

Natalia A. Zevakhina, Ph.D.

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- 🔗 Open Science Research Network: Natalia Zevakhina's profile
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Research interests

My primary interests cover experimental and formal semantics and pragmatics. I am also interested in philosophy of language, corpus linguistics, linguistic typology, and cognitive science.

Degrees and Education

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| 2024 | <p>📘 Doctoral dissertation in Linguistics, HSE University</p> <p>Thesis title: <i>Experimental and Corpus Studies of Linguistic Pragmatics: Informativity, Illocutionary Sentence Types, and Metalinguistic Comparison</i></p> <p>Opponents: Valentina Apresjan, Elena Dragalina-Chernaya, Nina Kazanina, Galina Kustova, Olga Pekelis</p> <p>Date of defense: June 7, 2024</p> |
| 2012 | <p>📘 Doctoral dissertation in Linguistics, Lomonosov Moscow State University</p> <p>Thesis title: <i>Syntax of exclamatives</i></p> <p>Supervisor: Ekaterina Ljutikova</p> <p>Opponents: Timur Maisak, Vera Podlesskaya</p> <p>Date of defense: November 14, 2012</p> |
| 2004–2009 | <p>📘 Specialist (MA equivalent) in Linguistics, Lomonosov Moscow State University</p> <p>Thesis title: <i>Adverbial modification of gradable adjectives in Russian</i></p> <p>Supervisor: Sergey Tatevosov</p> |
| 2007–2008 | <p>📘 Internship in Linguistics, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin</p> |
| 2006–2011 | <p>📘 Extra courses ESSLI (2011, 2009), Netherlands Linguistics Research School (2010), Current Topics in Formal Semantics (by Barbara H. Partee; 2007), New York — Saint-Petersburg Summer Institute of Cognitive and Cultural Studies (2006, 2007)</p> |

Employment History

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|-------------|--|
| 2015 – 2024 | <p>📘 HSE University, School of Linguistics, Associate professor</p> |
| 2018 – 2023 | <p>📘 HSE University, International Laboratory for Logic, Linguistics and Formal Philosophy, Senior research fellow</p> |
| 2012 – 2015 | <p>📘 HSE University, Faculty of Linguistics and Literature, Lecturer</p> |
| 2010 – 2011 | <p>📘 Radboud University (Nijmegen), Faculteit der Filosofie, Afdeling Filosofie van cognitie en taal, Research fellow</p> |
| 2008 – 2010 | <p>📘 Company 'Avicomp Services' (http://avicomp.ru/), Linguist-developer in semantics technologies</p> |

Teaching

2021, 2022

- Courses for Masters**
- Best Teacher (HSE University)
 - Introduction to Linguistics (2013 – 2022; lectures and seminars)
 - Formal Representation of Natural Language (2015 – 2023; lectures and seminars)
 - Cross-Cultural Pragmatics: Theories and Applications (2017 – 2022; lectures and seminars)
 - Cognitive Linguistics (2014-2015; lectures and seminars)
- Courses for Bachelors**
- Introduction to Linguistics (2015 – 2020; seminars)
 - Formal and Experimental Pragmatics (2014 – 2023; lectures and seminars)
 - Syntax (2015 – 2018; seminars)
 - Languages of the World and Cross-Linguistic Diversity (2013 – 2018; seminars)

Skills

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| Languages | ■ English (Advanced: CAE, 2012; IELTS, 2022), German (Advanced: Certificate Mittelstufe, 2008), French (Intermediate), Russian (Native). |
| Statistics | ■ R, Excel, SPSS |
| Typesetting | ■ LaTeX , HTML, Word |

Selected Publications

(* means that I am the corresponding author)

