

Maya Ravindranath Abtahian

Linguistics Department, 514 Lattimore Hall
University of Rochester 14627
ORCID: 0000-0002-3084-0778
maya.r.abtahian@rochester.edu
maya.abtahian@gmail.com

Education and experience

- 2023- Associate Professor of Linguistics, Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester
- 2019-2023 Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester
- 2016-2019 Assistant Professor of Linguistics (without tenure), Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester
- 2015-2016 Visiting Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester
- 2012-2015 Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Department of English, University of New Hampshire
- 2009-2012 Lecturer in Linguistics, Department of English, University of New Hampshire.
- 2003-2009 PhD, University of Pennsylvania. Linguistics.
- 1994-1998 BA, Cornell University. Linguistics. Minor in Southeast Asian Studies.

Publications

Refereed journal articles

- 2023 Cohn, A.C., R. Vogel, and M.R. Abtahian. **Patterns of variation in Jakarta Indonesian: Linguistic and social dimensions**. *NUSA* Vol 73. Available at: <http://www.aa.tufs.ac.jp/en/publications/nusa>
- 2023 Abtahian M.R., M. Chaturvedi, and C. Greenop. **Garifuna**. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* DOI: 10.1017/S0025100323000038
- 2022 Abtahian, M.R., Cohn, A.C., and Yanti. **Language labeling and identity in Indonesia**. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*. DOI: 10.1515/ijsl-2021-0104
- 2022 Pepinsky, T.B., M.R. Abtahian and A.C. Cohn. **Urbanization, ethnic diversity, and language shift in Indonesia**. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development* DOI: 10.1080/01434632.2022.2055761
- 2022 Abtahian M.R., N. Nagy, K. Pabst, and V. Elango. **Disruptions due to COVID-19: Using mixed methods to identify factors influencing language maintenance and shift**. *Linguistics Vanguard*. <https://doi-org.ezp.lib.rochester.edu/10.1515/lingvan-2021-0057>
- 2021 Abtahian, M.R., A.C. Cohn, D.N. Djenar, and R.C. Vogel. **Jakarta Indonesian first-person singular pronouns: form, function, and variation**. *Asia-Pacific Language Variation* 7(2): 187-216.

- 2021 Abtahian, M.R. **Style, identity and language shift.** *Language Ecology* 4(1): 17-38
- 2017 Abtahian, M.R. and Quinn, C.M. **Language shift and linguistic insecurity.** *Language Documentation & Conservation* 13: 137-151.
- 2017 Abtahian, M.R. **Language shift, endangerment and prestige: Kriol and Garifuna in Hopkins, Belize.** *Journal of Pidgin and Creole Languages* 32(2): 339-364
- 2016 Abtahian, M.R., A.C. Cohn and T. Pepinsky. **Modeling social factors in language shift.** *International Journal of the Sociology of Language* 242: 139-170.
- 2015 Ravindranath, M. **Sociolinguistic variation and language contact.** *Language and Linguistics Compass* 9/6: 243-255.
- 2014 Cohn, A. and M. Ravindranath. **Local languages in Indonesia: Language maintenance or language shift?** *Linguistik Indonesia* 32.2: 131-148.
- 2014 Ravindranath, M. and A.C. Cohn. **Can a language with millions of speakers be endangered?** *Journal of Southeast Asian Linguistics* 7: 64-75.
- 2011 Labov, W., S. Ash, M. Ravindranath, T. Weldon, M. Baranowski, and N. Nagy. **Properties of the sociolinguistic monitor.** *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 15(4): 431-463.
- 2006/2007 Ravindranath, M. **Transnational communities and the Garifuna Nation.** *Working Papers in Educational Linguistics* 22(1): 59-79.

Contributions to special issues (invited)

- 2021 Abtahian, M.R., A.C. Cohn, and R. Starr. **Variation and change in the languages of Indonesia: Introduction.** *Asia Pacific Language Variation* 7(2): 83-94.
- 2021 Meyerhoff, M., M.R. Abtahian, R. Gafter, U. Horesh, J. Kasstan, and J. King. **Style, standards, and meaning: Practical and theoretical issues with style in the globalisation of sociolinguistics.** *Language Ecology* 4(1): 1-16.

