

Zahra Mirrazi

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Research interests

semantics, syntax, pragmatics, and their interfaces

Employment

Oct 2022 – **University of California, Los Angeles** – Los Angeles, CA
Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Postdoctoral Fellow in Iranian Linguistics.
Mentors: Ethan Poole & Yael Sharvit

Education

- 2016 – 2022 **University of Massachusetts, Amherst** – Amherst, MA
PhD in Linguistics
Dissertation: Tense in conditionals: Ins and Outs.
Advisor: Ana Arregui
- Nov–Dec 2018 **Uppsala University** – Uppsala, Sweden
Visiting Researcher
Sponsor: Eleanor Coghill
Project: Micro-Variation in Aspect Splits in Neo-Aramaic languages
- 2015 – 2016 **University of Tehran** – Iran
PhD in Linguistics – Incomplete
- 2013 – 2015 **University of Tehran** – Iran
MA in Linguistics
Thesis: Neg-raising in Persian
Supervisor: Ali Darzi
- 2009 – 2013 **University of Tehran** – Iran
BA in English Language & literature

Summer schools

- August 2019 **DGfS Summer School 2019. Experimental Pragmatics: Theory, Methods, Interfaces** – Humboldt-University
- July 2018 **The 2nd Crete Summer School of Linguistics**, – University of Crete, Rethymnon
- July 2017 **The 1st Crete Summer School of Linguistics** – University of Crete, Rethymnon
- July 2015 **The NY-St. Petersburg Institute of Linguistics, Cognition and Culture (NYI)** – Saint Petersburg State University

Honors and scholarships

- 2024-2028 A **DFG (German Research Foundation) grant** for a full-time postdoc position jointly at Georg August University Göttingen and Goethe University Frankfurt within the Collaborative Research Center SFB 1629 “*Negation in Language and Beyond*”
Project A04 “**Resolving the Neg-Raising Paradox**”
Principle Investigators: Manfred Sailer & Hedde Zeijlstra

- 2017 **Pre-Dissertation Summer Fellowship**
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- 2015 **1st rank/ 900 participants. Iran's Nationwide PhD Entrance Exam**, Linguistics
- 2013 **1st rank/ 3000 participants. Iran's Nationwide MA Entrance Exam**, Linguistics
- 2009 **14th rank/ 150000+ participants. Iran's Nationwide BA Entrance Exam** , Foreign Languages

Publications

Proceedings papers

- To be submitted **From Perfectivity to Performativity in conditionals**
In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 28*.
- To appear **Modal Past is Past: evidence from non-SOT languages.**
with Michela Ippolito. In *Proceedings of West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 41*.
- To appear **Choice functions & Binder Roof Constraint.**
In *Proceedings of West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 41*.
- 2023 **Missing words and missing worlds.**
with Hedde Zeijlstra. In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 27*.
- 2021 **Licensing by Modification: Existential Readings of Bare Plurals in Farsi**
In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 25*.
- 2021 **Functional indefinites: Skolemization As Alienable Possession.**
In *Proceedings of the 2021 ESSLLI Student Session*.
- 2021 **Neg-raising without lexical excluded middle inferences: Resolving Horn Clauses and other problems.**
with Hedde Zeijlstra. In *Proceedings of the 23rd Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 23)*

Journal articles under review

- Under review **Presuppositions of Tense and Strength of Counterfactuality.** *Natural Language Semantics*.
- Under review **Indefinites in Negated Intensional Contexts: An argument for world-skolemized choice functions.** *Semantics & Pragmatics*

Journal articles in prep

- To be submitted **What's in an X-marked conditionals: evidence from Sequence of Tense.**
with Michela Ippolito. *Natural Language Semantics*.
- To be submitted **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.**
with Hedde Zeijlstra. *Journal of Semantics*.
- In Prep **A unified theory of indefinites** . *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*.
- In Prep **Deriving Truth Commitments of Mood from Presuppositions of Tense** . *Glossa* .

Book chapters

- Submitted **Aspectual distinctions in Farsi indicative and subjunctive forms** . *Advances in Iranian Linguistics*, Vol. 3, Current Issues in Linguistic Theory. John Benjamins.

Edited volumes

- In prep **Advances in Iranian Linguistics, Vol. 3.** Current Issues in Linguistic Theory. John Benjamins.
with Masoud Jasbi & Vida Samiian

Other manuscripts

- 2019 **Micro-Variation in Aspect Splits in Nominative-Accusative system**
UMass Amherst generals paper.

