# Dr Jamie Y. Findlay

☑ jamie.findlay@iln.uio.no
⑤ jyfindlay.com
fin findlayjy
ⓒ findlayjy
⑤ Google Scholar profile
findlorg/0000-0002-7700-1525

## **Expertise**

Syntax, semantics, grammatical theory and the syntax-semantics interface (especially Lexical Functional Grammar and Glue Semantics), pragmatics, (critical) discourse analysis, language & gender, language & sexuality.

## Academic employment

01/04/2021present Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in Semantics, University of Oslo.

01/12/2019-31/03/2021 Outreach & Access Officer (for linguistics), University of Oxford.

01/10/2019-

**Departmental Lecturer in Syntax**, University of Oxford.

31/03/2021 01/10/2019-

Stipendiary Lecturer in Linguistics, Jesus College, University of Oxford.

30/09/2020 01/10/2018-

Stipendiary Lecturer in Linguistics, St Hugh's College, University of Oxford.

30/09/2019

### Education

11/10/2015-

D.Phil. in Comparative Philology & General Linguistics.

06/05/2019

University of Oxford.

Thesis title: Multiword expressions and the lexicon [pdf].

SUPERVISORS: Ash Asudeh, Mary Dalrymple. Examiners: Stephen Pulman, Tom Wasow.

09/10/2012-

M.Phil. (with distinction) in General Linguistics & Comparative Philology.

30/06/2014 University of Oxford.

THESIS TITLE: The prepositional passive: a Lexical Functional account.

SUPERVISOR: Mary Dalrymple.

01/09/2011-

Graduate Programme in Linguistics.

06/12/2011

McGill University.
Attended for one term. GPA 3.92.

09/10/2007-

B.A. (with First Class Honours) in Modern Languages (French) & Linguistics.

30/06/2011 UI

University of Oxford.

## Teaching qualifications

05/12/2017

SEDA-PDF Supporting Learning award.

Mapped to Descriptor 1 of the UK Professional Standards Framework: equivalent to Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

My portfolio submission is available online here.

## Other professional experience

01/07/2012-

Linguistic Consultant, Freelance.

Expert consultancy services in and around general linguistics and NLP. This involved data annotation, resource mining and compilation, data analysis, and creative copywriting. I worked with researchers at the University of Oxford and at Queen Mary University London, as well as with private enterprises such as TheySay Analytics.

01/12/2014-30/09/2015 Part-time Research Assistant, Oxford English Dictionary, Oxford University Press.

## Research experience

Note: My publications and talks are given on pp. 6ff. This section gives details of two recent projects, with (clickable) cross-references to related publications and talks.

### Universal natural language understanding

[semantics, computational linguistics]

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

This Norwegian Research Council-funded project aims to develop and implement a rule-based semantic interpretation system, built on the language-agnostic Universal Dependencies syntactic framework, and using Glue Semantics for the syntax-semantics interface. We are building a highly modular system, where the core predicate-argument analysis relies solely on information available from the UD parse, and can therefore be applied to any language for which a UD parser exists. Additional language-specific resources (such as valency lexica or word-sense databases) can then be used in addition if they exist, but are not required.

MY ROLE:

I am a post-doctoral researcher on this project, working under the P.I. Dag T. T. Haug. I am jointly responsible with the P.I. for developing the rules used in translating the syntactic parse into semantic resources, and for managing and training annotators who we use to generate gold-standard data from existing UD corpora. I also work on developing theoretical insights about the syntax-semantics interface from our experience with implementing analyses of a wide range of phenomena.

**OUTPUTS:** 

We presented some of our initial findings on the inadequacies of existing quasi-semantic extensions to UD at the 2021 Dependency Linguistics conference ([13]), and presented a new theoretical approach to handling scope islands in Glue Semantics at the 2022 Lexical Functional Grammar conference ([12]).

