

Tyler A. Chang

he/him/his

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EDUCATION

University of California San Diego PhD Student in Cognitive Science Halicioğlu Data Science Institute, Graduate Fellow	2020-Present
Carleton College , Northfield, MN BA in Mathematics, summa cum laude BA in Cognitive Science, with distinction	2016-2020
Eötvös Loránd University , Budapest, Hungary Budapest Semesters in Mathematics	Fall 2018
Doshisha University , Kyoto, Japan Carleton Linguistics and Culture Program	Spring 2018

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Large language models:** pre-training dynamics, deep learning interpretability and analysis.
- **Cognitive linguistics:** distributional semantics, language acquisition.

INDUSTRY

Google Research , PhD Student Researcher ▪ Responsible AI: pre-training, tuning, and analysis of large language models.	2022-Present
Amazon Science , Applied Scientist Intern ▪ AWS AI Labs: linguistic dataset drift and out-of-domain language model generalization. ▪ Alexa AI: content change prediction on the web for intelligent web crawling.	2021, 2022
Google , Software Engineering Intern ▪ Cloud AI Translation: automatic sentence pair extraction from human-translated documents. ▪ Geo Machine Perception (Google Maps, Earth): aerial and street level imagery alignment at scale. ▪ Chrome Web Store (Engineering Practicum Intern): building servers for tens of millions of users.	2018, 2019, 2020

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed.

Note: top-tier venues in natural language processing are often conference proceedings rather than journals.

Chang, T. A., & Bergen, B. K. (2024). Language model behavior: A comprehensive survey. *Computational Linguistics*.

Unger, L., **Chang, T. A.**, Savic, O., Bergen, B. K., & Sloutsky, V. M. (2024). When is a word in good company for learning? *Developmental Science*.

Chang, T. A.*, Tomanek, K.*, Hoffmann, J., Thain, N., van Liemt, E., Meier-Hellstern, K., & Dixon, L. (2024). Detecting hallucination and coverage errors in retrieval augmented generation for controversial topics. *Proceedings of the Joint International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Language Resources, and Evaluation (LREC-COLING)*. *Equal contribution. Work done at Google Research.

Shah, C.◇, Chandak, Y.◇, Mane, A.◇, Bergen, B. K., & **Chang, T. A.** (2024). Correlations between multilingual language model geometry and crosslingual transfer performance. *Proceedings of the Joint International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Language Resources, and Evaluation (LREC-COLING)*. ◇Undergraduate mentees.

- Michaelov, J.*, Arnett, C.*, **Chang, T. A.**, & Bergen, B. K. (2023). Structural priming demonstrates abstract grammatical representations in multilingual language models. *Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*. *Equal contribution.
- Chang, T. A.**, Halder, K., Anna John, N., Vyas, Y., Benajiba, Y., Ballesteros, M., & Roth, D. (2023). Characterizing and measuring linguistic dataset drift. *Proceedings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*. Work done at Amazon Science.
- Trott, S.*, Jones, C. R.*, **Chang, T. A.**, Michaelov, J., & Bergen, B. K. (2023). Do large language models know what humans know? *Cognitive Science*. *Equal contribution.
- Chang, T. A.**, Tu, Z., & Bergen, B. K. (2022). The geometry of multilingual language model representations. *Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*.
- Chang, T. A.**, & Bergen, B. K. (2022). Word acquisition in neural language models. *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (TACL)*. Presented at ACL 2022.
- Chang, T. A.**, & Bergen, B. K. (2022). Does contextual diversity hinder early word acquisition? *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)*.
- Jones, C. R., **Chang, T. A.**, Coulson, S., Michaelov, J., Trott, S., & Bergen, B. K. (2022). Distributional semantics still can't account for affordances. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)*.
- Chang, T. A.**, Xu, Y., Xu, W., & Tu, Z. (2021). Convolutions and self-attention: Re-interpreting relative positions in pre-trained language models. *Proceedings of the 59th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics and the 11th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing (ACL-IJCNLP)*.
- Xu, Y., Xu, W., **Chang, T. A.**, & Tu, Z. (2021). Co-scale conv-attentional image transformers. *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV)*.

