10th ANNUAL PAC CONFERENCE

The Phonology of Contemporary English

Colloque international PAC

La phonologie de l'anglais contemporain

Monday 26 & Tuesday 27 May 2014

Programme Resumes

Comité d'organisation / Conference organisers:
Phil Carr (EMMA, Université Montpellier III)
Jacques Durand (ERSS, Université Toulouse II)
Anne Przewozny-Desriaux (ERSS, Université Toulouse II)

http://www.projet-pac.net/

Salle des colloques n°1

Site Saint-Charles, Montpellier

(arrêt « Place Albert 1er » lignes 1 & 4 TRAM)







PAC 10, 26th & 27th May 2014

Salle des colloques 1, Site St Charles, Université Montpellier III

Monday 26th May

9.00 - 9.30 Welcome and coffee

- 9.30 10.00 Nicolas Ballier (Université Paris 7) 'Syllable variation and the legality principle in English dictionaries: a corpus-based investigation'
- 10.00 10.30 Wyn Johnson & Jenny Adams (Essex University, England) 'Joined-up thinking about t/d deletion in English'
- 10.30 11.00 Stanimir Rakic (Belgrade) 'On the prosodic structure and quantity of English compounds'

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break

- 11.30 12.00 Jacques Durand, Hélène Giraudo, Anne Przewozny, Jean-Michel Tarrier. (ERSS/Université Toulouse II). 'The LVTI project and levelling in the UK and France: l'exception française?'
- 12.00 12.30 Hugo Chatellier & Léa Courdès-Murphy (ERSS/Université Toulouse II) 'Levelling, non-levelling and counter-levelling in Manchester and Toulouse'

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch

- 14.00 14.30 Brian José & Jane Stuart-Smith (Glasgow University, Scotland). 'Synchronic models of language change *vs* diachronic data: insights from a new real-time corpus of Glaswegian vernacular English'
- 14.30 15.00 Inès Brulard (ERSS/Université Toulouse II), Phil Carr, Roman Nacu (EMMA/Université Montpellier III). 'Accent modification, systemic vs realisational differences, and salience : the case of RP influences on Standard Scottish English'

15.00 - 15.30 Coffee break

- 15.30 16.00 Małgorzata Kul (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland). 'Reduction of consonants in Lancashire'
- 16.00 16.30 Stephan Wilhelm (TIL, Université de Bourgogne). 'Nailing down Urban Northern British Intonation (UNBI): the intonation of Northern British accents'
- 16.30 17.00 Steve Moore & Hugo Chatellier (ERSS/Université Toulouse II) 'Towards a southern norm? The case of FACE and GOAT in Black Country and Manchester English'

20.00 Conference dinner (Brasserie du Théatre)

Tuesday 27th May

- 9.30 10.00 Samuel Atechi (Chemnitz University of Technology, Cameroon). 'Cameroon Francophone English: does it exist?'
- 10.00 10.30 Willy Beaujean (Université Toulouse II) 'PAC Nigeria: a first glimpse into Nigerian English phonology'

10. 30 - 11.00 Coffee break

- 11.00 11.30 Léa Courdès-Murphy, Jacques Durand, Julien Eychenne & Cécile Viollain (ERSS/Université Toulouse II). 'A tool for the exploration of data within the PAC/PFC/LVTI programmes : Dolmen'
- 11.30 12.00 Sylvain Navarro, Cécile Viollain & Julien Eychenne (ERSS/Université Toulouse II). 'Coding and coding extraction in a large decentralised project : r-sandhi in PAC'
- 12.00 12.30 Basilio Calderone & Anne Przewozny (ERSS/Université Toulouse II). 'Webbased sharing of data in the PAC project : issues at stake.'

12.30 - 13.50 Lunch

- 13.50 14.00 Nadine Herri-Benit (Paris 8), Takeki Kamiyama (Paris 8), Véronique Lacoste (University of Freiburg, Germany). 'The ICE-IPAC project: on overview'
- 14.00 14.30 Marc Capliez (Université du Littoral Côte d'Opale) 'The roles of segments and prosody in the acquisition of English phonology by French speakers'
- 14.30 15.00 Leonidas Silva Jr. and Ester Scarpa (UEPB, Brazil). 'Stress clash in English from the rhythmic influences of Brazilian Portuguese: an interphonological approach'
- 15.00 15.30 Kunija Nasukawa, Hitomi Onuma & Phillip Backley (Tohoku Gakuin University, Sendai, Japan). 'Critical limit of improvement in the L2 acquisition of English VOT.

15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break

- 16.00 16.30 Daniel Huber (ERSS/Université Toulouse II) 'Reduction in negative contracted forms in *because* in Lancashire (Bolton) English'
- 16.30 17.00 Laurie Buscail (Université de Perpignan) 'PAC-SYNTAX: a project dedicated to syntax and semantics within the PAC project'

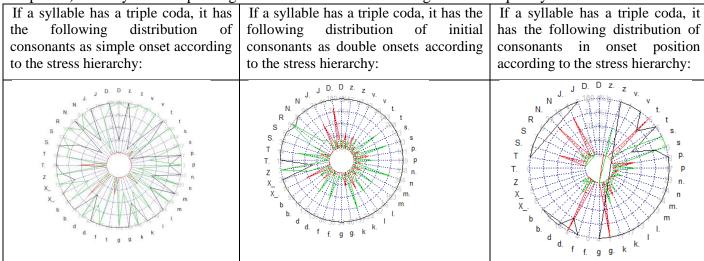
END OF CONFERENCE

Nicolas Ballier (Paris Diderot, CLILLAC-ARP, EA3967)

Syllable variation and the legality principle in English dictionaries: a corpus-based investigation

This talk will investigate the locus of variation in syllable boundaries in *Longman Pronunciation Dictionary* and the CELEX database to offer contemporary views for the variation of syllable boundaries indicated in pronouncing dictionaries. The variation of accepted clusters in word-internal boundaries will be compared with the frequency of licit clusters in onsets and codas for monosyllables (the legality principle, Goslin, J., & Frauenfelder 2001, Eddington et al. 2013).

Synchronically, the consonant clusters that can be found as onsets or codas have been perused using R to determine profiles of preference for syllabification. A systematic investigation of the CELEX database (Baayen et al. 1995) has yielded the most frequent onset and coda clusters for each syllable position and test the effects of primary, secondary and absence of stress for these clusters. Radar charts of the different consonant clusters have been produced for each syllable position and allow the ranking of consonants and clusters according to their frequency, in each syllable, according to stress and position (ult, penult, antepenult). This systematic plotting of clusters allows the investigation of frequency effects.



