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Keynote address

**Distinctive Paths of Linguistic Resistance: The Case of Cajun Vernacular English
and Creole African-American Vernacular English**

Sylvie Dubois (Louisiana State University)

Language and social variation in Louisiana has a long and complex history. Any account of the present day varieties of English must begin with an historical overview of the ways in which language, ethnicity, race, and socioeconomic structure have been interwoven to form the intricate tapestry that is Louisiana. The focus of our talk is on the vernacular English currently spoken by Creole African-Americans of French ancestry (CAAVE) and Cajuns (CVE) living in South Louisiana. Language change and linguistic persistence characterize both black and white French-speaking populations. The most important change is the decline in the number of bilinguals. One aspect of persistence is the development of CAAVE and CVE dialects that distinguish THESE speakers from their fellow Southerners. Another one is the maintenance of these divergent dialects while others are disappearing elsewhere in Southern American English (Bailey 2001). When we compare the oldest speakers of both varieties, phonological and morphological variables show no difference. The only reason to speak of two vernaculars is social. For the next generations, persistence of the dialect takes quite a different form. In CAAVE, a high rate of glide absence is maintained across all generations. In CVE, the middle-aged generation uses this feature dramatically less, but the younger generation increases its use so that their frequency approaches the proportion found in the speech of the older generation. We argue against the fact that the similarities between CAAVE and CVE as spoken by older speakers are the result of interference from French. We suggest that they speak comparable dialects because they learned English from people who spoke English in and around their communities, not only as adults but as children as well, and that these English speakers had all these features in their speech. We will also show that linguistic persistence in CAAVE has more to do with the patterns of social intercourse, whereas persistence in CVE is better explained by the social changes that took place throughout the 20th century.

Cross-linguistic influence in the initial state of L3 acquisition of adverbs and complex negation

Patricia Balcom (Université de Moncton) & Paula Bouffard (Concordia University)

This study examines the influence of the L1, Gulf Arabic, and the L2, English, at the earliest stage in the L3 acquisition of adverbs and complex negation in French.

In Gulf Arabic, adverbs exhibit the property of transportability (Fassi, 1993), occurring freely in ASVO, SAVO, SVAO and SVOA. In English, the unmarked order is SAVO, while in French it is SVAO. Turning to complex negation, in Arabic it is expressed by the proclitic *maa* and a negative adverb such as *muul* 'never' or *elhin* 'anymore'. These exhibit the same transportability property as other adverbs. In English, *never* is an incorporated form in SAVO position, and *not...anymore* is a complex form composed of *not* and the negative adverb in SVOA position. In French the proclitic *ne* combines with *jamais* 'never' or *plus* 'anymore' with the order SnegVAO, which is grammatical in Gulf Arabic, but not in English.

Subjects were 13 female university students registered in a French course for true beginners. There were a sentence-completion task and a judgement task with the same sentences in the three languages. On the Arabic tasks subjects produced and accepted SAVO, SVOA and SVAO, while on the English task they favoured SAVO almost categorically. On the French sentence-completion task, learners also preferred SAVO, and most accepted *SAVO, although many also accepted SVAO. The recency of L2 English, psychotypology and a common formal learning environment led to a preference for SAVO order, bolstered by the fact it is one possible order in the L1.

With complex negation roughly half the subjects produced and accepted SnegVAO in French and corrected *SANegVO to SnegVAO. The proclitic negator in the L1 Arabic combined with the fact that basic negation *ne...pas* is introduced and practiced during their French course likely influenced subjects' performance with complex negation in the L3.

Variation dans l'accord verbal : le cas des relatives sujets en français acadien

Louise Beaulieu (Université de Moncton)
& Wladyslaw Cichocki (University of New Brunswick)

Plusieurs études portant sur le français parlé font état de l'emploi fréquent de l'accord par défaut (verbe à la 3e personne du singulier) dans les relatives sujets. Cette communication présente un aperçu de ce phénomène dans les relatives sujets ayant un antécédent de 3e personne du pluriel (3PL) en français acadien du nord-est du Nouveau-Brunswick (FANENB). Nous tentons de répondre à deux questions spécifiques : quelle est la nature de la variation ? quels sont les facteurs sociaux qui la contraignent ?

Les données proviennent d'un corpus d'entrevues sociolinguistiques réalisées auprès de 16 locuteurs natifs de FANENB. Des 594 occurrences de relatives sujets 3PL relevées dans ce corpus, certaines sont des cas d'accord par défaut (1), d'autres portent un accord 3PL (2) et plusieurs sont ambiguës (3), c'est-à-dire que la forme observée est phonologiquement identique à la forme 3SG.

- (1) *les enfants qui a fait ça*
- (2) *c'est eux-autres qui ont dit ça*
- (3) *il y en a des usines qui ferment*

Une analyse des facteurs sociaux qui contraignent la variation révèle que le réseau social des locuteurs est le facteur le plus important. De plus, une interaction réseau*sexe*âge montre des patrons qui sont révélateurs de la structure de la variation linguistique dans la communauté. Une comparaison des résultats avec ceux d'études antérieures portant sur d'autres variétés acadiennes (Flikeid 1989, Flikeid & Péronnet 1989, King 1994) permet de mieux comprendre le phénomène du non-accord dans la grammaire du français acadien.

Les « Autochtones » dans le discours médiatique francophone

Samira Belyazid (Université de Moncton)

Les « Autochtones », qui ont longtemps paru absents du discours médiatique comme groupe minoritaire, semblent réapparaître depuis quelques années, notamment lorsqu'il est question de sujets environnementaux et de reconnaissance de la diversité culturelle du Canada. Quel est le traitement réservé dans les médias écrits, à ce groupe, qui contrairement à l'acception médiatique du terme, ne forme pas un groupe homogène? Quelle est l'évaluation faite de la diversité culturelle à laquelle ce groupe contribue? Comment les médias francophones écrits contribuent-ils à l'élaboration d'attitudes et de perceptions à l'égard de ceux qu'on nomme tantôt les « Amérindiens » tantôt les « Autochtones »? Voilà autant de questions sur lesquelles nous nous pencherons dans cette recherche.

Nous nous proposons d'examiner le traitement médiatique réservé à ce groupe minoritaire, à savoir les «Amérindiens» du Canada. Plus particulièrement, cette recherche vise les objectifs suivants : décrire du discours médiatique une définition de ce groupe; faire ressortir sa représentation sémiologique; expliquer la construction du discours médiatique à l'égard de ce groupe.

Point Areas on the Cajun French Dialect Terrain

Cathy Bodin (McDaniel College)

Diffusion theory affirms the conclusions of early fieldworkers of dialect atlases, such as Gillieron (ALF), who identified relic points and innovating areas based on his mapping, and Massignon and Horiot (ALO), who established proofs of continuums of linguistic change in real time on the terrain. Similarly, linguists and geographers alike espoused the concepts of the lateral diffusion of innovations, e.g., between cities, and of hierarchical diffusion, e.g., from population centers to their surroundings. A neglected feature in diffusion linguistics is the consideration of "point areas" at dialect boundaries, which may differ greatly from the balance of their linguistic terrain because of both their isolation and the barriers they face in the different-language groups or the geographical boundaries that they confront. Waterways are not impenetrable boundaries—as Louisiana Cajun French attests—but the reflexes of this dialect at its extreme southern limits are indeed archaic and a useful measure of diffusion waves. Three phonological variables in mutation are examined here: fluctuation between /wé/ and /wa/ (e.g., *étoile*), pronounced aspirate /h/ in its various sources, and *ouïsme* (the fluctuation between /o/ and /u/ in tonic and other vowels). Data is drawn from fieldwork carried out between 1990 and 1997 and cross-referenced with published historical and contemporary sources.

