

Bridget Copley

bridget.copley@sfl.cnrs.fr

bcopley.com

SFL - CNRS
59-61 rue Pouchet
75017 Paris France

Born: April 2, 1974
Nationality: American

Areas of specialization

Formal semantic ontology and its interfaces with syntax and cognition. Causation, forces, agency and events. Conditionals and modality, especially modality within the verb phrase. Futures and future reference.

Current position

2007-now Senior researcher (CR1) at the Unité Mixte de Recherche 7023 “Structures Formelles du Langage,” jointly run by the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and the Université Paris 8

Previous positions

2005-2007 Post-doc, Unité Mixte de Recherche 7023 “Structures formelles du langage” (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique/Université Paris 8)
2003-2005 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Linguistics and Department of Philosophy, University of Southern California
2002-2003 Visiting Scholar, Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Education

2002 PHD in Linguistics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Dissertation: *The Semantics of the Future*, revised and published as Copley, Bridget (2009). *The Semantics of the Future*. Routledge *Outstanding Dissertations in Linguistics* series: New York.
Committee: Sabine Iatridou (chair), Noam Chomsky, Kai von Stechow, Irene Heim

1996 BA in Linguistics, Yale University
magna cum laude with distinction in the major, elected to Phi Beta Kappa

Grants

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

2014-2016 “Linguistic hints to causal models of the future” (with Phillip Wolff and Eugene Agichtein). John Templeton Foundation Science of Prospection Awards, \$145k
2010-2014 “La causalité dans le langage et la cognition” (with Maya Hickmann), Fédération de Recherche 2559 “Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques” of the CNRS, 15k euros
2001-2002 Kosciuszko Foundation Tuition Scholarship
2001 Ken Hale Fund Fieldwork Grant
1996-1999 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

PARTICIPATION

2014-2018 “Délimitation et identification des événements,” Fédération de Recherche 2559 “Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques” of the CNRS (Marta Donazzan and Lucia Tovena), 15k euros
2014-2018 “Ontologie et typologie des états”, Fédération de Recherche 2559 “Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques” of the CNRS (La Nash and Elena Soare), 15k euros
2014-2015 McMaster University Arts Research Board seed grant Modularity in Language Cognition (Ivona Kucerova and David Harris Smith); CAD 11,245
2010-2014 “Structure aspectuelle / structure argumentale,” Fédération de Recherche 2559 “Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques” of the CNRS (Karen Ferret, Elena Soare, and Florence Villoing), 15k euros
2006-2010 “Temporalité : Typologie et acquisition,” Fédération de Recherche 2559 “Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques” of the CNRS (Clive Perdue), 25k euros

Publications

BOOK

2009 Copley, Bridget (2009). *The Semantics of the Future*. Routledge *Outstanding Dissertations in Linguistics* series: New York.

EDITED VOLUMES/SPECIAL ISSUES

- in press Copley, Bridget and Jacqueline Guéron (in press). *Constructing Aspect: Syntactic Reflections on Aspectual Distinctions*. Special issue of *Recherches Linguistiques de Vincennes*.
- in press Copley, Bridget and Fabienne Martin (in press). *Causation in Grammatical Structures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- to appear Copley, Bridget and Heidi Harley (to appear). “A force-theoretic framework for event structure.” *Linguistics and Philosophy*.
- 2009 Copley, Bridget and Heidi Harley (2009). “Futurates, directors, and *have* causatives.” *Snippets* 19.
- 2008 Copley, Bridget (2008). “The plan’s the thing: Deconstructing futurate meanings.” *Linguistic Inquiry* 39:2 (Spring). pp. 261-274.
- 2004 Copley, Bridget (2004). “So-called epistemic should.” *Snippets* 9.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- in press Guéron, Jacqueline and Bridget Copley (in press). “Introduction.” In Copley, Bridget and Jacqueline Guéron (in press). *Constructing Aspect: Syntactic Reflections on Aspectual Distinctions*. Special issue of *Recherches Linguistiques de Vincennes*.
- in press Copley, Bridget and Heidi Harley (in press). “Eliminating causative entailments with the force-theoretic framework: The case of the Tohono O’odham frustrative *cem*.” In Copley, Bridget and Fabienne Martin (in press). *Causation in Grammatical Structures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- in press Copley, Bridget and Phillip Wolff (in press). “Theories of causation should inform linguistic theory and vice versa.” In Copley, Bridget and Fabienne Martin, eds. (in press). *Causation in Grammatical Structures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- in press Copley, Bridget and Fabienne Martin (in press). “Introduction.” In Copley, Bridget and Fabienne Martin, eds. (in press). *Causation in Grammatical Structures*. Oxford University Press: Oxford.
- 2010 Copley, Bridget (2010). “Aspectualized futures in Indonesian and English.” 2010. In *Layers of Aspect*, Cabredo Hoffherr, Patricia and Brenda Laca, eds. Stanford: CSLI. pp. 101-124.
- 2009 Copley, Bridget (2009). “Temporal orientation in conditionals.” In Guéron, Jacqueline and Jacqueline Lecarme, eds. *Time and Modality*, Dordrecht: Springer, 59-78.

