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Research interests

I am interested in the way adults and children find coherent patterns in input signals and induce linguistic representations such as words and meanings. My recent work focuses on roles of the adaptive nature of the human cognitive system in language comprehension, investigating how it navigates variability in prosodic information and achieves robust pragmatic inferences. Bridging topics on child language acquisition and psycholinguistics, I explore the mechanism of language learning and use throughout the lifespan.

Academic Appointment

2014 - Assistant Professor, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester

2013 - Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester

Education

Ph.D. Linguistics, Stanford University, 2013.

Dissertation: *Navigating variability in the linguistic signal: Learning to interpret contrastive prosody*

Committee members: Eve V. Clark (chair), Dan Jurafsky, Meghan Sumner, Michael C. Frank

M.A. Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo, Japan, 2006.

B.A. Cross cultural studies, Kyoto Prefectural University, Japan, 2004.

Workshop grant

2015 | \$11,000 NSF BCS-1451751 Workshop: Experimental and Theoretical Advances in Prosody: Variability in prosody, May, 2015. University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign (Co-PI: Duane Watson)

Scholarship/Fellowship/Awards

2016 | College Course Development Fellowship, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, University of Rochester.

2015 | College Course Development Fellowship, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, University of Rochester.

2014 | Jerrold J. Katz Young Scholar Award at the 26th CUNY conference on sentence processing

2013 | Postdoctoral research fellowship, Japan Society of Promotion of Sciences

2011	Paula Menyuk travel grant, Boston University Conference of Child Language and Development. Conference travel grant from Center for East Asian Studies at Stanford University Student Travel Award, The 34 th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society 2011
2008	Ishizaka Foundation Scholarship (2 years of tuition and stipend) Graduate fellowship, Stanford University (for 5 years)

Academic Service

organizing conferences, workshops and research groups

2017-	Organizing Committee, NSF-funded workshop on "Real-world language: Future directions in the science of communication and the communication of science" with Jim Magnuson, Delphine Dahan, and Craig Chambers
2017-	Center for Language Sciences (CLS) Colloquium Organizer.
2015	Organizing Committee, The Third Conference on Experimental and Theoretical Approaches to Prosody (ETAP) with Duane Watson and Michael Wagner.
2014- 2017	Leading an NSF Graduate Research Fellowships Program workshop. Organizing weekly workshops and peer review for graduate and undergraduate students in BCS who are submitting their proposals.
2011	Organizing Committee, The 25th CUNY Conference on Sentence Processing.
2009	Organizing Committee, Child Language Research Forum (CLRF)
2009- 2011	Stanford Psychology of Language Tea (SPLaT!) Talk Series Coordinator.

reviewing papers for journals

Journal of Child Language (2014, 1), *Cognition* (2015-2016, 2), *Cognitive Neuropsychology* (2015: 1), *Cognitive Psychology* (2015, 1), *Cognitive Science* (2014, 1), *Language and cognitive processes* (2014, 1), *Language and Speech* (2015, 1), *Language Learning and Development* (2016, 1)

reviewing abstracts for conferences

Annual meeting of Cognitive Science Society (2014-now), Experimental and theoretical approaches to prosody (2015-now), The CUNY conference on sentence processing (2014-now)

Advising

Graduate students

Past:	Sarah Bybik (post-doctoral fellow at Vanderbilt University), Maryam Seifeldin (BCS)
Current:	Amanda Pogue (BCS),

Undergraduate students (independent study/honors thesis)

Past:	Elizabeth Cooley ('15), Valerie Langlois ('16) (Bilski-Mayer summer research fellowship recipient), Eugene Rorer ('16), Wesley Orth ('17, The professor's choice award recipient at the Undergraduate Research Expo), Stephen Powell ('17, Bilski-Mayer summer research fellowship recipient)
Current:	Ashley Andino (McNair Scholar), Bethany Gardner (Catherine Block Memorial Prize recipient), Crystal Lee, Joseph Plvan-Franke, Rachel Myers, Cameron Morgan

Other undergraduate students in the lab: 5 (2014-2015), 8 (2015-2016), 12 (2016-2017)

Publications*MA Thesis*

Kurumada, C. (2006). A developmental study on Japanese children's narrative discourse. Department of Language and Information Sciences. University of Tokyo.