As evidenced on these spider charts, phonotactics vary for secondary stress (red), primary stress (black) and unstressed syllables (green) for the first variant.

N	-	Т	D	S	Z	J	С	Р	Н	F	R
Ŋ	dʒ	Т	Đ	l	3	t∫	ņ	ļ	ņ	m	dangling linking r

Consonants represented by small letters have their expected IPA values Consonant followed by a dot or an underscore correspond to word internal boundaries. The rest of the paper will compare the frequency of occurrences of consonant clusters as word-internal boundaries or word boundaries. Beside the legality principle, are some clusters more frequent than others at junctures? The same methodology has been applied to the 1990 edition of *LPD*, showing that some of Wells' proposed syllable boundaries are not congruent with the existing licit coda clusters for monosyllabic words. Typically, Cr clusters appear at internal boundaries as coda clusters for words like *petrol*.

Then, the inventory of discrepancies between syllable divisions has been established between CELEX and LPD. The list of words has been sorted according to the kinds of intervocalic sequences that can be found. The typology of problematic boundaries has been compared to disagreements between experts for syllable-division (see Rogiva et al. 2013 for English).

Baaven, R. H., Piepenbrock, R., & Gulikers, L. (1995). The CELEX lexical database (release 2). Distributed by the Linguistic Data Consortium, University of Pennsylvania.

Eddington, D., Treiman, R. & D. Elzinga (2013): Syllabification of American English: Evidence from a Large-scale Experiment. Part I, *Journal of Quantitative Linguistics*, 20:1, 45-67

Goslin, J., & Frauenfelder, U. H. (2001). A comparison of theoretical and human syllabification. *Language and Speech*, 44(4), 409–436.

Rogova, K., Demuynck, K., & Van Compernolle, D. (2013). Automatic syllabification using segmental conditional random fields. In *Computational Linguistics in the Netherlands*, 3, 34-48.

Wells, J. C. (19990) Longman Pronunciation Dictionary. Longman. [=LPD]

Joined up thinking about t/d deletion in English

Wyn Johnson and Jenny Adams (University of Essex)

What appears to be a phonologically or phonetically motivated process of English has, until fairly recently, largely been monopolised by the sociolinguistic literature. The process, known as t/d deletion, affects word final coronal stops in consonant clusters. Conditioning factors are suggested to include the nature of the preceding and following consonants with respect to the obligatory contour principle or to sonority, the morphological status of the affected t or d and the frequency of occurrence of the words containing them. Hierarchies have been constructed of the preceding and following consonants most likely to promote deletion but each of the studies has concentrated on an individual interpretation of the phenomenon.

Throughout the literature, however, despite the attention paid to this connected speech feature, very little, if any, attention has been paid to the complementary distribution of /t/ and /d/ in monomorphemic final clusters nor to their morphological status and the interaction between /t/ deletion and glottalisation in certain environments. The suggestion (Guy 1980 *et seq*) that the most likely type of preceding sound to promote deletion is a sibilant does not explain the facts because it does not take distribution into account. This blanket claim fails to observe that, whilst /s/ is overall a promoter, this will only occur before /t/ and that /•/ would occur only before /t/ and /z/ before /d/ in bimorphemic words. Nor does it take account of the fact that only /d/ may be deleted after /l/ or /n/. The effect of morpheme boundaries has been found to be negligible (Tagliamonte & Temple 2005) although Bybee (2002) points out that the probability of the past tense marker occurring before a consonant is considerably lower than it is for the final sound of a monomorpheme.

Our presentation aims to explore both the benefits and the shortcomings of previous work in both American and British English analyses and to present a new sociophonological analysis using data from a linguistic variety of South-East British English, Mersea Island in Essex, which aims show the importance of analysing (t) and (d) as separate variables, particularly in view of an important finding that /d/ is less susceptible to deletion than /t/.

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- Guy, G and Boyd, S (1990) The development of a morphological class. *Language Variation* and Change 2: 1-18.
- Tagliamonte S. & R. Temple (2005) New perspectives on an ol' variable: (t, t) in British English. In *Language Variation and Change* 17 281-302

On the prosodic structure and quantity of English compounds Stanimir Rakic (Belgrade)

In many languages the compounds are a combining of prosodic words. This means that all phonologhical rules and phonotactic restrictions whose domain are prosodic words can apply to the compound components, but not to the whole compounds. In particular, this has been shown to be the case by Booij (1985) for Dutch and by Nespor and Vogel (1986) for Italian. Following the same procedure, I show that generally the compounds in English consist of two prosodic words. For example, at the morpheme boundary in compounds there is no degemination (backcloth /'bæk-klpθ/ n., back comb /'bæk-kəum/ v.), the neighbouring obstruents need not agree in voicing (background /'bækgraund/ n. baggage car /'bægidʒkɑ:/ n.), the alveolar /n/ need not be velarized before a velar (e.g. corncob /ˈkɔ:nkpb/ n., mankind /ˌmænˈkaɪnd/ n., but finger /ˈfɪŋgə/, uncle /ˈʌŋkəl/ in prosodic words), syllabification does not apply across the compound boundaries (e.g. land owner /ˈlændˌəunə / n., lunch hour /ˈlʌntʃ. auə/ n., but advantage /əd.'vɑ:n.tɪdʒ/ n., franchise /ˈfræn.tʃaɪz/ n. in prosodic words), etc.

According to Prince (1990) in trochaic systems the trochaic shortening (HL) \rightarrow (LL) produces the preferred foot structure because (LL) and (H) are the optimal feet in trochaic systems. The trochaic shortening is a lexical rule which applies in derived environments, it however never applies in compounds.

- (1a) gate.post /'geɪt.pəust/
 pea.nut /'pi:.nʌt/
- (b) corner.stone /'kɔ:n.ə.stəun/

banana peel /bə.'na:.n ə.ˌpi:l/

In (1a), there is no shortening because the compounds have the feet structure (H)(H) which does not undergo shortening. In (1b), the first component of /ˈkɔ:n.ə.stəun/ has the feet structure (HL), but the first syllable is closed, and no shortening is possible. The first component of /bə.ˈnɑ:.n ə.ˌ pi:l/ has the structure (L)(HL), but the shortening is again not possible because /bə.ˈnɑ:.n ə/ is basic lexical form. According to the principle of strict cyclicity, the shortening is possible only in derived environment. On the other hand, in (1a), the foot structure (HL) is not possible because the Word Minimality bans lexical words which consist of just one light syllable (Hayes 1995: 47).

