

Rachel A. Ryskin

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR · COGNITIVE & INFORMATION SCIENCES

University of California, Merced

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Education & Positions

University of California, Merced

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, COGNITIVE & INFORMATION SCIENCES

Merced, CA

2020-present

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATE, DEPT. OF BRAIN & COGNITIVE SCIENCES

Cambridge, MA

2019-2020

Massachusetts Institute of Technology & Boston University

NIH NRSA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW, DEPT. OF BRAIN & COGNITIVE SCIENCES (MIT) & DEPT. OF SPEECH, LANGUAGE & HEARING SCIENCES (BU)

Cambridge & Boston, MA

2016-2019

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

PHD IN COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Urbana-Champaign, IL

2010-2016

Northwestern University

B.A. IN COGNITIVE SCIENCE & B.A. IN EUROPEAN STUDIES

Evanston, IL

2006-2010

Honors & Awards

2020	Infinite Kilometer Postdoctoral Award , School of Science	MIT
2016-2019	Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award , F32	NIH/NIDCD
2019	Preregistration Challenge Prize , Open Science Framework	COS
2016	Sarah C. Mangelsdorf Award , Dept. of Psychology	UIUC
2016	Alumni Board Graduate Student Travel Award Psychology , Dept. of Psychology	UIUC
2015	Cognitive Science / Artificial Intelligence Award , Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology	UIUC
2015	William Brewer Teaching Award , Dept. of Psychology	UIUC
2015	Nancy Hirschberg Memorial Award , Dept. of Psychology	UIUC
2012	University Fellowship , Dept. of Psychology	UIUC
2009	Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship , Dept. of Psychology	NU

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

2020. Do domain-general executive resources play a role in linguistic prediction? Re-evaluation of the evidence and a path forward.
Rachel Ryskin, Roger Levy, Evelina Fedorenko
Neuropsychologia, 136 p. 107258
2019. Information Integration in Modulation of Pragmatic Inferences During Online Language Comprehension
Rachel Ryskin, Chigusa Kurumada, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
Cognitive Science, 43 e12769
2019. Talker-specific predictions during language processing
Rachel Ryskin, Shukhan Ng, Katherine Mimnaugh, Sarah Brown-Schmidt, Kara D. Federmeier
Language, Cognition and Neuroscience pp. 1–16
2018. Comprehenders model the nature of noise in the environment
Rachel Ryskin, Richard Futrell, Swathi Kiran, Edward Gibson
Cognition, 181 pp. 141–150
2018. Knowledge and learning of verb biases in amnesia
Rachel Ryskin, Zhenghan Qi, Natalie V. Covington, Melissa Duff, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
Brain and Language, 180-182 pp. 62–83
2017. Verb biases are shaped through lifelong learning.
Rachel A. Ryskin, Zhenghan Qi, Melissa C. Duff, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition, 43 pp. 781–794

2016. Listeners use speaker identity to access representations of spatial perspective during online language comprehension
 Rachel A. Ryskin, Ranxiao Frances Wang, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
Cognition, 147 pp. 75–84
2015. Perspective-taking in comprehension, production, and memory: An individual differences approach.
 Rachel A. Ryskin, Aaron S. Benjamin, Jonathan Tullis, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, 144 pp. 898–915
2014. Do Adults Show a Curse of Knowledge in False-Belief Reasoning? A Robust Estimate of the True Effect Size
 Rachel A. Ryskin, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
PLoS ONE, 9 e92406
2014. Reducing reliance on inaccurate information
 David N. Rapp, Scott R. Hinze, Kristine Kohlhepp, Rachel A. Ryskin
Memory & Cognition, 42 pp. 11–26
2014. Visuospatial perspective-taking in conversation and the role of bilingual experience
 Rachel A. Ryskin, Sarah Brown-Schmidt, Enriqueta Canseco-Gonzalez, Loretta K. Yiu, Elizabeth T. Nguyen
Journal of Memory and Language, 74 pp. 46–76

CHAPTERS, COMMENTARIES, & CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

2020. Probabilistic weighting of perspectives in dyadic communication
 Rachel Ryskin, Suzanne Stevenson, Daphna Heller
Proceedings of the Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, CA
2019. Verb Frequency Explains the Unacceptability of Factive and Manner-of-speaking Islands in English
 Yingtong Liu, Rachel Ryskin, Richard Futrell, Edward Gibson
Proceedings of the Cognitive Science Society, Montreal, CA
2017. The malleability of linguistic representations poses a challenge to the priming-based experimental approach [Commentary]
 Rachel Ryskin, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 40 E309
2015. People as Contexts in Conversation
 Sarah Brown-Schmidt, Si On Yoon, Rachel Anna Ryskin
Psychology of Learning and Motivation
2015. Language, Perspective, and Memory
 Rachel A. Ryskin, Si On Yoon, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
Emerging Trends in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, Hoboken, NJ, USA
2011. The impact of gender and bilingualism on cognition: the case of spatial perspective-taking
 Rachel A Ryskin, Sarah Brown-Schmidt
Proceedings of SEMDIAL, Los Angeles, CA

