

Alexander Göbel [alɛksandɐ ɡø:bɪ]

Curriculum Vitae

McGill University, Department of Linguistics
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Last updated: February 2022

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Main Areas: Psycholinguistics, Semantics/Pragmatics
Topics: Presuppositions, Anaphora, Focus, Intonation, Discourse Particles, Discourse Structure/Coherence, Perspective

APPOINTMENTS

2020 - 2022 Postdoctoral Researcher
(funded by Feodor Lynen Fellowship, Humboldt Foundation,
and SSHRC grant to Michael Wagner)
McGill University
Supervisor: Michael Wagner

EDUCATION

2015 - 2020 PhD in Linguistics
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Thesis: Representing Context: Presupposition Triggers and Focus-sensitivity
Committee: Lyn Frazier (chair), Charles Clifton Jr., Ana Arregui, Rajesh Bhatt

2012 - 2014 MA in German Linguistics
Eberhard-Karls-University, Tübingen
Thesis: 'Als ob der Satz ambig wäre...' Zur Lesartenvarianz hypothetischer Vergleichssätze ('As if the clause were ambiguous...' On the different readings of hypothetical comparison-clauses)
Supervisor: Britta Stolterfoht

2009 - 2012 BA, German Linguistics (Minor in Philosophy)
Eberhard-Karls-University, Tübingen
Thesis: Projektion und Modalität: Zwei experimentelle Studien zu Präsuppositionsauslösern. (*Projection and Modality: Two experiments on presupposition-triggers.*)
Supervisor: Britta Stolterfoht

Summer Schools

August 2016 DGFS Summer School 2016
Eberhard-Karls-University, Tübingen

August 2016 Spirit Summer School on Complex Clauses
Georg-August-University, Göttingen

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- May 2015 Visiting Scholar
Institute for German Language in Mannheim
Corpus project on valency of prepositional phrases
- April 2012 -
January 2015 Research Assistant
SFB 833 in Tübingen, Project B8, Supervisor: Britta Stolterfoht
Designing and conducting experiments

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2020 - 2021 Research Grant, Hoa Sen University (50 mio. VND \approx \$2,150)
Co-PI: Thuy Bui, Hoa Sen University
A Psycholinguistic Investigation of Context Requirements in Vietnamese, English, and German
- June - July 2018 XPrag.de Internship: Funded research stay
Supervisor: Petra Schumacher, University of Cologne
Experimental work on German D-pronouns

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- accepted Göbel, A. On the Role of Focus-sensitivity for a Typology of Presupposition Triggers. *Journal of Semantics*
- 2021 Göbel, A., L. Frazier & Charles Clifton Jr. Tense and Discourse Structure: The Timeline Hypothesis. *Discourse Processes*

Manuscripts

- in prep On the Syntax (and Prosody) of ‘at least’: Experiment & Theory (*with Michael Wagner*)
- in prep Comparing Global and Local Accommodation: Experimental Evidence from English and Vietnamese (*with Thuy Bui*)
- under revision Attitudes about German D-Pronouns: Expressive Content and Feature Matching.

Conference Proceedings

- 2019 Additives pitching in: L*+H signals ordered Focus alternative. *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory 29*
- Don’t give me that attitude! Anti-De Se and Feature Matching of German D-Pronouns. In: Maggie Baird and Jonathan Pesetsky (eds.), *Proceedings of North East Linguistic Society 49*. Amherst: GLSA.
- Final Appositives at the Right Frontier: An Experimental Investigation of Anaphoric Potential. In: Maria Teresa Espinal, Elena Castroviejo, Manuel Leonetti, Louise McNally and Cristina Real-Puigdollers (eds.), *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 23, vol. 1*, pp. 451–467. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès).
- 2018 Evidentiality and Undirected Questions: A New Account of the German Discourse Particle *wohl*. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*: Vol. 24 : Iss. 1 , Article 10.

Edited Volumes

- 2019 (with Kimberly Johnson) *SULA 10: Proceedings of the 10th Meeting of the Semantics of Under-Represented Languages in the Americas*. Amherst: GLSA.

