



Chelsea Sanker  
Department of Linguistics  
Yale University  
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## EDUCATION

**2016 Ph.D. in Linguistics**, Cornell University

- **Dissertation:** *Patterns of Misperception of Arabic Guttural and Non-guttural Consonants*
- **Committee:** Michael Weiss (chair), Abby Cohn, Alan Nussbaum, Sam Tilsen

**2009 B.A. in Linguistics**, University of California at Berkeley

High Distinction in General Scholarship

Honors Thesis: “Word Order in Latin Adpositional Phrases”

Minor in Anthropology

## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

**2019-** Lecturer, Yale University

**2016-2019** Visiting Professor, Brown University

**2015-2016** Visiting Professor, Rutgers University

## PUBLICATIONS

### REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

**under review** Sanker, C. Homophone discrimination based on prior exposure.

**under review** Sanker, C. and AnderBois, S. Reconstruction of nasality and other aspects of A’ingae phonology.

**in revision** Sanker, C. Perceptual learning and convergence are extended phonologically across vowels.

**2021** Sanker, C., Babinski, S., Burns, R., Evans, M., Johns, J., Kim, J., Smith, S., Weber, N., and Bower, C. (Don’t) try this at home! The effects of recording devices and software on phonetic analysis. *Language* 97.4. e360-e382.

**2020** Repetti-Ludlow, C., Zhang, H., Lucitante, H., AnderBois, S., and Sanker, C. A’ingae (Cofán). *Journal of the International Phonetic Association: Illustrations of the IPA*. 50(3). 431-444.

- 2020** Sanker, C. A perceptual pathway for voicing-conditioned vowel duration. *Laboratory Phonology* 11(1). Art. 18.
- 2020** \*Cohen Priva, U. and \***Sanker, C.** Natural Leaders: Some interlocutors elicit greater convergence across conversations and across characteristics. *Cognitive Science* 44(10). Art. e12897.
- 2019** \*Cohen Priva, U. and \***Sanker, C.** Limitations of difference-in-difference for measuring convergence. *Laboratory Phonology* 10(1). Art. 15.
- 2019** Sanker, C. Influence of coda stop features on perceived vowel duration. *Journal of Phonetics* 75. 43-56.
- 2019** Sanker, C. Effects of lexical ambiguity, frequency, and acoustic details in auditory perception. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics* 81. 323-343.
- 2018** Sanker, C. Hurrian meter and phonology in the Boğazköy Parables. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 138(2). 227-253.
- 2018** Sanker, C. A survey of experimental evidence for diachronic change. *Linguistics Vanguard* 4(1). Art. 20170039.

#### CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND OTHERS

- 2021** Sanker, C. Convergence doesn't show lexically-specific phonetic detail. *Supplemental Proceedings of the 2020 Annual Meeting on Phonology*. Eds. R. Bennett, R. Bibbs, M.L. Brinkerhoff, M.J. Kaplan, S. Rich, N. Van Handel & M.W. Cavallaro.
- 2020** Sanker, C. Lexical ambiguity and acoustic distance in discrimination. *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America* 5, 431-445. Ed. P. Farrell.
- 2019** Sanker, C. Effects of coda voicing on vowel phonation. *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Melbourne, Australia 2019*, 3323-3327. Eds. S. Calhoun, P. Escudero, M. Tabain, and P. Warren.
- 2018** Sanker, C. Effects of laryngeal features on vowel duration: Implications for Winter's Law. *Papers in Historical Phonology* 3, 180-205.
- 2018** \*Cohen Priva, U. and \***Sanker, C.** Distinct behaviors in convergence across measures. *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 1515-1520.
- 2018** Yang, S., **Sanker, C.**, and Cohen Priva, U. The organization of lexicons: A cross-linguistic analysis of monosyllabic words. *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics*, 164-173.
- 2016** Sanker, C. Phonetic features of the PIE "laryngeals": Evidence from misperception data of modern postvelars. *Proceedings of the 27th UCLA Indo-European Conference*, 163-181. Eds. D. Goldstein, S. Jamison, and B. Vine.
- 2015** Sanker, C. Comparison of phonetic convergence in multiple measures. *Cornell Working Papers in Phonetics and Phonology*, 60-75.

