

# Ömer Demirok

Department of Linguistics, Boğaziçi University  
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## Education

- 2014-2019 Ph.D. in Linguistics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Thesis: [Scope Theory Revisited: Lessons from pied-piping in \*wh\*-questions](#)
- 2010-2013 M.A. in Linguistics, Boğaziçi University  
Thesis: [AGREE as a unidirectional operation: Evidence from Laz](#)
- 2006-2010 B.A. in Foreign Language Education, Boğaziçi University

## Academic Positions

- 2020-  
current Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, Boğaziçi University
- 2016-2018 Research Assistant, Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 2011-2014 Research Assistant, Department of Western Languages and Literatures, Boğaziçi University

## Administrative Positions

- 2022-  
current Transfer Advisor, Department of Linguistics,  
Boğaziçi University
- 2021-  
current Coordinator for Caucasian Languages, Department of Linguistics,  
Boğaziçi University
- 2020-  
2021 Vice-chair, Department of Linguistics,  
Boğaziçi University

## Research Interests

Syntax, semantics, morphology, and their interfaces,  
fieldwork, Caucasian languages, endangered languages

## Publications

### BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2022 “Agreeing complementizers may just be moody”, In *Discourse particles: syntactic, semantic, pragmatic and historical aspects*, eds. Xabier Artiagoitia, Arantzazu Elordieta, Sergio Monforte, Linguistik Aktuelle Series, John Benjamins.  
DOI: 10.1075/la.276.04dem  
(with Balkız Öztürk)
- accepted “On the significance of Laz for theoretical research in linguistics”, In *Lazuri: An Endangered Language of the Black Sea*, ed. Züleyha Ünlü. Vernon Press  
(with Balkız Öztürk)
- 2021 “Correlatives in languages of the Caucasus”, In *Handbook of Languages of the Caucasus*, ed. Maria Polinsky. Oxford University Press  
(with Balkız Öztürk)
- 2011 “The Verb in Laz”, In *Pazar Laz, LINCOS-Languages of the World/Materials 484*, Balkız Öztürk & Markus Pöchtrager (eds.), 42–74.

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2022 “How can a language have double passives but lack antipassives”, *Glossa* 7(1).  
DOI: 10.16995/glossa.6553  
(with Furkan Dikmen [first author], and Balkız Öztürk)
- 2021 “Non-linear Blocking Effects on Suppletive Allomorphy”, *Dilbilim Araştırmaları Dergisi*, 32 (2) , 83-109. DOI: 10.18492/dad.804477
- 2021 “When can a prefix block a root portmanteau?”, *Rivista di Grammatica Generativa (Research in Generative Grammar) [RGG]* 2021.2 (Volume 43).
- 2015 “The Logophoric Complementizer in Laz”, *Dilbilim Araştırmaları Dergisi [Journal of Linguistics Research]* 2/2015: 45–69. (with Balkız Öztürk)
- 2014 “The status of roots in event composition: Laz”, *Lingue e linguaggio* 1/2014: 83–102.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2022 “Intervention effects follow from scope rigidity in Turkish”, In *Semantics and Linguistic Theory 31* [SALT 31].
- 2022 “Modifying result states in Turkish”, In *Semantics and Linguistic Theory 31* [SALT 31] (with Furkan Dikmen [first author])
- 2021 “Hypothetical Comparison in Turkish”, In *Proceedings of the 6th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic* [Tu+6], (with Utku Türk [first author])
- 2019 “Complementizers with attitude”, In *Proceedings of the 49th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society* [NELS49], ed. Maggie Baird and Jonathan Pesetsky (with Deniz Özyıldız and Balkız Öztürk)
- 2019 “Difficult Imperatives in Turkish”, In *Proceedings of the 14th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics* [WAFL14], ed. Tanya Bondarenko et al., 49-56, MIT Working Papers in Linguistics (with Despina Oikonomou)
- 2019 “A Semantic Characterization of Turkish Nominalizations”, In *Proceedings of the 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics* [WCCFL36], ed. Richard Stockwell et al., 132-142.
- 2018 “A Modal Approach to Dative Subjects in Laz”, In *Proceedings of the 48th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society* [NELS48], ed. Sherry Hucklebridge and Max Nelson, Vol 1: 193-206.
- 2017 “Free Relatives and Correlatives in Wh-in-situ”, In *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society* [NELS47], ed. Andrew Lamont and Katerina Tetzloff, Vol.1: 271-284.
- 2017 “A Compositional Semantics for Turkish Correlatives”, In *Proceedings of the 34th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics* [WCCFL34], ed. Aaron Kaplan et al., 159-166 & In *Proceedings of the 12th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics* [WAFL12], ed. Leyla Zidani-Eroğlu et al., MIT Working Papers in Linguistics

