

MEGHA SUNDARA

Contact information

UCLA Department of Linguistics
 3125 Campbell Hall
 Los Angeles, CA 90095-1543
 Email: megha.sundara@humnet.ucla.edu
 Phone: 310-825-0041
 Fax: 310-206-5743

Employment

2022-28	Chair, Department of Linguistics, UCLA
2021-22	Vice Chair of Undergraduate Studies, UCLA
2017-	Professor, Department of Linguistics, UCLA
2011	Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics, UCLA
2007	Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, UCLA
2007	Visiting Fellow, MARCS Auditory laboratory, University of Western Sydney, Australia (summer)
2005-07	Research Associate, Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle

Education

2005	Ph.D. (Communication Sciences & Disorders, Language Acquisition Option) McGill University, Montreal
1997	M.Sc. (Speech Pathology & Audiology) All India Institute of Speech & Hearing, Mysore, India
1995	B.Sc. (Speech Pathology & Audiology) All India Institute of Speech & Hearing (AIISH), Mysore, India

Clinical Certification

2000	SLP (C) CASLPA certified
1999	AUD (C) CASLPA certified

Professional Affiliations

Acoustical Society of America (ASA)
 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
 Canadian Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA)
 International Congress on Infant Studies (ICIS)

Editorial Service

Member of the Editorial Board, *Cambridge Elements in First Language Acquisition*, forthcoming
 Member of the Editorial Board, *Journal of South Asian Linguistics*, 2016-

Member of the Editorial Board, *Language Acquisition*, 2011-
Associate Editor, *Journal of Acoustical Society of America*, 2016-2022
Associate Editor, *Journal of Speech Language & Hearing Research*, 2011-2015

Reviewer

Journals: American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology, Applied Psycholinguistics, Bilingualism: Language & Cognition; Brain & Language, Cerebral Cortex, Child Development, Cognition, Developmental Psychology, Developmental Science, Infancy, Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, Journal of Child Language, Journal of IPA, Journal of Memory & Language, Journal of Phonetics, Language Acquisition, Language & Speech, Language Learning, Language Learning & Development, Open Mind, PLOSOne

Grants: ASHA Projects on Multicultural Activities, Agence Nationale de la Recherche, The Leverhulme trust, UK, National Science Foundation, NSF Dissertation Award, NWO Veni program, Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, US-Israel Binational Science Foundation; NSF Linguistics panel; NSF Linguistics DDRI panel; Israel Science Foundation

Conferences: Annual convention of ASHA; 7th & 9th International Symposium on Bilingualism, Society for Research on Child Development, Utrecht Institute; West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, Labphon

Extramural grants

- 2025-27 *Specificity and generalization in biphone-based learning in speech perception* (PI: Jeremy Steffman, University of Edinburgh), BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grants, £8,618
- 2022-26 *A new approach to computational model evaluation: Benchmarking against infant experimental data* (Co-PI: Connor Mayer, UC Irvine), NSF BCS-2214017 \$550,000
- 2020-24 *Morphological acquisition in early infancy: Experimental and computational studies* (Co-PI: Bruce Hayes, UCLA), NSF BCS-2028034 \$450,320
- 2018-20 *The perception of acoustic-phonetic cues and its impact on speech category learning* (Co-PI: Meng Yang), NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant
- 2010-14 *Development of native language preference: Behavioral and physiological indices*, NSF BCS-0951639 \$402,640
- 2012-14 *The role of visual cues in imitating a new sound*, (Co-PI: Nancy Ward) NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant
- 2010-12 *Development of phonotactic knowledge in infancy*, (Co-PI: Victoria Thatte) NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant

Intramural grants

- 2025 *Spanish Language Acquisition: A transnational collaboration*. UCLA Global Research Grant (PIs Victoria Mateu, Megha Sundara), \$50,000
- 2025 *A community-centered approach to supporting dual language learning*. UCLA Social Impact Collaborative Seed Grant (PIs Victoria Mateu, Megha Sundara), \$50,000
- 2024 *Diversifying language development research in Los Angeles: Learning Spanish and English in children from 0-6*, UCLA Social Impact Collaborative Exploratory Grant (PIs Victoria Mateu, Laurel Perkins), \$10,000

- 2019-20 *Automatic skills-based grading and skills tracking in CCLE*. Instructional Improvement Grant, \$18,790
- 2019-20 *How do infants learn the permissible sequences of their language?* UCLA COR \$8,717
- 2018-19 *The role of phonotactics in the learning of morphology*, UCLA COR \$9,607
- 2016-17 *What do infants know about verbs?* UCLA COR \$7,500
- 2015-16 *English learning infants' perception of boundary tones*. UCLA COR \$9,396
- 2014-15 *How detailed are adults' representation of newly segmented words?* UCLA COR \$9,300
- 2013-14 *Variation in infant-directed speech*. UCLA COR \$7,782
- 2012-13 *Role of assimilation in word recognition by infants*. UCLA COR \$5,000
- 2011-12 *Segmentation of Spanish words by English-learning infants*. UCLA COR \$4,500
- 2009-10 *Development of speech perception in bilingual infants*. UCLA COR \$8,534
- 2008-09 *Discrimination of languages: Infant and adult data*. UCLA COR \$5,000
- Language development in Spanish-learning infants*. UCLA International Institute Faculty Research Award \$3,000
- 2006-07 *Native language attunement by infants with hearing loss*. (Co-PI Christine Kitamura, MARCS). International Research Initiatives Scheme, University of Western Sydney AU\$16,500
- 2004-05 *Critical periods for speech perception: fMRI in monolingual and bilingual subjects*. (Co-PI Denise Klein, Montreal Neurological Institute) CND\$12,160

Awards

- 2019 Society for Improvement of Psychological Science Mission Award for improving psychological science in the face of challenge, as contributor to the ManyBabies1 Collaboration
- 2010 Certificate for Excellence in Mentoring in the Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program
- 2005 Dean's Honors List for Outstanding Dissertation, McGill University
- 2001 Best Student Paper in Speech Communication, 142nd Meeting of Acoustical Society of America
- NSSLHA/ The Psychological Corporation Award, 2001 ASHA Convention
- 1998 President's Best Paper Award, 6th National Conference on Biomechanics

Publications (* indicates a graduate student and ** indicates an undergraduate student co-author)

Under revision

Sundara, M., Breiss, C.M., Dickson, N., & Mayer, C. What's in a 5-month-old's proto-lexicon? *Developmental Science*, Special Issue on *Computing Development: Computational Approaches to Understanding Development*

Sundara, M., & Breiss, C. How infants learn segmental phonotactics in their native language: Integrating insights from machine learning and adult and infant experiments. *Cognition*

Yu, K., Khan, S.D., & **Sundara, M.** (accepted with minor revisions). Intonational phonology in Bengali and English infant-directed speech: Linking f0 range expansion, lengthening and predictability. *Languages*. Special Issue on *Advances in the Acquisition of Prosody*

Steffman, J., & **Sundara, M.** Does perceptual learning of segmental phonotactics generalize across talkers? *Journal of Memory and Language*

