

Debopam Das

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CURRENT POSITION

Aug 2018 – Present Postdoctoral researcher (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Oct 2016 – Dec 2018 Postdoctoral researcher (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), University of Potsdam, Germany
Jan 2015 – Aug 2016 Sessional Instructor, Simon Fraser University, Canada

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

Discourse Analysis Explicit and implicit coherence relations, signalling in discourse, discourse markers, continuity in discourse, discourse parsing, sentiment analysis
Corpus Linguistics Corpus annotation, corpus development, annotation evaluation
Lexicography Discourse connective lexicons, bilingual dictionaries, translation of technical terms
Theoretical Frameworks Rhetorical Structure Theory, PDTB, Appraisal Theory, Systemic Functional Linguistics

EDUCATION

2009 – 2014 Simon Fraser University, Canada
Ph.D., Linguistics (2014)
Dissertation Topic: Signalling of Coherence Relations in Discourse
Thesis Supervisors: Dr. Paul McFetridge and Dr. Maite Taboada

2000 – 2007 University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India
M.A., Linguistics (2007)
B.A. Hons., English Literature and Language (2004)

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Das, Debopam, & Egg, Markus, (in preparation). Continuity in discourse.
- Egg, Markus, Roberts, Will, & Das, Debopam. (under review). Reliability of discourse relations. *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics*.
- Egg, Markus, & Das, Debopam. (to appear). Signalling Conditional Relations. *Linguistics Vanguard* (Special issue: *Natural Language Conditionals and Conditional Reasoning*).
- Das, Debopam, & Taboada, Maite. (2019). Multiple signals of coherence relations. *Discours*, 24 (online).
- Das, Debopam, & Taboada, Maite. (2018). RST Signalling Corpus: A corpus of signals of coherence relations. *Language Resources & Evaluation*, 52(1), 149-184.
- Das, Debopam, & Taboada, Maite. (2018). Signalling of Coherence Relations in Discourse, Beyond Discourse Markers. *Discourse Processes*, 55(8), 743-770.
- Trnavac, Radoslava, Das, Debopam, & Taboada, Maite. (2016). Discourse relations and evaluation. *Corpora*, 11(2), 169-190.
- Taboada, Maite, & Das, Debopam. (2013). Annotation upon annotation: Adding signalling information to a corpus of discourse relations. *Dialogue and Discourse*, 4(2), 249-281.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

- Das, Debopam, Stede, Manfred, Ghosh, Soumya Sankar, & Chatterjee, Lahari. (2020). DiMLex-Bangla: A Lexicon of Bangla Discourse Connectives. *In proceedings of the LREC 2020*, Online.

- Das, Debopam (2019). Nuclearity in RST and signals of coherence relations. *In proceedings of the workshop on Discourse Relation Parsing and Treebanking (NAACL 2019)*, Minneapolis, USA.
- Scheffler, Tatjana, Aktaş, Berfin, Das, Debopam, & Stede, Manfred. (2019). Annotating Shallow Discourse Relations in Twitter Conversations. *In proceedings of the workshop on Discourse Relation Parsing and Treebanking (NAACL 2019)*, Minneapolis, USA.
- Das, Debopam, Scheffler, Tatjana, Bourgonje, Peter, & Stede, Manfred. (2018). Constructing a Lexicon of English Discourse Connectives. *In proceedings of the SIGDIAL 2018*, Melbourne, Australia.
- Das, Debopam. (2018). Discourse Segmentation in Bangla. *In proceedings of the 4th workshop on Indian Language Data: Resources and Evaluation (LREC 2018)*, Miyazaki, Japan.
- Das, Debopam, & Stede, Manfred. (2018). Developing the Bangla RST Discourse Treebank. *In proceedings of the LREC 2018*, Miyazaki, Japan.
- Das, Debopam, Taboada, Maite, & Stede, Manfred. (2017). The Good, the Bad, and the Disagreement: Complex ground truth in rhetorical structure analysis. *In proceedings of the 6th Workshop on Recent Advances in RST and Related Formalisms (EMNLP 2017)*, Santiago de Compostela, Spain.
- Das, Debopam, & Taboada, Maite. (2013). Explicit and Implicit Coherence Relations: A Corpus Study. *In proceedings of the Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA) Conference*, University of Victoria, Canada.
- Das, Debopam. (2012). Investigating the Role of Discourse Markers in Signalling Coherence Relations: A Corpus Study. *In proceedings of the 28th Northwest Linguistics Conference*, University of Washington, Seattle, USA.
- Das, Debopam. (2010). The Uses and Distribution of Non-progressive Verbs in Progressive Forms in English: A Corpus-based Study. *In proceedings of the 26th Northwest Linguistics Conference*, Simon Fraser University, Canada.