## Academic Presentations

- 2022 “The Emergence of Clausal Nominalizations in Laz”, Formal Approaches to Contact in/with Turkish [FACT]. University of Tromsø, May 19-20.  
(with Balkız Öztürk)
- 2022 “A Paradigm Gap in Turkish”, 7th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic [Tu+7]. University of Connecticut, Feb 18-19.  
(with Muhammed İleri [first author])
- 2022 “A Dependent Case Theoretic Account of Alignment Shifts in Heritage Grammars”, İDÇ Dilbilim Buluşmaları #37. Jan 7.  
(Invited, joint work with Ümit Atlamaz [first author] and Metin Bağrıaçık)
- 2021 “From Split-Ergativity Towards Accusativity in Heritage Kurmanji and Georgian”, Heritage Language Syntax 2. Utrecht University, Dec 15-17.  
(with Ümit Atlamaz [first author] and Metin Bağrıaçık)
- 2021 “Compounding with a polymorphic deverbalizer in Turkish”, 9th Workshop on Nominalizations (JENom9), Brown University, June 17-18.  
(with Furkan Dikmen [first author] and Balkız Öztürk)
- 2021 “Modifying result states in Turkish”, Semantics and Linguistics Theory (SALT31), Brown University, May 7-9. [poster] (Furkan Dikmen [first author])
- 2021 “Intervention Effects directly follow from Scope Rigidity in Turkish”, Semantics and Linguistics Theory (SALT31), Brown University, May 7-9. [poster]
- 2021 “Thematic suffixes in Şavşat Georgian”, Theme Vowels and V(P) Structure and Beyond (ThV2021), University of Graz, April 22-23 (with Reyhan Okumuş [first author] and Balkız Öztürk)
- 2021 “Intervention Effects directly follow from Scope Rigidity in Turkish”, 6th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic (Tu+6), University of Toronto, Feb 19-20
- 2021 “Hypothetical Comparison in Turkish”, 6th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic (Tu+6), University of Toronto, Feb 19-20 & Penn Linguistics Conference 45 (PLC45), UPenn, March 19-21 (with Utku Türk [first author])
- 2021 “Modal vs. non-modal un-agentive constructions in Laz”, Agency and Intentions in Language (AIL 1), University of Göttingen, Jan 13-15

- 2020 “Attitude Sensitive Complementizers in Laz”, International Workshop on Discourse Particles (InDisPart), University of the Basque Country, Oct 8 (with Balkız Öztürk)
- 2020 “On the temporal decomposition of bivalent events”, Events and Event Structure at the Limits of Grammar (EESLiG2020), University of Oxford, Sept 15-16 (with Reyhan Okumuş & Balkız Öztürk)
- 2020 “Non-linear blocking of portmanteaus: a case study on Laz”, Nanolab, June 12 [invited]
- 2020 “A pied-piping theory of exceptional de re: Scoping after all”, The 43rd Generative Linguistics in the Old World [GLOW43], Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Apr 8-20
- 2019 “Does the cross-linguistic distribution of wh-free relatives justify a semantic typology?” Boğaziçi University, Nov 11 [invited]
- 2019 “Ergative as a default case: Evidence from a Georgian dialect”, 4th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic (Tu+4), NYU, Feb 16-17
- 2018 “Difficult Imperatives in Turkish”, 14th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics [WAFLi14], MIT, Oct 19–21 [poster] (with Despina Oikonomou)
- 2018 “Complementizers in Laz are attitude sensitive”, 49th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society [NELS49], Cornell University, Oct 5-7 [poster] (with Deniz Özyıldız and Balkız Öztürk)
- 2018 “Events are Entities: Evidence from Turkish Nominalizations”, 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics [WCCFL36], UCLA, Apr 20-22
- 2017 “On Complex DPs in Turkish: Lessons for Inverse Linking and Scope Rigidity”, SuSurrus at UMass Amherst, Nov 10 [invited]
- 2017 “A Modal Approach to Dative Subjects in Laz”, 48th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society [NELS48], University of Iceland, Oct 27-29
- 2016 “Free Relatives and Correlatives in Wh-in-situ”, 47th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society [NELS47], UMass Amherst, Oct 14-16

