THE ICE-IPAC PROJECT: TESTING THE PROTOCOL ON NORWEGIAN AND FRENCH LEARNERS OF ENGLISH

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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

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

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

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 learning 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
- Informal conversation between the two learners

1) Devoicing of fricatives [θ], [ʃ] and affricate [dʒ]
   Sounds not part of the Norwegian sound system
   - [θ] -> [s]: seal-seal near-homophonous, grace [gæs] or [gæs]
   - [ʃ] -> [ʃ]: leisure [ˈlescʃə]
   - [dʒ] -> [ʤ]: batch-bad 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 codas
   - [θ] -> [θ]: tap-tap near-homophonous: [tæp]-[tæp]
   - [ʃ] -> [ʃ]: fat-fat near-homophonous: [ʃæt]-[ʃæt]
   - [dʒ] -> [ʤ]: back-bad both produced with (tʃ)

3) Post-vocalic rhoticity (NW1 displays more consistent use)
   cartär [ˈkærɪə]

4) Labial-velar approximant [w] -> [v]
   Sounds not part of the Norwegian sound system
   - [w] -> [v]: farther [ˈfaðər], worthy [ˈwɜːrθɪ]

5) Interdental fricatives [θ], [ʃ] -> plosives
   Sounds not part of the Norwegian sound system
   - [θ] -> [θ]: farther [ˈfaðər], worthy [ˈwɜːrθɪ]

1) Vowels [aɪ] - [aɪ], [ɔɪ] - [ʌɪ]
   No systematic difference in quality

2) ⟨i⟩ pronounced [ai] 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
   cartär [ˈkærɪə]; garter [ˈgærɪə]

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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.