

# MATTI MARTTINEN LARSSON, PhD

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## RESEARCH SUMMARY

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My research primarily centers on **language variation and change**, particularly focusing on morphosyntactic and semantic change. I approach these issues from a **usage-based, cognitive, and probabilistic viewpoint**. I predominantly utilize variationist and corpus linguistic methodologies to **understand the emergence and diffusion of language change**, as well as **the cognitive foundations underlying variation and change**. I mainly focus on phenomena of variation and change within **different varieties of Spanish**, but I also conduct research on other Romance languages and Swedish. Within these languages, my studies cover a broad spectrum, including **incipient and ongoing language change, frequency effects** on change, **constructionalization, grammaticalization, reanalysis, analogy, actualization**, linguistic **efficiency, redundancy, pragmatization, accessibility, subjectification** and intersubjectification, along with **cognitive pragmatics**. Moreover, my specific interests involve **possessive pronouns, definite articles, omission, structural reduction, accessibility markers, coding length variability, mood selection and variability, entrenchment and chunking**, and the social determinants of **neurocognitive routines**. I find innovative data collection techniques intriguing, such as utilizing social media and crowdsourcing methods. Additionally, I am keen on employing statistical models to analyze language variation and change. Furthermore, I am interested in issues related to (Internet) research ethics and remain dedicated to the principles of Open Science.

## EDUCATION

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2019–2022

**PhD in Romance languages, specialization in Spanish**  
(Department of Romance Studies and Classics,  
Stockholm University)

Thesis title: *Las construcciones adverbiales del tipo "delante mío" y sus condicionantes: Patrones probabilísticos, reflejos de gramaticalización y encadenamiento analógico en variedades diacrónicas y diatópicas del español. [Adverbial constructions such as "delante mío" and their constraints: Probabilistic patterns, reflexes of grammaticalization and analogical chaining in diachronic and diatopic varieties of Spanish.]*

2016–2017

**Master of Arts in Romance languages**, Stockholm University

2013–2016

**Bachelor of Arts in Romance languages**, Stockholm University

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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- July 2022 – June 2025 **Postdoctoral researcher**  
*Stockholm University (Department of Linguistics)*  
Project title: “Pathways of development around the Spanish-speaking world: Cross-varietal diachronic variation and change in 19th-21st century Spanish morpho-syntax”. Funded by the Swedish Research Council (record number 2022-00303).
- March 2024 – June 2024 **Senior lecturer (temporary position, hourly contract)**  
*Stockholm University (Department of Romance Studies and Classics)*
- January 2019 – January 2022 **Doctoral researcher**  
*Stockholm University (Department of Romance Studies and Classics)*
- September 2017 – December 2018 **Doctoral researcher in linguistics**  
*Ghent University (Department of Linguistics)*  
PhD student within the project “Encima de mí or encima mío? On the Grammatical Variation in Spatial Adverbial Expressions in Peninsular Spanish” (BOF, Gent University, PI: Miriam Bouzouita). Funding for 23 months.

## RESEARCH STAYS

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- September 2022 – August 2024 **Visiting postdoctoral researcher**  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Institut für Romanistik.
- September 2019 **Visiting scholar**  
KU Leuven, research unit *Quantitative Lexicology and Variational Linguistics* (QLVL). Academic host: Professor Benedikt Szmrecsanyi.

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Work in progress* **Marttinen Larsson, Matti & Ulf Larsson.** *Working title:* A micro-diachronic real-time corpus study of the subjectification and layering of Swedish *lär*.
- Bouzouita, Miriam & **Matti Marttinen Larsson.** *Working title:* Tracking linguistic variation and change in Spanish through crowdsourced app data: the diffusion across Andalusia of feminine tonic possessives with locative adverbs.
- Merino Hernández, Laura & **Matti Marttinen Larsson.** *Working title:* Literally, emphatically, or figuratively? On the diachrony and synchrony of adverbial *literalmente* and *literal* ‘literally’ in varieties of Spanish.
- Under review* Marttinen Larsson, Matti. Pathways of actualization across regional varieties and the real-time dynamics of syntactic change. [Provisionally accepted pending revisions.]

Marttinen Larsson, Matti. Probabilistic reduction and constructionalization: a usage-based diachronic account of the diffusion and conventionalization of the Spanish *la de* <noun> *que* construction. [In 2nd round of peer review.]

Marttinen Larsson, Matti. Mood swings and the concomitant developments that set the stage for change: on the diachrony of indicative/subjunctive alternation in two varieties of Spanish. [In 1st round of peer review.]

