

Last update, 28th June 2025

TAKANOBU NAKAMURA

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Room 1.45, Pariser Straße 1, 10719 Berlin

Employment

February 2025 - March 2027: post-doctoral researcher, Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS)

Funding body: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Project: “Projection of Pronominal Plurality Inferences (PoPPIn)”

(Co-hosts: Uli Sauerland and Kazuko Yatsushiro)

September 2022 - December 2024: post-doctoral researcher, University of Amsterdam, Institute for Logic, Language and Computation (ILLC)

Funding body: Dutch Research Council (NWO)

Project: “A Sentence Uttered Makes a World Appear---Natural Language

Interpretation as Abductive Model Generation” (PI: Reinhard Muskens)

Education

2017-2022: University of Edinburgh (Edinburgh, United Kingdom); PhD in Linguistics

Doctoral thesis: *Distribution of Distributivity in Syntax and Discourse*

Supervisors: Wataru Uegaki (primary), Rob Truswell and Bryan Pickel

Examiners: Daniel Lassiter (internal), Rick Nouwen (external)

2014-2016: Sophia University (Tokyo, Japan); Master of Arts in Linguistics

2010-2014: Waseda University (Tokyo, Japan); Bachelor of Arts in Literature

Research Interests

Formal semantics, Formal pragmatics, Syntax-semantics interface, Semantics-discourse interface, Situation/Event Semantics, Dynamic semantics

Fellowships and Scholarship

- September 2018 - August 2021:

Japan Student Services Organisation (JASSO) Scholarship for Studying Abroad
(Postgraduate Degree)

- April 2015 - May 2016: Japan Student Services Organisation (JASSO) Type I Scholarship

- April 2014 - March 2015: Japan Student Services Organisation (JASSO) Type I Scholarship

Refereed Journal Articles

- [1] Nakamura, Takanobu (2023) “Monotonicity in a numeral classifier language” *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 8(1). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.16995/glossa.9974>

Conference Proceedings

- [1] Nakamura, Takanobu (*to appear*) “Relevance-sensitive co-variation inferences of dependent indefinites” In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* (Vol. 29)
- [2] Yagi, Yusuke, Takanobu Nakamura and Kenta Mizutani (2024) “Toward a semantic theory of universal NCI” In *Proceedings of the Amsterdam Colloquium, 2024*.
- [3] Nakamura, Takanobu (2024) “Anaphoric potential of cumulative dependencies” In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* (Vol. 28)
- [4] Nakamura, Takanobu (2024) “A structured witness approach to pair-list answers of *wh*-questions with plural definites” In *Proceedings of the Twentieth International Workshop of Logic and Engineering of Natural Language Semantics*
- [5] Nakamura, Takanobu (2024) “Partial plurality inferences of plural pronouns and dynamic pragmatic enrichment,” In *Semantics and Linguistic Theory* (Vol. 33)
- [6] Nakamura, Takanobu (2022) “Reciprocity without reciprocal pronouns” In *Semantics and Linguistic Theory* (Vol. 31)
- [7] Nakamura, Takanobu. (2021) “Situation partition and shifted evaluation of distributivity” In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* (Vol. 25)
- [8] Nakamura, Takanobu and Yushi Sugimoto. (2021) “Apparent *de re* construals of *de se* anaphor in Japanese” In, *Japanese/Korean Linguistics* (Vol. 27)
- [9] Nakamura, Takanobu. (2021) “Distribution over situations.” In, *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics* (Vol. 27.1.)
- [10] Nakamura, Takanobu. (2020) “An Alternative-based Theory of Distributivity: Non-Local Floating Quantifiers and Contextual Monotonicity.” In, *ConSOLE XXVIII Proceedings*
- [11] Wang, Ruonan and Takanobu Nakamura. (2019) “Japanese honorification as nominalization: Taking [HON] out of honorifics.” In, *ConSOLE XXVII Proceedings*.
- [12] Nakamura, Takanobu. (2018) “Predicative/Quantificational Numeral Quantifiers in Japanese.” In, *Proceedings of the 13th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics*.
- [13] Nakamura, Takanobu. (2017) “Phase, Plurality and Floating.” In, *ConSOLE XXV Proceedings*.
- [14] Nakamura, Takanobu. (2017) “Pluractionality in Japanese and Internal Arguments of Verbs.” In *Proceedings of the 19th Seoul International Conference in Generative Grammar*.
- [15] Nakamura, Takanobu. (2017) “The Semantic Ontology of Agent and Theme: A Case Study

with Event Partitioning Quantifiers in Japanese.” In, *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics* (Vol. 23.1.)

