

Mina Hirzel

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Research Interests

First language acquisition of syntax and semantics, learning models of island constraints, island constraints and universal grammar, acquisition of *wh*- movement, development of sentence processing, syntactic bootstrapping, acquisition of argument structure, early verb learning

Education

- 2016-current Ph.D. in Linguistics (expected: Summer 2021)
 College of Arts and Humanities
 University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland
- 2010-2015 Honors B.A. in Linguistics; B.S. in Neuroscience
 Specialization in Cognitive Science
 College of Arts and Letters
 Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

Presentations

- Nov. 2020 **Hirzel, Mina**, Laurel Perkins, Jeffrey Lidz. “19 month-olds parse *wh*- questions incrementally.” Presented at the 45th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 45), Boston (hosted virtually due to COVID-19). [talk]
- Mar. 2020 **Hirzel, Mina**, Laurel Perkins, Jeffrey Lidz. “19 month-olds represent and incrementally parse filler-gap dependencies.” CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Amherst (hosted virtually due to COVID-19). [[poster](#)]
- Nov. 2019 **Hirzel, Mina** & Jeffrey Lidz. “3 year-olds respect island constraints.” Presented at the 44th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 44), Boston. [talk]
- Nov. 2019 Cournane, Ailis, **Mina Hirzel**, Valentine Hacquard. “Learning to map modals to meanings: An elicited production study on ‘force and ‘flavor’.” Presented at the 44th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 44), Boston. [[poster](#)]
- Apr. 2019 Hirzel, Mina, Valentine Hacquard, Ailís Cournane. “Young children use different modals for different ‘flavors’.” The Eighth Mid-Atlantic Colloquium of Studies in Meaning (MACSIM), New York. [[poster](#)]

- Mar. 2019 **Hirzel, Mina**, Ailis Cournane, Valentine Hacquard. “Young children’s elicited productions of modal words: children differentiate modal ‘flavors’ and forces.” Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting, Baltimore. [\[poster\]](#)
- Jan. 2019 Muller, Hanna, Phoebe Gaston, Bethany Dickerson, Adam Liter, Karthik Durvasula, **Mina Hirzel**, Kasia Hitczenko, Margaret Kandel, Paulina Lyskawa, Jacqueline Nelligan, Maxime Papillon, Laurel Perkins. “Gender bias in representation and publishing rates across subfields.” Linguistic Society of America Meeting. New York City, NY. [talk]
- Nov. 2017 Lau, Ellen, **Mina Hirzel**, Natalia Lapinskaya, Jeffrey Lidz. “Syntactic Constituent Rate Effects in EEG.” Presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting (SNL), Baltimore. [\[poster\]](#)
- Nov. 2017 **Hirzel, Mina**, Aaron Steven White, Jeffrey Lidz. “Biased distributions in dialogs do not shape verb learning.” Presented at the 42nd Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 42), Boston. [poster]
- Mar. 2014 Latack, Kyle, **Mina Hirzel**. (2014, March). “Taking baths with duck-ducks: Exploring children’s comprehension of contrastive reduplication.” Presented at the Toronto Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (TULCON). University of Toronto, Canada. [talk]
- Sept. 2013 Gamache, Jessica, Kyle Latack, **Mina Hirzel**, Cristina Schmitt. “Noun categories in children’s production of noun-noun compounds.” Presented at Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition (GALA). Oldenburg, Germany. [talk]

Research Experience

- 2015-2016 Post-Baccalaureate Researcher, University of Maryland
PIs: Dr. Jeffrey Lidz and Dr. Ellen Lau
- 2013-2015 Undergraduate Researcher, Michigan State University
Language Acquisition Lab
PIs: Dr. Cristina Schmitt and Dr. Alan Munn
- 2013-2014 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Michigan State University
Neurolinguistics Lab
PI: Dr. Alan Beretta
- 2012-2013 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Michigan State University
Speech Perception-Production Lab
PI: Dr. Laura Dilley
- 2011-2012 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Michigan State University
Floriculture Department
Supervisors: Mike Olrich, Dr. Nate Durussel, Dr. Cathy Whitman

