

## Md Jahurul Islam

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- CONTACT** jahurul.islam@ubc.ca  
jahurul.islam741@gmail.com
- INTERESTS** Acoustic and articulatory phonetics, Experimental phonetics, Research methods in linguistics, Statistical/Quantitative methods, Speech perception
- EDUCATION**
- Georgetown University**, Washington, DC USA  
*Department of Linguistics*  
Ph.D. in Theoretical Linguistics (Phonetics/Phonology), April 2019  
*Dissertation Topic:* “Phonetics and phonology of ‘voiced-aspirated’ stops: Evidence from production, perception, alternation and learnability”
- Georgetown University**, Washington, DC, USA  
*Department of Linguistics*  
M.S. in Linguistics, May, 2017  
*M.S. Project:* Geminate length in Arabic and Bangla: The affecting factors
- North Carolina State University**, Raleigh, North Carolina USA  
*Department of English*  
M.A. in English (Linguistics Program), May, 2014  
*Capstone Project:* Explaining four-way stop categories in Bangla: Perspectives of harmonicity, intensity, center of gravity, and open quotient
- Jahangirnagar University**, Dhaka, Bangladesh  
*Department of English*  
M.A. in English (Applied Linguistics and ELT), June, 2005
- Jahangirnagar University**, Dhaka, Bangladesh  
*Department of English*  
B.A. (Hons) in English (Language and Literature), June, 2004
- PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**
- University of British Columbia**, Vancouver, BC, Canada  
***Postdoctoral Research & Teaching Fellow***, Department of Linguistics **Sep, 2020 – Present**
- LING-333: Research methods for linguistics (Fall 2020)
  - LING-447R: Experimental phonetics (Spring 2021)
- Responsibilities included:* Designing and developing course syllabus; preparing lesson plans, developing learning materials, giving lectures in class as well as online, holding office hours, designing and administering assessments/tests, grading scripts.
- ISRL lab: Research into articulatory and acoustic phonetics at the Interdisciplinary Speech Research Lab (under Dr. Bryan Gick).
- University of British Columbia**, Vancouver, BC, Canada  
***Lecturer***, Department of Linguistics **Dec, 2019 - Aug. 2020**
- LING-508: Phonetic theory and analysis (Spring 2020)
  - LING-209: Clinical topics in speech, language and hearing (Spring 2020)
  - LING-333: Research methods for linguistics (Summer 2020)
- Responsibilities included:* Designing and developing course syllabus; preparing lesson plans, developing learning materials, giving lectures in class as well as online, holding office hours, designing and administering assessments/tests, grading scripts.

**Georgetown University**, Washington, DC USA  
*(Co-)Instructor*

**Aug, 2017 - Dec 2017**

- Ling-215: Sounds of Language (Fall 2017)  
*Responsibilities included:* Developing course syllabus on phonetics (articulatory and acoustic) and phonology; preparing lesson plans, developing learning materials, giving lectures in class, holding office hours, conducting assessments, grading scripts.

**Jahangirnagar University**, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh  
*Lecturer*, Department of English

**Dec, 2009 - Jul, 2012**

- ALELT-501: Phonetics and Phonology (2012)
  - E-515: Sociolinguistics (2010, 2011)
  - E-306: Introduction to Linguistics (2010)
  - E-502: English Language Teaching (2012)
  - BCMB-107: English Language Skills (2011)
- Responsibilities included:* Preparing teaching materials, giving lectures, designing and administering tests, grading scripts, advising Master's theses, administrative and committee work.

**Bangladesh University of Business and Technology**, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh  
*Adjunct Lecturer*, Department of English

**Dec, 2009 - Jul, 2012**

- ELT-510: Testing and Assessment (2012)
  - HUM-105: Language and Culture (2011)
  - ELT-506: Material Evaluation (2010)
- Responsibilities included:* Preparing teaching materials, giving lectures, designing and administering tests, grading scripts, advising Master's theses, administrative and committee work.

## SKILLS

- **Praat scripting:** I used Praat scripting language to annotate speech sounds and automate the process of measuring and recording acoustic parameters from speech sounds.
- **R:** I used R to perform quantitative analysis of speech data (e.g., acoustic parameters) including tidying and wrangling data, visualizing/plotting data, generating summary statistics, running statistical tests, etc.
- **Python:** I used Python for processing text for purposes like natural language processing; currently using it to build a toolkit for force-aligning speech data.
- **PsyToolkit:** I used PsyToolkit to run different linguistic experiments, including perception experiments, and learnability experiments.
- **PsychoPy:** I used PsychoPy to run different linguistic experiments, including perception experiments, and learnability experiments.
- **Forced alignment:** I used MFA-aligner to align speech data from new languages (including Bangla, Serbian, Setswana).
- **ImageJ:** I used ImageJ to analyze velum movement in continuous speech in video recordings and images.
- **Electroglottograph:** I used electroglottograph device to investigate the voice quality in the breathy-voiced stops in four-way stop series in Bangla.
- **Ultrasound:** I used ultrasound device to study tongue shapes in the production of [r] by American English speakers.
- **Linux:** I am a regular user of Linux as my primary OS; I occasionally used bash scripting for automating computational tasks.