- 2016 “A Compositional Semantics for Turkish Correlatives”, [poster] WCCFL 34, University of Utah, Apr 29 - May 1 & [poster] GLOW 39, Universität Göttingen, Apr 5-8 & [talk] WAFL 12, CCSU, May 13-15
- 2015 “The Logophoric Complementizer in Laz”, Societas Linguistica Europaea [SLE] Annual Meeting 2015, Leiden University, Sept 2-5 (with Balkız Öztürk)
- 2015 “When Case is not Case: Evidence from Laz”, Linguistic Approaches to Endangered Languages: Theory and Description, Boğaziçi University, Jul 28-30 (with Ömer Eren)
- 2015 “Agreeing Complementizers and Logophoricity in Laz”, Linguistic Approaches to Endangered Languages: Theory and Description, Boğaziçi University, Jul 28-30 (with Balkız Öztürk)
- 2014 “On the Search Space of AGREE”, Linguistics and Language Conference, Istanbul, June 16-18
- 2014 “An Empirical Critique of Cyclic Agree”, The 22nd Conference of the Student Organisation of Linguistic in Europe [ConSOLEXXII], University of Lisbon, Jan 8-10
- 2013 “Revisiting Georgian Obstruent Clusters”, 10th Old World Conference on Phonology [OCP10], Boğaziçi University, Jan 16-19
- 2012 “The Diachrony of Case Marking in Georgian: Ergativity and Specificity”, Typology, Theory: Caucasus, Boğaziçi University, Nov 29 - Dec 1
- 2012 “Status of Roots and Nanosyntactic Event Composition: Laz”, Workshop on the Representation and the Selection of Exponents, CASTL, Tromsø, Jun 7-8
- 2011 “The Hierarchical Nature of Inter-Onset Relations”, Government Phonology Round Table 8, Vienna University, May 6-8
- 2011 “Implications of case and agreement patterns in three Caucasian dialects spoken in Turkey: Pazar Laz, Ardeshani Laz and Inegol (Adjarian) Georgian”, Conference on Caucasian languages, MPI, Leipzig, May 13-15 (with Balkız Öztürk and Aslı Göksel)

## Employment & Teaching Experience

### BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS

- 2022  
Spring Instructor for *LING 512 Morphological Analysis* [graduate]  
Instructor for *LING 314 Syntax and Semantics of Modern Turkish*
- 2021  
Fall Instructor for *LING 504 Semantics* [graduate]  
Instructor for *LING 101.02 Introduction to Language and Linguistics I*
- 2021  
Spring Instructor for *LING 512/612 Morphological Analysis/Theory* [graduate]  
Instructor for *LING 340 Advanced Syntax*
- 2020  
Fall Instructor for *LING 101.02 Introduction to Language and Linguistics I*  
Instructor for *LING 542 Syntactic Theory* [graduate]
- 2020  
Spring Instructor for *LING 101.01 Introduction to Language and Linguistics I*  
Instructor for *LING 512 Morphological Analysis* [graduate]

### MIT LINGUISTICS

- 2016-7  
Spring Teaching Assistant to *24.900 Introduction to Linguistics* [undergraduate]  
Instructor: Norvin Richards

