

**ON THE DIFFERENT WAYS OF BEING A BI-DIALECTAL IMMIGRANT. FROM SPEECH ISOLATION THROUGH  
CODE-SWITCHING TO FULL INTEGRATION. THE CASE OF ARGENTINEANS IN MALAGA (SPAIN)**

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**Keywords:**

speech variation, dialects in contact, immigration, Spanish varieties

**Abstract:**

In this paper we analyse the accommodation (convergence) or divergence of young immigrants born in Buenos Aires, Argentina but living in Malaga, Spain (n = 22). For analysing this community, we took advantage of previous studies on dialects in contact such as Auer et. al. (2000), Hinskens et. al. (2016), Kerswill & Williams (2000), or Trudgill (1986), among others.

We have focused our attention on a very salient feature of the variety of Buenos Aires: the realization patterns of the voiced palatal fricative /j/ (n = 1176) by young immigrant speakers. In such an immigration context, different realizations of /j/ are observable, from open [j] to voiceless fricative realizations [ç]. An acoustic analysis based on standardised zero crossings rate, relative intensity, and other complementary measurements allows us to set the acoustic parameters underlying palatal /j/ allophones, and to reveal a clear recession in the use of the native closed – and even voiceless – allophones by the Buenos Aires young immigrant speakers.

Young immigrants who exhibit similar personal and attitudinal stances, social networks and time of residence in the host city, can be classified through two-step cluster analysis in three groups: one group is almost completely divergent (showing low indexes of accommodation) (n = 5), other shows mixed linguistic behaviours and seem to be bi-dialectal (n = 9), and the other exhibits almost full accommodation towards the variety of Malaga (n = 8).

Through the systematic scrutiny of also other components of their grammar (morphology, syntax and lexis), we demonstrate that accommodation (convergence): a) is not always coherent and does not follow fixed patterns, b): is highly influenced by the immigrants' personal characteristics and c) that phonological accommodation is only part of overall accommodation (convergence). This paper aims to be a portrait of how speakers under the influence of two different but quite close linguistic norms of Spanish (Malaga and Buenos Aires) negotiate their social stances and how their linguistic behaviours change in dialect contact interactions<sup>1</sup>.

**Bibliography**

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<sup>1</sup> This Project is granted and financed by the Ministry of Education (FPU15/01552) and is part of DGICYT Research Project *Complementary STUDY of the Sociolinguistic Patterns of CASTILIAN Spanish/Estudios Complementarios de los Patrones Sociolingüísticos del Español de España* (FFI 2015-68171-C5-1-P).