Angelo Dian, Ph.D.

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Postdoctoral Researcher in Phonetics | University of Oxford

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Academic Profile

Experimental phonetician and laboratory phonologist investigating speech production and perception, phonological representation, regional variation, and language contact. My research combines acoustic, articulatory, aerodynamic, and electroglottographic methods with advanced quantitative modelling. I have taught phonetics and phonology in Australia and the UK, developed contemporary and accessible teaching materials, and mentored postgraduate researchers in experimental design, phonetic analysis, and quantitative methods of data analysis.

Main lines of research

- **Consonantal length (gemination):** acoustic, articulatory, and perceptual cues to phonological length across regional varieties of Italian and beyond, and among first-language, heritage, and second-language speakers.
- **Prosody and language contact:** intonational variation in Venetan and its contact with Italian, Slovenian, and Croatian, including the role of less-studied parameters (e.g. f0 contour shape and scaling) in models of intonational representation.

Academic Appointments

University of Oxford, UK — **Nov 2025–Present**
Postdoctoral Researcher in Phonetics — *Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics*

- Researcher on the ESRC-funded project *Mapping Prosodic Convergence in the Eastern Mediterranean* (PI: Elinor Payne).
- Investigate Venetan prosody and contact with coastal Croatian varieties through corpus preparation, segmentation, annotation, intonational analysis, and publication development.
- Apply and critically compare dynamic quantitative methods, including generalized additive mixed models, functional principal component analysis, and Legendre polynomial modelling.

University of Oxford, UK — **Nov 2025–Present**
Academic Tutor in Phonetics and Phonology — *Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics*

- Deliver tutorials for the Linguistics Preliminary Examinations; develop resources and slides; mark collections; and provide individual academic support.
- Provided one-to-one phonetic-analysis training to a Master's dissertation student and continue to mentor the researcher during their Ph.D.; adapted materials to individual accessibility and wellbeing needs.

University of Melbourne, Australia — **Feb 2023–Jul 2025**
Academic Tutor and Lecturer in Phonetics and Phonology — *School of Languages and Linguistics*

- Taught tutorials in phonetic theory, speech physiology, auditory transcription, acoustic phonetics using Praat, prosody, and phonological analysis for *Phonetics* (LING20005).
- Designed lecture and tutorial materials and delivered lectures on Italian phonology for *Italian 6* (ITAL10007).

Education

University of Melbourne, Australia — **Mar 2021–Jul 2025**
Ph.D. in Experimental Phonetics — *Passed without amendments*

Thesis: *An acoustic-phonetic analysis of the long–short consonant contrast in Italian obstruents across three regional varieties.*

University of Verona, Italy — **Sep 2015–Jun 2018**
M.A. in Linguistics — *cum laude*

Experimental thesis in applied linguistics and second-language learning (English as a second language).

University of Verona, Italy **Sep 2005–Jun 2010**
B.A. in Foreign Languages and Cultures

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- **Dian, A.** & Burroni, F. (under review). Beyond duration: Acoustic correlates of stop gemination in three regional varieties of Italian. *Language and Speech*.
- **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (accepted). From approximant to plosive: A descriptive account of variation in the articulation of /v/ and /vː/ across regional varieties of Italian. *Linguistics Vanguard*.
- **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (2026). The acoustic realization of intervocalic /v/ and /vː/ in Italian: Evidence of articulatory variability. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*, First View, 1–25. doi:10.1017/S0025100325100881.
- Hajek, J., **Dian, A.**, Ford, C., Stevens, M., & Margetts, A. (2025). Saliba-Logea. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*, First View, 1–18. doi:10.1017/S0025100325100777.
- De Iacovo, V., **Dian, A.**, & Hajek, J. (2025). The perception of gemination in Italian by first-language speakers in Italy and heritage and second-language speakers in Australia. *Phonetica*, 82(5), 363–386. doi:10.1515/phon-2025-0012.
- **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (2024). Cross-regional patterns of obstruent voicing and gemination: The case of Roman and Veneto Italian. *Languages*, 9(12), 383. doi:10.3390/languages9120383.
- **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (2023). Near-merger of /sː ʃ/ in Veneto Italian: A preliminary cross-generational acoustic investigation. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 154, A38.

Peer-reviewed book chapters

- **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (in press). "Che ro[b(b)]a!"–Durational patterns of word-medial intervocalic /b dʒ/ across three regional varieties of Italian. In *The Sound of Grammar: New Perspectives on the Interplay of Phonetics with Morphology, Syntax, and the Lexicon* (Studi AISV).
- Hajek, J., **Dian, A.**, & Stevens, M. (under review). Ejectives in Waima'a. In *Non-pulmonic Sounds: A Cross-linguistic Review*.