Edited volumes

- Forthcoming Abtahian, M.R., A.C. Cohn, T. J. Conners, J.J. Errington, and Yanti. *Indonesian Languages and Linguistics: State of the Field.* Ithaca, NY: SEAP Publications, Cornell University Press.
- 2021 Abtahian, M.R. and A.C. Cohn. Special issue *Asia Pacific Language Variation* 7(2): Variation and change in the languages of Indonesia

Book chapters

- In prep Stanford, James N. and Abtahian, M.R. **Sociolinguistics: Language in social environments.** In H. Manns, A. Gaby, and A. Margetts (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Linguistics*. London: Routledge.
- 2020 M.R. Abtahian and J. Kasstan. **Contact and sociolinguistic variation.** In R. Hickey (ed.) *Handbook of Language Contact*, 221-240. Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2019 M.A. Abtahian. **Language shift.** In J. Darquennes, J. Salmons and W. Vandebussche (eds.), *Contact Linguistics (Handbücher zur Sprach- und Kommunikationswissenschaft)*, 441-454. DeGruyter
- 2016 Wagner, S.E. & M. Ravindranath. **Social networks and the study of language variation and change.** In Z. P. Neal (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Systems Science*. London: Routledge.
- 2016 Ravindranath, M. & S. E. Wagner. **Sociolinguistics: Language in social environments.** In K. Allan (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Linguistics*. London: Routledge.

Conference proceedings

- 2018 Abtahian, M.R. and A.C. Cohn. **Dynamic multilingualism and language shift scenarios in Indonesia.** In Sebastian Drude, Nicholas Ostler, and Marielle Moser (eds.), *Endangered Languages and the Land: Mapping Landscapes of Multilingualism. Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Conference of the Foundation for Endangered Languages (FEL XXII, 2018)*, 106-112.
- 2017 T. Hu, R. Song, X. Xie, M. Abtahian, P. Ding and J. Luo. **A World of Difference: Divergent Word Interpretations among People.** AAAI International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) (Montreal, Canada, May 2017)
- 2016 Abtahian, M.R., A. Cohn, and T. Pepinsky. **Methods for modeling social factors in language shift.** *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics 22.2: Selected Papers from NWAV 44.*
- 2008 Ravindranath, M. **The effect of language shift on a sound change in progress.** *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics 14.2: Selected Papers from NWAV 40.*

Other publications

- 2013 Cohn, A., Bowden, J., McKinnon, T., Ravindranath, M., Simanjuntak, R., Taylor, B. & Yanti. **Kuesioner Penggunaan Bahasa Sehari-hari.**
<http://lingweb.eva.mpg.de/jakarta/kuesioner.php>

Presentations

Refereed conference presentations

- 2022 M.R. Abtahian and A.C. Cohn. **Towards an integrated analysis of schwa in**

