Adam Liter

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Education

Ph.D., Linguistics   08/2017 – 05/2022
University of Maryland, College Park, MD
  Thesis: Explorations in Diagnosing Competence and Performance Factors in Linguistic Inquiry
  Advised by: Jeff Lidz (Co-chair), Norbert Hornstein (Co-chair), Yi Ting Huang, Howard Lasnik, Colin Phillips, and Omer Preminger

M.A., Linguistics   01/2013 – 05/2016
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
  Thesis: The Acquisition and Syntax of the Passive in English
  Advised by: Alan Munn (Chair), Cristina Schmitt, Marcin Morzycki

2015 Linguistic Institute   07/2015
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

B.A., Linguistics (High Honors) & B.A., Philosophy (High Honors)   08/2010 – 05/2014
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
  Thesis: Passives in English: A Theoretical and Experimental Investigation Thereof
  Advised by: Cristina Schmitt
  - Cognitive Science Specialization
  - Women's and Gender Studies Minor

2013 Linguistic Institute   06/2013 – 07/2013
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Positions

Machine Learning Scientist   01/2022 – present
Glassdoor
Faculty Research Specialist   06/2016 – 08/2017
Center for Advanced Study of Language, *University of Maryland*, *College Park, MD*

Awards, Honors, & Fellowships

Funded Awards & Fellowships

Flagship Fellowship   08/2017 – 05/2022
University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (NSF #2116270; $18,539) 08/2021 – 07/2023
National Science Foundation,

Fellow, NSF-NRT Training Program (NSF: #1449815)   09/2018 – 05/2020
University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant   01/2020
University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Outstanding Scholars Program Fellowship (declined)   04/2017
University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut

Teaching Assistantship   08/2015 – 05/2016
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Research Assistantship   08/2014 – 05/2015
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Board of Trustees' Award   05/2014
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

University Distinguished Scholarship   08/2010 – 05/2014
Honors College, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

National Merit Scholar   08/2010 – 05/2014
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Undergraduate Research Initiative – Grantee   10/2013 – 05/2014
College of Arts and Letters, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2013 Linguistic Institute Fellowship   06/2013 – 07/2013
Linguistic Society of America, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Genevieve Gillette Fellowship   05/2013 – 08/2013
Honors College, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Undergraduate Research Initiative – Grantee   10/2012 – 05/2013
College of Arts and Letters, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Professorial Assistantship   08/2010 – 05/2012
Honors College, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Honors

2016 Outstanding Graduate Student in Linguistics   05/2016
Department of Linguistics and Languages, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Outstanding Graduating Senior in LGSAAL   05/2014
Department of Linguistics and Languages, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Presentation Awards

Award Winner, Poster Presentation   04/2014
MSULC, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Category Winner (with C. Heffner)   04/2012
UURAF, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Award Winner, Poster Presentation (with C. Heffner)   04/2012
MSULC, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Publications

Refereed Journals

2022   **Liter, Adam**, Elaine Grolla & Jeffrey Lidz. Cognitive inhibition explains children's production of medial wh-phrases. *Language Acquisition* 29(3). 327–359. DOI: `10.1080/10489223.2021.2023813`.

2020   Durvasula, Karthik & **Adam Liter**. There is a simplicity bias when generalising from ambiguous data. *Phonology* 37(2). 177–213. DOI: `10.1017/S0952675720000093`.

2017   **Liter, Adam**, Christopher C. Heffner & Cristina Schmitt. The interpretation of plural morphology and (non-)obligatory number marking: An argument from artificial language learning. *Language Learning and Development* 13(4). 451–480. DOI: `10.1080/15475441.2017.1324307`.

Conference Proceedings

2021   **Liter, Adam** & Jeffrey Lidz. Non-actional passives can be comprehended by 4-year-olds. In Danielle Dionne & Lee-Ann Vidal Covas (eds.), *BUCLD 45: Proceedings of the 45th annual Boston University conference on language development*, vol. 2, 513–527. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.

2020   **Liter, Adam** & Naomi H. Feldman. Modeling the learning of the Person Case Constraint. In Allyson Ettinger, Gaja Jarosz & Max Nelson (eds.), *Proceedings of the society for computation in linguistics*, vol. 3, 372–381. DOI: `10.7275/38dj-hj49`.

2018   **Liter, Adam**, Tess Huelskamp, Christopher C. Heffner & Cristina Schmitt. Grammaticalized number, implicated presuppositions, and the plural. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 3(1): *Acquisition of quantification*. Magda Oiry (ed.). DOI: `10.5334/gjgl.532`.

Presentations

Invited Talks

2019   Grolla, Elaine, **Adam Liter** & Jeffrey Lidz. "Why do you think why kids produce medial wh-phrases?: Grammar or performance?" Michigan State Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (MSULC), Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

2016   Durvasula, Karthik & **Adam Liter**. "Learning phonological patterns from ambiguous data." North American Phonology Conference (NAPhC), Concordia University, Montréal, Canada.

Refereed Conference Talks

2020   **Liter, Adam** & Naomi H. Feldman. "Modeling the learning of the Person Case Constraint." Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL), New Orleans, LA.

2019   Munn, Alan, Rachel Stacey, Robert Felster, Adam Smolinski, **Adam Liter** & Cristina Schmitt. "Context effects in children's calculation of scalar implicatures: The case of disjunction." Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting (SRCD), Baltimore, MD.

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." Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), New York, NY.

2018 Munn, Alan, Rachel Stacey, Robert Felster, Adam Smolinski, **Adam Liter** & Cristina Schmitt. "Scalar implicature variability in adults and children: the case of 'or'." Scalar Implicatures: Formal and Experimental Exploration (SIFEE), Università di Siena, Siena, Italy.

