
About me

I am a theoretical and empirical linguist with a PhD in Linguistics from the University of Cologne, where I currently work as a lecturer and postdoctoral researcher. My research bridges formal syntactic theory and empirical approaches, focusing on how nominal and verbal features interact to shape argument structure. My main areas of interest include genitive variation, Differential Object Marking, and causative alternation and recursion. Specializing in the morphosyntax-semantics-pragmatics interface, I combine formal analysis with corpus and experimental data, employing multifactorial statistical models to examine structural complexity and cross-linguistic variation. I have strong quantitative and analytical expertise, particularly in experimental design, linguistic annotation, and large-scale corpus analysis. I am proficient in R for statistical modeling and data visualization, and in LaTeX for academic writing and professional documentation. I am familiar with Python for data handling and basic NLP, and with Praat for speech transcription and acoustic analysis.

Employment

10/2025 – 03/2026 **Lecturer & Postdoctoral Researcher,**
German Language and Literature II,
Faculty of Arts and Humanities,
University of Cologne.

Scope of work:

- Teaching BA seminar *Einführung in die Sprachwissenschaft des Deutschen* (4 SWS)
- Preparing seminar materials and supervising examinations
- Advancing publications from ongoing research projects

10/2021 – 03/2025 **Research Assistant,**
Collaborative Research Center 1252 'Prominence in Language' (CRC 1252),
Project B04 *Interaction of nominal and verbal features for Differential Object Marking*
PIs: Prof. Dr. Marco García García & Prof. Dr. Klaus von Heusinger
German Language and Literature I (Linguistics),
Faculty of Arts and Humanities,
University of Cologne.

Theoretical expertise:

- Morphosyntax within Distributed Morphology
- Event structure and argument realization
- Discourse pragmatics and information structure

Empirical and quantitative expertise:

- Statistical analysis and data visualization using R
- Designing and conducting offline experiments
- Cross-linguistic corpus studies using large-scale corpora
- Transcription and annotation of speech data using Praat

Presentation and collaboration:

- International peer-reviewed conferences
- Online and on-site colloquium talks
- Multi-author research projects

Administrative skills:

- Organization of international conferences
- IT representative within the research group
- Statistical support for individual projects

Education

- 04/2022 – 01/2025 **PhD in Linguistics**,
University of Cologne.
- Thesis *Recursive embedding in productive causatives: The view from Turkish*
- Supervisor Prof. Dr. Klaus von Heusinger
- Committee Prof. Dr. Marco García García & Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Artemis Alexiadou
- Defense January 7, 2025, awarded *summa cum laude*
- Description I investigate Turkish causatives at the morphosyntax-semantics interface, with a focus on recursive structures in productive affixal causatives of transitive verbs. I show that recursive causatives increase the degree of indirectness between the higher causing event and the lower causing event—an effect that is modulated by manner/result complementarity and significantly reflected in the overt realization of agentive arguments.
- 10/2018 – 07/2021 **MA in Comparative Studies, focus English Linguistics**,
Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf.
- Thesis *The variation between NN constructions and genitive constructions in English: An empirical study*
- Supervisor Prof. Dr. Ingo Plag
- Description I investigate the choice between NN constructs (*a teacher role*) and s-genitives (*a teacher's role*), utilizing corpus data from Present-Day English to ascertain what determines the distribution between the two variants. I show that s-genitives are more likely with animate possessors and definite expressions, whereas NN compounds are favored with increasing N1 frequency and tend to be reused following a prior occurrence.
- 09/2013 – 06/2018 **BA in Comparative Literature**,
Eskişehir Osmangazi University.
- Thesis *On Marx's theory of alienation: A comparative study of the literary works 'The Goalie's Anxiety at the Penalty Kick' by Peter Handke and 'Motherland Hotel' by Yusuf Atılgan*
- Supervisor Prof. Dr. Ali Gültekin
- Description I present a Marxist literary analysis, exploring alienation in capitalist societies as depicted in *The Goalie's Anxiety at the Penalty Kick* and *Motherland Hotel*. By focusing on alienation from labor, the self, and others, I connect these works to Marx's theory of alienation, uncovering deeper insights into this human experience.

