

Zheng Shen

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Research Interests

Broad interest: Syntax, Syntax-Morphology interface, Syntax-Semantics interface, Language Acquisition, Experimental linguistics

Specific Topics: Agreement, Ellipsis, Superlatives, Acquisition of Superlatives

Employment

2017.10 - present PostDoc researcher for the Graduate School on Nominal Modification at Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany.

Education

2011 - 2017 PhD in Linguistics, University of Connecticut Storrs, CT, US
Dissertation: *Feature Arithmetic in the Nominal Domain*
Advisory Committee: Susanne Wurmbrand (chair), Jonathan Bobaljik, Željko Bošković, Jon Gajewski, Jon Sprouse
Defended on Aug. 7th, 2017.

2016 Graduate Certificate in Cognitive Science, University of Connecticut

2015 Linguistic Society of America Linguistic Institute, University of Chicago

2012 NASSLLI 2012, Austin, TX, US

2009 - 2010 MA in Linguistics, University College London, London, UK
Thesis: Focus and Topic in Mandarin Chinese (with Distinction)
Supervisor: Ad Neeleman

2005 - 2009 BA in English, Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai, China

Awards and Fellowships

2016 Department Fellowship for 2016 Fall Semester, Department of Linguistics, UConn

2015 Bursary to attend the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain

2015 UConn 2015 Graduate Travel Award

2015 Fellowship for Linguistic Society of America Linguistic Institute, University of Chicago

2015 University of Connecticut Provost's Commendation for Teaching Excellence

- 2014 Financial Support for GLOW in Asia X from National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan
- 2012 Full Scholarship, North American Summer School on Logic, Language and Information

Journal Publications

- 2017 Fragment Answers and Movement - A Superlative Argument. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*. DOI: 10.1007/s11049-017-9369-9

Conference Proceedings

Shen, Zheng. to appear. On multi-valued Ns and Ts in number concord and agreement. in *Proceedings of the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*.

Shen, Zheng. 2017. Multi-value asymmetry in number agreement and concord. in *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics: Vol. 23. Proceedings of the 40th Penn Linguistics Conference*.

Shen, Zheng. 2016. No Clash Constraint in nominal RNR number agreement. in *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics: Vol. 22. Proceedings of the 39th Penn Linguistics Conference*, Article 27.

Tieu, Lyn and Zheng Shen. 2016. The littlest linguists and their superlatives: a first experiment. In *Proceedings of the 50th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*.

Shen, Zheng. 2015. The third reading of the most expensive photo of Abby. in *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics: Vol. 21: Iss. 1, Proceedings of the 38th Penn Linguistics Conference*, Article 29.

Hsieh, I-Ta Chris and Zheng Shen. 2015. The 'Associative Reading' of DPs and the quantity vs. quality distinction. in *Proceedings of The Semantics of African, Asian and Austronesian Languages 2*.

Tieu, Lyn and Zheng Shen. 2015. Searching for absolute and relative readings of superlatives: a second experiment. in *Proceedings of the 39th Boston University Conference on Language Development*.

Shen, Zheng. 2014. On the relative readings with NP internal focus of superlatives. in *Proceedings of the 31st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, ed. Robert E. Santana-LaBarge, 409-418. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.

Unpublished Manuscripts

- 2016 Syncretism repair in English nominal right node raising. (with Troy Messick and Heidi Harley)
- 2015 Number agreement in nominal right node raising. Generals Paper, University of Connecticut.

- 2014 Syntactico semantics of superlatives. General Paper, University of Connecticut.
- 2011 Focus and Topic in Mandarin Chinese. Master's Thesis, University College London.

Presentations & Talks

Refereed conference presentations

- 2017 The multi-valuation agreement hierarchy. Paper presented at *Resolving Conflicts Across Borders workshop & SinFonIJA 10*, Oct. 20 - 24, 2017
- 2017 Feature resolution, feature conflicts and the structure of either ... or. Paper presented at *Resolving Conflicts Across Borders workshop & SinFonIJA 10*, Oct. 20 - 24, 2017 (with Peter Smith, Beata Moskal, Katharina Hartmann)
- 2017 Aiming high: children's knowledge of absolute and relative readings of superlatives. Paper presented at *the 13th International Conference of the Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition*, Sept. 7 - 9, 2017 (with Lyn Tieu)
- 2017 Cross-Domain Multi-Valuation as Agreement Hierarchy. Paper presented at *the 19th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar*, Aug. 9 - 11, 2017
- 2016 An asymmetry between multi-valued Ns and Ts. Poster presented at *the 34th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 34*, April 29 - May 1, 2016
- 2016 On multi-valued Ns and Ts in number concord and agreement. Paper presented at *the 52nd Annual Meeting of Chicago Linguistics Society*, University of Chicago, April 21 - 23, 2016
- 2016 Multi-value asymmetry in number agreement and concord. Paper presented at *40th Penn Linguistics Conference*, University of Pennsylvania, March 18 - 20, 2016
- 2016 A superlative argument for syntactic movement in fragment answer. Poster presented at *LSA 2016 Annual Meeting*, Washington, D.C. Jan. 9, 2016
- 2015 Fragment answers and movement - a superlative argument. Paper presented at *2015 Annual Meeting of Linguistic Association of Great Britain (LAGB)*, University College London, London, UK. Sept. 15 - 18, 2015
- 2015 Number agreement across borders in nominal RNR. Paper presented at *Agreement Across Borders Conference (AAB)*, University of Zadar, Zadar, Croatia. Jun. 15 - 16, 2015
- 2015 The 'associative reading' of DPs and the quantity vs. quality distinction. Paper presented at *the Semantics of African, Asian and Austronesian Languages 2 (TripleA)*, University of Potsdam. Jun 3 - 5, 2015 (with I-Ta Chris Hsieh)
- 2015 No clash constraint in nominal RNR number agreement. Paper presented at *39th Penn Linguistics Conference*, University of Pennsylvania, March 20 - 22, 2015

