# DAMIÁN EZEQUIEL BLASI



## POSITION ICREA Research Professor Catalan Institute for Advanced Study (Nov 2023-)

Professor

Center for Brain & Cognition, School of Engineering, Pompeu Fabra University (Nov 2023-)

Research associate at Culture, Cognition and Cœvolution Group Human Evolutionary Biology Department, Harvard University (Nov 2023-)

Research associate at the Human Relations Area Files Yale University (2018-)

EDUCATION Dr. Rer. Nat. in Computer Sciences, Summa Cum Laude University of Leipzig Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in the Sciences Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology Leipzig, Germany (Jul 2012- Sep 2015, defended Mar 2018)

> M.Sc. in Interdisciplinary and Statistical Physics Instituto Balseiro Bariloche, Argentina (2009-2010)

Licenciatura in Physics (five-year undegrad program) Instituto Balseiro Universidad de Buenos Aires Buenos Aires & Bariloche, Argentina (2004-2009) PREVIOUSResearch associate at the Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution,ACADEMICMax Planck Institute for Evolutionary Biology (2022-2023)

Harvard Data Science Initiative Fellow Harvard University (Jan 2021 - Oct 2023)

POSITIONS

Postdoc at the Culture, Cognition and Cœvolution Group Human Evolutionary Biology Department Harvard University (Aug 2020 - Sept 2023)

Research associate at the Linguistic Convergence Laboratory, University of Higher School of Economics Moscow, Russian Federation (Jan 2020 - Feb 2022)

Research affiliate at the Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History Jena, Germany (2016- 2021)

Maury Green 2019-2020 fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University Cambridge, USA (Sept 2019- Jul 2020)

Postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Comparative Linguistics and the Psycholinguistics Laboratory, University of Zürich Zürich, Switzerland (Sept 2015- Aug2019)

Senior researcher at the Laboratory of Quantitative Linguistics, Federal University of Kazan Kazan, Russian Federation (2019)

Research assistant at the Institute of Mathematical Sciences Chennai Chennai, India (Nov 2011 - May 2012)

Research assistant at the Language and Cognition Development Group, International School for Advanced Studies Trieste, Italy (Apr-Aug 2011)

Santa Fe Institute Santa Fe, USA (Mar 2016)
University of Edinburgh, Language Evolution and Computation Research Unit Edinburgh, UK (Nov 2014)
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Evolutionary Processes in Language and Culture Group Nijmegen, The Netherlands (Feb-Jul 2014)
State University of São Paulo, Mathematical Biology Group São Paulo, Brazil (Feb 2011)
Language In The Human-Machine Era Training School Porto, Portugal (Jun 2022)
Princeton Deep Learning Theory Summer School Online (Jul 2021)
CIFAR Deep Learning + Reinforcement Learning Summer School Online (Aug 2020)
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Summer School on Neurobiology & Genetics of Language Long Island, USA (Aug 2018)
Kavli Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience Santa Barbara, USA (Jun 2017)
Language documenation and linguistic fieldwork summer course Jerusalem, Isræl (Feb 2016)
Graduate School of Linguistics Summer School Groningen, Netherlands (Jun 2013)
Okinawa Institute of Technology Integrative Biology Course Okinawa, Japan (May 2013)
Summer School on Random Motion and Random Graphs Berlin, Germany (Jun 2011)
Santa Fe Institute Summer School on Complex Systems Santa Fe, USA (May-Jun 2010)

AWARDS. Human Evolution and Behavior Rising Star Award **GRANTS AND** 2024 **FELLOWSHIPS** Association for Psychological Science Rising Star Award 2024 Bellagio Center Residency Fellow, awarded by the Rockefeller Foundation 2024 International Chair Labex Empirical Foundations of Language 2023 Cultural Evolution Society New Investigator Award Finalist 2022 SAPIENS Public Scholar Fellow 2022 Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) Fellowship, awarded by the Network of European Institutes for Advanced Study (NETIAS) 2021 **Branco Weiss Fellow** 2020 Maury Green Fellow of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University Sept 2019 - May 2020 Glushko Dissertation Prize, awarded by the Cognitive Science Society and the Glushko-Samuelson Foundation 2020 Research Academy Leipzig Doctoral Prize in STEM research 2019 Doctoral Summa Cum Laude (highest distinction) Mar 2018 Swiss National Fundation grant (co-PI with Sebastian Sauppe) 2017 European Science Foundation grant via the NetWordS program 2014 International Max Planck Research School Fellowship Jun 2012 - Aug 2015 Indian Department of Science and Technology Fellowship 2010 National Commission of Nuclear Energy Fellowship Aug 2007 - Dec 2010 BEST PAPER OR Publication of the year award for "Speech and language markers of neurodegeneration: a call for PRESENTATION global equity" in the Diversity and Disparity category by Istaart (International Society to Advance AWARDS Alzheimer's Research and Treatment) 2023