Merino Hernández, Laura & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. How long is too long, and how far is too far? Efficiency and accessibility constraints in the coding of conditionality in Spanish. [In 2nd round of peer review.]

Bonilla, Johnatan, Laura Merino Hernández & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. BERT's Interpretation of *literalmente* 'literally': what deep learning models can tell us about synchronic layering and diachronic shifts. [In 1st round of peer review.]

To  
appear

1. Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (in press). La gramaticalización del posesivo tónico “no posesivo”: los casos de *delante mío* y *habla mal tuyo* [The grammaticalization of the “non-possessive” tonic possessive: the case of *delante mío* and *habla mal tuyo*]. *Revista de Filología Española*.

2023

2. Álvarez López, Laura & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. (2023). “A variação no uso do artigo definido antes de possessivo em variedades africanas, brasileiras e europeias do Português contemporâneo: motivações internas e externas da gramaticalização” [“Variation in the use of the definite article before possessives in African, Brazilian and European contemporary varieties of Portuguese”]. In Silvia Brandão & Silvia Vieira (eds.), *Para o estudo comparativo de variedades do Português: questões teórica-metodológicas e análises de dados [Towards the comparative study of Portuguese language varieties: theoretical-methodological issues and data analysis]*. Berlin: De Gruyter. 113-143. DOI: 10.1515/9783110670257-007

3. Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2023). Modelling incipient probabilistic grammar change in real time: The grammaticalisation of possessive pronouns in European Spanish locative adverbial constructions. *Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic Theory*. 19(2). 177-206. DOI: 10.1515/cllt-2021-0030

2022

4. **Marttinen Larsson, Matti** & Miriam Bouzouita. (2022). Feminine possessive complements of locative adverbial constructions in Andalusian Spanish. *Círculo de Lingüística Aplicada a la Comunicación* 91. 157-171. DOI: 10.5209/clac.78536

5. **Marttinen Larsson, Matti** & Laura Álvarez López. (2022). El uso de adverbios locativos con pronombres posesivos en el español uruguayo:

un análisis diacrónico y probabilístico [The use of locative adverbs with possessive pronouns in Uruguayan Spanish: a diachronic and probabilistic analysis]. *Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics* 15(1). 175-210. DOI: 10.1515/shll-2022-2059

- 2020 6. Bouzouita, Miriam & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. (2020). Variation and change in the Romance possessive constructions: An overview of nominal, adverbial and verbal uses. *Moderna språk* 114(3). 1-44.
- 2018 7. **Marttinen Larsson, Matti** & Miriam Bouzouita. (2018). *Encima de mí vs. encima mío*: un análisis variacionista de las construcciones adverbiales locativas con complementos preposicionales y posesivos en Twitter [Encima de mí vs encima mío: a variationist analysis of locative adverbial constructions with prepositional and possessive complements on Twitter]. *Moderna språk* 112(1). 1-39.
- 2017 8. **Marttinen Larsson, Matti** & Laura Álvarez López. (2017). 'Delante suyo' vs 'delante de él': El uso de las locuciones adverbiales locativas desde una perspectiva diacrónica y diatópica ['Delante suyo' vs 'delante de él': the use of locative adverbial locutions from a diachronic and diatopic perspective]. *Signo y Seña* 31(1). 85-104.

**Doctoral dissertation**

Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2022). *Las construcciones adverbiales del tipo "delante mío" y sus condicionantes: Patrones probabilísticos, reflejos de gramaticalización y encadenamiento analógico en variedades diacrónicas y diatópicas del español*. [Adverbial constructions such as "delante mío" and their constraints: Probabilistic patterns, reflexes of grammaticalization and analogical chaining in diachronic and diatopic varieties of Spanish.] Stockholm: Department of Romance Studies and Classics, Stockholm University. (Doctoral compilation dissertation).

**Academic editorship**

Bouzouita, Miriam & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. (2020). Special issue on possessive constructions in Romance. *Moderna språk* 114(3).

**Published resources**

Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2021). Data and code for the analysis of possessive pronouns in locative adverbial phrases in European Spanish. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/HX2BD>

**PRESENTATIONS**

\* = invited talk

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- 2024 1. Bouzouita, Miriam & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. (2024, October 11-12). *Lo dentro mía que siento Andalucía*. Aceptabilidad del uso del complemento posesivo femenino en construcciones adverbiales locativas en Andalucía. *III Congreso Internacional "Investigando las hablas andaluzas"*, Ingolstadt.
2. \* Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2024, September 19-20). Title TBD. *Bridging contexts in semantic change*, Berlin.

3. Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2024, August 21-24). On the cognitive underpinnings of actualization: A diachronic cross-varietal study on ongoing syntactic change in Spanish. 57th Annual meeting of the *Societas Linguistica Europaea*, Helsinki.
  4. Merino Hernández, Laura & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. (2024, June 27-29). On the role of communicative efficiency and accessibility in the coding of conditionality in Spanish: a Bayesian approach. *Conference of the Cognitive Linguistic Association of North America (CLANA1)*, Montreal.
  5. Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2024, June 26-28). Construction-lexeme accessibility determines variable and changing coding length: Evidence from constructional and syntactic changes in Spanish. *The 6th Variation and Language Processing Conference (VALP6)*, Vigo.
  6. \* Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2024, April 23). Mood swings and concomitant changes: a diachronic corpus study of indicative/subjunctive alternation with Spanish epistemic adverbs of doubt and probability in Argentinian and Mexican Spanish. Linguistics research colloquium, University of Helsinki.
  7. Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2024, January 10-12). Un acercamiento interdialectal y diacrónico al uso variable del artículo definido en las relativas oblicuas: nueva propuesta de análisis. *Congreso Internacional de Lenguas Iberorrománicas*, Helsinki.
  8. Merino Hernández, Laura & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. (2024, January 10-12). ¿Literal, enfática o figuradamente? El caso del adverbio *literalmente* en el español mexicano. *Congreso Internacional de Lenguas Iberorrománicas*, Helsinki.
- 2023
9. Álvarez López, Laura & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. (2023, October 30-November 3). Uso variável do artigo definido antes de possessivo em variedades contemporâneas de português africano, brasileiro e europeu. *XIII International Conference of the Brazilian Linguistics Association (ABRALIN)*, Curitiba.
  - 10 Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2023, February 22-25). *Había una chavala senta[da] al lao mia...*: Acercamientos innovadores digitales al estudio de las construcciones [adverbio locativo + posesivo] en el español de Andalucía. *Deutscher Hispanistentag*, Graz.
  - 11 Álvarez López, Laura & **Matti Marttinen Larsson**. (2023, January 12). Variation in the use of definite article before possessive pronouns in contemporary varieties of African, Brazilian and European Portuguese. Research seminar jointly organized by the Department of Linguistics and *RomLing*, Stockholm University.

- 2022 12 \* Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2022, November 10). Pathways of development around the Spanish-speaking world: Cross-varietal diachronic variation and change in the 19th-21st century Spanish morpho-syntax. *Colloquium Romanistische Linguistik (CoRoLi)*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.
- 2021 13 \* Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2021, March 31). Detecting and modelling incipient grammar change from a probabilistic perspective: the case of possessive pronouns in Spanish locative adverbial constructions. *Sociolinguistics Lab at Berkley (SLaB)*. University of California, Berkeley.
- 2020 14 **Marttinen Larsson, Matti** & Laura Álvarez López. (2020, September 10). Tracking probabilistic grammar change in real time: Language-internal effects and lifespan trajectories on changing functions of locative constructions in European and Uruguayan Spanish. *RomLing* research seminar, Stockholm University.
- 2019 15 Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2019, June 26–28). Investigating morphological variation on Twitter: Feminine possessive complements of locative adverbial constructions in Peninsular Spanish varieties. *The International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE) 10*, Leeuwarden.
- 2018 16 Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2018, June 27-29). Feminine morphology in possessive complements of adverbial constructions in European Spanish varieties. *Possessive Constructions in Romance*, Ghent.
- 17 Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2018, May 24-25). Adverbial constructions such as 'encima mía' in Andalusian Spanish: Data from Twitter. *Investigando las hablas andaluzas: New approaches to Andalusian Spanish*, Innsbruck.
- 18 Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2018, January 12). *Quiero dormir pero el prof está delante mío*: Analyzing the morphosyntactic variation between possessive and prepositional complements in Spanish adverbial locatives with Twitter data. *Hispanic Linguistics symposium Syntactic Variation. A pragmatic view*, KU Leuven.
- 2017 19 Marttinen Larsson, Matti. (2017, October 26). On the morphosyntactic variation in adverbial locative phrases in Spanish diatopic and sociolinguistic varieties. *DiaLing Talks*, Ghent University.
- 20 **Marttinen Larsson, Matti** & Laura Álvarez López. (2017, July 24-28). 'Delante suyo' vs 'delante de él': El uso de las locuciones adverbiales locativas desde una perspectiva diacrónica y diatópica. *XVIII Congreso de la Asociación de Lingüística y Filología de América Latina (ALFAL)*, Bogotá.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Winter semester 2023/2024	Lecturer within the course <i>Las categorías gramaticales al borde de la gramática</i> (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, MA level)
Spring semesters 2020–2024	Lecturer within the course <i>Romance languages: Sociolinguistics</i> (Stockholm University, MA level, course head 2023 & 2024)
Spring 2021	Guest lecturer within the course <i>Posesivos fuera del ámbito nominal: los contextos adverbiales</i> (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, MA level)
Spring & autumn 2020	Lecturer and seminar leader within the course <i>Spanish I: Grammar</i> (Stockholm University, BA level)
Spring & autumn 2020	Writing support for student theses
Autumn semester 2017–2018	Teaching assistant within <i>Spanish Linguistics IV</i> (Ghent University, BA level)