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Jacques Durand, Hélène Giraudo, Anne Przewozny, Jean-Michel Tarrier

ERSS/Toulouse II

The LVTI project and levelling in the UK and France: l'exception française?

For a long time linguistic change was assumed to be observable only in a *post hoc* manner. Indeed Bloomfield asserts: "The process of linguistic change has never been directly observed; we shall see that such observation with our present facilities, is inconceivable" (1933: 347). Ever since the seminal work of Labov, some changes in apparent time have been shown to indicate ongoing evolutions of linguistic systems once we disentangle change in progress from strict age-grading. Thus, in his study of the island of Martha's Vineyard, Labov (1963) was able to demonstrate that the local islanders had reversed a levelling trend giving the diphthongs /ay/ and /aw/ a low ([a]-ish) starting point across varieties of American English. They were, on the contrary, maintaining or reinforcing a central (schwa-like) initial element. He was also able to correlate this counter-levelling change in progress on the island with sociological patterns of resistance to mainland influence. Thereafter, the issue of levelling was examined in much larger scale studies of urban speech (see Kerswill 2003, Britain 2010 for definitions of levelling). In the United Kingdom, while some important levelling forces can be shown to be at play in survey after survey (in particular, the loss of rhoticity under the influence of London speech), many urban varieties have also been shown to present strong non-levelling and counter-levelling trends (see Watt and Milroy 1999, Watt 2002). Thus Beal argues that "the dialect of influential towns and cities is spreading [...] but even where there is clear evidence of levelling in the North, this seems to be in the direction of a regional or pan-northern, rather than a national model" (2008: 129). By contrast with this, studies of varieties of French in mainland France have systematically pointed to strong levelling forces without unearthing clear counter-levelling tendencies. Indeed, a number of British sociolinguists go as far as arguing that, in Western Europe, the French situation is something of an oddity and that there is an "exception française" which, if true, requires a socio-political explanation (see inter alia Armstrong and Pooley 2010, Jones and Hornsby 2013). Our aim is to present this debate and examine some data from the PFC programme which shows how the same observations (e.g. the 'loi de position') can be interpreted as levelling, non-levelling and even counter-levelling according to the perspective (see Durand, Eychenne, Lyche 2013). We then provide an overview of a current programme of investigation (LVTI, Durand and Przewozny 2012, Giraudo, Przewozny, Tarrier 2013) which aims at comparing Toulouse and Manchester on the basis of a large scale study using an extended version of the PAC and PFC methodology. The corpus in its present form (60+ speakers in Manchester and 60+ speakers in Toulouse) has not been fully analysed yet but signs of levelling and non-levelling in relation to a southern norm can be detected in both as we show in relation to the COOK/FOOT and TRAP/BATH lexical sets in Manchester and schwa and nasal vowels in Toulouse. On the other hand, the identification of variables that could lead to an unequivocal interpretation as counter-levelling is proving a more difficult task.

Levelling, non-levelling and counter-levelling in Manchester and Toulouse

Hugo Chatellier and Léa Courdès-Murphy (ERSS/Toulouse II)

The concept of levelling has recently been at the forefront of research on varieties of French and English from a sociolinguistic point of view. Post-Labovian research in Britain and France has led a number of scholars to the conclusion that, despite the apparent similarities between the two countries, most regional varieties have been levelled out in France but not in the United Kingdom (the famous "exception française", see Hornsby & Jones 2013).

In October 2011, the LVTI (Langue, Ville, Travail, Identité / Language, Urban Life, Work, Identity) project was launched simultaneously in Toulouse and Manchester (Durand, Giraudo, Przewozny, Tarrier 2013). Both cities share a number of features: they have strong, recognisable regional identities, are located far away from their respective capital cities, and their local accents are traditionally described as quite distinct from the national standards in France and England. We intend to create large corpora of speakers (around 120 informants for each location) in order to to study these two cities from a sociophonological point of view, and our investigation will focus on issues such as the relationship between accents and identity, and the levelling of dialects.

In this paper, we provide an overview of previous work on these two cities (e.g. Wells 1982, Beal 2008 for Manchester, Séguy 1978, Borrell 1975 for Toulouse) and identify a number of variables which seem central to a linguistic study of these two cities varieties. We then present initial results from both databases (60+ speakers for each city) by examining a subset of the variables which are likely to prove significant. In Toulouse, there are non-levelled variables, such as word-initial and word-internal schwa, while levelling can explain ongoing changes, particularly regarding consonantal clusters and final schwa. This latter variable will be of prime interest, as it is closely related to another variable: nasal vowels. We take the view (as Durand 1988, 2009 and Eychenne 2006) that southern French does not possess underlying nasal vowels, but rather VN (oral vowel followed by a nasal consonant) sequences. Our data show evidence of levelling towards the French standard – which possesses nasal vowels – although non-levelling can also shed light on this change: even for those speakers with levelled varieties, the brin - brun opposition is still present. In Manchester, there is evidence that certain features are maintained. Typical northern features, such as the absence of opposition between FOOT and STRUT, and the different lexical distribution of TRAP, BATH and PALM, are found in a large number of our informants. There is also evidence of non-levelling for the Mancunian opener vowels in happY and lettER. On the other hand, levelling towards the southern standard is at work in words such as *book* and *cook*, for which the traditional /u:/ pronunciation is now virtually non-existent.

In the end, our view is that it is only through the discovery of underlying phonological regularities, and of their link to phonetic realisations and socio-stylistic conditioning, that we can understand the dynamics of systems.

Synchronic Models of Language Change vs Diachronic Data: Insights from a New Real-Time Corpus of Glaswegian Vernacular English

Brian José & Jane Stuart-Smith the University of Glasgow

Consistent with PAC's aim, among others, to test phonological and phonetic models from a synchronic, diachronic and variationist point of view, this paper seeks to assess the compatibility of synchronic "apparent-time" models of language change in progress with "real-time" diachronic data. The APPARENT-TIME CONSTRUCT (e.g., Gauchat 1905; Labov 1963, 1966; Bailey, Wikle, Tillery, & Sand 1991; Bailey 2002; among others) is not restricted in its application to modelling sound change in progress, specifically; rather, it is widely used to study language change in progress more generally, including sound change. As many researchers have noted, though, confidence in and acceptance of apparent-time methods have not yet been adequately justified by real-time data (e.g., Chambers & Trudgill 1980; Eckert 1997; Gordon & Maclagan 2001; Boberg 2004; Labov, Ash, & Boberg 2006; Nevalainen, Raumolin-Brunberg, & Mannila 2011; among others). This is due, in large part, to the fact that the real-time evidence needed for that purpose simply did not exist until recently (or, at best, was only vanishingly rare). However, as real-time data finally becomes increasingly available, critical real-time assessments of apparent-time models are becoming an increasingly realistic and attainable goal. In fact, the very notion of apparent time as a theoretical construct is already being refined in important ways (cf. Sankoff & Blondeau 2007, Tagliamonte & D'Arcy 2009, José 2010, Van Hofwegen & Wolfram 2010, Wagner 2012, Rickford & Price 2013).

