Alif Silpachai
Curriculum Vitæ
Last updated: September 3, 2025

Contact Information	alif.silpachai(at)ru(dot)nl

Research interests

- Consonant-induced pitch perturbations (also known as CF_0, F_0 at vowel onset, pitch skip, or onset f_0 perturbations, among others)
- Domain-initial strengthening (DIS)
- High stimulus variability
- Computer-assisted pronunciation training

Education

2016-2021   **Iowa State University**
Ph.D., Applied Linguistics and Technology
- Dissertation: "Consonant-induced pitch perturbations, domain-initial strengthening, and word learning success in a tone language"
- Committee: John M. Levis (co-major professor), Evgeny Chukharev-Hudilainen (co-major professor), James Ranalli, Charles Nagle, and Horabail Venkatagiri

2014   **University of Southern California**
M.A., Linguistics
- Thesis: "The temporal organization between initial consonants and lexical tones"
- Committee: Khalil Iskarous (chair), Louis Goldstein, and Karen Jesney

2012   **University of California, Los Angeles**
B.A., Linguistics
- *cum laude*

2010   **Santa Monica College**
Certificate of Achievement, IGETC General Education

Professional experience

November 2024-present   Position: Visiting Researcher at the Faculty of Arts
Institution: Radboud University

January-June 2025   Position: Instructor at the Arts & Humanities Department
Institution: University College Roosevelt

November 2022- October 2024	Position: Post Doc at the Faculty of Arts Supervisors: Rob Schoonen (from January-October 2024), Amalia Arvaniti (from November 2022 to December 2023) Adviser: Mirjam Ernestus Institution: Radboud University
February 2022- November 2022	Position (temporary): Research Coordinator for Evgeny Chukharev-Hudilainen Institution: Iowa State University

Peer-reviewed articles

Silpachai, A., Neiriz, R., Novotny, M., Gutierrez-Osuna, R., Levis, J. M., & Chukharev, E. (2024). Corrective feedback accuracy and pronunciation improvement: Feedback that is 'good enough.' *Language Learning & Technology*, *28*(1), 1–16. https://hdl.handle.net/10125/735682

Silpachai, A. (2024). The boundary-induced modulation of obstruents and tones in Thai. *Journal of Phonetics*, *102*, 101291. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wocn.2023.101291

Rehman, I., **Silpachai, A.**, Levis, J., Zhao, G., & Gutierrez-Osuna, R. (2022). The English pronunciation of Arabic speakers: A data-driven approach to segmental error identification. *Language Teaching Research*, *26*(6), 1055–1081. https://doi.org/10.1177/1362168820931888

Silpachai, A. (2020). The role of talker variability in the perceptual learning of Mandarin tones by American English listeners. *Journal of Second Language Pronunciation*, *6*(2), 209–235.

Ding, S., Liberatore, C., Sonsaat, S., Rehman, I., **Silpachai, A.**, Zhao, G., Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Levis, J., & Gutierrez-Osuna, R. (2019). Golden speaker builder–An interactive tool for pronunciation training. *Speech Communication*, *115*, 51-66.

Manuscript

Silpachai, A. (in revision). Consonant-induced pitch perturbations in different linguistic contexts in Thai.

Book chapter

Levis, J. M., & **Silpachai, A. O.** (2022). Speech intelligibility. In T. M. Derwing, M. J. Munro, & R. I. Thomson (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of second language acquisition and speaking* (pp. 160-173). Routledge.

Reviews

Silpachai, A. (2018). Review of *Investigating English pronunciation: Trends and directions*. (Jose A. Mompean and Jonás Fouz-González, eds., 2015 Palgrave Macmillan). *The CATESOL journal*, *30*(1), 312-316.

Silpachai, A. (2017). Accent reduction for professionals: How to eliminate your accent to sound more American (Review). In M. O'Brien & J. Levis (Eds). *Proceedings of the 8th Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching Conference*, ISSN 2380-9566, Calgary, AB, August 2016 (pp. 270-273). Ames, IA: Iowa State University.