ARTICLES IN PROCEEDINGS OF CONFERENCES

- to appear Copley, Bridget and Isabelle Roy (to appear). “Deriving the readings of French *être en train de*.” In *Romance Languages and Linguistic Theory 2013: Selected papers from Going Romance Amsterdam 2013*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- 2014 Copley, Bridget (2014). “Causal chains for futurates”. In De Brabanter, Philippe, Mikhail Kissine, and Saghie Sharifzadeh, eds. (2014), *Future Times, Future Tenses*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- 2005 Copley, Bridget (2005). “O’odham *cem*: When the actual world isn’t inertial.” In Becker, Michael, and Andrew McKenzie (eds). *The proceedings of the third meeting of Semantics of Underrepresented Languages of the Americas (SULA 3)*. Amherst, Mass: University of Massachusetts Occasional Papers in Linguistics.
- 2003 Copley, Bridget (2003). “A conceptual and a grammatical distinction for modals.” In Proceedings of the 35th meeting of the Northeastern Linguistics Society (NELS 35).
- 2003 Copley, Bridget (2003). “Aspect, scope, and future conditionals.” In Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung VIII.
- 2003 Copley, Bridget (2003). “Stativity over and under the future modal.” Proceedings of the 33rd meeting of the Northeastern Linguistics Society (NELS 33).
- 2002 Copley, Bridget (2002). “Aspect on a future modal.” In the online Proceedings of Perspectives on Aspect.
- 2002 Copley, Bridget (2002). “A linguistic argument for indeterministic futures.” In Proceedings of the 32nd meeting of the Northeastern Linguistics Society (NELS 32).
- 2001 Copley, Bridget (2001). “Be going to as a case of high aspect.” In the Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory 11 (SALT XI). Ithaca, NY: Cornell Linguistic Circle.

WORKING PAPERS

- 2005 Copley, Bridget (2005). “Ordering and reasoning.” in MIT Working Papers in Linguistics vol. 51, *New Work on Modality*. Jon Gajewski, Valentine Hacquard, Bernard Nickel, and Seth Yalcin, eds. Cambridge, Mass.: MITWPL.
- 2000 Copley, Bridget (2000). “On the syntax and semantics of futurate readings.” In MIT Working Papers in Linguistics, vol. 39: A few from Building E39: Working papers in syntax, semantics, and their interface. Elena Guerzoni and Ora Matushansky, eds. Cambridge, Mass.: MITWPL.

Presentations

INVITED WORKSHOP TALKS

- 2013 “On the diversity of future reference.” TRAIT workshop “How categorical are categories?” Uniwersytet Wrocławski, 7-9 January 2013.
- 2011 “Causal chains for futures and futurates.” Talking Heads: 1st Milano-Paris Workshop on Mind and Language, Università degli Studi (Milan), 27-28 June 2011.
- 2009 “Aspect and causality” Sentence and Discourse/Phrase et Discours, colloquium in honor of Carlota Smith, 2-4 April 2009, Université de Paris 3 (with Heidi Harley).

INVITED SEMINAR TALKS

- 2014 “Conditionals are causal.” Université de Genève, 14 October 2014.
- 2014 “Causation and telicity in a force-theoretic framework.” Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf, 8 May 2014.

- 2014 “Talking and thinking about the future.” Emory University Department of Psychology, 21 January 2014.
- 2012 “Composing causation.” Stuttgart Universität, 5 July 2012.
- 2012 “Compositional causality.” University of Toronto, 23 April 2012.
- 2012 “Connecting events.” University of Chicago, 13 January 2012.
- 2011 “Constructing the future.” Université de Nantes, 2 December 2011.
- 2011 “Future reference with causal chains.” University of Ulster, 16 March 2011.
- 2011 “Force-dynamic forays into the future.” Georg-August Universität Göttingen, 8 February 2011.
- 2006 “Causality in modality,” Hebrew University of Jerusalem 16 May 2006.
- 2005 “‘Building blocks’ of meaning: Towards an ontology of tense, aspect, and modality,” Oakland University: February 2005.
- 2003 “Aspects of the future,” University of Southern California Department of Linguistics: February 2003.