Best presentation award at the "Language In The Human-Machine Era Training School" 2022

JOURNAL The evolutionary dynamics of how languages signal who does what to whom O. Scherbakova, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, V. Gast, H. Skirgård, R. Gray, S. Greenhill, Scientific Reports (2024)

Speech and language markers of neurodegeneration: a call for global equity A. Garcia, J. de Leon, B. Tee, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, M. Gorno-Tempini Brain (2023)

Using machine learning to decode animal communication C. Rutz, M. Bronstein, A. Raskin, S. Vernes, K. Zacarian, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> Science (2023)

Grambank reveals the importance of genealogical constraints on linguistic diversity and highlights the impact of language loss

H. Skirgård, H. Haynie, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, ..., R. Gray Science Advances (2023)

Grambank's typological advances support computational research on diverse languages H. Haynie, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> et al.,

Proceedings of the 5th Workshop on Research in Computational Linguistic Typology and Multilingual NLP (2023)

Societies of strangers do not speak gramatically simpler languages

O. Scherbakova, V. Gast, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, S. Michælis, H. Haynie, S. Passmore, V. Gast, R. Gray, S. Greenhill, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, H. Skirgård

Science Advances (2023)

A quantitative global test of the complexity trade-off hypothesis: the case of nominal and verbal grammatical marking

O. Scherbakova, V. Gast, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, H. Skirgård, R. Gray, S. Greenhill Linguistics Vanguard (2022)

Over-reliance on English hinders cognitive science <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, J. Henrich, E. Adamou, D. Kemmerer, A. Majid Trends in Cognitive Sciences (2022)

A global analysis of matches and mismatches between human genetic and linguistic histories C. Barbieri, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, ...K. Shimizu Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2022)

Phylogeographic analysis of the Bantu language expansion supports a rainforest route E. Koile, S. Greenhill, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, R. Bouckært, R. Gray Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2022)

Cross-linguistic differences in case marking shape neural power dynamics and gaze behavior during sentence planning

A. Egurtzegi, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, et al. Brain and Language (2022)

A cultural species and its cognitive phenotypes. J. Henrich, P. <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, et al. Review of Philosophy and Psychology (2022)

Dependency length minimization and its limits. Y. Ying, P. <u>D. E. Blasi</u> & B. Bickel Language (2022)

Dæs morphological complexity affect word segmentation? Evidence from computational modeling G. Loukatou, S. Stoll, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> & A. Cristia Cognition (2022) Exploring correlations in genetic and cultural variation across language families in northeast Asia. H. Matsumæ, P. Ranacher, P. Savage, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> et al. Science Advances (2021)

Dogs display owner-specific expectations based on olfaction. J. Bräuer & <u>D. E. Blasi</u> Scientific Reports (2021)

Neural signatures of syntactic variation in speech planning . S. Sauppe , ..., <u>D. E. Blasi</u> et al. Plos Biology (2021)

Panpipes as units of cultural analysis and dispersal. G. Aguirre-Fernández , <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, M Sáanchez-Villagra Evolutionary Human Sciences (2020)

Meaning before grammar: A review of ERP experiments on the neurodevelopmental origins of semantic processing

E. U. Morgan, A. van der Meer, M. Vulchanova, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> and Giosuè Baggio, Psychonomic Bulletin Review (2020)

Human sound systems are shaped by post-Neolithic changes in bite configuration <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, S. Moran, S. Moisik, D. Dediu, P. Widmer and B. Bickel, Science (2019)

On the Relationships Between the Grammatical Genders of Inanimate Nouns and Their Co-Occurring Adjectives and Verbs

A. Williams, R. Cotterell, L. Wolf-Sonkin, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> and H. Wallach, Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (2019)

Studying language evolution in the age of big data T. Bhattacharya, N. Retzlaff, <u>D. E Blasi</u>, W. Croft, M. Cysouw, D. Hruschka, I. Maddieson, L. Müller, E. Smith, P. F. Stadler, G. Starostin, H. Youn Journal of Language Evolution (2018)

