

Kutay Serova

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Areas of Specialization

I am interested in the systematic grammatical underpinnings of cross-linguistic variation, specifically with regards to how syntax and its interfaces with morphological, phonological, and semantic systems facilitate and constrain the range of cross-linguistic variation.

My research focuses on:

- Multiple Exponence & Ellipsis: Sluicing, Gapping, Suspended Affixation, Right Node Raising
- Allomorphy: Suppletion, Morphophonological Alternations, Domain Effects
- Crosslinguistic Variation: Historical/Family-internal Variation within Turkic, Comparative Syntax within Austronesian (Samoan, Hawaiian, Eastern Javanese)
- The Post-syntax: Allomorphy, Vocabulary Insertion, Linearization

Education

2020–ongoing	PhD Candidate, Linguistics: University of Chicago, IL, USA. Dissertation: <i>Right Edge Sharing: Finding Structural Constraints in the Post-Syntax</i> Committee: Karlos Arregi, Erik Zyman, Jason Merchant
2020–2022	MA, Linguistics: University of Chicago, IL, USA.
2016–2020	BA with Honors, Linguistics: Stanford University, CA, USA.

Publications

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

under review	Serova, Kutay. Multiple Derivational Pathways to Shared Exponence in Right Edge Sharing.
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CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- forthcoming | **Serova, Kutay.** [Right Edge Restriction is Non-Uniform: Evidence from Turkish.](#) In *Proceedings of the 16th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics*, 16(1).
- 2024 | **Serova, Kutay.** [Turkic Dative Pronoun Alternation: Diachronic Typology & Faithfulness Hierarchies.](#) In: Erdene-Ochir Tumen-Ochir, Julia Sinitsyna, Shigeru Miyagawa (ed), *In Proceedings of the 17th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics, vol. 17.* MITWPL.
- 2019 | **Serova, Kutay.** [Head Movement, Suspended Affixation, and the Turkish Clausal Spine.](#) In *Proceedings of the Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic*, 4(1), pp. 89–103. Dor: [10.3765/ptu.v4i1.4584](#).

EDITED VOLUMES

- 2024 | **Serova, Kutay, Snigaroff, MK.** *Proceedings of the Fifty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 59).* Chicago Linguistic Society. Chicago.

Manuscripts

- 2025 | Aspect and Auxiliary Structure in Eastern Javanese.
- 2023 | [Dative Pronoun Alternation: Emergence of the Unmarked and Faithfulness Hierarchies.](#)
- 2022 | *Do so* replacement with Stranded Arguments.

Ongoing Projects

- ongoing* | LingCoT: A Linguistic Corpus Toolkit
- ongoing* | In collab. with **Miraç Süzgün.** Can Multilingual LMs distinguish epistemic belief from factual truth?
- ongoing* | Accusative Case Assignment by Passives in 16th century Chaghatay
- ongoing* | In collab. with **Gabriel H. Gilbert.** Fine-tuning Optical Character Recognition for Digitizing Historical Hawaiian Newspapers.
- ongoing* | Chaghatay Texts Corpus through Optical Character Recognition.
- ongoing* | Suspended Affixation & Suspendability in Korean.

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

- TBD | **Serova, Kutay.** Title TBD. Talk at *Syntax/Semantics Group (SynSem).* UT Austin, Texas.
- 2024 | **Serova, Kutay.** On the Derivational Paths to Shared Exponence. Talk at *UIUC Commentary on the Latest Approaches to Syntax and Semantics at Illinois (claSSi),* UIUC, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES

- 2023 **Serova, Kutay.** Dative Stem Alternation in Turkic Pronouns: Emergence of the Unmarked & Faithfulness Hierarchies. Poster presentation at the *17th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL 17)*, National University of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- 2022 **Serova, Kutay.** [Right Edge Restriction is non-uniform in Turkish](#). Talk at the *16th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL 16)*, Rutgers University (online).
- 2019 **Serova, Kutay.** [On the Interaction of Gapping and Head-movement in Turkish Coordination](#). Poster presentation at the *4th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic (Tu+4)*, NYU, New York.
- 2018 **Serova, Kutay.** Turkish Verb Complex and Polar Question Marker Interaction. Talk at *Southern California Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (SCULC)*, UCLA, California.

OTHER (NON-REFEREED) PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 **Serova, Kutay.** [Turkic Dative Pronoun Alternations: *ABA through Phonological Faithfulness Hierarchies](#). Poster presentation at the *Boston Morphology Workshop (BMW, formerly known as Exo-Words, WOMP, and MORPHOMO)*, Boston University, MA..
- 2026 **Serova, Kutay.** Domain Effects in Right Edge Sharing. Talk at *University of Chicago Morphology and Syntax Workshop (Morph-Syn)*.
- 2022 **Serova, Kutay.** Accusative Passives in 16th century Chaghatay. Talk at *University of Chicago Morphology and Syntax Workshop (Morph-Syn)*.
- 2021 **Serova, Kutay.** Apparent Dative Stem Suppletion in Turkic Pronouns. Talk at *University of Chicago Morphology and Syntax Workshop (Morph-Syn)*.