In that spirit, this paper presents partial results of an ambitious, ongoing project of sociophonetic variation in Scotland's largest city: Glasgow. The "Sounds of the City" Project has established (and is continuing to develop) a corpus of recordings with working-class speakers of three age groups --- elderly, adult, adolescent --- spanning four decades ---1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s--- from Glasgow and surrounding communities. Recent and ongoing studies based on this new cross-sectional, or trend, corpus have already started to investigate language change and stable variation within the vowel system, the Scottish Vowel-Length Rule, voice onset time in plosives, and the distribution of "clear" and "dark" L word-initially, among other topics. Here, we focus on raising of the LOT vowel /3/ and lowering of the BOOT vowel /4/ within the subsystem of the "six bimoraic monophthongs /i e a o o u/" of Scottish English (Scobbie, Turk, & Hewlett 1999: 1617). Our analysis is based on approximately 14000 combined tokens of those six vowels extracted from a sub-sample of speakers designed to exploit the maximum separation in both real and apparent time that our corpus currently has to offer: 31 speakers approximately balanced for age (elderly, adolescent), sex (male, female), and time period (1970s, 2000s). We will show that our real- and apparent-time data are generally compatible, and we will provide an explanatory account for where they seem be inconsistent or only somewhat less consistent with each other. Thus, we will argue that in this instance synchronic apparent-time models are largely corroborated and validated by real-time diachronic data.

References

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Accent modification, systemic vs realisational differences, and salience: RP and SSE

Inès Brulard (ERSS/Toulouse II), Phil Carr and Roman Nacu (EMMA/Montpellier III)

We consider here the question, discussed by, among others, Abercrombie (1979), Wells (1982) and Trudgill (1986), whether there are some aspects of an accent which are more susceptible to modification than others, and if so, whether there is any way of explaining why. The data come from our on-going PAC-based investigation into RP-influenced Standard Scottish English (SSE). The project is a PAC+ project, based on the Edinburgh PAC corpus and video recordings of Scottish politicians in the House of Commons, in addition to Scottish political broadcasters in the Westminster Village.

In Phase 1 of our project, we tested Abercrombie's (1979) claim that there is an implicational generalization concerning the adoption of the RP /æ/ vs /ɑ:/ and /ɒ/ vs /ɔ:/ contrasts by SSE speakers, the claim being that adoption of the latter implies adoption of the former. As reported in Carr & Brulard (2006), our data did not bear out this claim. In that paper, we also investigated variable adoption of non-rhoticity, noting that an /æ/ vs /ɐ/ contrast can be adopted in the absence of the adoption of non-rhoticity. In Phase 2 of our project (Brulard, Carr & Nacu in preparation, Nacu 2012), we considered the following: diphthongisation of the mid vowels in the lexical sets GOAT and FACE, loss of the SSE /w/ vs /m/ contrast, and adoption of the RP realisation of the /ao/ diphthong in words of the lexical set MOUTH. Our results show that that diphthongal FACE and GOAT vowels are widespread, even among the least RP-influenced speakers, as is some version of the RP realisation of the diphthong in words of the set MOUTH. In some of our data, even the most RP-orientated SSE speakers show retention of the /w/ vs /m/ contrast.

We consider Trudgill's (1986) claim that speakers are most likely to adapt to features of another accents that are salient, where salience is defined by Trudgill as centrally involving phonemic contrasts. We question his claim that phonemic contrasts can be said to involve presence vs absence of a segment: we insist that the minimal pair test involves the substitution (commutation) of one phone for another, not the presence vs absence of a phone (so *Hugh* and who do not form a minimal pair in RP, as Trudgill claims). We also claim that Trudgill's analysis of Flapping in American English takes it to constitute a systemic difference with respect to RP: we insist that it is a realisational difference. If we are justified in making these claims, then the idea that systemic differences between accents are the most salient is questionable, since North American Flapping is salient to British speakers.

We then consider the following claims made by Wells (1982: 113). Firstly, he claimed that realisational differences should be relatively easy to adopt. Secondly, with respect to systemic differences, Wells argues that, if the native accent *under*-differentiates with respect to the target accent, adaptation will be relatively *difficult*, whereas if the native accent *over*-differentiates with respect to the target accent, adaptation is relatively *easy*. With respect to the first claim, there is some evidence from our data that realisational differences between SSE and RP are prone to adoption. Variable non-rhoticity, if viewed as a realisational difference, is also clearly prone to adoption (but the rhotic vs non-rhotic difference can also be regarded as a phonotactic, rather than a realisational, difference). With respect to *under*-

differentiation, our data from Phase 1, contrary to the Wells claim, do not show difficulty in adopting the /æ/vs/a:/ and /v/vs/a:/ distinctions. To explain this, we pursue a point touched on by Wells and Trudgill: the role of awareness of spelling. The informants discussed in Carr & Brulard (2006) are all university-educated, highly literate Scots. Given that <ought>, <aught> and <aw> map fairly conistently onto the /ɔ:/ phoneme in RP, such informants may use awareness of spelling to adopt the RP distinction. Thus, distinct vowels in pairs such as cot and caught are prevalent in our data, even among speakers who remain fully rhotic. SSE speakers who are variably non-rhotic may use the spelling (presence of <r>) in words of the sets NORTH and FORCE to adopt RP /o:/. However, words in which the spelling does not transparently encode the distinction are, we suggest, less easily adapted. Examples are wander, saunter. Similarly, for our variably non-rhotic Scottish speakers, awareness of the presence of $\langle r \rangle$ in words of the set START may be a factor in the adopting of $\langle r \rangle$ vs $\langle \alpha r \rangle$. We have yet to investigate the possible adoption of RP /u:/ vs /v/, but our prediction is that this would be harder to adopt than /æ/ vs /a:/ or /p/ vs /ɔ:/, since the <oo> digraph does not map onto a single phoneme in RP, and the /u:/ vs /v / distinction is not directly retrievable from the spelling, either in words with <00>, such as pool vs good, or in words with <u>, such as put vs super.