- 2014 Beyond production: searching for absolute and relative interpretations of superlatives. Paper presented at *BUCLD 39*, Boston University (with Lyn Tieu)
- 2014 Investigating superlatives in the littlest linguists. Paper presented at *GLOW in Asia X*, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan, May 24-26, 2014 (with Lyn Tieu)
- 2014 The littlest linguists and their superlatives, Paper presented at *50th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society*, University of Chicago, April 10-12, 2014 (with Lyn Tieu)
- 2014 The third reading of the most expensive photo of Abby. Poster presented at *38th Penn Linguistics Conference*, University of Pennsylvania, March 28-30, 2014
- 2013 Syntactic treatment of the relative reading with NP Internal focus in superlatives. Paper presented at *19th International Congress of Linguists*, Geneva, Switzerland, July 21-27, 2013
- 2013 On the relative reading with NP internal focus in superlatives, Paper presented at *31st West Coast Conference of Formal Linguistics*, Arizona State University, February 8-10, 2013

Non-refereed presentations

- 2017 Multi-Valuation and the Agreement Hierarchy. Ling Lunch talk at MIT.
- 2016 Multi-Valuation in Nominal Right Node Raising Constructions and its Implications. Invited talk at Ritsumeikan University, Japan.
- 2016 Multi-Valuation in Nominal Right Node Raising Constructions and its Implications. colloquium talk at National Tsinghua University, Taiwan.
- 2015 Two Asymmetries in Agreement, 5th UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable.
- 2014 The singular and the plural pattern(s) in nominal right node raising, 4th UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable, Dec. 7th, 2014
- 2014 Some notes on ‘many’. UConn Ling Lunch. Nov. 4. 2014 (with Chris Hsieh)
- 2013 The relative reading with NP internal focus of superlatives in English-type languages, Southern New England Workshop in Semantics (SNEWS), MIT, November 16th, 2013
- 2013 The littlest linguists and their superlatives, 3rd UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable, Dec. 7th, 2013
- 2013 1 account for 2 generalizations of the 3rd reading of Best, 3rd UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable, Dec. 7th, 2013
- 2012 Superlatives, 2nd UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable. Dec. 2nd, 2012

2012 Asymmetries between both and all, Poster presented at 3rd University of Connecticut Language Fest, April 16th, 2012

Membership and Service

2015 - present		Member of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain
2012 - present		Member of the Linguistic Society of America
2017	Reviewer	Journal of Linguistics
2014 - 2016	Reviewer	Natural Language and Linguistic Theory
2014 - 2015	President	UConn Linguistics Club
2014	Reviewer	The Linguistic Review
2013 - 2014	Chair	Colloquium Committee, UConn Linguistics Club
2012 - 2013	Secretary	UConn Linguistics Club
2012 - 2015	Organizing Committee	UConn Open Houses
2012 - 2013	Organizing Committee	the 44th Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society
2012 - 2013	Coordinator	UConn Ling Lunch talk series
2011 - 2013	Co-organizer	1st - 3rd UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable

Teaching

University of Connecticut

2017 Spring	Instructor of Record	Linguistics 2010Q The Science of Linguistics
2015 Fall	Instructor of Record	Linguistics 2010Q The Science of Linguistics
2015 Spring	Teaching Assistant	Linguistics 1010 Language and Mind
2014 Winter	Instructor of Record	Linguistics 1010 Language and Mind
2014 Fall	Instructor of Record	Linguistics 2010Q The Science of Linguistics
2014 Spring	Teaching Assistant	Linguistics 1010 Language and Mind
2013 Fall	Instructor of Record	Linguistics 2010Q The Science of Linguistics
2012 - 2013	Teaching Assistant	Linguistics 1010 Language and Mind
2011 - 2012	Technical TA	Linguistics 1010 Language and Mind

Research Experience

2016 Summer Research Assistant for Professor Susi Wurmbrand, University of Connecticut

2015 Summer Research Assistant for Professor Susi Wurmbrand, University of Connecticut

2014 Summer Research Assistant for Professor Susi Wurmbrand, University of Connecticut

2013 Summer Research Assistant for Professor Jon Gajewski, University of Connecticut

2012 Summer Research Assistant for Professor Susi Wurmbrand, University of Connecticut

Other

Founder - lingalert.com