

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

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 [link]</p> <p>Marianthi Koraka, Thomas Finkbeiner, Nina-Kristin Meister, Markus Steinbach & 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 [link]</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 [link]</p> <p>Gautam Ottur. 2021. Future tense and habitual aspect in Malayalam. <i>Linguistics in Amsterdam</i> 14(1). 145–159 [link]</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	<p>A timing approach to escape hatch dependencies. To be presented at the <i>47th Meeting of Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW 47)</i> at the Goethe University Frankfurt, 24–28 March, 2025.</p> <p>Malayalam doesn't need adpositions: the case of vP-adjunction. Presented at the <i>42nd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 42)</i> at the University of California, Berkley, 12–14 April 2024.</p>

	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	<p>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).</p> <p>Arguments and events in serial verb constructions — insights from German Sign Language. Presented at CNRS/Paris 8 University, 26 September 2022.</p>
OTHER PRESENTATIONS	<p>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.</p> <p>Categoriality and selection in multi-verb constructions. Presented at the Oberseminar English Linguistics at the University of Göttingen, 19 December 2023.</p> <p>Insights on serialization from head-final languages. Presented at the Workshop on Serial Verb Constructions at CNRS/Paris 8 University, 11 September 2023.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Insights from serialization across modalities. Poster presented at CreteLing 2022 at the University of Crete, 2022.</p>
BOOK CHAPTERS	<i>vP</i> -serialization in Malayalam. Submitted. In <i>Serial Predicates across Modalities</i> . Berlin: Language Science Press.
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p>Georg August University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany</p> <p><i>Lecturer</i> Winter Semester 2023–2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to English Linguistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate introductory course on linguistics with a focus on English, covering phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. <p><i>Co-lecturer</i> Winter Semester 2023–2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Linguistic Theory: Syntax <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate introductory course on generative syntax and minimalism. • Other instructors: Marco Coniglio, Prudence de Pontbriand
ACADEMIC SERVICE	<p>Student service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student representative to the board of the DFG-funded Research Training Group (Graduiertenkolleg) 2636 — “Form–Meaning Mismatches” from May 2023 to October 2024.

Conferences

- Reviewer for [ConSOLE 33](#), January 29–31, 2025.
- Organizer, webmaster, graphic designer, and chair for [NELS 53](#), January 12–14, 2023.

Other reviewing

- Reviewer for edited volume *Serial Predicates Across Modalities* (together with Hedde Zeijlstra), 2025.
- Internal reviewer for the proceedings of [ConSOLE 32](#), 2024.
- Internal reviewer for *Linguistics in Amsterdam* vol. 13 nr. 1 (special issue on habituais), 2021.

Public outreach

- Contributor to the Göttingen *Nacht des Wissens* (‘night of science’) on behalf of the linguistics community in Göttingen, 2022.

THIRD PARTY FUNDING EXPERIENCE

ERC Advanced Grant Application — “Unpacking Paradigmatic Gaps”

Grant writing assistant

- Main applicant: Hedde Zeijlstra
- Editorial responsibilities:
 - Revise and edit text of grant application.
 - Revise main applicant’s CV.
- Other responsibilities:
 - Produce expository graphics.
 - Write sections about host institution.
- Outcome: grant awarded, approx. 2,500,000 EUR.

OTHER SKILLS

L^AT_EX

- 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.
- Experience typesetting theses, papers, book chapters, posters, and slides.
- Experience collaborating with co-authors via Overleaf and editing their code.
- Experience producing and managing large bibliographies for Bib_TE_X and Bib^LA_TE_X.

Website management

- Experience designing and maintaining conference websites using WordPress and Github Pages.
- HTML, CSS, and Markdown skills.

Graphic design

- Experience in graphic design for academic purposes.
 - Logo for the [NELS 53](#).
 - Logo for the [ERC Advanced Grant Project “Unpacking Paradigmatic Gaps.”](#)

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.