- 2015** Sanker, C. Patterns of misperception of Arabic consonants. *Proceedings of the Forty-First Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society, February 7-8, 2015*, 447-471.
- 2012** Tilsen, S., Zec, D., Bjorndahl, C., Butler, B., L'Esperance, M., Fisher, A., Heimisdottir, L., Renwick, M., and **Sanker, C.** A Cross-linguistic investigation of articulatory coordination in word-initial consonant clusters. *Cornell Working Papers in Phonetics and Phonology*, 51-81.

\* = equal contribution

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2021** *The Effects of recording devices and software on phonetic analysis*, Invited talk at the SOAS University of London Linguistics Webinars. (Collaborative work with Sarah Babinski, Roslyn Burns, Marisha Evans, Jeremy Johns, Juhyae Kim, Slater Smith, Natalie Weber, Claire Bower.)
- 2020** *Dimensions of convergence*, Invited talk at the NYU Phonetics & Experimental Phonology Lab.
- 2020** *Dimensions of convergence*, Linguistics Department Colloquium, Yale University.
- 2017** *Effects of homophones and syllable structure in lexical processing*, Invited talk at the UConn Phonology Group.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022** Sanker, C. *Dialect-specific phonological features shape perceptual generalization* (Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Washington DC, January 2022)
- 2021** Sanker, C. *Frequency-predicted shifts don't require word-specific phonetic details* (Symposium on Historical Phonology, Edinburgh, Scotland, December 2021)
- 2021** Sanker, C. *Comparison of coda voicing effects on perceived vowel duration* (Annual Meeting on Phonology, Toronto, Ontario, October 2021) [poster presentation]
- 2021** Sanker, C. *Perceptual learning in vowel systems* (Phonetics and Phonology in Europe, Barcelona, Spain, June 2021) [poster presentation]
- 2021** Sanker, C. *Homophone discrimination based on speaker-specific learning* (Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Virtual, January 2021)
- 2020** Sanker, C. *Vowel systems in convergence* (International Seminar on Speech Production, Providence, Rhode Island, December 2020)

- 2020 Sanker, C. *Convergence doesn't show lexically-specific phonetic detail* (Annual Meeting on Phonology, Santa Cruz, California, September 2020) [poster presentation]
- 2020 **Sanker, C.** and Karlin, R. *Perceptual evidence for the representation of English coda voicing* (Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2020)
- 2020 Sanker, C. *Lexical ambiguity and acoustic distance in discrimination* (Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2020) [poster presentation]
- 2019 Sanker, C. *Behavior of homophones does not support irregular phonological change* (Meaning in Flux, New Haven, Connecticut, October 2019)
- 2019 AnderBois, S., Emlen, N., Lucitante, H., **Sanker, C.**, and Silva, W. *Investigating Linguistic Links between the Amazon and the Andes: The case of A'ingae* (Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America IX (CILLA), Austin, Texas, October 2019)
- 2019 Sanker, C. *Effects of coda voicing on vowel phonation* (International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Melbourne, Australia, August 2019) [poster presentation]
- 2019 Sanker, C. *Effects of coda laryngeal features and stimulus language on perceived vowel duration* (Phonetics and Phonology in Europe, Lecce, Italy, June 2019)
- 2019 Zhang, H. and **Sanker, C.** *Phonetic Convergence in Mandarin* (Phonetics and Phonology in Europe, Lecce, Italy, June 2019) [poster presentation]
- 2019 Sanker, C. *Perceptual cues to coda voicing contrasts* (Manchester Phonology Meeting, May 2019) [poster presentation]
- 2019 AnderBois, S. and **Sanker, C.** *Reconstruction of A'ingae prenasalized stops* (Third Symposium on Amazonian Languages, Berkeley, CA, March 2019)
- 2019 Sanker, C. *F0 effects on perceived vowel duration* (Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New York City, NY, January 2019) [poster presentation]
- 2018 Cohen Priva, U. and **Sanker, C.** *Convergence is predicted by particular interlocutors and interactions, not speakers* (Workshop on Accommodation in Speech Communication, Zurich, Switzerland, December 2018)
- 2018 **Sanker, C.**, Silva, W., Lucitante, H., and AnderBois, S. *Falsetto in A'ingae (Cofán)* (3rd Sound Systems of Latin America, Amherst, Massachusetts, October 2018)
- 2018 Sanker, C. *Effects of following voicing on perceived vowel duration* (Annual Meeting on Phonology, San Diego, California, October 2018) [poster presentation]
- 2018 Cohen Priva, U. and **Sanker, C.** *Distinct behaviors in convergence across measures* (Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, Wisconsin, July 2018) [poster presentation]

