

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Martina Rossi

EDUCATION

2020–present

Ph.D. Candidate in Linguistics and Phonetics

Thesis Title:

“Sociolinguistic and multimodal variation of turn-taking dynamics in conversation”

Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Germany

Ph.D. Supervisor:

Prof Dr. Margaret Zellers

2017–2020

Master of Arts in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

Università degli Studi di Pavia, Italy

Thesis Supervisors:

Prof. Dr. Chiara Meluzzi, Prof. Dr. Gianguido Manzelli, Prof. Dr. José-María Lahoz-Bengochea

2013–2017

Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages and Literature

Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy

Thesis Supervisor:

Prof. Dr. Marco Castellari

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

October 2020 – September 2023

Research Assistant

Dept. of Linguistics and Phonetics (ISFAS)

Christian-Albrechts-Universität, Kiel (Germany)

- doctoral researcher in the project "Sound Patterns and Linguistic Structures at the Transition Space in Conversation" (project number 444631148) funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Council)
- annotation and acoustic analysis of German and Swedish spontaneous speech data (dialogues)
- perception experiment design, experimental material preparation, set-up and collection of eye-tracking data in Germany and in Sweden
- qualitative and quantitative analysis of the data using R
- training and supervision of student assistants on the annotation of German and Swedish speech corpora (annotation of turn-taking structures, phonetic segments and prosodic structures using the ToBI and the DIMA labeling systems)
- preparation of scientific presentations and articles.

Supervisor Prof. Dr. Margaret Zellers

September 2023

Visiting Ph.D. Researcher

Dept. of Speech, Music and Hearing (TMH)

KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm (Sweden)

- responsible for the design and set-up of a perception experiment using eye-tracking as part of the project "Sound Patterns and Linguistic Structures at the Transition Space in Conversation" with the Tobii Pro Spark eye-tracker and the Tobii Pro Lab software
- stimuli preparation (audio manipulation of acoustic correlates and background noise conditions)
- perception experiment set-up in Praat and participant recruitment (testing the naturalness of the stimuli for the eye-tracking experiment)
- eye-tracking experiment set-up in Tobii Pro Lab
- participant recruitment and experiment running.

Supervisor Prof. Dr. Margaret Zellers

September 2022 **Visiting Ph.D. Researcher**

LU Humanities Lab, Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology
Lund University, Lund (Sweden)

- training in coding and analysing manual gestures in Swedish and Italian video data in ELAN
- annotation of parallel gestures in ELAN and phonetic analysis in Praat of Swedish face-to-face conversations
- qualitative and quantitative analysis of the data using R
- preparation of scientific presentations and articles.

Host supervisor Dr. Maria Graziano

June 2022 **Visiting Ph.D. Researcher**

Dept. of Speech, Music and Hearing (TMH)
KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm (Sweden)

- assisted the post-doctoral researcher of the project "Sound Patterns and Linguistic Structures at the Transition Space in Conversation" in the design and set-up of a perception experiment using eye-tracking with the Tobii Pro Spark eye-tracker and the Tobii Pro Lab software
- stimuli preparation (audio manipulation of acoustic correlates)
- responsible for the set-up of a preparatory perception experiment in Praat (testing the naturalness of the stimuli for the eye-tracking experiment)
- responsible for participant recruitment and assistance to the eye-tracking experiment administration
- preparation of scientific presentations and articles.

Host supervisor Prof. Dr. David House

February 2019 – May 2019 **Visiting Student Researcher**

Dpto. Lengua Española y Teoría de la Literatura
Universidad Complutense, Madrid (Spain)

- research stay with the Erasmus+ Traineeship program
- design of a phonetic learner corpus
- design of questionnaires and experimental materials for university students; recruitment of participants and collected audio recordings of Spanish-speaking learners of Italian
- manual transcription and annotation of the data using Praat
- qualitative and quantitative analysis of the data using R
- comparison of the collected data with data collected from a control group of native speakers in Italy and used findings in Master's thesis
- preparation of scientific presentations and articles.

