

Angela Xiaoxue He

Updated: Mar 31st, 2018

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Research Interests

Interests Language learning and cognition, first language acquisition, word learning

Approaches Learner diversity (e.g., children with autism spectrum disorders), language diversity
Interplay of linguistic, cognitive and social-communicative development

Employment

2015 Sep - Postdoctoral Researcher
Dept. of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences, Boston University
Supervisor: Sudha Arunachalam

Education

2009-2015 PhD, Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park
Dissertation title: Verb Learning Under Guidance
Dissertation advisor: Jeffrey Lidz
Committee members: Jeffrey Lidz, Alexander Williams, Colin Phillips, Rochelle Newman

2005-2009 Bachelor of Arts, Department of Linguistics, Chinese University of Hong Kong, China
Co-advisors: Thomas Hun-tak Lee & Virginia Choi-yin Yip

Fellowships, Grants & Awards

2017 Peter Jusczyk Best Paper Award from the Society of Language Development
Winning paper titled "Verb Learning in 14- and 18-Month-Old English-Learning Infants"

2016-2017 Dudley Allen Sargent Research Fund Faculty/Postdoc Competition
Boston University, \$5,000

2016 Travel Award for the 37th Annual Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders

2015 Howard Lasnik Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Graduate Student

2014 Society for Language Development Student Award

2014	Graduate Teaching-Assistantship, Linguistics, Univ. of Maryland
2014	Graduate Travel Award, College of Arts and Humanities, Univ. of Maryland
2014	Jacob K Goldhaber Travel Award, Graduate School, Univ. of Maryland
2014	International Conference Student Support Award, Univ. of Maryland
2009-2014	Graduate Fellowship, Linguistics, Univ. of Maryland, \$20,000 each year
2011-2013	Language Science Fellowship, Univ. of Maryland, \$5,000 each year
2005-2009	Scholarship, Chinese Univ. of Hong Kong, \$10,000 each year

Publications

Refereed Journals

He, A. X. & Arunachalam, S. (2017). Word Learning Strategies. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews on Cognitive Science*, 8(4). doi:10.1002/wcs.1435

He, A. X. & Lidz, J. (2017). Verb Learning in 14- and 18-Month-Old English-Learning Infants. *Language Learning and Development*, 13(3), 335-356. doi:10.1080/15475441.2017.1285238

He, A. X., Kon, M. & Arunachalam, S. (under 2nd round revision). How much information is too much? Informativity and processing cost in verb learning.

He, A. X., Luyster, R., Hong, S. J., & Arunachalam, S. (under 2nd round review). Personal pronoun usage in maternal input to infants at high vs. low risk for autism spectrum disorder.

de Carvalho A., **He A. X.**, Lidz J., & Christophe A. (under 2nd round revision). Prosody cues the acquisition of word meanings in 18- month-old infants.

Conference Proceedings

Arunachalam, S., & **He, A. X.** (To appear). Children's acquisition of nouns that denote events. *Proceedings of the 42nd Boston University Conference on Language Development*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press.

Wellwood, A., **He, A. X.**, Lidz, J. & Williams, A. (2015). Participant structure in event perception: Towards the acquisition of implicitly 3-place predicates. *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Penn Linguistics Colloquium (PLC)*, 21(1). Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania.

In Preparation

He, A. X., Huang, S., Waxman, S. R., & Arunachalam, A. Two-year-olds consolidate verb meanings during a nap.

He, A. X. & Wittenberg, E. Mapping from form to meaning: acquisition of event nominals and light verb construction.

He, A. X. & Lidz, J. When one cue is better than two: The role of processing in novel verb learning and verb meaning extension.

He, A. X., Wellwood, A., Lidz, J. & Williams, A. Participant structure representation in infancy: A prelude to understanding the syntactic bootstrapping theory of verb learning.

