

# Figueroa Candia, Mauricio A.

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## Personal Details

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Birth date : 11<sup>th</sup> September, 1984.  
Nationality : Chilean.  
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Personal website : [www.mauriciofigueroa.cl](http://www.mauriciofigueroa.cl)

## Education and Qualifications

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### 2012 – 2016 | PhD in Speech, Hearing and Phonetic Sciences

PhD in Speech, Hearing and Phonetic Sciences, University College London. Supervisor: Bronwen Evans.  
Thesis: “Lenition in the production and perception of Chilean Spanish approximant consonants: Implications for lexical access models”.

### 2011 – 2012 | *Magíster en Letras con Mención en Lingüística (Master in Arts, Minor in Linguistics)*

At Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Dissertation: “Propuesta metodológica para el análisis acústico de segmentos aproximantes”. Supervisor: Domingo Román.

### 2008 – 2011 | *Magíster en Lingüística Aplicada (Master in Applied Linguistics, Minor in Speech Sciences)*

At Universidad de Concepción. Dissertation: “El eje oclusión/fricción en el sistema sociofónico del castellano de Chile”. Supervisor: Gastón Salamanca.

### 2003 – 2007 | *Pedagogía en Español (Spanish Literature and Language Teacher)*

At Universidad de Concepción. BA in Education; Professional Habilitation as a Spanish Literature and Language Teacher. Dissertation: “Prestigio de las variantes de /tr/ en la comuna de Concepción. Estudio Sociolingüístico”. Supervisor: Andrés Gallardo.

## Peer reviewed publications

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Jaisin, K., Suphachaimat, R., **Figueroa Candia, M. A.** & Warren, J. (2016). “The speech-to-song illusion is reduced in speakers of tonal (versus non-tonal) languages”, in *Frontiers in Psychology*, 7(662). Available online at:

<http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fpsyg.2016.00662>

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. (2015). “Evaluation of segmentation approaches and constriction degree correlates for spirant approximant consonants” (by Mauricio Figueroa and Bronwen G. Evans). Published in the Proceedings Papers for the 18<sup>th</sup> *International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS)*, SECC, Glasgow, Scotland, UK. Available online at:

<http://www.icphs2015.info/pdfs/Papers/ICPHS0718.pdf>

**Figueroa, M.**, Salamanca, G. & Ñanculeo, M. (2013). “El eje oclusión-fricción en el sistema sociofónico del castellano chileno”, in *Estudios de Fonética Experimental* 22, pp. 233-273. Available online at:

<http://stel.ub.edu/labfon/sites/default/files/XXII-11-MFigueroa.pdf>

Salamanca Gutiérrez, G., Cifuentes Becerra, E. & **Figueroa Candia, M.** (2011) “Sistematización de criterios para la determinación de fonos, alófonos y formas básicas de los fonemas del español de Chile: una herramienta para la investigación y la docencia”, in *Boletín de Filología* 46(2), pp. 107-133. Available online:

<http://www.boletinfilologia.uchile.cl/index.php/BDF/article/viewFile/18624/19681>

**Figueroa Candia, M. A.,** Soto-Barba, J. & Ñanculeo Raguileo, M. (2010). “Los alófonos del grupo consonántico /tr/ en el castellano de Chile”, in *Onomázein* 22, pp. 11-42. Available online at: [http://www.onomazein.net/Articulos/22/1\\_Figueroa.pdf](http://www.onomazein.net/Articulos/22/1_Figueroa.pdf)

## Other publications

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**Figueroa, M.** (2014). “Praat scripting manual (workshop) for beginners”. It includes examples, training exercises and online companion files and solutions. Official Praat website link: <http://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/praat/manualsByOthers.html>

## Work Experience (summary)

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### 2010 to 2015 | Programa Inglés Abre Puertas

Tutor for the “Inglés Abre Puertas” Program, of the Chilean Ministry of Education. Online Tutor for students of Spanish as a second language.

### 2013 | Lionbridge

Work on a freelance basis for Lionbridge (<http://www.lionbridge.com/>) as Chilean phonetics and phonology expert for developing materials for speech technologies' applications.

### 2011 – 2012 | Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Associate Lecturer for the Language Sciences Department, Arts Faculty, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Taught Courses (all in Spanish): “Writing Skills for Professionals”, “Communication Skills for Engineering Students”, “Communication Skills for BA in Humanities Students” and “Academic Writing Workshop, for BA in Humanities Students”.

### 2010 – 2011 | Universidad del Desarrollo

Associate Lecturer for the Audiology Department, Universidad del Desarrollo. Taught Courses (all in Spanish): “Phonetics & Phonology”, “Phonetic Transcription Workshop”, “Linguistic Foundations of Communication” and “General Linguistics II”.