- 2018** Sanker, C. *Characterizing contrasts: Features vs. acoustic distance* (Manchester Phonology Meeting, May 2018) [poster presentation]
- 2018** Sanker, C. *Shared innovations and independent developments: Issues in placing Egyptian* (Rethinking the origins: The departure of ancient Egyptian as a branch from the Afroasiatic family, Egyptology and Assyriology Workshop, Providence, RI, April 2018)
- 2018** Sanker, C. *Homophones, lexical retrieval, and sensitivity to detail* (Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 2018)
- 2018** Yang, S., **Sanker, C.**, and Cohen Priva, U. *The organization of lexicons: A cross-linguistic analysis of monosyllabic words* (Society for Computation in Linguistics, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 2018) [poster presentation]
- 2017** Sanker, C. *Effects of stop laryngeal features on duration of preceding vowels: Implications for Winter's Law* (Symposium on Historical Phonology, Edinburgh, Scotland, November-December 2017, Satellite Workshop: LaryngFringe)
- 2017** Zhang, H., Gutman, R., Lucitante, H., Repetti-Ludlow, C., AnderBois, S., and **Sanker, C.** *A phonetic sketch of A'ingae (Cofán)* (Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America VIII (CILLA), Austin, Texas, October 2017)
- 2017** Sanker, C. *Experimental evidence for diachronic change* (International Conference on Historical Linguistics, San Antonio, Texas, July-August 2017)
- 2017** Sanker, C. *Lexical retrieval and effects of homophones* (Phonetics and Phonology in Europe, Cologne, Germany, June 2017) [poster presentation]
- 2017** Sanker, C. *Linking phonetic convergence and sound change* (International Workshop on Sound Change, Edinburgh, Scotland, April 2017)
- 2016** Sanker, C. *When phonology is algebra: Solving problems with interacting processes* (North American Phonology Conference, Montreal, Canada, May 2016, Pedagogy Workshop)
- 2016** Sanker, C. *Individual tendencies for phonetic convergence* (North American Phonology Conference, Montreal, Canada, May 2016) [poster presentation]
- 2016** Sanker, C. *An analysis of semitic uvular-pharyngeal correspondences: Inter-dialectal borrowing in Akkadian* (American Oriental Society, Boston, MA, March 2016)
- 2016** Sanker, C. *Patterns of heritage speakers' perception of Arabic consonants* (Old World Conference in Phonology, Budapest, Hungary, January 2016)
- 2015** Sanker, C. *Phonetic features of the PIE "laryngeals": Evidence from misperception data of modern gutturals* (UCLA Indo-European Conference, Los Angeles, California, October 2015)
- 2015** Sanker, C. *Phonetic Convergence in Multiple Features* (Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 2015) [poster presentation]

