

# Sociolinguistic Theory Linguistic Variation And Its Social Significance

The Handbook of Language Variation and Change Linguistic Variation and Change Theoretical Approaches to Linguistic Variation Sociolinguistic Theory Sociolinguistic Variation and Language Acquisition across the Lifespan Dimensions of Linguistic Variation The Dynamics of Linguistic Variation Variation and Change Social Meaning and Linguistic Variation Linguistic Variation in Research Articles Language Variation and Language Change Across the Lifespan Linguistic Variation The Interplay of Variation and Change in Contact Settings Linguistic Variables Variation in Linguistic Systems Variable Properties in Language Language Change and Variation Style Sociolinguistic Theory Sociolinguistic Variation and Change J. K. Chambers Scott F Kiesling Ermenegildo Bidese J. K. Chambers Anna Ghimenton Yaeger Dror Terttu Nevalainen Mirjam Fried Lauren Hall-Lew Bethany Gray Karen V. Beaman Rena Torres Cacoullos Isabelle Leglise Hans-Heinrich Lieb James Anthony Walker David W. Lightfoot Ralph W. Fasold Nikolas Coupland J. K. Chambers Peter Trudgill

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the handbook of language variation and change written by a distinguished international roster of contributors reflects the vitality and growth of the discipline in its multifaceted pursuits it is a convenient hand held repository of the essential knowledge about the study of language variation and change written by internationally recognized experts in the field reflects the vitality and growth of the discipline discusses the ideas that drive the field and is illustrated with empirical studies includes explanatory introductions which set out the boundaries of the field and place each of the chapters into perspective

a comprehensive study of variation and change including current debates in the area

the contributions of this book deal with the issue of language variation they all share the assumption that within the language faculty the variation space is hierarchically constrained and that minimal

changes in the set of property values defining each language give rise to diverse outputs within the same system nevertheless the triggers for language variation can be different and located at various levels of the language faculty the novelty of the volume lies in exploring different loci of language variation by including wide ranging empirical perspectives that cover different levels of analysis syntax phonology and prosody and deal with different kinds of data mostly from romance and germanic languages from dialects idiolects language acquisition language attrition and creolization analyzed from both diachronic and synchronic perspectives the volume is divided in three parts the first part is dedicated to synchronic variation in phonology and syntax the second part deals with diachronic variation and language change and the third part investigates the role of contact attrition and acquisition in giving rise to language change and language variation in bilingual settings this volume is a useful tool for linguistics of diverse theoretical persuasions working on theoretical and comparative linguistics and to anyone interested in language variation language change dialectology language acquisition and typology

sociolinguistic theory presents a critical synthesis of sociolinguistics centering on the study of language variation and change synthesizes the most important descriptive and theoretical findings concerning linguistic variation from the last forty years provides an integrated framework for studying language variation and its social significance expands on the first edition's discussion of communicative competence and developmental sociolinguistics is written by one of the world's foremost scholars in the field of variation studies and includes data from his own work

this volume provides a broad coverage of the intersection of sociolinguistic variation and language acquisition favoured by the current scientific context where interdisciplinarity is particularly encouraged the chapters bring to light the complementarity between the social and cognitive approaches to language acquisition the book integrates sociolinguistic and psycholinguistic issues by bringing together scholars who have been developing conceptions of language acquisition across the lifespan that take into account language internal and cross linguistic variation in contexts of both first and second language acquisition as well as of first and second dialect acquisition the volume brings together theoretical and empirical research and provides an excellent basis for scholars and students wanting to delve into the social and cognitive dimensions of both the production and perception of sociolinguistic variation the book enables the reader to understand on the one hand how variation is acquired in childhood or at a later stage and on the other how perception and production feed into one another thus building up our understanding of the social meanings underpinning language variation

variability is characteristic of any living language this volume approaches the life cycle of linguistic variability in english using data sources that range from electronic corpora to the internet in the spirit of the 1968 weinreich labov and herzog classic the fifteen contributions divide into three sections each highlighting different stages in the dynamics of english across time and space they show first how increase in variability can be initiated by processes that give rise to new patterns of discourse which can ultimately crystallize into new grammatical elements the next phase is the spread of linguistic features and patterns of discourse both new and well established through the social and regional varieties of english the final phase in this ebb and flow of linguistic variability consists of processes promoting some variable features over others across registers and regional and social varieties thus resulting in reduced