Editorial experiences

Watson, D., Kurumada, C., Wagner, M., Yu, K., Breen, M. (2017). *Variability in prosody*. A special issue of *Laboratory Phonology*.

Arnon, I., Casillas, M., Kurumada, C., & Estigarribia, B. (2014). *Language in interaction: Studies in honor of Eve V. Clark*. Trends in Language Acquisition Research. John Benjamins.

Work in Progress

Buxo-Lugo, A., Kurumada, C., & Watson, D. G. (in prep). Adaptation and learning in prosodic phrasing of syntactically ambiguous sentences.

Olejarczuk, P., Liu, L., & Kurumada, C. (in prep). Prosodic perception and emergence of novel intonational categories in adults.

Kurumada, C., & Rohde, H. (in prep). Communicating semantic and pragmatic meanings in conversational discourse.

Journal Articles

Under review	Kurumada, C., Brown, M., Bibyk, S., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (under review). Probabilistic inferences and adaptation in pragmatic interpretation of contrastive prosody.
	Ryskin, R., Kurumada, C., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (under review). Information integration in online modulation of pragmatic inferences during language comprehension.

- Kurumada, C., & Grimm, S. (under review). Roles of meaning predictability in language learning and production: Optional plural marking.
- Lee, C., & Kurumada, C. (under review). Learning absolute meanings from variable exemplars.
- Dix, S., Gardner, B., Lawrence, R., Morgan, C., Sullivan, A., & Kurumada, C. (under review). Rapid integration of top-down and bottom-up information in online interpretation of scalar adjectives.
- 2017 Kurumada, C., Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2017). Effects of distributional information on categorization of prosodic contours. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*.
- 2016 Kurumada, C., & Clark, E. V. (2016). Pragmatic inferences in context: Learning to interpret contrastive prosody. *Journal of Child Language*, available on CJO2016. doi:10.1017/S0305000916000246.
- Pogue, A., Kurumada, C., & Tanenhaus, M.K. (2016). Talker-specific generalization of pragmatic inferences based on under- and over-informative prenominal adjective use. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 6. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2015.02035
- 2015 Kurumada, C., & Jaeger, T. F. (2015). Communicative efficiency in language production: Case-marker omission in Japanese. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 83, 152-178.
- 2014 Kurumada, C., Brown, M., Bibyk, S., Pontillo, D., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2014). Is it or isn't it: Listeners make rapid use of prosody to infer speaker meanings. *Cognition*, 133, 335-342.
- 2013 Kurumada, C., Meylan, C. S., & Frank, M. C. (2013). Zipfian frequency distributions facilitate word segmentation in context. *Cognition*, 127, 439-453.

Peer-Reviewed Chapters in Edited Volumes

- 2013 Clark, E. V., & Kurumada, C. (2013). 'Be Brief': From necessity to choice. In L. Goldstein (Ed.). *Brevity*. Oxford University Press.
- 2012 Kurumada, C., & Iwasaki, S. (2012). Negotiating desirability: The acquisition of the uses of ii 'good' in mother-child interactions in Japanese. *The proceedings of the 19th conference of Japanese Korean Linguistics* (pp.511-525).
- 2009 Kurumada, C. (2009). The acquisition and development of the topic marker wa in L1 Japanese: the role of NP-wa? in child-mother interaction. In Corrigan, B., Moravcsik, E., Ouali, H., and Wheatly, K (eds), *Formulaic language Vol.2 (Typological studies in language)*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins (pp. 347-374).
- Kurumada, C. & Fujii, S. (2009). Creating storylines: Acquisition of topicalization and aspect in narratives by Japanese children. In Inagaki, S et.al (eds). *Studies in language sciences 8*, Tokyo: Kurosio Publishers (pp.93-108).

Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings

- 2017 | Kurumada, C., & Grimm, S. (2017). Communicative efficiency in language production and learning: Optional plural marking. *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- 2015 | Pogue, A., Kurumada, C., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2015). Speaker-specific generalization of pragmatic inferences based on pronominal adjectives. *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- 2014 | Kurumada, C., Brown, M., Bibyk, S., Pontillo, D., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2014). Rapid adaptation in online pragmatic interpretation of contrastive prosody. *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- 2013 | Kurumada, C., Brown, M., Bibyk, S., Pontillo, D., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2013). Incremental processing in the pragmatic interpretation of contrastive prosody. *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- | Kurumada, C. (2013). Contextual inferences over speakers' pragmatic intentions: Preschoolers' comprehension of contrastive prosody. *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- | Sumner, M., Kurumada, C., Gafter, R., & Tice, M. (2013). Phonetic variation and the recognition of words with pronunciation variants. *Proceedings of the 35th the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- 2012 | Kurumada, C., & Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2012). Pragmatic interpretation of contrastive prosody: It looks like speech adaptation. *Proceedings of the 34th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Sapporo, Japan, August.
- | Meylan, S., Kurumada, C., BÃurschinger, B., Johnson, M., and Frank, M. C. (2012). Modeling online word segmentation performance in structured artificial languages. *Proceedings of the 34th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- 2011 | Kurumada, C., Meylan, S., & Frank, M. C. (2011). Zipfian word frequencies support statistical word segmentation. *Proceedings of the 33th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Invited contributions to edited volumes

- 2015 | Tanenhaus, M. K., Kurumada, C., & Brown, M. (2015). Prosody and intention recognition. In L. Frazier & E. Gibson (eds). *Explicit and implicit prosody in sentence processing. Studies in Theoretical Psycholinguistics*, 46 (pp.99-118). Springer International Publishing.
- 2014 | Kurumada, C., & Arnon, I. (2014). Interaction in language acquisition. In Arnon, I., Casillas, M., Kurumada, C., & Estigarribia, B. (eds). *Language in interaction: Studies in honor of Eve V. Clark*. (pp. 1-10). John Benjamins.

Invited talks, Colloquiums, and Tutorials

- 2017 Kurumada, C. (2017). Effects of environmental statistics on development of language comprehension and production. An invited talk at the CSLI workshop: Bridging computational and psycholinguistic approaches to the study of meaning, February 17th.
- 2016 Kurumada, C. (2016). Expectation adaptation in pragmatic processing: How do listeners infer speaker intentions from the variable acoustic signal? An invited talk at the University of Potsdam, June 19th.
- Jaeger, T. F., & Kurumada, C. (2016). Adaptation to an ever-changing world: Evidence for *smart* adaptation to changing statistics in motor control and language processing. An invited talk at Stockholm University, June 7th.
- Kurumada, C. (2016). Communicative efficiency and probabilistic language production. A plenary talk at the workshop on experimental approaches to East Asian Languages, University of Hawaii, Manoa, May 19th.
- Kurumada, C. (2016). Acoustic pragmatics: How listeners infer speaker intentions from the acoustic signal. A colloquium talk in the department of linguistics, University of Oregon, May 4th.
- 2015 Kurumada, C. (2015). Processing and interpreting the variable prosodic signal. An invite talk at the workshop in the 3rd meeting of Experimental and Theoretical Approaches to Prosody (ETAP). University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, May 28th.
- 2014 Kurumada, C. (2014). Roles of contextual inferences in the acquisition of English contrastive prosody. An invited talk at the workshop on the role of prosody in language learning: Stress, tone, and intonation. Macquarie University, Sydney. December 8th.
- Kurumada, C. (2014). Perception and interpretation of speech prosody. An invited tutorial at the 15 th Australasian international speech science & technology conference. University of Canterbury, Christchurch, December 3rd.
- 2013 Kurumada, C., Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M. (2013c, Nov.). A probabilistic approach to the interpretation of contrastive prosody: It looks like speech adaptation. NZIBB seminar, University of Canterbury, Christchurch.
- Kurumada, C., Brown, M., Bibyk, S., Pontillo, D., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2013, Sep). Is it or isn't it: An eye-tracking study on the pragmatic interpretation of English contrastive prosody. A psycholinguistics workshop at the Donders Institute, Radbound University, Nijmegen.
- Kurumada, C., Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M. (2013b, Sep.). Distributional learning in the interpretation of English contrastive prosody. Phonology group lab meeting, Stockholm University.
- Kurumada, C., Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M. (2013a, Aug.). Intonation and Inference: A probabilistic approach to interpreting English contrastive prosody. In phonetics and phonology group, ZAS Berlin.
- 2012 Kurumada, C., Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M. (2012, Nov.). Rapid adaptation in pragmatic interpretation and acquisition of contrastive prosody. In Goldberg Lab, Princeton University.

