



A Field Manual of Acoustic Phonetics

By Joan Baart

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This book, *A Field Manual of Acoustic Phonetics*, provides a practical and easy-to-understand introduction to acoustic speech analysis, primarily aimed at those involved in linguistic analysis and description in the field and at those preparing for such fieldwork. It explains commonly used methods for displaying aspects of a speech wave, such as waveform graphs, spectra, spectrograms, fundamental frequency graphs (pitch graphs), and intensity graphs. It illustrates how the results of acoustic analysis can be interpreted and used to improve the objectivity, accuracy and precision of phonetic descriptions of speech sounds. The book assumes basic knowledge of articulatory phonetics. It can be used to teach introductory courses in acoustic phonetics at the undergraduate level.

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--The late Peter Ladefoged

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Joan Baart studied Slavic languages and general linguistics at Leiden University, The Netherlands, where he obtained his Ph.D. under the well-known Dutch phonetician S. G. Nootboom. In 1987 he was appointed as assistant professor of computational linguistics, still at Leiden. Joan and his wife Esther joined SIL in 1990. Between 1991 and 2004, they served with SIL in Pakistan, where Joan carried out linguistic fieldwork on several of the lesser-known Pakistani languages. Joan is currently the academic director of the West Eurasia Group of SIL; he is also an international linguistics consultant in SIL.

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