

# Zheng SHEN

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<https://zheng-shen.github.io>

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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### BROAD INTERESTS

- Theoretical and experimental syntax
- Syntax-semantics interface
- First language acquisition

### SPECIFIC TOPICS

- Agreement and concord
- Superlatives across languages
- Acquisition of degree expressions
- Acquisition of fragment answers

## EMPLOYMENT

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2018.5 – 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**  
Institut für Linguistik, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

## EDUCATION

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2011–2018 **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 English Language and Literature

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- 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

## PUBLICATIONS (\* = FIRST AUTHOR)

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### JOURNAL PAPERS

- Shen, Zheng.** accepted. "The multi-valuation agreement hierarchy." *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics*.
- Shen, Zheng.** 2018. "Fragment answers and movement." *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*. DOI: 10.1007/s11049-017-9372-1. [\[link\]](#).

### CONFERENCE PROCEEDING PAPERS

- Smith, Pete, Beata Moskal, Katharina Hartmann, and **Zheng Shen**. to appear. "Feature resolution, feature conflicts and the structure of either ... or." *Proceedings of SinFonIJA 10*.
- Shen, Zheng.** 2018. "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*.
- 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*.
- Tieu, Lyn and **Zheng Shen**. 2014. "Searching for absolute and relative readings of superlatives: a second experiment." *Proceedings of the 39th Boston University Conference on Language Development*.
- 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.

### UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS

- Shen, Zheng,** Troy Messick, and Heidi Harley. 2017. "Syncretism repair in English nominal right node raising." manuscript.

- Shen, Zheng.** 2015. "Number agreement in nominal right node raising." Generals Paper, University of Connecticut.
- Shen, Zheng.** 2014. "Syntactico semantics of superlatives." Generals Paper, University of Connecticut.

## PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- 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 Pete 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 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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- 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.
- 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>• 2018 CLS 54, NELS 49</li> <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)
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)

### OTHER

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FOUNDER	Lingalert.com
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