## COURSES IN UNIVERSITY TEACHING

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Spring 2023	<i>Introduction to language teaching in higher education</i> . Centre for the Advancement of University Teaching, Stockholm University. 3 ECTS.
Spring 2020	<i>Introduction to teaching in the Humanities and Social Sciences</i> . Centre for the Advancement of University Teaching, Stockholm University. 3 ECTS.

## AWARDED GRANTS

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### **External grants**

2022	Swedish Research Council: International postdoctoral grant. 3,600 000 SEK.
2021	Helge Ax:son Johnsons Stiftelse: Personal grant for research month. 20 000 SEK.
2019	Helge Ax:son Johnsons Stiftelse: Travel grant for participation in summer school. 10 000 SEK.
2017	Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek panel for International Scientific Contacts: Travel grant for a workshop in Europe.

### **Internal grants**

2018–2021	Stockholm University, RomLing research group. Total amount of awarded grants: 193 061 SEK.
2019	Områdesnämnden för humanvetenskap (The Board of Human Sciences), Stockholm University: Grant for organization of workshop on

research ethics and internet research within the humanities. 27 000 SEK.

## **ORGANIZED ACADEMIC EVENTS**

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- 2021 Co-organizer of Seminar on co-authorship in research (November 30): <https://www.su.se/romklass/om-oss/evenemang/registrera-evenemang/seminar-on-co-authorship-in-research-1.582168>
- 2021 Co-organizer of Workshop on ethical challenges in fieldwork (June 3): <https://www.su.se/romklass/om-oss/evenemang/workshop-on-ethical-challenges-in-fieldwork-1.551922>
- 2020 Organizer (together with professor L. Álvarez López and J. Åkerman) of the seminar Internet Research Ethics within Humanities: Opportunities and Challenges (March 20): <https://www.su.se/romklass/om-oss/evenemang/internet-research-ethics-within-humanities-opportunities-and-challenges-1.480130>
- 2018 Co-organizer of the conference Possessive Constructions in Romance (PossRom2018): <http://www.dialing.ugent.be/possrom2018/>

## **FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE**

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- November – Fieldwork in Montevideo (Uruguay). Consisted of data collection  
December 2019 through questionnaires with linguistic stimuli.
- March 2018 Corpus Oral y Sonoro del Español Rural (COSER), Fuerteventura and Lanzarote (Spain). Consisted of sociolinguistic interviews in rural communities.
- February 2017 Corpus Oral y Sonoro del Español Rural (COSER), Gran Canaria (Spain). Consisted of sociolinguistic interviews in rural communities.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

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- Peer reviewer *Quaderns de Filologia. Estudis Lingüístics* (2024)  
*Scriptum digital* (2022)  
*Cadernos de Estudos Linguísticos* (2022)  
*Revista de Filología y Lingüística de la Universidad de Costa Rica* (2021)  
*Moderna språk* (2021, 2022)  
*New Ways of Analyzing Variation* (NWAV49) conference (2021)
- Recruitment committee member (2023) Member of committee for recruitment of postdoctoral researcher at the Institut für Romanistik (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin). Assessment of applications, and involvement in interviews and final decision.
- Statistical analyst and consultant (2022) Department of Romance Studies and Classics (Stockholm University). Conducted statistical analyses for PhD thesis project.



PhD representative (2019-2021) Supervisors' College (Department of Romance Studies and Classics, Stockholm University). Participation in meetings and reporting to the PhD student body.

Associations  
Statistics for Linguistics Network  
Historical Sociolinguistics Network  
ABRALIN  
Societas Linguistica Europaea

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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Swedish	Proficient (native speaker)
English	Proficient
Spanish	Proficient
French	Basic
Portuguese	Basic (passive skills)