SUBMITTED TALKS AND POSTERS

- 2014 “A compositional analysis of *ap* and verbal predicates in Haitian Creole”. Formal Approaches to Creole Studies (FACS-4), Université Paris 8, Paris, 6-7 November 2014.
- 2014 “Structural causal pluralism” (with Phillip Wolff and Jason Shepard). 22nd Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, University of Messina, Noto, Italy, 16-19 September 2014.
- 2014 “Mapping the conceptual level to the linguistic level: A theory of the progressive using both force dynamics and branching” (with Heidi Harley). 22nd Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, University of Messina, Noto, Italy, 16-19 September 2014.
- 2014 “Linguistic hints to causal models of the future” (with Phillip Wolff and Eugene Agichtein). Templeton Science of Prospection Finalist Symposium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 4-5 August 2014.
- 2014 “Using theories of causation to model non-culmination and agency” (poster presentation, with Phillip Wolff). Semantics and Philosophy in Europe 7, Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft, Berlin, 26-28 June 2014.
- 2014 “Non-culmination and agency: Exploring the hypothesis space” (with Phillip Wolff). Workshop on Agent Control over Non-culminating Events, CHRONOS: 11th International Conference on Actionality, Tense, Aspect, Modality/Evidentiality, Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, 18 June 2014.
- 2014 “Future reference: Exploring the hypothesis space”. Workshop on Theoretical approaches to inter- and cross-linguistic variation in futurity, CHRONOS: 11th International Conference on Actionality, Tense, Aspect, Modality/Evidentiality, Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, 16 June 2014.
- 2014 “Exploring the hypothesis space for non-culmination” (with Phillip Wolff). Workshop Bridging Formal and Conceptual Semantics, Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf, 12-13 April 2014.

- 2014 “Modeling branching as the origin of imperfectivity in a force-theoretic framework” (with Heidi Harley). Workshop Bridging Formal and Conceptual Semantics. Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf, 12-13 April 2014.
- 2013 “Deriving the readings of French *être en train de*” (with Isabelle Roy). Going Romance 2013, 27th Symposium on Romance Linguistics, ACLC Amsterdam, 27-28 November 2013.
- 2013 “Deriving the readings of French *être en train de*” (with Isabelle Roy). Tenth International Tbilisi Symposium on Language, Logic and Computation, Workshop on Aspect. Gudauri, Georgia, 24 September 2013.
- 2013 “The role of structural information in eliciting the ‘agent’ meaning with -er nominals: Experimental evidence.” (Isabelle Roy, Saveria Colonna, Bridget Copley, and Sudha Arunachalam). JeNom 5, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, 20-21 June 2013.
- 2012 “Wanting good cheese and acting to get it: Anankastic conditionals and intent.” Modality@OttawaU workshop, University of Ottawa, 20-21 April 2012.
- 2010 “Force dynamics in verbal semantics: Verbs of maintaining” (with Heidi Harley). Interdisciplinary Workshop on verbs: The Identification and Representation of Verb Features. Scuola Normale Superiore and Università di Pisa, 4-5 November 2010.
- 2010 “Causal chains for futures and imperfectives.” Workshop “Future Time(s) / Future Tense(s)” at the 43rd meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (Vilnius). 3 September 2010.
- 2010 “Causatives, ability, and dispositions” (with Heidi Harley). Workshop on Dispositions, Ability, and States of the project ANR GENIUS (Genericité: Interprétation et Usages). 23-24 June 2010 .
- 2007 “Antecedent-contained *will*,” Third Conference on Modality of English, Aristotle University, Thessaloniki: May 2007.
- 2005 “Three futures in Indonesian,” Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association meeting, University of California, Los Angeles: April 2005.
- 2005 “When the actual world isn’t inertial,” Semantics of Under-represented Languages of the Americas 3, SUNY Buffalo: April 2005.
- 2005 “What should *should* mean?” Language Under Uncertainty workshop, Kyoto University: January 2005.
- 2005 “The opposite of inertia: O’odham *cem*,” 79th annual meeting of the Linguistics Society of America: January 2005.
- 2004 “A conceptual and a grammatical distinction for modals,” 35th meeting of the Northeastern Linguistics Society (NELS 35): October 2004.
- 2004 “Future reference without future tense,” Texas Linguistics Symposium 8: March 2004.
- 2004 “Futurate meanings,” Penn Linguistics Colloquium 28: February 2004.
- 2003 “Aspect, scope, and future conditionals,” Sinn und Bedeutung VIII: September 2003.
- 2002 “Perfectivity on modals of ability,” 76th Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America, San Francisco: January 2002.
- 2001 “Perfectivity on auxiliaries and light verbs,” poster presented at Perspectives on Aspect, Linguistics Institute of Utrecht OTS: December 2001.

2001 “A linguistic argument for indeterministic futures,” 32nd meeting of the Northeastern Linguistic Society (NELS 32), City University of New York: October 2001.

OTHER TALKS

Talks internal to local projects and/or without a selection committee.

2014 “Telicity is launching and atelicity is entrainment.” Third Annual Dog Days Workshop, University of Toronto, Toronto, 7 August 2014.