Conference proceedings

Dong, W., **Silpachai, A.**, Cucchiarini, C., & Strik, H. (2025). Multitalker babble in English vowel perception training: A comparison between humans and neural models. *Interspeech 2025* (Rotterdam, the Netherlands).

Duris, M., Levis, J., Neiriz, R., **Silpachai, A.** (2024). Methodological influences on word stress identification: Implications for research and teaching. *Proc. Speech Prosody 2024*, 732-736. https://doi.org/10.21437/SpeechProsody.2024-148

Silpachai, A., Rehman, I., Barriuso, T. A., Levis, J., Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Zhao, G., & Gutierrez-Osuna, R. (2021). Effects of voice type and task on L2 learners' awareness of pronunciation errors. *Interspeech 2021* (Brno, the Czech Republic).

Levis, J. M., & **Silpachai, A. O.** (2018). Prominence and information structure in pronunciation teaching materials. In *Proceedings of the 9th Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching conference, ISSN* (pp. 2380-9566).

Zhao, G., Sonsaat, S. **Silpachai, A.,** Lucic, I., Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Levis, J., & Gutierrez-Osuna, R. (2018). L2 ARCTIC: A non-native English speech corpus. *Interspeech 2018* (Hyderabad, India).

Silpachai, A. (2013, June). Prosodic characteristics of two focus types in emphatic context in Thai. In *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics ICA2013* (Vol. 19, No. 1, p. 060209).

Publicly available research products

Ding, S., Liberatore, C., Zhao, G., Sonsaat, S., **Silpachai, A.**, Lučić, I. Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Levis, J., & Gutierrez-Osuna, R. (2020). *Golden Speaker Builder: Accent conversion for pronunciation training.* http://goldenspeaker.engl.iastate.edu/

Zhao, G., Sonsaat, S., **Silpachai, A.**, Lučić, I. Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Levis, J., & Gutierrez-Osuna, R. (2018). *L2-Arctic: A nonnative English speech corpus*. https://psi.engr.tamu.edu/l2-arctic-corpus/

Selected conference presentations

Dong, W., **Silpachai, A.**, Cucchiarini, C., & Strik, H. (2025, August 17–21). *Multitalker babble in English vowel perception training: A comparison between humans and neural models* [Oral presentation]. Interspeech 2025, Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Silpachai, A., Dong, W., Cucchiarini, C., & Strik, H. (2025, June 16–19). *The role of babble in optimizing High Variability Phonetic Training for improving second-language vowel perception: Insights from comparing human judgments with AI measures* [Oral presentation]. The 5th International Symposium on Monolingual and Bilingual Speech, Chania, Crete, Greece.

Silpachai, A. (2025, May 27–31). *High variability phonetic training: Insights and implications from artificial intelligence models* [Oral presentation]. CALICO 2025, San Diego, CA, United States

Silpachai, A., & Steffman, J. (2025, May 16–18). *Individual variability in the boundary-induced modulation of stops and tones in Thai* [Oral presentation]. The Third International Conference on Tone and Intonation, Herrsching am Ammersee, Germany.

Silpachai, A., Dong, W., Cucchiarini, C., & Strik, H. (2025, May 12–13). *The perceptual learning of nonnative vowels in babble: Implications from Artificial Intelligence models* [Oral presentation]. Adverse Listening Conditions in Language Acquisition and Language Processing: A Linguistic Perspective, Oldenburg, Germany.

Silpachai, A., Dong, W., Cucchiarini, C., & Strik, H. (2024, December 12–14). *The role of the number of talkers in babble in second-language vowel perception: A comparison between humans and neural models* [Oral presentation]. Accents 2024, University of Lodz, Łódź, Poland.

Duris, M., Levis, J., Neiriz, R., & **Silpachai, A.** (2024, July 2–5). *Methodological influences on word stress identification: Implications for research and teaching* [Poster session]. Speech Prosody 2024, Leiden University, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, Netherlands.

