

Chris Cummins

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Academic employment:

2011- Research Associate
Faculty of Linguistics and Literary Studies, Bielefeld University
SFB 673, Alignment in Communication, project A3 – Dialogue and Group
Dynamics

Education:

2008-11 Research Centre for English and Applied Linguistics (RCEAL), University of
Cambridge.
PhD. Supervisor: Dr Napoleon Katsos.
Thesis title: *The interpretation and use of numerically quantified expressions*.

2007-8 RCEAL, University of Cambridge.
MPhil, English and Applied Linguistics (distinction).

2001-5 Trinity College, University of Cambridge.
BA (Hons., Class I).
Part IA, IB: Mathematics, Part II: Linguistics.

1993-2000 Our Lady of Sion School, Worthing, West Sussex.
5 A-levels (grade A); STEP II, III Mathematics (Grade I); 10 GCSEs (A*).

Academic awards:

2008-11 Domestic Research Studentship, University of Cambridge.

2007-8 Internal Graduate Studentship, Trinity College, University of Cambridge.

2004-5 Senior Scholarship, Trinity College, University of Cambridge.

2002-3 Junior Scholarship, Trinity College, University of Cambridge.

Other funding awards:

2010 Euro-XPrag Collaborative Research in Experimental Pragmatics travel grant
(€3325), with Stephanie Solt (ZAS, Berlin) and Marijan Palmović (Zagreb).
Euro-XPrag Collaborative Research in Experimental Pragmatics travel grant
(€2525), with Richard Breheny (UCL), Emmanuel Chemla (ENS), Bart
Geurts (Radboud University, Nijmegen) and Napoleon Katsos (RCEAL).

2009 Euro-XPrag Collaborative Research in Experimental Pragmatics travel grant
(€4000), with Uli Sauerland and Stephanie Solt (ZAS, Berlin).

COST Action A33 STSM (short-term scientific mission) grant (€444), to visit Bart Geurts (Radboud University, Nijmegen).

Publications:

- accepted Cummins, C., Sauerland, U. and Solt, S. Granularity and scalar implicature in numerical expressions. To appear in *Linguistics and Philosophy*.
- in press Cummins, C. and Katsos, N. Modelling context within a constraint-based account of quantifier usage. To appear in Meibauer, J., Schumacher, P and Finkbeiner, R.. (eds.), *What is a Context?* Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Katsos, N. *et al.* To what extent does the development of conceptual categories depend on language? To appear in *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*, Somerville MA: Cascadilla Press.
- 2011 Katsos, N., Andrés Roqueta, C., Estevan, R. A. C. and Cummins, C. Are children with Specific Language Impairment competent with the pragmatics and logic of quantification? *Cognition*, 119: 43-57.
- 2010 Cummins, C. and Katsos, N. Experimental challenges to the modal account of superlative quantifiers. *Journal of Semantics*, 27: 271-305.
- Katsos, N. and Cummins, C. Pragmatics: from theory to experiment and back again. *Language and Linguistics Compass*, 4/5: 282-95.
- Katsos, N. and Cummins, C. Teaching and Learning Guide for Pragmatics: from theory to experiment and back again. *Language and Linguistics Compass Teaching and Learning Guides*, 3/1: 1-7.
- Geurts, B., Katsos, N., Cummins, C., Moons, J. and Noordman, L. Scalar quantifiers: logic, acquisition, and processing. *Language and Cognitive Processes*, 25(1): 130-48.

Conference presentations and invited talks:

- Jan 2012 ‘Is too much information too much trouble?’ Oral presentation at Workshop on Conversational Implicatures, Radboud University Nijmegen.
- Oct 2011 ‘Can priming account for implicature failure?’ SFB 673 Colloquium series, Universität Bielefeld.
- Oct 2011 (with Richard Breheny, Emmanuel Chemla, Bart Geurts and Napoleon Katsos) ‘Are presuppositions accommodated globally by default?’ Oral presentation at Euro-XPrag workshop, Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa.
- Sep 2011 (with Stephanie Solt and Marijan Palmović). ‘The preference for approximation’. Oral presentation at Euro-XPrag workshop, Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa.
- Aug 2011 ‘Constraints on quantifiers’. Oral presentation at workshop on Proper Use of Quantification in Ordinary Language (PUQOL), ESSLLI 2011, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

