

Sex and Age and Variation: A Quantitative Sociolinguistic Approach

Sali A. Tagliamonte
University of Toronto

<http://individual.utoronto.ca/tagliamonte>

Working plan for lectures:

Lecture 1 — Key concepts, Phonological and Morphological variables

Lecture 2 — Discourse-pragmatic variables, *be like*

Lecture 3 — The intensifier system, *so*

Lecture 4 — Morpho-semantic variables, *have to*, Summary

Each lecture will be structured along the following lines:

- Variation
- What's the variation doing?
 - Historical Perspective
 - Synchronic Perspective
- Overall distribution
- Type of change
 - Stability?
 - Change? If so, what type?
 - Who leads?
- What are the sociolinguistic patterns?
 - Sex and age and ...
- What is the developmental trajectory?
 - Peak in apparent time — quotative *be like*, intensifier *so*
 - Monotonic change — deontic *have to*
- What are the linguistic patterns
 - Constraints, underlying mechanism, grammaticalization
 - Hypothesis testing
- Multivariate analysis, findings and observations
- Add-ons

Selected References:

(I will make electronic copies of some of these available to students if they wish them)

- √Godfrey, Elisabeth & Tagliamonte, Sali A. (1999). Another piece for the verbal -s story: Evidence from Devon in Southwest England. *Language Variation and Change* 11(1): 87-121.
- √Ito, Rika & Sali A. Tagliamonte. 2003. *Well weird, right dodgy, very strange, really cool*: Layering and recycling in English intensifiers. *Language in Society* 32: 257-79.
- √Jones, Megan & Tagliamonte, Sali A. 2004. From Somerset to Samaná: pre-verbal *did* in the voyage of English. *Language Variation and Change* 16(2): 93-126.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. & D'Arcy, Alexandra. 2004. *He's like; She's like*: The quotative system in Canadian Youth. *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 8: 493-514.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. & D'Arcy, Alexandra. 2007. The modals of obligation/necessity in Canadian perspective. *English World-Wide* 28: 47-87.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. & D'Arcy, Alexandra. 2007. Frequency and variation in the community grammar: Tracking a new change through the generations. *Language Variation and Change* 19(2): 1-19.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. & Hudson, Rachel. 1999. *Be like* et al. beyond America: The quotative system in British and Canadian youth. *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 3(2): 147-172.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. & Roberts, Chris. 2005. So cool, so weird, so innovative! The use of intensifiers in the television series "Friends". *American Speech* 80(3): 280-300.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. & Temple, Rosalind. 2005. New perspectives on an ol' variable: (t,d) in British English. *Language Variation and Change* 17(3): 281-302.
- Tagliamonte, Sali A. 2006. *Analysing sociolinguistic variation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. 2006. "So cool, right?": Canadian English entering the 21st century. *Canadian English in a Global context. Theme issue of Canadian Journal of Linguistics* 51(2/3): 309-31.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. & Jennifer Smith. 2006. Layering, change and a twist of fate: Deontic modality in dialects of English. *Diachronica* 23: 341-80.
- Tagliamonte, Sali A. & D'Arcy, Alexandra. under review. Peaks beyond phonology: Adolescence, incrementation, and language change.
- √Tagliamonte, Sali A. to appear. *So different and pretty cool! Recycling intensifiers in Canadian English. Special issue of English Language and Linguistics, Intensifiers, Guest editor Bélen Mendez-Naya.*
- Tagliamonte, Sali A. to appear. *Sociolinguistics: Variation, Theory and Observation*. Oxford and Malden: Blackwell Publishers.
- Tagliamonte, Sali A. in preparation. *Roots of English: Exploring the history of dialects*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.