### Multiword expressions and the lexicon

[syntax, semantics]

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

This was my D.Phil. project, funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council. My thesis ([1]) gives an analysis of multiword expressions (MWEs), especially idioms. It argues against approaches which conceive of idioms like *spill the beans* as being made up of special versions of *spill* and *beans*, and in favour of approaches which reaffirm the mixed nature of MWEs as partially word-like and partially phrase-like. It then develops a concrete example of the latter kind of theory, integrating insights from Tree-Adjoining Grammar into the Lexical Functional Grammar architecture.

MY ROLE:

I was solely responsible for this project from conception to completion, under the supervision of my D.Phil. supervisors, Ash Asudeh and Mary Dalrymple. I developed the research proposal, disseminated the work through presentations and publications, and successfully applied for additional research funding, including for a research visit to Germany.

OUTPUTS:

I have presented this work at peer-reviewed conferences for computational linguists ([30]), theoretical syntacticians ([28]), and for more general linguistics audiences ([26]). The work has also appeared in the proceedings of two of these conferences ([15], [16]). I organised a collaboration with researchers at the Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, where I conducted a research visit in June 2018. This resulted in a series of presentations and an ongoing research collaboration ([23], [24], [34], [40]). My formal proposals for integrating LFG and TAG will appear in the forthcoming *Handbook of Lexical Functional Grammar* ([6]), and the theoretical import of this for LFG (viewed as a formalisation of Construction Grammar) is discussed in a paper submitted to the *Journal of Language Modelling* ([2]).

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## **Teaching**

I have taught syntax, semantics & pragmatics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, and general linguistics at both the introductory and advanced undergraduate level. At the graduate level, I have led courses in syntax, and TA-ed for courses in syntax, phonology, and formal foundations of linguistics (the latter being an introduction to set theory, logic, and formal language theory for linguists). This teaching experience covers small group and tutorial settings, larger classes, and lectures, including designing tutorial courses and lecture series. I hold a SEDA-PDF Supporting Learning award (see above).

In this section, years refer to the academic calendar (e.g. 2017 = the 2017/18 academic year).

#### University of Oslo

UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

As joint primary instructor

2022 Language Change (lectures – group size: ~20)

[LING2108: Språkendring]

21 **Psycholinguistics and Sociolinguistics** (lectures – group size: ~20).

[LING1113: Psykolingvistikk og sosiolingvistikk]

## University of Oxford

GRADUATE LEVEL

As primary instructor

2019–2020 Contemporary Syntactic Theory (lectures and classes – group size: ~12).

2019–2020 Introduction to Syntax (lectures – group size: ~25).

As TA

2017–2018 Formal Foundations of Linguistics (classes – group size: ~25).

An introduction to set theory, logic, and formal language theory for linguists.

2015–2016 Introduction to Syntax (classes – group size: ~25).

2014 Introduction to Phonology (classes – group size: 12).

ADVANCED UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

2014-2016, **Syntax** (tutorials - group size: 1-3).

2019-2020

2018–2019 **General Linguistics** (tutorials – group size: 2–3).

A survey module which covers the development of linguistic theory since the 19th century.

2017–2019 **Sociolinguistics** (tutorials – group size: 1–3).

2018 **Psycholinguistics** (tutorials – group size: 1–3).

2014–2017 **Semantics & Pragmatics** (tutorials – group size: 1–3).

FIRST-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

2014, 2018–2020 **Grammatical Analysis** (classes – group size: 3–6).

An introduction to both syntax and morphology.

2014, 2018–2019 **General Linguistics** (tutorials – group size: 2–3).

An introductory course which covers topics in general linguistics proper, along with psycholinguistics, semantics & pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and historical linguistics.

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2018 **Psycholinguistics** (lectures – group size: ~50).

2017 **Semantics & Pragmatics** (lectures – group size: ~50).

**IRREGULAR CLASSES** 

2016, 2019 Language and identity: the view from linguistics (class – group size: ~6).

An introduction to sociolinguistics for first year English language and literature undergraduates.

Handout available here.