**An Exceptionally Quirky Case:
An Analysis of Quirky Icelandic NPs in ECM Contexts**

David Bowden (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

Icelandic exhibits a cross-linguistically rare phenomenon termed Quirky Case, or Aukafallsfrumlag in Icelandic scholarship, whereby speakers can employ oblique forms in subject position. This mismatch of morphological case and grammatical function has serious implications for current syntactic theories and will act as the ideal environment within which to explore the contested nature of exceptionally case marked NPs. This second type of oblique case is assigned to NPs that are c-commanded by exceptional case marking (ECM) verbs such as believe and consider. These post-verbal NPs, like quirky nominals found in Icelandic, appear to display a similar mismatch of case and grammatical role.

The syntactic position occupied by ECM complements is highly debated in the literature with no definitive answer currently available. This is problematic since the unknown nature of the position is troublesome not only to our understanding of English syntax but also to any universal theory of syntax. One school of thought takes these NPs as objects of the matrix ECM clause; opposing this view, however, are those that consider the complements to occupy a subject position in the lower embedded clause. I intend to expand upon the growing discussion dealing with exceptional case marking by placing the quirky Icelandic phenomenon within the context of ECM predicates. By examining the consequences of this novel syntactic arrangement, it will be possible to explore the universal relationship between case and syntactic position – shedding more light on the illusive nature of the ECM complement position.

Rethinking Algonquian preverb placement

Phil Branigan (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

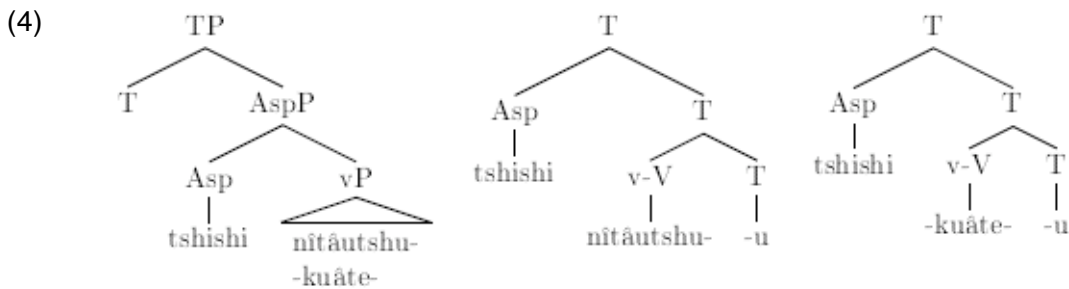
Based on data from Innu-aimun, this paper argues for a new model of the grammatical origins of the Algonquian preverbs, in which a single functional head (T or Fin) triggers *multiple head-movement*, resulting in a clustering of auxiliary elements and the principal verb to the left of the trigger. Multiple head movement requires that all but the first attracted element be “tucked in” to the immediate left of the attracting head (Richards, 1997; Collins, 2002). Because the T trigger originates higher than all attracted elements, it has semantically wider scope than the preverbs to the immediate left of the verb, whether T is suffixal or a preverb itself.

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) a. Tshuî uî̄tshimitin.
2-want live.with-i in.1>2
'I want to live with you' | b. Apû tshika tshî ashâmitân.
not 2-fut can feed-cin.1>2
'I can't give you any (food)' |
|--|--|

This syntactic configuration is interpreted morphologically by forming a word from the affixal trigger and up to 2 adjacent bases. The effect of this process is seen in the Innu-aimun examples in (2)-(3).

- | |
|---|
| (2) a. nî̄tâutshû `s/he/it (anim) grows; s/he grows up'
b. tshishi-nî̄tâutshu `s/he, it (anim) finishes growing' |
|---|

- (3) a. matshikuâteu `it is badly sewn (s/he sewed it poorly)'
 b. minukuâteu `s/he sews it (anim) well'
 c. tshishikuâteu `s/he finishes sewing it (anim)'



The fact that the same preverb is sometimes a part of the principal verb and other times separate from it follows from this single word formation principle which applies to these derived syntactic structures.

The same general principles are then shown to apply to word formation within the verb phrase, where v may attract multiple heads. Some implications of this analysis for future research are discussed.

Tsakonian in the 21st century

Vit Bubenik (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

Tsakonian is classified as a highly divergent dialect of Modern Greek or a separate language (it is not mutually understandable with Greek) spoken fluently by several hundreds of older speakers in a group of mountain towns and villages on the eastern slopes of Mount Parnon in the Peloponnese (in the 19th c. the population of „Tsakonia“ was estimated in the vicinity of 200.000). Currently, Tsakonian has no official status but there are some teaching materials for local schools and translations of the prayers of the Greek Orthodox church. By the 1970s electricity was introduced to all villages of Tsakonia and it is estimated that continued modernization of Tsakonia will lead to the languages' extinction „sometime during this century“ (p.c. by Nikos Liosis).

Tsakonian continues the Laconian variant of Hellenistic Koine (documented in the inscriptions of the 4th c.B.C. – 2nd c.A.D.) There are no medieval written documents in Tsakonian (with the exception of a few notes by the Turkish traveler Evlija Çelebi of 1668).

The major difference between Tsakonian and common Demotic Greek is in its verb system where Tsakonian replaced ancient present and imperfect by highly marked analytic formations (with the participle marked for three genders, e.g. *ém-i pul-ú* (M), *-úa* (F), *-únda* (N) „I am selling“); even more unusual is the future displaying double finite forms *ém(i) θa pul'-ín-u* „I will sell“, *és(i) θa pul'-ín-ere* „you will sell“ versus Greek *θa pul-ó*, *θa pul-ís*. On the whole, in this dialect we possess unique evidence for the kind of intermediate „koineization“ (leveling) phase that all other Doric dialects went through in antiquity before finally losing their identity to Hellenistic Koine.

In this paper I will comment on the typological make-up of Tsakonian periphrastic formations (typologically parallel constructions exist in Lithuanian) and will suggest that their potential source could be seen in certain regional varieties of Hellenistic Koine where the past progressive coexisted with the imperfect.

Automated Extraction of Adjectival Intensifiers

James Bulgin (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

Traditional variationist sociolinguistic studies frequently involve the manual extraction and coding of large numbers of grammatical tokens. This is time-consuming and places practical limitations on the size of studies that can feasibly be conducted.

By leveraging techniques from the field of Natural Language Processing and adapting them to sociolinguistic research, it is possible to create tools which automate much of this data-extraction and coding process, allowing token counts several orders of magnitude larger than traditional studies. The larger sample size provides additional statistical rigor, and well as permitting the analysis of linguistic factors or variants too infrequent to be statistically significant in a study of typical size.

I will demonstrate proof-of-concept software designed to automatically extract and code tokens for studies of adjectival intensification.

Adjectival intensification (the use of words such as 'very' or 'really' to strengthen adjectives, as in 'very cool') was chosen as the variable for this prototype since it has strong sociolinguistic relevance (see Ito and Tagliamonte 2003, Van Herk and OIP 2006) and can be studied in a purely textual corpus.

