

Rao, Rajiv, editor. *Spanish Phonetics and Phonology in Contact: Studies from Africa, the Americas, and Spain*. John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2020. 452 pages.

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Edited by Rajiv Rao, this volume deals with the study of the different varieties of Spanish as spoken in Africa, South America, Central America, Spain, and the Spanish Caribbean, paying particular attention to the phonetics, phonology, and language contact situations regarding those varieties. The book comprises fifteen chapters divided into three geography-based parts. Part I covers Africa, Part II targets America, and Part III focuses on Spain.

The volume opens with an introduction by Rajiv Rao and Sandro Sessarego, which provides a framework for the subsequent fifteen chapters.

Part I comprises only one chapter, written by John M. Lipski. The chapter addresses a specific phonological phenomenon observed in Equatorial Guinean Spanish. As Lipski indicates, in Equatorial Guinea a significant proportion of the population are proficient in Spanish, as the education system in this country establishes Spanish as the region's metropolitan language. In spite of this, many speakers do not fully acquire the phonological system of standard Spanish and show what could be seen as the result of a transfer phenomenon from their native tongue(s) to Spanish. More specifically, the study analyzes the merge of phonemes /d/ and /t/ in a group of those Afro-Hispanic speakers.

Part II focuses on analyzing the Spanish spoken in the Americas and comprises ten chapters. Chapter 2, by Jim Michnowicz and Alex Hyler, presents an updated analysis about sociolinguistic change in YS (see Labov), which is intimately connected with local indigenous languages. More specifically, the chapter deals with the transformation that Yucatan Spanish (YS) speech rhythm is undergoing. In order to determine the extent to which this phenomenon is observable, the authors use four rhythm metrics,

namely %V, Δ C, VnPVI, and CrPVI. The chapter explores the progress of YS rhythm by looking into segmental variables (see Michnowicz), and demonstrates that Yucatecos are standardizing their rhythm and prefer pan-Hispanic instead of regional rhythmic characteristics.

The third chapter, by Brandon O. Baird, analyzes the Spanish vowels of monolingual Guatemalan speakers and bilinguals from two K'ichee' dialects. The results reveal that vowel spaces are different in the monolingual and bilingual acoustic locations of their vowel categories, and that there exists some degree of acoustic variation among Spanish high point vowels /i, u/ in Zunil and Cantel Spanish dialects.

Chapter 4, by Whitney Chappell, presents the different situations found along the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua and other colonized regions in Latin America. Overall, Spanish is spoken by the Atlantic coast communities despite the different dialects that co-exist together with Spanish. A series of interviews with monolingual Spanish speakers presented with 50 tokens of intervocalic /d/ are shown. The results prove that the new linguistic influences have not erased the variation between early bilingual encounters and contemporary contact situations in this region.

In chapter 5, Jesse Stewart analyses the situation of Ecuadorian Spanish and Northern Andean varieties, exploring six speech Andean communities. Specifically, eighty-three monolingual and bilingual participants are involved in the study. The segments on which the study focuses include the liquid Spanish phonemes /r/, /r/, /ʎ/, and /j/ and the connection with two fricative realizations of those phonemes, [ʒ ʒ], retroflex and postalveolar, which are used by these communities. The study reveals that Spanish speakers in this area usually utter the /r/ phoneme as /ʒ/ and, more generally, that Quichua has influenced Spanish especially in the Northern Andean Ecuadorian communities.

The acquisition of intervocalic stop consonants in Spanish bilinguals from Peru is analyzed in Chapter 6, written by Nicholas Henriksen, Stephen Fafulas, and Erin O'Rourke. The interviews conducted with twenty Spanish monolinguals and Yagua-Spanish

bilinguals reveal that Iquitos speakers of Peruvian Amazonian Spanish produce the most Spanish-like patterns of lenient /p, t, k, b, d, g/. On the other hand, the results also show a lesser degree of lenition of stops in Yagua-Spanish bilingual speakers in comparison to Spanish monolinguals.

Chapter 7, by Jose Alberto Elias-Ulloa, deals with Shipibo-Konibo, a Spanish variant from the Ucayali region in Peru. After analyzing the Spanish speakers and how close each type of L2 Spanish is to L1 Spanish, some characteristics from /r/ (realized as a thrill and as a tap) in Shipibo-Konibo Spanish are presented. The chapter emphasizes the importance of linguistic studies that analyze the language of rural South American populations, which show a notable Amazonian influence. In the authors' view, this type of work is necessary in order to gather more details about the linguistic characteristics of Spanish in under-researched linguistic contexts.