### 2009 – 2010 | Universidad de Concepción

Associate Lecturer for the Spanish Department, Humanities Faculty, Universidad de Concepción. Taught Courses (all in Spanish): “Oral Communication Skills”, “Oral and Writing Communications Skills I”, “Oral and Writing Communications Skills II”, “Oral and Writing Communications Skills III”, “Grammar and Writing” and “Introduction to the Physics of Music and Speech” (with physicist PhD. Dante Figueroa).

## Conferences and talks

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### 2016

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. Presentation held at the *Speech Science Forum*, from the Speech, Hearing and Speech Sciences Department, University College London, titled “Recovery and lexical effects in the perception of lenited (and missing) Spanish approximants”. 29<sup>th</sup> of June. London, United Kingdom.

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. Presentation held at the *2016 UK Speech Conference*, at University of Sheffield, titled “Coping with loss: Evidence for recovery and lexical effects in the perception of highly lenited Spanish approximants”. 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of June. Sheffield, United Kingdom.

### 2015

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. Poster presented at the *18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS)*, at SECC, titled “Evaluation of segmentation approaches and constriction degree correlates for spirant approximant consonants”. 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of August. Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom.

## 2014

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. Presentation held at the *VI Congreso Internacional de Fonética Experimental (CIFE)*, at Universidad de Valencia, titled “Propuesta para la evaluación de métodos de segmentación y medición de parámetros acústicos de las consonantes aproximantes espirantes del castellano”. 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> of November. Valencia, Spain.

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. Poster presented at the *LabPhon 14 – The 14th Conference on Laboratory Phonology*, held at the National Institute for Japanese Linguistics (NINJAL), in Tokyo, titled “Are acoustic cues sufficient for the identification and discrimination of Spanish approximants? Evidence from a production study”. 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of July. Tokyo, Japan.

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. Poster presented at the *2014 Meeting of the British Association of Academic Phoneticians*, held at Oxford, titled “Cue weighting and acoustic variables in the perception of Chilean Spanish approximant consonants”. 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of April. Oxford, United Kingdom.

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. Presentation held at the *Workshop on Ibero-Romance Phonology and Morphology*, held at UCL and SOAS, titled “There is hardly anything to hear, but we are hearing it nonetheless: lenition, elision and recovery of Chilean Spanish /b, d, g/”. 18<sup>th</sup> of March. London, United Kingdom.

## 2013

**Figueroa, M.** & Evans, B. G. Poster presented at the *1<sup>st</sup> Graduate Conference in Linguistics*, held at UCL, titled “Acoustical description of Chilean approximant consonants: Methodological problems and solutions”. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of November. London, United Kingdom.

## 2012

**Figueroa, M.** Presentation held at the *V Jornadas Nacionales de Fonética “Humberto Valdivieso”*, at Universidad de la Frontera, titled “Consonantes aproximantes: dónde, cómo y qué medir acústicamente”. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of June. Temuco, Chile.

**Figueroa, M.** & Román, D. Presentation held at the *Terceras Jornadas de Estudiantes de Posgrado en Lingüística*, at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, titled “Caracterización acústica de los alófonos aproximantes de /b/, /d/, /g/, /j/ y /r/ en el castellano hablado en Santiago de Chile”. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of April. Santiago, Chile.

## 2011

**Figueroa, M.** Presentation held at the *Segundas Jornadas de Postgrado en Lingüística*, at Universidad de Chile, titled: “Aproximación a lo aproximante: problemas teórico-metodológicos asociados a este modo articulatorio”. 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of October. Santiago, Chile.

**Figueroa, M.** Presentation held at the *XIX Congreso de la Sociedad Chilena de Lingüística*, at Universidad de Playa Ancha, titled: “Dime qué africada usas y te diré quién eres. Datos sobre la evaluación subjetiva de consonantes africadas chilenas”. 9<sup>th</sup> of November. Valparaíso, Chile.

## 2010

**Figueroa, M.** & Salamanca, G. Presentation held at the *Cuartas Jornadas Nacionales de Fonética*, at Universidad de Concepción, titled: “El eje oclusión/fricción en el sistema sociofónico del castellano chileno: diseño metodológico”. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of September. Concepción, Chile.

## 2009

Salamanca, G., Cifuentes, E. & **Figueroa, M.** Presentation held at the *XVIII Congreso de la Sociedad Chilena de Lingüística*, at Universidad de Chile, titled: “Algoritmo para la determinación de fonos, fonemas y alófonos. Propuesta preliminar”. 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> of November. Santiago, Chile.