2017 Corpus methods in sociolinguistics (graduate class – group size: 3).

2016–2017, 2019 LATEX workshops: 'LATEX' basics' and 'Going further with LATEX'.

Two workshops to introduce graduate students in linguistics to  $I\!\!\!/ T_E \! X.$ 

Handouts available here and here.

## Supervision

GRADUATE SUPERVISION (UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)

Robert Flick. Extended essay in syntax. Title: Distinguishing middles and passives in Hungarian: a numerical information structure approach. M.St. in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics.

Kamran Sharifi. Extended essay in syntax. Title "Crazy syntax": examining the role of the synchronic/diachronic distinction in syntactic theory. M.St. in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics.

Tianxin Tu. Extended essay in syntax. Title: *The Mandarin Chinese* ba construction revisited: an LFG account. M.St. in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics.

2021 Xiulin Yang. Extended essay in syntax. Title: *The ambiguous binding of ziji: an LFG analysis*. M.St. in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics.

Tommy Zhang. Extended essay in syntax. Title: The concept of Function-Argument Biuniqueness in LFG & Glue and additional evidence from reflexives and complex predicates. M.St. in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics.

2020 Chenyu Fang. Extended essay in syntax. Title: An LFG analysis of anaphoric reflexive (ta)-ziji in Mandarin Chinese. M.St. in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics.

UNDERGRADUATE SUPERVISION (UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)

Caitlyn McDermott. Linguistic project (thesis with a large data collection/analysis component). What are they talking about? A discourse analysis of US press coverage of mass shootings. B.A. in Psychology & Linguistics.

## Grants and awards

May 2018 **Scatcherd European Scholarship**.

Value: £1,000. Awarded, along with the next award, for a research visit to the Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main.

Mar. 2018 Santander Academic Travel Award.

Value: £1,000.

2020-2021

Oct. 2015- **Professor Paul Slack Scholarship**, Linacre College, University of Oxford.

June 2017 Total value: ~£14,000 (fees for first 2 years of D.Phil.).

Oct. 2015- AHRC Studentship, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, University of Oxford.

June 2017 Total value: £28,353 (living costs for first 2 years of D.Phil.).

July 2014 George Wolf Prize, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, University of Oxford.

Awarded for best overall performance in the M.Phil. or M.St. degree.

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June 2014 Graduate student essay prize, International Gender and Language Association.

Oct. 2012- AHRC Studentship, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics, University of Oxford.

June 2014 Total value: ~£38,000 (fees and living costs for M.Phil.).

Sept. 2011- McCall McBain Fellowship, McGill University.

June 2013 Total value: ~CAN\$62,000 (fees and living costs for 2-year MA degree); partially declined.

Oct. 2008- Casberd Scholarship, St John's College, University of Oxford.

June 2011 Awarded for achieving a distinction in first year examinations. Total value: ~£900.

### Commissions of trust

Committee member Executive Committee, International Lexical Functional Grammar Association (ILFGA)

(Sept. 2021-present).

Editor Proceedings of the LFG Conference (2021-present).

Grant reviewer Narodowe Centrum Nauki (Polish National Science Centre) (2019).

Manuscript reviewer Corpora and Discourse Studies (2018),

Journal of Language and Sexuality (2019), Journal of Linguistics (2015, 2017, 2019),

Language Science Press (two chapters: 2020, 2022), Poznan Studies in Contemporary Linguistics (2019), Proceedings of the LFG Conference (2018–present),

Syntax (2020).

Abstract reviewer Conference of the Student Organisation of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE) (2018),

International Lexical Functional Grammar Conference (2019–present).

Marker UK Linguistics Olympiad (since 2014).

Copy editor Journal of Language Modelling (2017–2021).

INSTITUTION-LEVEL ROLES

Oct. 2019–Mar. 2021 Committee member, Athena Swan Self Assessment Team, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology &

Phonetics, University of Oxford.

Athena Swan is a gender equality certification for higher education institutes in the UK.

Oct. 2018–Mar. 2021 Committee member, Undergraduate Studies Committee, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology &

Phonetics, University of Oxford.

