L1 intonational categories as "perceptual attractors" during L2 imitation
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In L2 learning, native (L1) phonological representations act as “perceptual attractors” to which similar non-native sounds are assimilated [1, 2];

○ Competition with the inventory of the language/dialect of origin modulates segmental imitation by selective processes [3]

○ Phonological properties of a speech sound replace its phonetic properties with the passing of time [4], e.g., by matching to exemplars or by rehearsal of articulatory programs [1, 5].

Intonation?

○ Speakers reproduce the phonological form of an utterance, not its phonetic details [6];

BUT: When imitating non-native dialects, the f0 contour is partly modified to approximate the target dialect [7].

1. Language interference

Questions (Q) [8, 9]

- Shift from rise-fall to rising f0 curve in Neapolitan;
- Does they have a balance?
- L* L- H%
- Functional mixed models: New paradigm for exploring intonation.
- Specificity and abstractness of VOT imitation.

○ Neapolitans better imitators than Lecce Italians: 
  - shift from rise-fall to rising f0 curve in Neapolitan; 
  - Final f0 rise shallower and lower in Lecce It.

○ No effects of memory

○ Imitators with no knowledge of German

○ “Memory” conditions: Speaking onset at the end of Q (Immediate), after a silent pause of 4 s. (Delayed) or an answer of 4 s. to Q (Filled).

○ No memory effects: 
  - no rehearsal for continuous f0? 
  - too simple task?

Increase cognitive load by increasing linguistic (i.e. syllabic) complexity (in progress)

CORPUS & METHODS

○ Shadowing:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baseline Task</th>
<th>Main Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penderla la nave? Did she travel by ship?</td>
<td>Er nali ‘ne Blume? Does he paint a flower?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guadara la marea? Did she look at the sea?</td>
<td>Er trint ‘ne Limos? Does he drink a lemonade?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringeva la ma’ma? Did she shake hands?</td>
<td>Ste ist ‘ne Mòhre? Does she eat a carrot?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spalava la neve? Did she shovel snow?</td>
<td>Er baut ‘ne Mühle? Does he build a mill?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brecuva il legno? Did she burn wood?</td>
<td>Er mag Salami? Does he like peppermun?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamava la moglia? Did she call the wife?</td>
<td>Er spieht Viovine? Does he play violin?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corprava la luna? Did she buy the moon?</td>
<td>Ste hevem ne Waage? Did they have a balance?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambiava lavoro? Did she get a new job?</td>
<td>Er siche Maroni? Does he look for chestnuts?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

○ Imitators with no knowledge of German

○ “Memory” conditions: Speaking onset at the end of Q (Immediate), after a silent pause of 4 s. (Delayed) or an answer of 4 s. to Q (Filled).

8 Qs * 2 Tasks * 3 Memory Conditions * 16 Imitators (8 Lecce + 8 Neap.) * 5 Repetitions = 3840 obs.

DISCUSSION

○ Similarly to the segmental level, intonation is anchored by native prosodic representations.

○ Functional mixed models: New paradigm for exploring intonation.

CONCLUSION

References

[9] Savino, M. (2012). The intonation of polar questions in Italian: Where is the rise contours as variants of their native dialect contours

○ Imitators with no knowledge of German

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