Acknowledgements

The present volume builds on a D.Phil thesis (Basile 2023b) submitted to Université Paris Cité in November 2023. Its completion would not have been possible without the help of many people whom I need to thank.

To begin with, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Debra Ziegeler, my supervisor at Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, for her continuous guidance and unwavering support since our first meeting in 2017 within a historical linguistics course she was giving in Paris. Her enthusiasm for the subjects of grammaticalization, Singapore English, and contact linguistics ignited my passion and shaped the direction of this work. Her constructive feedback and scholarly wisdom have been invaluable throughout the writing of this book. I am also grateful to her for having introduced me to my supervisor at Université Paris Cité, Agnès Celle, without whom the completion of my doctoral journey would have not been possible. She welcomed me from the very first day, helped me integrate with the vibrant academic community at the CLILLAC-ARP laboratory in Paris, and guided me constantly throughout my journey.

My heartfelt thanks also go to Bao Zhiming, my international tutor, who made me feel at home in Singapore during my fieldwork at the National University of Singapore (NUS) in 2022. He contributed enormously to my understanding of the phenomena associated to language contact as discussed in the book. My time in Singapore would have been markedly different if not for Mie Hiramoto's enlightening classes on contact linguistics, Dr Wang Haoshu's immersive Mandarin course, and Li Lin's patient assistance in recruiting participants for my survey at the NUS canteen. I am equally grateful to the anonymous participants of my surveys in Singapore and in England. Their contributions improved the empirical foundations for this work. I extend my gratitude to CLILLAC-ARP, Labex EFL, and Région Île-de-France for their generous financial support, which enabled me to undertake this research in Singapore and bring my ideas to fruition.

I am also indebted to the audiences of several conferences, including ISLE6, ISLE7, SLE 2021, SLE 2022, VCMCE2022, and NWAV51, where I had the chance to present my research. I thank, in particular, Hans Boas, Ilse Depraetere, Beke Hansen, Benoît Leclercq, Thomas van Hoey, An van Linden, Gil Verbeke, Pam Peters, Catherine Travis, and Graeme Trousdale. Their insights and discussions have contributed to improving my work. I am also grateful to the members of my doctoral jury, Bert Cappelle, Martin Hilpert, Sibylle Kriegel, and Johan van der Auwera, for dedicating their time to read the present work and for the precious intellectual contributions they have made to my growth as a linguist.

I would also like to thank my colleagues at the CLILLAC-ARP, namely Léa Burin, Coline Caillol, Stéphane Gresset, Anne Jugnet, Manon Lelandais, Alice Léger, Laure

Lansari, Philip Miller, Léo Muelle, Sylvain Navarro, Cameron Morin, Maud Pélissier, and Anne Talbot-Guyot. Special thanks go to my colleagues from the SeSyLIA laboratory at Sorbonne Nouvelle, namely Dominique Boulonnais, Eric Corre, Christophe Lenoble, and Mathilde Pinson. Their seminars on the diachrony of English were enlightening and significantly contributed to the advancement of this volume.

Most importantly, I am deeply grateful to Yaron Matras and the editorial staff of the Language Contact and Bilingualism series for their advice and patience during the final production stages of this book.

Finally, I could not end this section by ignoring the irreplaceable support, encouragement, and belief in me, demonstrated by my family, Valeria, Baptiste, and close friends. Your love and understanding sustained me through the challenges of this endeavour, and I am honestly lucky to have you by my side.

Paris, June 2024