

Department of Linguistics
 University of Konstanz
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 78464 Konstanz, Germany

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Current position

2016-present Postdoctoral scholar,
 Question at the Interfaces Research Unit, University of Konstanz
 PI: Professor Maribel Romero

Education

2010-2016 PhD, Department of Linguistics
 University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
 Dissertation: *Bridging the gap. Intensifiers between semantic and social meaning*
Committee: Chris Kennedy (chair), Penelope Eckert, Ming Xiang, Itamar Francez,
 Michael Silverstein, Laura Staum Casasanto

2004-2010 B.A./M.A., Communications/Linguistics (earned March 22, 2010)
 Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

Research Interests

Semantics/pragmatics: intensification, gradability, imprecision, expressive meaning, subjectivity, semantic change, implicatures, questions, alternatives, discourse structure.

Socio/anthropological linguistics: social meaning, social perception, language ideologies, iconicity.

Syntax: resumptive pronouns, islands, long distance dependencies, processing.

Publications

Journal papers

In press. Precision and speaker qualities. The social meaning of pragmatic detail. *Linguistics Vanguard*

2018. (with Emily Hanink). Marking imprecision, expressing surprise. *Like* between hedging and mirativity. *Journal of Linguistics*. Online first.

2018 *Totally* between Subjectivity and Discourse. Exploring the Pragmatic Side of Intensification. *Journal of Semantics*. 35(2), 219–261.

2017. (with Laura Staum Casasanto). *Totally Tall* Sounds *Totally Younger*. Intensification at the Socio-Semantics Interface. *Journal of Sociolinguistics*. 21(2). 154-182.

2016. (with Ming Xiang) Unacceptable but Comprehensible: the Facilitation Effect of Resumptive Pronouns. *Glossa*. 1(1), 29.

2015. (with Ryan Bochnak). Intensification without Degrees Cross-linguistically. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 33(3). 843-879.

Peer-reviewed edited volumes

2018. Intensification, Gradability and Social Perception. In Castroviejo, McNally and Sassoon (eds.), *Gradability, Scale Structure, and Vagueness: Experimental Perspectives*, “Language, Cognition, and Mind”, Springer.

In press. (with Laura Staum Casasanto). The Social Meaning of Semantic Properties. In Hall-Lew, Moore and Podesva (eds.) *Social Meaning and Sociolinguistic Variation*.

Manuscripts under review and in preparation

(with Erlinde Martens and Maribel Romero). Alternative Questions: Distinguishing between Negated and Complementary Disjuncts. Submitted to *Semantics & Pragmatics*

(with Regine Eckardt). Evidentials and Questions. Submitted to *Empirical Issues in Syntax and Semantics* 12.

From exclusion to emphasis. Reasoning with metalinguistic alternatives. In preparation to be submitted to *Linguistics & Philosophy*

Proceeding Papers

2018. Emphatic *just* and *simply*: the semantics and pragmatics of metalinguistic exclusives. Proceedings of *Semantics and Linguistic Theory* 28 (SALT).

2018. The Illocutionary Force of Subjective Predicates: an Experimental Study. *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 22. (SuB 22)

2018. (with Erlinde Meertens and Maribel Romero) Decomposing cornering effects in alternative questions: An Experimental Investigation *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 22. (SuB 22).

2018. (with Erlinde Meertens and Maribel Romero) Alternative Questions, Markedness and Illocutionary Properties: an Experimental Study. *Proceedings of the 53rd Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 53)*

2016. Exploring Metalinguistic Intensification. The case of Extreme Degree Modifiers. *Proceedings of the 46th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 46)*

2015. Totally Tall Sounds Totally Younger. From meaning composition to social perception. *Proceedings of Amsterdam Colloquium* 20

2015. *Totally*, Discourse and Subjectivity. Exploring the Pragmatic Side of Intensification. *Proceedings of the 51th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 51)*

2015. Intensification at the Socio-semantic Interface. A corpus study. *Proceedings of the 41st Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistic Society. (BLS 41)*