Journal papers

1. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, Ponomareva, Polina, and Sofia Krasnoshchekova (2025). The role of extralinguistic knowledge in the derivation of scalar implicatures. *Acta Linguistica Petropolitana* 21 (2). P. 270–286 DOI: 10.30842/alp23065737212270286
2. Vilinbakhova, Elena, **Zevakhina, Natalia**. The pragmatics of the Spanish verb resultar ‘turn out’ for expressing evidentiality and new knowledge in academic texts. *Terra Linguistica* 16(3). P. 13–30. DOI: 10.18721/JHSS.16302
3. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, Schipkova, Alina, and Alisa Chinkova (2025). Postnominal numerals are over-specified in referential communication: Evidence from Thai in comparison to Russian. *Voprosy Jazykoznanija*. No. 2. P. 105–122. URL: <https://vja.ruslang.ru/ru/archive/2025-2/105-122>
4. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, Dongarova, Kseniya, Shubina, Daria, and Daria Popova (2024). Over-specification of small, borderline cardinalities and color in referential communication: The role of visual context, modifier position, and consistency. *Frontiers in Psychology*. Vol. 15. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2024.1417047
5. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, and Maria Rodina (2024). Presupposition diversity: soft and hard presupposition triggers in (non-)embedded contexts. *Acta Linguistica Petropolitana*. Vol. 20. No. 1. P. 248–273. URL: <https://alp.iling.spb.ru/articles/xx1/o8.en.html>
6. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, and Elina Sigdel (2022). Experimenting with single-pair vs. pair-list interpretations in Russian multiple wh-clauses. *Journal of Slavic Linguistics* 30 (FASL 29 extra issue), 1–11. URL: <http://ojs.ung.si/index.php/JSL/issue/view/28>
7. Vilinbakhova, Elena, Escandell-Vidal, Victoria, and **Natalia Zevakhina** (2022). Tautologies, inferential processes and constraints on evoked knowledge. *Journal of Pragmatics* 191, 55–66. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pragma.2022.02.001>

8. **Zevakhina, Natalia*** (2022). Veridicality and the cause-effect relation in Russian *esli* and *raz* conditionals: Experimenting with Conditional Perfection and logical entailment. *Linguistics Vanguard* 8(s4), 402–412. (Special issue: *Natural Language Conditionals and Conditional Reasoning*, vol. 2; edited by Mingya Liu). <https://doi.org/10.1515/lingvan-2021-0037>
9. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, and Veronika Prigorkina (2021). Processing Conditional Perfection in promises and threats: The role of negation, clause order and incentive. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research* 50, 1557–1573. (Special issue: *The Processing of Negation and Polarity*; edited by Carolin Dudschtig, Barbara Kaup, Mingya Liu and Juliane Schwab). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10936-021-09794-z>
10. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, Pasalskaya Elena, and Alisa Chinkova. (2021). Over-specification of small cardinalities in referential communication. *Frontiers in Psychology* 12. Article 745230. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.745230>
11. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, Daria Gornsteyn, and Anastasiya Egorova (2021). Faktory, vlijajushchie na proektsiju presuppositsij v chuvashskom jazyke [The factors influencing the projection of presuppositions in the Chuvas language: An experimental study]. *Ural-Altaic Studies* 1 (40), 7–30.
12. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, Dzhakupova, Svetlana, and Anna Vishenkova (2017). The grammar of Russian metalinguistic comparatives. *Scando-Slavica* 63 (2), 179–197. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00806765.2017.1399589>
13. **Zevakhina, Natalia*** (2016). The hypothesis of insubordination and three types of wh-exclamatives. *Studies in Language* 40(4), 765–814. <https://doi.org/10.1075/sl.40.4.02zev>
14. Van Tiel, Bob, Van Miltenburg, Emiel, **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Bart Geurts. (2016) Scalar diversity. *Journal of Semantics* 33(1), 137–175. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jos/ffu017>
15. **Zevakhina, Natalia*** (2013). Syntactic strategies of exclamatives. *Journal of Estonian and Finno-Ugric Linguistics* 4(2) (a special issue “Areal Linguistics, Grammar and Contacts”), 157–178. Tartu: University of Tartu Press.

