



## AYUDAS RAMÓN Y CAJAL CONVOCATORIA 2018

### Turno de acceso general

**Nombre:** LEIVADA , EVANGELIA  
**Referencia:** RYC2018-025456-I  
**Área Temática:** **Mente, lenguaje y pensamiento**  
**Correo Electrónico:** evelina.leivada@uit.no

#### Título:

A cross-linguistic investigation of the bilingual mind

#### Resumen de la Memoria:

I am a psycholinguist, currently a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow working at UiT-The Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø. Since 2017, I run the project Disentangling Variation , funded through the European Union s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme.

My primary research focus is on language variation and bilingual/bidialectal acquisition, with a secondary focus on the nature of language impairment across atypical cognitive phenotypes, with emphasis on schizophrenia spectrum disorders. In my current project, I investigate the ways variation in the linguistic input leaves its footprint on the developmental trajectory of language growth and its final outcome. I employ a comparative perspective across populations with different developmental trajectories (e.g., bilinguals, bidialectals, heritage learners and L1 attriters) in order to address two fundamental questions that are at the forefront of current psycholinguistic research and until today resist unequivocal answers: How does exposure to more than one language shape linguistic cognition and which factors are pivotal in conferring/confounding the bilingual advantage?

In the 4 years since obtaining my PhD, I have designed and carried out 5 experiments that tap into different aspects of monolingual/bilingual development, while single-handedly recruiting and testing more than 500 individuals from different language groups. I have also gained significant experience through international mobility, working in different universities in Spain, Cyprus, and Norway. My trajectory of obtaining competitive funding has given me valuable experience in (i) efficient project management, (ii) participant recruitment and large-scale testing, (iii) time/resource allocation, and (iv) skills related to the dissemination of scientific results to different audiences, both within academia and outside of it.

In the context of my current fellowship, I obtained critical results about the bilingual advantage, which led me to the realization that in order to capture the driving factors of the bilingual advantage, a paradigm-shift from executive function tasks to core grammatical tasks is needed. This is an important innovation, which I will explore further in future work, and which has a direct impact for both science and society. At the scientific level, the proposed paradigm-shift can shed light both on the elusive origin of the bilingual advantage and on how code-switching may affect the ability to engage top-down control processes that are relevant for various areas of cognition. At the societal level, if the precise cause of the advantage is determined, the job of clinicians will be aided by knowing the exact conditions under which a possible bilingualism-induced delay in the onset of cognitive decline or of certain neurodegenerative diseases should be anticipated.

My research has been published in various journals as well as in a number of edited volumes. In total, I can refer to more than 30 publications, 10 invited talks and 50 conference talks. Last, I have taught 6 university courses receiving excellent reviews, something that attests to my ability to successfully communicate science in different settings.

#### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

I have a BA in English Language from the University of Cyprus (2011), and an MA (2012) and a PhD (2015) in Cognitive Science and Language, an interdisciplinary program organized by five Spanish Universities, all obtained with highest honors. My PhD dissertation on the nature and limits of variation across languages and pathologies was awarded cum laude and with international mention, by the Department of General Linguistics of the University of Barcelona.

I have published 20 articles in international, indexed, peer-reviewed journals, including, on the one hand, top-tier (psycho)linguistic venues such as Glossa, Journal of Neurolinguistics, Lingua, Linguistic Variation, Language Sciences, Frontiers in Language Sciences, Biolinguistics, and on the other hand, high visibility journals in neighboring scientific fields, such as PLOS ONE, Neuroscience Letters, and Frontiers in Human Neuroscience. These articles have received a total of 237 citations, resulting in an h-index of 8 and an i10-index of 6. Moreover, my work has caught attention from various media and has been featured in Psychology Today, Mind Hacks, Psy.Co, and Evolución y Neurociencias.

My CV documents numerous funded projects, awards, and distinctions. Before going on graduate studies, I received two awards of excellence from the Cyprus State Scholarship Foundation. I then graduated from the University of Cyprus, receiving the first prize for the graduating student with the highest performance. Shortly after, when I was working on my dissertation, I received the best poster



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presentation award at the conference Language Sciences in the 21st Century: The Interdisciplinary Challenge, at the University of Cambridge. My doctorate studies, both MA and PhD, were funded through an FPI grant from the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation. Upon completing my PhD, I was employed as a research and teaching fellow in two Cypriot Universities: the Cyprus University of Technology and the University of Cyprus. While working in the latter, I obtained funding from the A. G. Leventis Foundation (15,000 EUR) for a project I developed jointly with Kleanthes Grohmann. In the same year, my current Marie Skłodowska-Curie project was selected for funding (196,400 EUR) in a very competitive call. A few months into my Marie Curie, I obtained funding through a university call (100,000 NOK) in order to organize an international conference on language variation.