A universal cue for grammatical categories in the input to children: frequent frames S. Moran, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, R. Schikowski, A. C. Küntay, B. Pfeilfer, S. Allen and S. Stoll Cognition (2018)

Grammars are robustly transmitted even in extreme situations: the emergence of creole languages <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, S. Michælis and M. Haspelmath Nature Human Behaviour (2017)

Sound-meaning associations evidenced across thousands of languages <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, M. Christiansen, S. Wichmannm, H. Hammarström and P. Stadler Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2016)

Language evolution and climate: the case of desiccation and tone C. Everett, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> and S. Roberts Journal of Language Evolution (2016)

D-PLACE: A global database of cultural, linguistic and environmental diversity K. R. Kirby, ..., <u>D. E. Blasi</u> et al. PloS One (2016)

Arbitrariness, iconicity and systematicity in language M. Dingemanse, <u>D. E. Blasi</u>, G. Lupyan, P. Monaghan and M. H. Christiansen Trends in Cognitive Sciences (2015)

Climate, vocal folds and tonal languages: connecting the physiological and geographical dots C. Everett, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> and S. Roberts Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2015)

BOOK CHAPTERS	Fixed-effects regression modelling M. Hilpert and <u>D. E. Blasi</u> In Paquot and Gries (ed) <i>, A Practical Handbook of Corpus Linguistics,</i> Springer (2020), pp. 505-533
	Beyond binary dependencies in the structure of the world's languages <u>D. E. Blasi</u> and S. Roberts In Enfield (ed) <i>, Dependendencies in Language,</i> Language Sciences Press (2017), pp. 117–128
	Assessing transitivity prominence from a statistical perspective <u>D. E. Blasi</u> In Valency Classes in the World's Languages, Comrie & Malchuknov eds, Brill press (2015), pp. 149-153
	Cross-linguistic comparison of complexity measures in phonological systems S. Moran and <u>D. E. Blasi</u> In Newmeyer and Preston (eds), <i>Measuring Linguistic Complexity</i> . Oxford University Press (2014), pp. 217-240 On the Interpretability and Significance of Bias Metrics in Texts: a PMI-based Approach
CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS	F. Valentini, G. Rosati, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> et al. Association for Computational Linguistics (2022)
	Systematic Inequalities in Language Technology Performance across the World's Languages <u>D. E. Blasi</u> , A. Anastasopoulos & G. Neubig, Association for Computational Linguistics (2022)
	A surprisal-duration trade-off across and within the world's languages T. Pimentel, C. Meister, E. Salesky, S. Teufel, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> & R. Cotterell, Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (2021)
	Finding Concept-specific Biases in Form–Meaning Associations T. Pimentel, B. Roark, S. Wichmann, R. Cotterell <u>D. E. Blasi</u> , North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (2021)
	How (non-)Optimal is the Lexicon? T. Pimentel, I. Nikkarinen, K. Mahowald, R. Cotterell <u>D. E. Blasi</u> , North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (2021)
	Speakers Fill Lexical Semantic Gaps with Context T. Pimentel, R. Maudsley, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> R. Cotterell, Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (2020)
	On the distribution of deep clausal embeddings: A large cross-linguistic study <u>D. E. Blasi</u> , R. Cotterell, L. Wolf-Sonkin, S. Stoll, B. Bickel and M. Baroni, Association for Computational Linguistics (2019)
	Quantifying the Semantic Core of Gender Systems A. Williams, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> , L. Wolf-Sonkin, H. Wallach & R. Cotterell, Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (2019)
	Meaning to Form: Measuring Systematicity as Information T. Pimentel, A. McCarthy, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> , B. Roark and R. Cotterell, Association for Computational Linguistics (2019)
	Is Word Segmentation Child Play in All Languages? G. R. Loukatou, S. Moran, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> , S. Stoll, A. Cristia, Association for Computational Linguistics (2019)
	Modeling infant segmentation of two morphologically diverse languages G. R. Loukatou, S. Stoll, <u>D. E. Blasi</u> , A. Cristia, Automatic Treatment of Natural Languages Conference (2018)

PUBLIC SERVICE Member of the Ad-Hoc Expert Committee for the World Atlas of Languages (UNESCO) (2022-present)

