Uriel Cohen Priva

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Education

2012   **Ph.D.**, *Stanford University*.
Dissertation: *Sign and signal: deriving linguistic generalizations from information utility*
Dissertation committee: Dan Jurafsky (chair), Arto Anttila, Paul Kiparsky, Chris Manning, Meghan Sumner

2006   **Master's**, *Tel Aviv University*, Summa Cum Laude.
Thesis: *Pre-parsing efficiently: treating garden path phenomena as parallel to a greedy parser*
Thesis supervisor: Fred Landman

2005   **Undergraduate Studies**, *Tel Aviv University*.
The Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students
Main foci: linguistics, computer science and psychology.

Employment

2012–   **Assistant Professor**, *Brown University*.

Funding

NSF Grant: BCS-1829290   Building a corpus of phonemic lexicons to study information theoretic universals ($391,055, over 30 months)

Publications

(* denotes equal contribution; # denotes a student author)

Refereed journal articles

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason. In press. The causal structure of lenition: A case for the causal precedence of durational shortening. *Language*. (preprint at psyarxiv.com/awvzd/)

Uriel Cohen Priva and Chelsea Sanker. 2019. Limitations of difference-in-difference for measuring convergence. *Laboratory Phonology: Journal of the Association for Laboratory Phonology*, 10(1):15. doi: 10.5334/labphon.200

#Jie Ren, Uriel Cohen Priva, and James L. Morgan. 2019. Underspecification in infants' and adults' lexical representations. *Cognition*, 193:103991. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2019.06.003. (preprint)

[#]Babak Hemmatian, [#]Sabina J Sloman, Uriel Cohen Priva, and Steven A Sloman. 2019. Think of the consequences: A decade of discourse about same-sex marriage. *Behavior Research Methods.* doi: 10.3758/s13428-019-01215-3

Elinor Amit, SoYon Rim, Georg Halbeisen, Uriel Cohen Priva, Elena Stephan, and Yaacov Trope. 2019. Distance-dependent memory for pictures and words. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 105:119–130. doi: 10.1016/j.jml.2019.01.001. (preprint)

Uriel Cohen Priva and T. Florian Jaeger. 2018. The interdependence of frequency, predictability, and informativity in the segmental domain. *Linguistics Vanguard*, 4(S2). doi: 10.1515/lingvan-2017-0028. (preprint)

Uriel Cohen Priva. 2017. Informativity and the actuation of lenition. *Language*, 93(3):569–597. doi: 10.1353/lan.2017.0037. (open access)

Uriel Cohen Priva, [#]Lee Edelist, and Emily Gleason. 2017. Converging to the baseline: Corpus evidence for convergence in speech rate to interlocutor's baseline. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 141(5):2989–2996. doi: 10.1121/1.4982199. (preprint)

Uriel Cohen Priva. 2017. Not so fast: Fast speech correlates with lower lexical and structural information. *Cognition*, 160:27–34. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2016.12.002. (preprint)

Uriel Cohen Priva. 2015. Informativity affects consonant duration and deletion rates. *Laboratory Phonology*, 6(2):243–278. doi: 10.1515/lp-2015-0008. (open access)

Uriel Cohen Priva and Joseph Austerweil. 2015. Analyzing the history of Cognition using topic models. *Cognition*, 135:4–9. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2014.11.006. (preprint)

Inbal Arnon and [*]Uriel Cohen Priva. 2014. Time and again: The changing effect of word and multiword frequency on phonetic duration for highly frequent sequences. *The Mental Lexicon*, 9(3):377–400. doi: 10.1075/ml.9.3.01arn. (preprint)

Inbal Arnon and [*]Uriel Cohen Priva. 2013. More than words: The effect of multiword frequency and constituency on phonetic duration. *Language and Speech*. doi: 10.1177/0023830913484891. (preprint)

Refereed conference proceedings

Uriel Cohen Priva, [#]Shiying Yang, and Emily Strand. 2020. The stability of segmental properties across genre and corpus types in low-resource languages. In *SCiL proceedings*. Society for Computation in Linguistics

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason. 2018. The role of fast speech in sound change. In *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, pages 1512–1517, Austin, TX. Cognitive Science Society. (pdf)

Uriel Cohen Priva and Chelsea Sanker. 2018. Distinct behaviors in convergence across measures. In *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, pages 1518–1523, Austin, TX. Cognitive Science Society. (pdf)

#Shiying Yang, Chelsea Sanker, and Uriel Cohen Priva. 2018. The organization of lexicons: A cross-linguistic analysis of monosyllabic words. In *SCiL proceedings*, number 18. Society for Computation in Linguistics. doi: 10.7275/R58P5XPZ. (preprint)

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason. 2016. Simpler structure for more informative words: a longitudinal study. In A. Papafragou, D. Grodner, D. Mirman, and J.C. Trueswell, editors, *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, pages 1895–1900, Austin, TX. Cognitive Science Society

