Program Booklet

Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics

March 16-17, 2012

The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Program Booklet

Compiled by

Graduate Association of Chinese Linguistics

Welcome to the Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics!

The Graduate Association of Chinese Linguistics (GACL) and the Institute for Chinese Studies (ICS) at The Ohio State University are absolutely delighted to host the **Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (WICL)**, a 1-1/2 day event that is taking place on **16-17 March 2012** in Hagerty Hall, on The Ohio State University campus.

This workshop aims to explore the different innovations in studying variations in the Yue (粵 'Cantonese (broadly construed)') group of the Chinese language. Cantonese linguistics workshops and conferences are generally held in mainland China, Macao and Hong Kong. To the best of our knowledge, WICL is the first North America event to be held solely for scholarly exchanges on research on Cantonese linguistics. We are doubly gratified that colleagues in North America as well as abroad have joined us at this workshop, and in a few cases, even via Skype, as we explore and harness current technological breakthroughs for exchange of ideas.

We have put together what we hope is an exciting and informative program, with opportunities to talk among presenters and attendees. Through the generosity of our sponsors, we are able to host this event with free registration and open to The Ohio State University community and the general public.

We have three keynote speakers, two from the U.S. and one from Hong Kong. They are Professor Anne Oi-Kan Yue 余靄芹 (University of Washington), Professor Alan C. L. Yu 余梓麟 (University of Chicago), and Professor Benjamin Ka-Yin T'sou 鄒嘉彥 (Hong Kong Institute of Education).

Presenters at WICL come from three continents (North America, Europe and Asia), and five countries/regions (U.S., Canada, United Kingdom, Italy, and Hong Kong). The presenters include both faculty members and graduate students. And among the graduate student presenters are current OSU graduate students as well as OSU alumni who either are on tenure-track (or about to be on tenure-track), or already tenured at other institutions, both domestic and abroad. In fact, Professor Anne Yue, for example, is an early alumna of Ohio State, with the distinction of being the second recipient of a Ph.D. degree from the Department of Linguistics. Hence, we are thrilled to be able to welcome Professor Yue back to her alma mater in the Buckeye State!

We thank our sponsors for their generosity in making this event possible, and all those who have chipped in, volunteered, and helped in preparing for this event. We look forward to a fruitful and productive event, and thank you all for your participation and attendance at this workshop on March 16 and 17! We welcome you—or welcome you back, as the case may be—to our Buckeye State and to The Ohio State University!

Sincerely,

Marjorie *Tsz-Him*

Marjorie K.M. Chan & Tsz-Him Tsui
Co-Chairs, WICL Organizing Committe

On behalf of the WICL Team:

Tsz-Him Tsui and Marjorie K.M. Chan, co-chairs, WICL Organizing Committee
Yutian Tan, Litong Chen, and Zhiguo Xie, members, WICL Organizing Committee
Jeffrey Chan, ICS Assistant Director

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And our many thanks to all our colleagues, fellow students and staff members for their help and
well wishes for a successful event. Assistance includes chairing sessions, hosting presenters,
giving rides to and from the Columbus International Airport, passing along the announcement of
the event, processing all kinds of paperwork, encouraging both graduate and undergraduate
students to attend, etc., etc.!

Table of Contents

General Information

1. Workshop On-Site Registration

Hagerty Hall (Building 037, 1775 College Road) - Room 046:

March 16 (Friday):   8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., 12:45 - 4:00 p.m.
March 17 (Saturday):   9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

- Conference Program Packets, with Program Booklet, name tag, etc. are available at the on-site registration table for presenters, session chairs, organizers, and attendees who signed up online by Sunday, 11 March 2012.

2. Session Locations

Keynote Lectures: All three keynote lectures are held in Hagerty Hall (HH), Room 046. (Building 037, 1775 College Road)

- The keynote lectures are part of the Institute for Chinese Studies' "Cultures in Contact" lecture series.

Main Sessions: The parallel sessions on Day 1 are held in Hagerty Hall (HH):

HH 046:   A-Sessions
HH 050:   B-Sessions

Corpora & Technology Tools Workshop

- The workshop session on Day 2 is held in Hagerty Hall 046.

3. Contact Information

Dept. of East Asian Languages and Literatures	Office Hours:	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Hagerty Hall 398	Phone:	(614) 292-5816
The Ohio State University	Fax:	(614) 292-3225
1775 College Rd.	Email:	deall@osu.edu
Columbus, Ohio 43210	Website:	deall.osu.edu

Emergency Services
- Police, Fire, Medical Emergency: Call 911

4. Proceedings Volume

The workshop organizers plan to publish a proceedings volume, and will explore a couple of options, among them the inaugural issue of GACL Working Papers, which will be available online for wide distribution. We will discuss this briefly during the workshop and more details will be disseminated after the workshop.

5. Wi-Fi Access at The Ohio State University

The Ohio State University campus provides complimentary wi-fi service through AT&T for visitors. The AT&T Wi-Fi Service (SSID: **attwifi**) does not require users to log in and is unsecure (no encryption).

How to Connect

Connect to "**attwifi**" service set identifier (SSID) from a Wi-Fi enabled device.
 (Note: AT&T devices may connect automatically.)

Launch your device's web browser (if not automatically prompted)

Click on "**Free AT&T Wi-Fi**" and agree to the "**Acceptable Use**" policy

Click "**Get Connected**"

Full information on Visitor Wireless Access (attwifi) is at:

   http://8help.osu.edu/4377.html

6. Information for Visitors to The Ohio State University, Columbus Campus

The University provides very helpful information for visitors at:

   http://www.osu.edu/visitors/columbus.php

If you plan to walk around the campus a bit, the University's brochure, "Columbus Campus: A Self-Guided Walking Tour" is very informative:

   http://www.osu.edu/visitors/WalkingTour.pdf

Campus maps are available online at:

   http://www.osu.edu/map/

7. Campus Dining and Shopping

The Ohio State University's Visitors page is very informative on both campus dining and shopping as well as some nearby dining and shopping locations:

   http://www.osu.edu/visitors/entertainment.php

Office of Student Life also provides an informative page on the nearby neighborhoods:

   http://offcampus.osu.edu/off-campus-housing/finding-a-place-to-live/becoming-familiar-with-columbus/

An up-to-date, extensive listing of "Columbus Dining and Entertainment" is provided by OSU's Sexuality Studies Program, as part of their Spring Quarter 2012 symposium:

   https://sexualitystudies.osu.edu/SamuelStewardSymposium/Local

Program

Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (WICL)

16-17 March 2012

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Program

Friday, 16 March 2012 – Morning Sessions	
Hagerty Hall 046 (Building 037, 1775 College Road)	
8:30-8:45	Registration: Free (Presenters pick up their program packet, and attendees pick up their name tag.) *Refreshments*
8:45-8:55	*Welcoming remarks* Prof. Robert A. Fox, SoLV Innovation project leader & Chair of Speech & Hearing Sciences; GACL president, Rongbin Zheng; GACL co-advisor Prof. Zhiguo Xie; WICL co-chair Tsz-Him Tsui, and ICS director Prof. Marjorie K.M. Chan

	Hagerty Hall 046 (1775 College Road)	**Hagerty Hall 050** (1775 College Road)
9:00 - 10:30	Session 1-A. Morphophonology Chair: Prof. Etsuyo Yuasa (Ohio State U.)	Session 1-B. Sound Change in Progress Chair: Prof. Mineharu Nakayama (Ohio State U.)
9:00-9:30	Picus Ding (U. of Hong Kong) Utterance-final particles with grammaticalized intonation in Cantonese	Litong Chen (Ohio State U.) On sandhi of zero-onset in New Guangzhou Cantonese
9:30-10:00	Tsz-Him Tsui (Ohio State U.) Adapting stop-liquid clusters into Cantonese	Roxana Suk-Yee Fung (Hong Kong Polytechnic U.) The tonal space change of Hong Kong Cantonese and its implications in tone merger
10:00-10:30	Zheng-sheng Zhang (San Diego State U.) Morpho-phonological variation in Cantonese	May Chan (U. of Oxford) Innovative sound changes in Hong Kong Cantonese: The case of syllable-final consonant alveolarisation

10:45 - 11:45	**Hagerty Hall 046** (1775 College Road)
	Keynote Speaker 1: Professor Alan C. L. Yu 余梓麟 (University of Chicago) Title: "Determinants of Cantonese syllable wellformedness" Chair: Prof. Robert A. Fox (Ohio State U.)
11:45-1:00	*~ Lunch ~*

Friday, 16 March 2012 – Afternoon Sessions

	Hagerty Hall 046 (1775 College Road)	**Hagerty Hall 050** (1775 College Road)
12:30-1:00	Registration: Free (New attendees pick up name tag.)	
1:00 - 2:30	Session 2-A. Sociolinguistics: Overseas Communities Chair: Prof. Donald Winford (Ohio State U.)	Session 2-B. Sociolinguistics: Hong Kong & Guangzhou Chair: Liangyue Lu (Syracuse U. & Ohio State U.)
1:00-1:30	Naomi Nagy, Tiffany Chung, Josephine Tong (U. of Toronto) Classifier variation and change in Toronto Heritage Cantonese	Cathy Wong & Roxana Suk-Yee Fung (Hong Kong Polytechnic U.) The "ins and outs" of English loanwords in Hong Kong Cantonese
1:30-2:00	Dana Scott Bourgerie (Brigham Young U.) Hakka-Cantonese dialect contact in the Chinese diaspora: Notes on the Tahitian Chinese community	Ka-Yu Tsang (Ohio State U.) Puns and nicknames of political figures in Hong Kong: A linguistic humor study
2:00-2:30	Genevieve Yuek-Ling Leung (U. of Pennsylvania) Hoisan-wa reclaimed: Chinese American language maintenance in contemporary sociolinguistics perspective	Jing Yan (The Columbus Academy) Regional identity, language attitude, and writing Cantonese as everyday lifestyle in Guangzhou (Canton City)
2:30-2:45	*~ Coffee and Tea Break ~*	