Presentations

Invited Talks and Colloquia

He, A. X. (Dec 2017). Tackling those tough words: acquisition of verbs, abstract nouns, and pronouns. Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences Colloquium Series, Boston University.

He, A. X. (Nov 2017). What do we learn from acquisition of "tough" words? – Bringing linguistic, cognitive and social development together. Brown bag talk in Developmental Science Colloquium, Boston University.

He, A. X. (May 2017). Towards optimal input: Information and processing load in verb learning. Communication Sciences & Disorders Research Day, Boston University.

He, A. X. (April 2016). The role of sentence parsing, event analysis, and their relation in verb learning. Language and Cognition workshop, Harvard University.

He, A. X. (June 2015). Guided verb learning. Project on Child Development laboratory, Northwestern University.

Conference Oral Presentations – Individual Talks

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (Jan 2017). How much information is too much: Informativity and processing cost in verb learning. The 91st annual meeting of Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Austin, TX.

Perkins, L., **He, A. X.**, Williams, A., Dudley, R., Björnsdóttir, S. & Lidz, J. (Mar 2016). Can Intransitive Clauses Name 2-Participant Events? A New Test of Participant-to-Argument Matching in Verb Learning. The 29th annual CUNY conference on Human Sentence Processing: Workshop on event structure, Gainesville, FL.

He, A. X., & Lidz, J. (Jan 2016). What infants learn about a verb depends on its subject. The 90th annual meeting of Linguistic Society of America (LSA), DC.

de Carvalho, A., **He, A. X.**, Lidz, J. & Christophe, A. (Nov 2015). 18-month-olds use the relationship between prosodic and syntactic structures to constrain the meaning of novel words. The 40th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston University, Boston, MA.

de Carvalho, A., **He, A. X.**, Dautrichel, I., Lidz, J. & Christophe, A. (Sept 2015). Phrasal prosody helps infants to access the syntactic structure of sentences and to constrain the acquisition of novel word meanings. Workshop on the role of prosody in early speech perception, the 12th Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition conference (GALA), Nantes, France.

He, A. X., & Lidz, J. (Nov 2014). Development of the verb-event link between 14 and 18 months. The 39th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston University, Boston, MA.

He, A. X., Meng, X., Williams, A. & Lidz, J. (May 2014). Thematic interpretation and cross-linguistic variations: Evidence from English- and Mandarin-learning children. The 22nd Annual Conference of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL) & the 26th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL), College Park, MD.

Wellwood, A., **He, A. X.**, Lidz, J. & Williams, A. (Mar 2014). Participant structure in event perception: towards the acquisition of implicitly 3-place predicates. The 38th annual Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC), Philadelphia, PA.

Conference Oral Presentations – Symposium Talks

Arunachalam, S., & **He, A. X.** (Nov 2017). Children's acquisition of nouns that denote events. Paper at the 42nd Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD). Boston University, Boston, MA. In Sunday Closing Symposium titled "Event Concepts and Early word learning"; Chairs: Jeffrey Lidz & Alexander Williams.

He, A. X., Waxman, S. R., & Arunachalam, S., (Oct 2017). Two-year-olds consolidate verb meanings during a nap. Paper at the 2017 Cognitive Development Society (CDS) Biennial Conference, Portland, OR. In the symposium titled "Memory consolidation and learning across early childhood"; Chair: **Angela Xiaoxue He**.

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (July 2017). How we conceptualize the ends of events (and what it might mean for verb acquisition). Paper at the 14th International Congress for the Study of Child Language (IASCL). Lyon, France. In the symposium titled "Encoding Events in Language and Cognition"; Chair: Ercenur Ünal.