Proceedings, book chapters

1. **Zevakhina, Natalia***, and Elena Pasalskaya (2021). Overspecification of small cardinalities in reference production. *Proceedings of the First Conference “Experiments in Linguistic Meaning”*. Linguistic Society of America.
2. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Veronika Prigorkina (2020). Quantity inferences in conditionals: A pilot experimental study. In Antonis Botinis (ed.), *Proceedings of the 11th International Conference of Experimental Linguistics (ExLing)*, 235–238. Athens, Greece.
3. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Alex Dainiak (2017). Russian predicates selecting remarkable clauses: Corpus-based approach and Gricean perspective. In Kata Balogh and Wiebke Petersen (ed.), *Bridging Formal and Conceptual Semantics: Selected Papers of the BRIDGE Workshop 14, “Studies in Language and Cognition”* 4, 187–208. Duesseldorf University Press.
4. Sasoon, Galit, and **Natalia Zevakhina** (2015). Degree modifiers: A new perspective on their semantics and the role of stress in it. In Peter Arkadiev, Ivan Kapitonov, Yury Lander, Ekaterina Rakhilina, and Sergey Tatevosov (eds.), *Donum semanticum: Opera linguistica et logica in honorem Barbarae Partee a discipulis amicisque Rossicis oblata*. Moscow: Languages of Slavic culture, 272–284.
5. Sasoon, Galit, and **Natalia Zevakhina** (2014). Granularity shifting: Experimental evidence from numerals. In Evan Cohen (ed.), *Proceedings of the 28th Meeting of the Israel Association for Theoretical Linguistics*, p. 145–166. Cambridge, MA: MIT Working Papers in Linguistics (MWPL68).
6. Sasoon, Galit, and **Natalia Zevakhina** (2012). Granularity shifting: Experimental evidence from degree modifiers. In Anca Chereches (ed.), *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory* 22, 226–246. Ithaca, NY: CLC Publications.

7. **Zevakhina, Natalia*** (2012). Strength and similarity affect the derivation of scalar inferences. In Ana G. Aguilar, Anna Chernilovskaya, and Rick Nouwen (eds.), *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 16*, 647–658. Cambridge, MA: MIT Working Papers in Linguistics.

Textbooks

1. Dolgorukov, Vitaly, **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Popova, Daria (2021). *Vvedenie v lingvisticheskiju pragmatiku [Introduction to Lingusitic Pragmatics]* / **Zevakhina, Natalia** (ed.). Moscow: Editorial URSS. 312 p.

Conferences

Organisation of Linguistic Events

1. 2021, 2020, 2018, 2016: Semantics and Pragmatics Workshops (HSE University)
2. 2014: Indian Summer School in Linguistics (School on Linguistic Typology; HSE University)
3. 2010: 4th International Conference on Cognitive Science (Tomsk)

Invited Talks

1. **Zevakhina, Natalia**. *Conditional Perfection in promises and threats*. Workshop “Scales, degrees and implicature: Novel synergies between Semantics and Pragmatics”. Potsdam, Germany, 26-28.05.2021. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)
2. **Zevakhina, Natalia**. *Veridicality and cause-effect relation in indicative and subjunctive conditionals*. Workshop “The Semantics and Pragmatics of Conditional Connectives” (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft, DGfS). 24-26.02.2021. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)

