## Contents

	List of figures	page vii
	List of tables	ix
	Acknowledgments	xi
	The road not taken	xii
	Introduction	1
1	The contemporary marketplace of ideas about language	6
	The academic marketplace of ideas about language	6
	The popular marketplace for ideas about language: Writing	
	and sounding correct	13
	The right language at home	18
	Ebonics: Correctness, rightness, and the marketplace of ideas	
	about language in action	21
2	Saussure	31
	Saussure's marketplace of ideas about language	33
	The aims of linguistics and linguistic structure	40
	The alternative to linguistic structure	44
	Foundations of the linguistics of speech	47
	Linguistic features in speech and structure	53
	Aggregation of evidence from speech	55
	A different linguistics	58
	Principles of the linguistics of speech	62
3	Evidence from linguistic survey research: basic description	64
	Findings from the LAMSAS survey: Boundaries and plots	66
	Findings from the LAMSAS survey: Lists and counts	82
4	Statistical evidence from linguistic survey research	104
	Findings from the LAMSAS survey: Density estimation (DE)	113
	Findings from the LAMSAS survey: Spatial autocorrelation	125
	Findings from the LAMSAS survey: Social categories	130
5	Evidence from corpus linguistics	146
	Firthian linguistics	148
	Corpus linguistics	151

#### vi Contents

	Text types	158
	Sampling text	162
	Sampling documents	166
	Conclusions	172
6	Speech as a complex system	174
	Complex systems	177
	State cycles and simulations	180
	Linguists and complexity	182
	Speech as a complex system	184
	Dimensionality	189
	Zipf and non-linear distributions in speech	190
	Scaling	198
	Speech and chaos	209
	Speech and evolution	211
7	Speech perception	218
	Prototypes and schemas	220
	Spatial perception	225
	Evidence from perceptual dialectology	228
	Perceptions of scaling	236
	Perceptions of the non-linear distribution of speech	242
	Perception and complex systems	247
8	Speech models and applications	251
	Towards a formal model of speech	252
	A less formal model	257
	Relationship with the linguistics of linguistic structure	260
	Speech and time	263
	Speech and public policy	271
	A last thought	277
	References	278
	Index	289
	IIIUUA	207

# Figures

rigure 3.1	Kuram s dialect map	page o i
Figure 3.2	Telsur dialect map	68
Figure 3.3	Northern diagnostic isoglosses	70
Figure 3.4	Kurath's map of dragonfly variants	71
Figure 3.5	Northern isoglosses from Graddol, Leith, and	
	Swann (1996: 271)	72
Figure 3.6	Pronunciations of the vowel in <i>cow</i>	73
Figure 3.7	Pronunciations of the vowel in find	74
Figure 3.8	darning needle variant for dragonfly	75
Figure 3.9	dragonfly variant for dragonfly	77
Figure 3.10	mosquito hawk variant for dragonfly	78
Figure 3.11	skeeter hawk variant for dragonfly	79
Figure 3.12	snake feeder variant for dragonfly	80
Figure 3.13	snake doctor variant for dragonfly	81
	front room variant for parlor	82
Figure 3.15	parlor variant for parlor	83
	living room variant for parlor	84
	Pronunciations of fog containing [5]	85
	Pronunciations of fog containing [a]	86
Figure 3.19	cloudburst data (Table 3.1) charted by frequency of	
	response	96
Figure 3.20	Adjusted <i>cloudburst</i> data (Table 3.2) charted by	
	frequency of response	96
	fog, plot of vowel 1a height (Table 3.3)	97
Figure 3.22	thunderstorm data, with chart by frequency	98
	mantel data, with chart by frequency	99
	fifth data, with chart by frequency (vowel 1a only)	100
Figure 3.25	first data, with chart by frequency (vowel 1a only)	101
Figure 3.26	night data, with chart by frequency	
	(vowel la only)	102