- Aug 2011 (with Patrícia Amaral and Napoleon Katsos). ‘Experimental evidence on the distinction between foregrounded and backgrounded meaning’. Oral presentation at workshop on Projective Content, ESSLLI 2011, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- Jun 2011 (with Uli Sauerland and Stephanie Solt). ‘Implicatures and modified numerals’. Oral presentation at XPrag 2011, Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Barcelona.
- Jun 2011 (with Patrícia Amaral). ‘Backgrounding through presupposition’. Poster at XPrag 2011, UPF, Barcelona.
- May 2011 ‘Implicatures from deficient scales’. Oral presentation at Semantics and Pragmatics Cluster Workshop, University of Cambridge.
- Apr 2011 ‘Recovering some, if not all, of the speaker’s meaning’. Invited talk at Universität Bielefeld, Germany.
- Mar 2011 ‘The interaction of contextual and linguistic factors in the selection of quantified expressions’. Oral presentation at Meaning, Context and Cognition (MCC 2011), Łódź, Poland.
- Feb 2011 (with Napoleon Katsos). ‘What is the speaker’s context when selecting numerically-quantified expressions?’ Invited talk at the DGfS 33rd Annual Meeting, working group ‘What is a Context?’, Göttingen, Germany.
- Feb 2011 (with Uli Sauerland and Stephanie Solt). ‘More than 100 implicatures’. Oral presentation at the DGfS 33rd Annual Meeting, working group ‘Implicatures and Discourse Structure’, Göttingen, Germany.
- Jan 2011 (with Uli Sauerland and Stephanie Solt). ‘Experimental evidence for implicatures with modified numerals’. Oral presentation at the Linguistic Society of America 85th Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Dec 2010 ‘Modelling the pragmatic effects of approximation’. Oral presentation at Vague Quantities and Vague Quantifiers (VQ2) workshop, Berlin.
- Jun 2010 (with Uli Sauerland and Stephanie Solt). ‘A constraint-based approach to the meaning and use of quantified expressions’. Oral presentation at Euro-XPrag workshop, Leuven.
- May 2010 ‘Drawing and cancelling granularity-based inferences’. Oral presentation at Looking at Language Acquisition workshop (LALA-XI), RCEAL, University of Cambridge.
- Mar 2010 (with Napoleon Katsos). ‘Using epistemic state in drawing scalar inferences’. Oral presentation at PsyLingSE meeting, UCL, London.
- Dec 2009 ‘Constraints on numerically-quantified expressions’. Invited talk at Utrecht Institute of Linguistics.
- Dec 2009 ‘Pragmatic interpretation and use of numerically-quantified expressions’. Invited talk at Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS), Berlin.

- Oct 2009 'The semantics and pragmatics of numerically-quantified expressions', RCEAL Tuesday Colloquium series, RCEAL, University of Cambridge.
- Apr 2009 (with Napoleon Katsos). 'Numerically quantified expressions'. Oral presentation at XPrag 2009, Lyon.
- Sep 2008 'Scrambled word recognition: Implications for position coding'. Poster presentation at AMLaP 2008, Cambridge.

Work as referee:

Journals: Journal of Semantics; Australian Journal of Linguistics; Lingua; Linguistic Review; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition; Journal of Logic, Language and Information.

Events: CamLing 2010, XPrag 2011

Other recent employment:

- 2008-11 RCEAL, University of Cambridge (part-time).
Website technician
Member of RCEAL IT Committee (2009-11)
- 2005-7 Data Connection Ltd, Enfield
Technical writer, Documentation Group
- 2005-7 Cambridge Tutors (part-time)
Private tutor: mathematics (undergraduate level), sciences (GCSE level).
- 2006- Freelance academic proofreader (part-time)
Work includes books on linguistics and psychology, University of Cambridge PhD theses in linguistics and in materials science, and journal papers on various topics.

Skills:

Extensive experience in theoretical and applied statistics; competence with R and SPSS.

Competence with Python; some experience with C, Java and other languages.

Experience with E-Prime and Superlab.

Experience with HTML, CSS, MS Office, Paint Shop Pro and various other packages.

Some competence in German, Spanish and French. Basic knowledge of Croatian.

Miscellaneous:

Finalist on BBC4 quiz show Only Connect (2010).

Captain of Trinity College team on University Challenge (2004).

Champion of Countdown, Series 50 (2003).

Captained Our Lady of Sion School team to win the EPSRC Science Race 2000.