

email: prerna.nadathur@uni-konstanz.de,
pnadathur@gmail.com
website: pnadathur.github.io

Zukunftskolleg and Department of Linguistics
Universität Konstanz, Raum Y228
Universitätsstraße 10
78464 Konstanz
Germany

Employment

Universität Konstanz, September 2021–present
Postdoctoral fellow (project: *Linguistic inference and the representation of causation*)
Zukunftskolleg and Department of Linguistics

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, March 2021–September 2021
Postdoctoral fellow
Language, Logic, and Cognition Center

University of California, Berkeley, August 2020–December 2020
Lecturer in Semantics
Department of Linguistics

Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf, October 2019–August 2020
Postdoctoral researcher and lecturer (wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin)
Institut für Sprache und Information

Education

Stanford University, 2013–2019
Ph.D., Linguistics
Dissertation: Causality, aspect, and modality in actuality inferences
Committee: Cleo Condoravdi (chair), Itamar Francez (Univ. of Chicago), Daniel Lassiter, Beth Levin

University of Oxford, 2011–2013
M.Phil. (Distinction), General Linguistics and Comparative Philology
Rhodes Scholar (Minnesota & Magdalen 2011)

University of Chicago, 2006–2010
A.B. (Honours), Mathematics
Minors: Linguistics, philosophy

Non-degree study

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Spring 2017
Visiting Student (Exchange Scholar Program), Department of Linguistics and Philosophy
European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information, Summer 2014
University of Tübingen

Selected honours and awards

Excellence Fellowship for International Postdoctoral Researchers, awarded Apr 2021 (declined)
Council for Higher Education and Israel Academy of Science and Humanities
Gerhard Casper Stanford Graduate Fellow, Sept 2013–Mar 2018
Department of Linguistics, Stanford University
George Wolf Prize (for best overall performance in M.Phil./M.St.), July 2013
Department of Linguistics, Philology, and Phonetics, University of Oxford

Rhodes Scholar (2011, Minnesota; Magdalen College)
Rhodes Trust and University of Oxford

Phi Beta Kappa, inducted Spring 2010
University of Chicago

Publications

- Nadathur, Prerna, and Hana Filip. 2021, forthcoming. Telicity, teleological modality, and (non)culmination. *Proceedings of the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics* 2021.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2021. Causality and aspect in ability, actuality, and implicativity. *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory 2020*, pp.409–429.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Sven Lauer. 2020. Causal necessity, causal sufficiency, and the implications of causative verbs. *Glossa*, 5, 49.1–37. Special Collection: *The Grammar of Dispositions*, Fabienne Martin and Tillmann Pross (eds.).
- Nadathur, Prerna and Daniel Lassiter. 2018. An experimental look at the negative implications of exceptives. In *Proceedings of the North East Linguistics Society* 48, pp.201–210.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2017. Implicative inferences and causality in *enough* and *too* constructions. In *Proceedings of the 21st Amsterdam Colloquium*, pp.355–364.
- Lauer, Sven, and Prerna Nadathur. 2016. Quantified indicative conditionals and the relative reading of “most.” In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 2016*, pp.767–784.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2016. Causal necessity and sufficiency in implicativity. In *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory 2016*, pp.1002–1021.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Daniel Lassiter. 2014. Unless: an experimental approach. In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 2014*, pp.426–444.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2014. *Unless*, exceptionality, and conditional strengthening. In *Proceedings of ESSLLI 2014 Student Session*, pp.109–120.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2013. Weak crossover and the direct association hypothesis. In Miriam Butt and Tracy Holloway King (eds.), *Proceedings of the LFG13 Conference*, pp.461–481. Stanford: CSLI.

Manuscripts

- Nadathur, Prerna. (Monograph, expected 2022.) *Actuality inferences: causality, aspect, and modality*. Oxford University Press, under contract.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Daniel Lassiter (2019, in revision for resubmission). *Unless*, exceptives, and the pragmatics of conditionals.
- Lauer, Sven and Prerna Nadathur (2018, in revision). Sufficiency causatives. For resubmission to *Journal of Semantics*.
- Nadathur, Prerna (in prep). Aspect and actuality: a causal account of variable implicativity in *enough* and *too* constructions.
- Nadathur, Prerna (in prep). Causal dependence in the semantics of implicative verbs.