Silpachai, A., Hu, N., & Arvaniti, A. (2023, November 18–20). *Individual variability in the production of consonant-induced pitch perturbations at vowel onset in Thai* [Oral presentation]. The Second International Conference on Tone and Intonation, Singapore.

Silpachai, A. (2023, June 1–4). *Pitch perturbations at vowel onset in different linguistic contexts in Thai* [Poster session]. Phonetics and Phonology in Europe 2023, Radboud University, Nijmegen, Gelderland, Netherlands.

Silpachai, A., Neiriz, R., Novotny, M., Gutierrez-Osuna, R., Levis, J., & Chukharev-Hudilainen, E. (2022, October 14–15). *The effect of corrective feedback accuracy on pronunciation improvement* [Oral presentation]. The 19th Annual Technology for Second Language Learning Conference, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, United States.

Silpachai, A. (2022, May 28–29). *How Americans talk* [Invited oral presentation]. The Thai-American Physicians Foundation Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, United States.

Silpachai, A., Neiriznaghadehi, R., Novotny, M., Gutierrez-Osuna, R., Levis, J. M., & Chukharev-Hudilainen, E. (2022, June 16–18). *Computer-assisted feedback accuracy and segmental pronunciation improvement* [Oral presentation]. The 13th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON, Canada.

Silpachai, A., Rehman, I., Barriuso, T. A., Levis, J., Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Zhao, G., & Gutierrez-Osuna, R. (2021, August 30 – September 3). *Effects of voice type and task on L2 learners' awareness of pronunciation errors* [Online oral presentation]. Interspeech 2021, Brno, the Czech Republic.

Silpachai, A., Rehman, I., & Levis, J. (2020, December 7–11). *The durational modulation of repeated words in second language discourse by language experience* [Poster session]. The 179th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Acoustics Virtually Everywhere.

Silpachai, A. (2020, December 7–11). *Prosodic structural and tonal contextual modulation of Voice Onset Time and consonant-induced fundamental frequency in the three-way laryngeal contrast in Thai* [Poster session]. The 179th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Acoustics Virtually Everywhere.
  – Received an honorable mention in a student poster competition from the Speech Communication Technical Committee.

Silpachai, A. (2019, December 2–6). *The roles of vowel length and sentential context in onset pitch perturbations in Thai* [Poster session]. The 178th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, San Diego, CA, United States.

Silpachai, A. (2019, September 12–14). *The effects of high talker variability on the perceptual learning of Mandarin tones in HVPT* [Oral presentation]. The 11th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, United States.

Barriuso, T. A., **Silpachai, A.**, Lučić Rehman, I., Zhao, G., Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., & Levis, J. M. (2019, September 12–14). *The effects of voice type on self-awareness of pronunciation errors* [Oral presentation]. The 11th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, United States.

Lucic, I., **Silpachai, A.**, Levis, J., Zhao, G., & Gutierrez-Osuna, R. (2019, June 6–7). *Pronunciation errors - A systematic approach to diagnosis* [Poster session]. L2 Pronunciation Research Workshop: Bridging the Gap between Research and Practice, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain.

Levis, J., Gutierrez-Osuna, R., Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Sonsaat, S., **Silpachai, A.**, & Lučić, I. (2018, September 6–8). *Golden speaker: Learner experience with computer-assisted pronunciation practice* [Oral presentation]. The 10th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, United States.

Silpachai, A., Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Levis, J. M., Klepikova, T. A., & Mitchell, G. (2018, September 6–8). *The role of speaker identity in High Variability Phonetic Training* [Poster session]. The 10th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, United States.

Silpachai, A. (2018, May 7–11). *Using High Variability Phonetic Training to train non-tonal listeners with no musical background to perceive lexical tones* [Poster session]. The 175th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Minneapolis, MN, United States.

Silpachai, A., & Levis, J. (2017, September 1–2). *Prominence and information structure in pronunciation teaching materials* [Poster session]. The 9th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, United States.

Silpachai, A. (2017, September 1–2). *High Variability Phonetic Training and L2 lexical tones* [Poster session]. The 9th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, United States.

