

# Zheng SHEN

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Goethe-Universität Frankfurt  
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<https://zheng-shen.github.io>

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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### BROAD INTERESTS

- Theoretical and experimental syntax
- Syntax-Morphology interface
- Syntax-Semantics interface
- Language Acquisition

### SPECIFIC TOPICS

- Agreement
- Ellipsis
- Superlatives
- Acquisition of Superlatives

## EMPLOYMENT

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2017 – Postdoctoral Researcher  
Graduate School on Nominal Modification  
Institut für Linguistik, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

## EDUCATION

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- 2011–2017 **University of Connecticut**, Storrs, CT, USA  
Department of Linguistics  
Ph.D. in Linguistics  
Dissertation title: *Feature Arithmetic in the Nominal Domain*  
Committee: Susanne Wurmbrand (chair), Jonathan Bobaljik, Željko Bošković, Jon Gajewski, Jon Sprouse
- 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 Linguistics

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- 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

## **PUBLICATIONS (\* = FIRST AUTHOR)**

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### **JOURNAL PAPERS**

- SUBMITTED "The multi-valuation agreement hierarchy." *Glossa*.
- ACCEPTED "Fragment answers and movement." *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*.

### **CONFERENCE PROCEEDING PAPERS**

- TO APPEAR "On multi-valued Ns and Ts in number concord and agreement."  
*Proceedings of the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*.
- 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*.
- 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*.
- 2016 "The littlest linguists and their superlatives: a first experiment."  
*Proceedings of the 50th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*. (with \*Lyn Tieu)
- 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*.
- 2015 "The 'Associative Reading' of DPs and the quantity vs. quality distinction."  
*Proceedings of The Semantics of African, Asian and Austronesian Languages 2*. (with \*I-Ta Chris Hsieh)
- 2014 "Searching for absolute and relative readings of superlatives: a second experiment."  
*Proceedings of the 39th Boston University Conference on Language Development*. (with \*Lyn Tieu)
- 2013 "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: Cascadia Proceedings Project.

### **UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS**

- 2017 "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." Generals Paper, University of Connecticut.

## **PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (\* = FIRST AUTHOR)**

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- 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 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. (\*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

## **NON-REFERRED PRESENTATIONS**

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- FEB. 2017 “Multi-Valuation and the Agreement Hierarchy.” Ling Lunch talk at MIT.
- 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.
- DEC. 2015 “Two Asymmetries in Agreement.” the 5th UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable.
- DEC. 2014 “The singular and the plural pattern(s) in nominal right node raising.” the 4th UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable.
- Nov. 2014 “Some notes on ‘many’.” UConn Ling Lunch. (with \*I-Ta Chris Hsieh)
- Nov. 2013 “The relative reading with NP internal focus of superlatives in English-type languages.” Southern New England Workshop in Semantics (SNEWS), MIT.
- DEC. 2013 “The littlest linguists and their superlatives.” the 3rd UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable.
- DEC. 2013 “1 account for 2 generalizations of the 3rd reading of *best*.” the 3rd UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable.
- DEC. 2012 “Superlatives.” the 2nd UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable.
- APR. 2012 “Asymmetries between both and all.” the 3rd University of Connecticut Language Fest.

## MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICE

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| 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>• 2017 NELS 48, Journal of Linguistics * 1</li><li>• 2015 Natural Language and Linguistic Theory * 1</li><li>• 2014 The Linguistic Review * 1</li><li>• 2013 Natural Language and Linguistic Theory * 1</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> |

## TEACHING

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### AS INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

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

### AS TEACHING ASSISTANT

- SPRING 2015 Language and Mind (Ling 1010)

SPRING 2014    Language and Mind (Ling 1010)  
FALL 2012     Language and Mind (Ling 1010)  
SPRING 2013    Language and Mind (Ling 1010)

## RESEARCHER EXPERIENCE

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SUMMER 2016    Research Assistant for Professor Susi Wurmbrand, University of Connecticut  
Project: NP ellipsis.

SUMMER 2015    Research Assistant for Professor Susi Wurmbrand, University of Connecticut  
Project: quantifier scope in Mandarin Chinese.

SUMMER 2014    Research Assistant for Professor Susi Wurmbrand, University of Connecticut  
Project: control and finiteness in Mandarin Chinese.

SUMMER 2013    Research Assistant for Professor Jon Gajewski, University of Connecticut  
Project: Amazon mechanical turk and experimental methods.

SUMMER 2012    Research Assistant for Professor Susi Wurmbrand, University of Connecticut  
Projects: ellipsis and binding.

SPRING 2011    Research assistant for Professor Ad Neeleman, University College London  
Projects: causative constructions, perfective aspect in Hindi and Chinese, properties of adjectives in Mandarin Chinese

## OTHERS

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FOUNDER     Lingalert.com