

## **Investigating dialogic speech: a corpus of conversational Italian**

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Recently, the interest in speech sciences for casual conversations has increased, and researchers have begun to investigate the characteristics of spontaneous and casual speech in different languages, such as German, Dutch, English, French, Spanish and Czech. These types of investigations are based on spontaneous speech corpora that allow the systematic research on large amounts of data and contribute to the understanding of the empirical dimension of phonological competence.

The aim of this talk is twofold. First, I will present DIA - Dialogic ItAlian, a new speech corpus of spontaneous Italian based on dialogic interactions. The corpus is representative of the language variety spoken by both native and non-native speakers in a bilingual community (Bolzano, South Tyrol). Second, I will focus on the study of the phonetic correlates of dialogic speech, which is also the topic of the research I will conduct during this "Prominence in Language" Fellowship. In this period, I would like to explore how speakers use phonetic information to signal each other's intentions and manage the course of communicative activity, in terms of speaker dominance, turn-taking and dialogue management strategies, with a particular interest for the use of backchannels in the conversation.