Talks

1. **Natalia Zevakhina**. *Approximative citation as a variety of hybrid citation: A case of Russian particle “mol”*. Formal Models in Linguistics Conference. Saint-Petersburg, 02-03.12.2025. (Online presentation)
2. Elena Vilinbakhova, Victoria Escandell-Vidal, and **Natalia Zevakhina**. *Constraints on evoked knowledge in nominal tautologies: evidence from corpus and experimental data*. The 10th International Symposium on Intercultural, Cognitive and Social Pragmatics. Seville, Spain, 23-25.05.2022.
3. Elena Vilinbakhova, Escandell-Vidal, Victoria, and **Natalia Zevakhina**. *Evocation and tautologies: varieties and constraints*. The 17th International Pragmatics Conference. Winterthur, Switzerland, 27.06-02.07.2021. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)
4. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Veronika Prigorkina. *Quantity inferences in conditionals: a pilot experimental study*. The 11th International Conference of Experimental Linguistics. National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece, 12-14.10.2020. (Online presentation due to Covid-19). URL (YouTube): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ai4ob98bwYA&t=402s>
5. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Veronika Prigorkina. *The role of negation, clause order and face in derivation of Conditional Perfection*. Workshop “The Processing of Negation and Polarity”. Humboldt University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany, 01-02.10.2020. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)
6. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Ilmira Bainazarova. *Widening and exhaustifying alternative propositions in multiple wh-exclamatives*. Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 29. University of Washington in Seattle, USA, 8-10.05.2020. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)
7. **Zevakhina, Natalia** and Svetlana Dzhakupova. *Russian Metalinguistic Comparatives: Morphology, Syntax, Semantics*. Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 29. University of Washington in Seattle, USA, 8-10.05.2020. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)

8. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *Ambiguity of Implicature*. Logical and Linguistic Pragmatics workshop. HSE University, Moscow, Russia, 28.10.2015.
9. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *Which semantics better accounts for the predicates embedding exclamatives?* Workshop Bridging Formal and Conceptual Semantics. Heinrich-Heine University, Düsseldorf, Germany. April 12-13, 2014.
10. Sassoon, Galit and **Natalia Zevakhina**. *Accent on modifiers of gradable adjectives*. Focus Sensitive Expressions from a Cross Linguistic Perspective. Bar-Ilan University, Israel. February 3-5, 2014.
11. Sassoon, Galit and **Natalia Zevakhina**. *Granularity shifting: Experimental evidence from numerals vs. adjectives*. The 28th Annual Meeting of the Israel Association for Theoretical Linguistics (IATL 28). Tel-Aviv, Israel, October 2012.
12. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *Syntax of exclamative constructions in the world's languages*. The 5th Conference on Syntax of the World's Languages (SWL 5). Dubrovnik, Croatia, October 2012.
13. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *A cross-linguistic study of exclamatives*. The 45th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE 45). Stockholm, Sweden, August-September 2012.
14. Sassoon, Galit and **Natalia Zevakhina**. *Granularity shifting: Experimental evidence from degree modifiers*. Semantics and Linguistic Theory 22 (SALT 22). Chicago, USA, May 2012.
15. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *Exclamative constructions: Typological data and theoretical implications*. Graduate Conference on Areal Linguistics, Grammar and Contacts. Univesity of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia, May 2012.
16. Van Tiel, Bob, Emiel van Miltenburg, **Natalia Zevakhina**, and Bart Geurts. *Scalar diversity*. The 5th Biennial Conference of Experimental Pragmatics. Utrecht, Netherlands, September 2013.
17. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *Heterogeneity of scalar inferences*. Sinn und Bedeutung 16 (SuB 16). Utrecht, Netherlands, September 2011.
18. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *Availability of quantifier scales*. Proper Use of Quantification in Ordinary Language (PUQOL), ESSLLI. Ljubljana, Slovenia, August 2011.
19. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *Diversity of scalar inferences*. Moscow Syntax and Semantics (MoSS). Moscow, Russia, April 2011.
20. **Zevakhina, Natalia.** *On Availability of scales*. Meaning, Context, and Cognition (MCC). Lodz, Poland, March 2011.