Given that SSE *over*-differentiates with respect to RP as far as /w/ vs /m/ is concerned, why does this distinction resist abandonment in *some* of our recordings for SSE speakers who are near-RP with respect to the other variables we have studied, despite the low perceptual salience of WH function words? We seek to show that such speakers have an increased number of [m] tokens, in WH function words, when speaking on a one-to-one basis, in a formal context (the televised political interview), as one Scot to another.

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Reduction of consonants in Lancashire

Małgorzata Kul (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland)

The study is devoted to reduction in Lancashire, the dialect stereotyped in terms of reduction (Jones 2002). In defining reduction, the study follows Johnson (2004): "a large deviation from the citation form such that whole syllables are lost and/or a large proportion of the phones in the form are changed" (Johnson 2004: 1).

Specifically, the study investigates reduction of consonants seeking (i) to provide a list of consonant processes in Lancashire along with its phonetic context following Wells (1982), Lodge (1984), Schneider et al. (2004) and Hannisdal (2006) (ii) to establish the frequency of occurrence of reduction processes in the manner of Johnson (2004) (iii) to correlate reduction with rate of speech. The study hypothesizes that there is a robust correlation between reduction and tempo in that high speech rate fosters reduction (Shockey 2003).

The study was performed by means of auditory and acoustic analysis on 6 hours 4 minutes of speech of 9 speakers from the Phonologie de l'Anglais Contemporain corpus (Durand and Pukli 2004), using both formal and informal interviews.

In the light of obtained results, the list of consonant reduction includes /t, d/ elision, /h/ elision, /g/ dropping, /t/ frication and yod coalescence. In addition, a few instances of tapping as well as /s/ elision were identified. The analysis of phonetic context, however, reveals a great deal of interspeaker variability.

The most frequent consonant reduction is /t, d/ reduction (38 per cent), closely followed by /t/ frication (29 per cent) whereas you coalescence had frequency of occurrence at the level of 3 per cent, which is in line with Huber's (2010) findings for assimilation of place.

The Pearson's linear correlation established for rate and reduction of 9 speakers is surprisingly low (r=32), contradicting the intuitive understanding that high speech rate breeds reduction. The study suggests, then, that the role of rate in shaping reduction patterns is less significant than it is commonly assumed (Shockey 2003).

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Nailing down Urban Northern British Intonation (UNBI): the intonation of Northern British accents

Stephan Wilhelm (TIL, Université de Bourgogne)

Basing himself on pioneering research (Wilde 1938; Strang 1964; Jarman & Cruttenden 1976; Knowles 1975, 1978, 1981; Currie 1979; Pellowe & Jones 1978; Local 1986; McElholm 1986; Ladd & Lindsay 1991) and on his own observations, Cruttenden (1995) identified a number of intonation features common to different cities in Northern Britain which he regrouped under the appellation of 'UNB' ('Urban North British'). Cruttenden subsequently defined 'Urban North British Intonation' as "an intonational system that operates in a number of cities in northern Britain [...] characterised by a default intonation involving rising or rising-slumping nuclear pitch patterns" (Cruttenden 2007).

Investigating the same phenomenon, Wilhelm (2011) came to the conclusion that UNBI was not properly an intonation system, but rather a "metasystem" or a set of distinct systems, insofar as Northern British accents exhibit great intonational variety.

Based on a provisional corpus made up of recordings from the PAC project completed by additional material taken from other corpora, this presentation argues (*contra* Wilhelm 2011) that UNBI is essentially a unique system and not a set of indirectly related sequences of features. It attempts to provide an inventory of the main tones of which it is comprised, and suggests that the fundamental unity of UNBI could shed light on the vexed question of its origins (Cruttenden 1995; Hirst 2008).

Finally, the presentation focuses on the phonetic shape of UNBI tones and the problems they raise in terms of phonological analysis and 'intonation universals' (Jarman & Cruttenden 1976; Cruttenden 1981).

This paper is intended as the first stage of an investigation of intonational variation in Britain within the framework of the PAC project.

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Towards the southern norm? The case of FACE and GOAT in Black Country and Manchester English

Steve Moore and Hugo Chatellier (ERSS/Toulouse II)

The aim of the present paper is to use two PAC surveys of distinct, but linguistically not dissimilar areas: Manchester, and the Black Country (West Midlands) to the south, to carry out a comparative investigation into a potential vowel change in both areas. Our intention is to analyse the presence (or absence) of monophthongs in Black Country English and Manchester English, for the FACE and GOAT lexical sets.

The presence of variants [e:] and [o:] for FACE and GOAT in parts of England are directly attributable to the Great Vowel Shift (which caused previous pronunciations [ɛ:] and [o:] to become closer). They represent a transitional shift, a pre-Long Mid Diphthonging state, which in turn changed these realizations into the diphthongs [eɪ] and [oʊ] around 1800 (Wells 1982). The earlier transitional realisations are still to be heard in parts of the north (Beal 2008). In the West Midlands, considered by many writers as belonging to the linguistic north, similar monophthongal realisations have, in the past, been suggested for these lexical sets, but the situation is potentially more complex, with diphthongal realisations also clearly recognised (Clark 2008, Mathisen 1999), and there is also evidence of the presence of subsets of high-frequency words in both FACE and GOAT, which assume different monophthongal realisations.

By taking comparable samples of informants from the PAC Manchester and Black Country projects, we aim to show to what extent monophthongal variants for FACE and GOAT would seem to be present still in both areas, and whether there is evidence for levelling towards a southern-based norm across the generations.

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Cameroon Francophone English: Does it exist?

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Recent research on the phonology of English spoken by Francophone Cameroonians claim that this particular variety exhibits systematic, stable, and predictable features which set it apart from the mainstream variety of English spoken by Anglophone Cameroonians. On the basis of this assertion, researchers have come to a consensus that Cameroon Francophone English (abbreviated to CamFE) should be investigated as a distinct variety in its own right. However, previous studies portray an incredibly large amount of variation and instability which raises concerns about the degree of predictability of these so-called salient features of the CamFE variety. I therefore argue that the phonological description of CamFE is still at its embryonic stage and that more meticulous work is needed to say precisely whether the English spoken by this demographic of Cameroonians is a variety which is still being learned or a variety that is moving towards stabilisation which would be identified as a unique new phonology of English.