	Hagerty Hall 046 (1775 College Road)	**Hagerty Hall 050** (1775 College Road)
2:45 - 4:45	Session 3-A. Tones Chair: Dr. Puisan Wong (Ohio State U.)	Session 3-B. Morphosyntax Chair: Dr. Chunsheng Yang (Northwestern U.)
2:45-3:15	Seth Wiener & Tsz-Him Tsui (Ohio State U.) The psychoacoustics and production of Yue lexical tones by Wu and Minnan speakers	Carine Yuk-Man Yiu (H.K. U. of Science & Technology) Reconstructing early Chinese dialectal grammar: A study of directional verbs in Cantonese
3:15-3:45	Jackson L. Lee (U. of Chicago) The representation of contour tones in Cantonese	Chak-Lam Colum Yip (U. of Washington) On the syntax of classifier reduplication in Cantonese and Mandarin
3:45-4:15	Holman Tse (U. of Pittsburgh) Lexical tone effects on voice onset time in Cantonese	Chi-Fung Lam (Ca' Foscari U. of Venice) A cartographic approach to the verb-framed versus satellite-framed distinction
4:15-4:45	Kwan Hin Cheung (Hong Kong Polytechnic U.) The mechanism of tone-melody match for tone preservation in Cantonese songs	Yutian Tan (Ohio State U.) Analysis of the inflected -*k* coda of personal pronouns in the Xinhui dialect

	Friday, 16 March 2012 – Afternoon Sessions *(cont'd)*
5:00 - 6:00	**Hagerty Hall 046** (1775 College Road)
	Keynote Speaker 2: Professor Anne Oi-Kan Yue 余靄芹 (University of Washington) Title: "An integrated approach to research on languages and dialects: Yue language as an example" Chair: Prof. Marjorie K.M. Chan (Ohio State U.)
6:30	*Buffet Banquet at the Ohio Union* *Great Hall Meeting Room 2, Ohio Union* *(Building 161, 1739 N. High Street – diagonally across from Hagerty Hall)*

	Saturday, 17 March 2012 – Morning Sessions
	Hagerty Hall 046 (1775 College Road)
9:00-9:30	Registration: Free (New attendees pick up their name tag.) *Refreshments*
9:30 - 10:30	**Keynote Speaker 3: Professor Benjamin Ka-Yin T'sou 鄒嘉彥** (Hong Kong Institute of Education) Title: "Yue-Cantonese and language contact: Some recalcitrant and incipient linguistic variations" Chair: Prof. Zhiguo Xie (Ohio State U.)

Saturday, 17 March 2012 – Morning Sessions *(cont'd)*	
10:40 – 1:00	**Hagerty Hall 046** (1775 College Road)

Corpora & Technology Tools Workshop

Chairs: *Profs. Marjorie K.M. Chan and Zhiguo Xie (Ohio State U.)*

- Sharing among students and colleagues of knowledge on tech tools and Cantonese corpora, especially corpora that have recently been developed or are currently under development and will be available for public access upon completion.

Cantonese Corpora ─ Searchable Databases Recent, New, or Under Construction:

10: 40: Prof. Andy Chin (HK Institute of Education) – via Skype: A transcribed spoken corpus of mid-20th century Cantonese

11:00: Prof. Anthony Pak Hin Kong (U. of Central Florida) – via Skype: Cantonese Chinese Corpus of Oral Narratives (CANON) with morphological tagging

11:10: Prof. Roxana Fung (HK Polytechnic U.): Hong Kong Cantonese Adult Language Corpus (HKCAC)

11:25: Prof. Carine Yuk-Man Yiu (HK U. of Science and Technology): Early Cantonese Tagged Database

11:45: Prof. Benjamin T'sou (HK Institute of Education): Hobson's Cantonese dialogues

12:05: Open discussion: Some Cantonese corpora that are currently available; other on-going corpus-development projects

Cantonese Corpora ─ Corpora Development Tech Tools:

12:20: Prof. Marjorie K.M. Chan: Using *Praat* for Cantonese ToBI (C_ToBI) annotation and *Akustyk* as add-on to *Praat* for language variation studies of Cantonese vowels.

12:40: Open discussion: Corpora creation and software (OCR software, etc.); other tech tools

12:55-1:00	*Closing remarks*

Abstracts

1. Plenary Sessions

   - Keynote Speakers

2. Main Sessions

Determinants of Cantonese syllable wellformedness

Alan C. L. Yu

Phonology Laboratory, University of Chicago

The study of phonotactics is a central topic in phonology (Chomsky and Halle, 1965, 1968; Coleman and Pierrehumbert, 1997; Hayes and Wilson, 2008). While Cantonese phonotactics has been the object of much discussion (Hashimoto, 1972; Bauer, 1985; Cheung, 1986; Yip, 1988, 1989; Cheng, 1991; Cutler and Chen, 1997; Yip, 2004*b,a*; Kirby and Yu, 2007; Yip, 51, 2011), surprisingly little is known about the factors that determine Cantonese syllable wellformedness and, by extension, wordlikeness, especially considering the fact that phonotactic knowledge affects language acquisition, language processing, and verbal short-term memory.

This talk focuses on the results of a series of experiments testing native Cantonese speakers' processing of existing and unattested syllables as well as their judgments of syllable wellformedness. In addition to canonical factors such as bigram probabilities, neighborhood density, and grammatical co-occurrence restrictions, we show significant effects of individual-level factors such as individual "autistic traits" and working memory capacity. Implications of these fjndings for language processing and sound change will be discussed.

An Integrated Approach to Research on Languages and Dialects — Yue Language as an Example

Anne O. Yue

University of Washington

An integrated approach views language in synchronic and diachronic dimensions as complementary to one another. It studies linguistic phenomena in both historical and typological perspectives not as separate pieces but as correlatives. The present study of the Yue language involves recognition and reconsideration of its prominent characteristics in multiple structural strata through observing approximately 100 dialects and sub-dialects sharing similar features, through typological comparison across Han and non-Han languages and dialects, through comparison with earlier stages of the Chinese language as well as through establishment of its internal and external history by comparative reconstruction and taking into account language contact factors.

Yue-Cantonese and Language Contact:
Some Recalcitrant and Incipient Linguistic Variations

Benjamin K. Tsou

Research Centre on Linguistics and Language Information Sciences,

The Hong Kong Institute of Education

btsou99@gmail.com

There is ample literature detailing linguistic features in Cantonese which are attributable to language contact with Mandarin or English. At the same time there are also accounts given on new variations in Yue-Cantonese which may be of indigenous origin.

The paper proposes to explore why some aspects of linguistic structure in Cantonese such as interrogatives remain recalcitrant structures (and even exert reciprocal reverse influence on Mandarin) while other features such as the incipient use of new nominal classifiers have surfaced. An explanatory account of these divergent development trends will be offered in terms of communicative efficacy and cognitive saliency.

Utterance-final Particles with Grammaticalized Intonation in Cantonese

Picus Sizhi Ding
University of Hong Kong
picus@hku.hk

Cantonese is well known for possessing copious utterance-final particles, which predominantly convey pragmatic information such as the speaker's attitude and assumption in making an utterance. Their functions and meanings are one of the focuses in Cantonese Linguistics, e.g. Luke (1990) and Fang (2003). Given their pragmatic nature, these utterance-final particles also play an important role in the intonation of Cantonese. On the other hand, Cantonese is also rich in lexical tones. Suprasegmental interaction on the utterance-final particles thus leads to another intriguing topic for research (e.g. Wu 2008). The present paper combines these two aspects of utterance-final particles and proffers that the lexical tone of some utterance-final particles in Cantonese is grammaticalized from certain intonation patterns which carry specific pragmatic information in discourse.

Study of tone and intonation in Cantonese generally takes a synchronic approach, describing modification of lexical tones under the influence of intonation (see Fox *et al* 2008). While it is widely accepted that Cantonese utterance-final particles (unlike those in Mandarin) bear their own lexical tone (Fang 2003), the source or development of such lexical tones in the particles has never been considered an issue. Instead of presuming the following two sets of utterance-final particles to have inherited near homophone from lexical sources, this paper identifies grammaticalized intonation as a possible source for some of them:

Particle	Pitch	Main function	Probable source of tone
wo5	Rising	Marking hear-say information	A lexical tone
wo4	Low	Conveying an unbelievable sense	A low intonation
wo3	Mid	Highlighting the proposition	A non-low intonation
aa5	Rising	Conveying a sense of denigration	Fusion of two particles
aa4	Low	Making a rhetoric question	A low intonation
aa3	Mid	Making assertion	A non-low intonation

The non-low pitch represents the default intonation with which the speaker expects the interlocutor to participate actively in speech exchange, whereas the low-pitch intonation signals the lack of such expectation. The latter one, but not the former, can be used in anticipation of ending of discourse felicitously. These two patterns are observed also in other utterance-final particles in Cantonese and Mandarin. Consider the following Mandarin cases: *nǐ qù ma*^{M} 'Are you going?' [An answer is expected.] vs. *nǐ qù ma*^{L} 'You go.' [As urging.]

