

GRANT M BERRY, PHD

LINGUIST. RESEARCHER. PROBLEM SOLVER. STRESS BAKER.



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EXPERIENCE

2020-Present

Assistant Professor, Cognitive Science | Villanova U

- Design and teach linguistics, cognitive science, AI, and Spanish courses
- Direct Language Use and Variation Lab, which researches adaptation to language variation and builds computational models of language structure
- Mentor undergraduates in research and professional development.

2021-2022

Applied Scientist, Amazon | Localization Tech

- Reviewed data quality program for video subtitle localization
- Collaborated with international colleagues to develop proprietary human-in-the-loop localization software with verbosity and style customization
- Published collaborative paper at COLING 2022

2019-2020

Technical Program Mgr., Amazon | Applied Modeling & Data Science

- Created and managed a data quality program at scale to support sourcing language data and building large-scale language models and natural language understanding systems
- Created and monitored data quality alarms to support data collection
- Presented weekly quality report to executives and stakeholders

2018-2019

Language Engineer, Amazon | Alexa Household Organization

- Created ontologies and phrase maps for developing new features for home and personal use cases (e.g., timers, reminders, recipes)
- Developed and deployed deterministic and probabilistic NLU artifacts using git and virtual machines to production environments
- Trained junior teammates and composed onboarding runbooks

MEDIA

Gotta have *rizz* to *slay*: Oxford's Word of the Year | *KYW News Radio*

Alexa, how do you work? | *Villanova Magazine*

AI & Bias: Who's to blame? | *Villanova Widger School of Law*

Does Elmo have a Philly Accent? | *Philadelphia Magazine*

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (*denotes undergraduate co-author)

Patchell, A.*, & **Berry, G.M.** (2024). TH-stopping in Philadelphia Puerto Rican English. *Language Variation and Change*, 36(1), 73-93.

Gupta, P., Nelakanti, A., **Berry, G.M.**, & Sharma, A. (2022). Interactive post-editing for verbosity-controlled translation. Proceedings of *COLING 2022*.

Berry, G.M., & Ernestus, M. (2018). Phonetic alignment in English as a *lingua franca*: Coming together while splitting apart. *Second Language Research*, 34(3), 343-370.

Full list: [<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Hf8ez5EAAAAJ&hl>]

EDUCATION

2018 PhD Language Science

2014 MA Spanish Linguistics

2010 BS Mathematics

2010 BA Spanish

VISITING SCHOLARSHIP

2024 Radboud U

2017 U of Pennsylvania

2015 Max Planck Institute

2015 Linguistic Society Institute

SELECTED AWARDS

2023 Research Catalyst (\$35k)

2018 Ray Lombra Award

2017 NSF Grant (\$18k)

2011 Fulbright ETA Grant

SKILLS

Data Science: Data visualization, Data wrangling; Virtual machines; CLIs and APIs; Version tracking; Bayesian statistics; Time series analysis

Language Science: LLMs, Generative AI, Prompt Creation, ASR; Language variation and ambiguity; Multilingualism; Speech acoustics; Localization

Management: Effort scoping; KPI creation/monitoring; Agile; Scrum; Crisp technical writing

LANGUAGES/PACKAGES

- Fluent in **English** and **Spanish**
- Python 3.x:** scikit-learn, pytorch, pandas, nltk, seaborn, librosa, langchain, huggingface, jupyter
- R:** tidyverse, rstanarm, lme4, mgcv
- SQL:** Intermediate
- Bash/Z-shell:** Intermediate
- CSS:** Elementary