Grants, Honors, Awards

- 2025 University of Chicago: Mellon Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2023 University of Chicago Graduate Research Aid Initiative in Linguistics (GRAIL)
- 2023 Chicago Linguistic Society Research Award
- 2020 Stanford UAR Major Research Grant
- 2019 Stanford UAR Conference Grant
- 2017 Stanford VPUE Summer Research Grant: Stanford Language & Cognition Lab

Teaching

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, DEPT. OF LINGUISTICS

Guest Lectures

2025 Winter	LING 20201 Introduction to Syntax <i>Short and Long Wh-movement and Complementizers</i>
2025 Winter	LING 20001 Introduction to Linguistics <i>Allomorphy and Suppletion</i>
2025 Winter	LING 20201 Introduction to Syntax <i>Comparing Minimalism and LFG: Movement & Gap-Filler Dependencies</i>

Teaching Assistantships

2025 Spring	LING 20301 Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics Primary Instructor: Si Kai Lee
2024 Autumn	LING 20001 Introduction to Linguistics Primary Instructor: Sanghee Kim
2024 Winter	LING 20201 Introduction to Syntax Primary Instructor: Amy Dahlstrom
2023 Autumn	LING 28620 Computational Linguistics Primary Instructor: Daniel Lam
2023 Spring	LING 20001 Introduction to Linguistics Primary Instructor: Laura Stigliano

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, DEPT. OF LINGUISTICS

2018 Winter	Grader, LINGUIST 130A/230A Introduction to Semantics & Pragmatics Primary Instructor: Chris Potts
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Academic Service

2026	<i>Student Representative and Advisor</i> within Phonology Faculty Search Committee
2025–2026	<i>Franke Institute Affiliated Fellow</i> : Workshop for Humanities Dissertation Completion Fellowship holders
2024–2025	<i>MidWest Syntax & Semantics Exchange (MWSSE)</i> : Workshop Coordinator for University of Chicago Branch
2023–2025	<i>University of Chicago Morphology and Syntax Workshop (Morph-Syn)</i> : Workshop Organizer
2022–2023	<i>University of Chicago Humanities Division Graduate Student Council (HDGSC)</i> : Linguistics Representative and Financial Manager
2022–2023	<i>Chicago Linguistics Society</i> : CLS 59 Conference Organizing Committee Member, Proceedings Editor
2022–2023	<i>Chicago Linguistics Society</i> : Publications Manager

REVIEWING

2024–ongoing	<i>Glossa</i>
2022–ongoing	<i>Chicago Linguistic Society</i> : CLS 58–62
2019, 2021	<i>Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic</i> : Tu+4, Tu+6

Miscellaneous Projects

2019	Kaan Dönbekci, Kutay Serova , Tyler Su. <i>Predicting Yelp Reviews using Convolutional Neural Networks</i> . Stanford course CS 224U: Natural Language Understanding.
2018	Kaan Dönbekci, Kutay Serova . <i>Human Vision Reconstruction with 3D Convolutional Neural Networks</i> . Stanford course CS 221: Artificial Intelligence: Principles & Techniques.

Work Experience

Aug–Sep 2018	Machine Learning Intern, GT-ARC – Berlin, Germany
2017–2018	Research Assistant, Stanford Language and Cognition Lab. <i>Connective Learning in Child Language Acquisition</i> . PI: Masoud Jasbi.
Aug–Sep 2016	Software R&D Intern, Innova IT Solutions – Istanbul, Turkey

Technical Skills

Methods	Syntactic Elicitation, Fieldwork, Online Experiments
Linguistic Tools	ELAN, Praat, L ^A T _E X, Audio Recording, Prolific, Ibex Farm
Statistics & Programming	R, Python, C++, Java
Machine Learning	Neural Networks, NLP, Keras, Tensorflow, PyTorch
Web Development	html, jekyll, javascript

Languages

Native/Fluent	Turkish, English
High Proficiency	Japanese
Medium Proficiency	Kazakh, Uyghur, French, Chinese (Mandarin)
Lower Proficiency	German, Russian
Historical Research	Ottoman Turkish, Chaghatay, Manchu (Intermediate), Nanai (Mergen Texts), Middle Egyptian (Beginner)
Fieldwork Languages	Eastern Javanese & Samoan (Methods Coursework), Turkish

References

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