**Figueroa, M.** & Soto B., J. Presentation held at the *XVIII Congreso de la Sociedad Chilena de Lingüística*, at Universidad de Chile, titled: “El grupo consonántico /r/: análisis acústico de variantes presentes en el español de Chile”. 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> of November. Santiago, Chile.

## 2008

**Figueroa, M.** & Salamanca, G. Presentation held at the *XII Forum for Iberian Studies*, at University of Oxford, titled “El eje oclusión/fricción en la organización sociolingüística de variantes de fonos y fonemas africados en el castellano chileno. El caso de la valoración subjetiva de /tʀ/ y /tʃ/”. 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of November. Oxford, United Kingdom.

**Figueroa, M.** Presentation held at the *Terceras Jornadas Nacionales de Fonética*, at University of Concepción, titled: “Propuestas en torno al tratamiento de continuos de variantes sociofónicas: determinación de variantes relevantes y su representación a través del AFI”. 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of November. Concepción, Chile.

## 2007

**Figueroa, M.** & Gallardo, A. Presentation held at the *XVII Congreso de la Sociedad Chilena de Lingüística*, at Universidad de Concepción, titled: “Prestigio de las variantes de /tʀ/ en la comuna de Concepción. Estudio Sociolingüístico”. 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> of October. Concepción, Chile.

## Workshops (as teacher)

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### 2016

Teacher of workshop “Using Praat for research in Speech Sciences: Programming fundamentals, methods and good practices for production and perception studies”, for postgraduate students and members of staff from the *Department of English Language and Linguistics*, University of Kent (for topics, see below). 6<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of July, 2016. Sheffield, United Kingdom.

### 2015

Teacher of workshop “Using Praat for research in Speech Sciences: Programming fundamentals, methods and good practices for production and perception studies”, for the *Phonetics Laboratory*, University of Cambridge. Topics: Scripting, modularization of large programming projects, acoustic parameter extraction, segmentation and labelling, cross-splicing, Klatt synthesis, Praat picture window, and creation of continua for research. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of December, 2015. Cambridge, United Kingdom.

### 2014

Teacher of Praat Scripting Workshop, for the Department of Linguistics, Universiteit Antwerpen. Creation of programming manual for beginners (available online: [http://www.mauriciofigueroa.cl/04\\_scripts/](http://www.mauriciofigueroa.cl/04_scripts/)). 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014. Antwerp, Belgium.

## Dissertation Supervisor

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### 2012 – 2014 | University College London

Supervision of the MA dissertation “Liverpool Lenition: /t/ and /k/ as targets of levelling in Liverpool English” by Sian Holmes, student of the MA Linguistics. Academic year 2013 – 2014.

Cosupervision with PhD Bronwen Evans of the long essay “Do Spanish L1 listeners possess a greater perceptual sensitivity to the stop/approximant sounds of their native language than non-native L2 listeners?”, by Joshua Fitzgerald, student of the BA Linguistics. Academic year 2012 – 2013.

### 2011 | Universidad del Desarrollo

Supervision of the undergraduate Dissertation “Estudio descriptivo de alófonos en niños con Síndrome de Down entre 8 años y 11 años 11 meses que pertenecen a colegios diferenciados de la ciudad de Concepción”, by Dominique Torres, Audiology student at Universidad del Desarrollo.

Supervision of the undergraduate Dissertation “Estudio de los procesos fonológicos de simplificación en niños de 5 y 6 años pertenecientes a establecimientos educacionales particulares bilingües de la Provincia de Concepción”, by Carolina Lastra, Audiology student at Universidad del Desarrollo.

## Projects

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### 2017 - 2019

Co-researcher of FONDECYT project (1161466), "Realizaciones fónicas segmentales en habla subestándar: una contribución a la construcción de un inventario inclusivo y actualizado de fonemas y alófonos del español de Chile", in charge of PhD Jaime Soto Barba, Spanish Department, Universidad de Concepción.

### 2004 – 2007

Director of a Institutional Development Founding project, Chilean Ministry of Education, while a member of the Undergraduate Phonetics Research Group, at Universidad de Concepción. Development of the interactive software *Habla blah!* aimed at teaching Spanish oral communication skills (original CD-ROM version available in the following address: "[http://www.mauriciofigueroa.cl/hablابلah/habla\\_blah\\_setup.exe](http://www.mauriciofigueroa.cl/hablابلah/habla_blah_setup.exe)"; online versions of the materials available here: "<http://hablابلah.habla.cl/>"). Budget: 2.500.000 CLP (2004).