Posters

1. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Veronika Prigorkina. *If-Clauses and Quantity Inferences*. The 4th Experimental Pragmatics in Italy Conference. University of Turin, Turin, Italy, 8-9.07.2021. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)
2. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Daria Gornsteijn. *Presupposition Homogeneity: Evidence from an Understudied Language*. The 4th Experimental Pragmatics in Italy Conference. University of Turin, Turin, Italy, 8-9.07.2021. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)
3. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Lena Pasalskaya. *Overspecification of number in reference production*. The 4th Experimental Pragmatics in Italy Conference. University of Turin, Turin, Italy, 8-9.07.2021. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)
4. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, Elena Pasalskaya, Alina Schipkova, Veronika Prigorkina and Elina Sigdel. *Overspecification of number in reference production*. The first "Experiments in Linguistic Meaning" Conference. University of Pennsylvania, USA, 22-24.09.2020. (Online presentation due to Covid-19)

5. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, and Ilmira Bainazarova. *Widening and exhaustifying alternative propositions in multiple wh-exclamatives*. Workshop “Focus alternatives: Theoretical and empirical perspectives”. Humboldt University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany, 27-28.02.2020.
6. **Zevakhina, Natalia**. *Cross-linguistic evidence for the three types of wh-exclamatives*. Workshop “Speech Acts in Grammar and Discourse: Syntactic and Semantic Modeling” (SPAGAD-1). Leibniz-ZAS, Berlin, Germany, 30.10-01.11.2019.
7. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, Elena Pasalskaya, Alina Schipkova, and Margarita Berseneva. *Overspecification of Number*. The 8th Experimental Pragmatics Conference. University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK, June 2019.
8. **Zevakhina, Natalia**, Elena Pasalskaya, Alina Schipkova, and Margarita Berseneva. *Overspecification of Number*. The 6th Summer Neurolinguistic School. HSE University, Moscow, Russia, July 2019.
9. Philippova, Natalia and **Natalia Zevakhina**. *Classes of adjectives and modifiers: not just lexical semantics*. Formal Semantics Meets Cognitive Semantics. Nijmegen, Netherlands, 22-23.01.2015.
10. **Zevakhina, Natalia**. *Standard-shifting in the adjectival domain: Corpus evidence and discussion*. Semantics and Philosophy in Europe 6. Saint-Petersburg State University, Saint-Petersburg, Russia, June 2013.
11. Sassoon, Galit and **Natalia Zevakhina**. *Experimental evidence for granularity shifting in the adjectival domain*. St. Petersburg Winter Symposium on Experimental Studies of Speech and Language. Saint-Petersburg State University, Saint-Petersburg, Russia, December 2011.
12. **Zevakhina, Natalia**. *Diversity of scalar inferences*. The 32nd TaBu Dag. Groningen, Netherlands, June 2011.

Selected Research Grants

- | | |
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| 2022 – 2024 | ■ Russian Science Foundation, grant #23-18-0069500695, <i>Logical and Cognitive Approach to Reasoning: Modeling the Interplay between the Normative and the Descriptive</i> . |
| 2020 – 2022 | ■ HSE University, project <i>Experiments at the interface of linguistics and logic</i> , project leader . |
| 2013 – 2017 | ■ HSE University, grants on the development of corpus technologies in linguistic and multidisciplinary studies. |
| 2015 – 2016 | ■ HSE University, individual grant #15-01-0026, <i>Exclamative and embedded exclamative constructions: syntax and semantics</i> . |
| 2012 – 2015 | ■ Russian Foundation for Basic Research, grant #12-06-00337, <i>Electrophysiology of speech comprehension: processing of speech levels in healthy and aphasic patients according to the data of evoked potentials</i> . |
| 2010 – 2011 | ■ Dutch Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), <i>Quantity matters: Building a theory of Q-implicature</i> . Project leader: Prof. Dr. Bart Geurts. |

Editorial role and Reviewing

- **Area editor in semantics and pragmatics**: Linguistics Vanguard
- **Reviewing for**: Journal of Pragmatics, Language and Communication, Frontiers in Psychology, Glossa, Open Mind: Discoveries in Cognitive Science, Revue de Sémantique et Pragmatique, Functions of Language, Journal of Historical Syntax, Acta Linguistica Academica, Acta Linguistica Hafniensia, Acta Linguistica Petropolitana, Rhema.Pema