Further training

- 9-13/10/2023 **Frequentist and Bayesian Statistics**, Cologne.
This workshop was led by Bodo Winter for the CRC 1252 'Prominence in Language'.
- Achievements:*
- Data wrangling and visualization with *tidyverse* and *ggplot2*
 - Linear and logistic mixed-effects models with *lme4* and *brms*
- 9-13/01/2023 **The Netherlands National Graduate School of Linguistics**, Amsterdam.
- Courses:*
- *Psycholinguistics of Communication* (Monique Flecken & Jean Wagemans)
 - *Grammatical Voice* (Seppo Kittilä)
- 16-29/07/2022 **The 4th Crete Summer School of Linguistics**, Crete.
- Courses:*
- *Introduction to Semantics* (Cleo Condoravdi)
 - *The Semantics and Pragmatics of Questions* (Regina Eckardt & Donka F. Farkas)
 - *Evolution of Language* (Shigeru Miyagawa)
 - *Introduction to Super Linguistics* (Pritty Patel-Grosz & Philippe Schlenker)

Publications

- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** 2026. *Recursive embedding in productive causatives: The view from Turkish*. Cologne: University of Cologne. PhD Thesis. doi:10.18716/kups/79985
- von Heusinger, Klaus & **Haydar Batuhan Yıldız.** 2025. The discourse function of Differential Object Marking in Turkish. *Languages* 10(7). doi:10.3390/languages10070173
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** 2021. *The variation between NN constructions and genitive constructions in English: An empirical study*. Düsseldorf: Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf. (Unpublished) MA Thesis.

Presentations

International peer-reviewed conferences

- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** *Root sensitivity in argument realization in Turkish recursive causatives*. Oral presentation at International Argument Alternation Workshop (IAAW2025). Kobe University. 16–17 July 2025.
- Hopperdietzel, Jens & **Haydar Batuhan Yıldız.** *Case domains in (double) causatives: Morphological vs. analytical causatives*. Oral presentation at International Argument Alternation Workshop (IAAW2025). Kobe University. 16–17 July 2025.
- Hopperdietzel, Jens & **Haydar Batuhan Yıldız.** *Case domains in (double) causatives: Morphological vs. analytical causatives*. Oral presentation at Bielefeld Leiden Comparative Syntax Conference (BieLeiCoS2025). Bielefeld University. 22–23 May 2025.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** *Argument structure in recursive causatives: Insights from manner/result complementarity*. Oral presentation at 33rd Conference of the Student Organisation of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE33). University of Göttingen. 29–31 January 2025.
- von Heusinger, Klaus & **Haydar Batuhan Yıldız.** *The discourse function of Differential Object Marking in Turkish*. Poster presentation (accepted but not presented) at 17th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL17). National University of Mongolia. 27–29 September 2023.
- von Heusinger, Klaus & **Haydar Batuhan Yıldız.** *Differential Object Marking and discourse prominence in Turkish*. Oral presentation at 21st International Conference on Turkish Linguistics (ICTL21). Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz. 2–4 August 2023.
- Duarte, Tiago Augusto, **Haydar Batuhan Yıldız**, Marco García García & Klaus von Heusinger. *Differential Object Marking and discourse prominence in Spanish and Turkish*. Oral presentation at 10th International Contrastive Linguistics Conference (ICLC10). University of Mannheim. 18–21 July 2023.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan & Ingo Plag.** *The teacher role or the teacher's role? Determining the choice between noun-noun constructions and s-genitives*. Oral presentation at Linguistics Prague (LP2022). Charles University of Prague. 30 September–2 October 2022.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan & Ingo Plag.** *The teacher role or the teacher's role? Determining the choice between noun-noun constructions and s-genitives*. Oral presentation at 9th Biennial International Conference of the Linguistics of Contemporary English (BICLCE9). University of Ljubljana. 15–17 September 2022.

