

Title: Pausing patterns in the first and second language speech of native Japanese speakers.
Speaker: Ralph ROSE, Waseda University

Abstract: Silent and filled pauses are ubiquitous in spontaneous speech. As discrete units, they are among the most frequent tokens in many speech corpora. Although research on them stretches back many decades, it is only in the last decade or so that they have begun to receive wider attention. This talk will focus on the contrast between occurrences of silent and filled pauses in second language speech, focusing specifically on the speech of native speakers of Japanese and the contrast between their pausing patterns in their first language and in English, their second language. Results from several experiments will be presented to show how these speakers' pausing patterns relate to their speech production processes as well as to how their speech is perceived by others. Implications for our understanding of models of speech production, fluency, and second language pedagogy will be discussed.

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