 2017, 2019
  - facilitative and non-facilitative CLI from L1 and/or L2
  - based on structural similarity with previous language
  - property-by-property transfer not holistic transfer
- Scalpel Model Slabakova 2017
  - In line with LPM
  - cognitive and experiential factors:
    - structural linguistic complexity of properties
    - misleading input
    - construction frequency in L3
    - patterns of language activation or use

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#### Interdisciplinary approaches

- Dynamic Model of Multilingualism Herdina & Jessner 2002
  - Stems from dynamic systems complexity theory DSCT
  - Holistic perspective of multilingualism
  - Non-linearity of lng growth (changes over time)
  - Interdependence between Ing systems
  - Variability of the process
    - Depends on sociological, psychological, individual factors
    - Emergent properties
    - Multilingual is NOT a sum of monolinguals
  - High degree of complexity -> unpredictable outcomes
- $LS_1+LS_2+LS_3+LS_n+CLIN + M = MP$

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#### New proposal

- Natural Growth Theory of Acquisition (NGTA) Dziubalska-Kołaczyk & Wrembel, 2017, 2021
- A holistic theory of language
  - explains acquisition in all relevant aspects (i.e. L1, L2, L3, cross-linguistic influence, language attrition and death)
  - interdisciplinary and open to transdisciplinarity
  - extralinguistic factors, functionalist perspective
- Stems from Natural Phonology
  - Donegan & Stampe 2009, Dressler 1984, 1996,
     Dziubalska-Kołaczyk 2002, 2009, 2012
- Enhanced by Complexity Theory
  - Kretzschmar 2015

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#### Natural Growth Theory of Acquisition

- Assumptions:
  - a gradual dynamic emergence of Ln phonology
  - shaped by the input from L1 and other Ln(s)
  - influenced by typology, universal preferences, and context
- Predictions:
  - principled and data-driven explanations
  - derived from linguistic and extralinguistic variables
  - forming a network of interdependencies
  - Dziubalska-Kołaczyk & Wrembel (2016, 2017, 2022)

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#### **NGTA:** General assumptions

- GA I:
  - A: All three linguistic variables (L1, Ln, preferability generalizations) have influence on the process
  - B: Their influence is moderated by the configuration of extralinguistic factors in a given acquisition situation

#### • GA II:

- Acquisition process is dynamic and proceeds as the function of time and language learning experience
- The older the multilingual learners, the more complex the interdependencies among variables

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#### **NGTA:** General assumptions

- GA III:
  - We distinguish two levels in language acquisition process, motivated by Kahneman (2011)
  - Level 1 is automatic (involuntary and instinctive) e.g., articulatory routines and phonetic perceptual constraints; grounded in implicit, procedural knowledge
  - Level 2 is conscious (mindful, cognitively-based) as manifested by any aspect of meta-awareness; relates to explicit, declarative knowledge

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# **PROJECT FINDINGS**

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#### "Multi-Phon" project

- Large-scale international project (2017-2019)
- Longitudinal design 3 data collections (T1, T2, T3)
- Pool of 40 young sequential multilinguals
- Parallel studies in Polish and German schools
- Tested in L1, L2 and L3
- Battery of production and perception tests
- Aim: to explore phonological CLI in multilingual adolescent learners

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#### **Research foci**

Developmental trajectories of L3 and L2 phonologies

Cross-linguistic interactions over time

Production and perception interface

Effects of language proficiency and L1 group

Interindividual variation

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# **PERCEPTION VS. PRODUCTION**

WREMBEL, M, GUT, U., KOPEČKOVÁ, R., BALAS, A. (2022) IJM

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Perception-production link in foreign language learning

- Four scenarios:
- 1. Perception > production
- 2. Perception = production (aligned, co-evolve)
- 3. Production > perception
- 4. Dissociation (no direct link)
  - e.g. perceptually salient sounds but challenging in motor-articulatory execution

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#### Rhotics

- Rhotics interesting phenomenon
  - complex articulations within and across languages (Ladefoged & Maddieson 1996)
- Different realisations in all three languages:
  - Polish [r] alveolar trill or tap
  - English [J] (post)alveolar approximant
  - German [B] uvular fricative (or trill)
- Different markedness standing
  - alveolar trill/ tap > post-alveaolar approximant > uvular trill (from the least to most marked)
  - Articulatory difficulty vs. universal frequency

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#### Production

- Task: delayed repetition in L1, L2, L3
- Stimuli:
  - Target words embedded in carrier sentences (in L1, L2, L3)
- Tokens with word-initial and word-medial rhotics as single onset consonant
- Recordings
  - portable digital recorder Roland R-26
  - at 44.1 kHz sampling rate with 16 bit quantization
- Auditory analyses
  - 3 independent raters (phonetically trained)
  - classification as target / non-target

