

# Fausto Carcassi

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<https://thelogicalgrammar.github.io>

## Employment

- 02/2022-Present    **University of Tübingen**  
Postdoctoral researcher  
Department of General Linguistics and Pragmatics (PI: Michael Franke)
- 04/2020-02/2022    **University of Amsterdam**  
Postdoctoral researcher  
ERC funded *Cognitive semantics and Quantities* (PI: Jakub Szymanik)

## Education

- 09/2016-07/2020    **University of Edinburgh**  
Link    Ph.D., Linguistics and English Language  
The Cultural evolution of scalar categorization: how cognition and communication affect the structure of categories on scalar conceptual domains.  
Supervisors: Prof Simon Kirby, Dr Marieke Schouwstra  
Examiners: Dr Wataru Uegaki (Internal), Dr Michael Franke (External)
- 09/2015-08/2016    **University of Edinburgh**  
MSc, Philosophy
- 09/2012-08/2015    **Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg**  
B.A., Philosophy

## Publications

- Carcassi F., Szymanik J. (Under Review) Smaller Languages of Thought can be Recovered More Easily from Learning Data.
- Carcassi F., Szymanik J. (Under Review) Neural Networks Track the Logical Complexity of Boolean Concepts.
- Carcassi F., Szymanik J. (Under Review) Heavy Tails and the Shape of Modified Numerals.
- Link    Carcassi F., Sbardolini G. (Under Review) Assertion, Rejection, and the Evolution of Boolean Operators. Memory and Cognition.

- 2021 Carcassi F., Szymanik J. (2021) An Alternatives Account of ‘Most’  
 Link and ‘More Than Half’. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics*, 6(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.16995/glossa.5764>.
- 2021 Carcassi, F., Steinert-Threlkeld, S. and Szymanik, J. (2021), Monotone  
 Link Quantifiers Emerge via Iterated Learning. *Cognitive Science*, 45: e13027.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/cogs.13027>
- 2021 Carcassi, F. and Szymanik, J. (2021) ‘Most’ vs ‘More Than Half’: An Al-  
 Link ternatives Explanation, *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Lin-  
 guistics: Vol.4, Article 30*.
- 2021 Carcassi F., Szymanik J. (2021) The Shape of Modified Numerals. *Proceed-*  
 Link *ings of the 43st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- 2020 Carcassi F., Schouwstra M., Kirby S. (2020) The Advantage of Extreme  
 Link Meanings in Cultural Evolution. *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings  
 of the 13th International Conference (EvoLang13)*.
- 2019 Carcassi F., Steinert-Threlkeld S., Szymanik J. (2019) The Emergence of  
 Link Monotone Quantifiers via Iterated Learning. *Proceedings of the 41st Annual  
 Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- 2018 Carcassi F., Kirby S., Schouwstra M. (2018) The Evolution of Adjectival  
 Link Monotonicity. *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 23*.

## Invited Talks

- Updates and Boolean Universals*  
 29/01/21 EXPRESS Workshop Non-Assertoric Speech Acts, Amsterdam
- An Alternatives Account of ‘Most’ and ‘More Than Half’*  
 14/12/20 Donders Computational Cognitive Science group, Nijmegen
- The role of learning in the evolution of semantic extremeness*  
 15/04/20 Cognitive Semantics and Quantities, Amsterdam  
 08/05/20 Computation, Language, and Meaning Band of Researchers, Washington
- The evolution of a semantic universal through iterated learning*  
 25/02/19 Mind and Cognition Group, Edinburgh
- The semantic structure of gradable adjectives: an experiment and a Bayesian model*  
 23/04/19 Centre for Language Evolution, Edinburgh

- Monotonicity in gradable adjectives: an evolutionary model and some experimental results*  
 22/11/18 Cognitive Semantics and Quantities seminar, Amsterdam
- The evolution of adjectival monotonicity*  
 19/06/18 Centre for Language Evolution, Edinburgh

## Reviewed Talks & Posters

- The Shape of Modified Numerals*  
 29/07/21 Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci), Montreal
- The Advantage of Extreme Meanings in Cultural Evolution*  
 16/04/20 Evolang XIII (Cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic)
- The Emergence of Monotone Quantifiers via Iterated Learning*  
 03/08/21 Experimental approaches to language universals in structure and meaning (ExUni virtual Workshop at ESSLLI2021)
- 27/07/19 Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci), Montreal  
 12/06/20 Meaning, Logic and Cognition, Amsterdam
- The Evolution of Adjectival Monotonicity*  
 06/09/18 Sinn und Bedeutung 23, Barcelona
- The Evolution of Scalar Terms' Semantic Structure*  
 30/08/18 Societas Linguistica Europaea, Tallin
- The Evolution of Monotonicity in the Semantics of Gradable Adjectives*  
 7/12/17 60th Language Lunch (Poster), Edinburgh

## Teaching

### **University of Amsterdam**

- 2021 *Cognitive Modeling* (design and teaching): Course for 3rd year students in the Bachelor's program *Cognition, Language and Communication*. The course covers various important Bayesian models of cognition, both with theoretical lectures and programming labs in R.
- 2021 BA Dissertation in AI. de Kleuver, G. (2021) Cultural Evolution of Convex Color Terms and Degeneracy.
- 2021 BA Dissertation in AI. Duetz N. (2021) The Cultural Evolution of Color Convexity in a Population of Neural Networks.

### **University of Edinburgh**

- 2018 Guest Lecture for *Current Issues in Semantics and Pragmatics*

## Tutoring

### **University of Edinburgh**

- 2018-19 *Logic 1* (Introduction to Logic)
- 2018-19 *Logic 2* (Introduction to Modal Logic)
- 2017-18, 2018-19 *Introduction to Cognitive Science*
- 2017-18 *LEL 1B* (Introduction to Linguistics)
- 2016-17, 2017-18 *Mind, Matter and Language*

## Reviewer

- 2021 ESSLLI 2021
- 2021 Memory & Cognition Journal
- 2018-2021 Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)
- 2020 Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (SIGNLL)
- 2019 Workshop on Semantic Universals, Amsterdam Colloquium
- 2018 The Evolution of Language (EvoLang)
- 2018 Models of the Mind, Edinburgh

## Book reviews

- 2012 Orilia F. (2012), “Filosofia del tempo: Il dibattito contemporaneo”,  
Published in: ReF - Recensioni Filosofiche, 87

## Public Engagement

- 2018 *Exploring an Alien World*, International Science Fair, Edinburgh.  
Collaborative work with Jonas Nölle. We developed a simple game in virtual reality (using C# + Unity) that was played by children.
- 2016-17 Academic Support Officer, Edinburgh’s Philosophy Society
- 07/03/2016 *Putting adjectives on the square of oppositions*  
Student Cognitive Science Society, Edinburgh