

CONTACT INFORMATION	Georg-August Universität Göttingen RTG 2636 – “Form-meaning mismatches” Nikolausberger Weg 23 37075 Göttingen, Germany	Work: +1 (646) 820-6554 E-mail: <a href="mailto:gautam@ottur.info">gautam@ottur.info</a> Website: <a href="http://ottur.info">ottur.info</a>
RESEARCH AREAS	Syntax and its interfaces with semantics, pragmatics, and phonology/prosody; sign languages and gesture; language typology.	
EMPIRICAL INTERESTS	Serial verb constructions, coordinate structures, conventionalization, idiomaticity, illocutionary force marking, successive-cyclic movement, hyperraising, left-branch extraction.	
THEORETICAL INTERESTS	Merge, Agree, Minimal Search, categoriality, cyclicity, locality, opacity, syntactic features, transformations, multidominance, linearization, projection, coordination, Transfer, lexicalization, Mirror Theory, dependency grammars.	
EMPLOYMENT	<p><b>Research Associate</b>, <a href="#">University of Kassel</a> April 2025 to present  <a href="#">Institute of English and American Studies</a></p> <p><b>Start-up grant recipient</b>, <a href="#">Georg August University of Göttingen</a> January 2025 to May 2025  <a href="#">Research Training Group (Graduiertenkolleg) 2636</a> — “Form–Meaning Mismatches”</p> <p><b>Grant writing assistant</b>, <a href="#">Georg August University of Göttingen</a> July to August 2023  <a href="#">ERC Advanced Grant</a> — “Unpacking Paradigmatic Gaps”</p> <p><b>Doctoral Researcher</b>, <a href="#">Georg August University of Göttingen</a> October 2021 to December 2024  <a href="#">Research Training Group (Graduiertenkolleg) 2636</a> — “Form–Meaning Mismatches”</p>	
EDUCATION	<p><b><a href="#">Georg August University of Göttingen</a></b>, Göttingen, Germany</p> <p>Ph.D., <a href="#">Linguistics</a> October 2021 to present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thesis Topic: <i>Dependency and Order in Syntax</i></li> <li>• Advisors: Hedde Zeijlstra and Markus Steinbach</li> <li>• Areas of study: syntax, language typology</li> <li>• <b>Anticipated submission:</b> April 2025</li> </ul> <p><b><a href="#">University of Amsterdam</a></b>, Amsterdam, Netherlands</p> <p>Master of Arts, <a href="#">Linguistics</a> September 2019 to August 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thesis Topic: <i>The Semantics of Malayalam Serial Verb Constructions</i></li> <li>• Advisor: Enoch Oladé Aboh</li> <li>• Areas of study: language typology, phonology, syntax, semantics</li> </ul> <p><b><a href="#">McGill University</a></b>, Montréal, Canada</p> <p>Bachelor of Arts, <a href="#">Linguistics</a> September 2014 to May 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major concentration: <a href="#">General Linguistics</a> (emphasis on theoretical linguistics, historical linguistics, and sociolinguistics)</li> </ul>	

- Minor concentration: [German Language](#)

BOOK CHAPTERS	vP-serialization in Malayalam. Submitted. In <i>Serial Predicates across Modalities</i> . Berlin: Language Science Press.
PUBLICATIONS	<p>Gautam Ottur. to appear. Malayalam doesn't need adpositions: the case of vP-adjunction. In <i>Proceedings of the 42nd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics</i>. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project</p> <p>Gautam Ottur. 2024. Linear asymmetries and the syntax of serialization: against an antisymmetric approach. In <i>Proceedings of the 32nd Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe</i>, 234–247. Leiden, The Netherlands: Leiden University Centre for Linguistics <a href="#">[link]</a></p> <p>Marianthi Koraka, Thomas Finkbeiner, Nina-Kristin Meister, Markus Steinbach &amp; Gautam Ottur. 2024. The grammaticalization of a motion verb into an imperative marker in two sign languages. In <i>Proceedings of Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign language Theory 6</i>, vol. 6, 35–47. Ann Arbor, MI <a href="#">[link]</a></p> <p>Gautam Ottur. 2023. Form and function in serial verb constructions – insights from German Sign Language. In <i>Proceedings of Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign language Theory 5</i>, vol. 5, 169–180. Bergen, Norway <a href="#">[link]</a></p> <p>Gautam Ottur. 2021. Future tense and habitual aspect in Malayalam. <i>Linguistics in Amsterdam</i> 14(1). 145–159 <a href="#">[link]</a></p>
CONFERENCE TALKS	<p>The grammaticalization of a motion verb into an imperative marker in two sign languages. Presented at <i>Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory 6</i> at the University of Michigan, 6–8 August 2024 (with Marianthi Koraka, Thomas Finkbeiner, Nina-Kristin Meister, and Markus Steinbach).</p> <p>C-selection, feature-checking, and anti-locality in coordinate structures. Presented at the conference <i>Form and Meaning of Coordination</i> at the University of Göttingen, 4–6 July 2024.</p> <p>A reassessment of Mandarin universal quantificational expressions <i>mei</i> vs. <i>suoyou</i>. Presented at the <i>44th TABU Dag</i> at the University of Groningen, 13–14 June 2024 (with Zeqi Zhao).</p> <p>Argument introducers and adjunct verbs in Malayalam. Presented online at <i>Formal Approaches to South Asian Languages 14</i> at Stony Brook University, 4–6 April, 2024.</p> <p>Light verbs in Malayalam are not adpositions. Presented at the <i>Grote Taal dag 2024</i> at Utrecht University, 2 February 2024.</p> <p>Form and function in serial verb constructions — insights from German Sign Language. Presented online at <i>Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory 5</i> at the University of Bergen, 27–29 June 2023.</p> <p>Serial verbs in head-final languages needn't be Kaynian — a rebuttal from Malayalam. Presented at the <i>43rd TABU Dag</i> at the University of Groningen, 15–16 June 2023.</p>