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences & Workshops (peer-reviewed)

- March 2022 (with Michael Wagner) *How to (dis-)agree with intonation: asymmetric valence of the rise-fall-rise contour*. Poster at the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP2022), University of California, Santa Cruz
- (with Florian Schwarz) *An experimental comparison of global and local presupposition accommodation*. Poster at the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP2022), University of California, Santa Cruz
- (with **Linh Phạm** & Thuy Bui) *Processing and interpreting anaphoricity and logophoricity: a long-distance reflexive in Vietnamese*. Poster at the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP2022), University of California, Santa Cruz
- January 2022 (with Thuy Bui) *Accommodating presuppositions cross-linguistically: an experimental investigation on English and Vietnamese*. Talk at 96th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA2022), Washington, DC
- October 2021 (with Bernhard Schwarz) *Discourse particles in semantic composition: the case of German ‘denn’*. Poster at 52nd Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS52), Rutgers University
- September 2021 (with Michael Wagner) *Syntactic and prosodic factors in the interpretation of ambiguous at least*. Talk at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP2021), Université de Paris
- September 2020 *The Common Ground is not enough: Why Focus-sensitivity matters for Presupposition triggers*. Poster at Experiments in Linguistic Meaning (ELM1), University of Pennsylvania
- March 2020 *Accommodating presuppositions: it’s focus-sensitivity that makes it hard*. Poster presented at the 33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference (CUNY33), University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- January 2020 *Representing Context: Focus Alternatives, Common Ground and the QUD*. Poster at the 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA2020), New Orleans
- May 2019 *Additives pitching in: L*+H signals ordered Focus alternative*. Poster at Semantics and Linguistic Theory 29 (SALT29), University of California, Los Angeles
- May 2019 (with Christopher Hammerly) *A new perspective on obviation from attitude contexts*. Talk at Person & Perspective Workshop, University of Southern California

- March 2019 (with Petra Schumacher) *Self-awareness matters: co-reference in German attitude clauses*. Poster at the 32nd Annual CUNY Sentence Processing Conference (CUNY32), University of Colorado, Boulder
- January 2019 (with Christopher Hammerly) *A new perspective on obviation in Ojibwe from attitude contexts*. Poster at the 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA2019), New York City
- October 2018 (with Christopher Hammerly) *A “perspective” on obviation from attitude contexts*. Talk at 50th Algonquian Conference, University of Alberta
- October 2018 *Don’t give me that attitude! Anti-De Se and Feature Matching of German D-Pronouns*. Poster at 49th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS49), Cornell University
- September 2018 *Final Appositives at the Right Frontier: An Experimental Investigation of Anaphoric Potential*. Talk at Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB23), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- July 2018 *Pronouns at the right frontier: discourse structure affects accessibility of final appositives*. Talk at 2nd International Conference on Prominence in Language (ICPL2), University of Cologne
- April 2018 *On German D-pronouns as Anti-Logophoric: Limiting a Competition-Based Account*. Poster at Workshop on “Pronouns in Competition”, University of California, Santa Cruz
- April 2018 *Additives in ‘but’-clauses: ‘also’ as the Negation of EXH*. Poster at the 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL36), University of California, Los Angeles
- March 2018 *Pronouns at the right frontier: discourse structure affects accessibility of final appositives*. Poster at the 31st Annual CUNY Sentence Processing Conference (CUNY31), University of California, Davis
- January 2018 (with Brian Dillon & Lyn Frazier) *Investigating the Parallelism Requirement of ‘too’*. Poster at the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America (LSA2018), Salt Lake City
- March 2017 *Evidentiality and Undirected Questions: A New Account of the German Discourse Particle ‘wohl’*. Talk at 41st Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC41), University of Pennsylvania
- Invited Talks*
- July 2021 (with Thuy Bui) *Accommodation, Global and Local: Experimental Data from English & Vietnamese*. UPenn Experimental LabMeeting, University of Pennsylvania
- October 2020 *Representing discourse context: Presuppositions and Focus-sensitivity*. Language & Cognition Talk Series, Harvard
- April 2020 *Representing context: Presuppositions and Focus-sensitivity*. CompLang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- May 2019 *Representing discourse: Focus, presuppositions and the QUD*. UCLA Psycholinguistics/Neurolinguistics Seminar, University of California, Los Angeles

