

## **Studying Language Evolution in the Lab**

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What are the social, environmental, and cognitive pressures that shape the evolution of language in our species, as well as its ongoing change? And why are there so many different languages in the world? How did this astonishing linguistic diversity come about?

These are some of the most interesting questions in the fields of cognitive science and linguistics, and represent the range of topics covered by my research so far. My goal is to shed light on the communicative pressures and socio-cognitive constraints that give rise to language evolution in our species, and to identify the cross-cultural and environmental factors that lead to language variation over time.

In this talk, I will provide an overview of my research (including methods and results from selected projects), as well as present future directions and ongoing work.