EDITORIAL SERVICE	Associate editor of Open Mind (MIT Press) (2020-present)
	Associate editor of the Journal of Language Evolution (Oxford University Press) (2016-present)
	Editorial board member of Nature Scientific Data (Springer Nature) (2024-present)
	Chief editor of the Studies of Amerindian Linguistics Book Series (Language Sciences Press) (2022-present)

JOURNAL
REVIEWER
SERVICE

- Multidisciplinary: Nature, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Nature Communications, Nature Human Behaviour, Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B, Trends in Ecology and Evolution, Nature Scientific Data, National Science Review, Journal of the Royal Society Interface, Interface Focus, BioEssays, PloS One, Physical Review E, Scientific Reports
  - Psychology & Cognitive science: Trends in Cognitive Science, Cognition, Cognitive Science, Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, Cognitive Neuropsychology, iPerception, Memory & Cognition, Cognitive Psychology, Frontiers in Psychology
  - Anthropology: Evolutionary Human Sciences, Evolution and Human Behaviour, Cross-Cultural Research, Interaction Studies, Language Development Research
  - Linguistics: Linguistic Typology, Lingua, Computational Linguistics, Diachronica, Language Dynamics and Change, Glossa, Linguistics Vanguard, Journal of Logic, Languages, Language and Information, Laboratory Phonology, Journal of Historical Linguistics, Linguistics: An Interdisciplinary Journal of the Language Sciences
  - Other disciplines: American Journal of Public Health, The American Journal of Biœthics

OTHER Ad hoc reviewer: Association for Computational Linguistics, Peter Lang, Springer-Verlag, Practical ACADEMIC Handbook of Corpus Linguistics, Societas Linguistica Europæa, EVOLANG, Cognitive Sciences Society, SERVICE Linguistic Society of America, Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics, Empirical Methods for Natural Language Processing, SIGTYP, ManyLanguages consortium

> Scientific/program committee: North American Assocation for Computational Linguistics - Human Language Technologies (2021), UK Cognitive Linguistics Association conference (2019)

> External referee: European Research Council (ERC), Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), French National Research Agency (ANR), Isræl Science Foundation (ISF), Kazakhstan National Center of Science and Technology Evaluation (NCSTE)

Senior Area Chair: EMNLP 2023 (Linguistic Theories, Cognitive Modeling and Psycholinguistics)

Award committee: Greenberg award by the Association of Linguistic Typology

Social sciences consultant for the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University

#### TEACHING

### Courses

- Evolutionary approaches to the study of humans and language Pompeu Fabra University, Autumn semester 2024
- Biology of language University of Zürich, Autumn semester 2015, 2016, 2018
- Quantitative methods in linguistics University of Zürich, Spring semester 2016
- First language acquisition University of Zürich, Spring semester 2017
  Semantics and Pragmatics
- University of Zürich, Spring semester 2018

### Schools and seminars

- Topics in linguistic diversity Seminar series "Infinite Amazonia", Peru, 2024
- Non-normal and non-linear models Summer Institute for Cross-Cultural Anthropological Research, Online, 2021 & 2022
- Quantitative typology
   Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru, Peru, 2019
- A primer on language evolution Escuela Lingüística de Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2019
- Studying language from observational data: inference, causality and limitations Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway, 2018
- A crash course in the biology of language University of Sonora, Mexico, 2017
- Data science applied to language: a bag of methods to wrangle with linguistic data Societas Linguistica Europea I summer school, Switzerland, 2017
- Introduction to BEAST and phylogenetic inference Pontifica Universidad Católica, Peru, 2016
- Fundamentals of statistical reasoning Jena Spring School in Quantitative Methods, Germany, 2016
- Phylogenetic inference in historical linguistics I binational workshop on language typology and documentation, Mexico 2015

