

## **Sociophonetic Intraspeaker Variation: the case of the second-generation speaker**

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The present study examines the sociophonetic intraspeaker variation that arises from a difference in interlocutor. In particular, this study considers variation in the speech of a second-generation, New York raised (NYR) speaker of Dominican Spanish. The analysis compares variation in the NYR informant's speech to that of a Latin American raised (LAR) native speaker of Dominican Spanish (Otheguy & Zentella, 2012). This paper considers the role of Bell's models of audience and speaker design (1984) in sociophonetic variation exhibited by the speaker. Under this theoretical model, the speaker is expected to modify his or her speech style in a way that either assimilates towards/dissimilates from the speech of the interlocutor, or augment his or her speech in order to represent him or herself in a certain way. The envelope of variation contains nonstandard articulation of word- and syllable-final /s/, final liquids /l/ and /ɾ/, and final /n/. The data obtained in this case study come from three tasks. The first is a reading passage of roughly 300 words, designed to elicit more controlled speech from the informants. The second task is a sociolinguistic interview, designed as a free speech exercise. Each interview has a different pairing of speaker/interlocutor to examine the effects of audience design under the accommodation theory. Finally, a matched-guise test is administered to evaluate the informants' attitudes towards speech containing high levels of Dominican versus normative variants. An analysis of the data shows that, while the NYR speaker demonstrates the capacity to modify her use of standard versus Dominican speech variants with respect to the speech of her interlocutor, the level of sociophonetic variation is relatively limited in comparison to the speech of the control native speaker. There was a 41% difference in the frequency of Dominican variants with a change in interlocutor in the speech of the LAR informant, but only a 9% difference in the frequency of Dominican variants following a change in interlocutor in the NYR informant's speech. The difference in interlocutor plays a large role in the degree of sociophonetic intraspeaker variation for the second-generation New York raised informant as well as for the Latin American raised informant. It is apparent that the heaviest factor that influenced the speakers in this study was the perceived linguistic affiliation of the interlocutors. Both of the informants tended to use a higher frequency of Dominican speech variants during interviews with the native speaker of Dominican Spanish, and a lower frequency of Dominican speech variants during the interview with the second-language learner of Spanish interlocutor. The results of the matched-guise test demonstrate that both informants rate normative Spanish as more 'correct', 'professional', and 'cold', but find the speaker of Dominican Spanish to sound more 'friendly' and 'kind', but also 'less intelligent.' The results provide insight into the role that an interlocutor's perceived linguistic affiliation, language ideology, and identity play in a NYR speaker's auto-representation by means of employing covertly- versus overtly-prestigious speech variants through audience and speaker design.

## References

- Bell, Allan. 1984. Language style as audience design. *Language in Society*, 13, 145-204.
- Otheguy, Ricardo and Ana Celia Zentella. 2012. *Spanish in New York: Language contact, dialect leveling, and structural continuity*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, Inc.