## PUBLICATIONS

Islam, M. J. (*in press*). The role of prevoicing, breathy-voicing and aspiration in the perception of breathy-voiced stops in Bangla. *Poznan Studies in Contemporary Linguistics (PSiCL)*. Poznan, Poland.

Islam, M. J & Ahmed, I. (2020). Mid-front and back vowel mergers in Mymensingh Bangla: An acoustic investigation. *The Linguistics Journal*, 14(1).

Islam, M. J. (2018). Phonemic Status of Bangla Nasal Vowels: A Corpus Study. *Acta Linguistica Asiatica* 8 (2), 51-62. <https://doi.org/10.4312/ala.8.2.51-62>.

Islam, M. J & Bari, I. S. (2012). Implementation of CLT in Bangladesh and Thailand: Problems and challenges. *Outlooks: VUB Studies in Language, Literature and Culture*, Vol. 2. Page 48-66.

Islam, M. J. (2011). Language learning styles preferences: A study of Bangladeshi EFL learners. *Harvest: Jahangirnagar University Studies in Language and Literature*, Vol. 26. Page 59-76.

Islam, M. J & Ahsan, S. (2011). Use of Bangla in EFL classes: The reaction of the secondary level students and the teachers in Bangladesh. *ASA University Review*, Vol. 5, No. 2. Page 197-222.

Islam, M. J. & Aktar, T. (2011). Metacognitive language-learning strategies and language-learning motivation: A study on Bangla-speaking undergraduate EFL learners. *Outlooks: VUB Studies in Language, Literature and Culture*, Vol. 1, No. 1. Page 130-148.

CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS

Islam, M. J. (2020). Beyond impressionistic methods in phonetics research: The context of Bangladesh. Presented at 1st International Virtual Research Conference of the TESOL Society of Bangladesh (TSB), 17–19 December 2020.

Islam, M. J., de Boer, G., Lo, C., Smith, H., Tse, E., & Gick, B. (2020). X-ray analysis of velum movement in continuous speech. Presented at *Acoustics Virtually Everywhere*; The 179th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), 7-11 December 2020.

Islam, M. J. (2018). Laryngeal features of voiced-aspirated stops: Empirical evidence from Bangla. Poster presented at the 26th Manchester Phonology Meeting in Manchester, UK.

Islam, M. J. (2018). Predictions of Laryngeal Realism for breathy-voiced stops: Counter-evidence from Bangla. Poster presented at the 175th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

Islam, M. J. (2017). Laryngeal specifications of ‘voiced-aspirated’ stops and the role of VOT and post-release murmur. Presented at 47th Poznan Linguistic Meeting, Poznan, Poland.

Islam, M. J. (2017). Laryngeal Specifications of Breathly-voiced Stops: Variation in Bangla Complicates the Phenomenon. Presented at the Mid-Atlantic Student Colloquium on Speech, Language and Learning, May 2017, George Washington University, Washington, DC, USA.

Islam, M. J. (2017). Literary criticism using computational tools. Humachinities Conference 2017, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Islam, M. J. (2014). Reliability of the acoustic measures of breathiness questioned: Case of Bengali vowels. Presented at Southeastern Conference on Linguistics (SECOL) at Coastal Carolina University, NC, USA.

INVITED TALKS

2017. Tools for linguistic research in Bangla. Department of Bangla, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh

2016. /plastik/ vs. /pilastik/: Vowel epenthesis in loanwords by Bangla speakers. University of Liberal Arts, Dhaka, Bangladesh

2016. Vowel epenthesis in Bangla and gestural overlap. Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- MENTORING
- Advised MA theses of 5+ students at Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh (2009-2012)
  - Mentored an undergraduate linguistics students in a research project under GULRAP program, Georgetown University (2018)
- WORKSHOPS
- 2018 (Oct.). Designing and administering perception experiments using Psytoolkit, Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University.
  - 2018 (Mar.). Force-aligning speech data from new languages with Montreal-Forced-Aligner, Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University.
  - 2017 (Nov.). Using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X for typesetting academic papers. Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University.
  - 2014 (Jul.). Let's see what we say: An Introduction to Acoustic Phonetics. Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICES
- Associate Member, Acoustical Society of America (ASA) (2020–present)
  - The Linguistic Society of America (2015-2017)
  - Manager (as RA), Linguistics Lab, Georgetown University (2014-2016)
  - Library-in-charge, Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh (2010)
  - Student counselor, Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh (2010)
- HONORS AND AWARDS
- Fulbright Foreign Student Scholarship, for MA program at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA. 2012-2014.
  - Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute – University of Michigan, Michigan, USA: Fulbright award recipient, 2013.
  - E-Teacher Scholarship from the U.S. Department of State, US to pursue the course (online) Project-Based Learning, administered by the AEI, University of Oregon, USA 2011.
  - Graduate School of Arts & Sciences: Competitive Travel Grant, Georgetown University, USA, 2017 and 2018.
  - Department of Linguistics: Graduate Student Travel Grant, Georgetown University, USA, 2017 and 2018.

Updated: February 5, 2021