SUBHEKSHYA SHRESTHA
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EDUCATION

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL USA   **Sept 2022 – June 2023**
Master of Arts Program in the Humanities

Thesis: *How Revolution and Gender Dynamics Affected 3rd-Person Honorification in Nepali.*

New York University Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, UAE   **May 2020**
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Minors in Arabic and Linguistics.

Thesis: *The Effect of Case-Marking on Agreement Attraction in Nepali.*

SKILLS

Research Methods: MEG, Self-Paced Reading, Acceptability Judgement, Cloze, Masked Priming.

Languages: Native Fluency in Nepali and English, Conversational Hindi, Intermediate Arabic (Modern Standard Arabic and Palestinian Dialect), Heritage Speaker of Newari. Intermediate Spanish. Devanagari and Arabic typing.

Programming Languages and Softwares: MS Office, Ibex, MEG160, Stata, Praat, Python (Psychopy, Pytorch and MNE), R, LaTeX, Prolific.

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXPERINCE

Research Assistant, LaMB Lab, NYU Abu Dhabi   **Sept 2020 – Sept 2022**
- Collaborated with Neuroscience of Language Lab (NeLLab) on cross-linguistics MEG experiment on Nepali and Hindi, coordinating communication and resource sharing between multiple labs in the NYU Abu Dhabi Psychology department.
- Recruited and ran participants for MEG and behavioural experiments in-line with COVID-19 restrictions, including scheduling multiple experiment slots while coordinating equipment booking between different labs.
- Managed and tracked participant compensation and other lab expenses in MS Excel.
- Re-established EEG Lab following COVID-19 guidelines by revising protocols, doing inventory, and redesigning workflow.

Research Assistant, Psychology Department, NYU Abu Dhabi **May 2020 – Aug 2020**
- Set-up online recruitement for behavioural tasks online to account for COVID-19 guidelines.
- Wrote-up consent forms and demographic surveys, translating them into the target language of participants for better understanding.
- Researched different payment platforms and streamlined online compensation for participants in multiple countries.

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Arabic Student Assistant, NYU Abu Dhabi   **Sept 2019 – Jan 2020**
- Tutored students one-on-one in learning both Modern Standard Arabic and Palestinian dialect.
- Prepared worksheets to aid students in understanding syllabus materials such as grammatical concepts, vocabulary, or pronunciations.
- Held social events to foster a comfortable environment for students to practice their speaking skills.
- Dedicated a couple hours every week for office hours where students could come with questions or review sheets.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

How Revolution and Gender Dynamics Affected 3rd-Person Honorification in Nepali
Jan 2023 – May 2023
- Conductd a corpus study of the effect of gender and the Nepalese civil war (1996-2006) on Nepali 3rd-Person Honorification levels.
- Trained and implemented a BERT-based model for the purposes of accurately tagging the corpora with part-of-speech tags.
- Designed a pipeline on Python for approximating a dependency parser in Nepali to find subject-verb dependencies, and count the instances of verbs in the 3rd-person according to gender and honorific level.
- Created a pipeline on R for analysing results obtained through multinomial regression.
- Communicated and reported analysis in a 30-page paper in the APA format on LaTeX as part of a master's thesis.

Crosslinguistic Neuroimaging Study on Hindi and Nepali   Sept 2020 – Jan 2022
- In collaboration with the Neuroscience of Language Lab (NeLLab).
- Created stimuli for online Nepali Cloze task and coded data in MS Excel.
- Conducted a Magnetoencephalography (MEG) study on Hindi and Nepali speakers on the effect of different case-markings on agreement.
- Designed and implemented one of the first neurolinguistics study on Nepali and Hindi during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Prepared stimuli and wrote code for linguistics experiments in Python, and analysed subsequent data on R.
- Recruited participants in-person and ran experiments according to COVID-19 guidelines.

Effect of Case-Marking on Agreement Attraction in Nepali   Sept 2018 – May 2020
- Conducted a Speeded Acceptability Judgement Task to study effect of subject case-marking on number agreement attraction in Nepali.
- Designed and implemented one of the first psycholinguistics study on Nepali during the COVID-19 pandemic by doing literature review, translating as well as formulating stimuli.
- Recruited participants online for online behavioural experiment for which I wrote an IRB proposal as well as recruitment texts.
- Communicated and reported analysis in a 25-page paper in the APA format as part of an undergraduate thesis.

PRESENTATIONS

Chacón, Dustin A., **Subhekshya Shrestha**, Brian Dillon, Rajesh Bhatt, Diogo Almeida, Alec Marantz. 2022. Brain activity in Hindi and Nepali reflects language-adapted processing strategies.
Cross-linguistic Perspectives on Processing and Learning 2022. University of Zürich.

Society for the Neurobiology of Language 2022. Philadelphia, PA.

Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing 2022. University of York.

Chacón, Dustin A., **Subhekshya Shrestha**, Brian Dillon, Rajesh Bhatt, Diogo Almeida, Alec Marantz. 2021. Paying attention to agreement: RTPJ aids the encoding of agreement in Hindi.
Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing 2021. University of Paris.

South Asian Forum on the Acquisition and Processing of Language 2. University of Potsdam.

Society for the Neurobiology of Language 2021. Online.