

# *Because* in Lancashire (Bolton) English

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# ROADMAP

**1 Aims and the corpus**

**2 *because***

**2.1 Variant pronunciations**

**2.2 the structure *A – because B – so A'***

**2.3 Age-grading**

**3 emergence of 'cos**

# AIMS

## 1 Aims and the corpus

# AIMS

**1/ Disyllabic and monosyllabic forms of *because***

**2/ Age-grading in the pronunciation and range of meanings of *because***

**3/**

# ***BECAUSE***

## **2.1 Variant pronunciations**

# **BECAUSE**

## **2.1 Variant pronunciations**

**disyllabic**

**/bɪ'kɔ:z/ ~ /bə-/ ~ /-s/**

**/bɪ'kɒz/ ~ /bə-/ ~ /-s/**

**/bɪ'kəz/ ~ /bə-/**

**/bəkəz/**

**/pks/**

**monosyllabic**

**/'kɒz/ ~ /'kɒs/**

**/'kəz/ ~ /'kəs/**

**/kz/ ~ /ks/**

# ***BECAUSE***

## **2.1 Variant pronunciations**

LCf 02:36 **yes... [bʊ'kɒz] my brother was even brighter than I was**

# ***BECAUSE***

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# BECAUSE

## 2.1 Variant pronunciations

LCf 02:36 **yes... [bʊ'kɒz] my brother was even brighter than I was**

LCf 11:56 **while I was with Mother, it was a wonderful escape... [bʊ'kɒz] the people in theatre are very interesting**



# ***BECAUSE***

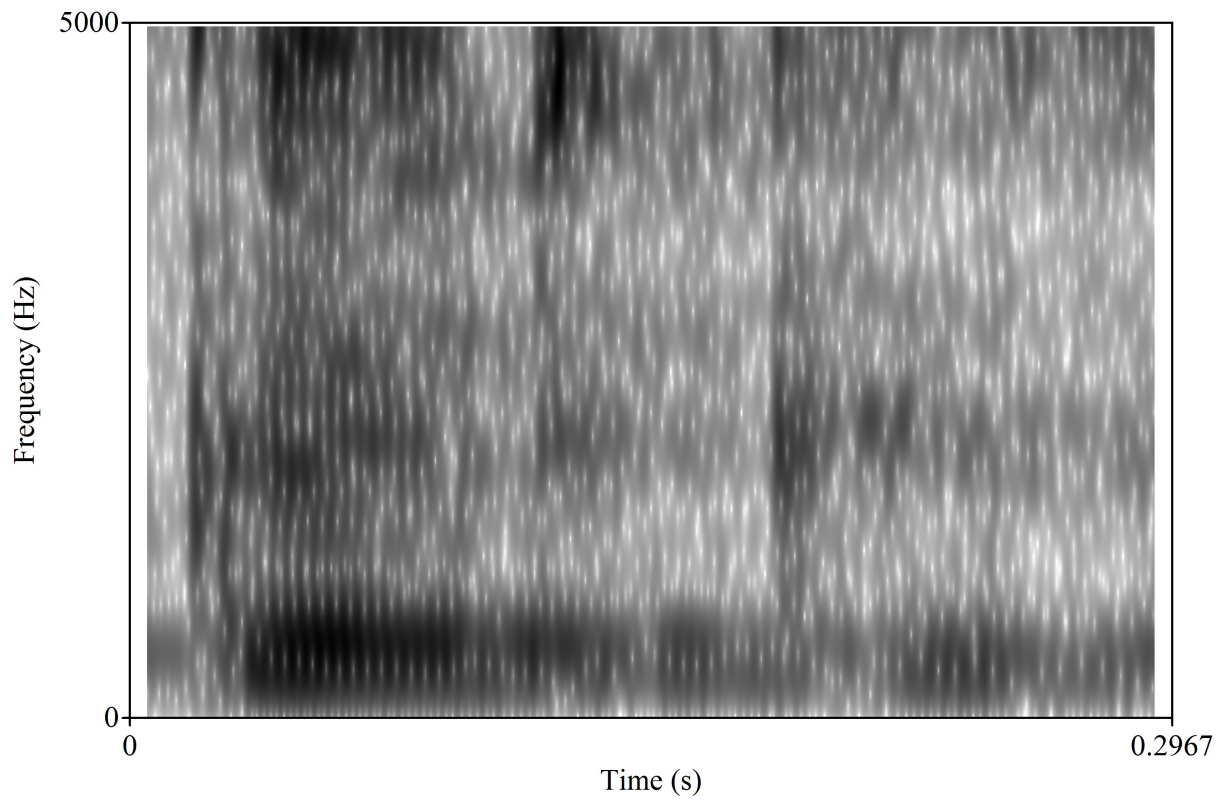
## **2.1 Variant pronunciations**

MDf 05:40 **it was good [ɪkəz] it was stuff**

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# ***BECAUSE***

## **2.2 Semantics and discourse**

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JMf 00:08 **I think...I got confused because [bi'kɒz] those loads of words are together**

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## **2.2 Semantics and discourse**

LBi 06:58 **Everybody knew Mandy because [bikəz]  
she's so loud**

# ***BECAUSE***

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LBf 13:37 **so all the things that happen at night in theme parks..were cancelled...and...because [bikəz] it was absolutely horrendous**

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LBf 13:37 **so all the things that happen at night in theme parks..were cancelled...and...because [bikəz] it was absolutely horrendous**



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## **2.2 Semantics and discourse**

**A** – **because** **B**.... – **so** **A'** (Passot 2007)

MDf 03:05 [**that was strange**] **'coz** [**kəz**] I didn't know anybody **'ks** [**ks**] I'd gone to primary school in Bolton **so** [**it was completely different**]

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## 2.2 Semantics and discourse

A – because B.... – so A' (Passot 2007)

MDf 03:05 [that was strange] 'coz [kəz] I didn't know anybody 'ks [ks] I'd gone to primary school in Bolton so [it was completely different]



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## **2.2 Semantics and discourse**

**A** – **because B....** – **so A'**

MDi 04:40 **as soon as I got out on to A64 [it was fine]...**  
**'coz [kəz] of course.... it's a dual carriage way so...**

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## 2.2 Semantics and discourse

A – because B.... – so A'

MDi 04:40 as soon as I got out on to A64 [it was fine]...  
'coz [kəz] of course.... it's a dual carriage way so...

