

John Beavers

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Syntax, lexical semantics, formal semantics, argument realization, aspect, typology, the encoding of motion across languages, Japanese linguistics, computational linguistics

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2007-present **Assistant Professor** of Syntax, Department of Linguistics, The University of Texas at Austin

2006-2007 **Visiting Assistant Professor** of Syntax and Semantics, Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University

EDUCATION

2000-2006 **PhD** in Linguistics, Stanford University
Argument/Oblique Alternations and the Structure of Lexical Meaning
Committee: Beth Levin (chair), Paul Kiparsky, Ivan A. Sag, Peter Sells

2000-2002 **MA** in Linguistics, Stanford University

1995-2000 **BS** in Computer Sciences with honors
BA with honors, majoring in Linguistics and Mathematics
The University of Texas at Austin

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Summer 2009 **Summer Research Assignment**, The University of Texas at Austin

2006 **Walter J. Gores Award for Excellence in Teaching**, Stanford University

2005-2006 **Mellon Foundation Dissertation Fellowship**, Stanford University

2000-2005 **Fellowship for graduate studies**, Stanford University

1995-1999 **National Merit Scholarship**

GRANTS

- Summer 2004 **University of Edinburgh Small Project Grant**, *Finalization of Cross-Framework Analysis and Implementation* (£1200)
Beavers, John, Dan Flickinger, and Ivan A. Sag
- Summer 2003 **University of Edinburgh Small Project Grant**, *Cross-Framework Implementation of Non-Constituent Coordination* (£5000)
Beavers, John, Dan Flickinger, and Ivan A. Sag
- Summer 2002 **University of Edinburgh Small Project Grant**, *Implementing Grammars for English in Two Frameworks* (£5000)
Beavers, John, Dan Flickinger, and Ivan A. Sag

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- In preparation Koontz-Garboden, Andrew and John Beavers. **Manner and Result in Verb Meaning**. Ms., The University of Manchester and The University of Texas at Austin.
- In preparation Beavers, John and Cala Zubair. **Anticausatives in Sinhala: Involitvity and Causer Suppression**. Ms., The University of Texas at Austin and Georgetown University.
- Under revision Beavers, John. **The Structure of Lexical Meaning: Why Semantics Really Matters**. Ms., The University of Texas at Austin.
- Under review Beavers, John. **An Aspectual Classification of English Ditransitive Verbs**. Ms., The University of Texas at Austin.
- Under review Beavers, John. **Aspectual Classes and Scales of Change**. Ms., The University of Texas at Austin.
- To appear Beavers, John. **On Affectedness**. Accepted (with minor revisions) to *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*
- In press Beavers, John, Beth Levin, and Tham Shiao-Wei. **The Typology of Motion Expressions Revisited**. *Journal of Linguistics* 46.3.
- 2008 Beavers, John. **On the Nature of Goal Marking and Delimitation: Evidence from Japanese**. *Journal of Linguistics* 44:283-316.
- 2006 Beavers, John and Andrew Koontz-Garboden. **A Universal Pronoun in English?** *Linguistic Inquiry* 37:503-513.

BOOK CHAPTERS AND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS PAPERS

- In preparation Beavers, John. **Lexical Aspect and Multiple Incremental Themes**. Ms., The University of Texas at Austin.
- Under review Beavers, John and Chiyo Nishida. **The Spanish Dative Alternation Revisited**. Ms., The University of Texas at Austin.
- To appear Beavers, John and Cala Zubair. **The Interaction of Low Transitivity Features in the Sinhala Involitive**. Ms., The University of Texas at Austin and Georgetown University.
- In press Beavers, John and Itamar Francez. **Several Problems for Predicate Decompositions**. In *Proceedings of BLS 32*, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.