- July 2018 *Exploring a Connection between QUDs and Discourse Structure*. Workshop on “At-Issue, Scope and Coherence”, University of Cologne
- June 2018 *Contrasting additives: on obligatoriness, coherence and the QUD*. Departmental Colloquium (“Linguistischer Arbeitskreis”), University of Cologne
- March 2017 *On Processing Anaphoric Presuppositions*. UPenn Experimental Lab Meeting, University of Pennsylvania
- November 2016 *On Evidentiality and Undirected Questions: Some Puzzles of the German Discourse Particle ‘wohl’*. UConn Meaning Group, University of Connecticut
- June 2016 Ambige Adverbialsätze an der Syntax-Semantik Schnittstelle: Eine psycholinguistische Fallstudie zu ‘Als ob’. (*Ambiguous adverbial-clauses at the syntax-semantics-interface: A psycholinguistic case study on als ob (‘as if’)*). Workshop on “Position and Interpretation: Syntax, Semantics and Information-Structure of Adverbial Modifiers”, University of Tübingen

Non-Refereed Presentations

- May 2018 (with Anthony Yacovone) *Question others, not yourself! Do QUDs affect naturalness within and across speakers?* Poster at “Lynschrift18”, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- May 2018 (with Emma Nguyen) *‘Still’ true? How do children deal with presupposition failures across triggers*. Talk at Language Acquisition Workshop in New England (LAWNE), University of Connecticut
- December 2017 (with Christopher Hammerly) *A new perspective on obviation in Ojibwe from the German pronominal system*. Talk at SNEWS 2017, Massachusetts Institute for Technology
- November 2016 *Dividing Additives: On too, also and German auch*. Talk at SNEWS 2016, Brown University

TEACHING

at McGill University

- Fall 2020 Guest lecture on Presuppositions
LING 201 - Introduction to Linguistics
Instructor: Carol-Rose Little

at University of Massachusetts, Amherst

- Fall 2019 LING 414 - Introduction to Phonetics (TA)
Instructor: John Kingston
- Guest lecture on *The Psycholinguistics of Meaning*
LING 510 - Introduction to Semantics
Instructor: Seth Cable
- Spring 2019 LING 510 - Introduction to Semantics (TA)
Instructor: Seth Cable
- Fall 2018 LING 412 - Language Processing and the Brain (TA)
Instructor: Brian Dillon

Spring 2018	LING 101 - People and Their Language (TA) Instructor: Rajesh Bhatt
Fall 2017	LING 101 - People and Their Language (TA) Instructor: Magda Oiry
Spring 2017	LING 497S - Psychosemantics (TA) Instructors: Lyn Frazier & Angelika Kratzer
Fall 2016	LING 201 - Introduction to Linguistic Theory (TA) Instructor: Nick LaCara

MENTORING

at McGill University

Linh Phạm (currently Lecturer, Nguyễn Tất Thành University, Vietnam)

at University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Simon Koch-Sultan (now MA program, Texas Tech University, Philosophy Department)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Organizing

2019-2020	33rd Annual CUNY Sentence Processing Conference (CUNY) Organizing Committee Member
2018-2019	Psycholinguistics Workshop, University of Massachusetts Main Organizer
2018	Southern New England Workshop in Semantics (SNEWS), University of Massachusetts Main Organizer
2017	Graduate Student Orientation (Summer FLing) Organizer (University of Massachusetts)
2017	Open House Coordinator (University of Massachusetts)
October 2016	North East Linguistic Society (NELS) 47 Organizing Committee Member
January 2015	The Division of Labor: A View from Syntax, Semantics, Information Structure and Processing (DoL 2015) Student Assistant
November 2014	Pronouns@Tübingen 2: Pronouns in Embedded Contexts at the Syntax-Semantics Interface Student Assistant

Representation

2018-2019	Student Representative on Job Search Committee University of Massachusetts
2017-2018	Departmental Student Representative to Faculty University of Massachusetts

Reviewing

Journals:

Language, Cognition & Neuroscience; Journal of Memory and Language; Journal of Semantics (2x); Applied Psycholinguistics; Glossa Psycholinguistics (2x)

Conferences:

Sensus 2

ESLLI 2021 Student Session

Sinn und Bedeutung 25, Satellite Workshop on Semantics of Understudied Languages and Semantic Fieldwork

Amsterdam Colloquium 2017

Workshop on Turkish, Turkic and the Languages of Turkey (Tu+ 1)

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY & SKILLS

German (native), English (fluent), Vietnamese (beginner), French (beginner), Latin (advanced)

Programming & computational skills: R, Praat, Ibexfarm, PennController, COSMAS II (German Corpus)