![](_page_37_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Perception

- Forced-choice goodness task
  - randomised and counterbalanced in E-prime, ISI= 500ms,
  - two renditions of the same phrases differing on the last stimulus items

L3 German

![](_page_37_Picture_6.jpeg)

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- Stimuli 5 items x 2 languages x 2 repetitions
  - English: ring, rabbit, red, round, giraffe;
  - **German:** *rot, Regen, Reise, Fahrrad, verloren*;
  - Polish: ryba, ręka, rok, chora, stara
- Measures: accuracy & RT
   L2 English

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#### Results: Perception vs. production

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#### Results: Perception vs. production

#### Production:

- L1 Polish group -> L2 > L3 at T1 (Z = 2.98, p < 0.05) and T2 (Z = 2.98, p < 0.05), Wilcoxon signed-rank test
- L1 German group -> L2 > L3 at T1 *t* = 6.57, *p* < 0.05 and T2 *t* = 5.99, *p* < 0.05)</li>
   Production over time:
- L1 Polish group
- L2 accuracy increased from T1 to T2 (Z = 2.03, p < 0.05)
- L1 German group No significant change

#### Perception:

- L1 Polish group -> L2 > L3 at T1 (t = 2.63, p < 0.05) and T2 (t = 8.26, p < 0.05)</li>
- L1 German group L2 = L3

Perception over time:

• L1 Polish group

L3 perception **decreased** in accuracy from T1 to T2 (Z =2.43, p < 0.05);

#### L2 remained stable

• L1 German group No significant change

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#### Results: Correlation trajectories for L2

#### In L2

•Both modalities aligned, co-evolving

•High perception + mid / high production accuracy

•For both L1 groups

•At T1 and T2

![](_page_40_Figure_7.jpeg)

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#### Results: Correlation trajectories for L3

In L3

•Scores scatterred across the spectrum

Performance on two modalities unrelated
-> dissociation

![](_page_41_Figure_5.jpeg)

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# Results: Individual perceptuo-productive patterns and change trajectories

	L2 I	English	L3 German / L3 Polish		
Participant	Relationship type at T1	Relationship type at T2	Relationship type at T1	Relationship type at T2	
L1 Polish					
2	dissociation	dissociation	dissociation	dissociation	
4	perc = prod	prod = perc	dissociation	perc = prod	
6	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
7	perc > prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
9	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
11	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
12	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
14	dissociation	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
15	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
17	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
19	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
22	perc > prod	perc > prod	dissociation	dissociation	
L1 German					
002	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
004	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
006	perc > prod	dissociation	perc > prod	dissociation	
012	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
015	perc = prod	perc = prod	perc = prod	perc = prod	
016	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
017	perc > prod	perc > prod	dissociation	dissociation	
019	perc= prod	perc = prod	dissociation	dissociation	
022	perc = prod	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	
023	perc = prod	perc > prod	dissociation	dissociation	
026	perc = prod	perc > prod	dissociation	dissociation	
030	perc = prod	perc = prod	dissociation	Dissociation	

![](_page_43_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Discussion: modulating factors

#### **Universal and L-specific learnability of sounds**

- Both L1 groups did equally well at acquiring L2 English alveolar approximant, which may pose less articulatory difficulty than trills (Catford 2001)
- L3: high perception, low production accuracy because of high perceptual salience of L3 rhotics vs. their motorarticulatory difficulty

![](_page_44_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **Discussion: modulating factors**

#### L1 group effect:

- Moderate correlation only for the L1 Polish group at T2
- Individual correlation analyses: both L1 groups aligned perceptuo-productive performance in L2, while in L3 dissociation

#### **Development over time**

- Improvement only in L2 production accuracy for the L1 Polish group
- Insights from individual trajectories suggest a more dynamic picture, esp. in L2

![](_page_45_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Conclusions

Relationship between domains Perception & production co-evolve Modalities aligned in L2; dissociation in L3

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#### Individual variability - different patterns attested

modalities aligned, co-evolving (perception = production) -> L2 perception accuracy high, but production low -> L2, L3 performance on two modalities unrelated (dissociation) -> L3

Effect of language proficiency

Learners perform better on L2 perception and production tasks than on L3 perception and production over time

![](_page_46_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_1.jpeg)

# **CLIMAD PROJECT**

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#### Study Design

- Participants:
  - L1 Polish/L2 English/L3 Norwegian
    - Formal instruction
    - Onset of L3 learning
  - Norwegian controls
- 3 testing times (longitudinal study)
- 3 tasks
  - Production
  - Perception (Balas et al. SLE 2022)
  - Grammaticality Judgements (Żychliński et al. SLE 2022)

![](_page_48_Figure_0.jpeg)

(remote)