Presentations

CONFERENCE TALKS

(* indicates undergraduate or graduate advisee)

- Probabilistic weighting of perspectives in dyadic communication
 Ryskin, Stevenson, Heller
 2020, Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, CA
- Epistemic ‘must p’ is literally a strong statement.
 Ricciardi*, Ryskin, Gibson
 2020, Experiments in Linguistic Meaning, Philadelphia, PA
- An Information-Theoretic Characterization of Language Production in Primary Progressive Aphasia.
 Rezaii, Ryskin, Cordella, Dickerson, Gibson
 2020 [Canceled due to Covid-19], American Neuropsychiatric Association, Chicago, IL.
- Verb Frequency Explains the Unacceptability of Factive and Manner-of-speaking Islands in English.
 Liu*, Ryskin, Futrell, Gibson
 2019, Cognitive Science Society, Montréal, CA
- Experiment on epistemic must.
 Ricciardi*, Ryskin, Gibson
 2019, Linguistic Society of America, New York, NY
- Adaptation to the noise in aphasic sentence comprehension.
 Ryskin, Gibson, Kiran
 2019, Academy of Aphasia, Montréal, CA
- The effects of aging on verb bias use and learning.
 Ryskin, Qi, Duff, Brown-Schmidt
 2018, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Boulder, CO
- Comprehenders model the nature of noise in the environment.
 Ryskin, Futrell, Gibson

2017, Cognitive Science Society, London, UK

Syntactic variability between and within speakers: When to adapt, when to generalize?

Ryskin, Qi, Duff, Brown-Schmidt

2017, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Cambridge, MA

Bottom-up adaptation of online pragmatic inferences to variability of speakers.

Ryskin, Kurumada, Brown-Schmidt

2016, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Gainesville, FL

Perspective-taking: a domain-general cognitive ability?

Ryskin, Brown-Schmidt, Tullis, Benjamin

2015, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Los Angeles, CA

A bilingual disadvantage in linguistic perspective adjustment.

Ryskin, Brown-Schmidt

2012, Psychonomic Society, Minneapolis, MN

Contributions of gender and bilingualism to spatial perspective-taking.

Ryskin, Brown-Schmidt

2012, UIC Bilingualism Forum, Chicago, IL

Proofreading fosters resistance to the effects of inaccurate information.

Rapp, Ryskin

2010, Psychonomic Society, St Louis, MO

CONFERENCE POSTERS

Neural representation of syntactic prediction: A simultaneous eye-tracking and EEG study

Weng, Ryskin, Qi

2020, Society for the Neurobiology of Language

Individual-subject functional localization does not benefit ERP analyses.

Ryskin, Fedorenko

2020, Society for the Neurobiology of Language

The role of construction frequency in listeners' noisy-channel inferences.

Liu*, Ryskin, Futrell, Gibson

2020, Architectures and Mechanisms of Language Processing (AMLaP), Potsdam, Germany

Probabilistic weighting of perspectives in dyadic communication

Ryskin, Stevenson, Heller

2020, Cognitive Modeling and Computational Linguistics (CMCL) workshop

Structural Frequency Effects in Comprehenders' Noisy-Channel Inferences.

Liu*, Ryskin, Futrell, Gibson

2020, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Amherst, MA

Stronger prediction leads to greater processing cost during sentence ambiguity resolution: A simultaneous eye-tracking and EEG study.

Weng, Nguyen, Ryskin, Qi

2020, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Amherst, MA

The distribution of locative inversions: testing structural vs processing accounts.

Ricciardi*, Ryskin, Gibson

2020, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Amherst, MA

Epistemic 'must p' is literally a strong statement.

Ricciardi*, Ryskin, Gibson

2020, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Amherst, MA

An Information-Theoretic Characterization of Language Production in Primary Progressive Aphasia.

Rezaii, Ryskin, Cordella, Dickerson, Gibson

2020, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Amherst, MA

Comprehenders aggregate over speakers when adapting to the noise in the input.

Ryskin, Futrell, Kiran, Gibson

2019, Architectures and Mechanisms of Language Processing, Moscow, RU.

Pragmatic inferences are modulated by informativity across cultures.

Ryskin, Salinas*, Piantadosi, Rubio-Fernandez, Gibson

2019, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Boulder, CO.

Noisy-channel sentence comprehension in aphasia: the role of noise in the context.

Ryskin, Gibson, Kiran

2019, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Boulder, CO.

Factive and manner-of-speaking islands are an artifact of non-linearity in the acceptability judgment task.

Liu*, Ryskin, Futrell, Gibson

2019, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Boulder, CO

A novel eye tracking paradigm for assessing semantic and phonologic activation in aphasia.

Campbell*, Ryskin, Kiran

2018, Academy of Aphasia, Montréal, Canada

Investigating the effect of context on sentence comprehension

Nathaniel*, Ryskin, Gibson

2018, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Davis, CA

Do listeners learn speaker/accent-specific syntactic biases?

