

Special Issue of Speech Communication on

Non-native speech perception in adverse conditions: imperfect knowledge, imperfect signal

Much work in phonetics and speech perception has focused on doubly-optimal conditions, in which the signal reaching listeners is unaffected by distorting influences and in which listeners possess native competence in the sound system. However, in practice, these idealised conditions are rarely met. The processes of speech production and perception thus have to account for imperfections in the state of knowledge of the interlocutor as well as imperfections in the signal received. In noisy settings, these factors combine to create particularly adverse conditions for non-native listeners.

The purpose of the Special Issue is to assemble the latest research on perception in adverse conditions with special reference to non-native communication. The special issue will bring together, interpret and extend the results emerging from current research carried out by engineers, psychologists and phoneticians, such as the general frailty of some sounds for both native and non-native listeners and the strong non-native disadvantage experienced for categories which are apparently equivalent in the listeners' native and target languages.

Papers describing novel research on non-native speech perception in adverse conditions are welcomed, from any perspective including the following. We especially welcome interdisciplinary contributions.

- models and theories of L2 processing in noise
- informational and energetic masking
- role of attention and processing load
- effect of noise type and reverberation
- inter-language phonetic distance
- audiovisual interactions in L2
- perception-production links
- the role of fine phonetic detail

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Deadline

Full papers should be submitted by 31st July 2009

Submission procedure

Authors should consult the "guide for authors", available online at <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/specom>, for information about the preparation of their manuscripts. Papers should be submitted via <http://ees.elsevier.com/specom>, choosing "Special Issue: non-native speech perception" as the article type. If you are a first time user of the system, please register yourself as an author. Prospective authors are welcome to contact the guest editors for more details of the Special Issue.