Oct. 2019-Sept. 2020 **Personal tutor and Linguistics Organising Tutor**, Jesus College.

Providing pastoral support and coordinating teaching for undergraduate linguistics students.

Jan.-Mar. 2018, Jan.-June 2020

2018, **Convenor**, Syntax Working Group, University of Oxford.

Dec. 2015–Dec. 2019 Admissions interviewing for undergraduate degrees involving linguistics, University of Oxford.

Oct. 2018–Sept. 2019 Personal tutor and Linguistics Organising Tutor, St Hugh's College.

Oct. 2017–June 2018 Co-founder and co-convenor, D.Phil. workshop, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology & Phonetics,

University of Oxford.

## Languages

Natural English (native), French (advanced), Latin (intermediate), Norwegian (beginner),

German (beginner).

Programming Bash, Python, Emacs Lisp.

Markup LATEX/BibTEX, HTML/CSS.

## **Professional Memberships**

Since 2017 Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).

Since 2014 International Lexical Functional Grammar Association (ILFGA).

Since 2012 Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA/ACL).

Since 2011 Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB).

Since 2011 International Gender and Language Association (IGALA).

## Scholarship

Where possible, clicking on a title will take you to an openly accessible version of that item. For conference presentations, I provide a link to the slides, handout, or poster, as appropriate.

Number of citations is given per Google Scholar, after self-citations are excluded.

#### **Thesis**

[1] **2019** Jamie Y. Findlay. *Multiword expressions and the lexicon*. D.Phil. thesis, University of Oxford. [3 citations]

#### In preparation

- [2] **Under review** Jamie Y. Findlay. Lexical Functional Grammar as a Construction Grammar. Submitted to *Journal of Language Modelling*.
- [3] **Under review** Jamie Y. Findlay, Ahmet Yıldırım, Saeedeh Salimifar and Dag T. T. Haug. Rule-based semantic interpretation for Universal Dependencies. Submitted to *Proceedings of the Sixth Workshop on Universal Dependencies* (UDW 2023). Association for Computational Linguistics.
- [4] **Under review** Dag T. T. Haug and Jamie Y. Findlay. Semantics for Dependency Grammar. Submitted to *Proceedings* of the Seventh International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (Depling 2023). Association for Computational Linguistics.
- [5] **Under review** Jamie Y. Findlay, Anna Kibort and Roxanne Taylor. Argument structure and Mapping Theory. In Mary Dalrymple (ed.), *Handbook of Lexical Functional Grammar*. Language Science Press.
- [6] **Under review** Jamie Y. Findlay. LFG and Tree Adjoining Grammar. In Mary Dalrymple (ed.), *Handbook of Lexical Functional Grammar*. Language Science Press.

#### **Articles in Refereed Journals and Books**

- [7] Jamie Y. Findlay. Meaning in LFG. In I. Wayan Arka, Ash Asudeh, and Tracy Holloway King (eds.), Modular design of grammar: linguistics on the edge, 340–374. Oxford University Press. [1 citation]
- [8] **2019** Mary Dalrymple and Jamie Y. Findlay. Lexical Functional Grammar. In András Kertész, Edith Moravcsik, and Csilla Rákosi (eds.), *Current approaches to syntax: a comparative handbook*, 123–154. De Gruyter Mouton. DOI: 10.1515/9783110540253-005. [4 citations]

- [9] Jamie Y. Findlay. Unnatural acts lead to unconsummated marriages: discourses of homosexuality within the House of Lords debate on same-sex marriage. *Journal of Language and Sexuality* 6(1), 30–60. DOI: 10.1075/jls.6.1.02fin. [17 citations]
- [10] **2016** Jamie Y. Findlay. Mapping theory without argument structure. *Journal of Language Modelling* 4(2), 293–338. DOI: 10.15398/jlm.v4i2.171. [42 citations]
- [11] **2013** Janak Bechar, Jamie Y. Findlay, and Joseph Hardwicke. Understanding medical words of Greek and Latin origin. *Student BMJ* 21. DOI: 10.1136/sbmj.f7394.