Ryskin, Fine, Brown-Schmidt

2017, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Cambridge, MA

Knowledge and learning of verb biases in amnesia

Ryskin, Qi, Covington, Duff, Brown-Schmidt

2017, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Cambridge, MA

Speaker-specific predictions about category membership during language comprehension

Ryskin, Ng, Mimnaugh, Brown-Schmidt, Federmeier

2017, Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA

Information integration in online modulation of pragmatic inferences during language comprehension

Ryskin, Kurumada, Brown-Schmidt

2016, Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA

Constraints on adaptation to syntactic variability between and within speakers

Ryskin, Qi, Duff, Brown-Schmidt

2016, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Gainesville, FL

Rapid learning of verb bias

Ryskin, Qi, Brown-Schmidt

2015, Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL

Adaptation of pragmatic inferences transfers across contrastive domains

Ryskin, Brown-Schmidt, Kurumada

2015, CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Los Angeles, CA

How do listeners encode spatial perspectives?

Ryskin, Wang, Brown-Schmidt

2014, Psychonomic Society, Long Beach, CA

Do adults show a curse of knowledge in false-belief reasoning? A robust estimate of the true effect size

Ryskin, Brown-Schmidt

2013, Psychonomic Society, Toronto, Canada

A bilingual disadvantage in linguistic perspective adjustment

Ryskin, Canseco-Gonzalez, Yiu, Nguyen, Lopez, Hammond-Oakley, Brown-Schmidt

2013, International Workshop for Bilingualism and Cognitive Control, Krakow, Poland

Contributions of gender and bilingualism to spatial perspective-taking

Ryskin, Brown-Schmidt

2012, Midwest Cognitive Science Conference, Bloomington, IN

The impact of gender and bilingualism on cognition: The case of spatial perspective-taking

Ryskin, Brown-Schmidt

2011, Workshop on the semantics and pragmatics of dialogue, Los Angeles, CA

Editing what's wrong to avoid learning it: Proofreading as intervention

Kohlhepp, Ryskin, Rapp

2011, Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL

INVITED TALKS

02.2020	The role of context in predictive language processing , Cognition & Language Workshop	Stanford
05.2019	Lifelong learning of linguistic representations , Computational Linguistics Lab	U. of Pisa
05.2019	Lifelong learning of linguistic representations , Computation and Language Discussion Group	MIT
02.2019	Language processing across cultures and contexts , Cognitive & Information Sciences Dept. Seminar	UC Merced
02.2018	Error-correction in language comprehension: Implications for aphasia , SLHS Colloquium	BU
01.2018	Context use and learning support efficient language processing , Cognitive, Linguistic, & Psychological Sciences Colloquium	Brown U.
04.2017	Syntactic processing is shaped by learning: The role of context and memory systems , Language & Cognition Meeting	Harvard
04.2017	Aphasia as rational inference over a noisy channel: Is the noise model malleable? , Center for Research in Sensory Communication and Emerging Neural Technology (CRESCENT)	BU
03.2017	Language comprehension in context , Sargent College Committee Enhancing Research and Collaboration in Health & Rehabilitation	BU
09.2016	Learning about how other people talk: The case of syntax , Aphasia Research Mini-Symposium	BU
09.2014	How do listeners encode spatial perspectives? , Language processing talk series, Beckman Institute for Advanced Science & Technology	UIUC

Teaching & Advising

COURSES

9.59 Laboratory in Psycholinguistics

CO-INSTRUCTOR

MIT
Spring 2017

Introduction to Psychology

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

UIUC
Fall 2013

Learning and Memory

TEACHING ASSISTANT

UIUC
Spring 2011

THESIS COMMITTEES

Master's Thesis

RACHAEL CAMPBELL

BU
2017-2018

Qualifying Paper Committee

YI-LUN WENG

University of Delaware
2020

Service

Journal Reviewing

Acta Psychologica. Applied Psycholinguistics. Bilingualism: Language & Cognition. Cerebral Cortex. Cerebral Cortex Communications. Cognition. Cognitive Science. Cognitive Psychology. Dialogue & Discourse. Discourse Processes. Frontiers in Human Neuroscience. Human Brain Mapping. Journal of Experimental Psychology: General. Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory & Cognition. Journal of Memory & Language. Language, Cognition, & Neuroscience. Memory & Cognition. Neuroimage. Open Mind. PLOS One. Psychological Science. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Social, Cognitive, & Affective Neuroscience. Visual Cognition

Conference Reviewing

AMLaP (2020). Cognitive Modeling and Computational Linguistics (CMCL) workshop (2020). CogSci Conference (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020). CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020). International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING. 2020).

Grant Reviewing

PRELUDIUM Pre-doctoral Grant, National Science Center, Poland

Conference Organization

CUNY 2017 Conference on Human Sentence Processing at MIT

Media Coverage

Is Perspective-Taking a Skill?

POPULAR PRESS ARTICLE DISCUSSING RYSKIN ET AL. (2015). *JEP:G*

Psychology Today
October 22, 2015