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The ICE-IPAC project: Testing the protocol on Norwegian and French learners of English

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Interphonology of Contemporary English - *InterPhonologie de l'Anglais Contemporain*

Mother projects

IPFC (*InterPhonologie du Français Contemporain*):
Learner corpus of **French** as a **Foreign Language**

PAC (*Phonologie de l'Anglais Contemporain*):
Regional and sociolinguistic variation in
contemporary English

PFC (*Phonologie du Français Contemporain*):
Regional and sociolinguistic variation in
contemporary French

ICE-IPAC: originality

- **International database** of L2 English phonology and phonetics
 - Learners with **different L1s** (French, Spanish, Norwegian, etc.)
 - Learners with **different L1 varieties** (Hexagonal French, Canadian French, etc.)
 - Learners with **different L2 varieties** as their target/model
- **Different tasks** within the same dataset (repetition, reading, conversation)
 - **Intra-speaker** variability
 - **Inter-speaker** variability

Similar protocols -> comparability between corpora

- ICE-IPAC / PAC: comparison between **learners** and **native speakers** of English
- ICE-IPAC / IPFC: comparison between speakers of the same L1 **learning English vs. French** as a foreign / second language

PROTOCOL: ICE-IPAC

Tasks

- 1) **repetition** task: word lists
- 2) **reading** tasks: word lists and text
- 3) **conversations**: formal interview and informal conversation

Word lists

- 1) a **common list** applied to all learners, regardless of their L1
- 2) an **L1 specific list** adapted to verify the difficulties frequently observed in the L2/L3 production of the learners of a given L1

Conversations

- 1) a **formal interview** led by a native Anglophone investigator
- 2) an **informal conversation** between 2 learners

Text

"Christmas interview of a television evangelist"

If television evangelists are anything like the rest of us, all they really want to do in Christmas week is snap at their families, criticize their friends and make their neighbours' children cry by glaring at them over the garden fence. Yet society expects them to be as jovial and beaming as they are for the other fifty-one weeks of the year. If anything, more so. [...]

PRELIMINARY RECORDING DATA: Norwegian- and French-speaking learners

Two female **Norwegian** learners (NW1 and NW2)
enrolled at UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Learners

Two female **French** learners (FR1 and FR2)
enrolled at the University of Lyon

Tasks

- Reading of two word lists
- Informal conversation between the two learners

1) Devoicing of fricatives /z, ʒ/ and affricate /dʒ/

Sounds not part of the Norwegian sound system

- /z/ -> [s]: *seal-zeal* near-homophonous; *graze* [gʁæts] or [gʁæs]

- /ʒ/ -> [ʃ]: *leisure* ['leɪʒə]

- /dʒ/ -> [tʃ]: *batch-badge* both produced with [tʃ]

2) Partial neutralization of lenis-fortis in word-final stops

Pre-fortis clipping observed, but voicing ceases well before release of the lenis coda

- /b/ -> [p]: *lap-lab* near-homophonous; [læp]-[læp]

- /d/ -> [t]: *fat-fad* near-homophonous; [fæt]-[fæt]

- *sack* [sæk^h] vs *sag* [sæk]: observation anticipated by the Norwegian L1 system: the underlying contrast in the L1 of the learners is primarily expressed through aspiration on the edges of words, not voicing

3) Post-vocalic rhoticity (NW1 displays more consistent use)

carter ['kɑ:ɾə]

4) Labial-velar approximant /w/ -> [v]

Sound not part of the Norwegian sound system

- *word* [vɔ:ɹd], *which* [vɪʃ], *worthy* ['vɔ:ɹdi]

- hypercorrected [w] for /v/: *vexed* [wekst]

- epenthesis of [v] or [w] in front of rounded, single onset: [ɹ]: *written* ['vɪɹtɪn], *run* [vɹʌn]

5) Interdental fricatives /θ, ð/ -> plosives

Sounds not part of the Norwegian sound system

/ð/ -> [d]: *farther* ['fɑ:ðə], *worthy* ['vɔ:ɹdi]

Special thanks to Helene N. Andreassen

NW

1) Vowels /i:/ - /ɪ/; /ɔ:/ - /ɒ/

No systematic difference in quality

2) <i> pronounced [aɪ] in *sinner, simmer*

Overgeneralization of one of the L2 pronunciation rules for <i>?

3) h-dropping

/h/ is deleted in *here, hurry*, etc. (FR2 displays more consistent use)

4) Influence by the L1 relationship between sound and writing

<ch> pronounced [ʃ] in *witch, China*

5) Post-vocalic rhoticity

carter [kɑ:ɾə]; *garter* [gɑ:ɾə]

Special thanks to Audrey Bonfiglioli and Ioana Trifu

FR

PROSPECT

The phenomena observed in the preliminary recordings will be compared with future recordings of speakers of other languages in foreign and second language contexts.

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