<DK Yeah, [I suppose you missed the M62 traffic...]>



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## **2.2 Semantics and discourse**

**A** – **because B....** – **so A'**

LCf 04:14 **but in a way [I was lucky]... because I'd been completely free since I was 39...so [I'd been able to make the most of my freedom]**

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## **2.3 Age-grading**

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**1/ in range of discourse functions**

**2/ in range of variants**

# ***BECAUSE***

## **2.3 Age-grading in function**

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### **Because + Wh-question / Yes-no Question**

JMi 13:23 **is that what you?....'coz [kɒz] your Master's it was a Master's in... ?**

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**1/ MO (83) only uses disyllabic forms**

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- 2/ LC (77) and MC (71) do use [kɔz]**

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## **2.3 Age-grading in variants**

- 1/ MO (83) only uses disyllabic forms**
- 2/ LC (77) and MC (71) do use [kɔz]**
- 3/ younger speakers use both full and various reduced forms**



# ***BECAUSE***

## **2.4 The PAC Lancashire data**

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**continuous link (no pauses around *because*)**

LBi 01:09 **without realizing.. that I was going to actually miss the end **because [bikəz]** I'd be in America**

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MDf 03:05 **that was strange 'coz [kəz] I didn't know  
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**non-continuous link: with pause before *because***

MOi 31:27 **and somebody objected and she got stopped...because [bɪ'kɒz]** it is a turnaround

LBf 08:08 **he preferred my brother...'coz [kəz]** my brother is four years older than myself and he...

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MDi 18:24 **it might just be worth it *because* [bɪkəz]...  
then you can do your essay**

LBf 06:27 **they are very good... to work for *because*  
[bɪ'kɒ:z]... they did let me leave**

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**non-continuous link: *because* in 'isolation'**

JMi 04:06 **it's quite funny. It is weird and... **Because** **[bɪkəz]**.... we are not even in our own office so we can't hide away from people....**

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## **2.4 The PAC Lancashire data**

**non-continuous link: *because* in 'isolation'**

JMi 04:06 **it's quite funny. It is weird and... **Because** **[bɪkəz]**.... we are not even in our own office so we can't hide away from people....**



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**DKf 4:35 and wanted somebody there to ...operate the equipment for them... 'coz [kɒz]...you must have seen a recording studio ...[] where do you start if.....**

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# EMERGENCE of 'cos

**Hypothesis**



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1 *because* did not have a reduced form, *of course* did

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# EMERGENCE of 'cos

Hypothesis:

1 *because* did not have a reduced form, *of course* did

2 the reduced form of *of course* occurred in **contexts overlapping** with *because*

3 the reduced form of *of course* was **reanalyzed** as the reduced form of *because*

4 this reduced form **generalized** into all uses of *because*

# EMERGENCE of 'cos

**Hypothesis:**

**1 there is variation in the voicing of the final C of the reduced form before a vowel**

*because* has /z/ or /s/ for a given speaker

*(of) course* has /s/

'cos shows intraspeaker variation between /z/ and /s/

PKi: Bit by bit, it looks a bit bare [kps] they need to grow don't they?

# EMERGENCE of 'cos

**Hypothesis:**

**1 'course is attested as a reduced/short form**

**MO1f** it wasn't for long and then [**of course**] I left.

**MO1:** But yet, lots of them didn't have it, [**course**] I suppose they couldn't afford it.

**MC1:** And I, [**course**] I wa/ was busy with my family, I, I always had family to tea and I used to go the house for tea.

# EMERGENCE of 'cos

**Hypothesis:**

**2 contexts overlapping involve “evidentiality”**

**MOi**

**She is up and down, she doesn't go out you know.  
<LC: No.> She hasn't many confidence left to go out,  
<LC: Oh, what a shame.> you know, but er, she's er,  
she does very well really, she's er, **of course** she's  
nearly ninety-one now, <LC: Is she really?> she'll be  
ninety-one in February.**

# EMERGENCE of 'cos

**Hypothesis:**

**2 contexts overlapping involve “evidentiality”**

**LCf 15:45**

**I was going to give it away till a neighbour came and told me off he said I should spend it on myself 'coz [kɒz] if he'd bought me a crystal vase I would have kept it...**



# EMERGENCE of 'cos

**Hypothesis:**

**3 the reduced form of *of course* was reanalyzed as the reduced form of *because***

# EMERGENCE of 'cos

**Hypothesis:**

**4 this reduced form generalized into all uses of  
*because***

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**Limitations**

# CONCLUSIONS

**-disyllabic and monosyllabic full or reduced variants of *because* do not depend on rate of speech**

**> it is more correlated to the discourse function of *because***

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**-evidence for age-grading**

**-older speakers use fewer forms of *because***

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**-hypothesis**

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION!**

# REFERENCES

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