

# Zheng SHEN

Department of English Language and Literature  
National University of Singapore  
Block AS5, 7 Arts Link, Singapore 117570  
Office: Block AS5 #05-32

updated: June, 2020

[zhengshen522@gmail.com](mailto:zhengshen522@gmail.com)  
<https://zheng-shen.github.io>

## AREAS OF INTEREST

---

### BROAD INTERESTS

- Theoretical and experimental syntax
- First language acquisition

### SPECIFIC TOPICS

- Agreement
- Sharing
- Acquisition of degree expressions

## EMPLOYMENT

---

2020.1 – Assistant Professor  
[Department of English Language and Literature](#)  
[National University of Singapore](#)

2018.5 – 2019.12 Postdoctoral Researcher  
[A General Theory of Multivaluation](#) (PIs: Katharina Hartmann, Peter W. Smith)  
Institut für Linguistik, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

2017.10 – 2018.5 Postdoctoral Researcher  
[Graduate School on Nominal Modification](#) (Spokesperson: Caroline Féry)  
Institut für Linguistik, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

## EDUCATION

---

2011–2018 **University of Connecticut**, Storrs, CT, USA  
Department of Linguistics  
Ph.D. in Linguistics  
Dissertation title: *Feature Arithmetic in the Nominal Domain*

2009–2010 **University College London**, London, UK  
Department of Linguistics  
M.A. in Linguistics  
Thesis title: *On Focus and Topic Interaction in Mandarin Chinese*

2005–2009 **Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai**, China  
Department of Foreign Languages  
B.A. in English Language and Literature

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### JOURNAL PAPERS

Shen, Zheng. 2019. “The multi-valuation agreement hierarchy.” *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics*, 4(1), 46.  
DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5334/gjgl.585>. [[link](#)].

**Shen, Zheng.** 2018. "Fragment answers and movement." *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*, 36(1), pp 309-321. DOI: 10.1007/s11049-017-9372-1. [\[link\]](#).

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDING PAPERS

**Shen, Zheng** and Peter W. Smith. 2020. "Morphological and semantic agreement beyond hybrid nouns." *Proceedings of NELS 49*.

Smith, Peter W., Beata Moskal, Katharina Hartmann, and **Zheng Shen**. 2019. "Feature resolution, feature conflicts and the structure of *either ... or*." *Proceedings of SinFonIJA 10*.

**Shen, Zheng.** 2017. "On multi-valued Ns and Ts in number concord and agreement." *Proceedings of the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*. (extended version of Shen 2017)

**Shen, Zheng.** 2017. "Multi-value asymmetry in number agreement and concord." *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." *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." *Proceedings of the 50th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*.

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

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

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

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

## DISSERTATION

**Shen, Zheng.** 2018. "Feature Arithmetic in the Nominal Domain." Doctoral dissertation, University of Connecticut.

## TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

---

### PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

SEPT. 2020 "Gender Agreement with Exclusive Disjunction in Slovenian." Paper to be presented at SinFonIJA 13, Budapest, Hungary (online). (with Franc Lanko Marušič)

MAY. 2020 "Gender agreement with exclusive disjunction in Slovenian." Paper presented at the 29 Annual Meeting of Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics, University of Washington (online). (with Franc Lanko Marušič)

MAR. 2020 "Closest Conjunct Agreement in Right Node Raising as minimized ungrammaticality." Poster presented at the 33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference, UMass, US (online).

- AUG. 2019 “Colliding features: two types of closest conjunct agreement.” the Alphabet of Universal Grammar, London, the U.K.
- Nov. 2018 “Morphological and Semantic Agreement with Multiple Values.” Multiple Agreement across Domains 2018 (MAD 2018), Berlin, Germany. (with Peter W. Smith)
- OCT. 2018 “Agreement in Nominal Right Node Raising: an experimental approach.” the 11th Conference on Syntax, Phonology and Language Analysis (SinFonIJA 11), Kraków, Poland.
- OCT. 2018 “Morphological and Semantic Agreement beyond Hybrid Nouns.” the 49th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistics Society (NELS 49), Cornell University. (with Peter W. Smith)
- AUG. 2018 “Agreement in Nominal Right Node Raising: an experimental approach.” the 20th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar, Seoul, South Korea.
- APR. 2018 “Interpretive restrictions on superlatives in full vs. fragment answers.” the 41st GLOW, Budapest. (with Lyn Tieu)
- MAR. 2018 “The agreement hierarchy and multi-valuation.” Current Issues in Comparative Syntax, the National University of Singapore.
- FEB. 2018 “Relative readings of superlatives in full vs. fragment answers: An experimental investigation.” Linguistic Evidence 2018, University of Tübingen. (with Lyn Tieu)
- DEC. 2017 “Children can access absolute and relative readings of superlatives.” the Australian Linguistic Society 2017, University of Sydney. (with Lyn Tieu)
- OCT. 2017 “The multi-valuation agreement hierarchy.” Resolving Conflicts Across Borders workshop & SinFonIJA 10.
- OCT. 2017 “Feature resolution, feature conflicts and the structure of either... or.” Resolving Conflicts Across Borders workshop & SinFonIJA 10. (with Peter W. Smith, Beata Moskal, Katharina Hartmann)
- SEPT. 2017 “Aiming high: children’s knowledge of absolute and relative readings of superlatives.” the 13th International Conference of the Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition. (with Lyn Tieu)
- AUG. 2017 “Cross-Domain Multi-Valuation as Agreement Hierarchy.” the 19th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar.
- APR. 2016 “An asymmetry between multi-valued Ns and Ts.” the 34th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 34.
- APR. 2016 “On multi-valued Ns and Ts in number concord and agreement.” the 52nd Annual Meeting of Chicago Linguistics Society, University of Chicago.
- MAR. 2016 “Multi-value asymmetry in number agreement and concord.” the 40th Penn Linguistics Conference, University of Pennsylvania.
- JAN. 2016 “A superlative argument for syntactic movement in fragment answer.” LSA 2016 Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- SEPT. 2015 “Fragment answers and movement - a superlative argument.” 2015 Annual Meeting of Linguistic Association of Great Britain (LAGB), University College London, London, UK.
- JUN. 2015 “Number agreement across borders in nominal RNR.” Agreement Across Borders Conference (AAB), University of Zadar, Zadar, Croatia.
- JUN. 2015 “The ‘associative reading’ of DPs and the quantity vs. quality distinction.” the Semantics of

