

Maryia (Masha) Fedzechkina

Contact Information

Department of Psychology
University of Pennsylvania
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EDUCATION

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2014 | University of Rochester , Rochester, NY
Ph.D., Brain & Cognitive Sciences
<i>Dissertation:</i> Communicative efficiency, language learning, and language universals
<i>Advisers:</i> T. Florian Jaeger & Elissa Newport |
| 2012 | University of Rochester , Rochester, NY
M.A., Brain & Cognitive Sciences |
| 2011 | LSA summer institute ,
University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO |
| 2009 | University of Cologne , Cologne, Germany
M.A., Linguistic Data Processing, English, & Phonetics |
| 2007 | Minsk State Linguistic University , Minsk, Belarus
B.A., English & German |

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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|----------------|---|
| 2014 – present | Postdoctoral researcher
Language Development and Language Processing Lab ,
Department of Psychology,
University of Pennsylvania
<i>Advisers:</i> John Trueswell & Lila Gleitman |
| 2006 – 2009 | Research assistant
Linguistic Data Processing ,
University of Cologne
<i>Adviser:</i> Juergen Rolshoven |

PAPERS

Fedzechkina, M., Chu, B., Jaeger, T. F. (in prep). Learners prefer shorter dependencies.

Fedzechkina, M., Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (under review). Balancing effort and information transmission during language acquisition: Evidence from word order and case-marking. *Cognitive Science*.

Fedzechkina, M., Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (in press) The miniature artificial language learning paradigm as a complement to typological data. In Ortega, L., Tyler, A., Park, H. I., Uno, M. (Eds.), *The Usage-based Study of Language Learning and Multilingualism*. Georgetown: GUP.

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Trueswell, J.C. (2015). Production is biased to provide informative cues early: Evidence from miniature artificial languages. *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2013). Communicative biases shape structures of newly acquired languages. *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2012). Language learners restructure their input to facilitate efficient communication. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 109(44): 17897-17902.

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2011). Functional biases in language learning: Evidence from word order and case-marking interaction. *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

TALKS THAT LEAD TO PROCEEDINGS PAPERS MENTIONED ABOVE ARE NOT INCLUDED BELOW

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Trueswell, J.C. (2015). Processing biases in learning shape cross-linguistically frequent structures. To be presented at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA, November 13-15.

Roberts, G. & **Fedzechkina, M.** (2015). Population structure, social bias, and efficiency: An iterated-learning study. 13th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference, Newcastle, UK, July 20-25.

Fedzechkina, M., Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2014). The miniature artificial language learning paradigm as a complement to typological data. Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 2014, Washington, DC, March 14-16, 2014.

Fedzechkina, M., Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2014). Functional biases in acquisition shape cross-linguistically frequent structures. Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 2014, Washington, DC, March 14-16.

Jaeger, T. F., **Fedzechkina, M.,** Kurumada, C., Newport, E. (2012). Confusability reduction in production and acquisition. DGfS 2012 workshop 'Information Density and Linguistic Variation', Frankfurt, Germany, March 9.

CONFERENCE POSTERS

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Trueswell, J. (2015). Producing informative cues early: Evidence from a miniature artificial language. 28th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Los Angeles, CA, March 19-21.

Fedzechkina, M., Chu, B., Jaeger, T. F. (2015). 'Long before short' preference in a head-final artificial language: In support of dependency minimization accounts. 28th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Los Angeles, CA, March 19-21.

Fedzechkina, M., Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2014). Trading off robust information transmission in language learning and language structure. 39th Annual Meeting of the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA, November 7-9.

Fedzechkina, M., Newport, E., Jaeger, T. F. (2014). Language processing shapes language change: Redundant cues are less likely to be maintained in language. 27th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Columbus, OH, March 13-15.

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2011). Functional biases in acquisition: Language learners restructure the input to avoid uncertainty. 36th Annual Meeting of the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA, November 4-6.

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2011). Functional biases in (artificial) language learning. 24th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Stanford, CA, March 24-26.

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2011). Word order and case-marking in language acquisition and processing. 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Pittsburgh, PA, January 6-9. **[designated particularly media-worthy]**

INVITED TALKS

2014. *Communication shapes structures of newly acquired languages.* Department of Linguistics, University at Buffalo -- SUNY, Buffalo, NY, January 27.

2013. *Learners' communicative preferences shape structures of newly acquired languages.* Language and Cognition Lab, Department of Psychology, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, November 18.

2013. *Learners' communicative preferences shape structures of newly acquired languages.* Language Development and Language Processing Lab, Department of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, May 15.