- 2009 Beavers, John. **Multiple Incremental Themes and Figure/Path Relations**. In T. Friedman and S. Ito, eds., *SALT XVIII*, 90-107. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University, <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/13028>.
- 2009 Beavers, John, Elias Ponvert, and Stephen Wechsler. **Possession of a Controlled Substantive: Light *Have* and Verbs of Possession**. In T. Friedman and S. Ito, eds., *SALT XVIII*, 108-125. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University, <http://hdl.handle.net/1813/13029>.
- 2009 Beavers, John. **Predicting Argument Realization from Preposition Semantics**. In Ronald P. Leow, Hector Campos, and Donna Lardiere (eds.), *Little Words: Their History, Phonology, Syntax, Semantics, Pragmatics, and Acquisition*, 121-130. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.
- 2008 Beavers, John. **Scalar Complexity and the Structure of Events**. In Johannes Dölling, Tatjana Heyde-Zybatow, and Martin Schäfer, eds. *Event Structures in Linguistic Form and Interpretation*, 245-268. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- 2006 Beavers, John. **Semantic Underspecificity in English Argument/Oblique Alternations**. In *Proceedings of WECOL 2004*. 26-37. University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2005 Beavers, John. **Towards a Semantic Analysis of Argument/Oblique Alternations in HPSG**. In Stefan Müller, ed. *Proceedings of the 2005 HPSG Conference*. 28-48. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications.
- 2005 Baldwin, Timothy, John Beavers, Emily M. Bender, Dan Flickinger, Ara Kim, and Stephan Oepen. **Beauty and the Beast: What running a broad-coverage precision grammar over the BNC taught us about the grammar — and the corpus**. In Stephan Kepser and Marge Reis, eds. *Linguistic Evidence: Empirical, Theoretical, and Computational Perspectives*. 49-70. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- 2005 Baldwin, Timothy, John Beavers, Leonoor van der Beek, Francis Bond, Dan Flickinger, and Ivan A. Sag. **In Search of a Systematic Treatment of Determinerless PPs**. In Patrick St. Dizier, ed. *Computational Linguistics Dimensions of Syntax and Semantics of Prepositions*. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic.
- 2004 Beavers, John and Ivan A. Sag. **Coordinate Ellipsis and Apparent Non-Constituent Coordination**. In Stefan Müller, ed. *Proceedings of the 2004 HPSG Conference*. 48-69. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications.
- 2004 Beavers, John. **Type-inheritance Combinatory Categorical Grammar**. In *Proceedings of COLING 2004*. 57-63. University of Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2003 Beavers, John. **More Heads and Less Categories: A New Look at Noun Phrase Structure**. In Stefan Müller, ed. *Proceedings of the 2003 HPSG Conference*. 47-67. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications.
- 2003 Beavers, John and Andrew Koontz-Garboden. **The Proper Treatment of *Your Ass* in English**. In *Proceedings of the Student Workshop at the 2003 European Summer School of Logic, Language, and Information*. 1-11. Balder ten Cate, ed. August 18th-29th, Vienna, Austria.

OTHER MANUSCRIPTS

- 2004 Beavers, John. **Heads and Categories: Finding the Nominal Chimera**. Unpublished ms., Stanford University, Stanford, CA.
- 2002 Beavers, John. **A CCG Implementation for the LKB**. LinGO Working Paper No. 2002-08, CSLI, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, <http://lingo.stanford.edu/working-papers.html>.
- 2002 Beavers, John. **Aspect and the Distribution of Prepositional Resultative Phrases in English**. LinGO Working Paper No. 2002-07, CSLI, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, <http://lingo.stanford.edu/working-papers.html>.

INVITED TALKS

- 09/2009 Beavers, John. **Incremental Themes and Aspectual Classes**. Events and Subevents. Sept. 17th-19th, Paris, France.
- 05/2009 Beavers, John. **Aspectual Classes and Scales of Change**. Events across categories: Theoretical and experimental approaches to event structure. May 27-28, Madrid, Spain.
- 10/2008 Beavers, John. **Verbs in Motion: Revisiting Talmy's Typology**. Trinity University.
- 04/2008 Beavers, John. **Towards a Partly Aspectual Understanding of Affectedness**. Yale University.
- 04/2007 Beavers, John. **Deconstructing Affectedness: A Hierarchical Approach**. The University at Buffalo, State University of New York.
- 02/2007 Beavers, John. **Semantic Prominence in the Syntax: A Case Study in English Object/Oblique Alternations**. The University of Kentucky at Lexington.
- 02/2007 Beavers, John. **Prominence Preservation in Argument Realization: Some Morphosyntactic Consequences**. The University of Texas at Austin.
- 11/2006 Beavers, John and Andrew Koontz-Garboden. **Expressive Capability Trumps Syntax: A Case Study in Colloquial English Pronominals**. Georgetown University.
- 05/2006 Beavers, John. **Prominence Preservation at the Syntax/Semantics Interface**. Simon Fraser University.
- 02/2006 Beavers, John. **Lexical Semantic Prominence as Implicational Structure**. The Ohio State University, and The University of California at San Diego.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (WITH SEPARATELY REVIEWED OR NO PROCEEDINGS)

- 11/2009 Beavers, John. **Deriving Aspectual Classes from Scales of Change**. Texas Linguistics Society XII, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.
- 09/2009 Koontz-Garboden, Andrew and John Beavers. **Manner and Result Verbs**. Annual meeting of the LAGB, Edinburgh, UK.