Given an input text, the program extracts all adjectives, identifies the word or phrase that they modify, their grammatical position (attributive or predicative), as well as which intensifier (if any) precedes it. The resulting data is output as a spreadsheet, where it can be examined using traditional sociolinguistic statistical techniques.

The accuracy of this software is demonstrated by applying it to the same dataset used in Bulgin et al. (2008) (n = 3265). A multivariate analysis of the resulting token file shows factor weights within a 5% margin of error of the original, hand-coded study. The time required to create the final token file from the unprocessed text was approximately 20 minutes.

Geographic Proximity and Phonetic Variation in Acadian French

Wladyslaw Cichocki (University of New Brunswick)

It has been suggested that dialects that are geographically close are more similar than those that are geographically distant. Quantitative studies that have tested this claim (e.g. Heeringa & Nerbonne 2001, Nerbonne & Kleiweg 2007, Séguy 1971) have found a regular relation between dialect distance and geographic distance, one that has the form of a logarithmic function. However, these studies were often based on dense sampling in dialects that are spoken in geographically contiguous areas. The study reported in this paper tests the claim in dialects that are found in geographically discontinuous regions. Acadian French communities are scattered throughout Canada's Atlantic region and provide an interesting test case.

Eleven phonetic variables were studied. Among these there are features with traditional Acadian variants – such as nasal vowel alternations, *ouisme* (of /o/), palatalization of /k, g/ – and features that are generally associated with neighbouring varieties of Québec French – such as assibilation of /t, d/, backing of /r/, high vowel laxing. The data were taken from the *Atlas linguistique du vocabulaire maritime acadien* (Péronnet et al 1998), which contains responses to over 400 questions by 54 speakers from 18 localities. A frequency profile – a vector corresponding to the phonetic variants – was established for each locality and was input to correspondence analysis to obtain chi-

squared "phonetic distances" between localities (Greenacre 1993). Geographic distances were measured in terms of spherical distance.

The results of quantitative analyses show that there is a fairly regular relationship between phonetic and geographic distances in Acadian French and that its form is similar to the one found in previous studies. Nevertheless, the amount of statistical variance accounted for in the Acadian French case is smaller than in earlier studies. The paper suggests other factors, such as isolation, that might improve geographic explanations of phonetic variation.

Media Performances of Vernacularity: The *Acadieman* Phenomenon

Philip Comeau & Ruth King (York University)

This paper is concerned with media performances of vernacularity, in particular with regard to *Acadieman*, an animated cable TV show which documents the life and times of Acadie's first superhero. The creation of Moncton native Dano LeBlanc, *Acadieman* does not have any special powers beyond having the nerve to speak *chiac*, a highly disparaged Acadian French variety, in public. In this paper we consider the contributions of what we term the *Acadieman* phenomenon onto the creation of new discourses of Acadian identity.

While media performances have the power to amplify dominant language ideologies, they may also validate local vernaculars; we argue that the latter is the case here. We first contextualize *Acadieman* in terms of the linguistic and cultural context in which *chiac* is spoken, including the changing economy of southeastern New Brunswick in the face of globalization. We then consider how particular social meanings are created on the show through a series of contrasts, in key scenes in which *Acadieman* interacts with speakers of different varieties of French as part of his job as a call centre worker. While the juxtapositions of varieties in these scenes is at one level quite humorous, on another level they draw on complex indexicalities which validate the local variety, and by extension, its speakers. In the final section of the paper, we analyze online discussion of *Acadieman* on the part of Acadians, including expatriates, along with members of other francophone minorities, and explore some of the issues the show raises regarding language authenticity, language standards and the construction of community.

Tourism and language-use scenarios in the Costa Rican Caribbean Coast

Gustavo Córdoba Gonzalez (Universidad de Costa Rica)

This paper is intended to present images and interviews excerpts in order to illustrate the use of Limón English (Mekatelyu, see H. de Vargas, 1985) and autochthonous-indigenous (Teribe) languages in commercial advertising along Limon South-East Coast towns, Costa Rica. The work results from a research project which aims at identifying the influence of tourism in languages use.

Costa Rican Caribbean Coast has historically been an intercultural scenario marked by migration and colonialism. Archeological evidences date autochthonous human groups back to the X century (A.D.), and authors like Mosby (2003) speak of four Afro-Caribbean significant migratory waves beginning after Columbus arrival. Along with the Standard Fruit Company and the construction of the Atlantic railroad, Asian, white and mestizo Costa Rican, European and North American populations settled in the territory,

bringing identities, practices, and symbols to share, struggle, and entangle in the constant cultural identities recomposition.

Nowadays, globalization processes have constituted tourism in the most important economy activity from where cultural scenarios are re/constructed and re/signified. Yet socially constricted and forbidden or not taught in schools, autochthonous languages and dialects have found a revitalization niche in the tourist industry which uses for hotels, restaurants, dishes, bars and the like, names in those dialects. But in spite of this, and as Spence (2004) warns, Mekatelyu is decreasing in use among young users; questions come into attention: Is this revitalization a spurious and fetish instrument of commercial use for tourist attraction, intended to sell exotic, wild, autochthonous food, places, artifacts and, traditions? Or is this a second air in the reconstitution of the national identities scenario where minority-groups languages gain in social value?

Italian and English as Cognate Languages: The Other Side of Lexical Retention

Ronald Cosper (Saint Mary's University)

Studies of lexical attrition in comparative linguistics have shown steady lexical loss and replacement over time, so that after a millennium or so of separation, cognate languages have lost their mutual intelligibility. These studies (such as those making use of the Swadesh word list), keep the semantic framework constant and examine lexical replacement within the list. On the other hand, when other approaches are used, the evidence of cognacy is more apparent and longer lasting. Italian is often said to be a relatively conservative Romance language, and likewise English is conservative in some respects within Germanic. Despite much lexical replacement, many cognates persist within Germanic, albeit with altered meanings. The time depth of separation between Italian and English, as modern Indo-European languages from different families, is several times greater, of course, as that between individual languages within Germanic or Romance. Nevertheless, when some semantic shift is allowed, and the persistence of cognate forms examined, a surprising amount of retention is evidenced when Italian and English are compared. Many prepositions remain cognate, and hundreds of other cognates are noted within existing comparative literature. Nouns evidence the most cognacy, with a total of 296 sets. Verbs follow with 188 and adjectives with 112. Pronouns and numerals, as expected, are very conservative. The implications of this surprising degree of lexical retention are discussed.

Ethos culturel, mobilité et altérité: la diaspora camerounaise au Canada

Bernard Mulo Farenkia (Cape Breton University)

Le développement exponentiel, depuis des années, des flux migratoires entre le Sud et le Nord et la politique d'immigration choisie du Canada entraînent chaque année l'arrivée sur le sol canadien d'un nombre important de Camerounais. Cette arrivée exige, comme on peut l'imaginer, de la part des immigrants nouvellement reçus une adaptation rapide au nouvel environnement, non seulement sur les plans professionnel, climatique, linguistique, mais aussi au niveau culturel. Les nouveaux venus se trouvent confrontés, et cela s'applique à tout contexte de mobilité, comme Babault (2005 : 35) le relève si bien concernant les (étudiants) Chinois en France, « à des configurations de pratiques et de représentations [...] culturelles divergeant fortement de leur univers familier mais donc ils

peuvent difficilement faire abstraction s'ils veulent mener leur projet [...] de manière satisfaisante ».

