

Danfeng Wu

MIT Linguistics & Philosophy
77 Massachusetts Ave,
Cambridge MA, 02139

Email: dfwu@mit.edu
Website: dfwu.github.io

EDUCATION

- 2016 – 2021 Ph.D, Linguistics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
expected Advisors: Edward Flemming, Danny Fox, David Pesetsky, Maziar Toosarvandani
Dissertation: *Syntax and prosody of coordinated structures*
- 2008 – 2012 B.A., Mathematics and Economics, Columbia University, *Magna cum Laude*

SUMMER SCHOOLS

- 2017 Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute, Lexington, KY
- 2015 Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute, Chicago, IL

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Syntax, Prosody, Experimental Phonetics

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- accepted **Danfeng Wu.** Why **if or not* but *✓whether or not*. *Linguistic Inquiry*. [link]
- under revision **Danfeng Wu.** Syntax of *either* in *either...or...* sentences. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*. [link]
- submitted **Danfeng Wu.** Island violations in stripping constructions. *Linguistic Inquiry*.
- submitted **Danfeng Wu.** Phrasing and prominence: A case study of the post-focal context in English. *Journal of Phonetics*.
- 2019 Miyagawa, Shigeru, **Danfeng Wu** and Masatoshi Koizumi. Inducing and blocking labeling. *Glossa 4(1)*: 141. 1–26. DOI: [10.5334/gjgl.923](https://doi.org/10.5334/gjgl.923)

PROCEEDINGS

- 2020 **Danfeng Wu.** *Whether* can pied-pipe. In *Proceedings of NELS 50*, ed. by Mariam Asatryan, Yixiao Song, and Ayana Whitmal, 245–254.
- Danfeng Wu.** Durational cues to stress and phrasing are preserved post-focally in English. In *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 2020*, 240–244.

- Danfeng Wu** and Yadav Gowda. Focus and penultimate vowel lengthening in Zulu. In *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 2020*, 136–140.
- Danfeng Wu**. Syntax of *either* in *either...or...* sentences. In *Proceedings of NELS 49*, ed. by Maggie Baird and Jonathan Pesetsky, 295–304.
- 2019 **Danfeng Wu**. Evidence from ellipsis suggests the low origination site of expletives *there* and *it*. In *Proceedings of CLS 54*, ed. by Eszter Ronai, Laura Stigliano, and Yenan Sun, 573–584.
- 2018 Shigeru Miyagawa, **Danfeng Wu** and Masatoshi Koizumi. A revised labeling approach to long-distance agreement. In *Proceedings of MT3*, 87–92.

PRESENTATIONS

REFEREED

- 2021 **Danfeng Wu**. Evasion strategies save apparent island violations in stripping. Poster at *LSA 95*, Virtual.
- 2020 **Danfeng Wu**. There is no post-focal de-phrasing in English. Poster at *AMP 2020*, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA.
- Danfeng Wu**. Durational cues to stress and phrasing are preserved post-focally in English. Virtual presentation at *Speech Prosody 2020*, Tokyo, Japan.
- Danfeng Wu** and Yadav Gowda. Focus and penultimate vowel lengthening in Zulu. Virtual presentation at *Speech Prosody 2020*, Tokyo, Japan.
- Yadav Gowda and **Danfeng Wu**. Focus and prominence in Zulu. Talk at *ACAL 51*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. [cancelled due to the pandemic]
- Danfeng Wu**. Phrasal stress and phrasing are preserved in the absence of pitch accent: Evidence from post-nuclear de-accentuation in English. Talk at *CLS 56*, UChicago, Chicago, IL. [cancelled due to the pandemic]
- Danfeng Wu** and Yadav Gowda. Focus and penultimate vowel lengthening in Zulu. Talk at *GLOW 43*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany.
- Danfeng Wu**. *Whether* can pied-pipe. Talk at *LSA 94*, New Orleans, LA.
- Yadav Gowda and **Danfeng Wu**. Clitic climbing and linear adjacency in Wolof. Talk at *LSA 94*, New Orleans, LA.
- 2019 **Danfeng Wu**. Why **if or not* but ✓*whether or not*. Poster at *NELS 50*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.
- 2018 **Danfeng Wu**. A copy-based approach to *either* in *either... or...* sentences. Poster at *NELS 49*, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.
- Shigeru Miyagawa, **Danfeng Wu** and Masatoshi Koizumi. A revised labeling approach to long-distance agreement. Poster at *MAPLL × TCP × TL × TaLK (MT3)*, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan.