Conference proceedings and published abstracts

- **Dian, A.**, Baltazani, M., Armostis, S., & Payne, E. (accepted). Reconciling dynamic data analysis with linguistic reality: Comparing Legendre polynomial modelling and GAMM applied to prosodic contact. *Interspeech 2026*, Sydney, Australia.
- Payne, E., & **Dian, A.** (accepted). Broad-focus rise(-fall) declaratives in Venetan: Investigating typological outliers in Italo-Romance intonation. *Interspeech 2026*, Sydney, Australia.
- **Dian, A.**, & Burroni, F. (2026). The "evanescent /l/" in Venetan: A preliminary EMA study. In A. Herrero de Haro, D. Repede, & A. Naciri-Azzouz (Eds.), *International Conference on Phonetic Variation: Book of Abstracts* (pp. 186–188). Granada, Spain.
- **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (2024). An acoustic and electroglottographic investigation of preaspiration and voice quality in the Italian four-way stop contrast across regional accents. In *Proceedings of the 19th Australasian International Conference on Speech Science and Technology* (pp. 147–150).
- Aldossary, A., **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (2024). On consonant gemination and durational effects in word-medial position in Modern Standard Arabic: A preliminary study. In *Proceedings of the 19th Australasian International Conference on Speech Science and Technology* (pp. 127–130).
- **Dian, A.**, & Burroni, F. (2024). A machine-learning investigation of durational and non-durational cues to stop gemination in Italian across regional varieties and speaking rates. *Proceedings of LabPhon 19*. Seoul, South Korea.
- **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (2023). Preaspiration in Italian voiceless geminate and singleton stops. In *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences* (pp. 888–892).
- **Dian, A.**, Hajek, J., & Fletcher, J. (2022). Stop (de)gemination in Veneto Italian: The role of durational correlates. In *Proceedings of the 18th Australasian International Conference on Speech Science and Technology* (pp. 176–180).

Invited Talks

- **Nov 2026** — Research Seminar in Phonetics and Phonology, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, France. Title to be confirmed.
- **Feb 2025** — Linguistics Seminar, University of Turin, Italy. *Regional variation in the implementation of the long–short consonant contrast in Italian.*
- **Jan 2025** — Romance Linguistics Seminar, University of Oxford, UK. *Regional variation in the implementation of the long–short consonant contrast in Italian.*
- **Jan 2025** — Phonetics Laboratory Lunch Talk, University of Oxford, UK. *A preliminary EGG analysis of voice*

quality preceding voiced and voiceless stops in Italian.

- **Jan 2025** — Doctoral/Postdoctoral Colloquium, Institute of Phonetics and Speech Processing, LMU Munich, Germany. *A preliminary EGG analysis of voice quality preceding voiced and voiceless stops in Italian.*

Additional Research Experience

Macquarie University, Australia **Oct 2024–Jan 2025**
Research Assistant, Phonetics Laboratory

- Processed ultrasound tongue imaging data in MATLAB using Deep Edge for the project *Visualising Complex Speech Sounds: A Study of Rhotic Consonants–Evidence from Ultrasound of the Tongue* (PI: Felicity Cox).

University of Melbourne, Australia **Jul 2022–Jul 2025**
Research Assistant, Phonetics Laboratory

- Supported oral-airflow, intraoral-pressure, and EGG data collection; contributed to EMU-SDMS documentation; and supported colleagues with experimental design, statistics, acoustic analysis, and visualisation.

University of Oxford, UK **Jul 2022–Aug 2022**
Research Assistant (remote collaboration)

- Conducted fieldwork in Gambellara, Veneto, for *The Prosody and Phonetics of Venetian Dialect and Regional Italian* (PI: Elinor Payne; Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation), collecting approximately 20 hours of speech data.

Academic Service and Leadership

- **Student Liaison, SST 2024:** served as a point of contact for student delegates at the 19th Australasian International Conference on Speech Science and Technology in Melbourne.
- **Special-session organiser, SST 2024:** organised *The Phonetic Expression of Phonological Length*, coordinating speakers and facilitating scholarly discussion.
- Supported shared phonetics-laboratory infrastructure and researcher training at the University of Melbourne, including equipment setup and procedural guidance.

Industry Engagement and Language Education

inlingua, Verona, Italy (pre-doctoral). Designed and delivered tailored business-language courses for corporate clients as part of more than eight years of language-teaching experience; developed teaching materials and an online self-learning platform during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grants and Awards

Arts Graduate Research Conference Grant (AUD 2,300) 2025
ASSTA Travel Award (for conferences in Seoul and Prague) 2023, 2024
Sir James Gobbo Scholarship in Italian Studies (AUD 25,000) 2023, 2024
ASSTA New Researcher Award 2022
Melbourne Research Scholarship (full Ph.D. funding) 2021

Methods and Technical Expertise

Statistical modelling: linear and generalised linear mixed-effects models; generalised additive mixed models; Bayesian modelling in `brms`; functional principal component analysis; cluster analysis; random forests; linear discriminant analysis; Legendre polynomial curve fitting.

Speech annotation and analysis: Praat; EMU-SDMS; Montreal Forced Aligner; MAUS/WebMAUS; acoustic analysis; auditory transcription; corpus segmentation and annotation.

Phonetic instrumentation: electroglottography; aerometry and intraoral pressure; ultrasound tongue imaging; electromagnetic articulography.

Software and programming: R; Python; MATLAB; LaTeX; Adobe Photoshop.

Languages and Professional Certificates

Languages: Italian and Venetan (native); English (advanced); Spanish (upper-intermediate).

Melbourne Employability Accelerator 2021
Trinity College London CertTESOL 2013

References

Available upon request.