## Teaching Assistantships

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### 2013 – 2015 | University College London

Teaching assistantship for "PLIN7305 / PLING150 Sociolinguistics", for BA Linguistics and MA Linguistics students, in charge of PhD Bronwen Evans. Second Term of the academic year 2012 – 2013, 2013 – 2014 and 2014 – 2015. • Teaching assistantship for "HCSCGS14 Phonetics and Phonology", for BA Linguistics and MA Linguistics students, in charge of PhD Bronwen G. Evans. First and Second term of the academic year 2013 – 2014 and 2014 – 2015.

### 2008 – 2010 | Universidad de Concepción

Assistantship in the conduction of the Undergraduate Phonetics Research Group, in charge of PhD Jaime Soto, of the Spanish Department, Universidad de Concepción (on six occasions, one semester each). Development and implementation of small scale research in phonetics with each member of the Group, including fieldwork and data analysis.

### 2004 – 2007 | Universidad de Concepción

Teaching Assistantships for the Spanish Department, Universidad de Concepción, for the following modules: "Phonetics and Phonology I" (on four occasions), "Phonetics and Phonology II" (on five occasions) and "General Linguistics" (on one occasion). Each assistantships had a duration of one semester.

## Internships

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### 2008

Internship at University College London, between the 3<sup>rd</sup> November and 12<sup>th</sup> of December, 2008. During the internship, four lectures were held at the Department of Spanish and Latin American Studies on topics of Chilean literature and Chilean Spanish, for undergraduate students. Participation as a hearing student in modules of the Department of Spanish and Latin American Studies; Department of Speech, Hearing & Phonetic Sciences; and Department of Linguistics.

## Awards and Distinctions

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### 2012

Premio Doctor Rodolfo Oroz award for the Dissertation "El eje oclusión/fricción en el sistema sociofónico del castellano de Chile", supervised by PhD Gastón Salamanca González, for its contribution to the development of language sciences. Academia Chilena de la Lengua.

Beca Chile scholarship for PhD Studies Abroad (at University College London), for the years 2012-2016, in recognition of academic excellence. Fees and Living Costs included. Becas Chile, Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (CONICYT).

**2009**

Primera Mención Honrosa (Second Place) in the Undergraduate Dissertation Prize, for the Dissertation "Prestigio de las variantes de /tr/ en la comuna de Concepción. Estudio sociolingüístico". Sociedad Chilena de Lingüística.

**2008**

Scholarship for MA Studies in Chile, in recognition of academic excellence, for the years 2008-2009. Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (CONICYT).

Scholarship for MA Studies at the Universidad de Concepción, in recognition of academic excellence. Dirección de Graduados, Universidad de Concepción.

Premio Universidad de Concepción, for the undergraduate student with the best qualifications of its generation. Universidad de Concepción.

**2007**

Santander Universia English Scholarship, for the improvement of Academic English in University College London, United Kingdom (see *Internships*). Santander Universia.

**Language Skills**

Language	Level	Additional information
Spanish	Native	Chilean Spanish. Expert in Chilean Spanish phonetics and phonology. Expert in Chilean Spanish academic writing.
English	Advanced	Test: TOEFL IBT (28/JUL/2012). Overall Score = 111. Listening = 30; Reading = 30; Writing = 24; Speaking = 27.
	Advanced	Test: IELTS Academic (27/JUN/2009). Overall Band Score = 8.0; Listening = 7.2; Reading = 9.0; Writing = 6.5; Speaking = 8.0.
German	Basic	2005. D.A.A.D. Test (Grundstufe II).

**Programming, software and statistics****Programming languages**

- Programming and statistics: Python, Praat, R.
- Mark-up: HTML, CSS, Latex.
- Management and control: Git, Bash.

**Software**

- Speech: Praat, Audacity.
- Statistics: R, SPSS, G-Power.
- Experiment design: OpenSesame, Praat.

**Statistics**

- Descriptive.
- Inferential: *t*-tests; ANOVAs; lineal, binomial and multinomial logistic regression (MLR); discriminant analysis; principal component analysis (PCA); factorial analysis; linear mixed-models (LMM), generalized linear mixed-models (GLMM), among others.
- Data visualization: R, SPSS.

## Affiliations

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- Member of the International Phonetic Association – IPA (since 2015)
- Member of the British Association of Academic Phoneticians – BAAP (since 2014).
- Member of the Association for Laboratory Phonology – LabPhon (since 2014).
- Member of the Phonetics Laboratory, Universidad de Concepción (since 2009).
- Member of the Chilean Linguistics Society – SOCHIL (since 2007).