

## Variation in Jakarta Indonesia: Linguistic, social, and stylistic factors

Jakarta Indonesian JI, as an emerging variety of spoken Indonesian with a rapidly increasing number of native speakers, provides an excellent case study to think more deeply about the questions: What is a language? What is a language variety (dialect or register)? To what degree do linguistic variables cohere? In what ways do individual speakers deploy these variables in terms of stylistic and discourse functions? The Betawi-Jakarta Indonesian corpus (Gil & Tadmor, 2014), a corpus of informal conversational speech, acoustic files, carefully segmented and transcribed, with detailed meta data, provides naturalistic data that can be used to address this series of questions, focusing on JI.

In the present talk (based on joint work with Ferdinan Kurniawan and Maya Abtahian), we build on earlier work done by Kurniawan (2022, 2023, and Kurniawan & Abtahian 2025), and Cohn and colleagues (Abtahian, Vogel, Djenar) comparing six variables studied based on the BJI corpus as reported and compared in Cohn, Vogel, and Abtahian (2022). We delve further into their findings that the linguistic variables analyzed are not all conditioned by the same factors. Here we continue to explore the question of the ways these variables do or don't pattern together, while explicitly thinking about the role of individual speakers. Following Yu and Zellou (2019), we take an "individual difference perspective; we analyze variables that have been studied across the corpus, looking at the use of these variables by individual speakers over the course of a conversation. This allows us to get at the ways multiple variables are used as part of a social toolbox in conversational communication, while at the same time considering the degree of coherence exhibited between these variables.

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