Il se pose alors la question de savoir comment les Camerounais installés au Canada s'adaptent aux défis (linguistiques et socioculturels) que pose la vie sur leur nouvelle terre d'accueil. La présente communication, une perspective sociolinguistique et socio-pragmatique, voudrait présenter quelques zones de confrontations avec l'altérité et analyser quelques stratégies dont se servent les membres de la diaspora camerounaise au Canada pour retravailler leur *ethos* culturel et l'adapter au nouveau milieu afin de gérer les contradictions/conflits auxquels ils sont confrontés.

It's about time: showing and telling temporal sequences in graphic novels and on the screen

Anne Furlong (University of Prince Edward Island)

Many contemporary film adaptations of graphic novels or comic books are clearly escapist entertainment intended to transform an existing readership into paying moviegoers; others ask to be taken seriously – as movies, *and* as adaptations. The claim that *Sin City*, eg, or *A History of Violence*, or *Watchmen* are not merely filmed versions of the originals, but have merit as cinema independent of their sources, throws into sharp relief many longstanding issues of adaptation, translation, representation and media. These are not new issues: from antiquity, story has been remade as song, eg, or song as painting. However, the ubiquity and the complexity of these particular translations provide an opportunity to test accounts of interpretation and translation in multimedia.

I am interested in the representation of temporality in graphic novels. Unlike the written text or cinema, the graphic novel elides strict linear temporality by exploiting the purely graphic and design elements of the medium. Although the text of a graphic novel is subject to the constraints of linguistic processing, and the plot occurs over time, the graphic novel is ultimately a visual art; each page, each panel can be “read” with a freedom which is denied the written text, and made impossible by the moving image.

Many theorists have suggested that adaptations of graphic novels into film are best treated as translations, rather than as re-presentations of the source. I provide an account of the differing treatment of temporal sequence by appeal to the relevance theoretic approach to translation laid out by Gutt (2000). This framework allows for an understanding of the distinctions between the source and the adaptation, and an evaluation of the success of the effort. I will focus on the opening sequence of *Watchmen*, and discuss briefly several other adaptations including *300* and *V for Vendetta*.

Petty Harbour, maybe not too r-full after all: Investigating post-vocalic /r/ deletion and vocalization in an otherwise r-full Newfoundland community

Matt Hunt Gardner (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

This paper investigates linguistic constraints on the variable production of post-vocalic /r/ by a small set of speakers from the *Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove Corpus* (Van Herk, Childs, & Thorburn, 2009). Generally this community is fully r-full, both in past research (synthesized in Clarke 2004, and *in press*) and this corpus; however, a small number of middle-aged and older males in their pronunciation of postvocalic /r/ – realizing it sometimes as /r/ and other times as either /ə/ or /∅/.

Ex: *Speaker q:*

Ah, it wasn't too bad. I'd say give us a half- ['aʊ.ə] 'hour' on the [ar.'tiː.yt] 'arterial' road up ['deɪ.ə] 'there' and we could get to ['wɜːk] 'work'. I'd be ['deɪ.ə] 'there', seven o'clock in the ['mɔː.nɪŋ] 'morning', I could be ['deɪ.ə] 'there' two ['oʊ.ə] 'or' three ['oʊ.ə] 'or' ['foʊ.ə] the next ['mɔː.nɪŋ] 'morning'. So long shifts. And ['deɪ] 'there' was no such thing as eight- ['aʊ.ə] 'hour' shift with me. It could be fifteen ['aʊ.əz] 'hours', some days it went twenty- ['foʊ.ə] 'four' ['aʊ.əz] 'hours'.

In this study over 600 words with canonical post-vocalic /r/ were extracted and coded for linguistic factors proposed in past studies of post-vocalic /r/ deletion (Labov, 1997; Miller, 1998, Ellis, Groff, & Mead, 2006, etc.) Here, preceding vowel and stress were selected as significant factors constraining variation. Tokens of /r/ were almost categorically realized after /a/ and almost categorically deleted after an unstressed schwa. The overall ranking of phonetic environments influencing /r/ was nearly identical to that found by Feagin (1990) in Anniston, AB, and Irwin & Nagy (2007) in Boston, MA. –two formerly r-less communities returning to producing /r/ post-vocalically. In these communities the researchers found that /r/ realization was returning to the community one phonetic environment at a time. The observed pattern of variation in this study therefore suggests Petty Harbour – Maddox Cove, or at least a community of speakers within it, may originally have been r-less but has returned to being (mostly) r-full.

Insights from the on-line learner-task-dictionary interaction

Marie-Josée Hamel (Université d'Ottawa)

I will report on a small scale experimental study which has taken place in the context of the development of an electronic dictionary for advanced learners of French. The aim of the study was to observe the on-line learner-task-dictionary interaction and attempt, using newly available computer technology, to measure the quality of the learner interaction while carrying out specific language learning tasks using electronic dictionaries. My hypothesis is that such an interaction calls for user requirements that generic dictionaries, as opposed to a learner dictionary, cannot entirely fulfill. The experiment did not directly involve our dictionary prototype in testing, but rather the two found best e-dictionaries of our benchmark. At this stage of the prototype's development, the study searched to corroborate empirically user requirements already identified analytically (X and Y, 2007) as a means to validate some content and interface decisions made for constructing dictionary prototype (X, 2008).

Anglicisms: The numbers behind the words

Jesse Harris & Walcir Cardoso (Concordia University & The Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance)

The goal of this study is to examine the frequency of anglicisms in both written and spoken French using corpora collected from two reality television shows and from blogs - data representing two varieties of French: Quebecois French (QF), and France French (FF), in order to determine which variety contains a higher frequency of anglicisms. The following research questions guided this study: (1) Which variety of French uses a higher percentage of anglicisms?; (2) Will one language type (written vs. spoken French) yield a higher frequency of anglicisms than the other?; and (3) Is the distinction between *type*

frequency versus a *token* frequency significant for the quantification of anglicism in the corpora analyzed?

The corpora (including oral and written data) of over 40,000 words were designed especially for this study. Data for spoken French for each variety were gathered from two reality television programs: Star Academy (in France) and Star Académie (in Quebec). Writing samples from French speakers were acquired using text from various Internet blogs.

The analysis results indicate that in 2008/9, anglicisms tend to occur less than one percent (1%) of the time. Furthermore, of this total, the percentage of tokens/types in FF was 0.75% / 0.40%, while QF totaled 1.23% / 0.52%, suggesting that in this study, QC contains more anglicisms than FF. Concerning language type, results also revealed that anglicisms appear more frequently in the written corpus (blogs) when analyzing types, while anglicism tokens were higher in the oral corpus (TV shows). However, when taking language variety into consideration, the numbers imply that for both tokens and types, FF uses a higher percentage of anglicisms in written language while QF employs more anglicisms in spoken language. Thus, it becomes evident that one cannot get a clear picture of anglicism frequency without considering both anglicism tokens and types.

