

# Yushi Sugimoto, Ph.D.

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## Research Interests

- Theoretical Linguistics; Generative Grammar
- Creole Grammars; Creole Formation/Multilingualism
- Computational Neurolinguistics; Neuro-computational modeling of language processing  
naturalistic methods, fMRI, MEG

## Employment

- April 2024 – ■ Lecturer (tenure-track position), **OSAKA UNIVERSITY (OSAKA, JAPAN)** Graduate School of Humanities, [Division of Language and Culture](#), Discipline III (Theoretical Linguistics and Digital Humanities)
- April 2022 – March 2024 ■ Project Researcher ([Yohei Oseki's](#) lab), **UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO (TOKYO, JAPAN)** Graduate of Arts and Sciences, [Department of Language and Information Sciences](#)  
Funded by MEXT KAKENHI Grant-in-aid for Transformative Research Area (B)

## Research Positions

- April 2017 – June 2018 ■ Research Fellow (DC2)  
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
- September 2016 – March 2017 ■ Research Support Staff (RS), Waseda University

## Grants

- January – August 2022 ■ [Rackham Humanities Research Fellowship](#)
- May – August 2021 ■ [John D'Arms Faculty Award Graduate RA](#)
- April 2017 – June 2018 ■ [Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows \(17J03420\)](#)
- September 2017 – May 2018 ■ [JSPS Overseas Challenge Program for Young Researchers \(201780049\)](#)

## Education

- 2018 – 2022 ■ **Ph.D. in Linguistics.** University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
Thesis title: *Underspecification and (im)possible derivations: Toward a restrictive theory of grammar*
- 2016 – 2020 ■ **Doctoral Program, Graduate School of Languages and Linguistics**  
Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan [withdrawn]
- 2014 – 2016 ■ **MA in Linguistics.** Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan
- 2010 – 2014 ■ **B.A in English and American Literature.** Keio University, Tokyo, Japan

## Non-Degree

- September 2017 – May 2018 ■ Visiting Student, University of Michigan, Department of Linguistics

## Education (continued)

Summer 2013

LSA Linguistic Institute. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

## Publications

### Journal Articles

- 1 Yushi Sugimoto, Ryo Yoshida, Hyeonjeong Jeong, Masatoshi Koizumi, Jonathan R. Brennan, and Yohei Oseki, "Localizing Syntactic Composition with Left-Corner Recurrent Neural Network Grammars," *Neurobiology of Language*, vol. 5, no. 1, pp. 201–224, Apr. 2024. [DOI: 10.1162/nol\\_a\\_00118](https://doi.org/10.1162/nol_a_00118).
- 2 Yushi Sugimoto and Marlyse Baptista, "A late-insertion-based exoskeletal approach to the hybrid nature of functional features in creole languages," *Languages*, vol. 7, no. 2, 2022, ISSN: 2226-471X. [DOI: 10.3390/languages7020092](https://doi.org/10.3390/languages7020092).
- 3 Yushi Sugimoto and Acrisio Pires, "A parameter-free underspecification approach to complementizer agreement," *Revista Linguística*, vol. 18, no. 1, pp. 62–81, 2022. [DOI: https://doi.org/10.31513/linguistica.2022.v18n1a56350](https://doi.org/10.31513/linguistica.2022.v18n1a56350).
- 4 Yushi Sugimoto, "Labeling defective T," *Studia Linguistica*, vol. 75, no. 1, pp. 150–164, 2021. [DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/stul.12154](https://doi.org/10.1111/stul.12154).

