

Forrest Davis

Curriculum Vitae

MIT Linguistics and Philosophy
77 Massachusetts Avenue, 32-D808
Cambridge, MA 02139

+1 (208) 720 6384

✉ forrestd@mit.edu

📄 conf.ling.cornell.edu/forrestdavis/
<https://github.com/forrestdavis>

Education

- 2022- **Postdoctoral Associate**, *Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.*
- 2022 **PhD**, *Department of Linguistics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.*
Advisor: Marten van Schijndel
Committee Members: Dorit Abusch, Miloje Despić, John Whitman
Dissertation - *On the Limitations of Data: Mismatches between Neural Models of Language and Humans*
- 2020 **MA**, *Linguistics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.*
- 2017 **BA**, *Computer Science and Mathematics, Columbia University, New York, NY.*

Awards

- 2021 ACL 2021 Outstanding Reviewer
- 2020 President's Travel Fund for the Humanities, Cornell University
- 2019 Graduate School Conference Travel Grant, Cornell University
- 2019, 2018 Linguistics Department Conference Travel Grant, Cornell University
- 2018 Sage Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2017, 2016 Work Exemption Program Grant, Columbia University

Publications

Journal Articles

- 2021 Finding Event Structure in Time: What Recurrent Neural Networks can tell us about Event Structure in Mind
Forrest Davis and Gerry T.M. Altmann
In *Cognition*, 213. 2021.

Peer-Reviewed Proceedings

- 2022 Incremental Processing of Principle B: Mismatches Between Neural Models and Humans
Forrest Davis
Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL 2022; 26%)
- 2021 Uncovering Constraint-Based Behavior in Neural Models via Targeted Fine-Tuning
Forrest Davis and Marten van Schijndel
Proceedings of the 59th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 2021; 21.3%)

- 2020 Discourse structure interacts with reference but not syntax in neural language models
Forrest Davis and Marten van Schijndel
Proceedings of the 2020 Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL; 23.3%)
- 2020 Interaction with Context During Recurrent Neural Network Sentence Processing
Forrest Davis and Marten van Schijndel
Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2020)
- 2020 Recurrent Neural Network Language Models Always Learn English-Like Relative Clause Attachment
Forrest Davis and Marten van Schijndel
Proceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 2020; 22.7%)
- 2017 Linguistically Rich Vector Representations of Supertags for TAG Parsing
 Dan Friedman, Jungo Kasai, R Thomas McCoy, Robert Frank, **Forrest Davis**, Owen Rambow
Proceedings of the 13th International Workshop on Tree Adjoining Grammars and Related Formalisms

Presentations (reviewed by abstract)

- 2020 Recurrent neural networks use discourse context in human-like garden path alleviation
Forrest Davis and Marten van Schijndel
 33rd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (CUNY 2020), Amherst, Massachusetts
- 2020 Categorical and gradient dimensions of stress in English compounds
Forrest Davis and Abigail C. Cohn
 2020 Workshop of the Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLSW 2020), Berkeley, California
- 2020 The relationship between lexical frequency, compositionality, and phonological reduction in English compounds
Forrest Davis and Abigail C. Cohn
 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2020), New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2019 Effects of lexical frequency and compositionality on phonological reduction in English compounds
Forrest Davis and Abigail C. Cohn
 The 25th Architectures and Mechanisms of Language Processing Conference (AMLaP 2019), Moscow, Russia
- 2019 The pragmatics of single wh-in situ questions in English
Forrest Davis
 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2019), New York, NY

Invited Talks

- 2023 Principle B, Processing, and Neural Models of Language
 Language and Cognition Group, Harvard University
- 2022 What do Neural Models of Language Actually Model?

- University of Sheffield
- 2021 Investigating Competing Training Signals in Language
Stanford University
- 2019 Recurrent Neural Network Syntactic Representations in Linguistic Contexts
University of Connecticut
- 2019 Language as a science
Peddie School

Teaching

- Spring 2023 Special Seminar: Topics in Computational Linguistics MIT
- Fall 2022 Special Seminar: Methods in Computational Linguistics MIT
- Spring 2022 Superlinguistics: Comics, Signs and Other Sequential Images Cornell University
- Spring 2021 Introduction to Cognitive Science Cornell University
- Spring 2021 Pragmatics Cornell University
- Fall 2020 Language and Law Cornell University
- Spring 2020 Computational Linguistics Cornell University
- Fall 2019 Guest Lecture, Phonology I: Prosodic representation of English compounds Cornell University
- Fall 2019 Introduction to Syntax and Semantics Cornell University
- Spring 2019 Pragmatics Cornell University
- Spring 2019 Computational Linguistics Cornell University
- Fall 2018 Introduction to Linguistics Cornell University

Service

- 2019 Senior Editor of Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT 29)
- 2018–2019 Graduate Student Representative on New Faculty Hiring Committee
- 2018 Junior Editor of Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT 28)
- 2018 Annual Meeting for the North East Linguistics Society (NELS 49) Committee Member
- 2017–2019 Cornell Linguistics Circle web admin

Reviewing

- Conferences **ACL** 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 **CoNLL** 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 **EMNLP** 2021, 2022
HSP 2023 **Penn Linguistics Conference** 2023
- Journals Cognition, Glossa Psycholinguistics

Technical Skills

- Programming Languages PYTHON, C, C++, MATLAB, R, JAVA, AWK, HTML
- Human Languages ENGLISH, FRENCH (INTERMEDIATE), HINDI/URDU (INTERMEDIATE)

Updated

Last Updated January 29, 2023