References

Fang, X. 2003. *Sentence-final Particles in Guangzhou Cantonese*. Guangzhou: Jinan University Press.

Fox, A., K-K. Luke, and O. Nancarrow. 2008. Aspects of intonation in Cantonese. *Journal of Chinese Linguistics*, 36.2: 321−367.

Luke, K-K. 1990. *Utterance Particles in Cantonese Conversation*. Amsterdam: Benjamins.

Wu, W-L. 2008. An acoustic phonetic study of the intonation of sentence-final particles in Hong Kong Cantonese. *Asian Social Science*, 4.2. [http://www.ccsenet.org/ journal/index.php/ass/article/view/1984]

Adapting stop-liquid clusters into Cantonese

Tsz-Him Tsui, Department of Linguistics, The Ohio State University

Linguists have observed that stop-liquid (T-L) cluster are adapted into two syllables in Cantonese. These adaptations possess epenthetic rhymes/codas, underlined below in (1) and (2), that do not have any correspondence in the source. More often than not, these epenthetic rhymes are the same as the following syllables', while the epenthetic codas are all identical to the follow syllables'.

(1) Adapting historical *T-L clusters from Old Chinese (Chan 1984):
角 'horn, corner'   *kl- or *kr-   > k**ɔk**^{3} lɔk^5
胳 'arm pit'   *klak   > k**ak**^{3} lak^5
凡 'all, completely'   *bl-   > p**aŋ**^{22} laŋ^{22}
筆 'writing brush, straight' *pl or *pr   > (tsɪk^2) p**ɐt**^{2} lɐt^2

(2) Adapting English T-L-clusters in loanwords (Tsui 2006)
'brake'   [bɹeɪk]   > p**ɪk**^{2} lɪk^5
'clutch' [kʰlʌtʃ]   > k**ɪk**^{2} lɪk^5 tsi^{35}
'cracker' [ˈkʰɹækəɹ]   > h**ɐk**^{5} lɪk^2 ka^{35}

Tsui (2006) proposed that these consonants are inserted to supply another mora. This allows the preceding epenthetic vowel to be short, and thus matching the zero input of the source. This proposal, however, did not explain why the epenthetic coda/rhyme is exactly the same as the following syllable's.

The alternative proposal here is that Cantonese has a phonological preference towards reduplication-like doublets in words (Zuraw 2002). Such identical codas and rhymes are inserted to not only keep the epenthetic vowels short, but also fulfill the preferences for doublets in Cantonese.

The current study uses the Hong Kong Cantonese Corpus (Luke 1997) to examine the occurrences of such reduplication-like doublets in word formation in Cantonese. Disyllabic word types are extracted from the corpus, and the expected frequencies and observed frequencies of such rhyme/coda-doublets are calculated (cf. Kawahara 2007).

The results show that, in Cantonese word formation, 5 (-p, -t, -k, -n, -ŋ) out of the 6 possible coda types appears in doublets more than expected. Also, out of the 16 possible closed rhymes, 10 of them (-ap, -ɐp, -at, -ɐt, -it, -ut, -ɛk, -ik, -ɔk, -ʊk) appears in doublets more than expected. These affirms the moderate preference for reduplication-like doublets in Cantonese words. This preference in turns could be the reason for inserting an identical rhyme when breaking down T-L-clusters.

References:
Chan, Marjorie K. M. 1984. Initial consonant clusters in Old Chinese: Evidence from sesquisyllabic words in the Yue dialects. *Fangyan* 1984.4: 300-313.
Kawahara, Shigeto. 2007. Half-rhymes in Japanese rap lyrics and knowledge of similarity. *Journal of East Asian Linguistics* 16: 113-144.
Luke, K.K. 1997. *Hong Kong Cantonese Corpus*. Department of Linguistics, University of Hong Kong. Retrieved at http://www0.hku.hk/hkcancor/.
Tsui, Tsz-Him. 2006. Consonant epenthesis in Cantonese loanwords: Preservation of non-saliency of vowels. Paper presented at the *18th North American Conference of Chinese Linguistics*, Western Washington University.
Zuraw, Kie. 2002. Aggressive Reduplication. *Phonology* 19.3: 395-439.

Morpho-phonological Variation in Cantonese

Zheng-sheng Zhang

San Diego State University

It is a well-known fact that for the same meaning, there are different ways of saying it in Cantonese. This can take the form of the literary and colloquial reading of the same morpheme/character, such as *meng* or *ming* for 名 'name'; it can also take the form of different morphemes, such as 不 and 唔 for 'not'.

Although this phenomenon is quite well-known, it seems not to have received sufficient attention in the linguistic and pedagogical literature. In some textbooks and pedagogical resources, the different variants are not mentioned. In reference dictionaries, there are also discrepancies in the inclusion of the different variants. Some basic issues also seem not to have been addressed. For example, can there be true free variation between the two kinds of readings for some lexical items, as seemed to be suggested by the differences between reference works? Also, between literary and colloquial readings, which has greater distribution in terms of the number of lexical items? Can literary readings undergo change of tone (变音), which seems possible with colloquial readings? Lastly, is there any relationship, in terms of the conditions of occurrence, between the literary-colloquial reading distinction and the alternation between different morphemes/characters for the same meaning, as both are related to the distinction between Cantonese vernacular and standard language?

Furthermore, although the forms of the variants are quite clear, the same cannot be said about the conditions under which the variation occurs. Invoking the formal/literary vs. informal/colloquial distinction clearly cannot adequately account for all cases. As pointed out by Hashimoto 1972, literary reading of a character can well be found in colloquial vocabulary, such as 醒目 *singmuk* 'smart looking', where 醒 *sing* has the literary reading (colloquial reading=*seng*). It is not possible to attribute the alternation between 不 vs. 唔 to the distinction between Mandarin vs. Cantonese either, as 不 clearly occurs in colloquial Cantonese words such as 不如. Nor does it seem that the variation can be accounted for by etymological history alone. Some words of seemingly modern (standard language?) origin clearly use the colloquial reading (領 *leng* in 藍領、白領; literary reading=*ling*). While some variation seemed to be lexically determined, for example the reading of 嶺(*leng vs. ling),* in 粉嶺, 調景嶺 and 嶺南, it seems unlikely that lexical marking needs to be appealed to as the last resort in all cases. Some variants seem to be dictated by the type of genre and situation of use. For example, literary readings seem to be used in personal names and song lyrics exclusively.

While providing no definitive answers, the paper will raise a range of questions to highlight the relevant issues, in the hope that more and better accounts will be forthcoming.
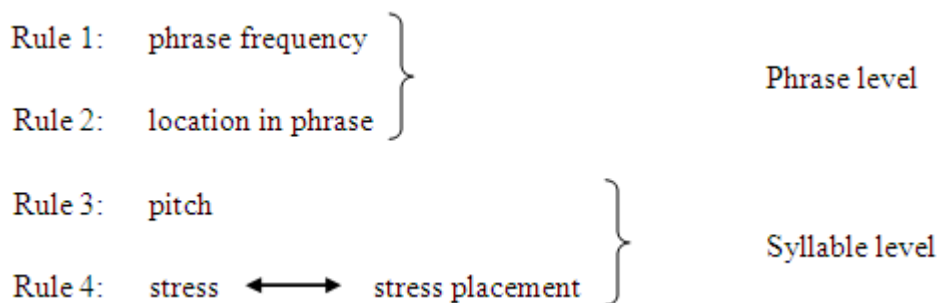
On Sandhi of Zero-onset in New Guangzhou Cantonese

In New Guangzhou Cantonese (NGC) such kind of sandhi is permitted: when some of the syllables with zero-onset ([∅-]) follow syllables with nasal coda ([-n], [-m], or [-ŋ]), they can optionally acquire the nasal consonant as their onset. For instance, the sandhi [fan^1 uk^1 k^{h}ei^5] → [fan^1 nuk^1 k^{h}ei^5] in the verbal phrase 番屋企 ([fan^1 uk^1 k^{h}ei^5], "go home") is accepted for some young native speakers. Based on a survey of ten college students from Guangzhou whose native tongue is Cantonese and subsequent quantitative analysis, this paper argues for four rules that control the sandhi. Influence of stress placement is also evaluated via comparing NGC with Mandarin. The four rules are:

1. The sandhi is more easily accepted in higher-frequency phrases;
2. The sandhi is more easily accepted within a phrase than across the boundary of two phrases;
3. The sandhi is more easily accepted when the pitch of the zero-onset syllable is lower;
4. The sandhi is more easily accepted when the zero-onset syllable is light/unstressed than when it is heavy/stressed, as it shows in the case of the prefix "阿".