variation and increased linguistic homogeneity

the ten volumes of the handbook of pragmatics highlights focus on the most salient topics in the field of pragmatics thus dividing its wide interdisciplinary spectrum in a transparent and manageable way while the other volumes select specific philosophical cognitive grammatical cultural interactional or discursive angles this sixth volume focuses on the dynamic aspects of language and reviews the relevant developments in variationist and diachronic scholarship the areas explored in the volume concern several general themes specific methodological approaches from comparative reconstruction to evolutionary pragmatics issues in intra lingual variation in terms of standard and non standard varieties cross linguistic variation including its cross cultural dimension and the study of diachronic relations across linguistic patterns including changes in all areas of pragmatic patterns and categories the contributions document two prominent and interrelated trends that shape contemporary variationist and diachronic research one it has moved from situating change within context independent systems toward incorporating patterns of language use and the speaker s role in language change and two it has reoriented its focus away from cataloguing instances of variation and toward seeking theoretically informed accounts that aim at explaining variation and change on the whole the volume argues for accepting and developing actively a systematic connection between research in diachrony synchronic variation and typology while also incorporating the socio cognitive perspective in linguistic analysis as a particularly promising source of useful methodology and explanatory models

the third wave of variation study spearheaded by the sociolinguist penelope eckert places its focus on social meaning or the inferences that can be drawn about speakers based on how they talk while social meaning has always been a concern of modern sociolinguistics its aims and assumptions have not been explicitly spelled out until now this pioneering book provides a comprehensive overview of the central tenets of variation study examining several components of dialects and considering language use in a wide variety of cultural and linguistic contexts each chapter written by a leader in the field posits a unique theoretical claim about social meaning and presents new empirical data to shed light on the topic at hand the volume makes a case for why attending to social meaning is vital to the study of variation while also providing a foundation from which variationists can productively engage with social meaning

linguistic variation in research articles investigates the linguistic characteristics of academic research articles going beyond a traditional analysis of the generically defined research article to take into account varied realizations of research articles within and across disciplines it combines corpus based analyses of 70 linguistic features with analyses of the situational or non linguistic characteristics of the academic journal registers corpus 270 research articles from 6 diverse disciplines philosophy history political science applied linguistics biology physics and representing three sub registers theoretical quantitative and qualitative research comprehensive analyses include a lexical grammatical survey an exploration of structural complexity and a multi dimensional analysis all interpreted relative to the situational analysis of the corpus the finding that linguistic variation in research articles does not occur along a single parameter like discipline is discussed relative to our understanding of disciplinary practices the multidimensional nature of variation in research articles and resulting methodological considerations for corpus studies of disciplinary writing

this volume brings together research on panel studies with the aim of providing a coherent empirical and theoretical knowledge base for examining the impact of maturation and lifespan specific effects on linguistic malleability in the post adolescent speaker building on the work of wagner and buchstaller 2018 the present collection offers a critical examination of the theoretical implications of panel research across a range of geographic regions and time periods the volume seeks to offer a way forward in the debates circling about the phenomenon of later life language change drawing on contributions from a variety of linguistic disciplines to examine critical topics such as the effect of linguistic architecture the roles of mobility and identity construction and the impact of frequency effects taken together this edited collection both informs and pushes forward key questions on the nature of lifespan change making this key reading for students and researchers in cognitive linguistics historical linguistics dialectology and variationist sociolinguistics

linguistic variation confronting fact and theory honors shana poplack in bringing together contributions from leading scholars in language variation and change the book demonstrates how variationist methodology can be applied to the study of linguistic structures and processes it introduces readers to variation theory while also providing an overview of current debates on the linguistic cognitive and sociocultural factors involved in linguistic patterning with its coverage of a diverse range of language varieties and linguistic problems this book offers new quantitative analyses of actual language production and processing from both top experts and emerging scholars and presents students and practitioners with theoretical frameworks to meaningfully engage in accountable research practice

