

YIANNIS KATOCHORITIS

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EDUCATION

- 2023- PhD *Linguistics*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 2021-2023 MA *Linguistics*, Leipzig University Supervisor: Gereon Müller
Thesis: *Syntactic Ergativity as epiphenomenon of Feature Inheritance and competition: A Minimalist account of Merge, Agree and the A/A-bar distinction*
- 2016-2020 BA *Linguistics*, Kapodistrian University of Athens Supervisor: Vassilis Spyropoulos
Thesis: *The Past Augment in the synchrony of Ancient and Modern Greek: an Optimality-Theoretic analysis within Distributed Morphology*

VISITS

- 02-07 2018 Erasmus student, Ghent University Supervisor: Klaas Willems

EMPLOYMENT

- 2022 IGRA (Graduate Research Group: Interaction of Grammatical Building Blocks) research assistant (wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), Leipzig University

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2023-2028 MIT Wunderkind stipend
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
USD 46,548/year

PUBLICATIONS

- 2025 Katochoritis, Y. **The Modern Greek augment and past morphology in Harmonic Serialism.** In: Müller, G. (ed.), *Morphology by Serial Optimization*. John Benjamins, pp. 159-203.
- 2025 Katochoritis, Y. **Between topics and subjects: an A/A' typology of Austronesian pivots.** In: Demiray, D. et al. (eds.), *Proceedings of NELS 55, vol II*. Cascadilla Proceedings Project, Somerville, MA, USA, pp. 37-50.
- 2025 Lohninger, M. and Katochoritis, Y. **Between topics and subjects: an A/A' typology of Austronesian pivots.** In: Akolkar, S. et al. (eds.), *Proceedings of the 42nd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Cascadilla Proceedings Project, Somerville, MA, USA, pp. 224-231.

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED

- 2025 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. How I learned to stop worrying (about distance) and love the covert spec-head. Invited talk at **Mini-seminar on Long-Distance Agree**, organized by Léa Nash and Nikos Angelopoulos (December 1).
- 2025 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. It's just a Phase, it'll pass: Measuring Unlocking in Malagasy vs. Dinka. Invited talk at **Yale University SynRG**, New Haven, US (October 31).
- 2025 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. It's just a Phase, it'll pass: Measuring Unlocking in Malagasy vs. Dinka.

Invited talk at **Morphology-Syntax Colloquium, Leipzig University**, Leipzig, Germany (June 13).

2023 Lohninger, M. and Katochoritis, Y. 2023. Between topics and subjects: The A'/A distribution of Austronesian pivots.

Invited talk at **Yale University**, New Haven, US (November).

CONFERENCES

2025 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. How I learned to stop worrying (about distance) and love the covert spec-head. Talk at **NELS56**, New York University, New York, US (October 18).

2024 Katochoritis, Y. and Lohninger, M. 2025. Same but Different: Balinese vs. Malagasy Pivots. Talk at **WCCFL43**, University of Washington, Seattle, US (April 25).

2025 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. An argument for Syntactic Reconstruction: Distributivity as Variable Binding Poster at **WCCFL43**, University of Washington, Seattle, US (April 26).

2025 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. If Distributivity is Variable Binding, Scope Reconstruction must be Syntactic Poster at **GLOW47**, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany (March 26).

2025 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. A Case of the Timings: How Austronesian Control Aligns with Subjecthood. Talk at **ConSOLE 33**, Georg-August-University, Göttingen, Germany (January 30).

2024 Katochoritis, Y. 2024. Long-distance Pivot Movement measures Phase Unlocking: Malagasy vs. Dinka. Talk at **NELS55**, Yale University, New Haven, US (October 18).

2024 Katochoritis, Y. 2024. Scope reconstruction via covert variable binding feeds Condition C in Modern Greek.

Talk at **AMGL44**, Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece (May 30).

2024 Lohninger, M. and Katochoritis, Y. 2024. Between topics and subjects: An A'/A typology of Austronesian pivots.

Poster at **WCCFL42**, Berkeley, California, US (April 13).

2023 Katochoritis, Y. 2023. The bigger the inventory, the bigger the legacy: Syntactic ergativity as epiphenomenon of feature inheritance

Talk at **ICLC-10**, Mannheim, Germany (July 20).