- [16] Nakamura, Takanobu. (2016) “Events, Distributivity and Numerals: Evidence from Event Partitioning Quantifiers in Japanese.” In, *Proceedings of the 18th Seoul International Conference in Generative Grammar*.

Conference Presentations (refereed)

- [1] “Integrating multimodal cues to resolve ambiguities in plural predication with quantifier,” (with Alexandra Lorson), Talk at ISGS 10, Radboud university, 9-11 Jul 2025.
- [2] “A manner adverbial analysis of clausal embedding,” Talk at Clausal Complementation Across Categories, ZAS, 19-20 Jun 2025.
- [3] “Structured event anaphora and event individuation,” Talk at RED 2025: Mismatches in Anaphoric Relations, University of Graz, 29-30 May 2025.
- [4] “Predicting the Scope of Focus Particles in Polar Questions,” (with Kenta Mizutani) Poster at Semantics and Linguistic Theory 35 (SALT 35), Harvard University, 20-22 May 2025.
- [5] “Toward a semantic theory of universal NCI,” (with Yusuke Yagi and Kenta Mizutani) Poster at Amsterdam Colloquium 2024, University of Amsterdam, 18-20 Dec 2024.
- [6] “Detecting Speaker’s bias through questions and modals,” Poster at 31st Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (JK 31), Monash University, 31 Oct - 2 Nov 2024.
- [7] “Question-oriented even and the inquisitiveness parameter,” (with Kenta Mizutani), Poster at Sinn und Bedeutung 29 (SuB 29) at Consorzio Universitario Mediterraneo Orientale, 17-19 Sep 2024.
- [8] “Relevance-sensitive co-variation inferences of dependent indefinites,” Talk at Sinn und Bedeutung 29 (SuB 29) at Consorzio Universitario Mediterraneo Orientale, 17-19 Sep 2024.
- [9] “Toward a crosslinguistically viable account of evidential bias,” (with Beste Kamali), Talk at Workshop on Polar question meaning[s] across languages at University of Amsterdam, 11-13 Apr 2024.
- [10] “Cumulative questions and structured witnesses,” Talk at Logic and Engineering of Natural Language Semantics (LENLS20) at Osaka University, 18-20 Nov 2023.
- [11] “Negation and dependencies: a dynamic approach to dependent numerals in Turkish,” Poster at Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics 17 (WAFL 17) at National University of Mongolia, 27-29 Sep 2023.
- [12] “Toward a unified account of evidentially biased polar questions,” (with Beste Kamali), Poster at Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics 17 (WAFL 17) at National University of Mongolia, 27-29 Sep 2023.
- [13] “Anaphoric potential of cumulative dependencies,” Talk at Sinn und Bedeutung 28 (SuB 28) at Ruhr University Bochum, 6-8 Sep 2023.