Presentations

Invited Presentations

- September 2023 **Embedded tenses in conditionals.**
19th Workshop on Syntax, Semantics and Phonology.
Nantes Université, France
- September 2023 **Toward a unified theory of indefinites**
19th Workshop on Syntax, Semantics and Phonology.
Nantes Université, France
- June 2023 **Choice functions & Binder Roof Constraint.**
English Linguistics Oberseminar
University of Göttingen, Germany
- July 2022 **Missing Modals** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
Workshop on Modality, Creteling Summer school
- June 2022 **Missing Words and Missing Worlds** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
HU-Workshop on “Multiple Modality”
- February 2022 **Persian Conditionals.**
the Iranian Linguistics Research Team, University of Arizona
- December 2021 **Persian Counterfactuals.**
Converging On Causal Ontology Analyses (COCOA) online workshop.
- April 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
English Linguistics Oberseminar, University of Göttingen
- March 2021 **Modal Skolemization: Indefinites in Negative Contexts.**
University of Tehran
- January 2021 **Indefinites: An Argument for Skolemization with World Variables**
English Linguistics Oberseminar, University of Göttingen
- June 2018 **Farsi Fake Indexicals: Reconciling Kratzer (2009) and Wurmbrand (2017).**
with Rodica Ivan
University of Tehran
- January 2018 **Structural Locations and Competition: The Case of Persian RA.**
with Leah Chapman
University of Tehran
- January 2018 **An OT analysis of Gemimates in Farsi.**
University of Tehran

Peer-reviewed Presentations

- September 2023 **From Perfectivity to Performativity in Conditionals**
Sinn und Bedeutung 28. Ruhr University Bochum, Germany.
- June 2023 **From Perfectivity to Performativity in Conditionals**
TripleA 10. Potsdam University, Germany.
- May 2023 **Choice functions & Binder Roof Constraint**
West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 41. University of California, Santa Cruz.
- May 2023 **Modal Past is Past: evidence from non-SOT languages** with Michela Ippolito
West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics 41. University of California, Santa Cruz.
- November 2022 **Presuppositions of Tense and Strength of Counterfactuality**
International Conference on Tense and Aspect in Conditionals. INALCO, Paris, France.
- September 2022 **Missing words and missing worlds.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
Sinn und Bedeutung 27. Charles University. Czech Republic.

- April 2022 **Strength of counterfactuality and presuppositions of tense pronouns.**
Workshop on Typological generalizations and semantic theory. GLOW 45. Queen Mary University of London. UK.
- April 2022 **Missing words and missing worlds.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
The Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 58)
- February 2022 **Performative conditionals.**
Commitments in Grammar and Discourse (Commit22).
- January 2022 **Functional indefinites: Skolemization as implicit possession.**
The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2022).
- January 2022 **Neg-raising without lexical excluded middle.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2022).
- December 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
Syntax and Semantics Conference in Paris (CSSP 2021)
- December 2021 **Skolemization As Implicit Alienable Possession .** (Alternate talk)
Syntax and Semantics Conference in Paris (CSSP 2021)
- October 2021 **Neg-raising without lexical excluded middle inferences.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
Moscow HSE Pragmatics Workshop
- October 2021 **Functional indefinites: Skolemization as implicit possession.**
Moscow HSE Pragmatics Workshop
- August 2021 **Neg-raising without lexical excluded middle inferences in English and Farsi.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
The 23rd Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 23)
- August 2021 **Skolemization As Implicit Alienable Possession.**
the 2021 ESSLLI Student Session
- July 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
Workshop on Negation - The 28th International Conference on HPSG
- July 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
The 36th annual conference of the Israel Association for Theoretical Linguistics (IATL 36)
- May 2021 **A non-lexical approach to Neg-raising.** with Hedde Zeijlstra.
12th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science
- September 2020 **Micro-Variation in Aspect Splits in Nominative-Accusative system.**
9th Cambridge Comparative Syntax conference (CamCoS 9 New) . co-hosted virtually by the University of Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin University and Newcastle University. UK.
- September 2020 **Licensing by Modification: Existential Readings of Bare Plurals in Farsi.**
Sinn und Bedeutung 25. co-hosted virtually by University College London (UCL) and Queen Mary University of London. UK.
- May 2019 **Indefinites: An argument for Skolemization with World Variables.**
GLOW 42. University of Oslo, Norway.
- May 2019 **Farsi Fake Indexicals & embedded T Agreement: Predication Matters!**
with Rodica Ivan
GLOW 42. University of Oslo, Norway.
- April 2019 **Farsi Fake Indexicals & embedded T Agreement: Predication Matters!**
with Rodica Ivan
Second North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics (NACIL2), University of Arizona, United States.

