

FRANÇOIS PELLEGRINO

 DDL – ISH
14, avenue Berthelot
69363 Lyon Cedex 07, France
@ Francois.Pellegrino@univ-lyon2.fr
☎ +33 (0)4 72 72 65 87

SENIOR RESEARCHER IN SPEECH COMMUNICATION (DIRECTEUR DE RECHERCHE CNRS)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024-: CNRS Senior Researcher “Exceptional class”, Laboratoire Dynamique Du Langage, Lyon, France
2016-2024: CNRS Senior Researcher “1st class”, Laboratoire Dynamique Du Langage, Lyon, France
2009-2016: CNRS Senior Researcher “2nd class”, Laboratoire Dynamique Du Langage, Lyon, France
1999-2009: CNRS Junior Researcher, Laboratoire Dynamique Du Langage, Lyon, France
1998-1999 Postdoctoral Fellow, Université de Lyon, France

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

2016-2022: Deputy Director of the **Neurosciences & Cognition Doctoral School** of the University of Lyon, France
2018-2021: Scientific coordinator of the **Initiative of Excellence IDEXLYON**, Université de Lyon, France
2011-2018: Coordinator of the **Laboratory of Excellence ASLAN Advanced Studies on Language Complexity**, France
2004-2012: Director of the research unit **Dynamique Du Langage** (CNRS & University Lumière Lyon 2), France
2002-2004: Deputy director of the research unit **Dynamique Du Langage** (CNRS & Univ. Lumière Lyon 2), France

EDUCATION

1994: Master Degree in Engineering, ENSEEIHT, Toulouse, France
1994: Master Degree in Signal Processing (DEA), Institut National Polytechnique de Toulouse, France
1998: Ph.D. in Computer Science, Université de Toulouse, France
2009: ‘Habilitation’ in Linguistics (HDR), Université de Lyon, France

GRANTS (SELECTION)

Université Lumière Lyon 2, Interdisciplinary projects (2025-2026) *Advanced Bonobo Communication Decoding*, 20k€
Agence Nationale de la Recherche Labex Grant n°81 (2011-2019) *Advanced studies on language complexity*, 9M€
CNRS Grant for International Cooperation PICS (with Pr. I. Chitoran, Dartmouth College) (2011-2013), 21k€
Agence Nationale de la Recherche Grant 05-3_43182 (2005-09), *Complexity, Language and Languages*, 185k€
Fonds National de la Science, ACI Grant (2003-04), *Structure and dynamics of phonetic-phonological systems*, 56k€
Fonds National de la Science, ACI Grant (2000-02), *From automatic identification to characterization of languages*, 93k€
Région Rhône-Alpes EMERGENCE Grant (2000-01), *Automatic Identification of European languages*, 26k€
CNRS ATIP SHS Grant n°34229 (2000-01), *Identification of Afro-Asiatic languages and dialects*, 24k€

MAIN RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Language Complexity and information encoding in a typological, cognitive, and evolutionary perspective
- Bonobo communication
- Relationship between complexity and information in human language and animal communication

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (SELECTION)

INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEES

- Scientific Board, Institute of Humanity and Social Sciences, CNRS (2010-2014)
- Administrative Board, Université Lumière Lyon 2 (2008-2009)
- Administrative Board, ENS Lettres & Sciences Humaines, Lyon (2006-2007)
- Scientific Board, Université Lumière Lyon 2 (2000-2005)

HIRING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEES

- Member of a dozen of hiring committees in linguistics and computer science (various French Universities)
- Member of the hiring and evaluation committees in linguistics and cognitive science, CNRS (2002-2004)
- Member of 30 Ph.D. Dissertation & 15 "Habilitation" Committees

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Co-Chair of the Interspeech 2013 Conference (Lyon)
- Board member of the Association francophone de la communication parlée (2000-2014)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

[Link to my publication webpage on Google Scholar.](#)