Chukharev-Hudilainen, E., Levis, J., Gutierrez-Osuna, R., Sonsaat, S., **Silpachai, A.**, Lucic, I., Zhou, Z., Ding, S., Liberatore, C., & Zhao, G. (2017, September 22–23). *Building hybrid pronunciation models for L2 pronunciation training* [Oral presentation]. The 17th Annual Technology for Second Language Learning Conference, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, United States.

Silpachai, A. (2013, December 2–6). *The adaptation of tones in a language with registers: A case study of Thai loanwords in Mon* [Poster session]. The 166th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, San Francisco, CA, United States.

Silpachai, A. (2013, June 2–7). *Prosodic characteristics of two focus types in emphatic context in Thai* [Poster session]. The 21st International Congress on Acoustics, Montreal, QC, Canada.

Silpachai, A. (2012, October 22–26). *Prosodic characteristics of three sentence types in Thai* [Poster session]. The 164th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Kansas City, MO, United States.

Silpachai, A. (2012, April 14). *Thai tones in English loanwords* [Oral presentation]. The Southern California Undergraduate Linguistics Conference, University of California, Los Angeles, CA, United States.

Honors and awards

2020	Acoustics Virtually Everywhere (Acoustical Society of America): An honorable mention in a student poster competition from the Speech Communication Technical Committee
2019	Acoustical Society of America, San Diego: Student transportation subsidy ($120.00)
2019	ISU: ALT Small Grant Award ($212.50)
2016	ISU: Freda Huncke Endowment Graduate Teaching Fellowship
2012-2013	USC: Frederick and Dorothy Quimby Memorial Scholarship
2009	Santa Monica College: Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
2009-2010	Santa Monica College: Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society

Research assistant experience

2020-2021   Research assistant to John M. Levis
Project: Adaptive explicit and implicit feedback in second language pronunciation training
Research funded by the National Science Foundation (2020)
ISU, Applied Linguistics and Technology
[Duties: Background research and preparing for data collection]

2017-2020   Research assistant to John M. Levis
Project: Perception and production in second language: The roles of voice variability and familiarity
Research funded by the National Science Foundation (2016)
ISU, Applied Linguistics and Technology
[Duties: Data collection and writing up studies]

2017-2020   Research assistant to John M. Levis
Project: Developing golden speakers for second-language pronunciation training.
Research funded by the National Science Foundation (2016)
ISU, Applied Linguistics and Technology
[Duties: Data collection and writing up studies]

2011   Research assistant to Marc Garellek
Project: Thai glottalization
UCLA, Department of Linguistics
[Duties: Creating a wordlist for data collection and pilot study]

Teaching experience

Spring 2025   Instructor for AH-LING102: Introduction to English Linguistics, UCR

Instructor for AH-LING204: Computational Linguistics, UCR

Period 1
2023   Instructor for LET-ETCENB111: British English Phonetics (seminar), RU
Note: This course corresponds to LET-ETCENB111, British English Phonetics (lecture), taught by Prof. Amalia Arvaniti

Periods 3–4
2023
Instructor for LET-ETCENB200: Academic Communication Skills British English, RU

Fall 2021
Instructor for ENGL 250: Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition, ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Spring 2021
Instructor for LING 371: Phonetics and Phonology, ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Fall 2020
Instructor for LING 150: Critical Thinking and Communication (online section), ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Spring 2020
Instructor for LING 219: Introduction to Linguistics (linguistics section), ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Fall 2019
Instructor for ENGL 150: Critical Thinking and Communication, ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Fall 2018
Instructor for ENGL 250: Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition, ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Spring 2018
Teaching assistant for LING 219: Introduction to Linguistics, ISU
Instructor: Prof. Evgeny Chukharev-Hudilainen, ISU Applied Linguistics and Technology
Responsibilities: Weekly discussion sections and grading.