- Jakarta Indonesian.** *NWAV-Asia Pacific 7.* Dec 14-16, 2022.
- 2022 N. Grimm, M.R. Abtahian, R. Everson, C. Aceves, J. Davis, S. Kirshner. **Towards a typology of sociolinguistic variation.** *Association for Linguistic Typology*, University of Texas at Austin. Dec 15-17, 2022.
- 2021 M.R. Abtahian, N. Nagy, K. Pitt. **Multilingual students' language ecologies and COVID-19.** *Sounds of Migration Conference*, Penn State University. Nov 4-6, 2021.
- 2021 M.R. Abtahian, A.C. Cohn, D.N. Djenar and R.C. Vogel. **Jakarta Indonesian First person singular pronouns: Form, function and variation.** *AIFIS-MSU Conference on Indonesian Studies.* June 25, 2021.
- 2021 M.R. Abtahian, N. Nagy, K. Pabst, and V. Elango. **Our languages, our lives, and the global pandemic.** *Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting*, January 2021
- 2020 (accepted) M.R. Abtahian, A.C. Cohn, D.N. Djenar, and R. Vogel. **Variation in Jakarta first person singular pronouns: Age grading or change in progress?** *ISMIL* (cancelled).
- 2021 M.R. Abtahian, A.C. Cohn, and T. Pepinsky. **Urbanization, diversity, and language choice in Indonesia.** *NWAV-AP*, Singapore, Feb 2021 (postponed from 2020)
- 2019 M.R. Abtahian, A.C. Cohn, F. Kurniawan, R. Vogel. **Variation and change in Jakarta Indonesian first-person pronouns.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 48*, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oct 10-12
- 2019 M.R. Abtahian, A.C. Cohn, A. White, Yanti. **Language ideologies and language shift scenarios in Indonesia.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 48*, Panel on *What's so standard about standards?* University of Oregon, Eugene, Oct 10-12
- 2019 J. Bill, H. Gong, B. Hamilton, H. Hawthorn, X. Hu, A. Johnson, A. Kuo, N. Kasper, T. Knight, E. Lee, R. Myers, C. New, M. Rose, A. Russell, S. Sackstein, L. Stovall, J. Tian, S. Vashishtha, X. Wang, L. Zhu, M.R. Abtahian, S. Grimm. **The extension of (positive) anymore.** *American Dialect Society (ADS) Annual Meeting*, New York City, January 3-6.
- 2018 A.C. Cohn, M.R. Abtahian, and T. Pepinsky. **Impact of urbanization and heterogeneity on language shift in Indonesia.** *Globalising sociolinguistics (GloSoc2)*, Leiden, The Netherlands, December 13-15
- 2018 M.R. Abtahian and A.C. Cohn. **Dynamic multilingualism and language shift scenarios in Indonesia.** *FEL Conference XXII*, Reykjavik, Iceland, August 23-25.
- 2018 M.R. Abtahian. **Style and language maintenance.** *Sociolinguistics Symposium 22*, Auckland, New Zealand, June 27-30
- 2018 A.C. Cohn, M.R. Abtahian and Yanti, **Language labeling and language use in Sumatra, Indonesia.** *ISMIL 22*, Los Angeles, May 11-12.
- 2018 A.C. Cohn and M.R. Abtahian. **Language choice and language shift in Indonesia.** *Language choice and Identity in South and Southeast Asia Panel.*

- AAS, Washington DC, March 22-25.
- 2017 M.R. Abtahian, A.C. Cohn and Yanti. **Language labels as ethnographic facts in Indonesia.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 46*, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Nov 5-7.
- 2017 M.R. Abtahian, A.C. Cohn, and Yanti. **Inner islands and language shift in Indonesia.** *ISLOJ 6*, Semarang, Indonesia, May 18-19
- 2016 M.R. Abtahian, A.C. Cohn, Yanti, and S. Waddell. **Tergantung (“It depends”): A quantitative analysis of language choice in Indonesia.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 45*, Simon Fraser University and U Victoria, Vancouver, Canada, Nov 3-6.
- 2016 M.R. Abtahian and C.M. Quinn. **Language shift and linguistic insecurity.** *LSA 2016 Annual Meeting, Symposium on Documenting Variation in Endangered Languages*, Washington DC, January.
- 2015 M. Ravindranath, A.C. Cohn and T. Pepinsky. **Modeling social factors in language shift.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 44*, University of Toronto, Canada, Oct 22-25.
- 2015 M. Ravindranath. **Language change in the post-colonial context** *ICLaVE*, University of Leipzig, Germany, May 27-29.
- 2014 Fernandes, M., Routhier, M., and M. Ravindranath. **Measuring dialect shift with traditional tools and modern technologies.** *Methods in Dialectology XV*, University of Groningen, Netherlands, August 11-15.
- 2014 Cohn, A.C. & M. Ravindranath. **Millions of speakers – yet at risk of endangerment: A multivariate analysis of language shift scenarios in Indonesia.** *Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting*, Minneapolis, MN, January 2-5.
- 2014 Fernandes, M., Routhier, M., and M. Ravindranath. **Hicks, lobster and Massholes: Ideological dialect boundaries in Eastern New England.** *American Dialect Society Annual Meeting*, Minneapolis, MN, January 2-5.
- 2013 Chartier, N., Fernandes, M., Parker, H., Ravindranath, M. & J. Stanford. **My father doesn’t bother with the farm: New evidence of dialect shift in Northern New England** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 42*, University of Pittsburgh, PA, October 17-20.
- 2013 Cohn, A.C., Bowden, J., McKinnon, T., Ravindranath, M., Simanjuntak, R., Taylor, B. & Yanti. **Assessing the impact of Indonesian on the maintenance of local languages.** *ISMIL 17*, Padang, Indonesia, June 8-9.
- 2013 Cohn, A.C. & M. Ravindranath. **Can a language with millions of speakers be endangered?** *SEALS 23*, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, May 29-31.
- 2012 Ravindranath, M. **Shifting styles: Interviewer style and language shift.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation 41*, Indiana University, October 25-28.
- 2012 Ravindranath, M. **Exploring generational change in cases of language shift.** *Sociolinguistics Symposium 19*, Berlin, Germany, August 22.
- 2011 Ravindranath, M. **A wicked good reason to study intensifiers in New**