Teaching

- Fall 2019 Instructor for LING449B: Topics in Psycholinguistics; Acquisition of Island Constraints
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, MD
Designed and taught discussion-based seminar. (10 students)
- Spring 2019 Teaching Assistant for LING311: Syntax 1 (Tonia Bleam)
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, MD
Grading, office hours. (20 students)
- Fall 2018 Teaching Assistant for LING200: Introductory Linguistics (Margaret Antonisse)
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, MD
Prepared and led weekly discussion sessions, office hours and grading (26 students)
- Fall 2017 Teaching Assistant for LING444 (Jeffrey Lidz)
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, MD
Grading, office hours. (21 students)

Mentoring

- 2019-2020 Undergraduate student mentor
Gabriella Hochmuth (Spring 2020), Jiabao Zhou (Spring 2019), Becca Lebovitz (Fall 2019),
Mariam Aiyad (Summer 2019), University of Maryland
Acquisition of islands (3 year-olds): material design, stimuli creation, poster presentations
- 2019 Undergraduate student co-mentor (with Tyler Knowlton)
Mariam Aiyad (Fall 2019), University of Maryland
Verb learning (18 month-olds): data collection (online and offline coding), poster presentation
- 2019 Undergraduate student co-mentor (with Laurel Perkins)
William Simpson (Fall 2019), University of Maryland
Syntax and processing of wh- movement (19 month-olds): data collection and offline coding, poster presentations
- 2017-2018 Undergraduate and High School student mentor
Madelyn Seymour (Spring 2018), Grace Hynes (Spring 2017), University of Maryland
Hannah Lee (Summer 2018), Montgomery Blair High School, Silver Spring, Maryland
Acquiring modal words (3-4 year-olds): material design, offline coding, poster presentations
- 2016-2017 Undergraduate and High School student mentor
Taylor Sheely (Fall 2017), University of Maryland
Elia Martin (Fall 2016), Montgomery Blair High School, Silver Spring, Maryland
Syntactic bootstrapping & sentence processing (16 month-olds): data collection and offline coding, poster presentations

Service

2020-current	Dean's Graduate Advisory Board, Student Representative, Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland
2016-current	Managing Editor, <i>Language Acquisition: A Journal of Developmental Linguistics</i>
2018-2019	Developmental Science Workshop Co-Organizer (with Tyler Knowlton and Zoe Ovens): <i>Endless Possibilities: The Development of Possibility and Necessity in Cognition, Language and Society</i>
2019-2020	Co-Chair (with Phoebe Gaston, Hanna Muller), Linguistics Graduate Student Association
2016-2019	Outreach Committee, active member, Language Science Center, University of Maryland <i>Volunteer:</i> Maryland Day, University of Maryland (2016-2019) <i>Volunteer:</i> American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Family Days (2018 in Boston; 2019 in Washington, D.C.) <i>Volunteer:</i> Advancing Tomorrow's Leaders in STEM (ATLAS) Career Expo (2016-2017). <i>Coordinated ~5 volunteers</i> <i>Organizer:</i> Paint Branch High School visit to the Language Science Center (~100 students) (Apr. 2019, University of Maryland). <i>Planned visit, coordinated ~15 volunteers</i>
2018	Reviewer (Ad Hoc), <i>Cognitive Psychology</i>
2017-2018	Colloquium Committee, Linguistics Department, University of Maryland
2017-2018	Co-Chair (with Paulina Lyskawa), Outreach Committee, Language Science Center, University of Maryland
2017	Organizing Committee, Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) 27, University of Maryland
2017	Organizing Committee, Admissions Open House, University of Maryland

Professional Memberships

Linguistic Society of America

Selected Awards

2017-2021	Fellow, NSF-NRT Training Program, "NRT-DESE: Flexibility in Language Processes and Technology: Human- and Global-Scale" (NSF: #1449815), University of Maryland
2015-2016	Baggett Fellow, University of Maryland
2014	Honors College Conference Travel Award, Michigan State University
2014	Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) Travel Award
2013	Travel Award, College of Arts and Letters, Michigan State University
2013	Internship, Summer Linguistic Institute, University of Michigan

Skills

<i>Languages</i>	English (native), Spanish (basic)
<i>Technical</i>	R, SuperCoder, Habit, Adobe Premiere, Adobe Photoshop, Microsoft Office
<i>Speech</i>	Praat, RaP (Rhythm and Pitch) Labeling System
<i>Experimental</i>	infants (16-21mo): Intermodal Preferential-Looking Paradigm, Habituation-Switch (infant controlled) children (2.5-4yo): Question-after-story task, Truth Value Judgment Task, Sentence Repair task, "Magic" box task, Picture selection task adults: Electroencephalography (EEG)