

# Danfeng Wu

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## EMPLOYMENT

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2022 – Fellow by Examination (equivalent to postdoc)  
University of Oxford, Magdalen College

## EDUCATION

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2016 – 2022 Ph.D, Linguistics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Advisors: Edward Flemming, Danny Fox, David Pesetsky, Maziar Toosarvandani  
Dissertation: *Syntax and prosody of coordination*

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

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Syntax-Semantics, Prosody, Pragmatics, Experimental Phonetics

## PUBLICATIONS

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### JOURNAL ARTICLES

accepted with revisions **Danfeng Wu.** Syntax of negation in corrective *but* sentences: Evidence from syntax-semantics and prosody. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*. [link]

2024 **Danfeng Wu.** Suppletion of numerals ‘one’ and ‘two’ in Mandarin Chinese. *Journal of East Asian Linguistics* 33: 367–400. DOI: [10.1007/s10831-024-09281-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10831-024-09281-1)

2022 **Danfeng Wu.** Island violations in stripping constructions. *Glossa* 7(1). DOI: [10.16995/glossa.7895](https://doi.org/10.16995/glossa.7895)

2022 **Danfeng Wu.** Syntax of *either* in *either...or...* sentences. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 40(3): 933–977. DOI: [10.1007/s11049-021-09523-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-021-09523-0)

2022 **Danfeng Wu.** Why *\*if* or *not* but *✓whether* or *not*. *Linguistic Inquiry* 53(2): 412–425. DOI: [10.1162/ling\\_a\\_00410](https://doi.org/10.1162/ling_a_00410)

2019 Shigeru Miyagawa, **Danfeng Wu** and Masatoshi Koizumi. Inducing and blocking labeling. *Glossa* 4(1): 141. DOI: [10.5334/gjgl.923](https://doi.org/10.5334/gjgl.923)

#### MANUSCRIPTS

minor revisions **Danfeng Wu**. Elided material is present in prosodic structure. *Glossa*. [link]  
 submitted Daniel Altshuler, Setayesh Dashti and **Danfeng Wu**. Aspect and negation. *Annual Review of Linguistics*.  
 invited chapter **Danfeng Wu** and José Elías-Ulloa. The prosody of *no...sino...* sentences. In *Issues in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics*. Volume on variation in intonation, ed. by Rajiv Rao. John Benjamins Publishing.  
 in prep  
 invited chapter **Danfeng Wu**. Generics in Mandarin Chinese. *Volume on Generics across Languages*, ed. by Dimitra Lazaridou-Chatzigoga, Matt Husband, and Suzi Lima. Language Science Press.  
 in prep  
 in prep **Danfeng Wu**. Constituent negation requires entailment of an alternative. [link]  
 in prep **Danfeng Wu**. Corrective markers across languages. [link]  
 in prep **Danfeng Wu**. Phrasing and prominence: A case study of the post-focal context in English. [link]  
 in prep **Danfeng Wu**. Semantic opposition coordination: An argument for good-questionhood. [link]

#### PROCEEDINGS

to appear **Danfeng Wu**. Why *not* numeral NP requires *but* but not *not many* NP. In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 29.  
**Danfeng Wu**. Corrective markers *bing* and *you* in Mandarin Chinese. In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 29.  
 2024 **Danfeng Wu**. Prosody of corrective *but* sentences in English. In *Proceedings of Speech Prosody* 2024, 175-179.  
**Danfeng Wu**. Semantic opposition coordination: An argument for question settlement. In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 28.  
**Danfeng Wu**. Elided material is present in prosodic structure. In *Proceedings of the Chicago Linguistic Society* 59.  
 2022 **Danfeng Wu**. Syntax of negation in corrective *but* sentences. In *NELS 52: Proceedings of the Fifty-Second Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*, ed. by Özge Bakay, Breanna Pratley, Eva Neu, and Peyton Deal, 241–254.  
 2021 **Danfeng Wu**. There is no post-focal de-phrasing in English. In *Proceedings of the 2020 Annual Meeting on Phonology*, ed. by Ryan Bennett, Richard Bibbs, Mykel Loren Brinkerhoff, Max J. Kaplan, Stephanie Rich, Nicholas Van Handel, and Maya Wax Cavallaro.

- Danfeng Wu.** Prosodic evidence for an ellipsis-based approach to *either...or...* sentences. In *Proceedings of the 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*.
- 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.
- 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.
- Danfeng Wu.** Syntax of *either* in *either...or...* sentences. In *Proceedings of NELS 49*, ed. by Maggie Baird and Jonathan Pesetsky, 295–304.
- 2018 Shigeru Miyagawa, **Danfeng Wu** and Masatoshi Koizumi. A revised labeling approach to long-distance agreement. In *Proceedings of MT3*, 87–92.

