

Raj Singh

- CONTACT INFORMATION MIT
Department of Linguistics and Philosophy
32 Vassar Street
Bldg. 32-D808
Cambridge, MA 02139 USA
Voice: (617) 669-8319
Fax: (617) 253-4141
E-mail: singhr@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/singhr/www
- EMPLOYMENT Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences and Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, MIT, 2008-2009
- EDUCATION Ph.D. Linguistics, MIT, 2008
Five-Year Specialist Program in Semantics
Minor: Brain and Cognitive Sciences
Thesis: *Modularity and Locality in Interpretation*
Thesis Committee: Kai von Fintel, Danny Fox, Irene Heim, Robert Stalnaker

MS Logic, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation, 2002
Thesis Committee: Henk Zeevat (chair), Reinhard Blutner, Remko Scha

Honours B.Sc. Mathematics & Philosophy, University of Toronto, 2001
- RESEARCH INTERESTS Semantics, Pragmatics, Psycholinguistics, Philosophy of Language, Formal Models of Rationality (Inference and Action)
- PAPERS “*Maximize Presupposition!* and Informationally Encapsulated Implications.” To appear in A. Riester and T. Solstad (eds.), *Proceedings of SuB 13*, Stuttgart.

“*Maximize Presupposition!* and Local Contexts.” Submitted, *Natural Language Semantics*.

“VP-Deletion, Obligatory *too*, and Focus Semantics.” Submitted, *Linguistic Inquiry*.

“A Note on the Absence of XOR in Natural Language” (with Roni Katzir). To appear in P. Egré and G. Magri (eds.), *Proceedings of MIT-France*

Workshop on Scalar Implicature and Presupposition, MIT Working Papers in Linguistics.

“On the Interpretation of Disjunction: Asymmetric, Incremental, and Eager for Inconsistency.” *Linguistics & Philosophy*, 31, p.245-260, 2008.

“Formal Alternatives as a Solution to the Proviso Problem.” In T. Friedman and M. Gibson (eds.), *Proceedings of SALT 17*, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University, p.264-281, 2007.

“Eager for Distinctness.” In J. Huitink and S. Katrenko (eds.), *Proceedings of the Eleventh ESSLI Student Session*, Malaga, Spain, p.76-89, 2006.

“A Study of Optimality Theory and the Human Sentence Processing Mechanism.” ILLC Publications, Master of Logic Thesis Series, 2002.

MANUSCRIPTS “Symmetric and Interacting Alternatives for Implicature and Accommodation.” MS, MIT, 2009.

“Two Short Notes on Presupposition Accommodation” (with Roni Katzir). MS, Cornell University and MIT, 2009.

“Assertability Constraints and Absurd Assertions.” MS, MIT, 2007.

INVITED TALKS “Symmetric and Interacting Alternatives for Implicature and Accommodation.” Departments of Linguistics and Philosophy, Yale University, New Haven, March 2, 2009.

“Symmetric and Interacting Alternatives for Implicature and Accommodation.” Language and Cognition Seminar, Departments of Linguistics and Psychology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Feb 23, 2009.

“Symmetric and Interacting Alternatives for Implicature and Accommodation.” Institute of Cognitive Science, Carleton University, Ottawa, Jan 29, 2009.

“Economy and Intermediate Accommodation.” Département D’Études Cognitives, École Normale Supérieure, Paris, March 7, 2008.

“Economy and Intermediate Accommodation.” University of Amsterdam, Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation, March 4, 2008.

“Assertability Constraints and the Modularity of Presupposition Accommodation.” University of St. Andrews, Arché Research Centre for Logic,

Language, Metaphysics, and Epistemology, Feb 25, 2008.

“Intermediate Accommodation and the Strongest Meaning Hypothesis.” UC Berkeley, Department of Linguistics, Jan 25, 2008.

“On the Proviso Problem for Presuppositions.” UC Santa Cruz, Department of Linguistics, Jan 23, 2008.

“Modularity and Linguistic Inference.” A series of talks presented to the Computational Cognitive Science Group, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, MIT, Oct 17, 31, Nov 7, 2007.

“Presupposition and ERP: On Locating a Neural Signature for Presupposition Failure.” Kuperberg Lab, Tufts University, March 26, 2007.

