

# Alya Asarina

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## EDUCATION

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- September 2011 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**  
PhD in Linguistics  
Dissertation: Case in Uyghur and Beyond
- June 2006 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**  
Bachelor of Science in Linguistics and Philosophy  
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Syntax, syntax-morphology and syntax-semantics interfaces, fieldwork, computational linguistics. Languages: Uyghur, Russian.

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## PRESENTATIONS

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- 2012 Against the Activity Condition as a Constraint on Movement: An Argument from Uyghur. Presented at the 86th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), Portland, OR.
- 2011 Presuppositional Indefinites are Positive Polarity Items. Presented at the 29th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 29), University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
- 2011 Uyghur Genitive Subjects and the Phase Impenetrability Condition (with Jeremy Hartman). Invited talk at The City University of New York (CUNY) Syntax Supper.
- 2010 Genitive Subject Licensing in Uyghur Subordinate Clauses (with Jeremy Hartman). 7th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL VII), University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles, CA.
- 2010 Case and the Interpretation of Indefinites in Uyghur. 7th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL VII), University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles, CA.  
Also presented as “Case and Meaning in Uyghur Nominalized Clauses” at 15th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics, Szeged, Hungary.
- 2010 Neutrality vs. Ambiguity in Resolution by Syncretism: Experimental Evidence and Consequences. 41st meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 41), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2009 Gender and Adjective Agreement in Russian. 4th annual meeting of the Slavic Linguistics Society, University of Zadar, Croatia.
- 2005 Syntax and Semantics of Tagalog Modals (with Anna Holt). 12th meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA XII), UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

## PUBLICATIONS

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- 2011 Genitive Subject Licensing in Uyghur Subordinate Clauses (with Jeremy Hartman). *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*, accepted with minor revisions.
- 2011 Presuppositional Indefinites are Positive Polarity Items. To appear in the proceedings of the 29th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 29).
- 2011 Genitive Subject Licensing in Uyghur Subordinate Clauses (with Jeremy Hartman). In *Proceedings of the 7th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL7)*.
- 2011 Neutrality vs. Ambiguity in Resolution by Syncretism: Experimental Evidence and Consequences. To appear in the proceedings of the 41st meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 41).
- 2005 Syntax and Semantics of Tagalog Modals (with Anna Holt). In *Proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Conference of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA)*.

## TEACHING

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- Fall 2008 **Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Linguistics (24.900)** MIT  
Planned and taught a weekly section, met with students, graded assignments and papers. Primary instructor: Norvin Richards.
- Spring 2008 **Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Linguistics (24.900)** MIT  
Planned and taught a weekly section, met with students, graded assignments and papers. Gave a guest lecture. Primary instructor: Suzanne Flynn.
- Spring 2006 **Class Instructor for Poetry in Translation (SP.261)** MIT  
Created, developed and taught a seminar on poetry in translation. Designed a curriculum, prepared materials, presented background, and guided discussion in weekly class meetings. Compiled course materials for the MIT OpenCourseWare website:  
<http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/special-programs/sp-261-poetry-in-translation-spring-2006>

## EMPLOYMENT

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- October 2011 – present **MIT Lincoln Laboratory Technical Staff** Lexington, MA  
Designed a method for using Amazon's Mechanical Turk to efficiently elicit judgments of Arabic name matches. Provided expertise in natural language processing for research on novel approaches to utilizing Internet data.
- Summer 2007 **Google (Machine Translation Group) Software Engineer Intern** Mountain View, CA  
Researched morphology-based improvements for the English–Russian translation system.

## ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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- Summer 2005 **Linguistic Society of America 2005 Summer Institute** MIT  
Attended five three-week long courses.

## SERVICE

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- Spring 2010 – Fall 2010 **Ling-Lunch Co-Organizer** MIT  
Managed a series of weekly talks. Solicited speakers and advertised to the community.
- Fall 2007 – Spring 2008 **Association of Student Activities Graduate Member-at-Large** MIT  
Oversaw and revamped the recognition process for new Student Groups at MIT.

June 2004 – *Harvard-MIT Mathematics Tournament* **Tournament Director** Cambridge, MA  
June 2006 Organized an annual high school math contest with approximately 600 participants. Recruited and trained staff, communicated with MIT and Harvard officials, set policies, ran staff meetings, responded to inquiries.

## LANGUAGES

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Fluent in English and Russian, familiarity with German and French.

## GRANTS AND HONORS

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2010, 2011 MIT Ken Hale Fund for Field Research

2006 Phi Beta Kappa