Afro-Peruvian Spanish (APS) intonation is analyzed in Chapter 8, authored by Brianna Butera, Rajiv Rao and Sandro Sessarego. This research work was developed conducting sixty interviews with APS speakers from some Peruvian communities. Findings indicate that APS does not keep the declarative intonation patterns of standard Spanish. It has lower rates of downstepping, systematic peak synchronization at the word level (both in nuclear and prenuclear positions), and L-boundary tones at the intermediate phrases edges (rather than H- configurations). These findings are interpreted as a consequence of contact-induced transition, which resulted in the APS grammar's reduction of Spanish phonological targets and to a later reorganization of prosodic framework.

Chapter 9, by Shaw N. Gynan and Ernesto Luís López Almada, analyzes the glottal stop in Guarani and Paraguayan Spanish. The study analyzes the use of [ʔ] in Paraguay through its distribution among four phonetic settings: word internal (Guarani), phrase-initial, synalepha (Guarani and Spanish), and linking (Spanish). The findings indicate that [ʔ] in Spanish is the consequence of integration rather than transfer.

The Portuguese influence on Border Uruguayan in the

acoustically gradient of intervocalic /d/ is explored by Mark Waltermire and Michael Gradoville in Chapter 10. The results were obtained through some interviews, which show that the age and sex of the participants provide a valid social variable in the sense that they have an impact on the results themselves. The language preference might also be an essential variable and suggest that it be investigated in future studies.

Chapter 11, by Brandon M.A. Rogers, examines the influence of the Mapudungun unique intonation plateau pattern in Chilean Spanish, focusing on the similar prosodic behavior shown by both languages. The results show that the two languages have influenced each other, which is not surprising, as it is widely accepted that Mapadungun has contributed to Chilean's lexicon (e.g., Salas; Zúñiga; Smeets). This study suggests the possibility of Mapadungun having a more significant role in influencing Chilean Spanish than previously stated.

Part III focuses on Spain. In Chapter 12, Xosé Luís Regueira and Elisa Fernández Rei analyze the sound and intonation system of Spanish in Galicia. The study shows that a bilingual speaker with Spanish dominance displays two different vowel systems, one for Galician and the other one for Spanish, where high-mid and low-mid vowels are not differentiated. The most urban Spanish speakers display the lowest degree of differentiation for mid vowels, while the Spanish speakers from medium-size towns display a greater degree of differentiation.

The objective of Chapter 13, by Sonia Barnes, is to examine the phonetic outcomes of the contact-induced alternation between Asturian /u/ and Spanish /o/ in word-final position. The data for this study were collected from twelve speakers of Asturian Spanish from Gijón. The results reflect that women keep a more significant distinction between /o/ and /u/ in word-internal position, while men are more likely to merge the two back vowels word-internally.

In Chapter 14, Justin Davidson investigates the socio-phonetic variation in the alveolar lateral /l/ in Catalan and Spanish. This research work measures the degree of lateral velarization in this

contact setting. The results conclude that Catalan exhibits a single lateral that is darker compared to those in Spanish from Madrid and Central Castilian Spanish. These findings are inconsistent with the notions of an assimilated or merged lateral category (see Flege) across Catalan-Spanish.

Finally, Christoph Gabriel, Jonas Grünke and Elena Kireva are the authors of Chapter 15, which delves into the influence and linguistic changes present in the population of Olivenza as an effect of Portuguese-Spanish bilingualism. The analysis of aspects such as rhythm and intonation, among others, allow the researchers to identify that Olivenza Spanish (OS) and Olivenza Portuguese (OP) show some similar prosodic patterns, as in final syllable elongation in interrogative structures. The results support the interpretation of OS as the product of two processes: first, L1 transition during the process of L2 acquisition by the inhabitants of Olivenza after its absorption into Spain in 1801, and second, the eventual fusion of the local dialect with the dominant variety, Castilian Spanish.

Overall, this volume provides a significantly rich characterization of the phonology and phonetics of the different varieties of Spanish spoken throughout the world and how those varieties interact with other languages. Part I demonstrates that dialects can modify the official languages in many communities. Some chapters in Part II address Spanish phonological components through empirical/structured data collection analyzed according to its influence. Part III shows that that even in the areas where Spanish is the official language, the phonological characteristics of other languages spoken in the different territories make a difference in the language.

As a last observation, the volume excludes studies from a good number of countries, such as the United States, where the Spanish-speaking population is indeed very large. In spite of this, the volume succeeds at presenting a fairly overarching view of the phonological and phonetic phenomena that Spanish is going through all around the world. The volume will be of utmost interest for any person that aims at finding out more about the richness of a language that is at least as varied as the populations that speak it.

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