Abstract

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PAC Nigeria: a first glimpse into Nigerian English phonology

As the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populous country in the world, Nigeria stands as a major actor in the English speaking world. English in Nigeria was first a medium of communication between the British and the Nigerians and it gradually became a postcolonial vector of interethnic cohesion in a multilingual environment. It is now a major component of national identity. Nigerian English (NigE) speakers stand between the observance of an exonormative model and the assertion of internal norms, strongly influenced by ethnic languages. Our aim is to show that the term Nigerian English covers a wide range of nuances. In order to determine and delineate the various elements composing the NigE mosaic, we have to take into account the ethnic identity and the sociolect of the speakers. Our research is conducted through a preliminary survey following the PAC programme framework (Carr, Durand & Pukli, 2004; Durand & Przewozny, 2012). We focus our analysis on the linguistic peculiarities of three ethnic groups and examine the absence of the fricative /v/ and the affricates /ts/ and /dʒ/ in the speech of Yoruba speakers, the realisation of the bilabial fricative $[\phi]$ by Hausa speakers and the phenomenon of yod dropping after /p/ and /h/ by Ibo speakers, as suggested by Jibril (1986) and Jowitt (1991). Our survey suggests that such characteristics are not systematic among acrolectal speakers. Our study also confirms that some phonological features of NigE are common to all speakers, regardless of ethnicity. The examination of consonant clusters illustrates common realisations, such as the deletion of the last element of consonant clusters (Gut 2008), the deletion of the first element (Wells 1982) and the insertion of an epenthetic vowel (Jowitt 1991). We observe language use and attitudes through the analysis of the answers given to our own questionnaire and provide some preliminary answers about the intergenerational transmission of NigE and the consciousness of a "Nigerianisation" of English in Nigeria, which reveals the use of NigE to express a plurality of Nigerian identities. We finally stress the need for a wider survey. We believe that a more representative sample of NigE speakers would provide a wider angle for sociolinguistic observation.

Léa Courdès-Murphy, Jacques Durand, Julien Eychenne and Cécile Viollain (ERSS/Toulouse II)

A tool for the exploration of data within the PFC/PAC/LVTI programmes: Dolmen

Our starting point here is the following definition: "Given technological advances, we take a corpus of spoken language to be a collection of recordings which are available in a computerreadable form (e.g. wav format) and which are accompanied by transcriptions and annotations aligned with the signal. The transcriptions and annotations should be in standardized formats (Romary and Witt 2014) or in formats easily convertible to them (e.g. Praat texgrids as used in the PFC protocol). They should contain essential metadata: information about how and when the recordings were made, how the speakers were selected and who the speakers are (age, sex, social status, etc.). The transcriptions and annotations should be accompanied by a documentation explaining how they were devised. All these requirements should be met if a corpus is to be searchable so that analyses made by other users of the corpus can be verified and (in)validated." (Detey et al. to appear). In this paper we explain how the PFC, PAC and LVTI programmes (Durand, Laks, Lyche 2009, Carr, Durand and Pukli 2004, Durand and Przewozny 2012) have met the requirements spelt out above and have used the Praat software (Boersma 2014, Brinckmann 2014) to transcribe and annotate recordings from various speech styles ranging from the reading aloud of wordlists to informal conversations. We then present Dolmen (Eychenne, to appear), a free software toolbox for linguistic research which can be dowloaded at www.julieneychenne.info/dolmen.

Dolmen is not specifically designed for our research programmes but includes special facilities designed for PFC users and hence for PAC and LVTI. It offers a user-friendly interface to manage, annotate and exploit language corpora. It is particularly well suited for dealing with time-aligned data. The main features it includes are:

- Project management: how to organize files into projects and manage versions.
- Extensible metadata: files can be annotated with tags, which allow users to sort and organize their data.
- Interaction with Praat: Dolmen can read TextGrid files and open files directly in Praat.
- Powerful search engine: build and save complex queries as well as search patterns across tiers.
- Standard-based: Dolmen files are encoded in XML and Unicode.

Dolmen runs on all major platforms (Windows, Mac OS X and GNU/Linux) and is freely available under the terms of the GNU General Public License (GPL).

We will demonstrate how annotations and codings devised within PAC and LVTI can be explored using the Dolmen toolkit and, time-permitting, we will provide initial training in the use of this toolbox.

Sylvain Navarro, Cécile Viollain and Julien Eychenne (ERSS/Toulouse II)

Coding and coding extraction in a large decentralized project: r-sandhi in PAC.

Constructing a large corpus of spoken language is not limited to recordings. The whole issue of transcriptions and annotations, which need to be time-aligned with the signal, and the integration of metadata concerning the informants are crucial (see Delais-Roussarie and Yoo 2014). One of the requirements of good annotation systems is that they should be well documented and compatible with tools which allow the database to be searched in a systematic way. If these conditions are fulfilled, interested researchers can engage in cycles of conjectures and refutations which are part of the modern scientific enterprise (Popper 1959).

Within the PAC programme we are committed to a decentralized approach which makes it necessary to build well-defined annotation systems. The use of PRAAT (Boersma 2014, Brinckmann 2014) for our transcription and codings, and tools such as Dolmen (Eychenne, to appear) provide a rich environment within which a number of hypotheses can be explored. In this paper, our aim is to present our conception of coding systems, with special reference to r-sandhi (Durand, Navarro and Viollain 2012, Navarro 2013, Viollain in preparation). The methodology we adopt has already been implemented in the PFC programme where over 300 hundred speakers have been coded for schwa (Andreassen 2011, Durand and Eychenne 2004) and liaison (Durand, Laks, Calderone and Tchobanov 2011, Durand and Lyche 2008), yielding some solid qualitative and quantitative results which, in turn, have led to statistically-based analyses.

We will present the coding system for r-sandhi which is similar to that of liaison within PFC. It takes the form of alphanumeric symbols that are added to a duplicated tier of orthographic transcription in all the potential sites of r-sandhi. This coding system has so far been systematically applied to three non-rhotic surveys of the PAC corpus (Lancashire, New Zealand and part of the Boston survey). In this presentation, we wish to underline the benefits of this methodology for a large decentralized project. We will first describe the various constraints that need to be taken into account when devising a coding system as well as the pitfalls that can be met when attempting to expand the codings in order to account for more factors. On the basis of the above mentioned PAC surveys, we will demonstrate the tools that are used for the implementation of the codings (PRAAT) and their semi-automatic extraction (Dolmen). We will show how a simple and robust coding system can provide easy access to solid quantitative evidence regarding the putative distinction between linking vs. intrusive 'r' and the variation of r-sandhi across registers (e.g. reading task vs. conversational style).