Host supervisor Prof. Dr. José-María Lahoz-Bengoechea

January 2019 – February 2020 **Student Research Assistant**

Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici
Università degli Studi di Pavia, Pavia (Italy)

- student assistant in the project "Language, Identity and Migration in an Alpine Area" funded by Piedmont Region and Sardinia Region
- contribution to the corpus design and the creation of experimental materials for Italian elementary schoolchildren
- contribution to the transcription and annotation of acoustic data in Praat and annotation of video interviews in ELAN
- qualitative and quantitative analysis of the data using R
- preparation of scientific presentations and articles.

Supervisor Prof. Dr. Chiara Meluzzi

FURTHER TRAINING

August 2023 **Tobii Pro Lab Training**

Stockholm, Sweden (Online)

Workshop; introduction to eye-tracking technology and to the Tobii Pro Lab eye-tracking software to design and set up perception experiments, and to explore and analyze data effectively, followed by a hands-on training session. Organized by Tobii Connect.

Instructor Dr. Hellen Vergoossen

March 2023 **Speaking Clearly**

Kiel, Germany

Graduate workshop; introduction to diction and training on how to effectively use voice and body language to give oral presentations at academic events, teach in English, communicate in a team.

Instructor Dr. Katharine Simmons

September 2022 **Computational tools for studying speech prosody**

Lund, Sweden

Workshop; introduction and training in the use of ProsodyPro, FormantPro, qTA, qTAtainer and PENTAtainer in Praat to analyze prosody.

Instructor Prof. Dr. Yi Xu

Winter Semester 2021/22 **Quantitative Methoden in der Linguistik**

Kiel, Germany

Academic seminar; introduction and training on the quantitative methods and statistical tests useful in the analysis of linguistic data and training on data analysis and visualization using R.

Instructor Prof. Dr. Margaret Zellers

January 2022 **Communicative Skills in Action: Dealing with Questions**

Kiel, Germany

Graduate workshop; introduction and training on how to approach questions and effectively deliver oral presentations at scientific events.

Instructor Dr. Katharine Simmons

July 2021 **Summer School "Methods In Language Sciences": ELAN**

Ghent, Belgium

Overview and training on the different functions of the ELAN software for the annotation and analysis of audio-video files.

Instructor Dr. Jelena Vranjes

July 2021 **Summer School "Methods In Language Sciences": Eye-Tracking**

Ghent, Belgium

Introduction on eye-tracking methods and experimental paradigms, on how to set up a study and analyze eye-tracking data with hands-on examples.

Instructors Dr. Aurélie Pistono and Dr. Xuemei Chen

January 2021 **Transcribing Prosodic Structure of Spoken Utterances with ToBI**

Cambridge, USA (online)

Academic seminar; introduction and training on the use of ToBI (Tones and Break Indices) to label prosodic events in Mainstream American English (MAE).

Instructors Prof. Dr. Alejna Brugos, Prof. Dr. Stefanie Shattuck-Hufnagel and Prof. Dr. Nanette Veilleux

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue Italian

Other languages

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C1	C1	C1	C1	C1
German	C1	C1	B2	B2	B2
Spanish	B2	B2	B2	B2	B2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user – B1 and B2: Independent user – C1 and C2: Proficient user
[Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)

Computer skills

- competent with **iOS** and **Windows OS**
- competent with most **Microsoft Office** programs
- independent user of **Praat** for acoustic data annotation, segmental and prosodic analysis, script creation and editing, audio manipulation and perception experiments
- independent user of **ELAN** for video data transcription and annotation
- independent user of **R** for data wrangling, statistical analysis and data visualization
- competent with **LaTeX** for document preparation and typesetting of scientific writings and publications
- competent with **Tobii Pro Lab** for eye-tracking experiments with Tobii devices.

