

Alex Brabham Fine

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of Psychology
Date of Birth: June 13, 1984
Citizenship: United States

E-mail: abfine@gmail.com
Webpage: <http://internal.psychology.illinois.edu/~abfine/>

Employment

NIH Post-doctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (June 2013-present). **Advisers: Gary Dell, Duane Watson, Sarah Brown-Schmidt.**

Research Assistant, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology at Boston University School of Medicine (June 2006-July 2008). **Lab Director: Helen Tager-Flusberg.**

Education

Joint PhD in Brain & Cognitive Sciences (primary) and Linguistics (secondary), University of Rochester, 2013

Thesis Title: Prediction, error, and adaptation during online sentence comprehension

Committee: T. Florian Jaeger, Jeffrey T. Runner, Michael K. Tanenhaus, Gregory N. Carlson, & Harry T. Reis

MA in Brain & Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester, 2011

Linguistics Society of America Summer Institute - UC Berkeley, July 2009

B.A. (with Distinction), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2006.

Major: Linguistics (Highest Honors)

Minor: German

Senior Thesis Title: Attachment Preferences of Successive Prepositional Phrases in German

Eberhard-Karls Universität Tübingen, Exchange Student, August 2004-July 2005

Sprachinstitut Tübingen, June 2004-August 2004

Honors

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, April 2010 – June 2013

UNC Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Award, April 2006

Baden-Württemberg Landesstiftung Stipendium, August 2004-July 2005

Teaching

Courses Taught

University of Rochester, CSP 502: Cognitive Foundations (proseminar on cognitive psychology tailored to clinical psychology PhD students; Fall 2012)

University of Rochester, BCS 391: Independent study on adaptation in music and language (co-taught with Florian Jaeger and Dave Kleinschmidt; Spring 2012)

Teaching Assistantships

University of Rochester, CSP 519: Data Analysis: General Linear Applications II; instructor: Harry Reis (Spring 2012)

University of Rochester, BCS 200: Statistical Analysis and Experimental Design; instructor: Dave Knill (Fall 2010)

University of Rochester, LIN 110: Introduction to Linguistic Analysis; instructor: Greg Carlson (Spring 2010)

LSA Summer Institute, LSA 125: Psycholinguistics and Syntactic Corpora; instructor: Florian Jaeger (July 2009)

University of Rochester, BCS 152: Language and Psycholinguistics; instructor: Florian Jaeger (Fall 2008)

Tutoring and Workshops

Tutorial on linear and logistic mixed effects regression in R for psycholinguists. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. (Spring 2014; Chief organizer, co-organized with Laurel Brehm, Sarah Brown-Schmidt, and Joe Toscano)

University of Rochester College Writing Program. Writing Consultant. (Fall 2009 - Fall 2012)

Tutorial on Statistical Analysis and Regression. University of Rochester. (Fall 2010; Co-organized with Florian Jaeger, Dave Kleinschmidt, and Judith Degen)

Guest Lectures

“Information Theory in Cognitive Science and Marr’s Levels of Analysis”. Guest lecture for BCS 111; instructors: Thomas Farmer (Spring 2012); Lindsay Butler (Fall 2012); Jennifer Merickel (Summer 2013)

“Rational Analysis in Language Processing”. Guest lecture for BCS 261; instructor: Thomas Farmer (Fall 2011)

Service and Professional Activities

Ad hoc reviewer: *Cognition*; *Journal of Memory and Language*; *Language Learning and Development*; *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*; *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, & Cognition*; *Language and Speech*

Assistant Editor, *University of Rochester Working Papers in the Language Sciences* (Spring 2009-Spring 2013)

Department of Linguistics Graduate Student Representative to the Graduate Organizing Group,
University of Rochester (Fall 2009-Spring 2013)

Journal Publications

In preparation

Fine, A. B., Jaeger, T. F., & Dell, G. *in prep.* “The adaptive perspective on human language processing.”

Submitted or Published

Fine, A. B. & Jaeger, T. F. *under review.* “The role of verb repetition in cumulative priming in syntactic comprehension”.

Pajak, B., Fine, A. B., Kleinschmidt, D., Jaeger, T. F. *under revision.* “Learning additional languages as hierarchical probabilistic inference: insights from L1 processing”.

Farmer, T., Misyak, J. B., Fine, A. B., Christiansen, M. H. *under revision.* “The “Ex-Factor”: Individual differences in linguistic experience help explain variability in measures of on-line syntactic processing ability”.

Fine, A. B., Jaeger, T. F., Farmer, T., Qian, T. 2013. “Rapid expectation adaptation during syntactic comprehension”. *PLoS ONE*, 8(10), 1-18.

Fine, A. B. and Jaeger, T.F. 2013. “Evidence for implicit learning in syntactic comprehension”. *Cognitive Science*, 37(3), 578-591.

Plesa Skwerer, D., Ammerman, E., André, M-C., Ciciolla, L., Fine, A. B., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2011. “A multi-measure approach to investigating affective appraisal of social information in Williams syndrome”. *Journal of Neurodevelopmental Disorders*, 3(4), 325-344.

Conference Proceedings

Karuza, E. A., Farmer, T., Fine, A. B., Smith, F. X., & Jaeger, T. F. 2014. “On-line measures of prediction in a self-paced statistical learning task”. In *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Quebec City, Canada.