Anne Przewozny-Desriaux, Basilio Calderone (ERSS/Toulouse II)

Web-based sharing of data in the PAC programme. Issues at stake.

Now in its tenth year of development, the PAC programme has always promoted a policy of availability and comparability of data for research, teaching or other general aims. Another key principle in PAC is the transparency of the dialectological and sociolinguistic criteria and information (within the limits of a fully anonymised corpus). Among the challenges which were set up from the beginning, an on-line database for researchers, students and amateur linguists of the description of oral English around the world. This paper discusses the more latest developments and the state of the PAC website and database in 2014. Indeed in recent years, the PAC programme was developed with a larger scope of research interests: new projects such as ICE-IPAC and PAC-Syntax have motivated new strata of linguistic analysis which are not limited to phonology anymore (Carr, Durand & Pukli 2004, Durand & Przewozny 2012), while the LVTI programme is being developed with a focus on more ecological types of recording and new sociolinguistic considerations. These new research interests and levels of linguistic inquiry involve perhaps more than ever a solid framework of the corpus. Each technical decision taken for the design of the new website and a userfriendly database was linked to various issues which will be dealt with in this presentation: the 2014 state of the PAC corpus (with more than 280 informants and 30 geographical areas), linguistic levels of annotation, coding and its extraction, non-linguistic levels of annotation with the integration of metadata on the surveys themselves as well as on the informants (from the conventional 'information sheet' to the LVTI questionnaires or map tasks, see Giraudo, Przewozny, Tarrier 2013). The PAC corpus and extensions are meant for a decentralised use and a high degree of availability of the data. For this matter two websites were successively created. The new website (www.projet-pac.net) will be presented together with our archiving principles of raw data and a demonstration of the way the (limited and free access) database is organised from now onwards. In addition to a crucial reflexion on storage, sustainability and sharing of data (Gut & Voormann 2014, Tchobanov 2014), what is technically aimed at is to emphasise the diatopic, diastratic and diaphasic components of the corpus. In our presentation, representative samples are displayed as being at the crossroads between the original goals of PAC and new research extensions with key variables corresponding to the database sub-sections. This is meant to highlight the individual requirements of various research directions such as rhoticity and Sandhi 'r' in phonology, evidentials or the indexical functioning of pronouns in the fields of syntax and semantics or other transverse phenomena and their corresponding linguistic and non-linguistic levels of annotation.

The roles of segments and prosody in the acquisition of English phonology by French speakers

French and English have very different phonological structures. While many learners and teachers may be aware of the phonemic differences, the prosodic structures of the two languages in particular differ considerably, which is why many French learners of English as a foreign language (abbreviated EFL) often fail to be properly understood by native English speakers. Indeed many linguists maintain that the suprasegmental – prosodic – aspects of English have a greater role to play in intelligibility and communication than segments – individual sounds – do (e.g., Birdsong, 2003, Mennen, 2006, Tortel, 2009). Yet, "few studies support this belief" (Derwing & Munro, 2005: 386), and almost none involves French EFL learners.

Starting from the hypothesis that suprasegments (basically, stress, rhythm, and intonation) have more importance than segments in foreign-accentedness and the comprehension of a message, as shown in e.g. Derwing, Munro and Wiebe (1998), a pilot experiment bringing empirical evidence of the roles that those two aspects play in the acquisition of L2 English by French speakers will be presented. The objective was to compare two groups of linguistically-inexperienced learners – one who received a training based on English segments, and one who focused on prosody – in order to determine whether prosody indeed has a greater impact on the production skills of French speakers, and therefore is more essential to the success of communication.

The results of the experiment showed that both groups of French learners improved after the trainings, and both groups had equal levels of English pronunciation after their respective trainings. Yet, further research and replication studies are required, given the various limitations of the pilot study. A similar large-scale ongoing study, involving more participants and also both production and perception skills of French speakers, will be introduced. The outcome will be of certain interest to the field of English phonology on the one hand, and teaching English as a foreign language on the other hand.

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STRESS CLASH IN ENGLISH FROM RHYTHMIC INFLUENCE OF BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE: An interphonological approach.

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This paper aims to analyze how stress clash - a phenomenon in which two syllables bearing primary stress are adjacent in different words forming a phonological phrase such as [maRÉ BRAva] (high tide) - is produced during the phonetic realization of English as a second language by native speakers of Brazilian Portuguese (BP) and what strategies are used to solve these clashes. Based on analysis of acoustic data, we intend to show that the rhythm of Brazilian Portuguese influences its native speaker's phonetic implementation of English utterances and such that, if we analyze pronunciation and fluency in English as second language, we must give priority to the rhythmic aspects of the language defocusing merely a segmental analysis of pronunciation. Our analysis was made at the phonological phrase level (P-phrase level). As a bottom line, we shall set parameters upon which the concepts and postulates about pronunciation and acquisition of phonetic-phonological aspects of English we need to rely. Stress clash, both in English and Brazilian Portuguese, is mostly solved by native speakers of BP through the so-called *silent demibeat* strategy regardless of syntactic or prosodic uniformity factors as well as phonological re-operationalization such as assimilation; resyllabification and other sandhi processes. Data of Brazilian and American informants were collected in order to cross them over and check what happened to English speech rhythm when produced by BP native speakers. Our corpus was analyzed under PRAAT free software for obtaining values of duration, pitch and amplitude parameters. The results show that, unlike the Americans, there is no favoring to stress retraction from Brazilian speakers when facing stress clash environment - either in English or BP pphrases.

Critical limit of improvement in the L2 acquisition of English VOT

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This paper investigates the different degrees of improvement that L2 learners of English experience in the production of VOT (voice onset time). Two sets of comparative data were collected, one at the beginning of the training period (June 2013) and another at the end (November 2013), from seven lower-intermediate students of English at a Japanese university. In this study, we compare the data collected in 2013 with those collected in the same way from a different group in 2006/2007 in order to validate the instructions that we provided during the training period.

At the beginning of the training period, first the English data were collected and then the Japanese data were collected from the same group, in order to compare their English and Japanese pronunciations. After the data were collected, subjects were given audio-visual aids and told to focus on specific problems they had in pronouncing native-like English VOT. Typically, they received explanations on the following and other points: (i) The acoustic differences between English and Japanese VOT values (using acoustic analysis software); (ii) The physiological mechanism for VOT production; (iii) Vowel quality after VOT.