Communication skills

- By working as part of a **research team** and within a research lab over the course of my Ph.D., I gained strong interpersonal skills, adaptability, and the ability to develop and achieve collective goals
- Working as a **guest researcher** at various foreign departments helped me develop my professional profile by cultivating my adaptability skills being involved in diverse academic settings, by getting in touch with different research environments and research groups, as well as by building and expanding my international network
- Taking part in **joint projects** with other researchers from my department and from other universities helped me develop my teamwork and communication skills, brought me in contact with varied perspectives and methodologies, and expanded my network, resulting in co-authored publications and opportunities for future collaborations
- Coordinating the work of **student assistants** in the project "Sound Patterns and Linguistic Structures at the Transition Space in Conversation" provided me with the opportunity to learn how to manage the development of different research tasks in a team, and to supervise students
- Recognizing the importance of communication skills and aspiring to develop my abilities in **scientific communication**, I actively participated in courses and workshops aimed at learning how to effectively engage both academic and wider audiences, contributing to the development of my personal and professional profile.

- Organisational skills**
- While closely assisting the P.I. and the post-doc researcher in the project "Sound Patterns and Linguistic Structures at the Transition Space in Conversation", I gained valuable experience in developing a **research plan**, conducting experiments, supervising a team of student assistants, and overseeing annotation work to effectively produce results and research outputs
 - Both during my studies and over the course of my Ph.D., I designed **experiments** for data collection, handled participant recruitment, and efficiently scheduled and conducted experimental sessions
 - During my Ph.D., my involvement in organizational and scientific **committees** provided me with hands-on experience in managing conference logistics, organizing participant welcomes, and coordinating the collection and publication of proceedings.

Other skills During my Master's and Bachelor's I worked part-time as a copy-writer, translator and content creator for several websites; passionate about creative writing and painting.

Driving licence B

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles [1] **Rossi, M.**, Sbacco, L. (2023). A sociophonetic analysis of rhotic variation in Italian schoolchildren. *Quaderns d'Italia*, Vol. 28 (2023), pp. 147-174.

[2] **Rossi, M.**, Meluzzi, C. and Lahoz-Bengoechea, J.M. (2023). Phonetic variation in Italian L2: An acoustic analysis of sibilant fricatives in the speech of L1 Spanish learners. *Estudios de Fonética Experimental*, 32, pp. 61-80.

[3] Feindt, K., **Rossi, M.** and Zellers, M. (under revision). Pre-final prosodic cues to turn-taking in German and Swedish conversation. *Frontiers in Communication*.

[4] **Rossi, M.**, Zellers, M. (submitted). Gender-specific turn-taking cues and timing patterns of multimodal backchannels in conversation.

[5] **Rossi, M.** (in preparation). Cross-linguistic and social variation of turn-taking dynamics in conversation.

Book chapters [1] **Rossi, M.** (2023). Caratteristiche dei foni sibilanti dell'italiano nell'interlingua di ispanofoni. In: M. Castagneto, M. Ravetto (Eds.) *La comunicazione parlata*, 3, pp. 99-121.

[2] **Rossi, M.** (2022). Gender influence on phonetic turn-taking cues at potential transition locations in German. In: L. Schettino, R. Orrico (Eds.) *The position of the speaker in the interaction: Attitudes, intentions, and emotions in verbal communication*, Studi AISV, 9, pp. 127-147.

[3] Meluzzi, M., Sbacco, L., **Rossi, M.** and Betti, A. (2021). La migrazione veneta nel Biellese: Mantenimento e perdita della lingua d'origine. In: M.E. Favilla and S. Machetti (Eds.) *Lingue in contatto e Linguistica Applicata*, Studi AltLA, 13, pp. 93-107.

Proceedings [1] **Rossi, M.**, Schröer, M., Ludusan, B. and Zellers, M. (2023). A multimodal account of listener feedback in face-to-face interactions. *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS)*, Guarant International, pp. 4121-4125.

[2] Feindt, K., **Rossi, M.**, Ekström, A., Esfandiari Baiat, G., and Zellers, M. (2023). Cues to next-speaker projection in conversational Swedish: Evidence from reaction times. *Proceedings of INTERSPEECH 2023*, pp. 1040-10445.

[3] Ludusan, B., Schröer, M., **Rossi, M.**, and Wagner, P. (2023). The co-use of laughter and head gestures across speech styles. *Proceedings of INTERSPEECH 2023*, pp. 3592-3596.

[4] **Rossi, M.**, Feindt, K. and Zellers, M. (2022). Individual variation in F0 marking of turn-taking in natural conversation in German and Swedish. *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 2022*, pp. 185-189.