PAPERS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- Anselme, R., Pellegrino, F. & Dediu, D. (2025). Not just the alveolar trill, but all "r-like" sounds are associated with roughness across languages, pointing to a more general link between sound and touch. *Scientific Reports*. <10.1038/s41598-025-94850-0>.
- Demuru, E., Montello, I., Guéry, J.-P., Pellegrino, F., et al. (2025). Tackling Hominin Tickling: Bonobos Share the Social Features and Developmental Dynamics of Play Tickling With Humans. *American Journal of Primatology*. <10.1002/ajp.23723>.
- Ponsonnet, M., Coupé, C., Pellegrino, F., Garcia Arasco, A. & Pisanski, K. (2024). Vowel signatures in emotional interjections and nonlinguistic vocalizations expressing pain, disgust, and joy across languages. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, <10.1121/10.0032454>.
- Josserand, M., Allasonnière-Tang, M., Pellegrino, F., Dediu, D., & de Boer B. (2024). How Network Structure Shapes Languages: Disentangling the Factors Driving Variation in Communicative Agents. *Cognitive Science*. <10.1111/cogs.13439>.
- Josserand, M., Pellegrino, F., Grosbeck, O., Dediu, D., & Raviv, L. (2024). Adapting to individual differences: An experimental study of language evolution in heterogeneous populations. *Cognitive Science*. <10.1111/cogs.70011>.
- Arnaud, V., Pellegrino, F., Keenan, S., St-Gelais, X., Mathevon, N., Levréro, F., & Coupé, C. (2023). Improving the workflow to crack Small, Unbalanced, Noisy, but Genuine (SUNG) datasets in bioacoustics: the case of bonobo calls. *PLoS Computational Biology*. <10.1371/journal.pcbi.1010325>.
- Giroud, J., Lerousseau, J. P., Pellegrino, F., & Morillon, B. (2023). The channel capacity of multilevel linguistic features constrains speech comprehension. *Cognition*. <10.1016/j.cognition.2022.105345>.
- Oh, Y. M., & Pellegrino, F. (2022). Towards robust complexity indices in linguistic typology: A corpus-based assessment. *Studies in Language*. <10.1075/sl.22034.oh>.
- Josserand, M., Allasonnière-Tang, M., Pellegrino, F., & Dediu, D. (2021), "Interindividual Variation Refuses to Go Away: A Bayesian Computer Model of Language Change in Communicative Networks". *Frontiers in Psychology*. <10.3389/fpsyg.2021.626118>
- Stave, M. Paschen, L. Pellegrino F. & Seifart, F. (2021), "Optimization of morpheme length: a cross-linguistic assessment of Zipf's and Menzerath's laws", *Linguistics Vanguard*. <10.1515/lingvan-2019-0076>.
- Demuru, E., Pellegrino, F., Dediu, D. & Levrero, F. (2020), "Foraging postures are a potential communicative signal in female Bonobos", *Scientific Reports*. <10.1038/s41598-020-72451-3>.
- Coupé, C., Oh, Y.M., Dediu, D., & Pellegrino, F. (2019), "Different languages, similar encoding efficiency: comparable information rates across the human communicative niche", *Science Advances*. <10.1126/sciadv.aaw2594>.
- Oh, Y.M., Coupé, C., Marsico, E. & Pellegrino, F. (2015), "Bridging Phonological System and Lexicon: Insights from a Corpus Study of Functional Load", *Journal of Phonetics*. <10.1016/j.wocn.2015.08.003>.
- Pellegrino, F., Coupé, C. & Marsico, E., (2011), "A cross-language perspective on speech information rate", *Language*. <10.1353/lan.2011.0057>.
- Ferragne, E. & Pellegrino, F., (2010), "Formant frequencies of vowels in 13 accents of the British Isles", *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*. <10.1017/S0025100309990247>.
- Hoën, M., Meunier, F., Grataloup, C., Pellegrino, F., Grimault, N., Perrin, F., Perrot, X. & Collet, L., (2007), "Phonetic and lexical interferences in informational masking during speech-in-speech comprehension", *Speech Communication*. <10.1016/j.specom.2007.05.008>.
- Rouas, J.L., Farinas, J., Pellegrino, F. & André-Obrecht, R., (2005), "Rhythmic Unit Extraction and Modelling for Automatic Language Identification", *Speech Communication*. <10.1016/j.specom.2005.04.012>.

EDITED VOLUMES

- Mufwene, S., Coupé C., & Pellegrino, F. (eds), (2017), *Complexity in Language: Developmental and Evolutionary Perspectives*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge. <10.1017/9781107294264>.
- Pellegrino, F., Marsico, E., Chitoran, I. & Coupé, C. (eds), (2009), *Approaches to phonological complexity*, 16, Mouton de Gruyter: Berlin, New York. <10.1515/9783110223958>.