

# Fausto Carcassi

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<https://thelogicalgrammar.github.io>

## Employment

- 08/22-Present    **University of Tübingen**  
*Judging Plausible Deniability* (PlauDe)  
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship  
Supervisor: Michael Franke
- 02/22-08/22    **University of Tübingen**  
Postdoctoral researcher  
Department of General Linguistics and Pragmatics  
PI: Michael Franke
- 04/20-02/22    **University of Amsterdam**  
Postdoctoral researcher  
*Cognitive Semantics and Quantities* (ERC n. STG 716230)  
PI: Jakub Szymanik

## Education

- 09/16-07/20    **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)
- 09/15-08/16    **University of Edinburgh**  
MSc, Philosophy
- 09/12-08/15    **Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg**  
B.A., Philosophy

## Journal Publications

- Link    Carcassi F., Sbardolini G. (Under Review) Assertion, Rejection, and the Evolution of Boolean Operators.

Carcassi F., Szymanik J. (Under Review) Smaller Languages of Thought can be Recovered More Easily from Learning Data.

2022 Carcassi F., Szymanik J. (2022) Neural Networks Track  
Link the Logical Complexity of Boolean Concepts. Open Mind.  
<https://doi.org/10.1162/opmi.a.00059>

2022 Carcassi F., Szymanik J. (2022), Heavy Tails and the Shape of Modified Nu-  
Link merals. Cognitive Science, 46: e13176. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cogs.13176>

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>

## Proceedings

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

11/04/2022 Mentor at the REST-CL Retreat for Students in Computational Linguistics,  
Link Barcelona

*Modelling argumentation with quantifiers*

23/09/22 9th Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPRAG), Pavia

- 18/05/22 CoSaQ Closing workshop, Amsterdam
- 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*
- 08/05/20 Computation, Language, and Meaning Band of Researchers, Washington
- 15/04/20 Cognitive Semantics and Quantities, Amsterdam
- 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 ESSLI)
- 12/06/20 Meaning, Logic and Cognition, Amsterdam
- 27/07/19 Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci), Montreal
- 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

7/12/17      *The Evolution of Monotonicity in the Semantics of Gradable Adjectives*  
60th Language Lunch (Poster), Edinburgh

## Teaching

### **ESSLLI**

2022      *Computational Approaches to the Explanation of Universal Properties of*  
Link      *Meaning* (with Jakub Szymanik)

### **University of Tübingen**

2022      *The probabilistic Language of Thought*: An introduction to contemporary  
Link      models of the Language of Thought, combining theoretical lectures and labs.

### **University of Amsterdam**

2021      *Cognitive Modeling* (design and teaching): An introduction to various im-  
Link      portant Bayesian models of cognition, combining 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 for:

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

2022      Journal of Logic, Language, and Information

2022      Linguistic Vanguard

2021,22      ESSLLI 2021

2021      Memory & Cognition Journal

2018,21      Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)

2020,21      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
- 2016 *Putting adjectives on the square of oppositions*  
Student Cognitive Science Society, Edinburgh