this volume is at the cross roads between two research traditions dealing with language change contact linguistics and language variation and change it starts out from the notion that linguistic variation is still a little researched area in most contact induced language change studies intending to fill this gap it offers a rich panorama of case studies and approaches dealing with linguistic variation in contact settings it concentrates both on monolingual data tracing variation and contact beneath surface homogeneity and on bilingual data such as code switching and other forms of variation to trace their underlying regularities it investigates the relationship between variation and change in language contact settings the book will be relevant for students and researchers in contact linguistics sociolinguistics language variation and change sociology of language descriptive linguistics and linguistic typology

this book for the first time reconstructs in a single theoretical framework the more important approaches to linguistic variation found in areas as different as historical linguistics dialectology sociolinguistics psycholinguistics stylistics contrastive linguistics language typology so called evaluation grammar and current chomskyan generative grammar generally with an emphasis on syntax the book concentrates on language internal variation but also analyses typological research and considers the question of how linguistic descriptions may account for variation both within and between languages the book s first and primary aim is adequate conceptualization in the area of linguistic variation its second aim is a practical one to contribute from a theoretical point of view to the vast descriptive effort that is demanded in linguistics in documenting endangered languages its third aim is simply orientation using a non labovian notion of linguistic variable the author distinguishes a holistic and a component approach to linguistic variation a precise version of the former is developed by formulating a theory of language varieties based

on the concept of variety structure of a language it is then shown how the proposals made by major representatives of the component approach can be integrated into this framework the theory is extended to interlanguage variation and applied in particular to typology it is further extended to establish the properties of linguistic descriptions that account for variation in a unified way

tying together work on a number of languages and linguistic varieties in different locales this book provides students and researchers with a convenient unified overview of variationist analysis in linguistics variation in linguistic systems takes a theoretical and quantitative approach to the study of variation in language focusing on the role of language internal constraints on variation and the relation of linguistic variation to linguistic theory it introduces the basic concepts of variationist linguistics and includes key discussions on language change language contact the different types of variation multivariate analysis with goldvarb and variation in sound and grammatical systems here is an ideal textbook for an introductory course on variation as well as a useful resource for scholars with some background in linguistics who are interested in the study of language variation and its relation to the wider field of linguistics

this edited volume based on papers presented at the 2017 georgetown university round table on language and linguistics gurt approaches the study of language variation from a variety of angles language variation research asks broad questions such as why are languages grammatical structures different from one another as well as more specific word level questions such as why are words that are pronounced differently still recognized to be the same words too often research on variation has been siloed based on the particular question sociolinguists do not talk to historical linguists who do not talk to phoneticians and so on this edited volume seeks to bring discussions from different subfields of linguistics together to explore language variation in a broader sense and acknowledge the complexity and interwoven nature of variation itself

the study of language variation in social context continues to hold the attention of a large number of linguists this research is promoted by the annual colloquia on new ways of analyzing variation in english nwave this volume is a selection of revised papers from the nwave xi held at georgetown university it deals with a number of items some of which have often been discussed others that have been less emphasized the first group of articles in the volume center on a frequent theme speech communities as the essential setting for understanding variation in language earlier work in linguistic variation dealt for the most part with phonological variation and change syntactic and morphological change and variation in syntax are also discussed a selection on the role of variation in understanding first language acquisition comprises three papers articles in the last section of the volume concern theoretical controversy and methodological advances

style refers to ways of speaking how speakers use the resource of language variation to make meaning in social encounters this 2007 book develops a coherent theoretical approach to style in sociolinguistics illustrated with copious examples it explains how speakers project different social identities and create different social relationships through their style choices and how speech style and social context inter relate style therefore refers to the wide range of strategic actions and performances that speakers engage

in to construct themselves and their social lives coupland draws on and integrates a wide variety of contemporary sociolinguistic research as well as his own extensive research in this field the emphasis is on how social meanings are made locally in specific relationships genres groups and cultures and on studying language variation as part of the analysis of spoken discourse

a selection of peter trudgill s major works since 1990 in the field of sociolinguistics the book deals with a number of different but related topics one theme is the role of english in the world and the nature of standard english or englishes other themes include language as a human issue

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