## PRESENTATIONS

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### REFEREED

- 2025 Setayesh Dashti, Daniel Altshuler and **Danfeng Wu.** Negation and progressive aspect in Persian. Talk at *the 4th North American Conference on Iranian Linguistics (NACIL 4)*, University of Toronto Mississauga, Canada.
- Danfeng Wu.** Two paths to correction. Poster with lightning talk at *GLOW 47*, Frankfurt am Main and Göttingen, Germany.
- 2024 **Danfeng Wu.** Why *not numeral NP* requires *but* but not *not many NP*. Talk at *Sinn und Bedeutung 29*, Consorzio Universitario Mediterraneo Orientale, Italy.
- Danfeng Wu.** Corrective markers *bing* and *you* in Mandarin Chinese. Talk at *Sinn und Bedeutung 29 Workshop ‘Evidentials in non-canonical speech acts’*, University of Enna Kore, Italy.
- Danfeng Wu.** Allomorphy of ‘one’ and ‘two’ in Mandarin Chinese. Talk at *LAGB 2024: Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*, Newcastle University, UK.
- Danfeng Wu.** Why *not numeral NP* requires *but* but not *not many NP*. Talk at *Form and Meaning of Coordination*, University of Göttingen, Germany.
- Danfeng Wu.** Prosody of corrective *but* sentences in English. Poster at *Speech Prosody 2024*, Universiteit Leiden, Netherlands.

- Danfeng Wu.** The absolute and contextual forms of ‘one’ and ‘two’ in Mandarin Chinese. Poster at *the 42nd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.
- 2023 **Danfeng Wu.** Semantic opposition coordination: An argument for question settlement. Talk at *SuB 28*, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany.
- Danfeng Wu.** Prosodic evidence for the recursive prosodic structure of corrective *but* sentences. Talk at *30th Manchester Phonology Meeting*, University of Manchester, UK.
- Danfeng Wu.** Elided material is present in prosodic structure. Talk at *CLS 59*, UChicago, Chicago, IL.
- Danfeng Wu.** Allomorphy of ‘one’ and ‘two’ in Mandarin Chinese. Poster at *GLOW 46*, University of Vienna, Austria. [cancelled due to visa issues]
- 2022 **Danfeng Wu.** Elided material is present in prosodic structure. Talk at *Societas Linguistica Europaea 55*, University of Bucharest, Romania.
- Danfeng Wu.** Bipartite syntax of negation in corrective *but* sentences. Talk at *LSA 96*, Washington, DC.
- Danfeng Wu** and Boer Fu. Prosodic evidence for syntax in biased questions in Mandarin. Poster at *LSA 96*, Washington, DC.
- Boer Fu and **Danfeng Wu.** Numeral allomorphy of ‘one’ and ‘two’ in Mandarin Chinese. Poster at *LSA 96*, Washington, DC.
- Sasha Calhoun, Jesse Harris, Andrew Hedding, Morwenna Hoeks, Beste Kamali, Amanda Rysling, Maziar Toosarvandani, **Danfeng Wu** and Mengzhu Yan. Competence meets performance: New perspectives on information structure. Organized session at *LSA 96*, Washington, DC.
- 2021 **Danfeng Wu.** Syntax of negation in corrective *but* sentences. Talk at *NELS 52*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.
- Danfeng Wu.** Prosodic evidence for an ellipsis-based approach to *either...or...* sentences. Poster at *WCCFL 39*, The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
- 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*
- 2025 Phrasing and prominence: A case study of the post-focal context in English. *Penn Phonetics Laboratory*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.
- Encoding polar questions in syntax: A comparative study of English, Mandarin, and Yixing Chinese (with Xuhui Hu). *SyntaxLab*, University of Cambridge, UK.
- What do *bing* and *you* mean in *bing bu* and *you bu*? *Fifth Young Linguistics Scholars Forum*, Nanjing University, China.
- What do *bing* and *you* mean in *bing bu* and *you bu*? *Linguistics Frontiers Seminar*, Peking University, China.
- 2024 Corrective markers *bing* and *you* in Mandarin Chinese. *Syntax and Semantics Circle*, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA.
- Elided material is present in prosodic structure. *Ce Qu'on a Toujours Mal Compris... About the Interaction of Structure and Sound*, Université de Lille, France.
- Corrective markers *bing* and *you* in Mandarin Chinese. *Colloquium*, University of Göttingen, Germany.