- January 2019 **Farsi Fake Indexicals & embedded T Agreement: Predication Matters!**
with Rodica Ivan
The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2019). New York, NY.
- June 2018 **Farsi Fake Indexicals: Reconciling Kratzer (2009) and Wurmbrand (2017)**. with Rodica Ivan
The 5th Meeting of the Semantics of African, Asian, and Austronesian Languages (TripleA 5). University of Konstanz, Germany.
- April 2017 **Neg-Raising in Persian**.
with Ali Darzi
First North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics (NACIL1), Stony Brook University, United States.
- April 2017 **Structural Locations and Competition: The Case of Persian RA**.
with Leah Chapman
First North American Conference in Iranian Linguistics (NACIL1), Stony Brook University, United States.

Non-Refereed Presentations

- October 2023 **Resolving the Neg-Raising Paradox**. with Manfred Sailer & Hedde Zeijlstra
Negation in Language and Beyond.
Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany
- December 2017 **Neg-Raising in Persian**.
Talk at SNEWS 2017, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, United States.

Teaching experience

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

- Winter 2023, **Main Instructor, LING 120B: Syntax I**
Winter 2024
- Spring 2023, **Main Instructor, LING 120C: Semantics I**
Fall 2023

NYI (the NYI Global Institute of Cultural, Cognitive, and Linguistic Studies)

- January 2023 **Puzzles in Semantics**
- July 2022 **Conditionals and Tense**
with Hedde Zeijlstra
- January 2022 **Missing words and missing worlds**
with Hedde Zeijlstra

University of Massachusetts, Amherst (UMass)

- Fall 2021 **Teaching Associate, LING 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory**
- Spring 2021 **Teaching assistant, LING 401: Introduction to Syntax**
Instructor: Kyle Johnson
- Fall 2020 **Teaching assistant, LING 510: Introduction to Semantics**
Instructor: Vincent Homer
- Summer 2020 **Teaching assistant, LING 101: People and Their Language**
Instructor: Magda Oiry
- Spring 2020 **Teaching assistant, LING 620: Formal Semantics**
Instructor: Vincent Homer

- Spring 2019 **Teaching assistant, LING 201: Introduction to Linguistic Theory**
Instructor: Kyle Johnson
- Fall 2018 **Teaching assistant, LING 510: Introduction to Semantics**
Instructor: Vincent Homer
- Spring 2018 **Teaching assistant, LING 101: People and Their Language**
Instructor: Rajesh Bhatt
- Fall 2017 **Teaching assistant, LING 101: People and Their Language**
Instructor: Magda Oiry

University of Tehran

- Summer 2018 **Instructor, Introduction to Semantics**

Academic Service

Reviewing

- Journals** GLOSSA (2019, 2023), NLLT (2023), SYNTAX (2023), LINGUISTIC VARIATION (2023)
- Book chapters** JOHN BENJAMINS (2019, 2023) “*Advances in Iranian Linguistics*”, WALTER DE GRUYTER MOUTON (2023) “*Tense and aspect in counterfactuals*”
- Conferences** Syntax and Semantics Conference in Paris (2023), Semantics and Linguistics Theory (2022, 2023, 2024), Workshop on modality in underdescribed languages: Methods & insights (2023), European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (2021,2022), Sinn und Bedeutung: The Special Session on The Semantics of Understudied Languages and Semantic Fieldwork (2020), North American Conference on Iranian Languages (2020 [proceedings of NACIL2], 2023), Triple A (2019).

Committee service

- 2022-2023 **Conference Organizing Committee**
NACIL3, UCLA.
- 2018-2019 **Committee on Equity and Inclusiveness**
Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Professional skills

- Technical** L^AT_EX, Python, Praat, R, PsychoPy
- Languages** English (fluent), Farsi (native), Arabic (intermediate)
Fieldwork: Shaputnaya (Neo-Aramaic) , Yalalag Zapotec

References

- Ana Arregui Professor, UMass Amherst
ana@linguist.umass.edu
- Rajesh Bhatt Professor, UMass Amherst
bhatt@linguist.umass.edu
- Yael Sharvit Professor, UCLA
ysharvit@gmail.com
- Hedde Zeijlstra Professor, Georg-August-University
hzeijls@uni-goettingen.de