Danfeng Wu. Evidence from ellipsis suggests the low origination site of expletives *there* and *it*. Talk at *CLS 54*, UChicago, Chicago, IL.

Danfeng Wu. English expletives *there* and *it* originate low: Evidence from ellipsis. Poster at *WCCFL 36*, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

Elise Newman and **Danfeng Wu.** A new analysis and prediction about Lubukusu agreeing complementizers. Talk at *LSA 92*, Salt Lake City, UT.

INVITED

2020 **Danfeng Wu.** *Whether* can pied-pipe. Talk at *Syntax Brown Bag*, NYU, New York, NY.

2018 **Danfeng Wu.** Deriving Case Theory: Issues of [-N]/[+N], ECM. Talk at *Workshop on Case Theory and Labeling of Structures*, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING

Fall 2020 **Language and Its Structure II: Syntax** (24.902), MIT (grader)
Instructor: David Pesetsky
Graded assignments

Fall 2019 **Linguistics for Researchers in Computer Science, Cognitive Science, and Related Fields** (24.S94), MIT (course organizer and teaching assistant)
Instructors: Adam Albright, Athulya Aravind, Martin Hackl and David Pesetsky
Proposed the course idea at the faculty meeting, designed the syllabus with the instructors, advertised the course, and gave the introductory lecture

Spring 2019 **Advanced Phonology** (24.962), MIT (teaching assistant)
Instructors: Adam Albright and Donca Steriade
Held office hours

Spring 2018 **Introduction to Linguistics** (24.9000), MIT (teaching assistant)
Instructor: Kai von Fintel
Led a section, held office hours, and graded assignments

Summer 2017 **Introduction to Syntax**, LSA Summer Institute, Lexington, KY (teaching assistant)
Instructor: David Pesetsky
Held office hours and graded assignments

MENTORING

2020 Advisor and mentor for Allie Amerman and Alyssa Solomon, undergraduate research assistants for an experimental project on the prosody of disjunction

- 2019 – 2020 Advisor and mentor for Aquila Simmons and Kitty Zeng, undergraduate research assistants for an experimental project on post-focal prosodic phrasing
- 2019 – 2012 International Group Chair, Columbia Mentoring Initiative
Mentored international freshmen at Columbia University, led and supervised mentoring relations between upperclassmen and freshmen

LANGUAGE TEACHING

- 2012 – 2014 Chinese Mandarin teacher, Mumbai, India
Designed class structure and teaching materials, proposed the class idea to management at Mahindra Ltd., and taught its employees

SERVICE

- 2019 – Reviewer for Glossa
- 2018 – 2019 Graduate student representative
- 2018 – 2019 Co-organizer of Comp Lang reading group at MIT
- 2015 – Member of Linguistic Society of America

FUNDING AND AWARDS

- 2019 Ken Hale Grant (Experiment on English prosody), MIT
- 2019 Ken Hale Grant (Fieldwork on Zulu focus prosody), MIT
- 2019 Ken Hale Grant (Fieldwork on Wolof clitic climbing), MIT
- 2012 Kai-fu Lee Scholarship, Columbia University
- 2008 – 2011 Liu Xu Scholarship, Columbia University

LANGUAGES AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Chinese Mandarin: Native
Shanghainese: Native
French: Reading, Conversational

Wolof: Fieldwork
Zulu: Fieldwork

Technical skills: R, Praat, LaTeX, Python

CV last updated – September 26th, 2020