CONFERENCE POSTERS	A timing approach to escape hatch dependencies. Presented at the <i>47th Meeting of Generative Linguistics in the Old World</i> (GLOW 47) at the Goethe University Frankfurt, 24–28 March, 2025.
	Malayalam doesn't need adpositions: the case of vP-adjunction. Presented at the <i>42nd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics</i> (WCCFL 42) at the University of California, Berkley, 12–14 April 2024.
	Linear asymmetries and the syntax of serialization. Presented at the <i>32nd Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe</i> (ConSOLE 32) at Queen Mary University in London, 17–19 January 2024, and at the first Konstanz Linguistics Conference (KLC) at the University of Konstanz, 22–24 March 2024.
INVITED TALKS	A small <i>dōu</i> -sage of syntax <i>měi</i> be necessary: quantification in Mandarin. Presented at the University of Cambridge SyntaxLab, 14 May 2024 (with Zeqi Zhao).
	Arguments and events in serial verb constructions — insights from German Sign Language. Presented at CNRS/Paris 8 University, 26 September 2022.
OTHER PRESENTATIONS	Serialization across modalities. Presented at the collaborative meeting between RTG 2016 “Nominal modification” (Frankfurt) and RTG 2636 “Form-meaning mismatches” (Göttingen) at the University of Göttingen, 8–9 February 2024.
	Categoriality and selection in multi-verb constructions. Presented at the Oberseminar English Linguistics at the University of Göttingen, 19 December 2023.
	Insights on serialization from head-final languages. Presented at the Workshop on Serial Verb Constructions at CNRS/Paris 8 University, 11 September 2023.
	Grammaticalization of a verb as a directive marker. Presented at the workshop <i>Interrogatives and Imperatives in the Visual Modality</i> , at the University of Amsterdam, 16–17 May 2023.
	Arguments and events in verb series — insights across modalities. Presented at the workshop of the <i>Corpus Annotation and Data Analysis Summer School</i> (CAnDA) at the University of Göttingen, 23 September 2022.
	Insights from serialization across modalities. Poster presented at CreteLing 2022 at the University of Crete, 2022.
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<b>Georg August University of Göttingen</b> , Göttingen, Germany
	<i>Lecturer</i> Winter Semester 2023–2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to English Linguistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undergraduate introductory course on linguistics with a focus on English, covering phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<i>Co-lecturer</i> Winter Semester 2023–2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Linguistic Theory: Syntax <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduate introductory course on generative syntax and minimalism.</li> <li>• Other instructors: Marco Conliglio, Prudence de Pontbriand</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

ACADEMIC SERVICE	<p><b>Student service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student representative to the board of the DFG-funded <a href="#">Research Training Group (Graduiertenkolleg) 2636</a> — “Form–Meaning Mismatches” from May 2023 to October 2024.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conferences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewer for <a href="#">ConSOLE 33</a>, January 29–31, 2025.</li> <li>• Organizer, webmaster, graphic designer, and chair for <a href="#">NELS 53</a>, January 12–14, 2023.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other reviewing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewer for edited volume <i>Serial Predicates Across Modalities</i> (together with Hedde Zeijlstra), 2025.</li> <li>• Internal reviewer for the proceedings of <a href="#">ConSOLE 32</a>, 2024.</li> <li>• Internal reviewer for <i>Linguistics in Amsterdam</i> vol. 13 nr. 1 (special issue on <i>habituals</i>), 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public outreach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributor to the Göttingen <i>Nacht des Wissens</i> (‘night of science’) on behalf of the linguistics community in Göttingen, 2022.</li> </ul>
THIRD PARTY FUNDING EXPERIENCE	<p><b><a href="#">ERC Advanced Grant Application — “Unpacking Paradigmatic Gaps”</a></b></p> <p><i>Grant writing assistant</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main applicant: Hedde Zeijlstra</li> <li>• Editorial responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise and edit text of grant application.</li> <li>• Revise main applicant’s CV.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Other responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce expository graphics.</li> <li>• Write sections about host institution.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Outcome: grant awarded, approx. 2,500,000 EUR.</li> </ul>
OTHER SKILLS	<p><b><math>\LaTeX</math></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive expertise in drawing standard generative syntax trees, as well as complex and non-standard diagrams, including but not limited to graph-theoretic diagrams, pushdown automata, and dependency grammar trees.</li> <li>• Experience typesetting theses, papers, book chapters, posters, and slides.</li> <li>• Experience collaborating with co-authors via Overleaf and editing their code.</li> <li>• Experience producing and managing large bibliographies for Bib<math>\TeX</math> and Bib<math>\LaTeX</math>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Website management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience designing and maintaining conference websites using WordPress and Github Pages.</li> <li>• HTML, CSS, and Markdown skills.</li> </ul> <p><b>Graphic design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in graphic design for academic purposes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logo for the <a href="#">NELS 53</a>.</li> <li>• Logo for the <a href="#">ERC Advanced Grant Project “Unpacking Paradigmatic Gaps.”</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

LANGUAGE SKILLS    English (native)  
                             Malayalam (native)  
                             French (working knowledge)  
                             German (basic knowledge)

REFERENCES            References can be provided upon request.

AVAILABLE TO  
CONTACT

MORE INFORMATION   For further information, please see [ottur.info](http://ottur.info).