Fall 2017
Instructor for ENGL 99S: Strategies for Nonnative Speakers of English: Academic Speaking and Pronunciation, ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Spring 2017
Instructor for ENGL 250: Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition, ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Fall 2016
Instructor for ENGL 150: Critical Thinking and Communication, ISU
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Fall 2014
(two
sections)
Teaching assistant for LING 115: Language, Culture, and Society, USC
Instructor: Prof. Andrew Simpson, USC Linguistics
Responsibilities: Weekly discussion section, grading, and weekly office hours.
[Student evaluations available upon request]

Spring 2014 (two sections)	Teaching assistant for LING 115: Language, Culture, and Society, USC Instructor: Prof. Sandra Disner, USC Linguistics Responsibilities: Weekly discussion section, grading, and weekly office hours. [Student evaluations available upon request]
Fall 2013 (two sections)	Teaching assistant for LING 115: Language, Culture, and Society, USC Instructor: Prof. Andrew Simpson, USC Linguistics Responsibilities: Weekly discussion section, grading, and weekly office hours. [Student evaluations available upon request]

Supervisory experience

2023	Supervisor of a student writing a BA thesis, RU

Article reviewing

2025	*Social Sciences & Humanities Open*
2025	*Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*
2024-2025	*Studies in Second Language Acquisition*
2024-2025	*Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*
2024	*JALT Journal*
2020-2021, 2023-2025	*Language Learning & Technology*
2020	*Heliyon*
2017-2021	*Journal of Second Language Pronunciation*

Other membership and service

May 2025	Second examiner of two students' senior projects, UCR
May 2025	Reviewer of abstracts, the 16th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, Concordia University, Canada
Feb 2025	Reviewer of an abstract, Voices in Harmony: Pronunciation Pedagogy for the 21st Century, Türkiye
Jan 2025	Reviewer of abstracts, the Third International Conference on Tone and Intonation, Germany
May 2024	Reviewer of abstracts, the 15th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, ISU
May 2024	Reviewer of abstracts, the 2024 Technology for Second Language Learning Conference, ISU
Aug 2023	Reviewer of abstracts, the Second International Conference on Tone and Intonation, Singapore
Apr 2023	Member of a PhD committee for Lotte Eijk, RU
Feb 2023	Crash reviewer of an abstract, Phonetics and Phonology in Europe 2023, Radboud University, Nijmegen, Gelderland, Netherlands
Fall 2021	Co-coordinator (co-leader), Pronunciation Group (PROG), ISU
2021	English-Lao volunteer interpreter, Casa Cornelia Law Center, San Diego, CA
2021	Organizing committee member, the 12th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, Brock University
Spring 2021	Coordinator (leader), Pronunciation Group (PROG), ISU

2018	Organizing committee member, the 10th Annual Conference of Pronunciation in Second Language Learning & Teaching, ISU
2017	Consultant for adding Pali Lao characters in the Unicode Standard, in Rajan, V., Mitchell, B., Jansche, M., & Brawer, S. *Revised Proposal to Encode Lao Characters for Pali.*
2017-2018	Organizer, Pronunciation Group (PROG), ISU
Fall 2014	Substitute for Student Representative for Speech Communication (Rachael Gilbert), Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Indianapolis, IN
2014	Colloquium Coordinator, Graduate Students in Linguistics, USC
2014, 2019-2020	Member, Linguistic Society of America
2014, 2017-2021	Student member, Acoustical Society of America
2013-2014	Event Coordinator, Graduate Students in Linguistics, USC
Spring 2010	Associated Students Representative, Alpha Gamma Sigma, Santa Monica College
Fall 2009	Historian, Alpha Gamma Sigma, Santa Monica College

Linguistic fieldwork

Summer 2019	Thai
Summer 2013	Mon

Language experience

Native or native-like	English, Thai
Fluent	Lao
Advanced	Northern Thai, Spanish
Intermediate	Shan
Beginner	Catalan, Dutch, French, Portuguese

Programming
JavaScript, MATLAB, Praat scripting, Python, R, and XHTML/CSS

Script reading and writing knowledge (besides Latin)
Thai, Lao, Shan, Northern Thai (Tai Tham), Tai Dam, Tai Le, New Tai Lue, and Khmer