Apart from developing my own research agenda, I am prolific both as an editor and as a reviewer. From 2009 to 2018, I have been working pro bono in the Task Team of the journal *Biolinguistics*, a Diamond Open Access journal, in an effort to make an active contribution towards free and equal access to scientific knowledge in academia. Since January 2019, I serve as Associate Editor of *Psycholinguistics* in the same journal, responsible for handling submissions related to psycholinguistics and experimental linguistics.

In 2018, I was selected to participate in the Aurora Outstanding Program. This is a training initiative organized by my university in collaboration with the Tromsø Research Foundation, that aims to bring together the most outstanding young talents from each discipline and train them on how to get competitive international funding, acquire critical management skills, and become future research leaders in their disciplines.



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**Nombre:** YLI-VAKKURI , TUOMO JUHANI  
**Referencia:** RYC2018-024512-I  
**Área Temática:** Mente, lenguaje y pensamiento  
**Correo Electrónico:** ylivakkuri@gmail.com

#### Título:

Interacting Modalities: Knowledge, Necessity, and Vagueness

#### Resumen de la Memoria:

I work in metaphysics and epistemology, broadly construed. I have published work in the philosophy of language, the philosophy of mind, epistemology, metaphysics, and philosophical logic.

My main line of research has been and will continue to be to apply methods from logic and formal natural language semantics to a cluster of interrelated topics concerning the nature and structure of mental and linguistic representation.

All of my recent research (last 5 years) can be classified as belonging to one or another of three themes, as follows.

First, in the philosophy of mind, I have contributed a major new defense of the externalist view of the mind, in the paper *Semantic Externalism without Thought Experiments* (*Analysis*, 2018) and in the book *Narrow Content* (Oxford University Press, 2018; coauthored with John Hawthorne, with myself as first author).

Second, in the philosophy of language, I have argued that meaning in natural language is not compositional in anything like the way most philosophers of language and natural language semanticists have supposed. I have argued that the phenomena of quantification/binding, vagueness, and tense all give rise to counterexamples to standard formulations of the principle of compositionality. I have argued for an alternative view of semantic structure according to which what goes into determining the meaning of a complex expression are not (only) the meanings of its parts but (also) metasemantic features of its parts having to do with the range of alternative meanings they could have had.

Third, in metaphysics and epistemology, I have explored aspects of the interaction of knowledge and metaphysical modality (necessity and possibility in the broadest senses). I have published a series of papers on knowledge of metaphysical modality, in which I defend a non-skeptical position according to which our knowledge of necessity is rooted in ordinary cognitive capacities. More recently I have explored the logic of certain modal-epistemological notions such as a priority and being in a position to know.

My current research continues and combines the second and third themes. I am developing a new theory of the logic and semantics of interacting modalities, and in particular of knowledge (considered as a modality), metaphysical modality, and vagueness. In the medium term I plan to write a series of papers developing, defending, and applying the new theory, and in the longer term a book. Oxford University Press has expressed interest in the book, which I expect to have written within the next five years.

#### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

I received my PhD in 2013 from the University of Oxford, and I am currently Professor of Philosophy of Language (untenured), University of Tartu, Estonia, where I am also PI of the project *Modalities*, funded by the European Union Regional Development Fund. Previously I have been Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow and PI of the project *Vagueness and Modality* at Bielefeld University, as well as Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Mind in Nature (CSMN) at the University of Oslo.

I have 21 publications (including 5 forthcoming), the most important of which are:

1. *Narrow Content*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018. 224 pp. (As first author, with John Hawthorne as second.)
2. *Semantic Externalism without Thought Experiments* , *Analysis* 78 (2018): 675–681.
3. *The Necessity of Mathematics* , *Noûs*, published online-first, 18 September 2018, pp. 1–29. (As first author, with John Hawthorne as second.)
4. *Epistemicism and Modality* , *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 46 (2016): 803–835.