Under review

- **Charan, D., Mateu, V., & **Sundara, M.** English-learning children's use of resyllabification to repair vowel-initial words. *Journal of Child Language*
- Peperkamp, S. & **Sundara, M.** Reassessing the labial-coronal asymmetry in infants' discrimination of medial consonants. *Language Development Research*
- *Narkar, J., *Aly, A., **Jacobson, S. & Sundara, M. Bootstrapping prosodic primitives from infant-directed speech. *Laboratory Phonology*

Journal Articles

- *Liang, K., & **Sundara M.** (2025). Infants discover English suffixes allomorph by allomorph. *Journal of Child Language*, 1-10. doi:10.1017/S0305000925100160
- Mayer, C., **Kondur, A., & **Sundara, M.** (2025). The UCI Phonotactic Calculator: An online tool for computing phonotactic metrics. *Behavioral Research Methods, Instruments and Computers*, 57 (218), 1-17. doi.org/10.3758/s13428-025-02725-z
- Sundara, M.**, & Frota, S. (2025). English-learning infants' developing sensitivity to intonational contours. *Languages*, 10(7), 148. Special Issue on *Advances in the Acquisition of Prosody*, <https://doi.org/10.3390/languages10070148>
- Breiss, C.M., Hayes, B.P., **Sundara M.**, & Johnson, M.E. (2025). Modeling how suffixes are learned in infancy. *Cognitive Science*, 49(3), e70047. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cogs.70047>
- *Solá-Llonch, E., & **Sundara, M.** (2025). Young infants' sensitivity to vowel harmony is independent of language experience. *Infant Behavior and Development*, 78, 102032
- *Jo, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2024). Remote collection of language samples from 3-year-olds. *Journal of Child Language*, 1–14. Advance online publication. doi.org/10.1017/S0305000924000643
- *Jo, J., **Sundara, M.**, Breiss, C. (2024). Predicting language outcomes at age 3 using individual differences in morphological segmentation in infancy. *Infant Behavior and Development*, 77, 102001, doi.org/10.1016/j.infbeh.2024.102001
- Katsuda, H. & **Sundara, M.** (2024). English-learning infants developing sensitivity to vowel phonotactic cues to word segmentation. *Developmental Science*, e13564. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13564>
- Mateu, V., & **Sundara, M.** (2024). Constraints on acceleration in bilingual development: Evidence from word segmentation by Spanish-learning infants. *Behavioral Sciences*, 14(2), 108. doi.org/10.3390/bs14020108
- Steffman, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2024). Disentangling the role of biphone probability from neighborhood density in the perception of nonwords. *Language & Speech*, 67 (1), 166-202 doi: 10.1177/00238309231164982
- *Xu, L., *Solá-Llonch, E., *Wang, H., & **Sundara, M.** (2023). A meta-analytic review of morphological priming in Semitic languages. *Mental Lexicon*, 18(2), 300-337 <https://doi.org/10.1075/ml.00024.xu>
- Steffman, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2023). Short-term exposure alters adult listeners' perception of segmental phonotactics. *JASA-Express Letters*, 1;3(12): 125202. doi: [10.1121/10.0023900](https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0023900)
- *Khlystova, E., Chong, A.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2023). Phonetic variation in English infant-directed speech: A large-scale corpus analysis. *Journal of Phonetics*, 100, 101267. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wocn.2023.101267>

- Sundara, M., *Zhou, Z.L., *Breiss, C., *Katsuda, H., & *Steffman, J. (2022).** Infants' developing sensitivity to native language phonotactics: A meta-analysis. *Cognition*, 221, 104993
- Mateu, V.E. & **Sundara, M.** (2022). Spanish input accelerates bilingual infants' segmentation of English words. *Cognition*, 218, 104936 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2021.104936>
- Byers-Heinlein, K., Tsui, A. S. M., Bergmann, C., Black, A. K., Brown, A., Carbajal, M. J., Durrant, S., Fennell, C. T., Fiévet, A.-C., Frank, M. C., Gampe, A., Gervain, J., Gonzalez-Gomez, N., Hamlin, J. K., Havron, N., Hernik, M., Kerr, S., Killam, H., Klassen, K., ... Wermelinger, S. (2021). A multilab study of bilingual infants: Exploring the preference for infant-directed speech. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2515245920974622>
- Kim, Y. J., & **Sundara, M.** (2021). 6-month-olds are sensitive to English morphology. *Developmental Science*, 24, 4, e13089. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13089>
- Sundara, M.,** White, J., Kim, Y.J. & Chong, A.J. (2021) Stem similarity modulates infants' acquisition of phonological alternations. *Cognition*, 209, 104573
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2020.104573>
- Faytak, M., **Liu, S. & **Sundara, M.** (2020). Nasal coda neutralization in Shanghai Mandarin: Articulatory and perceptual evidence. *Laboratory Phonology*, 11(1):23, 1-29.
- The ManyBabies Consortium (2020). Quantifying sources of variability in infancy research using the infant-directed speech preference. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, 3 (1), 24-52. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2515245919900809>
- Sundara, M.,** Ward, N., Conboy, B., & Kuhl, P. (2020). Exposure to a second language in infancy alters speech production. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, 23(5), 978-991.
doi:10.1017/S1366728919000853
- *Yang, M., & **Sundara, M.** (2019) Cue-shifting between acoustic cues: Evidence for directional asymmetry. *Journal of Phonetics*, 75, 27-42.
- *Chong, A., & *Vicenik, C. & **Sundara, M.** (2018). Intonation plays a role in language discrimination in infancy. *Infancy*, 23(6), 795-819.
- Sundara, M.,** *Mateu, V.E. (2018). Lexical stress constrains English-learning infants' segmentation in a non-native language. *Cognition*, 181, 105-116. doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2018.08.013.
- Sundara, M.,** Ngon, C., Skoruppa, K., Feldman, N. H., Onario, G. M., Morgan, J. L., & Peperkamp, S. (2018). Young infants' discrimination of subtle phonetic contrasts. *Cognition*, 178, 57-66.
doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2018.05.009
- Sundara, M.** (2018). Why do children pay more attention to grammatical morphemes at the ends of sentences? *Journal of Child Language*, 45(3), 703-716.
doi.org/10.1017/S0305000917000356
- Polka, L., Orena, A.J., **Sundara, M.,** & Worrall, J. (2017). Segmenting words from fluent speech in infancy: Challenges and opportunities in the bilingual context. *Developmental Science*, Jan;20(1). doi: 10.1111/desc.12419.
- Hendrickson, K. & **Sundara, M.** (2017). Fourteen-month-olds' decontextualized understanding of words for absent objects. *Journal of Child Language*, 44(1), 239-254.
- *Kim, Y.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2015). Segmentation of vowel-initial words is facilitated by function words. *Journal of Child Language* 42(4), 709-733.
- *White, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2014). Biased generalization of newly learned phonological alternations by 12-month-old infants. *Cognition* 133(1), 85-90.