2015 **Liter, Adam**, Tess Huelskamp, Christopher C. Heffner & Cristina Schmitt. "Non-grammaticalized number entails an exclusive interpretation of plural morphology." Workshop on Linguistics and Cognitive Aspects of Quantification (LCQ), Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary.

2013 **Liter, Adam**, Christopher C. Heffner & Cristina Schmitt. "Inclusive plural interpretations depend on grammaticalized number: An argument from artificial language learning." Workshop on the Acquisition of Quantification, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

Refereed Conference Posters

2020 **Liter, Adam** & Jeffrey Lidz. "Non-actional passives can be comprehended by 4-year olds." Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston University, Boston, MA.

2016 Durvasula, Karthik & **Adam Liter**. "Generalising from ambiguous data." Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Washington, DC.

2015 **Liter, Adam**, Tess Huelskamp, Susima Weerakoon & Alan Munn. "What drives the Maratsos Effect, agentivity or eventivity?" Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston University, Boston, MA.

Durvasula, Karthik & **Adam Liter**. "Learning generalisations in the face of ambiguous data." Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.

Conference Talks

2014 **Liter, Adam**. "Toward an explanatory account of appositives." Graduate Workshop of the American Midwest and Prairies (GWAMP), University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record

LING 419E – "Investigating Linguistic Competence: Theory and Methods"   Fall 2020
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- 🗎 Syllabus
- Designed & taught advanced undergraduate seminar with 8 students
- Adapted format for online teaching due to COVID-19 pandemic
- Graded & held office hours

TA

LING 312 – "Syntax II"   Spring 2021
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- Co-taught course ($\approx$ 15 students) with Juan Uriagereka
- Graded & held office hours

LING 311 – "Syntax I"   Spring 2020
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- Graded & held office hours
- Helped with transition to online teaching due to COVID-19 pandemic

LING 200 – "Introductory Linguistics"   Fall 2018, Spring 2019
Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- Taught 1 discussion section ($\approx$ 30 students)
- Graded & held office hours

IAH 204 – "Asia and the World"   Fall 2015, Spring 2016
Department of Linguistics and Languages, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- Taught 3 discussion sections ($\approx$ 20 students each)
- Graded & held office hours

Tutoring

Departmentwide Undergraduate Tutor   Fall 2013, Spring 2014
Department of Philosophy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- Tutored peers in all undergraduate philosophy courses weekly

Undergraduate Mentoring

Spring 2020

- Katie Kincaid
  - *Passives are known by everyone (even four-year olds)*
  - Poster presented at UMD's Undergraduate Research Day

Fall 2018

- Bekki Kline
  - *Acquisition of the English Passive*
  - Poster presented at UMD Acquisition Lab poster session

Summer 2018

- Rosetta Previti
  - *What factors make passives easier for children to understand?*
  - Poster presented at Language Science Day 2018

2015 – 2016

- Tess Huelskamp
    - *Reassessing the Verbal Distinction of the Maratsos Effect*
    - Poster presented at GLEEFUL & UURAF; talk given at MSULC
- Julia Andary, Robert Felster, & Natalie Chemey
    - *It is either high or low: Investigating children's and adult's understanding of 'or'*
    - Poster presented at UURAF & MSULC
- Rachel Stacey & Adam Smolinski
    - *C-or-pus: How children learn the properties of 'either/or'*
    - Poster presented at UURAF & MSULC

2014 – 2015

- Tess Huelskamp, Susima Weerakoon, & Adam Smolinski
    - *Seeking perfection in death*
    - Poster presented at UURAF, MSULC, & GLEEFUL
- Tess Huelskamp, Susima Weerakoon, & Taylor Sydow
    - *What underlies the Maratsos Effect, agentivity or eventivity?*
    - Poster presented at UURAF, MSULC, & GLEEFUL

2013 – 2014

- Tess Huelskamp & Emily Glaser
    - *An Artificial Language Investigation of Number & Number Neutrality*
    - Poster presented at UURAF & MSULC
- Adam Greene & Kevin Kain
    - *Accounting for Comprehension Asymmetries in Children's Acquisition of the Passive*
    - Poster presented at UURAF & MSULC

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

SERVICE

COSIAC Committee Member   07/2015 – present
Linguistic Society of America, *Washington, DC*

Organizing Committee Member   05/2019
Mayfest 2019 – WSCLA, *University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

Co-Chair   02/2019
ECO-5, *University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

Organizing Committee Member   05/2018
Mayfest 2018, *University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

Organizing Committee Member   09/2016
MidPhon 21, *Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI*

President   08/2012 – 05/2014
qUALMS, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Chair ('13 & '14), Vice Chair ('11 & '12)   04/2011, 04/2012, 04/2013, 04/2014
GLEEFUL, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Vice Chair ('13 & '14), Chair ('11 & '12)   04/2011, 04/2012, 04/2013, 04/2014
MSULC, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Manuscript Reviewer

Language Acquisition   2020

Conference Abstract Reviewer

GLEEFUL   2015, 2016, 2017

Editorial Board

Assistant Editorial Board Member   2012 – 2014
Stance, Ball State University, Munice, IN

Student Editorial Board Member   2013
ReCUR, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Professional Affiliations

Member   2012 – present
Linguistic Society of America

Skills

Languages

Native English (specifically, North-Central American English)

Intermediate German, French

Beginner Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese

Computing

Advanced LaTeX, Python (including NumPy, pandas, Scikit-Learn, PyTorch, PySpark, spaCy, NLTK, Gensim), R, Linux, git, Docker, HTML

Intermediate nginx, CSS, PsychoPy, E-Prime, psiTurk

Beginner JavaScript, CLAN, Praat, CorpusSearch