Conference presentations (talks)

- Nadathur, Prerna. 2018. Causal dependence in ability and actuality. *11th California Universities Semantics and Pragmatics Conference*. University of California, Berkeley. Oct 27-28.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2018. Implicative behavior and causality in *enough* and *too* constructions. *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*. Salt Lake City, Utah. Jan 4-7.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2017. Implicative inferences and causality in *enough* and *too* constructions. *Amsterdam Colloquium*. University of Amsterdam. Dec 20-22.
- Lauer, Sven and Prerna Nadathur. 2016. Quantified indicative conditionals and the relative reading of “most.” *Sinn und Bedeutung 2016*. University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Sept 4-6.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2016. Necessity, sufficiency, and implicativity. *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*. Washington, DC. Jan 7-10.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Daniel Lassiter. 2015. Exceptive phrases and the negative condition. *8th California Universities Semantics and Pragmatics Conference*. Stanford University. Nov 6-7.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2015. Towards an explanatory account of conditional perfection. *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*. Portland, Oregon. Jan 8-11.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2014. Finnish and English implicative verbs and their presuppositions. *7th California Universities Semantics and Pragmatics Conference*. University of California, Los Angeles. Nov 7-8.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Daniel Lassiter. 2014. *Unless*: an experimental approach. *Sinn und Bedeutung 2014*. Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany. Sept 15-17.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2014. *Unless*, exceptionality, and conditional strengthening. *European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information 2014 Student Session*. University of Tübingen, Germany. Aug 11-22.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2013. *Unless*, exceptionality, and conditional strengthening. *6th California Universities Semantics and Pragmatics Conference*. University of California, Berkeley. Oct 11-12.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2013. Weak crossover and the direct association hypothesis. *2013 Lexical-Functional Grammar Conference*. University of Debrecen, Hungary. July 18-20.

Conference presentations (posters)

- Nadathur, Prerna and Hana Filip. 2021. Telicity, teleological modality, and (non)culmination. *West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. University of Arizona (held virtually). Apr 8-11.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Hana Filip. 2021. (Non)culmination inferences and teleological modality in telic predicates. *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*. Virtual. Jan 7-10.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2020. Causality and aspect in ability, actuality, and implicativity. *Semantics and Linguistic Theory 30*. Cornell University, Ithaca, New York (held virtually). Aug 17-20.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Daniel Lassiter. 2017. An experimental look at the negative implications of exceptives. *North East Linguistics Society 48*. University of Iceland, Reykjavík, Iceland. Oct 27-29.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2016. Causal necessity and sufficiency in implicativity. *Semantics and Linguistic Theory 26*. University of Texas at Austin. May 12-15.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Daniel Lassiter. 2015. *Unless* as a restrictor of non-universal quantifiers. *Experimental Pragmatics 2015*. Chicago, Illinois. Jul 16-18.