## INVITED SEMINARS & KEYNOTES

- International Symposium in Psycholinguistics, keynote speaker, University of Barcelona (Spain) (2025)
- Linguistics colloquium invited speaker, University of Marburg (Germany) (2024)
  - "Linguistic and Cognitive Science Meet Diversity' conference keynote, Leipzig (Germany) (2024)
  - Center for Brain and Cognition seminar, Barcelona, Pompeu Fabra University (2024)
  - "Brain dysfunctions across the world's languages" keynote, online, Alzheimer's Association and Include (2023)
  - Cognition, Brain & Behavior Seminar, Harvard University (2023)
  - Al & Anthropogeny, UCSD CARTA Symposyum, online (2023)
  - NVidia GTC, "Data-Driven Approaches to Language Diversity" session, keynote, online (2023)
  - "Brain on Conlangs" keynote, McGovern Institute MIT (2022)
  - University of Texas at Austin (USA), keynote at the "Digital Humanities Beyond Modern English Conference" (2022)
  - Boston College (USA), Cognitive Science Colloquium (2022)
  - University of California San Diego (USA), Cognitive Science Colloquium (2022)
  - University of Arizona (USA), Linguistics Colloquium (2022)
  - Cornell University (USA), Cognitive Science Colloquium (2022)
  - West Coast NLP seminar (USA) (2022)
  - Miami University (USA), Anthropology Department (2021)
  - Pompeu Fabra University (Spain), Linguistic and Translation Sciences Department (2021)
- Harvard University (USA), Center for Brains, Minds & Machines (2021)
- Argentinian Society of Neuroscience (2021)
- Masakhane invited speaker (2021)
- Project CETI seminar series (2021)
- Abralin ao vivo online series (2021)
- University of California San Diego (USA), Comparative Cognition Laboratory (2021)
- Cambridge University (UK), Seminar "Culture at the Macro-Scale: Boundaries, Barriers and Endogenous Change" (2021)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA), Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences (2021)
- University of Irvine (USA), Department of Language sciences (2020)
- University of Buenos Aires (Argentina), Meetings in Artificial Intelligence (2020)
- University of Kyoto (Japan), Evolinguistics meeting (2020)
- University of Tokyo (Japan), Evolutionary Anthropology Lab (2020)
- Santa Fe Institute (USA), workshop "Impersonal trends, big ideas and great leaders" (2020)
- St. Petersburg State University (Russia), keynote "III Language, music and computation international conference" (2019)
- Princeton University (USA), Department of Psychology (2019)
- Harvard University (USA), Language and Cognition seminar (2019)
- Stanford University (USA), Language and Cognition seminar (2019)
- Berkeley University (USA), Department of Linguistics (2019)
- University of Chicago (USA), Department of Psychology (2019)
- Higher School of Economics (Russia), Department of Linguistics (2019)
- University of New Mexico (USA), Department of Linguistics (2018)
- Santa Fe Institute (USA), workshop "Lexical semantics, language change, and universal translators" (2018)
- Yale University (USA), Department of Linguistics (2018)
- University of Marburg (Germany), keynote "Parallel text analysis in diachronic research" (2018)
- Hong Kong University (Hong Kong), Department of Linguistics (2018)
- University of Sonora (Mexico), seminar keynote "Syntactic Complexity 2017" (2017)
- Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics (Netherlands), keynote "Many paths to language" (2017)
- École Normale Supérieure (France), Cognitive Sciences and Psycholinguistics Laboratory (2017)
- Paris-Sorbonne (France), keynote "Sound Symbolism and Crossmodal Correspondences" (2017)
- Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, keynote "Il International Colloquium on Amerind Languages Typology" (2016)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA), Department of Cognitive and Brain Sciences (2016)
- Max Planck Institute for Empirical Asthetics (Germany) (2016)

- University of Cambridge (UK), Department of Phonetics (2015)
- Max Planck Institute for Complex Systems (Germany) (2015)
- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (Mexico), keynote at the "I binational workshop on language typology and documentation" (2015)
- University of Olomuc (Czech Republic), conference keynote "Informational fundamentals of life genomes and languages" (2014)
- University of Tübingen (Germany), Department of Linguistics (2013)
- University of Zürich (Switzerland) (2012).