- 2015 Sanker, C. *Patterns of misperception of Arabic consonants* (Berkeley Linguistics Society, Berkeley, CA, February 2015)
- 2014 Sanker, C. *Patterns of misperception of Arabic consonants* (Mellon Humanities Corridor Workshop in Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics, Syracuse, NY, December 2014)
- 2014 Sanker, C. *Hurrian meter in the Boğazköy Parables* (American Oriental Society, Phoenix, AZ, March 2014)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### YALE UNIVERSITY

- **Instructor**, Field Methods (LING 241/641). Spring 2020 & Fall 2021
- **Instructor**, Historical Linguistics (LING 112/512). Spring 2020, Spring 2021, & Fall 2021
- **Co-instructor**, Cognitive Science of Language (LING 116/CGSC 216/PSYC 116). Spring 2021
- **Instructor**, Language Contact in the Ancient World (LING 103/503). Fall 2020
- **Instructor**, Quantitative Linguistics (LING 234/634). Fall 2019 & Fall 2020
- **Instructor**, Indo-European Linguistics (LING 113/513; NELC 354; CLSS 407). Fall 2019

### BROWN UNIVERSITY

- **Instructor**, Introduction to Phonological Theory (CLPS 1310). Fall 2016 & Spring 2018
- **Instructor**, Historical Linguistics (CLPS 1365). Spring 2017, Spring 2018, & Spring 2019
- **Instructor**, Laboratory in Phonetics (CLPS 1380). Fall 2017 & Fall 2018
- **Instructor**, Topics in Phonetics and Phonology: Laboratory Phonology (CLPS 1381). Spring 2017
- **Instructor**, Topics in Phonetics and Phonology: Psycholinguistics of Phonetic Perception (CLPS 1381). Spring 2019

### RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

- **Instructor**, Phonology II (LING 521). Spring 2016
- **Instructor**, Phonology (LING 315). Fall 2015 & Spring 2016
- **Instructor**, Phonology III (LING 522). Fall 2015

### CORNELL UNIVERSITY

- **Instructor**, First-year Writing Seminar, Biological Foundations of Language (LING 1100). Fall 2013 & Spring 2014
- **Teaching Assistant**, Introduction to Historical Linguistics (Linguistics 3314). Fall 2011 & Spring 2013 (Instructor: Michael Weiss)

- **Teaching Assistant**, Introduction to Linguistics (Linguistics 1101). Fall 2012 (Instructor: Wayne Harbert)
- **Teaching Assistant**, English Words: Histories & Mysteries (Linguistics 1109). Spring 2012 (Instructor: Alan Nussbaum)

## AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, and GRANTS

2015 Cornell Graduate School Conference Travel Grant

2014-2015 Sage Fellowship

2014 Cornell Graduate School Conference Travel Grant

2010-2011 Sage Fellowship

2009 Departmental Citation for Distinguished Undergraduate Work

2005-2009 Regents' and Chancellor's Scholarship

2005-2009 National Merit Scholarship

## ADVISING

2017-2018 **Haoru Zhang**, Master's thesis advisor, Brown University.

2017-2018 **Yiming Gu**, Master's thesis advisor, Brown University.

2015-2016 **Shu-hao Shih**, Qualifying paper advisor, Rutgers University.

## SERVICE

- **Reviewer (journal)** *Indo-European Linguistics, Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, Journal of East Asian Linguistics, Journal of Germanic Linguistics, Journal of Linguistics, Journal of Phonetics, Language and Speech, Language Dynamics and Change, Linguistic Analysis, Phonetica, Speech Communication*
- **Reviewer (conference)** *European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics, Linguistic Society of America*
- **Cornell Linguistics Circle President** 2013-2014
- **Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Representative** 2011-2012
- **Cornell Linguistics Circle Colloquium Caterer** 2010-2011

## LANGUAGES

- **Native:** English
- **Reading Knowledge:** French, German
- **Primary Research Languages:** English, Latin, Classical Greek, Sanskrit, Akkadian, Arabic, Hindi, A'ingae