[5] **Rossi, M.**, Feindt, K. and Zellers, M. (2022). Perception of F0 movements towards potential turn boundaries in German and Swedish conversation: Background and methods for an eye-tracking study. *Proceedings of FONETIK 2022*.

[6] Feindt, K., **Rossi, M.** and Zellers, M. (2021) The time course of pitch variation towards possible places of speaker transition in German and Swedish. *Proceedings of Tone and Intonation (TAI)*, pp. 112-116.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Invited talks

[1] **Rossi, M.** *Voce e gesti nella conversazione spontanea: Il ruolo delle risorse multimodali per capire, contribuire e cooperare con l'interlocutore*. 13 November 2023, Etnolinguistica a.a. 2023-2024, Dipartimento di Scienze Umanistiche, Sociali e della Formazione, Università degli Studi del Molise, Italy.

[2] **Rossi, M.** *Capire, contribuire, cooperare con voce e gesti: Il ruolo delle risorse multimodali per la costruzione e lo sviluppo della conversazione*. 8 November 2023, Linguistica Generale a.a. 2023-2024 Seminari Didattici (SUC-MED), Dipartimento di Studi Letterari, Filologici e Linguistici, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy.

[3] **Rossi, M.** *Listening in German: Distribution and features of multimodal backchannels in German dialogues*. 30 May 2023, Linguistic Colloquium of the Institute for Scandinavianistics, Frisistics and General Linguistics WiSe 2023-2024, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Germany.

[4] **Rossi, M.** *Fare linguistica in digitale: Dati e strumenti per l'analisi del parlato e della conversazione faccia a faccia*. 28 November 2022, Lecture cycle on Digital Humanities, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Università di Urbino Carlo Bo, Italy.

[5] Feindt, K., **Rossi, M.** and Zellers, M. *The time course of pitch variation towards possible places of speaker transition in German and Swedish*. 21 December 2021, Linguistic Colloquium of the Institute for Scandinavianistics, Frisistics and General Linguistics WiSe 2021-2022, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Germany.

[6] **Rossi, M.** *Phonetic variation in Italian L2: An acoustic analysis of sibilant sounds*. 11 November 2020, Linguistic Colloquium of the Institute for Scandinavianistics, Frisistics and General Linguistics WiSe 2020-2021, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Germany.

[7] **Rossi, M.** *La fonetica dell'accento straniero: Uno studio su apprendenti ispanofoni di italiano*. 3 June 2020, Master Day, Università degli Studi di Pavia, Italy.

Conference presentations

[1] Feindt, K., **Rossi, M.**, Ekström, A., Esfandiari Baiat, G., and Zellers, M. *"Cues to next-speaker projection in conversational Swedish: Evidence from reaction times."* INTERSPEECH, August 2023, Dublin, Ireland.

[2] Ludusan, B., Schröer, M., **Rossi, M.**, and Wagner, P. *"The co-use of laughter and head gestures across speech styles."* INTERSPEECH, August 2023, Dublin, Ireland.

[3] **Rossi, M.**, Schröer, M., Ludusan, B. and Zellers, M. 2023. *"A multimodal account of listener feedback in face-to-face interactions."* 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS), August 2023, Prague, Czech Republic.

[4] **Rossi, M.**, Graziano, M. and Zellers, M. *"Multimodal entrainment in conversation: A pilot study on parallel gestures and phonetic variation in Swedish."* 18th International Pragmatics Conference (IPrA), July 2023, Brussels, Belgium.