- [14] “Partial plurality anti-presupposition and local satisfaction,” Poster at the 33rd Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT 33) at Yale University, 12-14 May 2023.
- [15] “On semantics of the German wh-modifying particle *alle*,” (with Katsumasa Ito and Kenta Mizutani), Talk at International Semantics Conference (InSemantiC) 2022, the University of Porto, 21-23 Nov 2022.
- [16] “On the typology of situation distributors,” (with Hiromune Oda), Poster at the thematic workshop *Typological generalizations and semantic theory* in the 45th Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW 45), Queen Mary University of London, 27-29 Apr 2022
- [17] “Recognising differences,” Talk at the 27th Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference (LELPGC 21), University of Edinburgh, 10-12 Jun 2021 [*virtual*]
- [18] “Reciprocity without reciprocal pronouns,” Poster at the 31st Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT 31), Brown University, 7-9 May 2021 [*virtual*]
- [19] “Where does the ‘self’ come from? A *de se* binding approach to *zibun* in Japanese,” (with Yushi Sugimoto) Poster at the 28th Japanese/Korean Linguistics (JK 28), University of Central Lancashire, 7-20 Sep 2020. [*virtual*]
- [20] “Situation partition and shifted evaluation of distributivity,” Talk at Sinn und Bedeutung 25 (SuB 25), University College London and Queen Mary University of London, 3-9 Sep 2020. [*virtual*]
- [21] “Distribution over Situations,” Talk at the 44th Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC 44), University of Pennsylvania, 27-29 Mar 2020. [*cancelled due to COVID-19*]
- [22] “An Alternative-based Theory of Distributivity: Non-Local Floating Quantifiers and Contextual Monotonicity,” Poster at the 28th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE 28), Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 29-31 Jan, 2020.
- [23] “Distributivity within Nominal Domain and Kind Partition Readings,” Talk at Number and plurality: cross-linguistic variation in the nominal domain (NaP 2019), Georg-August Universität Göttingen, 11-12 Dec 2019.
- [24] “Definiteness Theory of distributivity: Presupposed Partition under Non-local floating quantifiers,” Talk at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB 2019), Queen Mary University of London, 9-12 Sep 2019.
- [25] “A Classifier-independent Count-Mass Distinction in Japanese,” Talk at the 12th International Workshop on Theoretical East Asian Linguistics (TEAL 12), University of Macau, 9-10 Jul 2019
- [26] “If you float further, you are maximal and unique,” Talk at the 25th Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference (LELPGC 19), University of Edinburgh, 4-7 Jun 2019
- [27] “Honorification-as-a-distance: A case study of Japanese nominalization” (with Ruonan

- Wang) Poster at the 27th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE 27), Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 21-23 Feb 2019
- [28] “Division of Labour between Syntax and Lexicon” Talk at the 27th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE 27), Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 21-23 Feb 2019
- [29] “Long Distance Relativisation and Phasal Transfer of KP,” (with Yushi Sugimoto) Poster at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB 2018), University of Sheffield, 11-14 Sep 2018.
- [30] “Universal Monotonicity induces non-Universal Grinding,” Talk at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB 2018), University of Sheffield, 11-14 Sep 2018.
- [31] “Which did you buy, a horse or horse?,” Talk at the 24th Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference (LELPGC 18), University of Edinburgh, 4-6 Jun 2018.
- [32] “Cumulative Existential Disclosure,” Talk at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB 2017), University of Kent, 4-7 Sep 2017.
- [33] “Pluractionality in Japanese and Internal Arguments of Verbs,” Poster at the 19th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 19), Seoul National University, 9-11 Aug 2017.
- [34] “Predicative/Quantificational Numeral Quantifiers in Japanese,” Poster at the 13th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL 13), International Christian University, 25-28 May 2017.
- [35] “Phase, Plurality and Floating,” Poster presentation at the 25th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE 25), University of Leipzig, 4-6 Jan 2017.
- [36] “Distributivity and event partition: Evidence from Japanese and Korean,” Poster at the 24th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (JK 24), National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL), 14-16 Oct 2016.
- [37] “Events, Distributivity and Numerals: Evidence from Event Partitioning Quantifiers in Japanese,” Talk at the 18th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 18), Sogang University, 2-5 Aug 2016.
- [38] “The Semantic Ontology of Agent and Theme: A Case Study with Event Partitioning Quantifiers in Japanese,” Poster at the 40th Annual Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC 40), University of Pennsylvania, 18-20 Mar 2016.

Colloquium/Workshop Talks (non-refereed)

- [1] “Non-distributive readings and (under)specification of quantificational dependencies,” Semantics Research Group, Keio University, 21 Aug 2024.
- [2] “Resolving Polar Questions in Contexts,” Semantics Workshop in Tokai and Kansai,

Nagoya Gakuin University, 14 Jul 2024.