2023 Katochoritis, Y. 2023. A reanalysis of Cupeño lexical accent in Colored Turbid Accents

Talk at **RFP**, Lille, France (June 29).

2023 Katochoritis, Y. 2023. How spanning fits within late insertion: a view from portmanteaus

Talk at **AMGL43**, Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki, Greece (May 6).

2023 Katochoritis, Y. 2023. Reducing Cross-Linguistic Variation to Labeling and Feature Inheritance

Poster at **IGG48**, Florence, Italy (February 17).

2022 Katochoritis, Y. 2022. The Past Augment in Harmonic Serialism: An Analysis of Multiple Exponence in Optimality Theory

Talk at **11th MA and PhD Philology Candidates Conference**, Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece (October 4).

WORKSHOPS & READING GROUPS

2024 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. Micro-variation is a conspiracy: Condition C, Case and Wholesale Late Merge in Balinese vs. Malagasy.

Talk at **Syntax Sqaure Reading Group**, MIT, Cambridge, US (October 21).

2024 Katochoritis, Y. 2025. Long-Distance Agreement on Procustes' bed: A revival of Spec-Head.

Talk at **LingLunch**, MIT, Cambridge, US (October 9).

2025 Lohninger, M. and Katochoritis, Y. 2023. Austronesian pivots: topics or subjects? A Malayo-Polynesian typology.

Talk at **LingLunch**, MIT, Cambridge, US (September 4).

2024 Katochoritis, Y. 2024. It is a Case of the Timing: Lessons from Austronesian Control.

- 2024 Talk at the **BerlinBrnoVienna (BBV) Workshop**, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic (June 27).
Lohninger, M. and Katochoritis, Y. 2024. From topics to subjects: An A'-A scale of Austronesian pivots.
Talk at the **Leiden/Bielefeld Workshop on Comparative Syntax (LeiBieCos)**, Leiden University, Netherlands (May).
- 2023 Lohninger, M. and Katochoritis, Y. 2023. Somewhere between topics and subjects: A typology of Austronesian pivots.
Talk at **Forum for Research in Morphology (FoRiM)**, Harvard University, Cambridge, US (December).
- 2023 Lohninger, M. and Katochoritis, Y. 2023. It's getting out of control! Control, the A/A'-distinction and the subjecthood of pivots in Austronesian languages.
Talk at **Syntax Square Reading Group**, MIT, Cambridge, US (November).

TEACHING

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

- 2025 Teacher Assistant **Graduate 24.951 Intro to Syntax** (instructors: Elise Newman, David Pesetsky)
- 2024 Teacher Assistant **Undergraduate 24.900 Intro to Linguistics** (instructor: David Pesetsky)

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION

- 2024-2026 **Colloquium organizer**
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Friday MIT Linguistics Colloquium co-organizer (with Paul Meisenbichler and Vlad Orlov)

RESEARCH

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Syntax** (A/A'-distinction; Phase Unlocking, locality domains; Austronesian voice, argument structure, subjecthood; long-distance agreement, semantic agreement, covert movement; case theory, alignment, syntactic ergativity; clitic-left-dislocation, clitic-doubling)
- **Syntax/Semantics** (Quantifier Raising; binding/scope theory, reconstruction effects; distributivity; implicit domain restrictions; Plural Pronoun Construction; de se/ de re)
- **Morphology** (Allomorphy, Multiple exponence, Portmanteaus, Affix order, Harmonic Serialism)

LANGUAGES WORKED WITH

Theoretical

- Austronesian (Acehnese, Balinese, Cebuano, Madurese, Malagasy, Standard Indonesian, Sundanese, Tagalog, Tongan)
- Nilotic (Dinka Bor)
- Algonquian (Innu-aimûn, Passamaquoddy)
- Indo-European (English, Greek)
- Indo-Aryan (Hindi-Urdu, Kashmiri, Marathi)
- Nakh-Dagestanian (Godoberi, Hinuq, Kwarshi, Qunqi Dargwa, Tsez)
- Chukotko-Kamchatkan (Chukchi, Itelmen)
- Panoan (Shipibo-Konibo)
- Inuit (Inuktitut, Kalaallisut)

Fieldwork

- Austronesian (Balinese, Malagasy, Tagalog)

- Indo-Aryan (Hindi-Urdu)
- Basque

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Native	Greek
Fluent	English
Professional	French, German