- 06/2009 Koontz-Garboden, Andrew and John Beavers. **Is there a manner/result complementarity in verbal roots?** Roots: Word Formation from the Perspective of “Core Lexical Elements”, Universität Stuttgart, Germany.
- 06/2009 Levin, Beth, John Beavers, and Shiao-Wei Tham. **Manner of motion roots across languages: same or different?** Roots: Word Formation from the Perspective of “Core Lexical Elements”, Universität Stuttgart, Germany.
- 03/2009 Beavers, John and Chiyo Nishida. **The Dative Alternation in Spanish: Syntax or Semantics?** The 39th Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages, University of Arizona.
- 03/2009 Koontz-Garboden, Andrew and John Beavers. **Questioning the manner/result complementarity.** 10th Annual SemFest, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.
- 02/2009 Beavers, John. **A Scalar Approach to Aspectual Classes.** Talk to be given at the Verb Typologies Revisited: A Cross-linguistic Reflection on Verbs and Verb Classes, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium.
- 10/2008 Beavers, John and Cala Zubair. **Low Transitivity and Detransitivization in Sinhala.** Talk given at the Workshop on Transitivity, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.
- 02/2008 Beavers, John. **Variation in Argument Realization: Why Semantics Really Matters.** Talk given at the NORMS Workshop on Argument Structure, Lund, Sweden.
- 01/2008 Zubair, Cala and John Beavers. **Non-Nominative Subjects and the Involitive Construction in Sinhala.** Talk given at the 82nd Annual meeting of the LSA, Chicago, IL.
- 01/2008 Beavers, John. **The True Role of Affectedness in NP-Preposing.** Talk given at the 82nd Annual meeting of the LSA, Chicago, IL.
- 03/2007 Beavers, John. **Predicting Argument Realization from Preposition Semantics.** Talk given at the 2007 Georgetown Roundtable of Linguistics, Georgetown University, Washington DC.
- 01/2007 Beavers, John. **The interaction of Causation and Affectedness in Transitivity.** Poster given at Forces in Grammatical Structures, Paris, France.
- 01/2007 Beavers, John. **The Role of Durativity in Argument Realization.** Talk given at the 81st Annual meeting of the LSA, Anaheim, CA.
- 01/2006 Beavers, John. **The Aspectual Behavior of Ditransitives in English.** Talk given at the 80th Annual meeting of the LSA, Albuquerque, NM.
- 01/2006 Beavers, John, Beth Levin, and Tham Shiao Wei. **The Typology of Motion Events Revisited.** Talk given at the 80th Annual meeting of the LSA, Albuquerque, NM.
- 03/2005 Beavers, John. **Thematic Roles and Argument/Oblique Alternations.** Dissertation Proposal Talk, Stanford Semantics Workshop. Stanford University, CA.
- 05/2004 Beavers, John, Beth Levin, and Tham Shiao Wei. **A Morphosyntactic Basis for Variation in the Encoding of Motion.** Talk given at The Diversity and Universals in Language Conference. Stanford University, CA.

- 03/2004 Beavers, John. **Scalar Complexity and the Structure of Events.** Talk given at the Workshop on Event Structures in Linguistic Form and Interpretation. University of Leipzig.
- 03/2004 Beavers, John. **A Less Informative Take on Argument/Oblique Alternations in English.** Talk given at the 5th Annual Stanford Semantics Fest. Stanford University, CA.
- 01/2004 Beavers, John and Emily Bender. **Gapless Instrumental Relative Clauses in English.** Talk given at the 78th Annual Meeting of the LSA, Boston, MA.
- 09/2003 Beavers, John. **Goal Marking in Japanese at the Event and Predicate Level.** Semantics Workshop, Sept. 30th, Stanford University, CA.
- 01/2002 Beavers, John. **Aspect and the Distribution of Prepositional Resultative Phrases in English.** Talk given at the 76th Annual Meeting of the LSA, San Francisco, CA.