- Nazzi, T., Mersad, K., **Sundara, M.**, Yakimova, G., & Polka, L. (2014). Early word segmentation in infants acquiring Parisian French: task dependent and dialect specific aspects. *Journal of Child Language*, 41(3), 600-633.
- *Vicenik, C. & **Sundara, M.** (2013). The role of rhythm and intonation in language and dialect discrimination by adults. *Journal of Phonetics*, 41(5), 297-306.
- Polka, L., & **Sundara, M.** (2012). Word segmentation in monolingual infants acquiring Canadian-English and Canadian-French: Native language, cross-language and cross-dialect comparisons. *Infancy*, 17(2), 198-232.
- Nazzi, T., Goyet, L., **Sundara, M.**, & Polka, L. (2012). Différences linguistiques et dialectales dans la mise en place des procédures de segmentation de la parole. *Enfance*, 64(2), 127-146.
- Sundara, M.**, & Scutellaro, A. (2011). Rhythmic distance between languages affects the development of speech perception in bilingual infants. *Journal of Phonetics*, 39(4), 505-513.
- Sundara, M.**, Demuth, K. & Kuhl, P.K. (2011). Sentence-position effects on children's comprehension & production of English 3rd person singular –s. *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*, 54, 55-71.
- Ilari, B., & **Sundara, M.** (2009). Music listening preferences in early life: Infants' response to accompanied versus unaccompanied singing. *Journal of Research in Music Education*, 56, 357-369.
- Song, J.Y., **Sundara, M.** & Demuth, K. (2009). Effects of phonology on children's production of English 3rd person singular –s. *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*, 52(3), 623-642.
- Sundara, M.**, Polka, L. & Molnar, M. (2008). Development of coronal stop perception: Bilingual infants keep pace with their monolingual peers. *Cognition*, 108(1), 232-242.
doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2007.12.013
- Sundara, M.** & Polka, L. (2008). Discrimination of coronal stops by bilingual adults: The timing and nature of language interaction. *Cognition*, 106(1), 234-258.
- Sundara, M.**, Polka, L. & Baum, S. (2006). Production of coronal stops by adult simultaneous bilinguals. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, 9(1), 97-114.
- Sundara, M.**, Polka, L. & Genesee, F. (2006). Language-experience facilitates discrimination of /d-ð/ in monolingual and bilingual acquisition of English. *Cognition*, 100(2), 369-388.
- Sundara, M.** (2005). Acoustic-phonetics of coronal stops: A cross-language study of Canadian English & Canadian French. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 118(2), 1026-1037.
- Sundara, M.**, Namasivayam, A. K. & Chen, R. (2001). Observation-execution matching system for speech: A magnetic stimulation study. *NeuroReport*, 12(7), 1341-1344.
- Polka, L., Colantonio, C. & **Sundara, M.** (2001). Cross-language perception of /d – ð/: Evidence for a new developmental pattern. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 109(5), 2190-2200.

Refereed Proceedings

- *Abbas, A., *Xu, L., & **Sundara, M.** (2025). Morphological Structure in the Arabic Mental Lexicon: Productivity and Priming Effects in Nominal and Verbal Patterns. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 47. Retrieved from
<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/8qq2n6sd>

- Sundara, M.**, Molnar, M., Frota, S. (2015). The perception of boundary tones in infancy. Presented at ICPhS, Glasgow. Published in The Scottish Consortium for ICPhS 2015 (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Glasgow, UK: University of Glasgow. 361, 1-4 retrieved from <http://www.icphs2015.info/pdfs/Papers/ICPHS0361.pdf>
- Adani, F., Scutellaro, A., **Sundara, M.**, & Hyams, N. (2015). Online processing of subject and object relative clauses in adults and infants. In Kern, S., Chenu, F., & Gayraud, F. (Eds.) *The role of input in language acquisition*. Cambridge Scholar Publishing.
- *Chong, A.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2016). Perceptual similarity modulates online compensation for phonological variation. In the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting on Phonology 2.
- *Chong, A.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2015). 18-month-olds compensate for a phonological alternation. Presented & Published in Grillo, E., & Jepson, K. (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 39th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development*, 113-126.
- Yu, K., Khan, S.D., & **Sundara, M.** (2014). Intonational phonology in Bengali and English infant-directed speech. In N. Campbell, D. Gibbon & D. Hirst (Eds.) *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 7*. 1130-1133
- Sundara, M.** (2003) Can adult phonetic categories be predicted from statistical distribution alone? Presented at ICPhS, Barcelona Aug 3-9th. Published in Solé, M. J., Recasens, D., Romero, J. (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 15th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 2329-2332.
- Polka, L. & **Sundara, M.** (2003) Word segmentation in monolingual and bilingual infant learners of English and French. Presented at ICPhS, Barcelona Aug 3-9th. Published in Solé, M. J., Recasens, D., Romero, J. (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 15th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, 1021-1024.
- Aravind, N., Saoji, A., & **Sundara, M.** (1998) Frequency specificity of the medial efferent system in Pardasani, K. R. (Ed.) *Advances in Biomechanics: Proceedings of the Sixth National Conference*, MACT Press, Bhopal, 231-236.

Book chapters

- Sundara, M.**, (2024). The speech perception of bilingual infants. In Amengual, M. (Ed.) *The Cambridge Handbook of Bilingual Phonetics and Phonology*, Cambridge University Press, Boston: MA.
- Sundara, M.** (2022). Development of speech perception and production in bilingual preverbal infants. In Goldstein, B. (Ed.) *Bilingual Language Development in Language Development and Disorders in Spanish-English speakers*, 3rd Edition. Brookes Publishing, Baltimore: MD.

Software

- Mayer, C., Kondur, A., & Sundara, M. (2022). UCI Phonotactic Calculator (Version 0.1.0) [Computer software]. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7443706>

Popular Press & Outreach

- 2025 COSMOS: Preparing the next generation of STEM leaders, Language through the lens of infant acquisition, presentation for High School Students
- 2025 What do 5-month-olds know about language ? Geffen Academy, Middle and High School Students

- 2024 Investigating baby babble and what it can teach us about language. Joint Meeting of Westwood Women's Bruin Club and the Town and Gown Affiliate, Los Angeles
- 2023 Research featured in segment on Weekly Dose of Wonder on NPR « All Things Considered »
- 2023 Interviewed for on NPR Shortwave podcast « Why babies babble and what it can teach adults about language»
- 2021 Interviewed for a piece on infant-directed speech for « Popular Science »
<https://www.popsoci.com/science/baby-talk-language-development/>
- 2021 Interviewed for KNX radio
- 2020 Bruin Families Experience « Out of the mouths of babes »
- 2020 Interviewed for CNN Digital <https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/30/us/sundar-pichai-kamala-harris-names-mispronounced-trnd/index.html>
- May 2012. Polka, Colantonio & Sundara (2001) Featured in Babies and Sound Perception. The Economist retrieved from: <http://www.economist.com/blogs/johnson/2012/05/language-learning?fsrc=scn/fb/wl/bl/babiesandsoundperception>
- *Ward, N., & **Sundara, M.** (2011). Lay language paper for 162nd Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, "Is infants' native language preference in the visual modality guided by speech rhythm?"
- Yu, K.M., Khan, S.D., Cristia, A., Liu, H.-M., **Sundara, M.** (2011). The joint purpose of pitch patterns in "motherese": drawing attention and conveying language structure. ASA Lay Language Papers 162nd Acoustical Society of America Meeting.
- *Ward, N., & **Sundara, M.** (2009). Interviewed for column titled "Babble of baby reveals language skills". Retrieved from <http://www.physorg.com/news176458764.html>
- *Ward, N., & **Sundara, M.** (2009). Lay language paper for 158th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, "Effects of Short-Term Exposure to Spanish on the Babbling of English-Learning Infants". Retrieved from <http://www.acoustics.org/press/158th/ward.htm>
- Sundara, M.** (2009). Interviewed for column titled "So fascinating to watch" in *UCLA College Report*
- Polka, L., & **Sundara, M.** (2003). Interviewed for column titled "Baby Talk" in *Today's Parent*. Retrieved from http://www.todayparent.com/baby/behaviordevelopment/article.jsp?content=20030905_103140_2484&page=1
- Sundara, M.** (2001) From lesion studies to Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation: A journey. *ASHA-Kiran: Newsletter for the Asian-Indian Caucus of American Speech-Language & Hearing Association*