2015. From *Totally* Dark to *Totally* Old. The Formal Semantics of Subjectification. *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 19*. (SuB 19)

2015. (with Jackson Lee). Great Pizzas, Ghost Negations: The Emergence and Persistence of Mixed Expressives *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 19* (SuB 19)

2014. Scalar Meaning in Diachrony: The suffix -issimo from Latin to Italian. In Iyer, Jyoti and Leland Kusmer. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*, pp. 29-40. (NELS 44)

2014. (with Ming Xiang). Intrusive Resumptives as Processing Facilitators. In Iyer, Jyoti and Leland Kusmer, *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*, pp. 41-54 (NELS 44)

2013. (with Ming Xiang). Is *excellent* Better than *good*? Adjective Scales and Scalar implicatures. In E. Chemla, V. Homer, and G. Winterstein (eds.), *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 17*, pp. 81-98 (SuB 17)

Edited volumes

Proceedings of the 48th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society. (With Tasos Chatzikonstantinou, Mike Pham, Jackson Lee and Diane Rak.)

Presentations

Refereed conference presentations

2018. Iconicity, precision, and corrections. The social meaning of pragmatic detail. *Sociolinguistic, Psycholinguistic and Formal Perspectives on Meaning*. Paris, France. July 1-4.

2018. Emphatic *just* and *simply*: the semantics and pragmatics of metalinguistic exclusives. Poster presented at *Semantics and Linguistic Theory 28 (SALT)*. Boston, MA. May 18-20.

2017. (with Emily Hanink) "Like", hedging and mirativity. A unified account. *Colloque de Syntaxe and Semantique a Paris (CSSP)*. Paris, France. November 23-25.

2017. (with Laura Staum Casasanto) The social meaning of semantic properties. From markedness to discourse. Talk to be presented at *NWAV 46*. Madison, Wisconsin. November 3-6.

2017. Subjective Assertions and Illocution: an Experimental Perspective on Predicates of Personal Taste. Poster presented at *Sinn und Bedeutung 22*. Berlin, Germany. September 7-9.

2017. (with Erlinde Meertens and Maribel Romero). Decomposing Cornering Effects in Alternative-Questions: An Experimental Investigation. Talk presented at *Sinn und Bedeutung 22*. Berlin, Germany. September 7-9.

2017. Subjective Assertions are Weak: an Experimental Study on Perspective-Dependent meaning. Talk to be presented at the *7th biannual Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPRAG)*. Cologne, Germany. June 21-23.

2017. (with Erlinde Meertens and Maribel Romero). Polar Questions, *or not* Alternative Questions and Complement Alternative Questions: an experimental study. Poster to be presented at the *7th biannual Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPRAG)*. Cologne, Germany. June 21-23.