These rules determine whether and to what extent the sandhi is accepted in NGC. This paper also discusses the relationship among the rules. The first two rules are on the same level, i.e., the phrase level. While Rule 1 focuses on the frequency of a given phrase in Cantonese speech, Rule 2 reveals the correlation between the acceptability of the sandhi and its location in a phrase or between two phrases. The other two rules are on the syllable level. Rule 3 discloses the influence of pitch value; Rule 4 focuses on the syllable weight. In addition to Rule 4, which highlights the heave/light syllable contrast in Cantonese, the different stress placements between Cantonese and Mandarin and the diversity in sandhi acceptability caused are also discussed.

Therefore, the relationship among the rules is shown as following:

Rule 1:	phrase frequency	}	Phrase level
Rule 2:	location in phrase		
Rule 3:	pitch	}	Syllable level
Rule 4:	stress ⟷ stress placement		

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The Tonal Space of Hong Kong Cantonese and Its Implications in Tone Merger

Roxana S.Y. Fung
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
ctsyfung@polyu.edu.hk

Hong Kong Cantonese (HKC) stands out from other tone languages in the world by having a rich system of tonal contrast. There are six contrastive tones in standard HKC, namely high level (T1), high rising (T2), mid level (T3), extra-low level (T4), low rising (T5) and low level (T6). However, this highly complex system is in the process of merging. Through administering discrimination and production tasks to 120 subjects of three age groups, Fung and Wong (2010a, b) confirmed that T2/T5 was a full-merger and T3/T6 pair a quasi-merger in a sub-community of HKC speakers. Furthermore, T4/T6 pair was identified as a near-merger since speakers can produce the contrast but fail to perceive it in contemporary HKC. Further acoustic analysis on the new rising tone produced by the mergers of the three age groups was performed by Fung and Wong (2011). It was revealed that the rising tone merger was a non-abrupt but highly dynamic sound change, assuming an apparent time hypothesis. Apart from the two rising tones, the development of the three non-high level tones deserves our attention. HKC has four level tones, which is relatively rare among tone languages. What will the HKC tone system look like if the four-level contrast is no longer maintained? Will T4 merge with T3 or with T6? The present study attempts to find out whether there are any changes in the production of level tones among speakers who still maintain all the six tonal contrast. It is hoped that the result may shed some light on the motivation of the level tone merger in HKC.

The data of the study were based on the speech samples produced by six male subjects of three age groups collected in Fung and Wong (2010a, b). The mean age of the senior group, middle-aged group and the young group was 24, 41, and 53 years respectively. The speech samples were generated by embedding three CV syllables into two sentence carriers of different positions. In total, 216 target syllables (3 syllables x 2 positions x 6 tonal contrast x 2 subjects x 3 age groups) were analyzed. The fundamental frequency (F0) values of each target syllable were extracted at ten equal distant points using a Praat script. The F0 values measured were normalized using the T-formula. The changes of level tones were observed by the following parameters: (1) Tonal space – the area of the triangle formed by T1, T2 and T4; (2) F0 mean of each tone; (3) Euclidean distances of T1-T3, T3-T6 and T6-T4. The values for each parameter measured was averaged for each subject and then for each group.

Preliminary result indicated that the tonal triangle of the middle-aged group was significantly reduced. The height of T4 of the two younger groups was significantly raised. The Euclidean distance between T4 and T6 was well maintained among three groups. However, the Euclidean distance between T3 and T6 of the two younger groups were significantly reduced as compared with the senior group. It can be concluded that the tonal space of HKC is in the process of reduction. The tones have become less dispersed. The distance between T3 and T6 may be further reduced. The implications of these changes in the tone merger phenomenon in HKC will be discussed in the paper.

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Innovative sound changes in Hong Kong Cantonese: the case of syllable-final consonant alveolarisation

May Chan
University of Oxford
may.chan@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk

This talk presents findings from a study on alveolarization in Hong Kong Cantonese, a phenomenon whereby velar nasal **–ŋ** and velar stop **–k** syllable-final consonants are fronted to alveolar counterparts **-n** and **-t** respectively. Since one of the first descriptions on alveolarization (Bauer 1979), there have been a number of quantitative sociolinguistic studies on sound changes, particularly of the syllable-initial consonants, in Cantonese (e.g. Yeung 1980; Bauer 1982; Pan 1982; Bourgerie 1990; and Ho 2004), but few studies have focused solely on alveolarization of the syllable-final consonants (except two small-scale studies, Shum 1993 and Wong 2005). To address the question of how prevalent alveolarization is in present-day Hong Kong Cantonese, and to investigate the extent to which language-internal and –external factors correlate with alveolarization, I collected sociolinguistic interview data in 2010, from 30 native speakers of Hong Kong Cantonese, stratified according to age group (14-18; 19-45; and 46-65) and gender. The data elicitation was also designed to obtain a range of speech styles, including casual speech, passage reading, word list reading, and minimal pair reading styles. Preliminary findings suggest that the linguistic variables correlated with age, but surprisingly, it was not the youngest speakers who displayed the greatest degree of alveolarization, as would be expected in a progressive sound change situation. Instead, it was the middle age group which displayed the greatest degree of alveolarization. These findings, along with further discussion of linguistic constraints such as phonetic environment, lexical frequency, and phonological competition, are presented in this talk, in an attempt to answer the question of which factors drive or impede the progression of this sound change.

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Classifier variation and change in Toronto Heritage Cantonese

Naomi Nagy, Tiffany Chung and Josephine Tong
University of Toronto
naomi.nagy@utoronto.ca, tiffanyc.chung@utoronto.ca, josephine.tong@utoronto.ca

With over 166,000 Cantonese speakers, Toronto is an important place to examine ongoing changes in Cantonese. The Heritage Language Variation and Change in Toronto Project (HLVC, Nagy *et al.* 2011) aims to distinguish if and how heritage languages, including Cantonese, change over the course of several generations by comparing samples of 1st (born in Hong Kong, immigrated as adults), 2nd (children of first generation, born in Toronto) and 3rd generation speakers (children of second generation). This paper focuses on classifier use. Classifiers in Cantonese are similar to partitives in English, as in "a *school* of fish" (Wei & Lee 2001). In homeland (Hong Kong, in our study) Cantonese, classifiers are required in specific NPs, whether the head is a bare noun or modified (Yip & Matthews 2000:39-40).

Members of the Toronto Cantonese community report that classifier use is decreasing. In fact, our data shows no overall drop in rate of classifier use (90% in Gen 1, 92% in each of Gen 2 and Gen 3, N = 1,074), but rather a re-deployment of the classifier system to distinguish modified from unmodified nouns, rather than specific from generic. This can be seen by comparing the rate of use of classifiers in specific NPs across the 3 generations. Note the mismatch between +/-modified and +/- specific in row 4 of Table 1 (where prescriptively we expect classifier usage). While prescriptive grammar requires a classifier for specific NPs, even if the noun is bare, we find a drop from 10% classifier use in this category in Gen 1 to 0% in both Gen 2 and 3.

	Modification	**Specificity**	**NP type**	**% with classifiers**	**Total** (N=146)
1	modified	specific	demonstrative	81	21
2	modified	specific	number/quantifier	100	32
3	modified	specific	possessive	95	19
4	unmodified	specific	specific	5	37
5	unmodified	generic	generic	6	33

An illustrative example of this pattern in our corpus is:

je1+hai6	yau5	si4	yam5	dak1	taai3	do1	Ø	cha6
particle	have	time	drink	partitive	too	much		tea

Sometimes I drink too much tea.   (Speaker C2F27A, 15:29)
(*Note*: The Ø-symbol indicates the prescriptive location of the "missing" classifier *bui2* 'cup'.)

To best understand language change, we look at conversational speech, rather than relying on grammaticality judgments or elicitation tasks. Team members conducted sociolinguistic interviews (Labov 1984) with 40 speakers representing the three generations of Cantonese speakers in Toronto. The data above come from six of the 12 speakers that we will examine: one male and one female from each generation. Interviews are transcribed and each NP is coded for the presence or absence of a classifier, and for the type of NP (see table). Our final multivariate analysis (which will certainly be completed before the conference) will include additional linguistic variables (e.g., classifier type, number, animacy) to establish relationships between these variables. Independent social variables include: responses to specific Ethnic Orientation questions, speech rate, sex and generation. With the small pilot sample, this is not yet possible. This paper shows one way that the Cantonese language has evolved across three generations of speakers in Toronto. Along with analyses of other variables in the HLVC project, across a range of languages, this contributes to a better understanding of the behavior of heritage languages with differing degrees of Ethnolinguistic Vitality.

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Hakka and Cantonese in the Chinese Diaspora: Notes on the Tahitian Chinese Community

Dana Scott Bourgerie

Brigham Young University

Since at least the Tang dynasty, Chinese have been traveling from their homeland. Some were merchants seeking short-term trading opportunities; others became part of more permanent communities, largely settling in Southeast Asian, and especially in Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, and Malaysia. Southeast Asia as a region has become home to approximately 30 million of the estimated 40 million overseas Chinese. Outside of Southeast Asia, the US, Canada, Peru, and Russia all have at least a million people of Chinese decent, comprising another approximately seven million. The remaining three million overseas Chinese are found around the world in small, yet often established communities.