### Conference Proceedings

- 1 Andreas Blümel, Nobu Goto, and Yushi Sugimoto, "When the grammar doesn't mind which merge it chooses," in *Proceedings of the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, 2024.
- 2 Andrew McInnerney and Yushi Sugimoto, "On dissociating adjunct island and subject island effects," in *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America*, vol. 7, May 2022, p. 5207. [DOI: 10.3765/plsa.v7i1.5207](https://doi.org/10.3765/plsa.v7i1.5207).
- 3 Savithry Namboodiripad, Nicole Cuneo, Mathew A. Kramer, Yourdanis Sedarous, Felicia Bisnath, Yushi Sugimoto, and Adele Goldberg, "Backgroundedness predicts island status of non-finite adjuncts in english," in *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 2022, pp. 1087–1093.
- 4 Takanobu Nakamura and Yushi Sugimoto, "Apparent de re construals of de se anaphor in japanese," in *Proceedings of 28th Japanese/Korean Linguistics*, Oct. 2021.
- 5 Yushi Sugimoto, "Move-agree or agree-move? on the movement theory under free merge," in *Proceedings of 13th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics*, Aug. 2018.
- 6 Yushi Sugimoto, "Not so hyper: A-movement beyond clause boundaries?" In *Proceedings of 12th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics*, Sep. 2017, pp. 273–280.
- 7 Yushi Sugimoto, "De-phased by external pair-merge of c to t and its consequences," in *Proceedings of The Conference of the Student Organisation of Linguistics in Europe XXIV*, Dec. 2016, pp. 237–253.
- 8 Yushi Sugimoto, "Pair-merge as free merge," in *Proceedings of the 17th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar. Case and Agreement in Minimalism*, Aug. 2015, pp. 491–510.

### Books and Chapters

- 1 Noam Chomsky, T. Daniel Seely, Robert C. Berwick, Sandiway Fong, M. A. C. Huybregts, Hisatsugu Kitahara, Andrew McInnerney, and Yushi Sugimoto, *Merge and the Strong Minimalist Thesis* (Elements in Generative Syntax). Cambridge University Press, 2023.

## Conference Presentations

- 2024
- Yushi Sugimoto, Ryo Yoshida, Hyeojeong Jeong, Akitake Kanno, Masatoshi Koizumi, and Yohei Oseki. 2024. [Investigating Syntactic Attention in the brain](#). [Society for the Neurobiology of Language 16th Annual Meeting](#), Brisbane, Australia, October 24-26, 2024. [poster]
  - Yushi Sugimoto. 2024. Boxing and Remnant Movement. [SMOG & ANU International Conference on Syntax and Semantics \(ICSS2024\)](#), Andong National University, Southern Korea, August 20, 20-2024. [online] [Invited]
  - Taiga Someya, Yushi Sugimoto, Yohei Oseki. 2024. JCoLA: Japanese Corpus of Linguistic Acceptability. [LREC-Coling 2024](#). Lingotto Conference Centre, Torino, Italia, May 25-30, 2024. [poster]
- 2023
- Acrisio Pires and Yushi Sugimoto. 2023. A Parameter-free Underspecification Approach to Complementizer Agreement. The 53rd Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages [LSRL53], June 29th, Paris, France.
  - Yushi Sugimoto and Marlyse Baptista. 2023. A Novel Feature of the complementizer system in Cabo Verdean Creole. The 53rd Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages [LSRL53], June 29th, Paris, France.
  - Yushi Sugimoto, Ryo Yoshida, Hyeojeong Jeong, Masatoshi Koizumi, Jonathan R. Brennan, and Yohei Oseki. 2023. Modeling Japanese fMRI data with left-corner Neural Network Grammar. Annual Meeting of [the Association for Natural Language Processing \(NLP2023\)](#), Okinawa, Japan, March 16th, 2023. [poster] [[proceedings in Japanese](#)]
- 2022
- Savithry Nambodiripad, , Felicia Bisnath, Nicole Cuneo, Matthew A. Kramer, Yourdanis Sedarous, Yushi Sugimoto, and Adele Goldberg. 2022. Backgroundedness predicts island status of non-finite adjuncts in English. [The 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society](#), Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Canada, July 30th, 2022.
  - Alan Ke, Andrew McInerney, and Yushi Sugimoto. 2022. Lack of c-command in coordinate structures: Evidence from binding. [45th Generative Linguistics in the Old World \[GLOW45\]](#), Queen Mary University of London, April 28th, 2022. [online oral presentation due to COVID-19, equal contribution] [Acceptance rate 11% (24 out of 213)]
  - Andreas Blümel, Nobu Goto and Yushi Sugimoto. 2022. Privileges of the Rich. [The 46th Penn Linguistic Conference \[PLC46\]](#), March 19th, 2022. [online poster presentation due to COVID-19, equal contribution]
  - Andrew McInerney, and Sugimoto, Yushi. 2022. On dissociating adjunct island and subject island effects: syntactic vs. extrasyntactic approaches. [The 96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America \[LSA2022\]](#), Washington D.C., January 6th, 2022 [online poster presentation due to COVID-19, equal contribution]
  - Yushi Sugimoto and Marlyse Baptista. 2022. On the nature of the hybrid grammar of creole formation: a case study of functional features. [The 96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America \[LSA2022\]](#), Washington D.C., January 6th, 2022 [online poster presentation due to COVID-19]
- 2021
- Andreas Blümel, Nobu Goto and Yushi Sugimoto. 2021. Adding a locus of variation as underspecification. [Workshop on Linguistic Variation at the Interfaces II](#), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, November 18th, 2021. [online oral presentation due to COVID-19]
  - Andreas Blümel, Nobu Goto and Yushi Sugimoto. 2021. When the grammar doesn't mind which Merge it chooses. [The 39th meeting of the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, \[WCCFL39\]](#), hosted by The University of Arizona's Department of Linguistics, April 11th, 2021. [[published material](#)] [online oral presentation due to COVID-19, equal contribution]
  - Andreas Blümel, Nobu Goto and Yushi Sugimoto. 2021. Options of Externally Merging {v, T, C} — a Comparative Approach. [The 45th Penn Linguistic Conference \[PLC45\]](#), March 20th, 2021. [online oral presentation due to COVID-19, equal contribution]