- 24 participants with L1 Polish - L2 English - L3 Norwegian

![](_page_49_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **Production study**

Weckwerth, Wrembel, Balas, Rodriguez (2022)

- Aim: to explore spectral overlap in L1 Polish, L2 English and L3 Norwegian vowels
- Design:
  - Reading real and nonce words in (dVd, dVt) in a carrier sentence and in isolation
  - Three language blocks (L1, L2, L3)
- First three formants and vowel durations measured
- Participant profiles:
  - Leap-Q Language Experience and Proficiency Questionnaire (Marian et al. 2007)

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#### **Production study: Results**

#### L1 Polish L2 English

#### L3 Norwegian

![](_page_50_Figure_4.jpeg)

- Additional L2 and L3 spectral categories found in areas unoccupied by L1 vowels
- Some differentiation between L2 and L3

![](_page_51_Picture_0.jpeg)

Results: estimating spectral overlap between vowel categories

#### Norwegian /ʉ(ː)/ /ø(ː)/ separate from Polish

![](_page_51_Figure_3.jpeg)

Pillai score measures (0 – 1)

- GUD vs. pl /i/: 0.69
- GUD vs. pl /u/: 0.75
- LØP vs. pl /ε/: 0.45
- LØP vs. pl /ɔ/: 0.58
- GUD vs. GOOSE: 0.21
- GOOSE vs. pl /u/: 0.33
- the higher the value, the greater the difference between the two distributions

# Production study: Duration for L3 Norwegian

Boxplot for variable: duration, grouped by: vowel

![](_page_52_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **Production study:** Discussion

- RQ1: Do multilingual learners keep their vocalic systems apart?
  - language-specific phonological categories in L3
  - English L2 less stable, subject to variability
- RQ2: What are the interactions between the three vocalic subsystems in multilingual learners?
   prevailingly L1>L3, but some L2>L3
- RQ3: What drives the overlap between pairs of cross-linguistically adjacent vowels?

- main predictor - intensity of L3 use

![](_page_54_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Perceptual assimilation study

Balas, Cal, Rodriguez, Rataj, Wrembel, Kaźmierski (2022)

- Aim: To investigate the relationship between perceptual assimilation of L3 Norwegian to L1 Polish vowels and their acoustic similarity (via Euclidean distance and lip rounding)
- **Participants**: L1 Polish L2 English L3 Norwegian speakers (n=16), B1
- **Tasks**: (1) assimilation of 16 Norwegian vowels to 6 Polish vowel categories and (2) goodness of fit ratings
  - BEST, BOK, DAG, FIN, GUD, LØP, LYS, NOK, RAD, ROM, SLUTT, SØNN, STED, SYND, TAKK, TID
  - 6 Polish vowel categories /i, i, e, a, o, u/ presented as orthographic labels
- **Stimuli**: nonse words in /dVd/ framework (1 for each vowel) presented 3 times (e.g., dåd, dedd, did)

![](_page_55_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Perceptual assimilation study: Hypotheses

- (1) the smaller the Euclidean distance\* between two vowels, the higher the likelihood of assimilating a given Norwegian vowel to a Polish category
- (2) lip rounding and duration differences may influence the assimilation patterns

- \*Euclidean distance is typically calculated using the mean F1 and F2 values in Hertz for each category or pairs of vowels
- F1 inversely related to vowel height, F2 to vowel backness

![](_page_56_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Perceptual assimilation study: procedure

#### Run in PsychoPy

#### Practice session + experimental session (16x3)

- Instructions
- Fixation point
- Auditory stimulus
- Task 1: Vowel choice (6s)
- Task 2: Likert scale (6s)
  - 1 (weak fit) -- 7 (good fit)
- ISI (1.5s)

![](_page_56_Figure_11.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Assimilation rates of Norwegian vowels to Polish categories

Norwegian	Polish vowel labels							
stimuli	<i></i>	<y></y>	<e></e>	<a></a>	<0>	<u></u>		
TID /i:/	95.56%		2.22%		2.22%			
	5.6		3		4			
FIN /i/	35.56%	57.78%	6.67%					
	4.25	5.12	4.33					
LYS /yː/	84.09%	11.36%			2.27%	2.27%		
	4.62	3.6			1	3		
SYND /y/	8.89%	80%			2.22%	8.89%		
	3.25	4.67			1	4.5		
STED /eː/	2.22%		95.56%	2.22%				
	4		5.05	7				
BEST /e/	4.44%		93.33%	2.22%				
	4		5.83	5				
	2.22%	20%	24.44%		46.67%	6.67%		
LØP /Ø:/	2	4	2,91		3.67	4.67		
	2.27%	27.27%	20.45%		40.91%	9.09%		
SØININ /Ø/	6	4.42	3.22		4.17	4		
				1%				
DAG /ɑː/				5.02				
				100%				
ΙΑΚΚ /α/				5.13				
	2.22%				97.78%			
RAD /oː/	7				5.07			
					100			
NUK /0/					5.05			
DOK /m/					22.22%	77.78%		
BOK /uː/					4.7	4.94		
	2.22%				64.44%	33.33%		
KOIVI /u/	5				4.55	5.33		
GUD /ʉː/		16.67%				83.33%		
		4				3.91		
		15.91%	2.27%		6.82%	75%		
SLUTT/ <del>U</del> /		4.28	2		4.33	4.15		