Presentations & Published Abstracts

2021-

- Sundara, M.**, Karaman, F., Katsuda, H. (2025). When transitional probability cues are unreliable, even 5-month-olds rely on phonotactics to segment words! Poster presentation at the 50th *Boston University Conference on Language Development, [BUCLD 50]*.
- **Charan, D., Mateu, V.E., & **Sundara, M.** (2025). Resyllabification as a form of onset repair by English-learning children: A look at production and comprehension. Presentation at the 50th *Boston University Conference on Language Development, [BUCLD 50]*.

- *Chih-Chao Chang, W., Mayer, C., Breiss, C., & **Sundara, M.** (2025). Can prosodic units support phonotactic learning? A computational evaluation against infant behavior. Poster presentation at the 50th *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, [BUCLD 50].
- Peperkamp, S., & Sundara, M. (2025). English and French infants discriminate word medial consonant sequences. Poster presentation at the *Workshop on Infant Language Development*, San Sebastian
- *Abbas, A., *Xu, L., & **Sundara, M.** (2025). Morphological structure in the Arabic mental lexicon: Productivity and priming effects in nominal and verbal patterns. Poster presentation at *CogSci2025*
- *Liang, K., & **Sundara, M.** (2024). The influence of phonotactics on morphological decomposition in infancy. Oral Presentation at 49th *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, [BUCLD 49].
- *Liang, K., & **Sundara, M.** (2024). Phonotactic cues are necessary for infant morphological decomposition. Oral Presentation at *LabPhon19*, Seoul
- Marimon, M., Mateu, V.E. Höhle, B., & **Sundara, M.** (2024). Evidence of word segmentation abilities in German-learning 5- to 6-month-olds. *Workshop on Infant Language Development*, Lisbon
- Marimon, M., Mateu, V.E. Höhle, B., & **Sundara, M.** (2024). Word segmentation abilities in German-learning 5- to 6-month-olds: Evidence from pupillometry. Poster presentation at the *International Congress of Infant Studies*, Glasgow
- Sundara, M.**, & Mateu, V.E. (2024). Spanish-learning infants segment disyllabic verbs at 6-months. Poster presentation at the *XXIV International Congress of Infant Studies*, Glasgow
- *Liang, K., & Sundara, M. (2024). Probing early morphological decomposition: the role of distributional and phonotactic cues. Oral presentation at the *XXIV International Congress of Infant Studies*, Glasgow
- *Khlystova, E. & **Sundara, M.** (2023). The lexical representation of coda /t/ by 14-month-olds. 185th Meeting of the *Acoustic Society of America*, Sydney
- *Solá-Llonch, E. & **Sundara, M.** (2023). Infants' initial sensitivity to vowel harmony is experience independent. Oral presentation at 48th *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, [BUCLD 48].
- Sundara, M.** & **Johnson, M. (2023). Discovering inflectional and derivational suffixes in infancy. Poster presentation at 48th *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, [BUCLD 48].
- Sundara, M.** (2022). Infants bootstrap grammatical categories from morphological suffixes. Oral presentation at 47th *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, [BUCLD 47].
- Katsuda, H., & **Sundara, M.** (2022). Infants' developing sensitivity to vowel phonotactic constraints in English. Poster presentation at the 47th *Boston University Conference on Language Development*, [BUCLD 47].
- *Jo, J., *Breiss, C., & **Sundara, M.** (2022). Verb segmentation in infancy as a predictor of language outcomes in 3-year-olds. Oral presentation at the Biennial Meeting of the *International Congress of Infant Studies*, Ottawa.
- *Katsuda, H., & **Sundara, M.** (2022). 5-month-olds are not (yet) sensitive to vowel phonotactic constraints in English. Poster presentation at the Biennial Meeting of the *International Congress of Infant Studies*, Ottawa.

- *Narkar, J., *Khlystova, E., Mayer, C., Aly, A.M., Kim, J. Y., & **Sundara, M.** (2022). Evaluating the learnability of vowel categories from infant-directed speech. Poster Presentation at the 182nd Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Denver, CO
- *Narkar, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2022). The four-way voicing distinction in Bengali infant-directed speech. Poster presentation at the 182nd Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Denver, CO
- *Khlystova, E., Chong, A.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2021). Quantifying phonetic variation: A large-scale corpus analysis of coronals segments in English infant-directed speech. Poster presentation at the 181st Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Seattle, WA (Abstract in JASA)
- *Khlystova, E., Chong, A.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2021). Phonetic variation in coronals in English infant-directed speech: A large-scale corpus analysis. Poster presentation at the 46th *Boston University Conference on Language Development [BUCLD 46]*.
- Till 2020
- Sundara, M.**, & *Breiss, C. (2020). Infants are sensitive to phonotactic patterns in their native language at 5-months. Oral Presentation at the 45th *Boston University Conference on Language Development [BUCLD 45]*. November 2020.
- **Suyuan, L., Faytak, M. & **Sundara, M.** (2020). Production and perception of the coda nasals in Shanghai Mandarin. *Labphon17*, Vancouver, BC
- Sundara, M.**, & *Breiss, C. (2020). 5-month-olds are sensitive to phonotactic patterns in their native language. *Labphon17*, Vancouver, BC
- Sundara, M.**, & *Breiss, C. (2020). 5-month-olds are sensitive to native language phonotactics. *International Congress of Infant Studies*, Glasgow, Scotland.
- *Steffman, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2019). Biphone probability and neighborhood density effects on phonetic categorization. Poster at the 178th Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, San Diego, CA (Abstract in JASA)
- Sundara, M.** & Mateu, V.E. (2019). Dual language input facilitates English learning infants' word segmentation abilities. Oral Presentation at the 12th meeting of the *International Symposium on Bilingualism*, Edmonton, Alberta.
- Sundara, M.** & Mayer, C. (2018) Modeling developmental changes in infants' discrimination of English vowels. Poster presented at the 43rd *Boston University Conference on Language Development [BUCLD 43]*. November 2018.
- Sundara, M.**, & Mayer, C., (2018). Modeling developmental changes in infants' discrimination of English vowels. Poster presentation at the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Philadelphia
- Lin, I., Chong, A.J., **Sundara, M.** (2018). The extent of variation in the production of coronals in English infant-directed speech. Poster at *LabPhon 16*, Lisbon
- Sundara, M.**, Mayer, C., (2017). Does the developing lexicon constrain infants' discrimination of English vowels? Poster at the 174th Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, New Orleans (Abstract in JASA)
- Aly, A., Jacobson, S., **Sundara, M.** (2016). Levels of prominence in Spanish infant-directed speech. Poster at the 5th Joint Meeting *Acoustical Society of America and Acoustical Society of Japan* Honolulu, Hawaii (Abstract in JASA)
- Sundara, M.**, Molnar, M., & Frota, S. (2016). English learning infants' perception of boundary tones. Poster at the 5th Joint Meeting *Acoustical Society of America and Acoustical Society of Japan* Honolulu, Hawaii (Abstract in JASA)