Polynesia is home to many of these small communities. The Tahitian Chinese diaspora numbers some 13,000 (about 5% of the population) and includes both Hakka (the majority) and Cantonese speakers. Counting Tahitians of mixed background this estimate rises to over 20,000. The Chinese presence in Tahiti dates to 1851, but has waxed and waned with political and economic changes locally and in China.

This paper describes the linguistic context of the quickly changing Tahitian Chinese community and includes field notes from interviews with Chinese Tahitian informants. In addition, the study also includes annotations on borrowings between French, Tahitian, and Chinese.

Naomi Nagy, Tiffany Chung and Josephine Tong *(cont'd)*

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Genevieve Yuek-Ling Leung (gleung@dolphin.upenn.edu), University of Pennsylvania

Paper title: *Hoisan-wa* reclaimed: Chinese American language maintenance in contemporary sociolinguistic perspective

While Mandarin Chinese is currently heavily emphasized in language teaching and heritage language arenas, little research has looked at how speakers of other Chinese languages negotiate their language choices and use in relation to this present pressure. This paper looks at the language and cultural maintenance efforts of a specific heritage of Chinese Americans: *Hoisan-wa* (Toishanese/台山話) heritage people. Considered a "dialect" of Cantonese that is around 70% mutually intelligible with Standard Cantonese (Szeto, 2000), *Hoisan-wa* is one of the languages linking nearly all early Chinese immigrants in the U.S.; not only has its status been slowly devalued due to standard Chineses' (Mandarin, Cantonese) existence in the U.S., it has also been perpetually overlooked in educational research for the last 150 years.

Data come from 100 sociolinguistic interviews of Hoisan heritage people in California. Interviewees, ranging from ages 6-97, many of whom belonging to different generations of the same family, were asked to talk about various issues of language maintenance, including ways *Hoisan-wa* is used in the family, intergenerational communication, and perceived challenges. While domain analysis (cf. Fishman, 1968) of language choice across three generations shows languages shifting from monolingual *Hoisan-wa* grandparents to multilingual *Hoisan-wa*, Cantonese, and English parents to mostly monolingual English children, *Hoisan-wa* language resources available in some families seem to also have been reordered and specialized into functional social spheres (cf. Blommaert, 2010). That is, despite ongoing changes in context of use and esteem, *Hoisan-wa* is still significant to these families in ways that have diverged across generations. Contemporary *Hoisan-wa* in the U.S. diverges sociolinguistically and phonologically from *Hoisan-wa* in China or Cantonese in Hong Kong. Examples include three-way codeswitching (*Hoisan-wa*, Standard Cantonese, English) and use of a variety of words that are considered part of the Taishan substratum lexicon (Yue-Hashimoto, 2005) and so-called "Chinatown Chinese" (Dong & Hom, 1980), which are all distinct characteristics of diasporic speakers and their descendants. Despite broader discourses that *Hoisan-wa* is a "dying" language, data also show that the voiceless alveolar lateral fricative [ɬ], arguably one of the most salient and iconic markers of *Hoisan-wa*, is still used and talked about across all generations.

Looking squarely at *Hoisan-wa* illuminates local understanding of language use in ways that starting from majority languages like Standard Cantonese or Mandarin cannot, and language use of Hoisan heritage people in the U.S. offers implications for the study of the Yue subgroup. As this paper shows, ignoring "dialect" groups like *Hoisan-wa* disregards not only linguistic diversity but also Chinese American history, as speakers and people of this heritage are continually reappropriating and reclaiming the language and the heritage in meaningful ways.

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The "ins and outs" of English Loanwords in Hong Kong Cantonese

Cathy S.P. Wong and Roxana S.Y. Fung

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

(egcathyw@polyu.edu.hk & ctsyfung@polyu.edu.hk)

This paper reports on a study investigating the usage of English loanwords in Hong Kong Cantonese.

One of the unique features of Hong Kong Cantonese is its richness in incorporating English loanwords in its lexicon. Loanwords such as 士多 si6do1 (from English "store") and 多士 do1si6 (from English "toast") have become so nativized that Cantonese speakers may not realize they are loanwords from English. Recent studies on loanwords in Cantonese (Bauer, 2006; Luke & Lau, 2008; Wong, Bauer, & Lam, 2009) have examined the phonetic, phonological and morphosyntactic adaptation of English loanwords in Hong Kong Cantonese. The present study intends to examine the sociolinguistic aspect in terms of two criteria proposed by Poplack and Sankoff (1984:103-104) in analyzing the integration of loanwords into a native language: frequency of use and native-language synonym displacement. Two research questions were asked: (1) How frequently is a particular English loanword used by Cantonese speakers in spontaneous speech? (2) Does age make a difference?

A set of 80 English loanwords were selected for the study. Six sets of pictures which contain these 80 items were used to elicit spontaneous speech data. 40 subjects of two age groups were interviewed individually by a research assistant. The age range of the younger group is 20-30 years old while that of the older group is 50-60. In the interview, each subject was asked to describe the six sets of pictures carefully. The responses of the subjects were then analyzed in terms of how the target items were produced: whether loanwords were used or not.

Results show that on average the younger group used loanwords more frequently than the older group. The responses of the 40 subjects also reveal that the loanwords show very different patterns of usage. Some items are so fully integrated into Cantonese that almost all the subjects used the loanwords (e.g. 士多啤梨 si6do1be1lei2 for "strawberry"). Other items appear to have become obsolete (e.g. 燕梳 jin3so1 has been replaced by 保險 bou2him2 for "insurance").

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Puns and nicknames of political figures in Hong Kong: A linguistic humor study

Ka-Yu Tsang
Ohio State University

This paper presents a small corpus study of humor, and strategies used for rendering humor in nicknames of political figures in Hong Kong. Three questions are developed to examine the humor in nicknames: what are the patterns in nicknames of political figures? What linguistic devices do nicknaming practices make use of to inject comical effects to nicknames? And finally, how is humor derived from the interaction between patterns and the use of linguistic devices?

Data have been collected from newspapers, political satires, online political commentaries and programs, and personal interviews. Four patterns that are found to have been used in the nicknames are: prefixation, suffixation, duplication and pun application; and four linguistic devices that are identified in constructing humor are: malapropism, use of Cantonese colloquial expressions, use of characters with bad connotations, sarcasm and anachronism.

This paper proposes that the interaction between different patterns and the various uses of linguistic devices result in incongruity between nicknames and formal names, and through incongruity humor is derived. First, the number of characters is not limited and family names can be omitted, showing a flexible way of naming. Second, the position of the family name can be moved, showing the tendency of de-emphasizing the importance of the family in nicknaming. Third, the use of colloquial expressions serves as a sharp contrast to formal language on the lexical level. Fourth, sarcasm, anachronism and words with negative connotations are used as a means of scapegoating, humiliation and even protest or dissent against the people of derision.

All these nicknaming practices work in the near opposite direction from formal naming. As a result, incongruity and humor are generated.

Regional identity, language attitudes and writing Cantonese as everyday lifestyle in Guangzhou (Canton City)

Jing Yan
The Columbus Academy

A sociolinguistic survey is conducted in the present study to explore the correlations between the regional identity, language attitudes, and everyday writing in the local community in Guangzhou (Canton City). The subjects are 116 Cantonese-Mandarin bilingual speakers in Guangzhou who are biliterates of Standard Written Chinese (SWC) and Vernacular Written Cantonese (VWC). The data on their use of VWC, attitudes toward VWC, and regional identity as Guangzhou Cantonese, are collected for both quantitative and qualitative analysis.

Two of findings from the study are presented here. First, a correlation study finds that the subjects who specify their regional identity as Guangzhou Cantonese tend to show positive attitudes towards the VWC written code. And, second, the distribution patterns of the VWC literacy practices of the subjects, based on their lifestyles as Guangzhou Cantonese, suggest that the regional identity of Guangzhou Cantonese plays a positive role in the divergence of VWC from SWC in writing VWC reflected in the general lexicon, the use of classifiers, and syntactic structures.

In addition, this study provides a critical analysis of VWC discourse to explain the power of Cantonese lifestyle in the maintenance of VWC in Guangzhou area under the current language policy in Mainland China. The analysis reveals that VWC has social value as a marker of cultural solidarity in Guangzhou city, a vital sign of its maintenance.

The psychoacoustics and production of Yue lexical tones by Wu and Minnan speakers

Seth Wiener and Tsz-Him Tsui, The Ohio State University
Wiener.24@osu.edu, Tsui.15@osu.edu

The acoustic and perceptual characteristics, along with the number of lexical tones, vary across different Chinese dialects. For example, Hong Kong Yue (Cantonese) Chinese phonemically distinguishes six tones, whereas Shanghai Wu phonemically distinguishes only three. These characteristics are derived primary from vocal fold vibration or fundamental frequency (F0) contour and F0 height (Jongman et al., 2006). In addition to F0 differences, several studies have reported temporal differences across tones (Dreher and Lee, 1966; Kratochvil, 1971).

This study explores if familiar and foreign F0 contours, F0 heights and temporal differences can be discretely perceived and reproduced by speakers of a similar, albeit unintelligible tonal dialect. To answer this question, we investigated the perception and production of Hong Kong Yue lexical tones by native Taiwan Minnan and Shanghai Wu speakers. A native Yue speaker recorded six segmentally identical carrier sentences in which only the target syllable's lexical tone varied. Speech tokens were randomly chosen and played to four native Taiwanese Southern Min speakers and two native Shanghai Wu speakers. Using a counterbalanced design, subjects were asked to determine whether paired targets were perceived as identical or different, as well as to reproduce the utterances they had just heard. All tokens were recorded and analyzed using the sound editing software "Praat" in order to measure and extract syllable duration, F0 contour and F0 height for statistical analysis. Additionally, each non-native reproduction was played for five native Yue speakers in order to receive a native speaker tonal judgment rating.