EVENTS ORGANIZED (ONLY AS MAIN ORGANIZER)	Cognitive explanations in linguistic typology: contemporary insights from language processing and language acquisition (2017) Workshop at the Association for Linguistic Typology, Australia
	Linguistic diversity meets the brain (2017) Conference at University of Zürich, Switzerland
	First language acquisition in the languages of the world: similarities and differences (2017) Workshop at the 50th Societas Linguistica Europæa meeting, Switzerland
	Triggers of language change (2017) Conference at the Université of Lyon, France
	Causality in the Language Sciences (2015) Conference at Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in the Sciences, Germany
STUDENT SUPERVISION	Sara Puljic (MSc in Brain and Cognition), Pompeu Fabra University, Spain Language diversity and readability [2024]
	Myles Forgey (MSc in Brain and Cognition), Pompeu Fabra University, Spain Language diversity and neurolinguistics [2024]
	Micah Pietraho (Harvard), Harvard College, USA Zipf's Law for typing [2022]
	Karina Halevy (Radcliffe research project), Harvard College, USA Modularity for low-resource languages [2019-2020]
	Silvia Casacuberta Puig (Radcliffe research project), Harvard College, USA Modularity for low-resource languages [2019-2020]
	Olena Shcherbakova (Linguistics Ph.D. co-supervisor), Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Germany The evolution of linguistic complexity [2019-]
	Camila Scaff (member of Cognitive Sciences Ph.D. advisory committee), Cognitive Sciences and Pyscholin- guistics Laboratory, École Normale Supérieur, France Beyond WEIRD: An interdisciplinary approach to language acquisition [2017-2019]
	Trudie Strauss (Statistics Ph.D. co-supervisor), Department of Statistics, University of the Free State, South Africa Word frequency distributions - empirical and cross-linguistic insights [2017-2022]
	Manuel Rüdishüli (Linguistics B.A. supervisor), Department of Comparative Linguistics, University of Zürich, Switzerland Language acquisition and the evolution of language [2017-2018]
	Eric Szabo Felix (Linguistics B.A. supervisor), Department of Comparative Linguistics, University of Zürich, Switzerland Stability of Typological Features in High-Contact Varieties [2018-2019]

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE (ENG)

- Scherbakova, ...Blasi & Skirgård (2023)
  - Study of over 1,300 world languages finds which ones are most complex and why, *The Independent*
  - Blasi, Henrich, Adamou, Kemmerer & Majid (2022)
  - Almost All Research on the Mind Is in English. That's a Problem, WIRED
  - Koile, Greenhill, Blasi, Bouckært & Gray (2022)
    - New thoughts on Africa's Bantu expansion, Archeology
    - Africa: migration of the Bantu peoples reconstructed, Techzle

Blasi, Antanasopoulos & Neubig (2022)

- In Africa, rescuing the languages that Western tech ignores, Associated Press
- How far have we, together, come to provide equal language technology performance around the world?, *NeuralSpace*
- In Africa, rescuing the languages that Western tech ignores, Associated Press
- Matsumæ, Ranacher, Savage, Blasi et al. (2021)
- Do languages and genes share cultural evolutionary history?, Science News

Blasi, Moran, Moisik, Dediu, Widmer and Bickel (2019)

- Did dietary changes bring us f-words? Study tackles complexities of language's origin, *The New York Times*
- A change in our diet might have changed human language, National Geographic
- Mind Your Fs and Vs: Agriculture May Have Shaped Both Human Jaws and Language, *Scientific American*
- We Can Thank Agriculture and Soft Food for the 'F' Word, Claims Provocative New Study, Gizmodo
- The Science Behind Why We Use 'F' Words , The Wall Street Journal
- The Guardian view on language: the flesh made word, The Guardian
- The Ability to Pronounce 'F' and 'V' Sounds Might Have Evolved Along With Diet, Smithsonian Magazine

Blasi, Michælis and Haspelmath (2017)

- The painful origins of many creole languages, The Economist
- Humans learn complex grammatical patterns even in extremely challenging circumstances, *Eurek! Alert*
- No creoles?, Language Log
- Creoles (featuring Damián Blasi), Talk the Talk podcast

Blasi, Christiansen, Wichmannm, Hammarström and Stadler (2016)

- Distant languages have similar sounds for common words, The Economist
- The hidden sound patterns that could overturn years of linguistic theory, The Guardian
- Linguistics: Sound and meaning in the world's languages, Nature
- "R" Is for Red: Common Words Share Similar Sounds in Many Languages, Scientific American

Everett, Blasi and Roberts (2015)

- Climate influences language evolution, Scientific American
- Soggy climate affects language, Nature

SELECTED MEDIA COMMENTARY Machine learning reveals role of culture in shaping meanings of words, *Princeton News (2020)*A Gene May Help Discern Language Tone Differences: Is It Shí or Shì?, *Scientific American (2020)*

• Lullaby Or Dance Song? Listen To Global Tunes And See If You Can Tell, NPR (2018)

PUBLIC WRITING

- Tackling the Impossibility—and Necessity—of Counting the World's Languages, SAPIENS (2024)
- Arbitrario Las Boubas (SPA), El Gato y La Caja (2018)