## Conference Presentations (continued)

- 2021

 Andrew McInerney, and Yushi Sugimoto. 2021. Subject Islands in a Simplest Merge System. *The 95th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America* [LSA2021], January 9th, 2021 [online poster presentation due to COVID-19, equal contribution]
- 2020

 Takanobu Nakamura, and Yushi Sugimoto. 2020. Where does the ‘self’ come from? A *de se* binding approach to *zibun* in Japanese. *28th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference* [JK28], September 16th, 2020. [online poster presentation due to COVID-19, second author]
- 2020

 Yushi Sugimoto. 2020. A dynamic process in forming structural backbone of creole languages. *The 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America* [LSA2020], New Orleans, January 3th, 2020. [poster]
- 2018

 Takanobu Nakamura, and Yushi Sugimoto. 2018. Long distance relativisation and phasal transfer of KP. *Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Association of Great Britain* [LAGB]. University of Sheffield, UK. September 14th, 2018 [poster, second author].
- 2017

 Yushi Sugimoto. 2017. Move-Agree or Agree-Move? On the movement theory under free Merge. *The 13th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics* [WAFL13]. International Christian University, Japan, May 27th, 2017. [poster]
- 2016

 Yushi Sugimoto. 2016. Not so Hyper: A-movement Beyond Clause Boundaries? *Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics 12* [WAFL12]. Central Connecticut State University, US, May 14th, 2016. [poster]
- 2016

 Yushi Sugimoto. 2016. De-Phasing Effect: External Pair-Merge of phase head and non-phase head. *39th Generative Linguistics in the Old World* [GLOW39], Linguistics in Göttingen, Germany, April 6th, 2016. [poster], Abstract published in [GLOW Newsletter #76](#), 176-178.
- 2016

 Yushi Sugimoto. 2016. De-Phased by External Pair-Merge of C to T and Its Consequences. *The Conference of the Student Organisation of Linguistics in Europe* [ConSOLE XXIV], The University of York and York St. John University, UK, January 8th, 2016.
- 2015

 Yushi Sugimoto. 2015. Pair-Merge as Free Merge. *The 17th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar* [SICOGG17] at Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea, August 5th, 2015.

## Workshops

- 2023

 Andreas Blümel and Sugimoto, Yushi. An Attempt at Thinking Inside the Box. Workshop “Towards an SMT-compliant I-language system: On an SMT-based Merge with segregation,” The 41th Annual Meeting of the English Linguistic Society of Japan, Organizer: Yushi Sugimoto (University of Tokyo), Participants: Nobu Goto (Toyo University), Toru Ishii (Meiji University), Andreas Blümel (University of Göttingen), University of Tokyo, Tokyo. November 4th, 2023. [[program](#)]
- 2023