Variation rythmique en français québécois et ontarien

Svetlana Kaminskaia (University of Waterloo)

& Jeff Tennant (The University of Western Ontario)

Dans cette communication, nous appliquons l'Indice de Variabilité des Paires (*Pairwise Variability Index* – PVI) (Grabe *et al.* 1999, Grabe et Low 2002, Thomas et Carter 2006, Lléo *et al.* 2007, White et Mattys 2007) à l'analyse du français québécois et du français ontarien afin de déceler les conséquences possibles du contact des langues pour les patrons rythmiques dans le français ontarien. Les recherches sur le français en Ontario démontrent que la situation démographique minoritaire de la plupart des Franco-Ontariens a des conséquences pour la variation dans le français ontarien : simplification grammaticale, interférence de la langue majoritaire, et influence interlinguistique plus subtile sous forme de convergence (Mougeon et Beniak 1991, Mougeon et Nadasdi 1998). Cependant, à part l'étude de Cichocki et Lepetit (1986) sur l'intonation et celle de Robinson (1968) sur le rythme, nous disposons de peu d'études empiriques portant sur les conséquences du contact du français ontarien avec l'anglais pour la prosodie.

Le corpus utilisé ici pour l'analyse du rythme vient de quatre localités représentant d'une part le français en situation majoritaire, à contact réduit avec l'anglais (Québec (Québec) et Hawkesbury (Ontario)) et d'autre part, le français en situation minoritaire, à contact intensif avec l'anglais (North Bay (Ontario) et Windsor (Ontario)). Nous utilisons l'indice PVI calculé à partir des valeurs de durée, afin de déterminer si les variétés démontrent une rythmicité plus syllabique (comme dans le français européen) ou une rythmicité plus accentuelle (comme en anglais) (Pike 1945, Abercrombie 1967).

Les résultats démontrent que l'hypothèse de l'effet possible du contact linguistique sur les patrons rythmiques observés, effet qui se manifesterait par des PVI plus élevés pour les locuteurs de North Bay et de Windsor, n'est que partiellement appuyée, et qu'il sera nécessaire d'aller au-delà du PVI pour arriver à une comparaison plus complète des patrons rythmiques.

Management of Phonetic Data in a Large Corpus of Spontaneous Speech from Speakers of Nova Scotia English

Michael Kieffe (Dalhousie University)

This paper describes the management of phonetic data from a corpus of spontaneous-speech recordings collected in Nova Scotia. In many acoustic-phonetic studies that focus on the production of specific phonemes, speech samples elicited via textual prompts are typically analyzed instead of spontaneous-speech recordings (e.g., Hillenbrand et al., 1995). Other large speech databases consist of citation-form speech in which prompts are specially designed to ensure phonemic balance (e.g., the TIMIT database, Seneff and Zue, 1988). Although very efficient, it can be argued that results from such studies do not extend to naturally produced conversational speech. However, it is not guaranteed that either the phonemes or the phonetic-contexts of interest are present in a given sample of spontaneous speech. Although this problem can be overcome by collecting a much larger sample, it is very difficult to organize the acoustic data for analysis. Similar to recent acoustic-phonetic studies (e.g., Pitt et al., 2005), these challenges are currently being met at Dalhousie University. Both citation-form and spontaneous speech samples are collected. Textual prompts consist of sentences that target specific vowels as well as those used in the TIMIT database. However, instead of analyzing citation-form samples directly, they are used to adapt speech-recognition software for speaker-dependent use; this software is then used to transcribe spontaneous speech. Once the transcriptions are checked by hand, another software is used for automatic phonemic alignment to the spontaneous speech recordings permitting researchers to create a database of phonemes and phonetic contexts. As data are collected from several regions within Nova Scotia, the database serves to describe dialectal variation in Nova Scotia English. It also allows researchers to answer specific acoustic-phonetic questions with reference to spontaneous speech—e.g., whether current models of vowel production (e.g., Hillenbrand et al., 1995) hold for spontaneous speech or, whether citation-form samples are even valid.

Langues et mondialisation en milieu de travail : quelle place faire aux langues et aux variétés en contact?

Matthieu LeBlanc (Université de Moncton)

Il est de fait que les milieux de travail sont des lieux d'observation tout indiqués pour l'analyse des contacts interlinguistiques et, surtout, des pratiques langagières. L'ethno-sociolinguistique nous permet non seulement d'analyser les pratiques concrètes *in vivo*, mais également de saisir la place qu'occupent les langues et les variétés en contact, les raisons qui motivent leur emploi, les tensions qui sont rattachées à leur usage et la valeur symbolique qu'elles revêtent.

Au terme une étude sociolinguistique de longue haleine menée dans un milieu de travail situé à Moncton (N.-B.), nous montrerons de quelles manières les ressources langagières sont distribuées (souvent inégalement) dans une aire d'usage précise et comment les employés exploitent leur répertoire linguistique. Comme les langues de travail officielles de ce milieu de travail (gouvernemental) sont l'anglais et le français, nous illustrerons, entre autres choses, la place qu'occupent non seulement ces deux langues mais également les diverses variétés de français qui y sont parlées (québécois, acadien, chiac, etc.). Même si l'anglais demeure la principale langue de travail dans ce milieu, les diverses variétés du français se font tout de même entendre, d'autant plus que les

francophones sont majoritaires dans ce cas précis. Devant cet état de choses, quelles places occupent les variétés acadiennes et le chiac, p. ex., sachant fort bien que la variété la plus valorisée, tant à l'écrit qu'à l'oral, demeure le standard? Comment les francophones naviguent-ils, le cas échéant, entre les diverses variétés de français? Comment ces variétés sont-elles perçues? Dans ce milieu de travail où les francophones sont appelés à avoir des relations quotidiennes avec des francophones d'ailleurs (Québec, Ontario, Europe, etc.), comment se gère le contact des variétés à l'ère de la mondialisation? Existe-t-il une hiérarchie entre les variétés? Autrement dit, dans ce contexte où les formes standard du français sont valorisées au détriment des variétés régionales, quelle place occupent ces variétés au travail? Leur emploi donne-t-il lieu à des tensions et à des sentiments d'ambivalence qui s'articulent autour de la valeur accordée à chaque variété? Sous le poids du standard, les variétés tendent-elles à disparaître? Voilà autant de questions que nous aborderons dans cette communication.

À noter que nous ne présenterons, dans cette communication, que quelques aspects de notre étude, qui touche à plusieurs autres questions relatives aux langues en milieu de travail.

Written Cantonese in Hong Kong Advertisements

Anthony C. Lister (Fredericton)

Written Cantonese has a long history going back three hundred years or more, but it has traditionally only appeared in the printed forms of local operas, folk songs and some kinds of popular fiction, and has been considered low class and even vulgar. However, its use has grown over the last forty years in Hong Kong, where Cantonese is the mother tongue of most of the Chinese population, and it now appears in newspapers and magazines, especially those aimed at the youth market and those dealing with entertainment and pop culture. A recent development, that has given increased prestige to the dialect, has been the attention that it has received from scholars, resulting in new grammar books, dictionaries and academic studies.

One area where written Cantonese is now prominently used is advertising, and this paper concentrates specifically on advertisements in the Hong Kong Metro (the MTR). The adverts, many of which are for products or services from some of the world's leading brand name companies, illustrate some of the differences between Cantonese and the national language, as well as the various strategies for writing Cantonese words for which there are no standard characters.