ADVISING

- PhD Committee** **Current:** Grant Armonstrong (Georgetown University), Peter Glanville (Arabic Studies), Guido Halder (Germanic Studies), Hyun-Jong Hahm, Frederick Hoyt, Justin Kelly (Georgetown University), Quiana Lopez, Elias Ponvert, Jessica White, Wei-Li Yang; **Graduated:** Cheng-Fu Chen (2008), Makiko Nakayama (2008), Hyoungsup Kim (Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies; 2009), Alexandra Teodorescu (2009)
- MA Thesis Advisor** **Graduated:** Nicholas Gaylord (2007), Jihwan Kim (Co-advisor, 2007)
- MA Thesis Reader** **Graduated:** Mark Shea (Department of Linguistics, Georgetown University, 2007), Telma Kaan (2009)
- Honors Thesis Advisor** **Graduated:** Isla Flores-Bayer (2009)

COURSES TAUGHT

- At Texas
Syntax I (LIN380L, graduate)
Minimalist Syntax (LIN392, graduate)
Lexical Semantic Typology (LIN393S, graduate)
Syntax and Semantics (LIN372L, undergraduate)
Supervised Teaching in Linguistics (LIN398T, graduate)
- At Georgetown
Lexical Semantics (Ling535/735, graduate)
Introduction to Generative Syntax I (Ling527, graduate)
Introduction to Generative Syntax III (Ling529, graduate)
Syntax (Ling225, undergraduate)

INVITED LECTURES

- Fall 2006 **How Language Shapes Thought and Thought Shapes Language: Evidence from Syntax and Semantics.** Invited lecture, ICOS20, Introduction to Cognitive Science (co-instructor), Georgetown University

TEACHING GRANTS

- Summer 2005 **Center for Teaching and Learning Training Grant**, Stanford University, *Teaching Portfolios in Linguistics* (\$700)
Beavers, John, Peter Sells, and Judith Tonhauser
- Summer 2003 **Center for Teaching and Learning Training Grant, Stanford University**, *Adding Pedagogical Content to the Linguistics Department TA Manual* (\$1800)
Beavers, John, Brady Clark, Beth Levin, Mary Rose, and Peter Sells

TEACHING SERVICE

- 2005-2006 **Microteaching coordinator** for the Center for Teaching and Learning, Stanford University
- 2004-2006 **Consultant**, Center for Teaching and Learning, Stanford University
- 2003-2004 **Liaison** for Department of Linguistics, Center for Teaching and Learning, Stanford University

SERVICE IN THE FIELD

- Journal Editorial Board** *Semantics and Pragmatics*
- Journal Reviewer** *Linguistic Inquiry; Studia Linguistica; Linguistics; Language; First Language; Natural Language and Linguistic Theory; Cognitive Science; Language Acquisition; Linguistics and Philosophy; Journal of Logic, Language, and Information; Computer Speech and Language; Computational Linguistics; Journal of Semantics*
- Publisher Reviewer** CSLI Publications; Oxford University Press
- Volume Paper Reviewer** Chronos 2008
- Conference Organizer** Fifth International Conference on Construction Grammar (ICCG-5), 2008, The University of Texas at Austin; Child Language Research Forum 2002, Stanford University
- Conference Reviewer** CLRF 2002; 2004 ACL Student Workshop; 2005-2007 ACL-SIGSEM Workshops on The Linguistic Dimensions of Prepositions; 2007 Georgetown Roundtable of Linguistics; WCCFL 26-27; WECOL 2007; TLS 2007; Chronos 2008-2009; LSA 2009; SALT 2009

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

- 2008-2009 **Executive** Committee, Department of Linguistics, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2007-2008 **Graduate Admissions** Committee, **Colloquium** Committee, Department of Linguistics, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2002-2006 **Syntax Workshop** co-organizer, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University.
- 2004-2005 **Graduate Admissions** Committee, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University
- 2001-2004 **Graduate Studies** Committee, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University

2002-2003 **Search** Committee for Assistant/Beginning Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University

OTHER RESEARCH POSITIONS

2000-2006 **Research Assistant**, LinGO Project, Center for the Study of Language and Information, Stanford University

Project Supervisors: Dan Flickinger and Ivan A. Sag

Summer 2003 **Visiting Researcher**, Human Communication Research Centre, School of Infomatics, University of Edinburgh

Project Supervisor: Mark Steedman

Summer 2002 **Visiting Researcher**, Human Communication Research Centre, School of Infomatics, University of Edinburgh

Supervisor: Mark Steedman

Summer 2001 **Research Assistant**, Stanford University

NSF Grant: *The Morpho-syntactic Basis of Crosslinguistic Variation in Event Encoding*. Small Grant for Exploratory Research. National Science Foundation Grant BCS-0004437

Project Supervisor: Beth Levin

1999-2000 **Research Assistant**, Intelligent Wheelchair Project, Artificial Intelligence Lab, Department of Computer Sciences, University of Texas at Austin

Project Supervisor: Mary Dee Harris