![](_page_58_Picture_0.jpeg)

65

1,000

1,500

Curve shows model predictions, Points are actual values

Euclidean distance

Mean assimilation rate

100%

50%

500

#### **Perceptual assimilation study: Results**

- A mixed-effects model in R to predict assimilation rating as a function of Euclidean distance, length of a Norwegian vowel, markedness with regard to lip rounding and Norwegian vowels.
  - Euclidean distance effect ( $\beta$ = -0.036, p < 0.001)

-> the larger the Euclidean distance, the lower the assimilation rate

No statistically significant effects of:

lip rounding, but a dynamic twist...

![](_page_58_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_59_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Assimilation rates of Norwegian vowels to Polish categories

**Assimilation rates of Norwegian vowels** 

![](_page_59_Figure_3.jpeg)

0 500 1,0001,500 Euclidean distance

Each symbol is one participant's AR

![](_page_60_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Perceptual assimilation study: Model comparison

- Comparisons of F1\_F2\_F3 and F1\_F2 models, find that F1\_F2 model is a better model; both Poisson and GAM
  - #
     df
     AIC

     ## ac\_poisson\_int\_3d
     4
     1352.331

     ## ac\_poisson\_int\_2d
     4
     1210.072
  - # ar\_mdl\_gam\_3d 21.92624 933.5030
  - ## ar\_mdl\_gam\_2d 24.96523 910.0611
- Including an F3 as approximation of lip rounding did not work as expected
- Assimilation rates depend on Euclidean distances, both expressed as F1\_F2 and F1\_F2\_F3

![](_page_61_Picture_0.jpeg)

# EEG study on multlingual perception

Kędzierska, Rataj, Balas, Cal, Wrembel (in progress)

- To investigate the neurophysiological markers of vowel perception in multilingual speakers
  - No previous research
- Selected vowel contrasts in L1, L2 and L3
- Oddball paradigm (frequent standard vs. occasional deviant stimuli)
- ERP component -> Mismatch Negativity (MMN) to index listeners' sensitivity to phoneme constrasts at pre-attentive level
- Hypothesis: response to change will be reduced for nonnative languages (L2/L3) as compared to L1
- RQ: Will phonological contrasts be equally easy to detect in L2 vs. L3/Ln?

![](_page_62_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Way forward

To further pursue theoretical refinement

To triangulate different methodologies

To investigate features that pattern differently across languages

To expand across-domains studies

To extend neurolinguistic studies to L3 phonology

![](_page_63_Picture_0.jpeg)

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

![](_page_64_Picture_0.jpeg)

## MultiPhon project

- Grant: Polish-German Foundation for Science
- **Title**: Phonological cross-linguistic influence in young multilinguals
- Period: 2017-2019
- **PI:** Magdalena Wrembel, Ulrike Gut (University of Münster)
- **Team**: Romana Kopečková, Anna Balas, Halina Lewandowska, Iga Krzysik, Christina Nelson

![](_page_65_Picture_0.jpeg)

## **CLIMAD - OPUS project**

- Grant: Polish National Science Centre NCN
- **Title**: Cross-linguistic influence in multilingualism across domains: Phonology and syntax (CLIMAD)
- Nr: UMO-2020/37/B/HS2/00617
- Period: Jan 2021-2024
- PI: Magdalena Wrembel
- Team: Anna Balas, Jarosław Weckwerth, Sylwiusz Żychliński, Zuzanna Cal, Karolina Rataj, Nicole Rodriquez

![](_page_65_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_0.jpeg)

## ADIM - GRIEG project

- Funding: Norway grants, NCN
- **Title:** Across-domain investigations in multilingualism: Modeling L3 acquisition in diverse settings (ADIM)
- **ID nr**: DEC-2019/34/H/HS2/00495
- **Period**: Dec 2021 April 2024
- PI: Magdalena Wrembel, Marit Westergaard
- Collaboration with UiT Tromsø and NTNU Trondheim
- Team: Anna Balas, Jarosław Weckwerth, Sylwiusz Żychliński, Zuzanna Cal, Karolina Rataj, Hanna Kędzierska, Kamil Kaźmierski, Anna Skałba

![](_page_66_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Picture_1.jpeg)