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5. Propositions and Compositionality , Philosophical Perspectives 27 (2013): 803–835.

Every journal I have published in is in the top quartile of the SJR.

I have 119 citations, an h-index of 7, and an i10-index of 4 on Google Scholar, and my work is cited in 5 articles in the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, the leading reference work in the field. My work is also the subject of 2 replies (both published in Analysis in 2018), 3 book reviews, 2 symposia forthcoming in SJR top quartile journals, and an author-meets-critics session at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division 2019 meeting.

I have given, or will give in 2019, 58 talks (including comments and replies) at conferences, workshops, departmental colloquia and seminars in 12 countries and on 2 continents.

I have obtained 12 grants and scholarships/fellowships and organized or co-organized 6 conferences/workshops.

I have refereed for a range of leading journals in the field, including The Journal of Philosophy, Mind, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Analysis, Philosophical Studies, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Quarterly, Linguistics and Philosophy, Synthese, Erkenntnis, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, and Canadian Journal of Philosophy.



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**Nombre:** PALMIRA , MICHELE  
**Referencia:** RYC2018-024624-I  
**Área Temática:** **Mente, lenguaje y pensamiento**  
**Correo Electrónico:** michelepalmira@gmail.com

#### Título:

Content and Attitudes: Thinking, Talking, and Disagreeing About the World

#### Resumen de la Memoria:

I specialise in the philosophies of language and mind, and in epistemology. The first strand of my research is at the intersection of the philosophies of language and mind and focuses on the explanatory significance of the notion propositional content in our attempts at making sense of a variety of linguistic and mental phenomena. In my past and current work I approach this issue from two different angles. First, focusing on linguistic and mental representation of abstract objects such as the natural numbers (European Journal of Philosophy 2018 Synthese 2018), I develop a non-epistemic account of singular linguistic and mental reference which pays close attention to recent studies in developmental psychology about numerical cognition. On these grounds, I argue that the distinction between singular and general thoughts is chiefly cognitive-functional, as opposed to epistemic or semantic. Relatedly, I draw a prima facie surprising analogy between arithmetic judgements and first-person judgements in connection to immunity to error through misidentification (IEM) (Review of Philosophy and Psychology online first). Secondly, in my work on disagreement and the realism vs. contextualism vs. relativism debate (Ratio 2018, chapter in the Epistemic Pluralism volume 2017, Grazer Philosophische Studien 2013), I argue that the nature of disagreement can be fully explained by looking at a normative property of the doxastic attitudes themselves, viz. their accuracy. I claim that this property can be defined irrespective of the relativised (or otherwise) nature of truth and semantic content. In a similar vein, I contend that no support for a specific semantic theory of areas of discourse such as aesthetics, morality, taste, and the like, is to be expected from the so-called phenomenon of faultless disagreement (Pacific Philosophical Quarterly 2015). A second strand of my research lies at the intersection between epistemology and the philosophy of mind and it is aimed at bringing out the variety of doxastic attitudes we can rationally hold towards certain contents. My work on the problem of the rational response to peer disagreement, namely disagreements with somebody we take to be as equally well-positioned epistemically as we are vis-à-vis a given matter, is a good entry point to this line of investigation. In order to steer a middle way between so-called conciliatory and steadfast approaches to peer disagreement, which threaten to lead respectively to scepticism and dogmatism, I maintain that we should make room for a sui generis type of doxastic attitude of cognitive inclination that I label hypothesis, a notion for which I have provided a complete functional and normative characterisation (Synthese forthcoming). Importantly, I contend that hypothesis, and not (full or graded) belief or acceptance, is the doxastic attitude we can rationally hold towards our own philosophical theories in the face of a disagreement with an epistemic peer (Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society 2018). I have deployed considerations from the debate on peer disagreement to take up the puzzle of suspicious deference to experts in normative regions of thought, such as morality. I maintain (Philosophical Quarterly 2015) that the suspiciousness of such episodes of deference is explained by the fact that, in the relevant cases, there are no moral experts, but only peers.

#### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

##### Employment:

- 2016/01 present Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Barcelona  
Senior member of LOGOS
- 2014/11 2015/12 Postdoctoral Fellow, McGill University
- 2013/11 2014/11 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia

##### Education:

- 2010/01 - 2013/03 PhD in Human Sciences Philosophy, University of Modena & Reggio Emilia
- 2012/10 2013/01 Visiting student. LOGOS, University of Barcelona
- 2011/09 2011/12 Visiting student. Department of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee



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2010/09 2010/11 Visiting student. Institut Jean Nicod, Paris

2006/01 2009/03 M.A., Philosophical Sciences, University of Bologna (highest mark with distinction)

2007/09 2008/06 Erasmus student. University of Paris-1 Sorbonne

2003/09-2006/12 B.A., Philosophy, University of Bologna (highest mark with distinction)

#### Journal articles in Q1 (selected):

1. Inquiry and the doxastic attitudes , Synthese doi: 10.1007/s11229-018-01955-3, forthcoming
2. How to solve the puzzle of peer disagreement , American Philosophical Quarterly 56(1): 83-95, 2019
3. Philosophical equilibrium, rationality, and the commitment challenge , Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society 118(3): 377-385
4. Towards a pluralist theory of singular thought , Synthese 195(9): 3947-3974, 2018
5. Arbitrary reference, numbers, and propositions , European Journal of Philosophy, 26(3): 1069-1085
6. Disagreement, credences, and outright belief , Ratio 31(2): 179-196
7. Moral deference and deference to an epistemic peer (with C. Davia), The Philosophical Quarterly, 65(261): 605-625, 2015
8. How to Condorcet a Goldman , Episteme, 12(3): 413-425, 2015
9. The semantic significance of faultless disagreement , Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, 96(3): 349-371, 2015
10. Why truth-relativists should be non-conformists , Acta Analytica, 30(3): 239-247, 2015

#### Grants awarded:

1. Beatriu de Pinós Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (2016 programme) - 86.000
2. Juan de la Cierva Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (incorporación programme 2016) - 50.000 (declined)
3. Visiting Research Fellowship at the Institut Jean Nicod (June, 2016) offered by the Leverhulme funded project What's So Special about First-Person Thought . 3000 €
4. Juan de la Cierva Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (formación programme 2014) - 43.000
5. Postdoctoral Research Fellowship from McGill University - 54.000 \$CAD (2014-2015)
6. Postdoctoral Research Fellowship from the University of Modena & Reggio Emilia - 43000 € (2013-2014)

#### Supervising Experience:

1. E. Plati, MA in Analytic Philosophy, University of Barcelona, 2018
2. G. Fernandez Codina, PhD in Philosophy, University of Barcelona, 2017-2018
3. G. Fernandez Codina, MA in Analytic Philosophy, University of Barcelona, 2017
4. F. Casalin, BA in Language and Literature at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, 2014

#### Academic service:

#### A Conferences Co-Organiser:



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1. The Bodily Self Symposium, IX SLMFCE conference, UNED Madrid, 15/11/2018
2. Intuitions, the A Priori, and Philosophical Knowledge Conference, University of Barcelona, 20-27/10/2017
3. Faces of Disagreement Conference, McGill University and University of Montreal, 26-28/05/2016
4. 2012 Epistemology in Europe Network Meeting, Bologna and Modena, 28-30/06/2012

B Board Membership

Board Member of the Philosophy of Language and Mind Network



## AYUDAS RAMÓN Y CAJAL CONVOCATORIA 2018

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**Nombre:** KALASHNIKOVA , MARINA  
**Referencia:** RYC2018-024284-I  
**Área Temática:** Mente, lenguaje y pensamiento  
**Correo Electrónico:** m.kalashnikova@bcbl.eu

#### Título:

Linguistic, Environmental, and Neurobiological Determinants of Early Language Acquisition

#### Resumen de la Memoria:

My research investigates language acquisition with an emphasis on the emergence and consolidation of speech perception and word-learning skills over infants' first two years of life. Specifically, I focus on infants' early linguistic environment: its acoustic and linguistic qualities, and its role in shaping individual developmental trajectories. Infants vary vastly in the trajectories that they follow during language acquisition resulting in variation in later language and communicative abilities and school-readiness. These individual differences are the focus of language interventions, but they are often overlooked or purposefully removed in our attempts to define the mechanisms that underlie early language acquisition. These individual differences are at the core of my research aimed at defining the linguistic, environmental, and neurobiological determinants of language ability.