TECHNICAL REPORTS

- Stede, Manfred, & Das, Debopam. (2018). *Bangla RST Discourse Treebank: Annotation Guidelines*. Manuscript. University of Potsdam, Germany.
- Stede, Manfred, Taboada, Maite, & Das, Debopam. (2017). *Annotation Guidelines for Rhetorical Structure*. Manuscript. University of Potsdam, Germany and Simon Fraser University, Canada.
- Das, Debopam. (2010). *Computational Analysis of Text Sentiment: A Report on Extracting Contextual Information about the Occurrence of Discourse Markers*. Technical Report, *Computational Analysis of Text Sentiment*, Simon Fraser University, Canada.

CORPORA

- Das, Debopam, & Stede, Manfred (partially completed). *The Bangla RST Discourse Treebank*. University of Potsdam & Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany.
- Das, Debopam, Taboada, Maite, & McFetridge, Paul. (2015). *RST Signalling Corpus*, LDC2015T10 (<https://catalog.ldc.upenn.edu/LDC2015T10>). Distributed through the Linguistic Data Consortium.

LEXICONS

- Das, Debopam, Ghosh, Soumya Sankar, & Chatterjee, Lahari (2018). *DiMLex-Bangla: A lexicon of Bangla discourse connective*. University of Potsdam, Germany.
- Das, Debopam, Scheffler, Tatjana, Bourgonje, Peter, & Stede, Manfred (2018). *DiMLex-Eng: A lexicon of English discourse connective*. University of Potsdam, Germany.

DISSERTATION

- Das, Debopam. (2014). *Signalling of Coherence Relations in Discourse*. Ph.D. dissertation, Simon Fraser University, Canada.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aug 2021 | Continuative and Contrastive Discourse Relations across Discourse Domains: Cognitive and Cross-Linguistic Approaches (workshop at the 54th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea). Online. Das, D. & Egg, M. (2021) Continuity in discourse: A case study on causal and contrastive relations. |
| Feb 2021 | The Semantics and Pragmatics of Conditional Connectives (workshop at the 43rd Annual Conference of the DGfS). Online. Egg, M. & Das, D. (2021) Signalling Conditional Relations. |
| Sept 2019 | XPrag workshop on Contrasting Underspecification and Overspecification of Discourse Relations. ZAS Berlin, Germany. Das, D. & Egg, M. (2019) Caught in the middle with you: Between under- and overspecification of discourse relations. |