- Sundara, M.**, Molnar, M., & Frota, S. (2016). The perception of boundary tones in infancy across languages. Oral presentation at the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, New Orleans
- Kim, Y.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2015). *Walk* is in *walks* but not *walked*: 6-mo-olds processing of inflected forms. Presented at the *American International Morphology Meeting 3*, Amherst
- Sundara, M.**, Molnar, M., & Frota, S. (2015). When infants get the question: The development of boundary tone perception. Workshop on Infant Language Development, Stockholm
- Mateu, V.E. & **Sundara, M.** (2015). Cross-linguistic transfer of word segmentation abilities in bilingual infants. Workshop on Infant Language Development, Stockholm
- White, J., Kim, Y., Chong, A.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2015). Phonetic similarity as a bias in infant phonological learning. Workshop on “Universal biases on phonological acquisition and processing” Annual Meeting of the *German Society of Linguistics* (Deutschen Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft), University of Liepzig
- Kim, Y.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2014). 6-month-olds can segment and decompose morphologically-complex words. Poster at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Sundara, M.**, Ngon, C., Skoruppa, K., Feldman, N.H., Onario, G.M., Morgan, J.L., Peperkamp, S. (2014) Young infants’ discrimination of subtle phonetic contrasts. Poster at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- White, J., **Sundara, M.**, Kim, Y.J., Chong, A.J. (2014). Infant learning of phonological alternations is biased by phonetic similarity. Poster at the Workshop on Learning Biases in Natural and Artificial Language Acquisition at the Annual meeting of the *Linguistics Association of Great Britain*
- Chong, A.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2014). Tapping in American English: Context matters. Poster at *LabPhon14*, Tokyo, July 25-27, 2014
- Sundara, M.**, Kim, Y.J., White, J., & Chong, A.J. (2013). There is no *pat* in *patting*: Acquisition of phonological alternations by English-learning 12-mo-olds. Presentation at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Sundara, M.** & Mateu, V.E. (2013). Non-native rhythm does not block word segmentation in infants. Workshop on Infant Language Development, San Sebastian, Spain
- Chong, A.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2013). Allophonic variation and word recognition in 1.5 year-old children. *Linguistics Society of America* Workshop "Variation in the Acquisition of Sound Systems", Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Vogt, H., Zuraw, K., & Sundara, M., (2013). Acquisition of /r/, /l/ and /w/ by monolingual English-speaking children. *Berkeley Interdisciplinary Research Conference*
- White, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2012). Infant biases in the learning of phonological alternations. Presentation at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Hicks, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2012). Children with SLI produce 3rd singular –s constrained by phonology. Poster at the Annual Convention of *American Speech-Language and Hearing Association*, Atlanta
- Ward, N., & **Sundara, M.** (2012). The role of visual cues in imitating an unfamiliar sound. *International Symposium on Imitation and Convergence in Speech*, Aix-en-Provence, France
- Adani, F., Scutellaro, A., **Sundara, M.**, & Hyams, N. (2012). Online processing of subject and object relative clauses by adults and infants. 3rd Conference on *Early Language Acquisition*, Lyon, France
- Hicks, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2012). Systematicity in the production of grammatical morphemes by children with SLI *Southern California Undergraduate Linguistics Conference*, UCLA

- Kim, Y.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2012). 11-month-olds use function words to segment vowel-initial words. Poster at the *International Conference on Infant Studies* Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Ward, N., & **Sundara, M.** (2012). The development and basis of visual language preference in infancy. Poster at the *International Conference on Infant Studies* Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Jacobson, S., Ward, N., & **Sundara, M.** (2011) Acoustic correlates of stress in Spanish infant-directed speech. Poster at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, 162nd meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, San Diego, CA (Abstract in JASA, 130, 2428)
- Ward, N., & **Sundara, M.** (2011). Effects of language exposure on prosodic differences in infant babbling. *Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition*, Thessaloniki
- Yu, K., Khan, S.D., & **Sundara, M.** (2011). A cross-linguistic investigation of information structure in infant-directed speech. *Experimental and Theoretical Advances in Prosody 2*, Montreal
- Hendrickson, K., & **Sundara, M.** (2010). The development of referential understanding. Poster at the 2nd *Pan American / Iberian Meeting on Acoustics*, Cancun (Abstract in JASA, 128(4), 2350)
- Kim, Y.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2010). Function words facilitate word segmentation. Poster at the 2nd *Pan American / Iberian Meeting on Acoustics*, Cancun (Abstract in JASA, 128(4), 2350)
- Thatte, V., & **Sundara, M.** (2010). 4.5-month-olds' phonotactic knowledge. Poster at the 2nd *Pan American / Iberian Meeting on Acoustics*, Cancun (Abstract in JASA, 128(4), 2350)
- Ward, N.*, & **Sundara, M.** (2010). Development of native language preference in the visual modality. Poster at the 2nd *Pan American / Iberian Meeting on Acoustics*, Cancun (Abstract in JASA, 128(4), 2350; *Awarded the Best Student Paper award in Speech Communication)
- White, J., & **Sundara, M.** (2010). Experimental evidence for phoneme-level inhibition in spoken word recognition. Poster at the 2nd *Pan American / Iberian Meeting on Acoustics*, Cancun (Abstract in JASA, 128(4), 2322)
- Kim, Y.J., & **Sundara, M.** (2010). The role of function words in the development of word segmentation. Poster at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Ward, N., **Sundara, M.**, Conboy, B., & Kuhl, P.K. (2010). Short-term exposure to a second language produces language-specific effects in babbling. Poster at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development* (withdrawn due to personal reasons)
- Adani, F., Scutellaro, A., **Sundara, M.**, & Hyams, N. (2010). What do infants know about syntax? The case of relative clauses. Poster at the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Baltimore
- Vicenik, C., **Sundara, M.**, Kitamura, C., & Nazzi, T. (2010). Language discrimination by infants: Discriminating within the native language rhythm class. Poster at the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Baltimore
- Ward, N.*, **Sundara, M.**, Conboy, B. & Kuhl, P.K. (2009). Consequences of short-term language exposure in infancy on babbling. Poster at the 158th meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, San Antonio (Abstract in JASA, 126(4), 2311; *Awarded second prize for the Best Student Paper in Speech Communication)
- Sundara, M.**, & Vicenik, C. (2009). Language and dialect discrimination by five-month-olds. Poster at the 158th meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, San Antonio (Abstract in JASA, 126(4), 2314)
- Vicenik, C. & **Sundara, M.** (2009). Role of rhythmic and intonational cues in language discrimination. Poster at the 2nd *Acoustical Society of America* workshop on "Cross-language speech perception and variations in linguistic experience", Portland (Abstract in JASA, 125(4), 2764)