2017. (with Erlinde Meertens and Maribel Romero). Alternative Questions between Logic and Discourse. 53rd Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS). Chicago, Illinois, May 25-27.
2017. The Illocutionary Force of Subjective Predicates: an Experimental Study. Poster to be presented at the *35th West Coast Conference in Formal Linguistics (WCCFL)*. Calgary, Canada, April 28-30.
2016. (with Emily Hanink). This is, like, a mirative construction! *Like* between uncertainty and surprise. *90th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America*. Washington, DC. January 7-10.
2015. Totally tall sounds totally younger. From meaning composition to social perception. *Amsterdam Colloquium 20*. Amsterdam, the Netherlands, December 16-18.
2015. Totally tall sounds totally younger. A socio-semantic study. *NWAV 44* (Poster). Toronto, Canada. October 22-25
2015. Exploring metalinguistic intensification. The case of Extreme Degree Modifiers. *46th meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS)*. Montreal, Canada, October 16-18.
2015. Intensification, Gradability and Social Perception. *Gradability, Scale Structure, and Vagueness: Experimental Perspectives*. Madrid, Spain. May 29-30.
2015. Flat-out metalinguistic. Extreme degree modification as speaker's preference. Poster presented at the *33th West Coast Conference in Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 33)*. Vancouver, March 28
2014. From *Totally* Dark to *Totally* Old. The Formal Semantics of Subjectification. *Sinn und Bedeutung 19*. Goettingen, Germany, September 16.
2014. (With Jackson Lee). Great pizzas, ghost negations: The emergence and persistence of mixed expressives. *Sinn und Bedeutung 19*. Goettingen, Germany, September 16.
2014. *Decent, acceptable, mediocre*. Mild adjectives as a natural class. *The Linguistic Society of America annual meeting*, Minneapolis, Minnesota, January 2-5.
2013. Scalar meaning in diachrony. The case of the suffix *-issimo*. *44th meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS)* (poster). Storrs, Connecticut, October 18-20.
2013. (With Ming Xiang). Ungrammatical but comprehensible. Intrusive resumptives and the nature of acceptability judgments. *44th meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS)*. Storrs, Connecticut, October 18-20.
2013. These are the pronouns that we use them but we don't like them. Resumptives between grammar and enregisterment. *Michigan 2013: 15th Annual University of Chicago - University of Michigan Graduate student conference in linguistic anthropology*. Ann Arbor, Michigan, May 10.
2013. Presupposing scalarity from Latin to Italian. The case of the suffix *-issimo*. *Workshop on Systematic Semantic Change*. Austin, Texas, April 5-6.
2013. (with Ming Xiang). Intrusive but not intruders. The processing of resumptive pronouns in Italian and English. *Penn Linguistics Colloquium 37 (PLC)*. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 21-23.

2013. (with Christina Kim, Kristen Syrett, Ming Xiang & Chris Kennedy). Sensitivity to local vs global discourse context in gradable adjectives. CUNY 2013. (poster). Columbia, South Carolina.

2013. (with Ming Xiang). Resumption can rescue! Islands and relative clauses in Italian and English. CUNY 2013. (poster). Columbia, South Carolina, March 20-22.

2012. Is *excellent* better than *good*? Adjective scales and scalar implicatures. Sinn und Bedeutung 17. Paris, France, September 8-10.

2012. Language ideologies and speech perception. What experimental methods can do, and what they haven't done yet. *Michigan 2012: 14th Annual University of Chicago-University of Michigan graduate student conference in linguistic anthropology*. Chicago, May 11-12.

2012. (with Ming Xiang). How beautiful is a pretty girl? Adjectives and implicatures. *The Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*, Portland, Oregon, January 6-9.

2011. (with Ryan Bochnak). Intensification without degrees cross linguistically. *Workshop on Modification and Modifiers*. Madrid, December 15-16.

2011. (with M. Sonderegger et al.). Coronal stop deletion on reality TV. *NWAV 40*, Washington D.C.

2011. (with Ming Xiang) Can a decent student get into Harvard? A study on gradable adjectives and scalar implicatures. *4th Conference in Experimental Pragmatics (XPRAG)* (poster). Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Barcelona, Spain, June 2-4.

Invited presentations

2019. Title TBA. Colloquium at Yale University, Linguistics Department. *New Haven, CT*. February 25.

2019. Title TBA. Talk at SemanticsBabble, University of California, San Diego, Linguistics Department. *San Diego, CA*. February 19.

2018. Logic, culture, cognition: Meaning across perspectives. The University of Pennsylvania center for the integrative study of the mind (MindCORE). Philadelphia, PA. April 11.

2018. Subjective assertions and inquisitiveness: a hybrid speech act?. Workshop "Evaluative meaning: Theoretical and Computational Perspectives". Annual Conference of the German Linguistic Society, DGfS. Stuttgart, March 6-9.

2017. Iconicity and (im)precision: How pragmatic variation can convey social qualities. Workshop on Social meaning. Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS). Berlin, August 29.

2017. From being intense to being precise. The social meaning of semantic properties. Colloquium at the Ohio State University, Linguistics Department. Columbus, Ohio, March 31.

2017. Meaning at the interface. The socio-semantics of intensifiers. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, Michigan, February 6.