- June 2019 The Workshop on Discourse Relation Parsing and Treebanking 2019. Minneapolis, USA. Das, D. (2019) Nuclearity in RST and signals of coherence relations.
- June 2019 The Workshop on Discourse Relation Parsing and Treebanking 2019. Minneapolis, USA. Das, D. (2019) Annotating Shallow Discourse Relations in Twitter Conversations.
- May 2018 The workshop on Implicit and explicit marking of discourse relations: the comparison between causals and conditionals. Osnabrück University, Germany. Das, D. (2018) Multiple Signals of Coherence Relations.
- May 2018 The 4th Workshop on Indian Language Data: Resources and Evaluation (WILDRE-4). Miyazaki, Japan. Das, D. (2018) Discourse Segmentation in Bangla.
- May 2018 The LREC 2018. Miyazaki, Japan. Das, D. (2018) Developing the Bangla RST Discourse Treebank.
- Sept 2017 The 6th Workshop on Recent Advances in RST and Related Formalisms. Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Das, D. (2017) The Good, the Bad, and the Disagreement: Complex ground truth in rhetorical structure analysis.
- July 2013 2013 LACUS Conference. Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, New York, USA. Das, D. (2013) Signalling Subject Matter and Presentational Coherence Relations in Discourse: A Corpus Study.
- June 2013 Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA) Conference. University of Victoria, Canada. Das, D. (2013) Explicit and Implicit Coherence Relations: A Corpus Study.
- April 2012 2012 Northwest Linguistics Conference. University of Washington, Seattle, USA. Das, D. (2012) Investigating the Role of Discourse Markers in Signalling Coherence Relations: A Corpus Study.
- May 2010 26th Northwest Linguistics Conference. Simon Fraser University, Canada. Das, D. (2010) The Uses and Distribution of Non-progressive Verbs in Progressive Forms in English: A Corpus-based Study.
- Oct 2008 30th All India Conference of Linguists, Deccan College Post-Graduate & Research Institute, Pune, India. Das, D. (2008) Technical Terms and Vernacular: Some Notes on Linguistic Terminology in Bangla.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

| Project | PI | Institution | Duration |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Continuity in discourse | Dr. Debopam Das Dr. Markus Egg | Humboldt University of Berlin | Nov 2020 – Present |
| Bangla RST Discourse Treebank | Dr. Debopam Das Dr. Markus Egg | Humboldt University of Berlin | Aug 2018 – Present |
| Bangla Discourse Connective Lexicon | Dr. Debopam Das | University of Potsdam | Jan 2018 – Nov 2018 |
| Bangla RST Discourse Treebank | Dr. Debopam Das Dr. Manfred Stede | University of Potsdam | Jun 2017 – Jul 2018 |
| Underspecification and RST | Dr. Manfred Stede | University of Potsdam | Oct 2016 – Sept 2017 |
| Coherence relations and appraisal | Dr. Maite Taboada | Simon Fraser University | Sept 2014 – Aug 2016 |
| Signalling of coherence relations in discourse | Dr. Paul McFetridge Dr. Maite Taboada | Simon Fraser University | Sept 2009 – Aug 2014 |
| Computational analysis of text sentiment | Dr. Maite Taboada | Simon Fraser University | Sept 2009 – Dec 2012 |
| Multilingual dictionary from parallel corpora | Dr. Maite Taboada | Simon Fraser University | Jan 2011 – Apr 2011 |
| A modern dictionary for readers with vernacular different than Bengali | Dr. Pabitra Sarkar | The Asiatic Society, India | Jan 2009 – Jul 2009 |
| Defining key concepts in linguistics: A bilingual approach with text-machine interface | Dr. Krishna Bhattacharya | University of Calcutta, India | Aug 2007 – Dec 2008 |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

| Position | Course | Terms |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Humboldt University of Berlin</i> | | |
| Instructor | Discourse Structure and Processing | 2021-2022 (Winter) |
| Instructor | Pragmatics | 2018-2019 (Winter) – (2021 Summer) |
| <i>University of Potsdam</i> | | |
| Instructor | Coherence Relations | 2018 (Summer), 2017 (Summer) |
| | Human Discourse Processing | 2018 (Summer), 2017 (Summer) |

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Foundations of Linguistics | 2017-2018 (Winter), 2016-2017 (Winter) |
| | Introduction to Discourse Analysis | 2017-2018 (Winter), 2016-2017 (Winter) |
| Simon Fraser University | | |
| Sessional Instructor | LING 100: Communication and Language | 2015 (Spring, Summer), 2016 (Summer) |
| | LING 160: Language, Culture and Society | 2015 (Fall) |
| Teaching Assistant | LING 482: Discourse Analysis | 2012 (Fall) |
| | LING 301: Linguistic Argumentation | 2013 (Spring) |
| Teaching Marker | LING 220: Introduction to Linguistics | 2012 (Fall), 2014 (Fall) |
| | LING 323: Morphology | 2010 (Summer) |
| | LING 321: Phonology | 2010 (Fall), 2011 (Summer), 2014 (Summer) |
| | LING 222: Introduction to Syntax | 2011 (Spring, Summer, Fall), 2013 (Spring) |
| | LING 221: Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology | 2010 (Fall), 2011 (Spring) |
| | LING 200: Introduction to the Description of English Grammar | 2013 (Summer), 2014 (Summer) |
| | LING 110: The Wonder of Words | 2010 (Spring, Summer, Fall), 2011 (Spring, Summer, Fall), 2012 (Spring, Summer), 2013 (Fall), 2014 (Spring) |
| | LING 100: Communication and Language | 2014 (Spring, Summer) |