The findings of this experiment suggest that there is no one particular acoustic feature that speakers of a Chinese dialect use to correctly perceive or produce Yue lexical tone, but rather that an amalgamation of salient features, including F0 height, F0 contour and pitch duration exist which speakers are able to draw from. Furthermore, the productions of non-native Yue speakers in tandem with the ratings by native Yue speakers, suggest that certain features are more robust for certain tones. For example, F0 contours contribute to accurate reproduction of low level and rising tones, while F0 levels are important in that of high level and rising tones. Results are discussed in terms of speaker's familiarity with specific F0 contours and the ability to integrate specific psychoacoustic information.

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The representation of contour tones in Cantonese

Jackson L. Lee
University of Chicago
`jsllee@uchicago.edu`

Introduction: A central question in tonal phonology is the representation of tone. For Chinese languages, while discussion focuses on contour tones, recent analyses such as Yip (2001) and Barrie (2007) propose that the contour tone be a unitary entity with the tone register specified as well as only the tonal onset. This paper argues, however, that this cannot be the case for Cantonese. In particular, we show that the correct representation of contour tones in Cantonese is one where tonal targets of *both* onset and offset are specified.

Pop music and reference to tonal offsets: In Cantonese pop music lyrics, two pairs of tones, 55/25 and 33/23, pattern together by their tonal offsets (Chan 1987, Ho 2006). Regarding the 55/25 pair, Yip's proposal of tonal representation would suggest that high-rising 25 be [+Upper, L(ow)] with the rise being the unspecified 'rebound' to H(igh); high-level 55 is presumably [+Upper, HH]. It is unclear, however, how the patterning of the tonal pair 55/25 would fall out from these representations, when the two tones share no common L/H specifications. The problem vanishes if tonal offsets of contour tones are also specified.

High-rising tone and [±Upper]: An issue related to the high-rising tone is its phonetic manifestation. On the one hand, Bauer & Benedict (1997) find that the non-derived high-rising tone 25 and low-rising tone 23 share an acoustically similar tonal onset. On the other, Yu (2007a,b) shows that the non-derived high-rising tone 25 and the derived high-rising tone 35 resulting from lexical tone 33 (e.g. si33 'try' → si35 'try (perfective)') are in fact acoustically differentiable. In the spirit of a closer phonetics-phonology mapping supported by Yip, if low-rising 23 has all its tonal trajectory within [−Upper], then high-rising 25 should begin in [−Upper] but have [+Upper] to accommodate its high tonal offset. However, this is disallowed in Yip and Barrie's system, because they both propose that [±Upper] be a feature of an entire contour tone. The solution is to have both tonal onsets and offsets specified separately for [±Upper].

Tonal alternation in attenuatives: Tonal alternation in Cantonese presents another problem to Yip and Barrie's analysis. The issue is most clearly illustrated in attenuatives, where the second reduplicative copy ends with a high tone:

(1) Cantonese attenuatives

a.	syn55 'sour'	→ syn55 syn5<u>5</u> teɪ25	d.	hʊŋ21 'red'	→ hʊŋ21 hʊŋ2<u>5</u> teɪ25
b.	jiu25 'girly'	→ jiu25 jiu2<u>5</u> teɪ25	e.	kʰɐn23 'near'	→ kʰɐn23 kʰɐn2<u>5</u> teɪ25
c.	tsʰi33 'similar'	→ tsʰi33 tsʰi3<u>5</u> teɪ25	f.	kuɤ22 'tired'	→ kuɤ22 kuɤ2<u>5</u> teɪ25

The unified analysis for tonal alternation in (1) is a floating-tone analysis as in Yip (1980) and Chen (2000). Essentially, with the assumption that both tonal onset and offset are specified, a floating high tone docks to the right of the syllable concerned and leads to the deletion of the tonal offset of the original tone; this applies vacuously to (1a-b). With Barrie's representations of Cantonese tones, for instance, it is puzzling as to how a unified analysis for (1) could be advanced. Specifically, if the high-rising tone (derived or not) were [+Upper, L, Contour], where 'Contour' is a feature analogous to Yip's rebound, how then could a single analysis (i) derive [+Upper, L, Contour] from the non-derived tones 33, 21, 23, and 22 in (1c-f) which are all formally distinct in terms of [±Upper], L/H, and Contour features, as well as (ii) deal with the non-derived tones 55 and 25 in (1a-b) as if they were unaltered? The upshot is, again, that Cantonese contour tones should have two separate tonal targets.

Conclusion: While we argue for the need of specifying both tonal onsets and offsets for Cantonese contour tones, this paper stresses the important methodological point that individual Chinese languages should be studied *solo* without the presumption of 'Universal Chinese Grammar' (Yue-Hashimoto 1993, Matthews 1999).

Title: Lexical Tone Effects on Voice Onset Time in Cantonese
Author: Holman Tse 謝浩明
Affiliation: University of Pittsburgh, Department of Linguistics
Email: hbt3@pitt.edu

Abstract

This study investigates the effects of lexical tone on the Voice Onset Time (VOT) of prevocalic stops in Cantonese. Previous studies that have examined the relationship between tone and VOT include studies on Mandarin and Hakka (Chen et al 2009), Shanghainese (King and Schieffer 1990), Taiwanese (Lai 2004), Mazatec (Herrera 2003), and Kera (Pearce 2009). These studies have shown mixed results. Research on more languages is needed in order to determine whether or not any cross-linguistic generalizations can be made. For the present study, the specific research questions to be addressed are (1) Does tone have an effect on VOT in Cantonese?; (2) If so, what kind of an effect does it have?; and (3) Is this effect purely an automatic articulatory consequence of F0 modulation or is this effect also mediated by lexical tone and hence a potential cue that contributes towards maintaining phonological contrasts between different tonal categories? To address these questions, the speech of 6 native speakers (5 male and 1 female) of Hong Kong Cantonese was examined. All recordings were made in a sound proof room. The subjects were all students at a US university at the time of recording. A total of 80 tokens of words contrasting in tone and aspiration were analyzed for each speaker for a grand total of 480 tokens. Results from an ANOVA test showed that there is a statistically significant effect ($p < 0.000$) of tone category on VOT. In particular, a post-hoc analysis revealed a two-way split between words with a low-falling (21) or mid-rising (25) tone, which have higher VOT, and words with either a mid-level (33) or high-level tone (55), which have lower VOT. A Pearson's Correlation Test also showed statistical significance ($p = 0.01$) with an inverse relationship between VOT and onset F0 height. An analysis of individual speakers, however, showed that this correlation was statistically significant for only 3 of the 6 subjects while ANOVA tests on each individual speaker showed statistical significance for all 5 male subjects but not for the female subject. The more consistent results on the ANOVA tests on individual speakers suggest that VOT differences can serve as a potential cue used to distinguish between different tonal categories. The effects of tone on VOT are, thus, likely to be language-specific. This study has implications for developing a better understanding of how phonological contrasts are implemented especially in tonal languages.

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The mechanism of tone-melody match for tone preservation in Cantonese songs (Cheung, Kwan Hin, Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Cantonese stands out from other cited tone languages in that the lexical tones in the language, six in all, are preserved in singing. Linguists owe this intriguing phenomenon an explicit description or, better still, explanation of its working.

Chan (1987) pioneered a hypothesis that the 6 tones be grouped into 4 categories by virtue of the end point (pitch-height) of the tones, with tone-melody match sensitive to these 4 categories rather the 6 tones. Cheung (2007) made use of a larger lyrics corpus to support this hypothesis and further pointed out that within a melody-matching category, a rising tone is distinguished from its level partner by having the singer add a lower grace note to the note intended for the tune. These two works together stopped short of spelling out the very mechanism that enables the matching of 4 tonal categories (with a default pitch range of approximately a perfect fifth) with a full song which may have a pitch range of an octave at least and a multiple of that at times.

In the daily use of lexical tones, both the entire pitch range and the pitch level gradations are elastic. Thus, in Chao's 5-point system behind his tone letters, the interval between 1 and 5 may be compressed or widened. So are the intervals between any two levels out of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Then, in the daily use of lexical tones, the pitch range as marked by the width 1 to 5 in Chao's 5-point system is transposable. For example, it may be the range G^3 to D^4 at one instance but D^4 to A^5 at another instance (with tone elasticity suppressed for the moment). One is certainly aware that there are gender differences, but different persons of the same gender and even the same speaker in different contexts may also exhibit such variation in terms of absolute pitch.

These two universal characteristics of lexical tones sound commonplace but are the gist of the answer to the intriguing question why Cantonese tones can be considered preserved in singing, or in more technical terms how can a 4-term system of melody matching "tones" be matched to an array of a much wider range of musical notes with the tones still held to be identifiable by native speakers.

A number of songs are used for demonstration, ranging from the very simple Birthday Song to the very sophisticated Cantonese song par excellence the theme song of *The Flower Princess* (帝女花之香夭).