2011. *Are there functional biases in language acquisition?* Cognitive and Computational Approaches to Language Group, Department of Linguistics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, January 10.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2015	Guest Lecturer, Psychology of Language, University of New Hampshire Taught by Maureen Gillespie Topic: The relationship between constraints on language production and language structure
Spring 2013	Teaching Assistant, Language Development, University of Rochester Taught by Susan Thompson Gave 3 guest lectures on syntactic & morphological development, planned & held review sessions, wrote & graded exams & homeworks, held weekly office hours
Fall 2012	Guest Lecturer, Language and Psycholinguistics University of Rochester Taught by T. Florian Jaeger Topic: Child language processing
Fall 2011	Teaching Assistant, Language and Psycholinguistics, University of Rochester Taught by T. Florian Jaeger Gave a guest lecture on child sentence processing, wrote & graded weekly assignments, planned & held review sessions, held weekly office hours

Fall 2010	Teaching Assistant , Language and Psycholinguistics, University of Rochester Taught by Patricia Reeder Gave a guest lecture on parsing development in children, planned & held review sessions, graded exams & papers, held weekly office hours
Spring 2010	Teaching Assistant , Language Development, University of Rochester Taught by Sara Finley Wrote & graded exams, held weekly office hours

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORSHIP

Undergraduate research assistants, University of Pennsylvania:

- Anton Relin, Fall 2015 – present
- Logan Castrucci, Fall 2015 – present
- Emily Eck, Summer 2015 – present
- Ivy Gregory, Spring 2015
- Barry Oshiba, Fall 2014
- Juan Padilla, Fall 2014 – Spring 2015

Undergraduate research assistants, University of Rochester:

- Madeline Clark, Spring 2015 – present
- Becky Chu, Spring 2014 – present
- Patrick Davis, Summer 2013
- Suzanne Blackley, Spring 2013 – Spring 2014
- Shreya Krishnan, Summer 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013 – Spring 2014
- Erica Williams, Spring 2013, Fall 2013 – Spring 2014
- Kate Heffernan, Spring 2013
- Meghan Hennessy, Spring 2013
- Christopher Anzalone, Fall 2012
- Elisa Hoyos, Fall 2012
- Rachel Aronovitz, Fall 2012
- Cynthia Orr, Fall 2012
- Theodore Lincoln, Summer 2012
- Greta Smith, Fall 2012 – Spring 2013
- Tara Stanley, Fall 2011 – Summer 2013
- Vivian Choi, Fall 2010 – Spring 2011
- Keryn Bernstein, Fall 2010 – Spring 2011
- Colleen Dolan, Summer 2010, Fall 2011 – Spring 2012
- Rebecca Glass, Summer 2010

Independent study students, University of Rochester:

- Becky Chu, Summer 2014. Topic: 'First and second language influences on the acquisition of case-marking in the third language'.
- Suzanne Blackley, Summer 2013 – Summer 2014. Topic: 'Communicative influences on the acquisition of optional case systems: A partner study using miniature artificial languages'.
- Delarom Menhaj, Spring 2013. Topic: 'The role of language experience in morphological acquisition'.

- Eric Partridge, Spring, 2012. Topic: 'Production strategies in two-word stage children'.
- Shreya Krishnan, Spring, 2012. Topic: 'Production strategies in two-word stage children'.
- Tara Stanley, Spring 2011. Topic: 'Functional biases in language acquisition'.
- Colleen Dolan, Spring 2010. Topic: 'Processing influences on word order acquisition'.
- Rebecca Glass, Spring 2010. Topic: 'Processing influences on word order acquisition'.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad-hoc reviewer:

- Psychological Science
- Journal of Memory and Language
- Cognition
- Language, Learning, & Development
- Language, Cognition, & Neuroscience
- Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Cognitive Science
- Cognitive Science Society Conference

MEDIA COVERAGE

Fedzechkina, M., Jaeger, T. F., Newport, E. (2012). Language learners restructure their input to facilitate efficient communication. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 109(44): 17897-17902.

Reported in: Psychology Today, Academic Minute, Sceptic's Guide to the Universe, ScienceOmega, Rochester Review, Futurity, Phys.org, ScienceBlog, Science Daily, E-Science News, Sify News, ThruthDrive, BioSpace.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

2011	Paula Menyuk travel award for BUCLD 2011
2011	LSA summer institute fellowship
2007 – 2009	Koelner Gymnasial- und Stiftungsfonds , Cologne, Germany Scholarship for academic excellence
2007	University of Cologne , Cologne, Germany Tuition waver
2000 – 2004	Minsk State Linguistic University , Minsk, Belarus Scholarship for academic excellence

LANGUAGES

Belarusian (native)
Russian (native)
English (fluent)
German (fluent)
Italian (intermediate)

Philadelphia, PA
September 15, 2015