- Pied-piping by ‘whether’ across languages. *Colloquium*, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
- Syntax and semantics of *either...or...* sentences. Keynote at *32nd Conference of the Student Organisation of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE 32)*, Queen Mary University of London, UK.
- 2023 Allomorphy of numerals ‘one’ and ‘two’ in Mandarin Chinese. *Com(parative) Syn(tax) Discussion Group*, Leiden University, the Netherlands.
- Allomorphy of numerals ‘one’ and ‘two’ in Mandarin Chinese. *LingLunch*, Queen Mary University of London, UK.
- Allomorphy of numerals ‘one’ and ‘two’ in Mandarin Chinese. *Edinburgh Seminar on Morphological Theory (EdinMorph)*, the University of Edinburgh, UK.
- Syntax and prosody of coordination. *General Linguistics Seminar*, University of Oxford, UK.
- Syntax and prosody of coordination. *Colloquium*, University College London, UK.
- Syntax and prosody of coordination. *Colloquium*, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.
- Syntax and prosody of coordination. *Colloquium*, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.
- Syntax and prosody of coordination. *Colloquium*, Université de Montréal, Canada.
- 2022 Syntax of negation in corrective *but* sentences. *Syntax Reading Group*, Yale University, New Haven, CT.
- 2021 Syntax of corrective *but*. *Syntax and Semantics Circle*, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA.
- Syntax and prosody of *either...or...* sentences. *Colloquium*, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada.
- Syntax and prosody of *either...or...* sentences. *Syntax and Morphology Circle*, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.
- 2020 Syntax and prosody of *either...or...* sentences. *Syntax and Semantics Reading Group*, McGill University, Montreal, Canada.
- Syntax and prosody of *either...or...* sentences. *Syntax Colloquium*, Institut für Linguistik, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany.
- Whether* can pied-pipe. *Syntax Brown Bag*, NYU, New York, NY.
- 2018 Deriving Case Theory: Issues of [-N]/[+N], ECM. *Workshop on Case Theory and Labeling of Structures*, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### TEACHING

- Hilary 2024  
(Jan–Mar)      **Prelims Semantics and Pragmatics**, University of Oxford (instructor)  
Designed the curriculum and taught lectures to first-year linguistics majors
- Michaelmas 2023  
– Hilary 2024  
(Oct–Mar)      **Prelims Syntax**, University of Oxford (teaching assistant)  
Instructor: Sandra Paoli  
Taught problem-solving tutorials to first-year linguistics majors
- Michaelmas 2023  
(Oct–Dec)      **Prelims Morphology**, University of Oxford (teaching assistant)  
Instructor: Hannah Davidson  
Taught problem-solving tutorials to first-year linguistics majors
- Hilary 2023  
(Jan–Mar)      **Prelims Semantics and Pragmatics**, University of Oxford (teaching assistant)  
Instructor: Daniel Altshuler  
Taught problem-solving classes to first-year linguistics majors
- Fall 2021      **Topics in Syntax** (24.956), MIT (guest lecturer)  
Instructors: Danny Fox, David Pesetsky  
Gave a guest lecture on ellipsis
- 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

### ADVISING AND MENTORING

- 2023 – 2024      Advisor for Katy Jenkinson, Chenxi Xia and Yutong Zhang on Graduate Syntax Papers

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
2009 – 2012	International Group Chair, Columbia Mentoring Initiative Mentored international undergraduate students at Columbia University, led and supervised mentoring relations between upperclassmen and freshmen

#### *LANGUAGE TEACHING*

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

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2024	Syntax-prosody interface in English and Spanish. John Fell Research Fund, University of Oxford; £5,429.
2023	Workshop on NLP and linguistics. Academic Grant, Magdalen College and Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics, University of Oxford. With Rahul Santhanam; £2,923.
2019	Experiment on English prosody. Ken Hale Grant, Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, MIT.
2019	Fieldwork on Zulu focus prosody. Ken Hale Grant, Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, MIT. With Yadav Gowda.
2019	Fieldwork on Wolof clitic climbing. Ken Hale Grant, Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, MIT. With Yadav Gowda.
2012	Kai-fu Lee Scholarship, Columbia University
2008 – 2011	Liu Xu Scholarship, Columbia University

#### **SERVICE**

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##### *REVIEWER*

Articles	<i>Glossa</i> (x5), <i>Humanities and Social Sciences Communications</i> , <i>Journal of Linguistics</i> (x3), <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i> , <i>Natural Language &amp; Linguistic Theory</i> (x2), <i>Studies in Chinese Linguistics</i> (x2), <i>Syntax</i>
Abstracts	<i>ConSOLE</i> , <i>Diachronic Generative Syntax (DiGS)</i> , <i>LingO</i> , <i>NELS</i>



## *CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR ORGANIZATION*

- 2024 Co-organizer of *Does ChatGPT know language as humans do?*, workshop on NLP and linguistics at Magdalen College, University of Oxford
- 2022 – 2023 Co-organizer of *You're on Mute* online seminar series on ellipsis
- 2022 – Co-creator and organizer of *Syntax / Semantics Workshop* at the University of Oxford
- 2018 – 2019 Co-organizer of Comp Lang reading group at MIT

## *OUTREACH*

- 2023 – Teach outreach lessons in linguistics to disadvantaged school students in the UK

## *UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE*

- 2023 – 2024 Working group member on College Governance, Magdalen College, University of Oxford
- 2022 – Undergraduate admissions for Linguistics & Philosophy and Linguistics & Psychology at Brasenose College, Jesus College and Magdalen College, University of Oxford
- 2018 – 2019 Graduate student representative at MIT

## **LANGUAGES AND TECHNICAL SKILLS**

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Chinese Mandarin: Native

Shanghainese: Native

French: Reading, Conversational

Technical skills: R, Praat, LaTeX

Wolof: Fieldwork

Zulu: Fieldwork

CV last updated – May 2025