## **Articles in Refereed Conference Proceedings**

- [12] Jamie Y. Findlay & Dag T. T. Haug. Managing scope ambiguities in Glue via multistage proving. In Miriam Butt, Jamie Y. Findlay, and Ida Toivonen (eds.), *Proceedings of the LFG'22 Conference*, 143–163. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications.
- [13] **2022** Jamie Y. Findlay & Dag T. T. Haug. How useful are Enhanced Universal Dependencies for semantic interpretation? In *Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (Depling, SyntaxFest 2021)*, 22–34. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- [14] **2020** Jamie Y. Findlay. Mapping Theory and the anatomy of a verbal lexical entry. In Miriam Butt and Ida Toivonen (eds.), *Proceedings of the LFG'20 Conference*, 127–147. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications. [10 citations]
- [15] Jamie Y. Findlay. Multiword expressions and lexicalism. In Miriam Butt and Tracy Holloway King (eds.), Proceedings of the LFG'17 Conference, 209–229. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications. [2 citation]
- [16] Jamie Y. Findlay. Multiword expressions and lexicalism: the view from LFG. In *Proceedings of the 13th Workshop on Multiword Expressions (MWE 2017)*, 73–79. Association for Computational Linguistics. DOI: 10.18653/v1/W17-1709. [2 citations]
- [17] **2016** Jamie Y. Findlay. The prepositional passive in Lexical Functional Grammar. In Doug Arnold, Miriam Butt, Berthold Crysmann, Tracy Holloway King, and Stefan Müller (eds.), Proceedings of the Joint 2016 Conference on Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar and Lexical Functional Grammar, 255–275. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications.

#### **Refereed Presentations**

- [18] **6 Jan., 2023** The 'subject' honorific -si- in Korean. Joint work with Yoolim Kim. Presented (by Yoolim Kim) at the 97th Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America, Denver, Colorado. [slides]
- [19] **12 July, 2022** Managing scope ambiguities in Glue via multistage proving. Joint work with Dag T. T. Haug. Presented at the 27th International Lexical Functional Grammar Conference, University of Groningen. [slides]
- [20] **22 Mar., 2022** How useful are Enhanced Universal Dependencies for semantic interpretation? Joint work with Dag T. T. Haug. Presented online at the Sixth International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (Depling 2021), Sofia. [slides]
- [21] **20 Aug., 2021** Constructions in LFG. Presented online at the Workshop on Constructional Approaches in Formal Grammar at the 11th International Conference on Construction Grammar (ICCG11), University of Antwerp. [slides]
- [22] **25 June, 2020** Lexical Mapping Theory and the anatomy of a lexical entry. Presented online at the 25th International Lexical Functional Grammar Conference, University of Oslo. [slides]
- [23] **30 Mar., 2019** Extended idioms as metaphors. Joint work with Sascha Bargmann and Manfred Sailer. Poster presented at the Conference on the Creative Power of Metaphor, Worcester College, University of Oxford. [poster]