- Mersad, K., Polka, L., **Sundara, M.** & Nazzi, T. (2009). Early prosodic- and transitional probabilities-based speech segmentation abilities in French-learning infants. Presentation at the *Society for Research on Child Development*
- Sundara, M.**, Demuth, K. & Kuhl, P.K. (2008). Positional effects on 2-year-olds' comprehension and production of 3rd person singular –s. Poster at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Nazzi, T., Mersad, K., Iakimova, G., **Sundara, M.** & Polka, L. (2008). Differences in the development of speech segmentation abilities in two French dialects. Presentation at the *International Association for the Society of Child Language*, Edinburgh
- Sundara, M.**, Kitamura, C. & Nazzi, T. (2008). Behavioral and physiological measures of language preference. Poster at Acoustics'08, the 155th meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Paris (Abstract in JASA, 123(5), 3326)
- Vicenic, C. & **Sundara, M.** (2008). Role of segmental and intonational cues in dialect discrimination. Poster at Acoustics'08, the 155th meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Paris (Abstract in JASA, 123(5), 3883)
- Polka, L., Proulx, J. & **Sundara, M.** (2008). Speech segmentation in monolingual and bilingual infants acquiring Canadian English and Canadian French. Poster at Acoustics'08, the 155th meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Paris (Abstract in JASA, 123(5), 3882)
- Nazzi, T., Mersad, K., Iakimova, G., Polka, L. & **Sundara, M.** (2008). Differences in the development of speech segmentation abilities in two French dialects. Poster at Acoustics'08, the 155th meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Paris (Abstract in JASA, 123(5), 3075)
- Polka, L., Proulx, J., Mersad, K., Iakimova, G., **Sundara, M.** & Nazzi, T. (2008). Speech segmentation in French-learning infants: Language-specific and dialect-specific patterns. Presentation at the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Vancouver
- Sundara, M.** & Kuhl, P. K. (2006). Distinguishing voices: Are infants' abilities affected by age or language experience? Poster at the 4th Joint meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America* & the *Acoustical Society of Japan*, Honolulu (Abstract in JASA, 120(5), 3135)
- Nazzi, T., Iakimova, G., Bertoni, J., Polka, L., **Sundara, M.** & Girard, S. (2006). The development of word segmentation in infants acquiring different dialects of French. Poster at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Sundara, M.** & Kuhl, P. K. (2006). Role of language experience in infants' discrimination of male and female voice. Presentation at the *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Kyoto
- Iakimova, G., Nazzi, T., **Sundara, M.** & Polka, L. (2006). Emerging evidence of differences in segmentation abilities between Parisian and Canadian French infants. Poster at *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Kyoto
- Polka, L., Molnar, M., **Sundara, M.**, Valji, A. & Mattock, K. (2006). Speech perception development in bilingual infants. Conference on *Language Acquisition & Bilingualism*, Toronto
- Polka, L., Molnar, M., **Sundara, M.**, Valji, A. & Mattock, K. (2006). Le développement de la perception de la parole chez l'enfant bilingue. *ACFAS*, Université du Québec à Montréal, Montreal
- Sundara, M.**, Klein, D. & Chen, J.-K. (2005). Neural correlates of phonetic and pitch categorization: Preliminary fMRI data. Poster at *Society for Neuroscience*, Washington
- Cardillo, G., Kuhl, P. K. & **Sundara, M.** (2005). Relative saliency of pitch versus phonetic cues in infancy. Poster at 150th Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Minneapolis (Abstract in JASA, 118(3), 1962)

- Cardillo, G., Kuhl, P. K. & **Sundara, M.** (2005). Speech in music: Encoding pitch and segmental information in infant development. Poster at *Society of Music Perception and Cognition (SMPC) Workshop*, San Diego
- Nazzi, T., Iakimova, G., Frédonie, S., **Sundara, M.** & Polka, L. (2005). Evaluating early speech segmentation in French: Effects of rhythmic types and speech mode. Presentation at the *X International Congress for the Study of Child Language*, Berlin
- Nazzi, T., Iakimova, G., Frédonie, S., **Sundara, M.** & Polka, L. (2005). Exploring the development of speech segmentation abilities in French. Presentation at the conference on *Emerging Language Abilities*, Lyon
- Sundara, M.**, Polka, L. & Molnar, M. (2004). Detail in phonetic representation in infancy: Effects of monolingual and dual language exposure. Presentation at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Sundara, M.**, Polka, L. & Molnar, M. (2004). Detail in phonetic representation of 6-8 and 10-12 month-old French- and English-learning infants. Poster at *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Chicago
- Ilari, B., Polka, L. & **Sundara, M.** (2004). Infants' listening preferences for a cappella and accompanied music. Poster at *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Chicago
- Ilari, B., Polka, L. & **Sundara, M.** (2003). Preferences for a cappella and accompanied songs: A study with infant listeners. Presentation at the Meeting of *European Society for Cognitive Sciences of Music*, Hanover
- Sundara, M.** (2003). Bilingual first language acquisition: Organization of phonetic perception and production. Presentation 4th *International Symposium on Bilingualism*, Tempe
- Sundara, M.** (2002). Does one plus one equal three in early simultaneous bilingual speech perception? Poster at 144rd Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Cancun (Abstract in JASA, 112(5), 2388)
- Polka, L. & **Sundara, M.** (2002). Is word segmentation in 7.5-month-olds shaped by native language rhythm? Presentation at *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Sundara, M.**, Polka, L., Campisi, L., Genesee, F. & Marcoux, C. (2002). Learning to perceive English /d/ vs. /ð/: A comparison of French, English and English-French bilingual 4-year-olds. Poster at 143rd meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Pittsburgh (Abstract in JASA, 111(5), 2363)
- Polka, L., **Sundara, M.** & Blue, S. (2002). The role of language experience in word segmentation: A comparison of English, French, and bilingual infants. Presentation at 143rd meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Pittsburgh (Abstract in JASA, 111(5), 2455)
- Polka, L., **Sundara, M.** & Blue, S. (2002). Native-language, cross-language and dual-language word segmentation abilities: A comparison of English, French, and bilingual infants. Poster at *International Conference on Infant Studies*, Toronto
- Sundara, M.** & Polka L. (2001). Bilingual speech production: The case of simultaneous acquisition. Poster at 142nd Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Ft Lauderdale (Abstract in JASA, 110(5), 2685)
- Polka, L., **Sundara, M.**, Genesee, F., Marcoux, C. & Campisi, L. (2001). Perception of /d – ð/ in 4-year-old French, English & Bilingual children. Presentation at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Polka, L., Colantonio, C. & **Sundara, M.** (2000). Cross-language perception of /d – ð/: Evidence for a new developmental pattern. Presentation at the *Boston University Conference on Language Development*
- Namasivayam, A. K., **Sundara, M.** & Chen, R. (2000). Transcranial magnetic stimulation and motor facilitation of speech muscles. Poster at 139th Meeting of *Acoustical Society of America*, Atlanta (Abstract in JASA, 107(5), 2887)

