

Assessing cross-linguistic influence in L3 phonology through language switching tasks: the role of L1 dominance and individual differences in attention and inhibitory control

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The overall aim of this talk is to bridge the gap between research on the mechanisms of language control in language switching in bilingualism and multilingualism and research on cross-linguistic influence (CLI) in L3 phonological acquisition. Based on previous methods and findings from language switching research (Antoniou et al., 2011; Filippi et al., 2012, 2014; Goldrick et al., 2014; Olson, 2013) we propose the use of language switching tasks as a useful testing ground for predictions about L1 and L2 CLI in L3 phonological acquisition. We will explore this approach through language switching data from bilingual Spanish-Catalan bilingual learners of L3-English differing in degree of L1 dominance. In addition we will assess L1 dominance effects on phonological CLI (VOT) at switching between languages as a function of individual differences in cognitive control. Finally, we will discuss the role of attention and inhibitory control (Darcy et al. 2016; Linck et al., 2012; Strange, 2011) in modulating phonological CLI and processing in language switching tasks and L3 phonological acquisition from an individual differences perspective (Festman et al., 2010).

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