However, Mandarin is still the prestige form of written Chinese in the territory and this is reflected in the adverts of which about only 10% on average contain any Cantonese. Moreover, although at first sight they appear to reproduce authentic spoken Cantonese, the possibly low ratio of Cantonese to Mandarin characters might indicate otherwise.

Shall We Laugh?: Mexican Perceptions towards its African Descendants

Maria de la luz Matus-Mendoza (Drexel University)

When anyone thinks of Mexico, most of the time people think of a country populated by Spaniard descendants, mestizos and indigenous groups. However, African descendants have lived in the country ever since colonial times. Although few scholars have studied the African presence in Mexico, the interest in the subject has increased in the last couple of

years especially by Hernández Cuevas. This paper attempts to answer the question whether there are prejudices against African descendants in Mexico or not. This is done analyzing newspaper editorials which were written about a controversy between Mexico and the United States regarding a postage stamp release in Mexico in 2005. This postage stamp was celebrating a popular comic book in Mexico named Memín Pinguín. The editorials are analyzed here using critical linguistics that indicates the way discourse is ideologically influenced by, and can itself influence, power relations in society. This analysis will use Brown and Yule's three-step aspect to interpret the writer's meaning when he or she produced the discourse. "First, to try to work out what the intention of the writer is; second, using general knowledge, at the level both of facts about the world and knowledge which you assume you will be expected to know in the situation; and third, determining, the inferences which need to be made" (Brown and Yule, 1983: 225).

A Metrical Analysis of Stress Assignment in Rural Jordanian Arabic Osama Omari (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

The present paper examines the lexical stress-assignment pattern of Rural Jordanian Arabic (RJA), a dialect spoken in North of Jordan, within Hayes' (1995) metrical stress theory. It investigates the foot-type and the other parameters that need to be set in order to predict the location of stress in this dialect.

The study shows that the location of stress in RJA is predictable from a set of parameters, namely left-to-right moraic trochees, mora extrametricality, main stress: rightmost, and a ban on degenerate feet. Further, the analysis of RJA stress system shows that secondary feet are crucial to predict the location of stress although no acoustic correlates of secondary stress are attested. The study shows that the reality of the abstract foot structure assumed here can be supported by facts of phonological processes such as syncope. I have argued that syncope is a foot-based process that can apply both inside and outside the foot domain. However, in the latter case, it can only apply if resyllabification does not occur across the foot boundary.

Sea ice knowledge in Labrador Inuttut: overwhelmed by English Paul Pigott (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

The English-only policy of the non-Inuit government officials on the Labrador coast began quietly more than a century ago when German-Moravian, Inuktitut-speaking store clerks were replaced by a free market fur trading system lead mainly by Scottish, English-speaking merchant traders. Policemen, magistrates, and jailers followed with a clatter of English justice for the natives. But the 'Anglicization' of Northern Labrador became even more overt in the brutish 1950-1980 period when seven-year-old Inuk children were forcibly interned for ten months of the year at boarding schools where they were beaten and starved as punishment for speaking Inuttut. The impact of this perverse cultural experiment, directed by Newfoundland government and paid for by Canadian taxpayers, is a dramatic decline in the use of Inuktitut in all parts of Inuit society. Inuttut is the unique dialect of the Eskimo-Aleut language family (85-thousand speakers) found only in Labrador and Eastern Ungava Bay. After Greenlandic, Labrador Inuttut was the second Inuktitut dialect to be written, with Inuk letters going back to the early 1800's. At one time Inuttut was spoken by thousands of Inuit and perhaps several hundred settlers: white

missionaries, merchants and trappers. Today fewer than 300 speakers remain. Recent linguistic field work in four of Labrador's Inuit communities shows that the extent of the damage is great. Twenty-three Inuttut speakers were tested for their knowledge of sea ice conditions in Inuttut. The language family is known to contain large vocabularies for ice type, formation, disintegration and animal uses. A 2007 sea ice dictionary in Alaskan Inupiat contains more than 140 such terms. A review of several general dictionaries on Inuttut dating back to 1864 revealed more than 120 possible sea ice terms. In April that list was revised extensively following more than 20 hours of interviews with speakers ranging in age from 48 to 76. The group tested identified a total of 115 words. Examples include *âjugak*, which describes a lead: a sizeable crack in the sea ice that can be used for hunting, fishing and safe travel when the ice is melting in the Spring, and *aputainnak*, 'snow on top of water that hides holes in the ice'. Several Elders were insistent that younger Inuit should know the signs for *aputainnak*. The reality is that most young Inuk hunters are not learning the words. My initial results show a correlation between a speaker's age and the extent of her or his ice vocabulary. The youngest speaker interviewed understood fewer than twenty terms. This is not because he is unaware of various sea ice conditions: as hunter he knew what I was asking about. For example he did not recognize the word *tuvak*, a general term for thick winter ice that can be travelled on, but he was certainly aware of that condition and described it periphrastically: *uKumaittuk sikuk*, 'heavy ice.' By contrast speakers with the most knowledge use specialized terms for almost every type of ice condition. The highest number came from a couple in Nain, both in their seventies. Over the course of two-hour interview they used 57 different terms like, *tâlinginik* 'dark/black patches on distant ice that look like seals'. The research project is ongoing. My paper will expand on initial results mentioned above and conclude with a discussion of the ethical/methodological challenges as I prepare for two more field sessions in 2010.

Acquisition de l'espagnol par des apprenants d'une langue en contact

Cynthia Potvin (Université Laval / Université de Moncton)

Afin de bien préparer la relève aux réalités mondiales, les systèmes d'éducation primaires, secondaires, collégiaux et universitaires mettent à la disposition de la clientèle étudiante l'apprentissage, obligatoire ou non, d'une troisième langue. Cette mesure comporte des conséquences intéressantes lorsque l'apprenant de cette troisième langue est un locuteur natif d'une langue en contact. Le but de la présente communication est donc d'explorer certains enjeux posés aux études théoriques et empiriques en acquisition des langues secondes et étrangères à l'heure d'examiner les particularités d'acquisition de l'espagnol par des apprenants locuteurs natifs d'une langue en contact. Pour ce faire, nous exposerons brièvement deux défis que peuvent rencontrer les professeurs d'espagnol qui enseignent à des apprenants locuteurs natifs du français acadien. Ces défis se résument comme suit : transferts de la langue maternelle (L1, français acadien) et/ou de la langue seconde (L2, anglais) et différentes utilisations du mode subjonctif de la L1 dans l'acquisition du subjonctif de la troisième langue (L3, espagnol). Nous poursuivrons ensuite par discuter de l'impact de ces défis sur les études théoriques et empiriques en acquisition des langues secondes et étrangères. Cette phase nous permettra d'explorer certaines explications à tendance générative dans le domaine de l'acquisition des langues secondes et étrangères afin de déterminer celle qui semble la plus propice pour mener une étude en acquisition de l'espagnol L3 par des apprenants locuteurs natifs d'une langue en contact.

Nous terminerons notre exposé en examinant les retombées, positives ou négatives, de l'application d'une étude récente en acquisition des langues (Yang, 2002) pour expliquer les particularités d'acquisition de l'espagnol par des apprenants locuteurs natifs d'une langue en contact.

