



Current Speech Production and Perception Data of Thai Lexical Tones

Linguistics Seminar

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Date: 14 June 2018 (Thursday)

Time: 11:15a.m. - 12:15p.m.

Venue: Room 101, Fung King Hey Building,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Abstract:

In this talk, findings from a series of experiments (based on my team's recent work) will be discussed, starting with the production data of 5 (Bangkok) Thai tones from Thai mothers' Infant directed speech (IDS), young Thai children (YC1), and Thai adults (THA) (clean vs. adverse (noise) conditions (Lombard speech)). It seems that when enhancing the tones, Thai mothers and THA produced significantly higher F0 values, rather than modifying the tonal contours. At the age of 2–3, YC1 were able to produce and differentiate the tones, but they did not achieve the mastery until later. Discussions of experimental design and procedures will be provided before presentation of the perceptual data from young Thai children (YC2), normal-hearing Thai adults (NHA), and Thai adults with hearing impairment using hearing aids (HIA-HA) and those using cochlear implants (HIA-CI). Results from NHA using a Thai word recognition test (for speech audiometry) and tonal identification tests (clean, white, and babble noise conditions) confirmed that perception of Thai tones was generally robust. Degree of tone perceptual errors was much smaller compared to that of initial and final consonants. In terms of tonal development, our data from YC2 suggested that order of perceptual development of the five tones did not progress in the same fashion as the production. Lastly, our preliminary results revealed that tonal perception was greatly affected in HIA-HA and HIA-CI, and when it comes to tonal identification, both groups did not seem to significantly benefit from hearing devices.

Speaker:

Chutamane Onsuwan received Master's and doctoral degrees in Linguistics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (USA). As a lecturer at Department of English and Linguistics, Faculty of Liberal Arts, Thammasat University (Thailand), she teaches undergraduate and graduate Linguistics courses and supervises graduate students. Her main research interests include Laboratory Phonetics and Speech Science (focusing on Thai speech sounds) and Psycholinguistics. She is also a research member of the Center of Excellence in Intelligent Informatics, Speech and Language Technology, and Service Innovation (CILS), Thammasat University. Currently, she is Lab Leader of MARCS-CILS NokHook BabyLab (Thammasat University) and has been collaborating with the MARCS Institute BabyLab (Australia) and RIKEN Center for Brain Science Laboratory for Language Development (Japan).

ALL ARE WELCOME

Enquiries

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