- Namasivayam, A. K., **Sundara, M.** & Savithri, S. R. (2000). Speech motor programming in persons who stutter. Presentation at the *Tri-Joint Congress - Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists* (Abstract in Proceedings of the Tri-Joint Congress-Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, Supplement S75)
- Sundara, M.**, Polka, L. & Zhao, V. (1999). Memory load manipulation and direction effects in vowel perception. Presentation at the Annual Convention of *American Speech-Language and Hearing Association*, San Francisco
- Aravind, N., Saoji, A. & **Sundara, M.** (1998) Frequency specificity of the medial efferent system. Presentation at 6th *National Conference on Bio-mechanics*, Bhopal, India
- Sundara, M.** (1997). Perception of aspiration duration: Cross-language influences and ear differences. Poster at the *International Symposium on Speech Perception by Non-native Listeners*, Annual Convention of *American Speech-Language and Hearing Association*, Boston
- Sundara, M.** & Nataraja, N. P. (1997). Perception of prevoicing duration by native and non-native listeners. Poster at the *International Symposium on Speech Perception by Non-native Listeners*, Annual Convention of *American Speech-Language and Hearing Association*, Boston (Master's Thesis submitted to University of Mysore, Mysore (Kar.) India)
- Ananthapadmanabha, T.V. & **Sundara, M.** (1995). Study of quantal theory of speech production using area function and articulatory models. Poster at *130th meeting of Acoustical Society of America* (Abstract in JASA, 98, 2965)

Invited Talks

- Sundara, M.** (2026). **Title TBD**. University of British Columbia, Linguistics Colloquium
- Sundara, M.**, (2025). **Title TBD**. Developmental Forum, UCLA Psychology.
- Sundara, M.**, (2025). How do infants learn phonotactics? University of Pennsylvania, Linguistics Colloquium
- Sundara, M.**, (2025). When and how do infants discover morphological suffixes? Harvard Linguistics Colloquium
- Sundara, M.**, (2025). How do infants establish noun and verb categories? University of Utah, Linguistics Colloquium
- Sundara, M.** (2024). Member of ICIS Roundtable Discussion on being a developmental scientist in a Linguistics department. Glasgow
- Sundara, M.** (2024). Acquisition of Phonotactics; Insights from adult, and infant experiments and machine learning. Invited Talk at the Workshop on *Phonotactics: Variability and its limits*. University of Potsdam, Germany
- Sundara, M.** (2024). Development of word segmentation in bilingual infants: When is there an advantage? Invited talk at the Workshop on *Acquisition Advantages in Multilingual Learners: Theoretically- and Empirically-based studies of the Multilingual Advantage and it's use in Society*. Bergische Universität Wuppertal
- Sundara, M.** (2023). The emergence of grammatical class in infancy. Language Team Meeting, *Laboratoire de Sciences Cognitives et Psycholinguistique, École Normale Supérieure*, Paris
- Sundara, M.** (2023). How infants discover morphological suffixes and use them to discover phonemes: Experimental and Computational findings. Linguae Seminar, *Laboratoire de Sciences Cognitives et Psycholinguistique, École Normale Supérieure*, Paris
- Sundara, M.** (2023). What do infants know about permissible sound sequences of their native language. Plenary meeting, *Laboratoire de Sciences Cognitives et Psycholinguistique, École Normale Supérieure*, Paris

- Sundara, M.**, (2023) Infant acquisition: From phonotactics, through morphology to word class. NYU Linguistics Colloquium
- Sundara, M.** (2023). Acquisition of morphology and how it helps infants distinguish verbs from nouns. *CogForum*, Department of Psychology, UCLA
- Sundara, M.** (2022). How infants learn English: From phonotactics, through morphology, to phonemes. Plenary at *South Asian Forum on the Acquisition and Processing of Language*, SAFAL 2022
- Sundara, M.**, (2022). The acquisition of phonotactics. *University of Potsdam*, Germany
- Sundara, M.** (2022). Infant acquisition: From sound categories, through morphology and word class, to phonemes. Invited talk at *LabPhon 18*.
- Sundara, M.** (2022). When and how do babies learn the morphological suffixes of English? *Lectures in Language and Linguistics*, California State University, Bakersfield
- Sundara, M.** (2021). The beginnings of morphological acquisition. *McMaster University Cognitive Science of Language Series*, Mar 8, 2021.
- Sundara, M.** (2017). Development of word segmentation in bilingual infants. Workshop to launch Bilingualism Matters at *UC Riverside*
- Sundara, M.** (2017). Acquisition of Verbs: A window to the mental representation of morphology and phonology, Cognitive Science Colloquium, *University of Arizona*
- Sundara, M.** (2016). Workshop on Infant Speech Perception in *Annual Meeting on Phonology*, USC.
- Sundara M.** (2014). Phonetic similarity biases phonological learning in infants. Berkeley Phonetics and Phonology Forum
- Sundara M.** (2014). Perceptual similarity constrains phonological learning in infants and adults. Colloquium speaker at the *All India Institute of Speech and Hearing Sciences*, Mysore
- Sundara M.** (2012). The interplay of distributional learning and prosody in developing word segmentation. Colloquium speaker at the *Dept. of Linguistics, UC Berkeley*
- Sundara, M.** (2012). Revisiting the role of prosody in early language acquisition. New directions in cognitive development: Workshop on Early Language Acquisition, Organized by *Laboratoire de Sciences Cognitives et Psycholinguistique, École Normale Supérieure*, Paris
- Sundara, M.** (2012). The acquisition of 3rd person singular –s. Keynote speaker at the *Southern California Undergraduate Linguistics Conference*, UCLA
- Sundara, M.** (2011). Developing speech perception and production in infants exposed to two languages. *5th Heritage Language Summer Research Institute*, UCLA
- Vicenic, C. & **Sundara, M.** (2011). Weighting of prosodic cues in language discrimination by infants and adults. 162nd meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, special session on "Speech Rhythm in Production, Perception and Acquisition", San Diego, CA (Abstract in JASA, 130, 2567)
- Ward, N., & **Sundara, M.** (2011). Is infants' native language preference in the visual modality guided by speech rhythm? 162nd meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, special session on "Speech Rhythm in Production, Perception and Acquisition", San Diego, CA (Abstract in JASA, 130, 2566)
- Sundara, M.** (2011). Developing speech perception and production in infants exposed to two languages. *Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences, University of Maryland*
- Sundara, M.** (2010). Patterns and mechanisms for the acquisition of speech sound categories in bilingual first language acquisition. *Department of Speech-Language Pathology, University of Toronto*, Toronto