**Auxiliary Selection in 16th Century French Grammars:
Imposing norms in the face of grammatical change**

Douglas L. Rideout (Université de Montréal)

The proposed presentation looks at how French auxiliary selection was perceived by grammarians when the first attempts to standardize the language occurred in the course of the 16th Century. The linguistic evidence available from period sources suggests that French was part of a pan-Romance tendency to replace *être* with *avoir* (ARTFL Project, Posner 1996), a tendency that was stronger in the north of the country than in the south. Period grammarians, able to access only regional data and with no means of detecting very broad patterns of change, necessarily had a very different perspective than we are afforded today. Furthermore, individual interpretations of the data available to them was undoubtedly coloured by the mandate they had assumed as writers of grammar books and purveyors of linguistic norms. The goal of this paper will be to compare the writings of a series of period grammarians, starting with John Palsgrave (1530) and finishing with Antoine Cauchie (1586), in order to explore if and how the changes in auxiliary use characteristic of the period were dealt with by different writers, each with a particular geographic and individual bias. It will be seen that grammarians' attempts to come to terms with auxiliary selection were hampered by an unclear understanding of both verb conjugation and grammatical voice, as well as by the regional and dialectal varieties of French to which they were exposed.

**Le vernaculaire Acadien ou le français de référence?
Un projet de recherche-action avec les jeunes Acadiens**

Barry Rowe & Marcelle Boudreau (Université Sainte-Anne)

Cette communication présentera les résultats d'un projet de recherche action qui a eu lieu en Nouvelle-Écosse. Le but était de découvrir si la valorisation du vernaculaire acadien encourage l'utilisation du français à l'école.

Dans une région minoritaire francophone, la langue de la majorité est très présente dans la communication orale et écrite des élèves. Selon Landry, Deveau et Allard (2006) la position identitaire de l'élève sur le continuum francophone / anglophone varie selon ses contacts. En plus, selon la recherche de Boudreau et Perrot (2005) il y a des faiblesses à l'oral signalées par les enseignants et que les difficultés de vocabulaires sont souvent influencé par les termes anglais.

L'école se trouve dans une région acadienne mais la plupart des ressources pédagogiques viennent de la francophonie canadienne, surtout du Québec. Souvent, à cause du manque de sens et de pertinence, c'est difficile de capter l'intérêt des élèves. Plusieurs ne font pas l'effort d'apprendre de nouvelles expressions francophones car ils pensent que personne de la région ne parle de cette manière dont s'ils les utilisent, personne ne va les comprendre. C'est pour cette raison que, souvent, ils optent pour les expressions anglophones car tout le monde va comprendre.

Afin d'éliminer les mots anglais de leur vocabulaire lorsqu'ils communiquent en français, on a voulu exploiter le vernaculaire acadien afin de montrer aux élèves qu'il est acceptable de l'utiliser à l'école. Pendant la durée de cette recherche-action, on a pu constater que oui, la valorisation du vernaculaire Acadien encourage l'utilisation du français à l'école. Après les premières semaines, on voyait déjà une différence lorsque les élèves se parlaient. Il y avait moins de mots anglais et plusieurs faisaient un effort pour réduire les mots anglais et de trouver des mots français.

Les résultats de ce projet seront intéressants pour des personnes qui sont impliqués en enseignement du français en milieu minoritaire et/ou des personnes qui s'intéressent aux registres / dialectes / variantes / accents des langues. À la fin de l'étude, il semble avoir moins d'insécurité linguistique de la part des élèves.

Blogging and Gender Identity: Iranian teenagers on the Net

Reza Samar & Zohreh Khezri (Tarbiat Modares University)

The role of identity in adolescent development has been particularly important as youth come to know and define themselves in ways that were not possible during their childhood (Calvert, 2002). As adolescents seek to define who they are at the beginning of the 21st century, their forums for self-discovery have expanded. One place that adolescents now spend a considerable amount of time is in online settings, and these online venues have been linked to identity exploration (Turkle, 1995). One of the newest venues for exploration is the weblog, a reversed-chronological online journal, which is used extensively in a variety of ways by teenagers, but often as a personal journal or ongoing commentary about oneself (Huffaker, 2004). Gendered language use in these contexts is claimed to be not very different from that of face-to-face interactions and includes similar features of "verbosity, assertiveness, use of profanity, politeness (and rudeness), typed representations of smiling and laughter, and degree of interactive engagement" (Herring, 2000). There are, however, differences in the modes of blogging which may have consequences for language use or social interactions, specially in societies like Iran where in real life situations gender identity is obligatorily expressed by the country's dress code system.

In this study, by conducting a content analysis of randomly-selected blogs, we examine issues of online identity and language use among Tehrani male and female teenagers who create and maintain their personal weblogs. Online identity and language use were examined in terms of the disclosure of personal information, sexual identity, emotive features, and semantic themes. Our findings indicate that Tehrani male and female teenagers presented themselves similarly in their blogs, often revealing personal information such as their real names, ages, and locations. Males more than females employed an active and resolute style of language, and were more likely to present themselves as an authority. But females tended to use more emoticons and polite language. The results suggest that in virtual speech communities teenagers stay closer to reality in their online expressions of self than has previously been suggested, and that these explorations involve issues such as learning about their identity that commonly occur during the adolescent years.

Native and non-native 'Hedging' on the Net
Reza Samar & Leila Tajik (Tarbiat Modares University)

Hedging, which indicates the writer's decision to present information as an opinion rather than as a fact (Hyland, 1998), has been one of the frequently discussed issues in the field of applied linguistics in general and in contrastive academic rhetoric in particular (Lewin, 2005). Despite the importance attached to the use of hedges in academic writing, this is an area that L2 students often find extremely problematic (Holmes, 1988); a reason might be rare priority given to these items in L2 curricula. Consequently, they are difficult for L2 learners to produce and may fail to attract attention when encountered in texts. L2 students may simply focus on propositional information, overriding the epistemic significance of the hedged items (Hyland, 2000). This study, therefore, was conducted to shed more light on the differences between native and non-natives' uses of hedging and its different realizations in L1 and L2. Information on the range and frequency of such devices in different genres of academic writing can provide a basis for the selection and inclusion of necessary devices in L2 teaching materials. Since as stated by Holmes (1984, cited in Vassileva, 2001), "modifying the illocutionary force of speech acts involves increasing or decreasing the strength with which the illocutionary point is presented", the theoretical framework employed for the purpose of the present analysis follows speech act theory.

Thirty one electronic native and non-native forum TEFL messages are thoroughly reviewed and the importance, frequency and realization of hedging in those messages are discussed. The motivation to study electronic messages, in this respect, is mostly due to very few, if any, attempts to examine electronic hedging. The participants are 22 native speakers of English mostly from England, USA, and Australia and 9 non-native speakers of English from Korea, China, and Japan. The study employed both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The findings show considerable differences in the overall distribution of hedges throughout the native and non-native messages; natives hedge more than non-natives. The comparisons additionally indicate differences in the frequency of certain types of linguistic devices. The variations might be related to different rhetorical and educational traditions or a view to preserving cultural identity when using English for international communication. If validated on a larger scale, these findings have implications for reading and writing scientific articles.