He, A. X. & Lidz, J. (May 2016). When one cue is better than two: trade-off between processing load and informativity in verb learning and verb extension tasks. Paper at the XIX Biennial International Conference for Infant Studies (ICIS), New Orleans, LA. In the symposium titled "How real-time processing abilities affect the trajectory of language acquisition"; Chair: Sudha Arunachalam.

de Carvalho, A., Dautriche, I., **He, A. X.**, Lidz, J., Christophe, A. (May 2016). The acquisition of word meanings: interactions between parsing and learning. Paper at the XIX Biennial International Conference for Infant Studies (ICIS), New Orleans, LA. In the symposium titled "How real-time processing abilities affect the trajectory of language acquisition"; Chair: Sudha Arunachalam.

He, A. X., Wellwood, A., Lidz, J. & Williams, A. (July 2014). When participant structure and argument structure do not match: Participant structure construction in adults and prelinguistic infants. Paper at the 13th International Congress for the Study of Child Language (IASCL), Amsterdam, The Netherlands. In the symposium titled "The Role of Grammar and Extralinguistic Cognition in Verb Learning"; Chair: **Angela Xiaoxue He**.

Conference Poster Presentations

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (Upcoming: June-July 2018). Exploring the conceptual origin of a linguistic behavior: Event endstate representation in infancy. The XXI ICIS Biennial Congress, Philadelphia, PA.

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (Mar 2018). Verb learning mediated by sentence processing—understanding both the learning process and the learning outcome. The 31st Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Davis, CA.

Williams, A., Perkins, L., **He, A. X.**, Björnsdóttir, S., & Lidz, J. (Upcoming: Nov 2017). A New Test of One-to-One Matching Between Arguments and Participants in Verb Learning. The 42th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston, MA.

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (Oct 2017). Eye gaze reveals where verb learners trip. The 2017 Cognitive Development Society (CDS) Biennial Conference, Portland, OR.

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (Oct 2017). Event nominal acquisition benefits from linguistic context. The 2017 Cognitive Development Society (CDS) Biennial Conference, Portland, OR.

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (Aug 2016). How event endstates are conceptualized in adults and infants. The 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Philadelphia, PA.

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (June 2016). How much information is too much when introducing new verbs: Insights from typically-developing 3-year-olds. The 37th Annual Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI.

He, A. X., Kim, N., Hong, S. J., Luyster, R. & Arunachalam, S. (June 2016). Pronouns in maternal input to infants at high- vs. low-risk for autism spectrum disorder. The 37th Annual Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI.

He, A. X., & Arunachalam, S. (Mar 2016). How event endstates are conceptualized in adults and infants. The 29th annual CUNY conference on Human Sentence Processing: Workshop on event structure, Gainesville, FL.

He, A. X., Meng, X., Williams, A. & Lidz, J. (July 2014). Thematic interpretations and cross-linguistic variations: Evidence from English- and Mandarin-learning children. The XIX Biennial International Conference for Infant Studies (ICIS), Berlin, Germany.

He, A. X., Wellwood, A., Lidz, J. & Williams, A. (July 2014). Verb learning and the perception of three-participant events in infants and adults. Poster presented at the XIX Biennial International Conference for Infant Studies (ICIS), Berlin, Germany.

He, A. X., Meng, X., Williams, A. & Lidz, J. (July 2014). Thematic role assignment in resultative constructions in English- and Mandarin-learning children. The 13th International Congress for the Study of Child Language (IASCL), Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

He, A. X., Wellwood, A., Lidz, J. & Williams, A. (Jan 2014). Assessing event perception in adults and prelinguistic children: a prelude to syntactic bootstrapping. The 88th annual meeting of Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Minneapolis, MN.

He, A. X., Wellwood, A., Lidz, J. & Williams, A. (Nov 2013). Assessing event perception in adults and prelinguistic children: a prelude to syntactic bootstrapping. The 38th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston University, Boston, MA.

He, A. X. & Lidz, J. (Nov 2011). Mapping intransitive verbs onto self-propelled actions. The 36th Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston, MA.