Conference Presentations (Oral Presentations)

- 2018 | Dix, S., Morgan, C., Lawrence, R. & Kurumada, C. (2018). Integration of bottom-up and top-down information in on-line interpretations of scalar adjectives. LSA annual meeting, Salt Lake City, January 7th.
- 2017 | Lee, C. & Kurumada, C., (2017). Contextual inferences through variable exemplars: An artificial adjective learning study. The 42nd meeting of Boston University Conference on Language Development. Boston, MA, November 3rd.
- | Kurumada, C., & Grimm, S. (2017). Roles of meaning predictability in language production and learning. Meaning in flux: connecting development, variation, and change. New Haven, CT, October 13th.
- | Lee, C. & Kurumada, C., (2017). Roles of prototypes vs. situation-based inferences in the learning of absolute gradable adjectives. Meaning in flux: connecting development, variation, and change. New Haven, CT, October 13th.
- 2016 | Ryskin, R., Kurumada, C., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (2016). Bottom-up adaptation of online pragmatic inferences to variability of speakers. The 29th CUNY conference on sentence processing.
- 2015 | Pogue, A., Kurumada, C., & Tanenhaus, M.K. (2015). Speaker-specific pragmatic generalizations based on under- vs. over-informative utterances. Experimental Pragmatics 2015. Chicago, IL.
- 2015 | Pogue, A., Kurumada, C., & Tanenhaus, M.K. (2015). Exploring expectations based on speaker-specific variation in informativity. Formal and experimental pragmatics: methodological issues of a nascent liaison. Berlin, Germany.
- 2014 | Kurumada, C., Brown, M., Bibyk, S., Pontillo, D., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2014). Expectation-adaptation in the incremental interpretation of contrastive prosody. The 27th CUNY conference of sentence processing. The Ohio State University, March 13th.
- 2013 | Kurumada, C., Brown, M., Bibyk, S., Pontillo, D., & Tanenhaus, M. K. (2013). Is it or isn't it: Listeners make rapid use of prosody to infer speaker meanings. Annual meeting of the New Zealand linguistics society. Christchurch, November 21st.
- | Kurumada, C., & Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M.K. (2013). Comprehension and acquisition of contrastive prosody: Rational inference helps adults and children cope with noisy input. The 26th CUNY conference of sentence processing, University of South Carolina, March 24th.
- | Kurumada, C., & Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M.K. (2013). Rapid adaptation in pragmatic interpretation of contrastive prosody. LSA annual meeting, Boston, January 5th.
- 2012 | Kurumada, C., & Jaeger, T. F. (2012). Communicatively efficient language production and case-marker omission in Japanese. LSA annual meeting, Portland, January 6th.
- 2011 | Kurumada, C., Meylan, S., & Frank, M. C. (2011). Statistical word segmentation of Zipfian frequency distributions. BUCLD 36, Boston, November 4th.