To this end, my work has investigated the acoustic properties of infants' early speech input. I demonstrated that the acoustic characteristics of infant-directed speech have evolutionary roots shared across species, but that in humans have acquired a specific linguistic function. Importantly, these acoustic properties in speech to infants lead to processing advantages promoting infants' encoding of continuous speech, phonetic discrimination, and lexical access. These acoustic properties in the input, however, are not universal—they are absent or expressed to a lesser extent in the speech input of infants at-risk for language delays, and their manifestation patterns are shaped by the prosodic and phonological properties of infants' native language(s).

My extensive expertise in infancy research allows me to combine cross-sectional and longitudinal research designs using behavioural, interactional, and neurophysiological techniques and involving infants from various linguistic and cognitive backgrounds. Aside from investigating infants' linguistic input using traditional acoustic and linguistic analyses, I have devised methods for the empirical investigation of its neural and articulatory sources, and for breaking into the complex microcosm of parent-infant interactions to identify the subtle interactional cues that have remained hitherto invisible.

These findings and methodological innovations have laid the grounds for my future research. My goal is to study the maturation of neural mechanisms that underlie infants' ability to encode continuous speech, and the relation between these mechanisms and infants' linguistic input. My recent appointment at the Basque Center for Cognition, Brain and Language has placed me in an optimal environment to achieve this goal. I now have access to populations of monolingual and bilingual infants acquiring two typologically distinct languages, Spanish and Basque, and to the state-of-the-art BCBL BabyLab equipped for behavioural, interactional, and neurophysiological infancy research techniques. In addition, I have consolidated extensive research collaborations worldwide, allowing me to expand my work to a wider range of languages and infant populations, methodologies, and data-analysis techniques. Therefore, the successful outcome of this application will enable me to carry out this research programme and uncover the linguistic, environmental, and neurobiological determinants of early language development.

#### Resumen del Currículum Vitae:

I completed my Bachelor and Master degrees in Languages and Linguistics at the University of Texas at El Paso, USA and my PhD in Psychology at Lancaster University, UK. My doctoral work focused on investigating the effects of bilingual experience on the emergence and usage of word-learning strategies in infants and children. In 2013, I joined the MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development at Western Sydney University, Australia, as a Postdoctoral Fellow investigating early precursors of dyslexia, working with Prof. Denis Burnham and in collaboration with Prof. Usha Goswami at the University of Cambridge. In 2014, I was promoted to the position of Researcher of Infancy Studies. In this position, I developed my own research programme focused on early speech perception and the characteristics of infants' early language input. I was also appointed as the Academic Leader of the MARCS BabyLab, a laboratory specialised in infancy research that has 3 Sydney and 1 international location (in Bangkok, Thailand), and that hosts 11 staff and postdoctoral researchers, and numerous PhD, Master, undergraduate students and research assistants. In 2018, I joined the Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language as a Staff Scientist and was awarded a prestigious research fellowship to investigate bilingual infants' early language input and its effect on their language development in the first year of life.

My research employs a combination of methods from neuroscience, experimental psychology, and linguistics, and I have a strong background in experimental research in the areas of early speech perception and lexical acquisition. My approach consists of mapping the specific characteristics of early language input (in particular, parental speech) that influence the acquisition of language-processing skills,





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and in turn determining how these environmental aspects interplay with factors endogenous to the child, as a result either of fostering or hindering their linguistic development. This approach affords not only a unique insight into the exogenous factors that shape the linguistic system of each child, but also enables the isolation of the factors that foster successful development and optimisation of early language experiences of children who are or are not at-risk for language delay.

In the 5 years since completing my PhD, I published 21 peer-reviewed research articles (8 under review) and completed over 30 presentations at international conferences. I supervise 4 PhD projects, and I am an external advisor on 3 PhD panels. I have established fruitful collaborations with researchers at the University of Cambridge, University of Rochester, Université Paris Descartes, and National University of Singapore among others. I am a founding member and the secretary of the Asia-Pacific BabyLab Constellation, a research organisation focused on promoting research collaborations and training for infancy researchers in Asia-Pacific or interested in infant populations from this region. I am an editorial board member for 2 leading infancy journals. My findings have also been widely disseminated outside of the academic community including a parenting master-class sponsored by UNICEF and the H&M Foundation and in multiple nation-wide and international media outlets.