

Department of Linguistics
Stanford University
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Education

Ph.D. Candidate, Linguistics (expected June 2019)

Stanford University

Sept 2013 – present

Dissertation title: *Causality, aspect, and modality in actuality inferences*

Committee: Cleo Condoravdi (chair), Itamar Francez (University of Chicago), Daniel Lassiter,
Beth Levin

M.Phil. (Distinction) in General Linguistics & Comparative Philology, July 2013

University of Oxford

Specialization in Syntax, Semantics, and Psycholinguistics

Thesis Title: *If ... (and only if): conditional perfection and completeness*

Advisor: Ash Asudeh

A.B. (Honours) in Mathematics, June 2010

University of Chicago

Minors in Linguistics and Philosophy

Cumulative GPA: 3.83/4.0

Non-degree study

Visiting Student (Exchange Scholar Program), Department of Linguistics & Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Spring 2017.

2014 European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information, Tübingen, Germany, August 11-22 (tuition waiver awarded).

Selected honours and awards

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 & 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 Daniel Lassiter. 2018. An experimental look at the negative implications of exceptives. To appear in *Proceedings of the North East Linguistics Society* 48.
- 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 ESSLI 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

- Lauer, Sven and Prerna Nadathur (2018, in revision). Sufficiency causatives. For resubmission to *Journal of Semantics*.
- Lauer, Sven and Prerna Nadathur (2017, in revision). Causal necessity, causal sufficiency, and the implications of causative verbs. For resubmission to *Glossa*, special issue on the grammar of dispositions, Fabienne Martin and Tillmann Pross (eds.).
- Nadathur, Prerna (in prep). Causal dependence and implicative inferences in *enough* and *too* constructions.
- Nadathur, Prerna (in prep). Causal dependence in the semantics of implicative verbs.
- Nadathur, Prerna and Daniel Lassiter (in prep). *Unless*, exceptive constructions, and the pragmatics of conditional statements.

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. *Linguistics 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. *Linguistics 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. *Linguistics 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 Daniel Lassiter. 2017. An experimental look at the negative implications of exceptives. *48th North East Linguistics Society*. 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-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. 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 and Perna 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 and Perna Nadathur. 2016. Don't panic: the inverse reading of *most* conditionals. *17th Semantics Fest*. Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Mar 11.
- Nadathur, Perna. 2015. *Unless*, exceptionality, and the pragmatics of conditional statements. *Qualifying Paper Fest*. Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Apr 24.
- Nadathur, Perna. 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, Perna. 2014. Weak crossover, direct association, and focus sensitivity. *Syntax-Morphology Circle* (invited). Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Apr 21.
- Nadathur, Perna. 2014. Towards an explanatory account of conditional perfection. *15th Semantics Fest*. Dept of Linguistics, Stanford University. Mar 14.
- Nadathur, Perna. 2012. Weak crossover and the direct association hypothesis. *9th South of England Lexical-Functional Grammar Meeting* (invited). School of Oriental and African Studies, London, UK. Nov 3.

Teaching experience

Department of Linguistics, Stanford University

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| 2018–2019 | TA Mentor, co-instructor for Autumn TA Training Workshop (with Beth Levin). |
| Summer 2018 | Instructor and course creator. <i>The Role of Language in Perception & Cognition</i> . |
| Autumn 2017 | Grader. <i>Introduction to Lexical Semantics</i> . (Cleo Condoravdi) |
| Spring 2016 | Teaching Assistant. <i>Crosslinguistic Syntax</i> . (Boris Harizhanov) |
| Autumn 2015 | Teaching Assistant. <i>Introduction to Linguistics</i> . (Meghan Sumner) |
| Spring 2015 | Grader. <i>Introduction to Lexical Semantics</i> . (Cleo Condoravdi, Annie Zaenen) |
| Winter 2015 | Teaching Assistant. <i>Introduction to Semantics & Pragmatics</i> . (Chris Potts) |

Department of Mathematics, University of Minnesota

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| 2010–2011 | Teaching Assistant. <i>Calculus I; Calculus II</i> . |
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Department of Mathematics, University of Chicago

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| 2009–2010 | Junior Tutor. <i>Studies in Mathematics</i> . |
| 2007–2009 | Junior Tutor. <i>Calculus</i> . |

Chicago Academic Achievement Program

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| Summer 2010 | Course assistant & tutor. <i>Intro to Linear Algebra & Analysis</i> . |
| Summer 2009 | Course assistant & tutor. <i>Precalculus</i> . |

Collegiate Scholars Program, University of Chicago

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| Summer 2009 | Assistant Instructor. <i>Topics in Geometry, Grades 11-12</i> . |
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Young Scholars Program, University of Chicago

Summer 2008 Counselor. *Algebra & 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

Fall 2005 Teaching Assistant. *Calculus II*

Other pedagogical experience

Guest lectures, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University

- Ability modals and actuality entailments (Oct 15, 2018), *Semantics & 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 & Pragmatics*

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: *Glossa, Natural Language and Linguistic Theory, 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-convener, *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

Member, Linguistics Association of Great Britain, 2014–2015

Skills

Languages

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

Programming

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

Other professional qualifications

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