Research Experience

2015-present Boston University, Child Language Lab

Advisor: Sudha Arunachalam

2009-2015 Univ. of Maryland, Project on Children's Language Learning

Advisor: Jeffrey Lidz

2012-2015 Univ. of Maryland, Language and Music Cognition Lab

Advisor: Bob Slevc

2009 Chinese Univ. of Hong Kong, Childhood Bilingualism Research Center

Co-advisors: Virginia Choi-yin Yip & Angel Chan

2009 Chinese Univ. of Hong Kong, Language Acquisition Lab

Advisor: Thomas Hun-tak Lee

Peer Review & Related Activity

Ad Hoc Article Reviewing

2018 The 40th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting

2018	Language Learning and Development
2017	The 39th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting
2017	PLOS ONE
2017	Glossa: a journal of general linguistics
2016	The 38th Annual Cognitive Science Society Meeting
2016	Semantics in Language Acquisition (Edited Volume), in Trends in Language Acquisition Research
2016	Language, Cognition and Neuroscience
2015	Journal of Experimental Child Psychology

Ad Hoc Abstract Reviewing

2017	The 42nd Boston University Conference on Language Development
2016	The 41st Boston University Conference on Language Development
2015	The 29th Annual CUNY conference on Human Sentence Processing: Workshop on event structure

Teaching & Advising

Instructor at Boston University

Spring 2018	SH524: Normal Language Acquisition (4 credits, major required)
Spring 2017	SH524: Normal Language Acquisition (4 credits, major required)
Spring 2016	SH524: Normal Language Acquisition (4 credits, major required)

Teaching Assistant at University of Maryland

Spring 2015	LING240: Language and Mind, Dr. M. Antonisse
Fall 2014	LING444: Child Language Acquisition, Prof. J. Lidz
Spring 2013	LING240: Language and Mind, Dr. M. Antonisse
Fall 2012	LING200: Introduction to Linguistics, Dr. M. Antonisse
Spring 2012	LING240: Language and Mind, Dr. M. Antonisse
Fall 2011	LING444: Child Language, Prof. J. Lidz
Spring 2011	LING200: Introduction to Linguistics, Dr. T. Blears
Fall 2010	LING200: Introduction to Linguistics, Dr. M. Antonisse

Undergraduate Research Mentoring

2015-present	RAs in Child Language Lab, general training and mentoring
2011-2013	RAs for children's thematic role interpretation - a crosslinguistic approach
2011-2014	RAs for early development of the verb-event link
2012-2013	RAs for event representations in infancy

Professional Affiliations & Services

Memberships

- 2015-present** Cognitive Development Society (CDS)
- 2014-present** Society for Language Development (SLD)
- 2014-present** International Congress for the Study of the Child Language (IASCL)
- 2014-present** International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL)
- 2014-present** International Congress on Infant Studies (ICIS)
- 2013-present** Cognitive Science Society (CSS)
- 2012-present** Linguistic Society of America (LSA)

Academic Event Organizer

- 2012** Lead Organizer
Language Science Day, University of Maryland, College Park

Internal Committees

- 2012-2013** IGERT Student Executive Committee, member
IGERT: NSF-funded Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program on Biological and Computational Bases of Language Science
- 2012-2013** Philosophy and Linguistics Group (PHLING), member
- 2011-2012** Department of Linguistics Grad Student Association, student representative
- 2011** IGERT Lunch Talk Series & Social Events Committee, member

Volunteering

- 2011** Maryland Day Infant and Child Studies Tent
- 2010** Language Science High School Outreach

Skills

■ Languages

Mandarin (native), English (advanced), French (beginner), ASL (beginner)

■ Statistics

Probability theory, Experiment design and sampling, Hypothesis testing, Regression analysis, etc.

■ Programming Languages

R, MatLab, HTML5/CSS, Unix/Shell

■ Application Software

Regular office use - Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Pages, Numbers, Keynote, etc.

Image/Video/Audio Editing - GIMP, iMovie, FinalCut, Praat, etc.

Behavioral experiment related - Psyscope, Habit, Tobii Eye tracker, SuperCoder, etc.