Invited colloquium talks

- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** *Causative recursion and the realization of intermediary arguments: The view from Turkish.* Oral presentation (online) at Converging on Causal Ontology Analyses (COCOA). CNRS. 13 Juni 2025.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** *From manner to result: Mapping argument structure in recursive causatives.* Oral presentation at Workshop Cause(e/r): The Interplay between Event Structure and Argument Realization. University of Cologne. 23–24 January 2025.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** *Morphological reduplication or syntactic recursion? Double causatives in Turkish.* Oral presentation at Kolloquium Linguistischer Arbeitskreis Köln (LAK). University of Cologne. 29 November 2023.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan & Ingo Plag.** *The teacher role or the teacher's role? Determining the choice between noun-noun constructions and s-genitives.* Oral presentation (online) at Nominal Group Group. Cardiff University. 15 December 2022.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** *Who made who do what [for] whom? Causativization in Turkish.* Oral presentation at a.r.t.e.s. Colloquium. University of Cologne. 7 October 2022.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan & Klaus von Heusinger.** *The discourse function of DOM in Turkish: Evidence from two empirical studies.* Oral presentation at 3rd Cologne Ankara Discourse Meeting (CADiM3). University of Cologne. 1 July 2022.
- Yıldız, Haydar Batuhan.** *Seeking syntactic complexity: A corpus-based genre analysis.* Oral presentation at MA Students' Conference 'Made and Remade Continually'. Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf. 28 January 2020.

Teaching

- Winter Term* **Introduction to German Linguistics,**
2025/26 *Lecturer*
Department of German Language and Literature II,
University of Cologne.
Einführung in die Sprachwissenschaft des Deutschen (4 SWS)
- Summer Term* **Corpus Linguistics,**
2023 *Guest Lecturer*
Department of German Language and Literature I (Linguistics),
University of Cologne.
Eigennamen (Prof. Dr. Klaus von Heusinger)
- Winter Term* **Morphology,**
2022/23 *Guest Lecturer*
Department of German Language and Literature I (Linguistics),
University of Cologne.
Einführung in die Sprachwissenschaft des Deutschen (Dr. Semra Kızılkaya)

Collaborations

- Jens Hopperdietzel (Cologne)
Causatives and argument structure
- Johannes Gerwien (Heidelberg), Agnieszka Konopka (Aberdeen),
Martina Penke and Judith Schlenter (Cologne)
Visual gating experiment for sentence production after an agent or patient preview
- Tiago Augusto Duarte, Marco García García, and Klaus von Heusinger (Cologne)
Differential Object Marking and discourse prominence in Spanish and Turkish
- Ingo Plag (Düsseldorf)
Genitive variation in Present-Day English

Conference organization

- 2025 **Cause(e/r): The Interplay between Event Structure and Argument Realization**,
University of Cologne, January 23-24, 2025.
Six invited speakers, about 15 participants
Haydar Batuhan Yıldız and Jens Hopperdietzel
- 2022 **3rd International Conference 'Prominence in Language'**,
CRC 1252 and CCLS, University of Cologne, June 2-3, 2022.
Three invited speakers, about 80 participants
Sophie Repp, Jakob Egetenmeyer, **Haydar Batuhan Yıldız**, and Maria Lialiou

Funding

- 2025 **Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)**,
Congress Travel Funding (Category 4)
IAAW2025, Kobe, Japan, July 16-17, 2025.
- 2025 **Cologne Center of Language Sciences (CCLS)**,
Junior Travel Funding
ConSOLE33, Göttingen, January 29-31, 2025
Junior Workshop Funding
Cause(e/r), Cologne, January 23-24, 2025.
- 2022 **Cologne Center of Language Sciences (CCLS)**,
Junior Travel Funding
LP2022, Prague, September 30-October 2, 2022
Junior Travel Funding
BICLCE9, Ljubljana, September 15-17, 2022.

Skills

	<i>Programming</i>		<i>Tools</i>
Advanced	R, \LaTeX	Intermediate	Praat
Basic	Python	Basic	VS Code

Languages

Türkçe	L1	
English	C2	<i>Near-native academic proficiency</i>
Deutsch	C1	<i>Fluent in academic and professional settings</i>
Español	A1	<i>Basic knowledge; limited vocabulary</i>

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March 25, 2026