In 2006/2007, the initial data show no significant differences in VOT between their L1 (Japanese) and their L2 (English). However, after 9 months of auditory and visual training, there emerge different results according to place of articulation: alveolar and velar exhibit a clear improvement in the production of VOT for English voiceless stops (/t/: Z=1.992, p=.046; /k/: Z=1.69, p=.091 under the Wilcoxon singled-rank test). On the other hand, VOT in the English /p/ remained similar to the Japanese /p/ (Z=.943, p=.345, ns). This implies that the VOT of the voiceless bilabial stop is the most difficult to acquire compared with other types of voiceless stop.

According to the data collected before the training period in 2013, on the other hand, unlike the 2006 data, subjects distinguished their L1 Japanese and L2 English in terms of VOT, and produced English stops with VOT values which are similar to those produced at the end of the training period by subjects in 2007. We assume that this is attributed to the fact that they have all taken a compulsory course in practical English phonetics, which was not offered to the subjects in 2006/2007. In the latter case, students had had no opportunity to study the mechanisms of speech production or the key characteristics of English sounds; similarly, they had not been taught about differences in the VOT values of voiceless stops between L1 (Japanese) and L2 (English). On this basis we might conclude that improvements in VOT production among English L2 learners can be made without any overt instruction in phonetics – a natural improvement seems possible merely by studying a general course in practical English phonetics.

However, after the training period in 2013, the mean VOT value for English /p/ became longer (/p/: Z=-1.87, p=.06 under the Wilcoxon singled-rank test) although the values for /t/ and /k/ remain in the same region as those collected before the training period ((/t/: Z=-1.33, p=.18, ns; /k/: Z=-.61, p=.54, ns). This implies that the overt teaching and the given instructions during the training period are still effective in making the VOT of the voiceless bilabial stop longer.

At least two questions remain: (i) Even though the L2 learners received instruction on English stop production and became aware of differences in the VOT values of voiceless stops in English and Japanese, why did they produce no English voiceless stops with a VOT of longer than 70ms?; (ii) Why are the VOT values for /t/ and /k/ collected at the end of the training period in the experiment 2007 similar to the corresponding values for /t/ and /k/ in this year's experiment? One of several possible answers may be that there is a certain limit of improvement in the production of VOT by Japanese L2 learners of English. The region of the positive VOT which can be produced by Japanese L2 learners seems to be between 50 to 70ms. In order to break this seemingly critical limit, some more effective instructions will have to be introduced. At the end of this paper, we suggest how this may be done in order to achieve further improvements in the L2 acquisition of VOT.

Reduction in negative contracted forms and variation in because in Lancashire (Bolton) English

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The present contribution intends to show how corpus data can refine phonological analyses by looking at variations that are all too simplistically referred to as "fast speech phenomena". To this end, the talk will analyse patterns of negative contracted forms, especially forms like *didn't*, *couldn't*, *shouldn't* or *haven't* and their non-contracted forms as well as reduced forms of conjunctions such as *because* in Lancashire (Bolton) English, as observed in the Lancashire component of the PAC spoken corpus (Carr, Durand & Pukli 2004, Durand & Pukli 2004).

The specific negative contracted forms in Lancashire elicited above are relevant for a study of reductions in contracted forms for at least two reasons. One is that the Lancashire English recorded in PAC uses contracted forms of main verb have as in "I haven't patience", which increases the occurrence of possible assimilation (and deletion) sites. In the example, the /t/ in the negative is deleted as is evident from the assimilation to [mp]. The other reason is that, as Beal (2010) revising Trudgill (1990) discusses, doubly contracted forms isn't [int], couldn't [kont], shouldn't [font], hasn't/hadn't [ant] regularly occur in this area – and indeed there is some recorded evidence for this in the PAC data. These forms are doubly reduced because there is wide-spread, that is standard, vocalic reduction in not > n't and the geographically specific absence of final consonants of is/has and should/had/could before the negative marker. This absence is possibly best explained by a reanalysis of the contracted paradigms rather than assuming an arbitrary deletion rule because there is otherwise no evidence for context-sensitive deletion of /z d/ before nasals in this variety of English. It is then all the more relevant to investigate how these geographically specific contracted forms pattern together with the more frequently found standard forms ['iznt], ['kodnt], etc. in the corpus.

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PAC-SYNTAX: a project dedicated to syntax and semantics within the PAC programme

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This paper provides an overview of PAC-SYNTAX, a project within the PAC programme which focuses on several aspects of the syntax, semantics and pragmatics of contemporary spoken English.

PAC ("Phonologie de l'Anglais Contemporain: usages, variétés et structure"), coordinated by Philip Carr, Jacques Durand and Anne Przewozny-Desriaux (cf. Carr, Durand and Pukli 2004; Durand and Przewozny 2012), offers a large database of recorded spoken material as well as the orthographic transcriptions of each reading and conversation. As PAC began as a programme dedicated to phonology, the corpus has been annotated for the r-sandhi phenomenon. Yet an increasing number of linguists are using the PAC corpus to shed light on other aspects of English. Work by Likhacheva-Philippe 2008 and Buscail 2013, for example, exploits the PAC corpus to study the syntax and semantics of spoken English, taking prosody into account. The aim of PAC-SYNTAX is to make the PAC corpus fully available to all linguists wishing to study the syntax and semantics of spoken English. Such an endeavour involves, at least, three corollaries:

- To promote the PAC corpus as a sound basis for studies in syntax and semantics, making room for the consideration of variation and interaction, but also to test theoretical frameworks;
- To develop IT tools that aid in the annotation of syntactic features in an oral corpus and in the subsequent exploitation of such an annotated corpus;
- To work in collaboration with specialists of prosody who have to deal with the interaction between prosodic and syntactic constituents.

With this aim in mind, this paper offers an overview of what is being done and what could be done in syntax and semantics on the basis of the PAC programme as it is structured at the moment: the available database, but also the tools PAC adopted from the start (Pratt, cf. Boersma and Weenink 2014) and then developed (Dolmen, cf. Eychenne 2014). We will take as an example of practical application the analysis of the indexical functioning of the pronouns *this*, *that* and *it*. We will finally describe the several steps required to obtain a syntax-oriented annotated corpus, following the work done within the PFC programme ("Phonologie du Français Contemporain: usages, variétés et structure", coordinated by Marie-Hélène Côté, Jacques Durand, Bernard Laks and Chantal Lyche, cf. *inter alia* Durand, Laks and Lyche 2003, 2009).

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