- [5] **Rossi, M.**, Graziano, M. and Zellers, M. "Converging in speech and gestures: A study on the use of prosodic features and parallel gesturing to achieve entrainment in face-to-face dialogues." Gruppo di Studio sulla Comunicazione Parlata (GSCP) Conference, June 2023, Rome, Italy.
- [6] **Rossi, M.** and Zellers, M. "Multimodal backchannels in spontaneous conversation: Distribution, form and placement of listener responses in German face-to-face dialogues." Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata (AltLA) Conference, May 2023, Arezzo, Italy.
- [7] **Rossi, M.**, Graziano, M. and Zellers, M. "Entrainment through different modalities: A pilot study on spontaneous conversation in Swedish." 1st International Multimodal Communication Symposium (MMSYM), April 2023, Barcelona, Spain.
- [8] Böttcher, M. and **Rossi, M.** "Speaker turns and listener feedbacks: Exploring lexical, phonetic, and social variation of backchannels and fluencemes in conversation." 45. Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS), March 2023, Cologne, Germany.
- [9] **Rossi, M.**, Feindt, K. and Zellers, M. "Perception of F0 movements towards potential turn boundaries in German and Swedish conversation: Background and methods for an eye-tracking study." FONETIK, June 2022, Stockholm, Sweden.
- [10] **Rossi, M.**, Feindt, K. and Zellers, M. "Individual variation in F0 marking of turn-taking in natural conversation in German and Swedish." Speech Prosody, May 2022, Lisbon, Portugal.
- [11] **Rossi, M.** "Gender influence on phonetic turn-taking cues at potential transition locations in German." Associazione Italiana Scienze della Voce (AISV) Conference, May 2022, Naples, Italy.
- [12] Feindt, K., **Rossi, M.** and Zellers, M. "The time course of pitch variation towards possible places of speaker transition in German and Swedish." 1st Tone and Intonation (TAI) Conference, December 2021, Sonderborg, Denmark.
- [13] Nese, N., **Rossi, M.**, Sbacco, L. and D'Aco, M. "La pronuncia dei suoni rotici nei bambini biellesi." Giornata di Studi "Lingue, Identità, Migrazioni", November 2021, Biella, Italy.
- [14] **Rossi, M.** and Meluzzi, C. "Caratteristiche dei foni sibilanti dell'italiano nell'interlingua di ispanofoni." Gruppo di Studio sulla Comunicazione Parlata (GSCP) Conference, May 2021, Vercelli, Italy (online).
- [15] Meluzzi, C., Sbacco, L., **Rossi, M.** and Betti, A. "Mantenimento e perdita della lingua d'origine nei contesti di migrazione interna: il caso dei Veneti nel Biellese." Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata (AltLA) Conference, February 2020, Siena, Italy.
- [16] **Rossi, M.** and Meluzzi, C. "Caratteristiche dei foni sibilanti dell'italiano nell'interlingua di ispanofoni." Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata (AltLA) Conference, February 2020, Siena, Italy.
- [17] Meluzzi, C., Nese, N., Masullo, C. and **Rossi, M.** "Sociophonetic variation in the production of rhotics by Italian schoolchildren." R'atics, November 2019, Paris, France.
- [18] Meluzzi, C., Nese, N., Betti, A., Masullo, C., D'Aco, M., Draetta, L. and **Rossi, M.** "Language and gestures in narrating migration: a proposal for a multimodal corpus." International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE 10), June 2019, Leeuwarden, Netherlands.

- Professional activities**
- [1] **2021-present**: foNETiks editor.
 - [2] **2024**: Reviewer for the Speech Prosody Conference 2024 (Speech Prosody).
 - [3] **2023**: Reviewer for the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS).
 - [4] **2023**: Reviewer for the 1st International Multimodal Communication Symposium (MMSYM).
 - [5] **2022**: Reviewer for the volume "La comunicazione parlata/Spoken Communication (3)".
 - [6] **2021**: Part of the Organizing Committee for the 1st Tone and Intonation (TAI) Conference.
 - [7] **2021**: Part of the Scientific Committee for the "Giornata di studi su Lingue, Identità, Migrazioni" Conference.

- Grants and scholarships**
- [1] **2023**: Italian Association of Applied Linguistics (AltLA) 2023 Conference Attendance Grant.
 - [2] **2023**: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS) 2023 Conference Attendance Grant.
 - [3] **2019-2020**: Università di Pavia Travel Grant *Attività Didattiche di Alta Qualificazione*.
 - [4] **2019**: Erasmus+ Scholarship (Erasmus+ Intern Traineeship).
 - [5] **2016-2017**: Merit Grant, Università degli Studi di Milano.
 - [6] **2015-2016**: Merit Grant, Consorzio CIDiS Milano/Università degli Studi di Milano.