- Kurumada, C. & Jaeger, T. F. (2011). Beyond animacy: Probability-based effects on the case-marker omission in Japanese. The workshop on structural alternations: Speaker and hearer perspectives, University of Groningen, Netherlands, August 24th.
- Kurumada, C. (2011). Topicality and aspect marking: A case of Japanese narrative and conversational discourses. DGfS 2011, University of Gottingen, Germany, February 27th.
- Kurumada, C. (2011). Syntactic context affects probability estimation: Evidence from Japanese relative clauses. LSA annual meeting, Pittsburgh, January 6th.
- Gafter, R., Kurumada, C., Tice, M., & Sumner, M. (2011). Integrating frequency, formality, and phonology in the perception of speech. LSA annual meeting, Pittsburgh, January 8th.
- 2009 Kurumada, C., & Iwasaki, S. (2009). Negotiating desirability: The acquisition of the uses of *ii* 'good' in mother-child interactions in Japanese. The 19th Japanese Korean Linguistics, University of Hawaii at Manoa, November 12th.
- Takubo, Y., Hayashi, Y., Motoki, T., & Kurumada, C. (2009). The digital museum project for the documentation of Ikema Ryukyuan. 1st International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation (ICLDC), University of Hawaii, Manoa. March, 13th.
- 2008 Kurumada, C., & Iwasaki, S. (2008). Parallel acquisition of lexical meanings and pragmatic functions: The case of Japanese adjective *ii*. The 10th meeting of the Japanese Society of Language and Sciences, Shizuoka Prefectural University, July 12th.
- 2007 Kurumada, C. (2007). Boshi intarakushon ni miru kakari-*kyoshi* wa no kino to hattatsu: A study on the development of topic-particle *wa* in Japanese in child-mother interaction. The 9th Japanese Society of Language and Sciences, Miyagi Women's Christian University, July 7th.
- Kurumada, C. (2007). The interactional origin of the Topic-particle *wa* in Japanese. Linguistics symposium on formulaic language, University of Milwaukee, April 18-21st.
- 2006 Kurumada, C. (2006). A developmental analysis on the particle *wa* in Japanese. The inaugural conference of Japanese Studies Association in Southeast Asia (JSA-ASEAN), National University of Singapore, October 12-14th.
- Kurumada, C. & Fujii, S. (2006). Constructing storylines: A constructional approach to the structure and development of narratives. The 4th International conference on construction grammar, Tokyo University, September, 2nd.
- Kurumada, C. & Fujii, S. (2006). Creating storylines: A developmental study on Japanese children's narratives. The 8th Japanese Society for Language Sciences, International Christian University, June 16th.

Conference Presentations (Poster Presentations)