WORKSHOP PAPERS AND ABSTRACTS

Peer-reviewed.

- Arnett, C.*, **Chang, T. A.***, & Bergen, B. K. (2024). A bit of a problem: Measurement disparities in dataset sizes across languages. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Special Interest Group on Under-Resourced Languages* (workshop at LREC-COLING). *Equal contribution.
- Arnett, C.*, Rivi re, P. D.*, **Chang, T. A.**, & Trott, S. (2024). Different tokenization schemes lead to comparable performance in Spanish number agreement. *Proceedings of the SIGMORPHON Workshop on Computational Research in Phonetics, Phonology, and Morphology* (workshop at NAACL). *Equal contribution.
- Arnett, C., **Chang, T. A.**, Michaelov, J., & Bergen, B. K. (2023). Crosslingual structural priming and the pre-training dynamics of bilingual language models. *3rd Multilingual Representation Learning Workshop* (workshop at EMNLP). Extended abstract.
- Chang, T. A.**, & Rafferty, A. N. (2020). Encodings of source syntax: Similarities in NMT representations across target languages. *Proceedings of the 5th Workshop on Representation Learning for NLP* (workshop at ACL).

OTHER WORK / PREPRINTS

- Chang, T. A.**, Tu, Z., & Bergen, B. K. (under review). Learning, forgetting, and stability: Characterizing learning curves during language model pre-training.
- Chang, T. A.**, Arnett, C., Tu, Z., & Bergen, B. K. (under review). When is multilinguality a curse? Language modeling for 250 high- and low-resource languages.
- Chang, T. A.** (2020). Emergence of hierarchical syntax in neural machine translation. *Carleton Digital Commons*. Undergraduate thesis, Carleton College Cognitive Science. With distinction.
- Chang, T. A.** (2020). Topology of second order tensor fields. *Carleton Digital Commons*. Undergraduate thesis, Carleton College Mathematics and Statistics.

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant , UC San Diego	2021
COGS188 AI Algorithms, Winter 2021	
COGS108 Data Science in Practice, Fall 2021	
Course Staff , Carleton College	2019
CS254 Computability and Complexity, Winter 2019	
CS111 Introduction to Computer Science, Spring 2019	

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Graduate Prize Fellowship, Halicioğlu Data Science Institute	2020-2024
Glushko Travel and Research Award, UCSD Cognitive Science	2020-2024
Roy O. Elveton Prize in Cognitive Science and Philosophy, Carleton College	2020
Google Spot Bonus, Google Geo Machine Perception	2019
Patricia V. Damon Scholarship, Carleton College	2019-2020
Phi Beta Kappa Third-Year Inductee, Carleton College	2019
Phi Beta Kappa First Year Prize, Carleton College	2018
Dean's List, Carleton College	2017, 2018, 2019
Stuebe Endowed Scholarship, Carleton College	2017-2020
National Merit Scholar, National Merit Scholarship Corporation	2016-2020

SERVICE

ACL Rolling Review (ARR) reviewer (Association for Computational Linguistics)	2023-2024
Nature Scientific Reports reviewer (Springer Nature)	2024
BMC Medical Education reviewer (BioMed Central)	2024
CogSci reviewer (Conference of the Cognitive Science Society)	2022, 2023, 2024
ACL reviewer (Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics)	2023
FAccT reviewer (Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency)	2023
EMNLP reviewer (Conference on Empirical Methods in NLP)	2022, 2023
PNAS reviewer (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences)	2022
UCSD Graduate Application Mentorship Program, mentor	2022-2023
ICLR volunteer (International Conference on Learning Representations)	2022
ACL conference volunteer (Association for Computational Linguistics)	2020, 2021, 2022
EMNLP conference volunteer (Empirical Methods in NLP)	2020, 2022
Carleton Alumni Relations Office, student supervisor	2017-2020
Carleton Alumni Relations Office, student caller	2016-2017