- African, Asian and Austronesian Languages 2 (TripleA), University of Potsdam. (with I-Ta Chris Hsieh)
- MAR. 2015 “No clash constraint in nominal RNR number agreement.” the 39th Penn Linguistics Conference, University of Pennsylvania.
- NOV. 2014 “Beyond production: searching for absolute and relative interpretations of superlatives.” BUCLD 39, Boston University. (with Lyn Tieu)
- MAY 2014 “Investigating superlatives in the littlest linguists.” GLOW in Asia X, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan (with Lyn Tieu)
- MAR. 2014 “The littlest linguists and their superlatives.” the 50th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society, University of Chicago. (with Lyn Tieu)
- MAR. 2014 “The third reading of the most expensive photo of Abby.” the 38th Penn Linguistics Conference, University of Pennsylvania.
- JUL. 2013 “Syntactic treatment of the relative reading with NP Internal focus in superlatives.” the 19th International Congress of Linguists, Geneva, Switzerland.
- FEB. 2013 “On the relative reading with NP internal focus in superlatives.” the 31st West Coast Conference of Formal Linguistics, Arizona State University

### **COLLOQUIA AND INVITED TALKS**

- MAY. 2020 “What we can learn from agreement with exclusive disjunction.” Invited talk at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (online).
- NOV. 2019 “Does grammar care about linear order?” Invited talk at University of Vienna.
- APR. 2019 “What we can learn from Multi-valuation.” Invited talk at National Singapore University.
- FEB. 2019 “What we can learn from Multi-valuation.” Invited talk at McGill University.
- OCT. 2018 “Multi-valuation and the Language Level of the Agreement Hierarchy” Talk at Rutgers University.
- JUL. 2018 “Multi-valuation and the Agreement Hierarchy.” Invited talk at University of Tübingen.
- OCT. 2017 “Three projects in the nominal domain.” Colloquium talk for the Research Training Group ‘Nominal Modification’, Goethe University Frankfurt.
- SEPT. 2017 “Multi-valuation as the Agreement Hierarchy: typology and experiments.” Invited talk at Goethe University Frankfurt.
- AUG. 2017 “Fragment answers and movement.” Invited talk at Dongguk University.
- JUL. 2016 “Multi-Valuation in Nominal Right Node Raising Constructions and its Implications.” Invited talk at Ritsumeikan University, Japan.
- JUN. 2016 “Multi-Valuation in Nominal Right Node Raising Constructions and its Implications.” Colloquium talk at National Tsinghua University, Taiwan.

### **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

---

- 2016 Department Fellowship (merit-based teaching release) 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

## TEACHING

---

### NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

2020-2021 EL 4201 Advanced Syntax  
 SEMESTER 2 EL 4880D Experimental Syntax

2020-2021 EL 3201 Syntax  
 SEMESTER 1

### UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT (AS INSTRUCTOR)

SPRING 2017 The Science of Linguistics (Ling 2010Q)  
 FALL 2015 The Science of Linguistics (Ling 2010Q)  
 WINTER 2014 Language and Mind (Ling 1010)  
 FALL 2014 The Science of Linguistics (Ling 2010Q)  
 FALL 2013 The Science of Linguistics (Ling 2010Q)

## MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICE

---

MEMBERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Linguistics Association of Great Britain</li> <li>• the Linguistic Society of America</li> </ul>
REVIEWING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural Language and Linguistic Theory × 3</li> <li>• Journal of Linguistics × 1</li> <li>• The Linguistic Review × 1</li> <li>• NELS since 2017</li> <li>• CLS since 2018</li> </ul>
SERVICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2014 - 2015 President of UConn Linguistics Club</li> <li>• 2013 - 2014 Chair of the Colloquium Committee of UConn Linguistics Club</li> <li>• 2012 - 2013 Secretary of UConn Linguistics Club</li> <li>• 2012 - 2015 Organizing Committee of UConn Open Houses</li> <li>• 2012 - 2013 Organizing Committee of the 44th Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society</li> <li>• 2012 - 2013 Coordinator of UConn Ling Lunch talk series</li> <li>• 2011 - 2013 Co-organizer of 1st - 3rd UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable</li> </ul>

## OTHER

---

FOUNDER Lingalert.com