Uriel Cohen Priva. 2010. Constructing typing-time corpora: A new way to answer old questions. In S. Ohlsson and R. Catrambone, editors, *Proceedings of the 32nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, pages 43–48, Austin, TX. Cognitive Science Society

Conference proceedings (refereed abstracts)

Uriel Cohen Priva. 2008. Using information content to predict phone deletion. In N. Abner and J. Bishop, editors, *Proceedings of the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, pages 90–98, Somerville, MA, USA. Cascadilla Proceedings Project

Work in progress

Uriel Cohen Priva and Chelsea Sanker, under revision. Convergence is predicted by particular interlocutors

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Strand, in progress. Schwa does have a perceptual target in American English

#Shiying Yang and Uriel Cohen Priva, in progress. Languages compute non-local phonotactics

Uriel Cohen Priva, in preparation. Segments typically provide as much information cross-linguistically

Conference presentations

Uriel Cohen Priva, Shiying Yang, and Emily Strand, 2020. The stability of segmental properties across genre and corpus types in low-resource languages. Presented at the Society for Computation in Linguistics annual meeting

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2020. American english vowels do not reduce to schwa: A corpus study. Poster presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2020. Increased intensity is mediated by reduced duration in variable consonant lenition. Presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting

Uriel Cohen Priva and Chelsea Sanker, 2018. Convergence is predicted by particular interlocutors and interactions, not speakers. Presented at Workshop on Accommodation in Speech Communication

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2018. Reduced duration is the likely cause of consonant lenition. Presented at IATL 34

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2018. The role of fast speech in sound change. Poster presented at 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society

Uriel Cohen Priva and Chelsea Sanker, 2018. Distinct behaviors in convergence across measures. Poster presented at 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2018. The indirect effect of low information content on lenition processes. Presented at The role of predictability in shaping human sound systems workshop, at Lisbon

Shiying Yang, Chelsea Sanker, and Uriel Cohen Priva, 2018. The organization of lexicons: A cross-linguistic analysis of monosyllabic words. Poster presented at SCiL: Society for Computation in Linguistics annual meeting

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2017. Relative low informativity licenses lenition. Presented at XLanS: Triggers of language change in the Language Science, at Lyon

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2017. Reduction in duration as a cause for lenition. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting on Phonology at NYU

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2017. Outperforming typological frequency as a markedness baseline. Presented at Markedness: Perspectives in Morphology and Phonology workshop at Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2017. The role of fast speech in sound change. Poster presented at The 4th International Workshop on Sound Change (WSC4)

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2016. Simpler structure for more informative words: a longitudinal study. Presented at the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2016. Using topic models to investigate framing words in discourse. Presented at the 2nd Usage-Based Linguistics Conference

Uriel Cohen Priva and Emily Gleason, 2016. Estimating segments' cost using cross-linguistic information. Poster presented at the Laboratory Phonology 15

#Megan Keough and Uriel Cohen Priva, 2015. Even in Berber: Complex codas in Imdlawn Tashlhiyt Berber as evidence against strict domination. Presented at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

Inbal Arnon and Uriel Cohen Priva, 2014. Time and again: The changing effect of word and multiword frequency on phonetic duration for highly frequent sequences. poster presented at the Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP) Conference

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2014. Informativity licenses word-final lention. presented at Sound Change in Interacting Human Systems 3rd Biennial Workshop on Sound Change University of California, Berkeley

Inbal Arnon and Uriel Cohen Priva, 2013. More than words: the effect of multiword frequency and constituency on phonetic duration. presented at ICLC-12

Inbal Arnon and Uriel Cohen Priva, 2013. More than words: the effect of multiword frequency and constituency on phonetic duration. presented at CUNY 2013

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2013. Information-based licensing of sound change processes. presented at workshop on Sound Change Actuation at University of Chicago

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2012. The relationship between segment frequency and phonetic effort. Presented at NECPhon 2012

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2012. Information utility promotes preservation. Presented at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

Uriel Cohen Priva and Dan Jurafsky, 2012. Language matches information content with perceptual prominence. Presented at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2010. Constructing typing-time corpora: A new way to answer old questions. 32nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society

Matthew E. Adams, Katrin Schweitzer, and Uriel Cohen Priva, 2009. Crosslinguistic support for information theoretic effects: A study of German phonology. Presented at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

Uriel Cohen Priva, 2008. Using information content to predict phone deletion. 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics

Uriel Cohen Priva and Dan Jurafsky, 2008. Phone information content influences phone duration. Poster presented at Experimental and Theoretical Advances in Prosody conference, Cornell University. https://urielcpublic.s3.amazonaws.com/Prosody08Poster.pdf

Invited Talks

January 2020. Understanding lenition through its causal structure. Presented at Northwestern University's *Phonatics* series.

September 2019. Understanding lenition through its causal structure. Presented at the UPenn ILST seminar.