 Yushi Sugimoto. Movement and the Box Theory: An Overview of Current Issues in Minimalism. Workshop “Towards an SMT-compliant I-language system: On an SMT-based Merge with segregation,” The 41th Annual Meeting of the English Linguistic Society of Japan, Organizer: Yushi Sugimoto (University of Tokyo), Participants: Nobu Goto (Toyo University), Toru Ishii (Meiji University), Andreas Blümel (University of Göttingen), University of Tokyo, Tokyo. November 4th, 2023. [[program](#)]
- 2022

 Yushi Sugimoto. 2022. Sub-extraction and MERGE. Workshop “On Minimal Search,” The 40th Annual Meeting of the English Linguistic Society of Japan, Organizer: Nobu Goto (Toyo University), Participants: Toru Ishii (Meiji University), Andreas Blümel (University of Göttingen), November 5th, 2022. [online presentation]
- 2021

 Yushi Sugimoto. 2021. From Merge to MERGE. Workshop “Toward a Genuine Explanation in Linguistic Theory” *The 162th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of Japan*, Japan. Organizer: Takanori Nakashima (Tohoku University), Participants: Jun Omune (Kansai Gaidai University), Norimasa Hayashi (Kyushu University), and Yushi Sugimoto (University of Michigan), June 27th 2021. [online due to COVID-19]

## Conference Presentations (continued)

- 2019    Yushi Sugimoto. 2019. Possible modes of pair-Merge. Workshop “Exploring Pair-Merge of Heads,” *The 37th Annual Meeting of The English Linguistic Society of Japan*. Organizer: Nobu Goto (Toyo University), Participants: Nobu Goto (Toyo University), Yushi Sugimoto (University of Michigan), Andreas Blümel (University of Göttingen), Kwansei Gakuin University, Osaka, Japan, November 9th, 2019.
- 2016    Yushi Sugimoto. 2016. Phase theory, raising and language variation between Japanese and English. Workshop “The current Issues of comparative syntax” *The 153th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of Japan*, December 14th 2016, at Fukuoka University, Japan. Organizer Ryoichiro Kobayashi (Sophia University), Participants: Takakazu Nagamori (Sophia University) and Yushi Sugimoto (Sophia University)

## Talks

- 2024    A Late-Insertion-Based Exoskeletal Approach to the Hybrid Nature of Functional Features in Creole Languages, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan, 04/23/2024 [online]
- 2023    Modeling Japanese fMRI data with left-corner Neural Network Grammar, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan, 08/06/2023 [poster]
- Modeling Japanese fMRI data with left-corner Neural Network Grammar, Setagaya Linguistic Circle, Tokyo, Japan, 06/03/2023
- Recombination of Functional Features: A Late-Insertion-Based Exoskeletal Approach to Creoles (with Marlyse Baptista), *Penn Syntax Lab* meeting, Pennsylvania, US, 04/07/2023. [online]
- A fresh view of SMT [Review of Chomsky’s talks at KEIO-EMU lecture series] Keio study group on generative grammar, Tokyo, Japan, 03/22-23/2023 [online]
- BCCWJ-MRI/MEG. *AI Yotta International Symposium*. Tohoku University, Sendai, Tokyo, 03/10/2023 [online]
- Merge of Functional Heads: A Theory of Amalgamation (with Andreas Blümel and Nobu Goto), *Tohoku University*, Sendai, Japan, 02/12/2023 [Invited]
- 2022    A Late-Insertion-Based Exoskeletal Approach to the Hybrid Nature of Functional Features in Creole Languages, 10/01/2022 *Keio Linguistic Colloquium*, Tokyo, Japan [online] [Invited]
- 2021    Disentangling CED effect under MERGE “Toward a Genuine Explanation in Linguistic Theory” (organizer: Takanori Nakashima, participants: Takanori Nakashima, Jun Omune, Norimasa Hayashi, and Yushi Sugimoto), *Keio Linguistic Colloquium*, Tokyo, Japan, 08/01/2021, [online], [handout]
- From Merge to MERGE. “Toward a Genuine Explanation in Linguistic Theory” (organizer: Takanori Nakashima, participants: Takanori Nakashima, Jun Omune, Norimasa Hayashi, and Yushi Sugimoto), *Keio Linguistic Colloquium*, Tokyo, Japan, 07/31/2021, [online], [handout]
- Deducing parametric variation from options of Merging functional heads. (with Andreas Blümel and Nobu Goto) *Artemis Alexiadou’s lab meeting*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany, 05/17/2021 [online]
- From Merge to MERGE. “Toward a Genuine Explanation in Linguistic Theory” (organizer: Takanori Nakashima, participants: Jun Omune, and Norimasa Hayashi), Keio Study Group on Generative Grammar, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan, 05/15/2021 [online]
- Parameters Revisited: Free Modes of Introducing Functional Heads. (with Andreas Blümel and Nobu Goto) Keio Study Group on Generative Grammar, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan, 01/30/2021 [online]
- 2017    Merge, minimal search and {XP, YP} structures. “Labeling, Search, and Principled Universal Properties of Languages” (organizer: Takashi Munakata, participants: Nobu Goto and Masanobu Sorida), *Keio Linguistic Colloquium*, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan, 07/08/2017