- [24] 24 Jan., 2019 Why the butterflies in your stomach can have big wings: combining formal and cognitive theories to explain productive extensions of idioms. Joint work with Sascha Bargmann and Manfred Sailer. Presented at the International Conference of the Europäische Gesellschaft für Phraseologie (EUROPHRAS 2019): Productive Patterns in Phraseology, Santiago de Compostela, Spain. [slides]
- [25] **18 July, 2018** Lexical and grammatical meaning: attributive adjectives in French. Joint work with Hannah Senior. Presented at the 23rd International Lexical Functional Grammar Conference, University of Vienna. [slides]
- [26] **8 Mar., 2018** Conspiracy theories: the problem with lexical approaches to idioms. Presented at the Workshop on One-to-Many Relations in Morphology, Syntax and Semantics at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGFS 2018), Universität Stuttgart. [slides]
- [27] **6 Sept., 2017** The logic of Korean honorification. Joint work with Yoolim Kim. Presented at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Association of Great Britain (LAGB 2017), University of Kent, Canterbury. [slides]
- [28] **27 July, 2017** Multiword expressions and lexicalism. Presented at the 22nd International Lexical Functional Grammar Conference, University of Konstanz. [handout]
- [29] **15 June, 2017** When the subject honorific brings honour to all: the expanding role of pragmatics in Korean honorification. Joint work with Yoolim Kim. Presented at the 12th Language at the University of Essex Postgraduate Conference (LangUE 2017), Colchester. [slides]
- [30] **4 Apr., 2017** Multiword expressions and lexicalism: the view from LFG. Poster presented at the 13th Workshop on Multiword Expressions (MWE 2017), Valencia. [poster]
- [31] **29 July, 2016** The prepositional passive in Lexical Functional Grammar. Presented at the Joint 2016 Conference on Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar and Lexical Functional Grammar (HeadLex16), Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw. [handout]
- [32] **5 June, 2014** Unnatural acts lead to unconsummated marriages: discourses of homosexuality in the House of Lords revisited. Presented at the 8th International Gender and Language Association Conference, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver. [handout]

## **Invited Talks**

- [33] **1 Dec., 2022** Lexical Functional Grammar as a Construction Grammar. Presented online at the joint Rochester-Carleton L<sub>R</sub>FG Research Lab, University of Rochester. [slides]
- [34] **27 Nov., 2018** When the cat you let out of the bag has claws: the role of metaphor in understanding idioms. Presented at the Linguistics and English Language Research Seminar, University of Manchester. [slides]
- [35] **25 June, 2018** How (not) to analyse multiword expressions. Presented at the Linguistics Oberseminar, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main. [slides]
- [36] **31 Jan., 2017** The pseudopassive: not so phoney after all. Presented at the Linguistics Departmental Seminar Series, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London. [handout]

#### **Other Presentations**

- [37] **21 May, 2022** Managing scope ambiguities in Glue via multistage proving. Joint work with Dag T. T. Haug. Presented at the 32nd South of England LFG Meeting, University of Oxford. [slides]
- [38] 4 May, 2022 Universal Natural Language Understanding: combining Universal Dependencies, Glue Semantics, and machine learning. Joint work with Dag T. T. Haug. Presented at the 1st Semantics in Norway (SiN) workshop, Helgaker. [slides]

- [39] **10 Dec., 2021** Defrosting frozen metaphors: idiom extensions and the proper representation of idiomatic expressions. Presented at the Linguistics Departmental Seminar (Språkvitenskapelig Instituttseminar), Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies, University of Oslo. [slides]
- [40] **4 Aug., 2018** Pulling a pretence rabbit out of the hat. Joint work with Sascha Bargmann and Manfred Sailer. Presented (by Manfred Sailer) at the Workshop on Form-Meaning Mismatches in Natural Language (FMM2018), Georg-August-Universät Göttingen. [slides]
- [41] **26 May, 2018** Lexicalised LFG. Presented at the 25th South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [handout]
- [42] **13 May, 2017** When the subject honorific brings honour to all: the expanding role of pragmatics in Korean honorification. Joint work with Yoolim Kim. Presented at the 23rd South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [slides]
- [43] **4 Feb., 2017** Multiword expressions and lexicalism. Presented at the 22nd South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [handout]
- [44] **20 Feb., 2016** Idioms in LFG. Presented at the 19th South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [handout]
- [45] **1 Nov., 2014** Mapping theory without argument structure. Presented at the 15th South of England LFG Meeting, SOAS, London. [handout]
- [46] **22 Oct., 2013** The pseudopassive: a Lexical Functional account. Presented at the MPhil/PRS Thesis Workshop, University of Oxford. [handout]
- [47] **8 May, 2013** The pseudopassive in LFG: some preliminary thoughts. Presented at the Syntax Working Group, University of Oxford. [handout]