### viii List of figures

Figure 4.1	Plot of cloudburst from the LAMSAS cloudburst	
	item, 'heavy rain'	114
Figure 4.2	DE plot of cloudburst from the LAMSAS cloudburst	
	item, 'heavy rain'	115
Figure 4.3	DE plot of blinds from the LAMSAS blinds item,	
	'roller window coverings'	117
Figure 4.4	DE plot of <i>lightwood</i> from the LAMSAS	
	kindling item	118
Figure 4.5	Unconstricted [r] in <i>Thursday</i> among LAMSAS speakers	119
Figure 4.6	Locations for 1162 speakers in LAMSAS	121
Figure 4.7	Kernel method DE plot for <i>pail</i> from the LAMSAS	
	pail/bucket item (four probability levels)	122
Figure 4.8	Kernel method DE plot for <i>pail</i> from the LAMSAS	
	pail/bucket item (two probability levels)	123
Figure 4.9	Nearest-neighbors method DE plot for pail from the	
	LAMSAS pail/bucket item	124
Figure 4.10	Spatial autocorrelation (join-count) map for gully	
	from the LAMSAS item for 'washed out place	
	in a field'	127
Figure 4.11	LAMSAS speaker locations, Maryland	135
Figure 6.1	Plot (logarithmic) of Zipf's Law in comparison to	
	Mandelbrot's improvement	191
Figure 6.2	Illustration of frequency of frequencies	193
Figure 6.3	mantel (adjusted data set), frequency of frequencies	196
Figure 6.4	Frequency of frequencies, "prediction" words	197
Figure 7.1	Two examples of Preston's Draw-A-Map perceptual	
	maps	230
Figure 7.2	Location of the Southern Dialect	231
Figure 7.3	Tamasis map of one respondent's cognitive classification	
	of perceptual dialects	232
Figure 7.4	Cluster analysis of New Jersey data (Tamasi 2003: 64)	234
Figure 8.1	Phase transition	265
Figure 8.2	A-curves at different moments in time (hypothetical)	266
Figure 8.3	A-curves at different moments in time, with associated	
	S-curves (hypothetical)	268

## Tables

Table 3.1	LAMSAS tally for <i>cloudburst</i> 'a brief heavy rain'	page 89
Table 3.2	List of types for <i>cloudburst</i> 'a brief heavy rain'	91
Table 3.3	LAMSAS tally of vowel characteristics of fog	93
Table 3.4	Atlanta Survey African American F1/F2 mean	
	frequencies for [i]	94
Table 4.1	Pooled within-groups correlation matrix for LAMSAS	
	variables	112
Table 4.2	Results of join-count analysis for 11 LAMSAS lexical	
	features (60 Variants)	128
Table 4.3	LAMSAS speaker characteristics, Maryland	133
Table 4.4	Number of LAMSAS speakers classified into social	
	variables	136
Table 4.5	Number of LAMSAS speakers classified into	
	geographical quadrats	137
Table 4.6	Variable results for <i>clearing</i> from the LAMSAS	
	clearing up item	137
Table 4.7	Variable results for <i>clearing off</i> from the LAMSAS	
	clearing up item	139
Table 4.8	Variable results for <i>clearing up</i> from the LAMSAS	
	clearing up item	139
Table 4.9	Variable results for tokens containing fair from the	
	LAMSAS clearing up item	140
Table 4.10	Variable results for tokens containing break from the	
	LAMSAS clearing up item	141
Table 4.11	Variable results for tokens containing off from the	
	LAMSAS clearing up item	141
Table 4.12	Variable results for tokens containing no verbal particle	
	("zero" particle) from the LAMSAS clearing up item	142
Table 4.13		
	regional and social variables	144

#### x List of tables

Table 5.1	Frequency of top collocates	153
Table 5.2	undergo with its top twenty collocates	154
Table 5.3	Twenty tokens of <i>undergo</i> from the Brown and Frown	
	corpora	156
Table 5.4	Frequency of coordinators in a corpus of speech and	
	writing	164
Table 5.5	Univariate statistics for coordination corpus across	
	20 selections	164
Table 5.6	Correlation matrix for coordination corpus	165
Table 5.7	Distribution of documents by classification categories	167
Table 5.8	Words more frequent in tobacco documents	169
Table 6.1	chest of drawers data from three studies	199
Table 6.2	bureau, New York	202
Table 6.3	bureau, South Carolina/Georgia/Florida	203
Table 6.4	bureau, women speakers	204
Table 6.5	LAMSAS pronunciation of <i>Baltimore</i> (1034 responses)	205
Table 7.1	LAMSAS pronunciation of Asheville (594 responses)	238
Table 7.2	Rates of /1/ vocalization	240