THESES SUPERVISION

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Sept, 2017 – Dec, 2017 | Sebastian Golly | Bachelor's thesis | Co-supervisor | University of Potsdam |
| Sept, 2017 – Oct, 2017 | Danny Belitz | Bachelor's thesis | Co-supervisor | University of Potsdam |

AWARDS AND HONORS

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Graduate Fellowship, Dean of Graduate Studies, SFU | 2014 (Spring), 2012 (Fall, Spring) |
| Community Trust Endowment Fund Graduate Fellowship, SFU | 2014 (Spring), 2009 & 2011 (Fall) |
| Travel and Minor Research Award, Dean of Graduate Studies, SFU | 2013 (Fall) |
| Graduate Student Research Award (GSRA), Dean of Graduate Studies, SFU | 2013 (Summer) |
| President's PhD Scholarship, Dean of Graduate Studies, SFU | 2013 (Spring) |
| Winner of the Three Minute Thesis Competition, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, SFU | 2013 |
| People's Choice Winner of the Three Minute Thesis Competition, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, SFU | 2013 |

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

SERVICE

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| Nov, 2016 – Nov, 2017 | Habilitation Colloquium Committee of Dr. Alexander Geyken, University of Potsdam |
| Jan, 2014 – Aug, 2014 | Manager, Discourse Research Group, Dept. of Linguistics, SFU |
| Jan, 2012 – Aug, 2014 | Treasurer, Linguistics Graduate Studies Association, SFU |
| Fall, 2009 – Fall, 2011 | Member, Colloquium Committee, Dept. of Linguistics, SFU |

REVIEWING

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|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Journals | Pragmatics, Dialogue and Discourse, Current Psychology, Discourse Processes, Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic Theory, Corpus Pragmatics, International Journal of Corpus Linguistics, Language Resource and Evaluation Journal, Linguistics Vanguard, Semantic Web Journal |
| Conferences | EACL 2021 Conference, COLING 2020 Conference, STARSEM 2020 Conference, ACL 2020 Conference, LREC 2020 Conference, DISRPT (RST workshop 2019) |

ORGANIZER

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|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Organizer | Explicit and implicit relations: Different, but how exactly? | Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany | Jan 17-18, 2020 |
| Co-organizer | DISRPT – Discourse Relation Parsing and Treebanking (7th Workshop on Rhetorical Structure Theory and Related Formalisms) | Minneapolis, USA | June 6, 2019 |

WORKSHOPS

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|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Participant | Moderating Masterclass: Key skills in English for chairpersons, moderators and discussion leaders | Potsdam Graduate School, Potsdam | March 22-23, 2018 |
| Participant | International Teaching Professional Program | Potsdam Graduate School, Potsdam | Aug, 2017 – Nov, 2018 |
| Instructor | Practice Session for 2013 North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO) | Simon Fraser University, Canada | Jan 19, 2013 |
| Participant | Workshops for instructors in writing courses | Simon Fraser University, Canada | Oct 10 & Nov 6, 2012 |

LANGUAGES

Bangla (native), English (fluent), Hindi (fluent), German (beginner), Spanish (beginner)

REFERENCES

Dr. Markus Egg
Professor, Department of English and American Studies,
Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany
markus.egg@cms.hu-berlin.de

Dr. Manfred Stede
Professor, Department of Linguistics
University of Potsdam, Potsdam,
Germany
stede@uni-potsdam.de

Dr. Maite Taboada
Professor, Department of Linguistics
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby,
Canada
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