Other presentations

- Nadathur, Prerna. 2021, upcoming. Title TBA. Dept of Linguistics, Universität Konstanz (colloquium, invited). Nov 18.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2021, upcoming. Title TBA. Jour Fixe seminar, Zukunftskolleg, Universität Konstanz. Nov 16.
- Nadathur, Prerna & Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal. 2021. Modeling progress towards completion: causal models and the imperfective paradox. COCOA (Converging on Causal Ontology Analyses) Workshop. Jun 10.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2021. Causal dependence in ability and actuality. Dept of Philosophy, Linguistics, and Theory of Science, University of Gothenburg (colloquium, invited). Jun 8.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2020. Causal dependence in ability and actuality. Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation, University of Amsterdam (colloquium, invited). May 1.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2020. Causal necessity and sufficiency in implicative entailments. Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation, University of Amsterdam (invited). Apr 20.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2020. Causality, aspect, and modality in actuality inferences. *Syntax and semantics circle* (invited). Dept of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley. Feb 7.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2019. Necessity, sufficiency, and actuality: causal dependence in implicative inferences. Dept of English, Saarland University (colloquium, invited). Nov 6.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2019. Causal dependence in ability and actuality. *20th Semantics Fest.* Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Mar 16.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2019. Sufficiency causatives. Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University (invited). Cognitive science seminar. Mar 14.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2018. Necessity, sufficiency, and actuality: causal dependence in implicative inferences. Dept of Linguistics, University of Southern California (colloquium, invited). Mar 5.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2018. [Joint work with Sven Lauer.] Quantified indicative conditionals and the relative reading of *most*. Dept of Linguistics, Rutgers University (invited). Feb 28.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2018. Necessity, sufficiency, and actuality: causal dependence in implicative inferences. Dept of Linguistics, Rutgers University (colloquium, invited). Feb 27.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2017. Causality, aspect, and modality in actuality inferences. *NYU Semantics Group* (invited). Dept of Linguistics, New York University. May 23.
- Lauer, Sven & Prerna Nadathur. 2017. Causal necessity, causal sufficiency, and the implications of causative verbs. *Workshop: modeling causal dependencies in formal semantics.* University of Konstanz. May 22.
- Lauer, Sven & Prerna Nadathur. 2016. Don't panic: the inverse reading of *most* conditionals. *17th Semantics Fest.* Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Mar 11.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2015. *Unless*, exceptionality, and the pragmatics of conditional statements. *Qualifying Paper Fest.* Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Apr 24.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2015. *Unless*: an experimental approach. *Unofficial Graduate Get-together in Semantics and Pragmatics* (invited). Dept of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Cruz. Apr 11.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2014. Weak crossover, direct association, and focus sensitivity. *Syntax-Morphology Circle* (invited). Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Apr 21.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2014. Towards an explanatory account of conditional perfection. *15th Semantics Fest.* Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Mar 14.
- Nadathur, Prerna. 2012. Weak crossover and the direct association hypothesis. *South of England Lexical-Functional Grammar Meeting* (invited). School of Oriental and African Studies, London. Nov 3.

Teaching experience

Department of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley

Fall 2020 Instructor. *Formal Semantics* (undergraduate).
Fall 2020 Instructor. *Lexical Semantics* (undergraduate).
Fall 2020 Instructor. *Causal Structures in Semantics* (graduate seminar).

Institut für Sprache und Information, Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf

Summer 2020 Instructor. *Introduction to Semantics/Einführung in die Semantik*. BA core module.
Summer 2020 Instructor. *Introduction to Modality*. BA/MA seminar.
Winter 2019 Instructor. *Causation in Semantics and Grammatical Structure*. BA/MA seminar.
Winter 2019 Instructor. *Lexical Semantics*. BA/MA seminar.

Department of Linguistics, Stanford University

2018–2019 Teaching assistant mentor, co-instructor for TA training workshop (Autumn, with Beth Levin).
Summer 2018 Instructor. *Language in Perception and Cognition*.
Autumn 2017 Grader. *Introduction to Lexical Semantics*. (Cleo Condoravdi)
Spring 2016 Teaching Assistant. *Crosslinguistic Syntax*. (Boris Harizhanov)
Autumn 2015 Teaching Assistant. *Introduction to Linguistics*. (Meghan Sumner)
Spring 2015 Grader. *Introduction to Lexical Semantics*. (Cleo Condoravdi, Annie Zaenen)
Winter 2015 Teaching Assistant. *Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics*. (Chris Potts)

Department of Mathematics, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

2010–2011 Teaching Assistant. *Calculus I; Calculus II*.

Department of Mathematics, University of Chicago

2009–2010 Junior Tutor. *Studies in Mathematics*.
2007–2009 Junior Tutor. *Calculus*.