June 2019. Understanding lenition through its causal structure. Presented at the Hebrew Univesity in Jerusalem Linguistics Colloquium.

December 2018. The indirect path from low information to lenition. Presented at the Ohio State University.

October 2018. Information flooding (and what we do about it). Presented at Northeastern University.

January 2018. Information flooding (and what we do about it). Presented at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

January 2018. Language change from an information theoretic perspective. Presented at the Colloquium of the Department of Hebrew Language at Ben-Gurion University.

November 2017. An interplay between information, duration, and lenition. Invited talk at the Colloquium of the Department of Linguistics at the University of Arizona.

March 2017. An interplay between information, duration, and lenition. Invited talk at Language and Computation Discussion Group at MIT.

December 2016. An interplay between information, duration, and lenition. Invited speaker at *Effects of Uncertainty and their Reflection in Language*, Sydney, Australia.

January 2016. Differences between information in language and artificial communication systems. Distinguished Lecturer series (Language Science colloquium), Saarland University.

January 2016. Differences between information in language and artificial communication systems. Invited talk at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

May 2015. Differences between information in language and artificial communication systems. Invited talk at MIT.

January 2014. Informational constraints. Invited talk at Tel Aviv University's Linguistics Department Colloquium.

January 2014. Information motivates preservation. Invited talk at the Hebrew University's Linguistics Department Colloquium.

December 2012.   Providing universal explanations for language-specific change. Invited talk at Yale University's Linguistics Department Colloquium.

November 2012.   Providing universal explanations for language-specific change. Invited talk at Harvard University's Linguistics Department Colloquium.

November 2011.   Information utility promotes preservation.   Invited talk at Ben Gurion University's Linguistics Department Colloquium.

December 2010.   Faithfulness as information utility: addressing the actuation problem.   Invited talk at Tel Aviv University's Linguistics Department Colloquium.

November 2010.   Faithfulness as information utility: addressing the actuation problem. Invited talk at Berkeley Phonetics and Phonology Forum.

January 2009.   Phone informativity: function and grammar.   Invited talk at Tel Aviv University's Linguistics Department Colloquium.

June 2008.   Phone informativity.   Invited talk at Institute for Natural Language Processing, Universität Stuttgart.

Awards

2011   Mellon Dissertation Fellowship

2011   Stanford Centennial Teaching Assistant Award

2004   Posis Scholarship for academic excellence

2004   Margalit and Topler Scholarship

2001   Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students in Tel Aviv University (four-year full academic scholarship)

Teaching

Instructor

CLPS1310   Phonology
Brown University, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2019, 2020

CLPS0300   Introduction to Linguistics
Brown University, 2017, 2019

CLPS1360   Introduction to Corpus Linguistics
Brown University, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019

CLPS1361   Information Theory in Language
Brown University, 2018

CLPS1381D   Topics in Phonetics and Phonology: Lenition
Brown University, 2018

UTRA   Undergraduate Training and Research Award advisor, Brown University, 2016

CLPS1381B	Topics in Phonetics and Phonology: Information theory in language Brown University, 2016
CLPS1381A	Topics in Phonetics and Phonology: how phonetics shapes phonology Brown University, 2014
OS/390 and CICS	Instructor, IBM and Novelya (now Tangram Soft), 2002-2006

Advising

Graduate student adviser	Shiying Yang, Lee Edelist
Honors thesis adviser	Lauren Bilsky, Megan Keough, Guy Tabachnik
Dissertation committee	Ben Swanson (CS), Lauren Franklin
Prelim committee	Lauren Franklin, Shiying Yang
First year / qualifying paper committee	Lee Edelist, Shiying Yang, Lauren Franklin, Youtao Lu, Yiming Gu, Steven Emet, Sydney Zink (CS)

Teaching Assistant

Ling110	Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology Professor: Meghan Sumner, Stanford University (2 sections), Winter 2010
Corpus TA	Stanford University, 2009-10
Ling200	Foundations of Linguistic Theory Professor: Paul Kiparsky, Stanford University, Fall 2008
Ling130	Introduction to Linguistic Meaning Professor: Adrian Brasoveanu, Stanford University, Spring 2008
0627-1142	Introduction to Semantics Professor: Nirit Kadmon, Tel Aviv University (3 sections), Winter 2005

Languages

Hebrew	Native
English	Fluent
French, Spanish	Basic Knowledge

Popular media (selected)

2017	WAMC Northeast Public Radio. *The Academic Minute*

The Times. *Speakers who take their time say much more*

Die Welt. *Menschen, die schnell sprechen, sagen oft nicht so viel*

Danish Broadcasting Corporation. *Forsker: Hurtig-snakkere siger faktisk mindre*

Sky TG24. *Parlare velocemente non cambia il numero di informazioni trasmesse*

Daily Mail. *Fast talkers AREN'T effective communicator*

Last update: January 31, 2020