- Hampshire.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 40, Georgetown University, October 27-30.
- 2011 Ravindranath, M. **Language shift and apparent time: tracking a change in bilingual competence.** *Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting*, Pittsburgh, PA, January 6-9.
- 2010 Ravindranath, M. **The transitional generation: a border group in language shift.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 39, University of Texas San Antonio, November 4-6.
- 2010 Ravindranath, M. **Language shift in apparent time.** *Northeast Linguistics Society (NELS)* 41, Philadelphia, PA, October 22-24.
- 2009 Ravindranath, M. **Prejudice and prestige in a case of language maintenance.** *Symposium About Language and Society – Austin (SALSA) XVII*, University of Texas Austin, April
- 2009 Ravindranath, M. **Language attrition and convergence in apparent time.** *Penn Linguistics Colloquium (PLC)* 33, March 27-29.
- 2008 Ravindranath, M. **Language contact in Garifuna: Acquisition of a phonemic distinction.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 37, Rice University, Houston, TX November 6-9.
- 2007 Ravindranath, M. **The effect of language shift on a sound change in progress.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 36, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Oct 11-14.
- 2005 Abramowicz, L., Hall, D., & M. Ravindranath. **Near-merger revisited: *ferry* and *furry* in Philadelphia.** *New Ways of Analyzing Variation* 34, New York University, New York, Oct 20-23.

Invited talks

- 2022 M. Abtahian and A. Cohn. **Keynote lecture: Multilingualism in Indonesia: national language ideology and language shift scenarios.** 1st Indonesian International Conference on Bilingualism. September 17-18
- 2020 N. Nagy and M. Abtahian. **Our languages, our lives, and the global pandemic.** Innovation Hub of Student Life, University of Toronto. August 26
- 2019 M. Abtahian. **The sociolinguistics of language shift and stylistic variation.** Linguistic Research in Diaspora Communities Symposium, University of California, Davis. June 29-30
- 2016 M. Abtahian. **Sociolinguistic approaches to the study of language shift and endangerment.** University at Buffalo. March 25
- 2015 M. Abtahian. **Sociolinguistics and language shift: approaches to the study of language endangerment.** Michigan State University. December 11

- 2014 Wagner, S. E. & M. Ravindranath. **Applying social network theory to the study of language change**. Michigan State University Faculty Learning Community “Networks and Groups”. February 13.
- 2014 Cohn, A.C. and M. Ravindranath. **Language shift in Indonesia: Examining the role of language size in assessing endangerment**. Cornell University: Linguistics Department Colloquium. January 29.
- 2013 Ravindranath, M. **Exploring generational differences in structure and attitudes in cases of language shift**. Atma Jaya Catholic University, Jakarta, Indonesia: Language and Linguistics Circle. January 8.
- 2011 Ravindranath, M. **Language Change, Shift and Endangerment in a Garifuna Speech Community in Belize**. Cornell University: Linguistics Colloquium. November 17.
- 2010 Ravindranath, M. **Language Change, Shift and Endangerment in a Garifuna Speech Community in Belize**. Dartmouth University: Linguistics Colloquium. April 19.
- 2006 Ravindranath, M. **Language Contact in Garifuna**. University of Pennsylvania: Graduate Humanities Forum on Travel and Language. November 13.

Guest lectures

- 2022 Abtahian, MR. Lecture in DANC 235: Change: Welcome, Denied, Inevitable (Anne Wilcox). March 1
- 2020 Abtahian, MR. Contribution via Zoom to U of Edinburgh (Lauren Hall-Lew) sociolinguistics class. February 28
2014. Ravindranath, M. Contribution via Skype to Michigan State University (Suzanne Wagner) sociolinguistics class discussion of my paper on *Maintaining prestige in a multilingual community*. January 22.