### UNIVERSITY OF CRETE, THE CRETE SUMMER SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS

- 2018  
Summer Teaching Assistant to *Fractures at the Syntax-Semantics Interface* [graduate]  
Instructor: Winfried Lechner
- Teaching Assistant to *Introduction to Syntax* [undergraduate]  
Instructor: Sabine Iatridou
- 2017  
Summer Teaching Assistant to *Introduction to Syntax* [undergraduate]  
Instructor: Sabine Iatridou

### BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY, TURKISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PROGRAM

- Summer  
2021-22 Language Instructor for *Upper-Intermediate Turkish - Grammar*
- Summer  
2016 Language Instructor for *Upper-Intermediate Turkish - Grammar*  
Language Instructor for *Upper-Intermediate Turkish - Writing*
- Summer  
2015 Language Instructor for *Upper-Intermediate Turkish - Grammar*

BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY, WESTERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

- 2014-2011 Teaching Assistant to  
*LING 321: English Turkish Contrastive Analysis* × 1  
*LING 302: Syntax and Morphology* × 2  
*LING 300: Morphology* × 2  
*TK 204: Structure of Modern Turkish* × 2  
*ENGL 201: Structure of Modern English* × 3  
*LING 111: Introduction to Language and Linguistics* × 5
- 2011-2013 Research Assistant, Boğaziçi University Scientific Research Project #5545  
· *Consonant-Vowel Interactions in Turkish, Laz, and Armenian*  
[Project Coordinator: Markus Pöchtrager]

## Reviewing

JOURNALS, BOOK CHAPTERS, & PROCEEDINGS

- 2022 Languages  
Natural Language and Linguistic Theory  
Dil Dergisi  
34. Ulusal Dilbilim Kurultayı
- 2021 Journal of Semantics,  
Natural Language and Linguistic Theory  
The Proceedings of Tu+6  
Book chapter for *John Benjamins*
- 2020 Journal of Semantics  
Linguistic Inquiry  
The Linguistic Review  
Turkic Languages  
Linguistic Typology  
Dilbilim Araştırmaları Dergisi × 2  
The Proceedings of Tu+5
- 2019 The Proceedings of Tu+4
- 2018 Language and Linguistics
- 2016 Linguistic Inquiry  
STUF - Language Typology and Universals



## CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

2022	Sinn und Bedeutung 27 The 45th Generative Linguistics in the Old World The 7th workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic	(SuB27) (GLOW45) (Tu+7)
2021	The 52nd Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society The 44th Generative Linguistics in the Old World	(NELS52) (GLOW44)
2020	The 51st Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society The 6th workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic	(NELS51) (Tu+6)
2019	The 43rd Generative Linguistics in the Old World The 5th workshop on Turkic and languages in contact with Turkic The 50th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society	(GLOW43) (Tu+5) (NELS50)

## Supervised Theses

2021	Bergül Soykan. MA Thesis in Linguistics, Boğaziçi University. Thesis: <i>A semantic description of Turkish conditionals.</i>
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## Fieldwork Experience

2018	Kazan and Mishar Tatar as part of the MIT International Science and Technology Project " <i>Quexistentials</i> " [Project Supervisors: Sabine Iatridou & Floris Roelofsen]
2010-	Pazar (Atina) Laz
2011-2013	Varieties of Georgian spoken in İnegöl and Ünye, Turkey
2010-2013	Varieties of Laz and Armenian as part of the Boğaziçi University Scientific Research Project " <i>Consonant-Vowel Interactions in Turkish, Laz, and Armenian</i> " [Project Supervisor: Markus Pöchtrager]

## Organization

- June, 2022 Co-organizer of *Theoretical Linguistics and Languages of the Caucasus and Endangered Languages Colloquium* at Istanbul Bilgi University
- Fall 2022 Co-organizer for *Syntactic Theory at Boğaziçi University* [ST@BU]
- 2017-2018 MIT Ling-Lunch Co-organizer, MIT Linguistics

## Fellowships and Awards

- 2021 Excellence in Teaching Award, Boğaziçi University
- 2017-2018 Noam Chomsky Fellowship, MIT Linguistics

## Languages

Turkish (native),  
English (fluent),  
German (intermediate reading),  
Laz, Georgian, Tigrinya, Tatar (elicitation).