2016. Investigating meaning through social perception. Where semantics meets sociolinguistics. 3rd Meeting of the American Pragmatics Association, special panel on Experimental Approaches to Typologies of Meaning. Bloomington, Indiana, November

2015. Scalarity, (non)homogeneity and discourse. Totally across domains. Workshop on NonVeridical Expressions and Subjectivity in Language. Chicago, Illinois, December 11.

2015. Exploring the nexus between semantic and social meaning. The case of totally. University of Pennsylvania Speaker Series. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. December 3

2015. #Unfortunately, you are bello tall. When bleaching can't tell the whole story. 22nd International Conference in Historical Linguistics. Workshop on Models and Patterns of Semantic change. Naples, Italy. July 31.

2014. From semantic composition to Valley Girl Talk. University of California at Berkeley, Syntax/Semantics circle. Berkeley, California, October 17.

2014. Were linguistic scales made unequal? Scalarity, intensification and semantic change. Stanford Un-
ver Cognition & Language workshop. Palo Alto, California. May 22.

Teaching experience

Fall 2017	University of Konstanz. Instructor. Language in Culture and Society (BA level).
Summer 2017	Instructor. Intensification: between logic, discourse and social meaning. (with Yaron McNabb). European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI)
Spring 2017	University of Konstanz. Instructor. Semantics I (BA level)
Spring 2015	University of Chicago. Instructor. Introduction to Linguistics (LING 20001).
Spring 2014	University of Chicago. Teaching Assistant. Introduction to Linguistics (LING 20001). Instructor: Tim Grinsell
Fall 2013	University of Chicago. Teaching Assistant. Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics (LING 20301). Instructor: Peter Klecha
Fall 2012	University of Chicago. Teaching Assistant. Introduction to Syntax (LING 20201). Instructor: Karlos Arregi

Teaching training and pedagogy

Spring 2016	Certificate in University Teaching. University of Chicago Center for Teaching
Fall 2015.	Linguistics Pedagogy (LIN 4800)
Spring 2014	University of Chicago Writing Program Training: Pedagogies of Writing (HUMA 5000)

Awards and Fellowships

2014-2016	Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Hanna Holborn Gray Advanced Fellowship in the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences, University of Chicago.
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2011 Linguistic Society of America. Summer Institute Fellowship.
2011 International House at the University of Chicago. Resident Fellowship.
2008, 2006 University of Bologna. Overseas fellowship (study abroad program)

Reviewing

Agencies

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Journals

Language, Natural Language Semantics, Glossa, Journal of Linguistics, Linguistics, Acta Linguistica Academica.

Conference abstracts

Semantics and Linguistic Theory, NELS, CLS, The LSA Annual Meeting, XPRAG, Formal Approaches to Semantic Change, Integrating Social and Semantic Meaning.

Volumes

Springer, "Language, Cognition and Mind" series, Bloomsbury Academic's Linguistics List

Service

Linguistic Society of America

2016 Co-organizer of special session "Because meaning: how semantics and sociolinguistics complement each other" at the 90th meeting of the Linguistics Society of America.(with E. Allyn Smith and Joseph Tyler)

University of Konstanz

2016 Organizer/Scientific Committee. Formal Approaches to Semantic Change

University of Chicago

2015-2016 International student mentor for the IMPACT program at the Office of International Affairs, University of Chicago

2013 Conference organizer. The Semantic Workshop of the American Midwest and Prairies (SWAMP)

2012 Conference organizer. 48th annual meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society

2012 Conference organizer. The University of Chicago and University of Michigan Annual Meeting Linguistic Anthropology (Michigan)

2011-12 Officer. Chicago Linguistic Society. Specific Tasks: selling conference proceedings, organizing social activities for the department

Non degree study

Fall 2014 Visiting Student, Department of Linguistics
Stanford University, Stanford, California

July 2010 Linguistic Society of America, Summer Institute at the University of Colorado
at Boulder.

2008-2009 Graduate Student At Large
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2006-2007 College Exchange Student
University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, California

Language Proficiencies

Italian (native), English (proficient), Spanish (proficient), German (elementary), Basque (elementary),
French (reading).