Reconstructing early Chinese dialectal grammar: A study of directional verbs in Cantonese

Carine Yuk-man YIU
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
yyiu@ust.hk

In the last two decades, scholars showed much interest in studying dialectal materials compiled in the 19th and early 20th centuries (Yue 1993, 2001 and Cheung 1997, 2001, 2006, 2009 on Cantonese, Chappell and Lamarre 2005 on Hakka, Qian N-R 2004 on Wu, Lien C-F 2002, 2005, 2009 on Min). However, no comparative study on these early dialectal texts has ever been carried out to this day, a gap that is filled by the present study.

      Talmy (2000) proposed that languages can be classified into verb-framed and satellite-framed languages. The former expresses the notion of path in the main verb such as the Spanish verb *salió* 'exit' in (1) while the latter in a satellite such as the English verb particle *out* in (2).

(1)   la   botella *salió* flotando.   'The bottle exited floating.'
         the bottle exit   floating
(2)   The bottle floated *out*.

      Scholars (cf. Li 1993, Ma 2008) suggested that the Chinese language has undergone a typological shift from a verb-framed to a satellite-framed language. For example, in an agentive motion event, Classical Chinese can express path in the main verb (*chuì* 'cause to move out' in (3)), while Mandarin can only encode path in a complement (*chū lăi* 'out-come' in (4)).

(3)   wŏ chuì wŏ   jū…(Shījīng 168 from Xu 2006:65)'We bring out our carriages…'
        we bring-out our carriage
(4)   wŏ bă chē kāi chū lăi.   'I move out the car.'
        I   BA car open out come

      A close examination of the use of directional verbs in early Cantonese and Mandarin texts shows that the agentive use of directional verbs is exhibited in the former (cf. 5) but not in the latter (cf. 6), a contrast that is still observed nowadays.

(5)   aa[3] Ling[4], giu[3] gu[1]lei[1]   ceot[1]   kiu[2] (Ball 1902)   'A Ling, tell the coolies to get out
        A Ling   tell coolies get-out chair   the chair.'
(6)   qŭ   chū jĭ   ge míngpiàn (*Chun E Shi*)   'take out a few name cards'
        take out few CL name card

      This study further compares the use of six directional verbs in *Jesou Jinhang Cyutjiu* and *Chun E Shi*, Cantonese and Mandarin texts compiled in 1863 and around 1910s, with their corresponding use in 'Chinese Pear Stories'. Specifically, a frequency count is used to find out the number of examples of the main verb use and the complement use of the six directional verbs. If the verb use of the directional verbs in a dialect is higher than the complement use, the dialect is considered resembling more a verb-framed language; if the complement use is higher, the dialect is said to be closer to a satellite-framed language. The result illustrates that (i) the verb use of some of the directional verbs in both early Cantonese and early Mandarin texts is higher than their complement use, a result that contrasts with the finding in Chinese Pear Stories, in which the complement use is higher, (ii) the verb use of all six directional verbs in early Cantonese is higher than that in early Mandarin, and (iii) the verb use and the complement use of a directional verb correlates with the type of events in which it is used, namely, agentive, non-agentive and self-agentive motion in both early and modern dialects. The conclusion reached seems to suggest that Cantonese exhibits more features of verb-framed languages than Mandarin in more than a century ago and at present despite that both are heading toward the direction to becoming satellite-framed languages.

On the syntax of classifier reduplication in Cantonese and Mandarin
Chak-Lam Colum Yip
University of Washington
columyip@uw.edu

This paper investigates the syntactic phenomenon of classifier reduplication in Cantonese and Mandarin from a formal perspective. In Chinese, it is possible to create a quantifying expression that carries a distributive reading, simply by reduplicating a classifier, as shown in (1). However, it is noted by Yang (2004) that in the case of Mandarin, classifier reduplication cannot only appear prenominally as in (3). This restriction, however, does not exist in Cantonese (see 4).

Cheng (to appear) argues that reduplicated classifiers in both languages are adverbials when they appear between the "subject"[1] and the predicate, as in (5). She also claims that the reduplicated classifiers are analogous to the reduplicated nouns in (6) that act as adverbials. As for the difference shown in (3) and (4), Cheng argues that this could be attributed to the syntactic differences between classifiers in Mandarin and Cantonese. Classifiers in Cantonese are individuators that start out in IND(ividuation) head and move to CL(assifier) via head movement. Mandarin classifiers, however, do not start out as individuators. As such, they cannot appear prenominally.

In this paper, I argue that reduplicated classifiers are not adverbials. First, most classifiers (though not all) can be reduplicated and it is unlikely that our mental grammar creates adverbials on the spot by reduplicating them. Second, it is clear that the reduplicated classifiers in (7) cannot be an adverbial, as it appears between the topic and the subject. Furthermore, I argue that the core difference between classifier reduplication in Cantonese and Mandarin stems from the fact that classifier reduplication is only licensed in Mandarin when there is a topic to the left of it, a condition that seems to have already existed since archaic Chinese. The nonexistence of such a condition in Cantonese is attributed to the special featural makeup of CLs in Cantonese that also allows [CL-N] sequences to appear as nominal arguments.

Examples:
(1)   這些花，朵朵都很漂亮。   Mandarin
(2)   呢啲花，朵朵都好靚。   Cantonese
(3)   ??朵朵花都很漂亮。   Mandarin
(4)   朵朵花都好靚。   Cantonese
(5)   學生個個都很用功。   Mandarin   (from Cheng, to appear)
(6)   他們天天(都)吃麵包。   Mandarin   (from Cheng, to appear)
(7)   金庸寫的書, 本本我都看過。   Mandarin

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[1] In my analysis, it is treated as a topic.

The cartography of motion events in Cantonese, Mandarin and English

Chi-Fung Lam
Ca' Foscari University of Venice
cflams@gmail.com

This study proposes a base-generated word order of the components of (non-causative) motion events in Cantonese, Mandarin and English, from which the surface patterns can be derived with head movements (incorporations) and phrasal movements. I adopt the cartographic assumption that the (purely lexical) verb V generates at the bottom of the structure, which consists of a functional sequence (fseq) above it (Schweikert 2005; Cinque 2006, 2010b). I also assume that a monomorphemic verb consisting of more than one feature is the product of incorporation due to head movements. The fseq is to be figured out in the following procedure. First, based on the observations in (1), I decompose *walk, descend* and *fall* into V_{MOVE}, a Manner feature μ, and a Path feature α, in which incorporations are executed to obtain the full forms of the verbs (2):

(1)   a.   *walk* encodes Manner and no Path,

       b.   *descend* encodes Path and no Manner and,

       c.   *fall* encodes both (Zlatev & Yangklang 2004).

(2)   a.   *walk* spells out V_{MOVE} and μ: $[_\mu$ walk $[_V$ ~~walk~~ $]]$

       b.   *fall* spells out V_{MOVE}, μ and α: $[_\alpha$ fall$[_\mu$ ~~fall~~ $[_V$ ~~fall~~$]]$

       c.   *descend* to spell out V_{MOVE}, μ (with 'neutral' as the 'default' value; referring to Cinque 1999, Section 6.1) and α: $[_\alpha$ descend $[_\mu$ ~~descend~~ $[_V$ ~~descend~~$]]$

Second, since in all the three languages the Path of the motion can be realized in the verb and the particle simultaneously, the two Path features are considered as from different projections. The first feature is incorporated in the verbs and the second is realized as post-verbal particles (1a, probably 1c) or adjectival resultatives (1b, probably 1c) (Cf. Ramchand 2008), labeled as π (following Hale & Keyser 2002):

(2)   (a) *fall* vs. *fall down*   [English]

       (b) *gong* 'descend' vs. *gong dai* 'descend low'   [Cantonese]

       (c) *jiang* 'descend' vs. *jiang xia* 'descend down'   [Mandarin]

Third, a deictic feature δ is recognized, which is realized in the main verb in English while as a post-verbal particle in Cantonese and Mandarin:

(3)   (a)   *come in*   [English]

       (b)   *jap lei* 'enter come'   [Cantonese]

       (c)   *jin lai* 'enter come'   [Mandarin]

Fourth, a Path feature ρ, other than α and π, is proposed for *lok* in Cantonese and *xia* in Mandarin in the expressions below. Though both mean the particle 'down' in English, they behave differently from α in (1). Semantically they encode the trajectory of the motion. Thus, α, ρ and π can be interpreted as Init(iation)–. Proc(ess)–Res(ult) in the Ramchandian tripartite event structure (Ramchand 2008), though they are merged reversely in the syntactic structure proposed here.