Farmer, T., Fine, A. B., Yan, S., Cheimariou, S., & Jaeger, T. F. 2014. “Error-driven adaptation of higher-level expectations during reading”. In *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Quebec City, Canada.

Fine, A. B., Frank, A. F., Jaeger, T. F., & Van Durme, B. 2014. “Biases in predicting the human language model”. In *Proceedings of the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, pp. 7-12, Baltimore, MD, USA.

Fine, A. B. & Jaeger, T. F. 2013. “Syntactic priming in language comprehension allows linguistic expectations to converge on the statistics of the input”. In *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, pp. 2279-2284, Berlin, Germany.

Kleinschmidt, D. F., Fine, A. B., Jaeger, T. F. 2012 “A belief updating model of adaptation and cue combination in syntactic comprehension”. In *Proceedings of the 34th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, pp. 599-604, Sapporo, Japan.

Fine, A. B. and Jaeger, T.F. 2011. “Language comprehension is sensitive to changes in the reliability of lexical cues”. In *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, pp. 925-930, Boston, MA, USA.

Farmer, T., Fine, A. B., Jaeger, T. F. 2011 “Implicit context-specific learning leads to rapid shifts in syntactic expectations”. In *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, pp. 2055-2060, Boston, MA, USA.

Fine, A. B., Qian, T., Jaeger, T.F., Jacobs, R. 2010. “Syntactic Adaptation in Language Comprehension”. In *Proceedings of the 48th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, pp. 18-26, Uppsala, Sweden.

Conference Presentations

Fine, A. B., Farmer, T. & Jaeger, T. F. 2013. “Syntactic adaptation: Converging on the statistics of the linguistics environment”. Talk presented at the 26th Annual Meeting of the CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. March 2013. Columbia, SC.

Fine, A. B., Jaeger, T.F. 2011. “Principles and Mechanisms Underlying Syntactic Adaptation”. Poster presented at 24th Annual Meeting of the CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. March 2011. Palo Alto, CA.

Farmer, T., Dikker, S., Bicknell, K., Fine, A. B., Tanenhaus, M. 2011. Word-form Typicality Effects on Eye-Movements During Reading. Poster presented at 24th Annual Meeting of the CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. March 2011. Palo Alto, CA.

Ammerman, E., Fine, A. B., Lindeke, M., André, M-C., Plesa Skwerer, D., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2011. “How do Children with Williams Syndrome Respond to Ambiguous Referential Communication in a Joint Activity?”. Poster presented at Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. April 2011. Montreal, CA.

Fine, A. B., Qian, T., Jaeger, T.F., Jacobs, R. 2010. “Syntactic Adaptation in Language Comprehension”. Talk given at ACL 2010. Uppsala, Sweden.

Ammerman, E., André, M-C., Storer, A., Fine, A. B. Ciciolla, C., Lindeke, M., Plesa Skwerer, D., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2010. “Differential Appraisal of Social and Nonsocial Affective Images in Williams Syndrome”. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science. May 2010. Boston, MA.

Fine, A. B., Kim, C., Runner, J. 2009. “The Role of Inflectional Entropy in VP Ellipsis Resolution”. Poster presented at 22nd Annual Meeting of the CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. March 2009. Davis, CA.

Edelson, L. Fine, A. B., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2009. “Using Eye-Tracking Measures to Assess Verb Comprehension in Toddlers with and without Autism Spectrum Disorders”. Talk given at Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. April 2009. Denver, CO.

Plesa Skwerer, D., Kennedy, M., Fine, A. B., Lindeke, M., Ciciolla, L., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2009. “Visual preferences, social attention and arousal in people with developmental disorders: Eye-tracking and pupillometry findings”. Talk given at Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. April 2009. Denver, CO.

Fine, A. B., Plesa Skwerer, D., Ciciolla, L., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2008. “Reflexive Orienting to Non-Predictive Gaze and Arrow Cues in Williams Syndrome.” Poster Presented at the 12th International Professional Conference on Williams Syndrome. July 2008. Garden Grove, CA.

Fine, A. B., Plesa Skwerer, D., Ciciolla, L., Joseph, R., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2008. "Orienting of Attention to Gaze and Arrow Cues in Williams Syndrome. Poster Presented at the 2nd Annual Social and Affective Neuroscience Conference. June 2008. Boston, MA.

Kennedy, M. Plesa Skwerer, D., Lindeke, M., Fine, A. B., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2008. "Social Attention in Young Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders: Evidence from Eye-Tracking". Poster presented at the 2nd Annual Social and Affective Neuroscience Conference. June 2008. Boston, MA.

Edelson, L., Fine, A. B., Tager-Flusberg, H. 2008. "Comprehension of Nouns in Toddlers with Autism: An Eye-Tracking Study. Talk given at 7th International Meeting for Autism Research. May 2008. London, UK.

Keehn, B., Connolly, C., Fine, A. B., Joseph, R. 2007. "Slowed Visual Search in the Absence of Top-Down Information in Autism". Poster Presented at 6th International Meeting for Autism Research. May 2007. Seattle, WA.

Keehn, B. Connolly, C., Fine, A. B., Joseph, R. 2007. "Bottom-up Modulation of Attention in Autism: Evidence of Impaired Prioritization of Novel Onset Stimuli". Poster Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. March 2007. Boston, MA.

Fine, A. B.. "Ordering Preferences of Successive PPs in German". 2006. Paper presented at the 4th Annual Harvard University Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium. April 2006. Cambridge, MA.