Giovanni Roversi

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Nationality: Italian

Education

Academic degrees

2020–2025 PhD in Linguistics, MIT.

2017–2019 Master of Arts in Linguistics, University of Oslo.

2014–2017 Bachelor in Linguistics, University of Oslo.

Summer schools

2022 4th Crete Summer School of Linguistics (Teaching Assistant).

2019 3rd Crete Summer School of Linguistics.

2018 2nd Crete Summer School of Linguistics.

Publications

Journal articles

2025 Roversi, Giovanni. 2025. Possession and Syntactic Categories: An Argument from Äiwoo. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 43(1). 385–420. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049024-09623-7

2023 Sauppe, Sebastian, Åshild Næss, Giovanni Roversi, Martin Meyer, Ina Bornkessel-Schlesewsky & Balthasar Bickel. 2023. An Agent-First Preference in a Patient-First Language During Sentence Comprehension. *Cognitive Science* 47(9). 1–36. https://doi.org/10.1111/cogs.13340

2019 Roversi, Giovanni & Åshild Næss. 2019. Jespersen in the Reef Islands: Single vs bipartite negation in Äiwoo. *Oceanic Linguistics* 58(2), 324–352. https://muse.jhu.edu/pub/5/article/751107

Conferences proceedings

in prep Roversi, Giovanni. In prep. "Non-local A-movement" is predicted to exist, and it does. *Proceedings of WCCFL 43.*

2023 Wu, Yivette Yi-Chi, Tamisha L. Tan, & Giovanni Roversi. 2023. Syntactic vs. Morphological Verbal Concord across Austronesian. *Proceedings of TripleAFLA* (26), 104–118.

2020 Roversi, Giovanni. 2020. How to satisfy probes: person/number hierarchy effects in Äiwoo. *Proceedings of NELS* 50(3), 99–112.

2019 Roversi, Giovanni. 2019. Dislocation Types in Emilian. *Proceedings of ConSOLE* 26, 172–187

Theses

2025   *Locality: a case study from Äiwoo.* PhD dissertation, MIT. Advisors: Norvin Richards (committee chair), David Pesetsky, Athulya Aravind, Amy Rose Deal (UC Berkeley, external advisor).

2019   *The morphosyntactic structure of the Äiwoo verb.* MA Thesis, University of Oslo. Advisors: Åshild Næss and Patrick Grosz. URL: http://urn.nb.no/URN:NBN:no-72417.

Talks

2025   Roversi, Giovanni. 2025. *"Non-local A-movement" is predicted to exist, and it does.* Talk given at WC-CFL 43 (University of Washington, Seattle; April 25, 2025).

2025   Roversi, Giovanni. 2025. *Pronouns, DPs, and non-local A-movement.* Invited talk at the Yale University SynRG.

2024   Roversi, Giovanni. 2024. *Pronouns, DPs, and Omnivorous A-movement.* Invited talk at the UC San Diego S-Babble.

2024   Roversi, Giovanni. 2024. *Exceptional Ā-extraction in Austronesian informs theories of voice systems.* Talk given at CLS 60 (UChicago; April 27, 2024).

2024   Roversi, Giovanni. 2024. *Condition C and Anti-Cataphora in Äiwoo.* Talk given at GLOW in Asia 14 (Chinese University of Hong Kong; March 8, 2024).

2023   Roversi, Giovanni. 2023. *Adjectival "concord" in North Sámi is not concord (and it's two different phenomena).* Talk given at CLS 59 (UChicago; April 29, 2023) and at WCCFL 41 (UCSC; May 5, 2023).

2023   Roversi, Giovanni. 2023. *Adjectival "concord" in North Sámi is not concord (and it's two different phenomena).* Talk given at WCCFL 41; UC Santa Cruz. May 5, 2023.

2023   Roversi, Giovanni. 2022. *Where can probes be? Evidence from asymmetric adjectival concord.* Invited talk at the NYU LingLunch.

2022   Roversi, Giovanni. 2022. *Possession without possessives (but with verbs): the view from Äiwoo.* Poster presentation given at GLOW 45; Queen Mary University of London, 28 April 2022.

2022   Sebastian Sauppe, Åshild Næss, Giovanni Roversi, Martin Meyer, Ina Bornkessel-Schleswesky, Balthasar Bickel. 2022. *The Agent Bias in Comprehension is Robust in an OVS Language, at least for Human Referents: Evidence from Äiwoo (Solomon Islands).* Talk given at HSP 35; UC Santa Cruz. March 24, 2022.

2019   Roversi, Giovanni. 2019. *How to satisfy probes: person/number hierarchy effects in Äiwoo.* Talk given at NELS 50; MIT (Cambridge, MA; USA), 25 November 2019.

2019   Roversi, Giovanni. 2019. *A complex verb complex: templatic morphology and affix order in Äiwoo.* Talk given at APLL 11; Leiden University (Netherlands), 13 June 2019.

2018   Roversi, Giovanni. 2018. *Dislocation types in Emilian.* Talk given at ConSOLE 26; UCL (London; UK), 15 February 2018.

2017   Roversi, Giovanni. 2017. *Dislocation types in Emilian.* Talk given at StuTS 62; Radboud Universiteit (Nijmegen; Netherlands), 24 November 2017.

Academic employment

Teaching experience (MIT)

2023   TA in 24.952 (graduate) – Advanced Syntax. Instructors: Danny Fox and Dmitry Privoznov.

2022   TA in 24.951 (graduate) – Introduction to Syntax. Instructors: Ksenia Ershova and David Pesetsky.

2021   TA in 24.902 (undergraduate) – Language and its structure II: Syntax. Instructor: David Pesetsky.

Teaching experience (University of Oslo)

2020 Lecturer in ENG1103 English Phonetics and Intonation; spring semester.

2019–2020 Lecturer in NORINT0114 Norwegian language for international student); Fall, spring, and summer semesters.

2019 Lecturer in EXFAC03-SPR Introduction to Linguistics; fall semester. Specifically, I taught classes related to language typology, language change and language variation.

Research assistantships

2018 Research assistant for Åshild Næss, University of Oslo.

2018–2019 Research assistant for Sebastian Sauppe, University of Zürich; in connection to the project "Ergativity in comprehension and production: language typology and processing".

Service

2024 Co-organizer of NELS 54 (North East Linguistics Society), MIT.

2019 Co-organizer of GLOW 42 (Generative Linguistics in the Old World), University of Oslo.

Fieldwork experience

2023– Äiwoo (Austronesian; Solomon Islands)

2021–2023 Passamaquoddy (Algonquian; USA and Canada)

2022 Kabyle (Berber; Algeria)

2021 North Sámi (Uralic; Northern Scandinavia)

2015 Emilian (regional Northern Italian variety)

Other skills

Languages: Italian (native), English (fluent), Norwegian (near-native; specifically, Northern Norwegian).

Coding: Python, pytorch, GitHub.

Software: Good knowledge of LATEX.

Good knowledge of FLEx (Fieldworks Language Explorer; software for managing linguistic data, interlinear annotation, morphosyntactic analysis, lexicons, etc.).

Basic knowledge of Audacity (audio editing).

Basic knowledge of Adobe InDesign.

• Last updated: September 9, 2025 •