“A Solution to the Proviso Problem: Formally Defined Alternatives and Relevance.” Xerox PARC, Natural Language Processing Laboratory, Palo Alto, CA. Dec 14, 2006.

“Dynamic Semantics: Meaning as Use.” Two talks presented to the Gibson Lab weekly meeting, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, MIT, Oct 11 & 18, 2006.

CONFERENCE AND INVITED WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS “*Maximize Presupposition!* as Blind, Local Blocking.” Sinn und Bedeutung 13, University of Stuttgart, Oct 2, 2008. (Unable to attend due to illness in family)

“Formal Alternatives and Probabilistic Reasoning for Presupposition Accommodation.” Workshop on Presuppositions and Implicatures, DECENS, Paris. May 30, 2007.

“A Solution to the Proviso Problem: Formal Alternatives, Relevance, and Accommodation.” SALT 17, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. May 11, 2007.

“Updating Silence Dynamically.” ESSLLI 2006, University of Malaga, Malaga, Spain. July 31, 2006.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE Teaching Assistant for Kai von Fintel, MIT, 24.903, Language and its Structure III: Semantics and Pragmatics, Spring 2007.

Instructor for Independent Activities Period Course, MIT, On the Rational Exchange of Information, January 2007.

Course Website: <http://web.mit.edu/linguistics/events/iap07>

Teaching Assistant for Suzanne Flynn, MIT, 24.900, Introduction to Linguistics, Spring 2006

Teaching Assistant for Kai von Stechow, LSA.311, Pragmatics in Linguistic Theory, LSA Summer Institute held at MIT, 2005. Course website: <http://semantics-online.org/lisa311/>.

Invited Guest Lecture for Andrew Nevins, Harvard University, Linguistics 110, Introduction to Linguistics, July 27 2006.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

MIT Provost Office, MIT Research Support Committee Award for Interdisciplinary Research between the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences and the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, 2008-2009

S. Klein Prize for Scientific and Technical Writing, MIT, Second Prize for paper titled "On the Optimal Design of Human Communication," 2007

MIT Dean's Fund for the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Summer 2005

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship, Sept 2004 - Aug 2007

Spinoza Scholarship, ILLC, Sept 2001 - Aug 2002 (Awarded to top master's applicant)

National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Undergraduate Research Award, Department of Mathematics, University of Toronto, Summer 2001

SERVICE

Organizer, Interdisciplinary Reading Group on the Semantics, Pragmatics, Online Processing, and Child Acquisition/Bayesian Models of the learning of quantifiers, numerals, presuppositional expressions, MIT, Fall 2008
Website: <http://web.mit.edu/linguistics/groups/modularity/>

In charge of Interdisciplinary Lecture Series involving language-related research across MIT, 2008-2009

Representative for Linguistics Department, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences TA Panel organized by the Dean of SHASS, MIT, Spring 2007

Organizer, Questions Reading Group, MIT, Fall 2006

Organizer, Linguistics Colloquium, MIT, Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2006

Resource Assistant, LSA Summer Institute 2005, MIT.

Organizer, Computational Linguistics Fest, January 2005

REFERENCES

Institute Professor Noam Chomsky
MIT, Dept. of Linguistics and Philosophy
32 Vassar Street, 32-D808
Cambridge, MA 02139
Email: chomsky@mit.edu

Professor Kai von Fintel
MIT, Dept. of Linguistics and Philosophy
32 Vassar Street, 32-D808
Cambridge, MA 02139
Email: fintel@mit.edu

Professor Danny Fox
MIT, Dept. of Linguistics and Philosophy
32 Vassar Street, 32-D808
Cambridge, MA 02139
Email: fox@mit.edu

Professor Ted Gibson
MIT, Dept. of Brain and Cognitive Sciences
43 Vassar Street, 46-3035
Cambridge, MA 02139
Email: egibson@mit.edu

Professor Irene Heim
MIT, Dept. of Linguistics and Philosophy
32 Vassar Street, 32-D808
Cambridge, MA 02139
Email: heim@mit.edu

Professor Robert Stalnaker
MIT, Dept. of Linguistics and Philosophy
32 Vassar Street, 32-D808
Cambridge, MA 02139
Email: stal@mit.edu

Professor Josh Tenenbaum
MIT, Dept. of Brain and Cognitive Sciences
43 Vassar Street, 46-4015
Cambridge, MA 02139
Email: jbt@mit.edu