(4)   (a)   *dit dai lok heoi* 'fall low down go'   [Cantonese]

       (b)   *diao xia qu* 'fall down go'   [Mandarin]

Given that the assumptions mentioned at the beginning and the Head Movement Constraint, the features contained in the monomorphemic verbs (products of incorporations) should be close enough to the bottom V_{MOVE}. In (3a) *come* (incorporation of V_{MOVE} +δ) preceding *in* (π) suggests that π merges latter than δ (otherwise head movement of V_{MOVE} to δ would be blocked by π). In (4) *dit* and *diao* 'fall' (V_{MOVE}+μ+α, refer to (1b)) preceding *lok* and *xia* (ρ) and then preceding *hoei* and *qu* suggests that ρ merges latter than α and μ, and δ merges latter than ρ. Therefore, a fseq is obtained:

(3) $\pi > \delta > \rho > \alpha > \mu > V$,

       i.e. Result > Deixis > Process > Initiation > Manner > Motion Root

Analysis of the Inflected *-k* Coda of Personal Pronouns in the Xinhui Dialect

Tan, Yutian 譚雨田   The Ohio State University

The morphological system of Chinese is generally considered to be unproductive. Take the concepts of plurality, for example; while Indo-European languages may turn to inflectional methodology, Chinese prefers the lexical strategy: Mandarin has a plural marker *men* 們 suffixed with its preceding pronouns, while Cantonese takes a corresponding *tei* 哋.

(1)

Person	Singular Pronoun			Plural Pronoun		
	Mandarin	Cantonese		Mandarin	Cantonese	
first	我	我	'I/me'	我們	我哋	'we/us'
second	你	你	'you$_{singular}$'	你們	你哋	'you$_{plural}$'
third	他/她	佢	'he/him/she/her'	他/她們	佢哋	'they/them'

In Contrast to most Chinese dialects, Xinhui, a sub-branch of Yue, employs an inflected *-k* coda to express plurality and possession for personal pronouns. Xinhui is located in the southwestern area of the Pearl River Delta in Guangdong Province, China. As a Yue sub-branch that is mutually unintelligible with standard Cantonese, the *lingua franca* in the entire Yue-speaking area, the Xinhui dialect has received relatively less attention in previous studies. This paper seeks to provide an in-depth analysis of this inflected *-k* of personal pronoun structure in Xinhui.

First of all, the three personal singular pronouns in Xinhui have their corresponding inflected *-k* counterparts respectively, as listed in (2).

(2)

Person	Singular Pronoun		*-k* Inflected Structure	
first	我 [ŋɔ]	'I/me'	[ŋɔk]	'we/us/my/our'
second	你 [nei]	'you$_{singular}$'	[niak]	'you$_{plural}$/your$_{singular}$/your$_{plural}$'
third	佢 [kʰui]	'he/him/she/her'	[kʰiak]	'they/them/his/her/their'

In denoting plurality, the *-k* suffix is fairly similar to the plural marker *-men* 們 in Mandarin, except that *-k* is more strictly distributed. While *-men* 們 can attach to personal pronouns, proper names, and some animate nouns such as titles or professionals, *-k* can only be suffixed to personal pronouns.

The *-k* inflection structure bears a possessive reading when followed by several specific nouns, such as locations, professionals, kinships, etc, indicating both singularity and plurality.

There are also cases that the *-k* inflected structure can be interpreted as either plurality or possession, where the head noun determines the grammaticality of each reading. The more animate the head noun is, the more the sentence will have a plurality reading.

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Contact Information on Presenters and Other Participants

(as of 12 March 2012)

Last Name	First / Middle Name	Chinese (optional)	Affiliation	Department/Unit	Email Address
Bi	Zhiwei	畢誌衛	Ohio State Univ.	Foreign Language Center	bi.2@osu.edu
Bourgerie	Dana Scott	白杰理	Brigham Young Univ.	Dept. of Asian & Near Eastern Langs.	dana_bourgerie@byu.edu
Burdin	Rachel		Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Linguistics	burdin@ling.osu.edu
Chan	Jeffrey	陳柏明	Ohio State Univ.	Institute for Chinese Studies	chan.184@osu.edu
Chan	Marjorie K.M.	陳潔雯	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits., Institute for Chinese Studies	chan.9@osu.edu
Chan	May		Univ. of Oxford	Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics	may.chan@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk
Chen	Litong	陈利砼	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	chen.1883@osu.edu
Chen	Vickie	陈亦奇	Ohio State Univ.	School of Communication	chen.1628@osu.edu
Cheung	Kwan Hin	張群顯	Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ.	Dept. of Chinese and Bilingual Studies	ctkhcheu@polyu.edu.hk
Chin	Andy Chi-On	錢志安	Hong Kong Institute of Education	Research Centre on Linguistics and Lang. Information Sciences	hkseattle@gmail.com
Chung	Tiffany		Univ. of Toronto	Dept. of Linguistics	tiffanyc.chung@utoronto.ca
Ding	Picus	丁思志	Univ. of Hong Kong	Dept. of Linguistics	picus@hku.hk
Fox	Robert A.		Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Speech and Hearing Sciences	fox.2@osu.edu
Fung	Roxana Suk-Yee	馮淑儀	Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ.	Dept. of Chinese and Bilingual Studies	ctsyfung@polyu.edu.hk
Holliday	Jeffrey		Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Linguistics	jeffh@ling.ohio-state.edu

Huang	Cici	黄程程	Ohio State Univ.	Fisher College of Business	huang.765@osu.edu
Hui	Hongjun	惠红军	Guizhou Univ. for Nationalities	Dept. of Lang. and Lit.	huihongjun@sina.com
Jiang	Liu	江流	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Linguistics	jiang.233@osu.edu
Kamka	Konnor	顾凯	Ohio State Univ.	DEALL; Dept. of Linguistics	kamka.1@osu.edu
Kong	Anthony Pak Hin		U. of Central Florida	Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders	antkong@ucf.edu
Lam	Chi-Fung		Ca' Foscari Univ. of Venice		cflams@gmail.com
Lee	Jackson L.	李麟	Univ. of Chicago	Dept. of Linguistics	jsllee@uchicago.edu
Leung	Genevieve Yuek-Ling		Univ. of Pennsylvania	Division of Language & Literacy in Education	gleung@dolphin.upenn.edu
Li	Jing	李璟	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	li.2263@osu.edu
Liu	Chunhui	刘春卉	Sichuan Univ.	Dept. of Lit. and Journalism	liuchunhui8860@gmail.com
Lu	Liangyue	卢良月	Syracuse Univ. / Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Instructional Design, Development and Evaluation / Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	luliangyue@gmail.com
Nagy	Naomi		Univ. of Toronto	Dept. of Linguistics	naomi.nagy@utoronto.ca
Nakayama	Mineharu	中山峰治	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	nakayama.1@osu.edu
Pai	Raymond		Defence Lang. Institute		kitpai@hotmail.com
Rouzer	Jack		Ohio State Univ.	School of Teaching and Learning	rouzer.1@osu.edu
Shevokas	Lori Ann		Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Linguistics	shevokas.1@osu.edu
Shih	Ya-ting	施雅婷	Ohio State Univ.	Second and Foreign Lang. Educ.	shih.68@buckeyemail.osu.edu
Stiller	Stephan	尹賢儁	Stanford Univ.	Computer Science	sstiller@stanford.edu
Su	Lulei	苏麓垒	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	su.188@osu.edu
T'sou	Benjamin Ka-Yin	鄒嘉彦	Hong Kong Institute of Education	Research Centre on Linguistics and Lang. Information Sciences	btsou99@gmail.com
Tan	Yutian	谭雨田	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	tan.279@osu.edu
Tong	Josephine		Univ. of Toronto		josephine.tong@utoronto.ca

Tsang	Ka Yu	曾家如	Ohio State Univ.	International Friendship, Inc.	tsang.43@osu.edu
Tse	Holman	謝浩明	Univ. of Pittsburgh	Dept. of Linguistics	hbt3@pitt.edu
Tsui	Tsz-Him	徐子謙	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Linguistics	tsui@ling.osu.edu
Walker	Abby		Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Linguistics	walker.1069@osu.edu
Wiener	Seth	賽斯	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	wiener.24@osu.edu
Winford	Donald		Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of Linguistics	dwinford@ling.ohio-state.edu
Wong	Cathy		Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ.	Dept. of English	egcathyw@inet.polyu.edu.hk
Wong	Puisan	黃佩珊	Ohio State Univ.	Otolaryngology	puisan.wong@osumc.edu
Xiao	Yu Jia		Ohio State Univ.	Fisher College of Business	xiao.59@osu.edu
Xie	Zhiguo	解志国	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	xie.251@osu.edu
Yan	Jing	颜静	Columbus Academy		Jing_Yan@columbusacademy.org
Yang	Chunsheng	杨春生	Northwestern Univ.	Asian and Middle East Studies Program	Cyang@northwestern.edu / ycsgeorge@gmail.com
Yao	Yueyue	姚悦月	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	yao.169@buckeyemail.osu.edu
Yip	Chak-Lam Colum	叶泽林	Univ. of Washington	Dept. of Linguistics	columyip@uw.edu
Yiu	Carine Yuk-Man	姚玉敏	Hong Kong Univ. of Science and Technology	Div. of Humanities	yyiu@ust.hk
Yu	Alan. C. L.	余梓麟	Univ. of Chicago	Dept. of Linguistics	aclyu@uchicago.edu
Yuasa	Etsuyo	湯浅悦代	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	yuasa.1@osu.edu
Yue	Anne Oi-Kan	余靄芹	Univ. of Washington	Dept. of Asian Langs. and Lit.	anneyue@u.washington.edu
Zhang	Zheng-sheng	張正生	San Diego State Univ.	Dept. of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Langs.	zzhang@mail.sdsu.edu / zsz123@gmail.com
Zheng	Rongbin	郑荣彬	Ohio State Univ.	Dept. of E. Asian Langs. & Lits.	zheng.511@osu.edu