Chicago Academic Achievement Program, University of Chicago

Summer 2010 Course assistant, tutor. *Intro to Linear Algebra and Analysis*.
Summer 2009 Course assistant, tutor. *Precalculus*.

Collegiate Scholars Program, University of Chicago

Summer 2009 Assistant Instructor. *Topics in Geometry, Grades 11-12*.

Young Scholars Program, University of Chicago

Summer 2008 Counselor. *Algebra and Galois Theory; Programming in Java (Grades 11-12)*.
Summer 2007 Counselor. *Topics in Geometry, Programming in Scheme (Grades 9-10)*.
2007–2008 School-year Counselor. *Advanced topics in Mathematics (Grades 7-8)*.

University of Minnesota Talented Youth Mathematics Program (Twin Cities)

Fall 2005 Teaching Assistant. *Calculus II*

Other pedagogical & mentorship experience

Grundkurs Linguistik, Institut für Sprache und Information, Heinrich Heine Universität: Introductory lecture in semantics (Dec 19, 2019).

Guest lectures, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University

- Ability modals and actuality entailments (Oct 15, 2018), *Semantics and Pragmatics II*
- Causative verbs (Nov 16, 2017), *Introduction to Lexical Semantics*
- Grice and the ‘rules’ of conversation (Oct 12, 2015), *Introduction to Linguistics*
- Pragmatic strengthening and scalar implicature (Apr 21, 2015), *Introduction to Lexical Semantics*
- Speech acts (Mar 5, 2015), *Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics*

Graduate student mentor (with Cleo Condoravdi) for undergraduate research interns, Summer 2016

- VPUE project: ‘Invited perfection’ (Vice Provost’s Office for Undergraduate Education)
- CSLI summer project: ‘Managing discourse: the role of turn-initial *then*’ (Center for the Study of Language and Information)

Cascade! Teacher, University of Chicago Splash!, Fall 2009

Co-taught five-week poetry workshop (*New methods in poetry*) for Chicago-area students.

Eklavya educational NGO, Bhopal, India, Jan-Apr 2006.

- assisted in teacher-training workshops in middle-grade mathematics and physics
- proof-read and provided critique for middle-grade science textbooks in development

Academic & institutional service

Ad hoc review: *Analysis, Glossa, Natural Language and Linguistic Theory, Natural Language Semantics, Semantics and Pragmatics*.

Abstract review: *Chicago Linguistic Society, Semantics and Linguistic Theory*.

Organizing Committee, *SemFest Workshop*, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, 2019 (20th anniversary) & 2014.

Graduate studies committee, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, 2018–2019.

Organizing committee, *Qualifying Paper Fest*, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, 2018.

Organizing committee, *8th California Universities Semantics and Pragmatics Conference*, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, 2015.

Co-convenor, *Words With Friends Semantics discussion group*, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, 2014–2016.

Colloquium Committee, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, 2014–2016.

Financial Officer & Organizing Committee, Graduate Humanities and Social Sciences Society, Stanford University, 2014–2015.

Social Committee, Department of Linguistics, 2013–2014.

Student Government, University of Chicago

2009–2010 Chair, Academic Freedom Initiative

2008–2009 Class representative to College Council

2008–2009 Finance Committee

Winter 2009 Member, Uncommon Fund Grant Committee

Other service, extracurriculars, volunteer experience

Middle Common Room Committee, Magdalen College, University of Oxford, 2012–2013.

Co-founder & primary chapter contact, *Students for a Democratic Society*, University of Chicago, 2008–2010.

Assistant to Director of Undergraduate Studies in Mathematics, University of Chicago, 2007–2009.

Intern/assistant at Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti and Eklavya, Bhopal, India, Jan-Apr 2006
- Educational and women's advocacy organizations.

Professional membership

Member, Linguistic Society of America, 2013–present

Additional skills*Languages*

English (native); German (proficient); Hindi (conversational)

Programming familiarity

Python, C++, C, R, Javascript, Haskell, Scheme.

Other professional qualifications

Associate (ATCL) in piano performance, Trinity College London. 2005.