Territorialisation comme stratégie de survie des langues autochtones au Canada

Alain Flaubert Takam (Dalhousie University)

La territorialisation linguistique peut être définie comme la concentration d'une langue dans un « territoire » bien défini et non la dispersion de ses locuteurs. La concentration linguistique correspond donc à peu près au principe de territorialité linguistique (Loubier, 2004) d'après lequel il est nécessaire pour chaque langue d'être la langue majoritaire à l'intérieur des limites géographiques précises pour mieux résister à la domination des langues plus prestigieuses. L'on constate que les langues autochtones du Canada perdent progressivement du terrain sous la poussée du français et surtout de l'anglais, comme les différents recensements de la population depuis 1951 semblent le confirmer. Nous examinerons donc la situation globale de ces langues dans une perspective écolinguistique, c'est-à-dire en tenant compte du fait que les langues puissantes et prestigieuses dominent et phagocytent les langues minoritaires. L'on garde aussi à l'esprit

que, comme des organismes vivants, les langues ont un cycle de vie : elles naissent, vivent, déclinent et meurent si les conditions de leur survie ne sont plus assurées. Si nous partons de l'observation que lorsqu'une communauté linguistique est concentrée dans une ère géographique donnée, elle présente plus de garanties pour sa survie et jouit d'une certaine homogénéité et d'une certaine viabilité qu'une autre communauté linguistique dont les locuteurs se dispersent, alors, nous nous disons que la territorialisation linguistique peut être la base d'une meilleure vitalité ethnolinguistique endogène, elle-même étant la base de l'approche ascendante de l'aménagement linguistique.

A Socio-acoustic Inquiry into Some Suprasegmental Variation in Canadian English

Yves Talla Sando (Montreal School Board)

Empirically-based surveys on suprasegmentals, let alone suprasegmental variation in Canadian English accents, are difficult to come by. Conversely, on the segmental level, studies on regionalisms or variation in Canadian English abound (cf. Esling and Warkentyne 1993, Labov and Boberg 2006, Boberg 2005, etc.). That prosody in Canadian English has not been fully addressed or given thorough or enough consideration does not however imply that this North American variety of English has no identifiable prosodic peculiarities that set it apart from other varieties of English around the world. Intonation and other features extending beyond the level of segments (cf. paralinguistic features) have generally and impressionistically been equated with those of neighbouring American English, probably by virtue of geographical vicinity or historical links. The very few research surveys on suprasegmental variation in Canadian English, and on intonation in particular, are very recent ones and include for instance Shokeir (2008) and Talla Sando (2009a, 2009b). The present study, blending auditory and acoustic data analysis methods, investigates paratonic variation within Canadian English. It looks particularly at major and minor paratones (cf. Brown 1977, Couper-Kuhlen 1986, Wennerstrom 2001, etc.). By Canadian English, reference is made to accents of English spoken in 8 of the 10 Canadian provinces (Alberta, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Ontario, Prince Edward, Quebec and Saskatchewan). Data for the study emanate, first, from personal interviews and, secondly, are partly drawn from IDEA (the International Dialects of English Archives). The data from IDEA consist of two main reading passages ("Comma gets a cure" and "The rainbow") as well as spontaneous speech produced by speakers. The analyses consisted in listening to the recordings and measuring such acoustic parameters as pitch, intensity and duration on utterance-initial and utterance-final lexical items and comparing means across social variables like gender, age, speaking style and geographical origin. Preliminary results reveal that paratone, be it major or minor, in Canadian English is clearly identifiable in read speech in comparison with spontaneously-produced speech. There was another tendency observed in the data whereby male speakers ended their utterances lower at the bottom of their pitch ranges than female speakers.

Interdental Stopping in the Battery Dialect of Newfoundland: A Possible Identity Crisis?

Maia Williamson & Walcir Cardoso (Concordia University)

The social structure of a community has a significant influence on one's social network and identity. For instance, cohorts with multiple similarities in their social structure, especially

those in low-status communities that are socially isolated, tend to have similar dialectal features (e.g., Chambers, 2003; Lippi-Green, 1989; Milroy, 1982). This paper investigates the social and linguistic factors that contribute to the stratification of the voiced interdental /ð/ (a *marker* in Labovian terms) in the Battery, a small community outside of St. John's, Newfoundland (Canada). Once a small out-port fishing community known to be socially marginalized and segregated, the Battery is today a highly sought after area characterized by rampant development and expensive real estate, while still retaining some of its fishing village charm.

This study adopts a variationist methodology for data collection and analysis, employing standard sociolinguistic interview protocols across a stylistic hierarchy to investigate the variable production of [ð] and its less prestigious variant [d]. The results of a multivariate analysis (via Goldvarb X) show that there was a significant intergenerational dialect shift to an increase in the use of the more prestigious variant [ð] from the older to the younger Battery natives. In addition, the results indicate a social stratification of /ð/ between members of the younger generation: Those still residing in the Battery patterned similarly to the older Battery natives in their use of the low-status identity marker [d] whereas those living outside of the community use the [d] significantly less. The results also reveal that there is significant variation in the use of /ð/ based on gender and style. The linguistic constraints that affected the stratification of /ð/ included word-internal position and word type, also found to be significant in other studies of interdental stopping (e.g., Dubois & Horvath, 2003).

Analyse sémantique de la structure discursive en français standard

Amal Zgati (Université Laval)

Notre travail vise à étudier de proche le fonctionnement de la marque séquentielle (MS) « d'un côté...de l'autre, rangée parmi les corrélats anaphoriques, pour exposer notre idée à savoir que l'existence d'une proposition, précédant la structure : d'un côté S1, de l'autre ou d'autre côté S2, que nous l'appelons « séquence initiale » (SI), est forcément indispensable à la délimitation des propositions et à l'actualisation des structures corrélées.

Le comportement ambivalent de cette marque est motivant parce qu'il nous offre des angles d'analyse diversifiés en s'appuyant sur des études fécondes comme l'approche émanantique des marqueurs référentiels et processus interprétatifs effectuée par G. Kleiber (1990), l'analyse des mécanismes anaphoriques sous-jacents aux indéfinis « autre et même » que M. Van Peteghem (1997) propose et aussi l'étude de G. Turco & D. Coltier (1988) sur les agents doubles de l'organisation textuelle : les marqueurs d'intégration linéaire dans laquelle ils expliquent que la simple présence d'un élément implique automatiquement un autre élément corrélé. Cette relation de nécessité est à la base de la fonction d'empaquetage.

L'objectif de notre contribution est de discuter le rôle de la marque séquentielle (MS) en mettant l'éclairage sur ses traits sémantiques et sa valeur référentielle et spatiale, de démontrer que la suppression d'un côté ou de l'autre est possible sans que l'intelligibilité du propos soit sensiblement affectée cela nous permet d'avancer l'idée que la fonction de la (MS) n'est pas essentielle et que la présence de la (SI) est nécessaire pour articuler la relation qui unit les deux arguments (S1) et (S2), rendre certaines structures corrélées comme :

- 1 * $[\emptyset$ [d'un côté et de l'autre (S1), (S2)]],
- 2 * $[\emptyset$ [d'autre côté (S2)]],
- 3 * $[\emptyset$ [d'un côté (S1)]],

acceptables et nous obtiendrons les structures suivantes :

- 1' [(SI)[d'un côté et d'autre côté (S1),(S2)]],
- 2' [(SI=S1) [d'autre côté (S2)]],
- 3' [(SI=S2) [d'un côté (S1)]] ;

sans oublier de mentionner que la (SI) participe à la détermination de type d'emploi de la (MS) et à la constitution des prédicats.