2014 “Imperfective branching and perfective non-branching.” Workshop on modality, aspect and time: Model theoretic and discursive aspects. Ecole Normale Supérieure, 15 May 2014.

2014 “Situation sequences, aspect, and cotermporal results.” Workshop DelimitEvents for the project “Individuation and identification of events” of the Fédération “Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques” (FR 2559), Université Paris 7, 7 March 2014.

2013 “The role of structural information in eliciting the ‘agent’ meaning with -er nominals: Experimental evidence.” (Isabelle Roy, Saveria Colonna, Bridget Copley, and Sudha Arunachalam). Boğaziçi Üniversitesi (Istanbul) seminar, 30 September, 2013.

2013 “Causal conditionals.” Workshop “How do we know what happens?” SFL/Institut Jean Nicod (Paris), 4-5 April 2013.

2011 Three talks with Heidi Harley: “Motivating a force-dynamic theory of event semantics,” “Force-dynamic interactions : Frustratives, aspect, and argument structure,” and “Force dynamics for agents and directors: have causatives, futurities, and modality.” SFL (Paris) 18-23 May, 2011.

2010 “Towards a teleological model for modals.” Paris Working Sessions on Modality, Goals, and Events, Fédération Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques / Institut Jean Nicod, 23-24 November 2010.

2010 “An unusual, yet ordinary, modal.” Journée d’Étude : Vers une typologie des modalités, Fédération Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques, 7 May 2010.

2009 “What temporal orientation tells us about conditional modality.” University of Arizona, 29 January 2009.

2007 Commentator, Paris-Amsterdam Logic Meeting of Young Researchers V: Dynamic Perspectives on Meaning. Paris, June 2007.

2005 Commentator, Syntax and Semantics with Attitude workshop, University of Southern California Departments of Linguistics and Philosophy: April 2005.

2004 “Modal immediacy.” University of Southern California School of Philosophy: April 2004.

2004 “An entailment of future conditionals,” Cornell University: February 2004.

2003 “What’s the difference between an aspect and a modal?” University of Southern California Department of Linguistics: November 2003.

Teaching

PHD COMMITTEE MEMBER

- 2012 Oana Lungu, Université de Nantes. “Le temps en contexte subordonné de la perspective de l’acquisition du français langue maternelle.”
- 2011 Sylvia Schreiner, University of Arizona. “The semantics of grammatical aspect: Evidence from Scottish Gaelic.”

LECTURING

- 2003-2005 Lecturer, University of Southern California: graduate seminar “Time and Tense” (with James Higginbotham), Language, Society, and Culture, Philosophy of Language
- Winter 2003 Teaching Assistant, Harvard University (Dialects of English)
- Spring 2003 Lecturer, Northeastern University, (Introduction to Semantics; Introduction to Linguistics)
- Fall 2002 Teaching Assistant, Harvard University (Knowledge of Language)
- Fall 1998 Teaching Assistant, MIT (graduate Introduction to Semantics)

Service

ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SEMINARS

- 2014 Workshop: “Theoretical approaches to inter- and cross-linguistic variation in futurity” (with Alda Mari). CHRONOS: 11th International Conference on Actionality, Tense, Aspect, Modality/Evidentiality, 16 June 2014. Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa.
- 2014 Workshop: “Modality, aspect and time: model theoretic and discursive aspects” (with Alda Mari). Ecole Normale Supérieure, 15-16 May 2014.
- 2013 Workshop: “How do we know what happens?” (with Alda Mari). 4-5 April, 2013. Ecole Normale Supérieure / Institut Jean Nicod / SFL.
- 2010 Paris Working Sessions on Modality, Goals, and Events (with Alda Mari). 23-24 November 2010, Fédération Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques / Institut Jean Nicod.
- 2010-2014 Seminars, workshops, and afternoons for the project “La causalité dans le langage et la cognition,” Fédération de Recherche 2559 “Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques” of the CNRS.
- 2007 Conference: “Forces in Grammatical Structures”. CNRS/Paris 8, 8-10 January, 2007.
- 2006-2010 Seminars and workshops for the project “Temporalité : Typologie et acquisition,” Fédération de Recherche 2559 “Typologie et Universaux Linguistiques” of the CNRS.

REVIEWING

Journals: *Journal of Semantics*, *Journal of Pragmatics* (reviewing award), *Lingua*, *Linguistic Inquiry*, *NLLT*, *Semantics & Pragmatics* (editorial board)

Conferences: CHRONOS, JeNom, NELS, RALFe, SALT, Sinn und Bedeutung, WC-CFL

Granting organizations: Israel Science Foundation, National Science Foundation (USA)

OTHER SERVICE

2005-2008 Lab webmaster

2000-2004 Ask-A-Linguist panel member

June 2001 Volunteer, University of Arizona American Indian Language Development Institute

Last updated: September 23, 2014