- 2017 Buxó-Lugo, A., Kurumada, C., & Watson, D. (2017). Adaptation and learning in prosodic phrasing of syntactically ambiguous sentences. The 30th CUNY conference on sentence processing, Boston.
- Kurumada, C., Plvan-Franke, J., Orth, W., & Grimm, S. (2017). Communicative efficiency in language production and evolution: Optional plural marking. The 30th CUNY conference on sentence processing, Boston.
- Orth, W., Pogue, A., & Kurumada, C. The role of context and information in the interpretation of scalar adjectives. The 30th CUNY conference on sentence processing, Boston.
- Pogue, A., Brown-Schmidt, S., & Kurumada, C. Causal attributions in the adaptation of pragmatic informativity assumptions. The 30th CUNY conference on sentence processing, Boston.
- Powell, S., & Kurumada, C. Effects of environmental statistics in emergence of scalar implicature comprehension. The 30th CUNY conference on sentence processing, Boston.
- 2016 Ryskin, R., Kurumada, C., & Brown-Schmidt, S. (2016). Information integration in online modulation of pragmatic inferences during language comprehension. The 57th meeting of Psychonomic Society, Boston, Nov.17th.
- Gardner, B., Sullivan, A., Trine, T., Jaeger, T. F., & Kurumada, C. (2016). Rapid adaptation of online pragmatic inferences based on scalar adjectives. The 22nd AMLaP Conference, Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing, Bilbao, Spain, September 3rd.
- 2015 Ryskin, R., Brown-Schmidt, S., & Kurumada, C. (2015). Adaptation of pragmatic inferences transfers across contrastive domains. The 28th CUNY conference on sentence processing, Los Angeles, March 21th.
- 2013 Kurumada, C. (2013). Contextual inferences in comprehension and acquisition of contrastive prosody. BUCLD 38, Boston, November 2nd.
- 2012 Kurumada, C., Brown, M., & Tanenhaus, M.K. (2012). Distributional learning and probabilistic inferences in pragmatic interpretation of contrastive prosody. BUCLD 37, Boston, November 3rd.
- Kurumada, C., & Jaeger, T. F. (2012). Communicative efficiency and grammatical encoding in speech: Predicting case-marker omission in Japanese. The 25th CUNY conference on sentence processing, New York, March 16th.
- Kurumada, C. (2010). Integrating structural probability: The case of Japanese relative clause production. International Workshop on Language Production, University of Edinburgh, UK, September 3rd.

Endangered Language Learning Material

Hanashiro, C & Takahashi, M. (2012). *Mimamui busu nu hanasu A story of the guardian star* (A trilingual picture-book written in Ikema-Ryukyuan, Japanese and English). Y., Takubo, T., Motoki, & C. Kurumada (eds.) Kyoto University Global Center of Excellence for Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21st Century Asia.

Teaching

BCS 501 **Language Pro-Seminar** (Graduate seminar class, 4 students), co-instructor Dr. Michael K. Tanenhaus, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester, Fall 2017-2018.

BCS 259 **Language Development** (Advanced undergraduate lecture class, 50 students), Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester, Spring 2016-2017.

BCS 207 **Undergraduate research in Cognitive Sciences** (Advanced undergraduate workshop class, 12 students), Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester, Spring 2016-2017.

BCS 206 **Undergraduate research in Cognitive Sciences** (Advanced undergraduate workshop class, 12 students), Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester, Fall 2016-2017.

BCS 259 **Language Development**(Advanced undergraduate lecture class, 50 students), Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester, Spring 2015-2016.

BCS 501 **Language Pro-Seminar**(Graduate seminar class, 20 students), co-instructor Dr. Michael K. Tanenhaus, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester, Fall 2015-2016.

BCS 259 **Language Development** (Advanced undergraduate lecture class, 50 students), Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester, Spring 2014-2015.

Teaching Assistant for Noah Goodman, Introduction to Cognitive Science, Stanford University, Spring 2011-2012.

Teaching Assistant for Eve V. Clark, Language Acquisition 1, Stanford University, Fall 2010-2011.

Teaching Assistant for Vivienne Fong, Introduction to Linguistics, Stanford University, Spring 2009-2010.

Teaching Assistant for Adele Goldberg, Construction Grammar, Linguistic Society of America Linguistic Institute, 2009.

Teaching assistant, Academic English, University of Tokyo, 2004-2005.

Research Assistant Experiences

2009		Research Assistant, Noun-Modifying Constructions in Languages of Eurasia: Reshaping theoretical and geographical boundaries (PI: Yoshiko Matsumoto), Presidential Fund for Innovation in the Humanities 2008-2009, Stanford University.
2007 - 2009	-	Research Assistant, Linguistic Development of Bilingual Children (PIs: Yuriko Oshima-Takane and Fred Genesee), Department of Psychology, McGill University, QuÃ¢bec, Canada

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