Coercion in loanword adaptation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ruben van de Vijver</th>
<th>Vicky Tsouni</th>
<th>Kim Strütjen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heinrich-Heine-</td>
<td>Heinrich-Heine-</td>
<td>Heinrich-Heine-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universität</td>
<td>Universität</td>
<td>Universität</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Düsseldorf</td>
<td>Düsseldorf</td>
<td>Düsseldorf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Emails:
- Ruben.Vijver@hhu.de
- Vassiliki.Tsouni@hhu.de
- Kim.Struetjen@hhu.de

Loan words are often adapted to fit the phonotactics of the borrowing language. Such adaptation is a phonological instantiation of coercion. We will present the results of a production experiment and a nonce word learning experiment with Japanese speakers.

Japanese has a very restrictive syllable phonotactics. Codas can only be nasals or geminates that are homorganic with the following onset. *Sphinx*, for example, is borrowed as [ʃʊfiŋkwaʃw] (Dupoux et al. 1999). The clusters are broken up by vowels. *Zeitgeist* is borrowed as [tsaitogaisʉto]. The epenthetic vowel after t is [o]—not [u]—for phonotactic reasons (Kubozono 2015). Perceptually the vowels are real (Dupoux et al. 1999). Kwon (2017) found that more proficient speakers of the host language adapt loans less.

We investigated the properties of the epenthetic vowels in production and whether they are used to store words in memory; both as a function of language experience. We will conduct two experiments, both in Germany and in Japan. In the first one, we will present Japanese participants with audio recordings of German bisyllabic nonce words with intervocalic consonant clusters that are illegal in Japanese (e.g. *okto*). The participants are asked to produce each nonce in a carrier sentence. The clusters are then phonetically analyzed to investigate whether there is a vowel and its quality. In the word learn experiment, we will associate the nonce words with fantasy animals. We will then investigate whether the nonce *okto* is stored as [oktʰo] or as [okʰtʰo]. We expect that the Japanese speakers in Germany are less likely to need coerced vowels than the ones in Japan.

**References:**