## Talks (continued)

- Merge of Heads: weak phases and {XP, YP} structures. Kansai syntax research groups, Ryukoku University, Osaka, Japan, 03/04/2017
- The current issues of generative enterprise. Waseda University, Center for English Language Education in Science and Engineering (CELESE) special meeting, 02/20/2017

## Miscellaneous Work

- August 2022 ■ Underspecification and (im)possible derivations: Toward a restrictive theory of grammar. [Ph.D Thesis](#), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
Committee: Acrisio Pires (co-chair), [Marlyse Baptista](#) (co-chair), [Richard L. Lewis](#), [Terje Lohndal](#)
- August 2020 ■ Subject Condition Effect in Japanese Redux. Qualifying Research Paper, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.  
First Reader: Acrisio Pires; Second Reader: Natasha Abner

## Teaching Experience




- April – August 2024 ■ **Integrated English**  
Osaka University, Osaka, Japan
- September 2023 – February 2024 ■ **Intermediate/Advanced Syntax (ADVANCED STUDIES IN LINGUISTICS 16)**  
Keio University, Tokyo, Japan  
Topics: Cognitive science, Language evolution, Merge, Agree, Syntactic Islands, Phase Theory, Comparative Syntax
- **English communication II**  
Tokyo University of Agriculture, Tokyo, Japan
- April – August 2023 ■ **Intermediate/Advanced Syntax (ADVANCED STUDIES IN LINGUISTICS 15)**  
Keio University, Tokyo, Japan  
Topics: X'-theory, Binding theory, Island constraints, *v*P shell, DP, TP, CP
- **English communication I**  
Tokyo University of Agriculture, Tokyo, Japan
- April – August 2017 ■ **Industrial English**  
Tokyo Polytechnic University, Kanagawa, Japan
- September 2016 – February 2017 ■ **Industrial English**  
Tokyo Polytechnic University, Kanagawa, Japan

### Graduate Student Instructor (GSI, University of Michigan)




- Fall 2021 ■ **COGSCI200**: Introduction to Cognitive Science  
(Instructor: Professor Richard Lewis)  
Topics: Perception, Bayesian Inference, Phrase Structure Grammar, Turing Machine, Q-Learning, Prospect Theory, Emotion, Consciousness
- Winter 2021 ■ **LING111**: Introduction to Language  
(Instructor, Associate Professor Ezra Keshet)

## Teaching Experience (continued)

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- Fall 2020      **LING209/PSYCH242/COGSCI209:** Language and Human Mind  
(Instructor, Associate Professor Jonathan Brennan)  
Rationalism/Empiricism, Language and Thought, Basis of Linguistics,  
Language Acquisition, Psycholinguistics, Universal Grammar
- Winter 2020      **LING111:** Introduction to Language  
(Instructor, Associate Professor Ezra Keshet)
- Fall 2019      **LING111:** Introduction to Language  
(Instructor, Professor Andries Coetzee)

## Teaching Assistant (Sophia University)

- April – August 2017      **Language and Cognition 1**  
(Instructor, Associate Professor Hiroki Narita)
- April – August 2016      **Language and Cognition 1**  
(Instructor, Associate Professor Hiroki Narita)
- April – August 2015      **Language and Humans 1**  
(Organizer Prof. Ryosuke Takahashi)

## Skills

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-  Python (nilearn, mne-python, Eelbrain)
-  R
-  L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## References

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Available on Request