- [3] “A dynamic approach to pair-list answers to wh-questions with definite plurals,” the 13th Paris-Amsterdam Logic Meetings of Young Researchers (PALLMYR 13), University College London, 17 Nov 2023.
- [4] “Intra- and inter-sentential dynamics and evaluation of dependencies,” Semantics Workshop in Tokai and Kansai, Nagoya University of Foreign Studies, 24 Jun 2023.
- [5] “Gappy anaphoric conditions and dynamic homogeneity,” the International Seminar on Number Concept and Language, Waseda University, 3 Jun 2023.
- [6] “A dynamic homogeneity approach to cumulative dependencies,” the Meaning, Logic and Cognition Seminar (MLC), ILLC, 10 February 2023.
- [7] “A situation-based theory of distributivity,” Semantics Research Group, Keio University, 21 Feb 2020.
- [8] “The count-mass distinction in Japanese and Presupposed mapping to measurement dimensions,” LingLunch, Queen Mary University of London, 20 May 2019.
- [9] “What can Japanese say about the count-mass distinction? Distributivity as definiteness over mapping,” Meaning and Grammar Research Group (MGRG), the University of Edinburgh, 25 Apr 2019.
- [10] “Lexical Count-Mass and Compositional Count-Mass in Japanese,” English Linguistics Göttingen, Georg-August Universität Göttingen, 18 Feb 2019
- [11] “Predicative/Quantificational Numeral Quantifiers in Japanese,” Semantics Research Group, Keio University, 3 Aug 2017.

Non-degree study

- [1] Balaton Linguistics Summer School, Lake Balaton, 26-30 August, 2019
- [2] DGfS Xprag Summer School, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 5-16 August, 2019
- [3] Eastern Generative Grammar (EGG) 2019, Wrocław, 29 July-2 August, 2019
- [4] 30th European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI) 2018, Sofia University, 13-17 August, 2018
- [5] Eastern Generative Grammar (EGG) 2018, Banja Luka, 30 July-10 August, 2018
- [6] Advanced Core Training in Linguistics (ACTL) Summer School 2018, University College London, 25-29 June, 2018

Teaching & Academic experience

- [1] ILLC, University of Amsterdam
 - examining one Msc dissertation in Formal Semantics
- [2] Tokyo Metropolitan University, the department of Language Sciences
 - *Semantics and Pragmatics* (An intensive lecture, Summer, 2022)

- [3] The University of Edinburgh, the School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences (PPLS)
- Guest lecturer in *Current Issues in Semantics and Pragmatics* (Spring, 2019-20) [*Became an online optional discussion session due to an industrial action and COVID-19*]
 - Tutor/Teaching assistant in *Introduction to Syntax* (Fall, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21)
 - Tutor/Teaching assistant in *LEL2D: Cross Linguistic Variation: Limits and Theories* (Spring, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21)
 - Tutor/Teaching assistant in *LEL2A: Linguistic Theory and the Structure of English* (Fall, 2017-18 and 2018-19)
 - Tutor/Teaching assistant in *Logic I* (Spring, 2017-18 and 2018-19)
 - Tutor/Teaching assistant in *LEL2E: Structure and History of European Languages* (Spring, 2017-18)
 - Writing Tutor in PPLS Writing Centre (September 2017 – September 2021)
- [4] Sophia University, Language Learning Centre (LLC)
- English Tutor (September 2014 - March 2017)
 - Writing Tutor in English (April 2016-March 2017)

Organisational work

- A member of the organising team of Meaning and Grammar seminar in the department of Linguistics and English Language in the University of Edinburgh (September 2019 - March 2021)
- The founder and organiser of the syntax reading group (Synergy) in the department of Linguistics and English Language in the University of Edinburgh (September 2019 - January 2021)
- A member of the organising committee (Publicity Subcommittee, Finance Subcommittee and Feedback Subcommittee) at the 25th University of Edinburgh Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference (LELPGC19), University of Edinburgh, June 4th-7th, 2019
- LaTeX workshop (with Georges Sakr and Thomas Stephen in the University of Edinburgh) at the 25th Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference (LELPGC 19), the University of Edinburgh, June 4th, 2019

Reviewer

Amsterdam Colloquium 2024, *Cambridge University Press*, *Cognitive processing*, *Glossa*, *Journal of Semantics*, *Linguistics and Philosophy*, *Natural Language Semantics*, *SinFonJA* 14, *Sinn und Bedeutung* 29, *Semantics and Pragmatics*

Languages

Japanese (Native), English (Fluent), German (Beginner / A2), Dutch (Novice)