- Sundara M.** (2010). The acquisition of speech sound categories in bilingual first language acquisition. *Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders, Northwestern University, Chicago*
- Sundara, M.** (2009). Factors affecting acquisition of speech sound categories in bilingual first language acquisition. *Laboratoire de Sciences Cognitives et Psycholinguistique, École Normale Supérieure, Paris*
- Sundara, M.** (2009). Acquisition of speech sound categories in bilingual first language acquisition. *Laboratoire Psychologie de la Perception, Université Paris Descartes, Paris*
- Sundara, M.** (2009). A window into the development of speech perception. BLING the UCLA Undergraduate Linguistics Students' Association, May 13th, 2009
- Sundara, M.** (2009). How are speech sound categories acquired in bilingual first language acquisition? 2nd ASA workshop on "Cross-language speech perception and variations in linguistic experience" Portland, OR (Abstract in JASA, 125(4), 2770)
- Sundara, M.** (2008). How does phonetic perception develop in monolingual and bilingual first language acquisition? *Department of Linguistics, UCSD, San Diego, Oct 13th.*
- Sundara, M.** (2008). Perception and production of phonetic segments: A comparison of simultaneous bilinguals, L2 learners and heritage language learners. 2nd *Heritage Language Summer Institute: Developing a Research Base for the Heritage Field, Harvard University, June 23-27.*
- Sundara, M.** (2007). Developing phonetic perception in monolingual and bilingual first language acquisition. *MARCS Auditory Laboratory, University of Western Sydney, Sydney*
- Sundara, M.** (2007). Developing phonetic perception bilingual first language acquisition. *Developmental Research Forum, Department of Psychology, UCLA*
- Sundara, M.** (2006). Developing phonetic perception in monolingual and bilingual first language acquisition. *Department of Linguistics, University of Oregon, Eugene*
- Sundara, M. & Polka, L.** (2005). Phonetic categories of simultaneous bilingual adults: Insights from production and perception data. Part of colloquium on "Phonology of simultaneous bilinguals" at 5th *International Symposium on Bilingualism, Barcelona*
- Sundara, M.** (2004). Workshop on "Infant speech perception: Methods, Measures & Data". *All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, India*
- Sundara, M. & Polka, L.** (2004). Speech perception and production in bilinguals and monolinguals: convergent and divergent patterns in adulthood and development. 147th Meeting of *Acoustical Society of America, New York* (Abstract in JASA, 115(5), 2503)
- Sundara, M.** (2003). Predicting bilingual production & perception – How far can statistical distribution take us? *Center for Mind, Brain and Learning, University of Washington, Seattle*
- Sundara, M. & Polka, L.** (2003). Bilingual segmentation skills in preverbal infants. Part of colloquium on "Studies of Pre-verbal dual language learners" at 4th *International Symposium on Bilingualism, Tempe*
- Sundara, M.** (2003). Phonetic production and perceptual categories in simultaneous bilingual adults. *Linguistic Students Association, Concordia University, Montreal*
- Polka, L. & Sundara, M.** (2003). Speech segmentation in English-learning and French-learning 7.5-mo-olds. *School of Communication Sciences & Disorders, McGill University*
- Sundara, M., & Polka, L.** (2001) Developmental trends in speech perception: Evidence for a new pattern. *Cognitive Brown-Bag Series, Psychology Department, McGill University*
- Sundara, M.** (1999). Perceptual asymmetries in vowel perception: Effects of language and memory load manipulation. *Institute of Speech and Hearing, Bangalore, India*
- Sundara, M.** (1998). Development of speech perception in the first year of life. *All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, India*

Sundara, M. (1995). Speech, language and cognitive impairment in your classroom: Signs & professional and community resources. *Ramakrishna Ashram, Teachers Training College, Mysore, India*

Advising

Ph.D. thesis

- Roy Becker (2010; Co-chair with Bruce Hayes). *Acoustic typology of vowel inventories and Dispersion Theory*. Presently – Staff Researcher, Digispeech, Herzliya, Israel
- Chad Vicenik (2011). *The role of intonation in language discrimination by infants and adults*. Presently – High School Teacher of Physics, UK
- Victoria Thatte (2011; Co-chair with Bruce Hayes). *Infant phonotactic learning*. Presently – Instructor, Grossmont College, San Diego
- Kristine Yu (2011; Co-chair with Ed Stabler). *Learning tones from the speech signal*. Presently - Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- Nancy Ward (2013). *The role of modality and register in imitation by adults and children*.
- James White (2013; Co-chair with Bruce Hayes). *Bias in phonological learning: Evidence from saltation*. Presently – Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics, University College London, UK
- Yun Kim (2015). *6-month-olds' segmentation and representation of morphologically complex words*. Presently – Associate Teaching Professor, Linguistics and Language and Cognition, Program in Linguistics, Emory University, Atlanta
- Adam Chong (2017; Co-chair with Kie Zuraw). *On the relationship between phonotactic and alternation learning*. Presently – Associate Professor in Phonology & Language Processing, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics, University of Oxford, UK
- Meng Yang (2019; Co-chair with Pat Keating). *The perception of acoustic-phonetic cues and its impact on speech category learning*. Presently - Associate Consultant Manager, BeMo Academic Consulting Inc, Toronto
- Isabelle Lin (2019; Co-chair with Kie Zuraw). *Functional load and learning phonological alternations*. Presently at – L'Ecole Cesan, Paris.
- Abeer Abbas (2025). *Morphological Structure in the Arabic Mental Lexicon: Productivity and Priming Effects in Nominal and Verbal Patterns*. Assistant Professor, Department of Foreign Languages, Jazan University, Saudi Arabia
- Elizabeth Sola-Llonch (expected 2025; Co-chair with Bruce Hayes). *Modeling the acquisition of contour tone targets by Mandarin-speaking children*
- Jahnavi Narkar (expected 2026; Co-chair with Pat Keating). *Optimal laryngeal settings: Stop inventories*
- Lily Xu (expected 2026; Co-chair with Claire Moore-Cantwell). *Learning different phonotactic generalizations across morphological domains*
- Jian-Leat Siah (expected 2026; Co-Chair with Bruce Hayes). *Perceptibility effects in the typology of repairs: Experimental and computational studies*
- Kevin Liang (expected 2027; Co-Chair with Bruce Hayes). *The acquisition of Catalan morphonology*
- MA thesis*

Nancy Ward (2011); James White (2011); Yun Kim (2012); Adam Chong (2013); Meng Yang (co-chair with Pat Keating, 2016); Isabelle Lin (co-chair with Kie Zuraw, 2016); Z.L. Zhou (co-chair with Pat Keating, 2019); Ekaterina Khlystova (2021); Jahnavi Narkar (2022); Kevin Liang (2024); John McGahay (co-chair with Bruce Hayes, 2024); Coralie Cram (expected 2025)

Undergraduate Honors thesis

Katherine Adams (2010); Julie Hicks (2012); Stephanie Jacobson (2012), Hadley Vogt (2013), Michelle Johnson (2023); Eden Moyal (2024), Dhanya Charan (2025), Gabriel Scharff (expected 2026)

MA Committee Member

Chad Vicenik (2007); Victoria Thatte (2007); Tatiana Libman (2008); Grace Kuo (2010); Yu Tanaka (2013); Eun Hwa Lee (2014); Eleanor Glewwe (2015); Adam Royer (2016); Megan Gotowski (2016); Jeremy Steffman (2018); Anissa Gladney (2021); Jian-Leat Siah (2023)

PhD Committee Member

Ingvar Lofstedt (2010); Grace Kuo (2013); Marc Garellek (2013); Jianjing Kuang (2013); Yu Tanaka (2017); Jesse Zymet (2018); Eleanor Glewwe (2019); Jeremy Steffman (2020); Canaan Breiss (2022); Z.L. Zhou (2024); Jinyoung Jo (2024); Ekaterina Khlystova (2024); Marisabel Cabrera Sanchez (expected 2026)

PhD Committee Outside Member

Elizabeth Goodin-Mayeda (2009, UCLA Spanish and Portuguese); Emily Thom (2011, UCLA Psychology); Mariel Kyger (2013, UCLA Psychology); Ho-Jin Kim (2013, UCLA Psychology); Susan Geffen (2014, USC Psychology)

(Summer) Research Mentorship

Chad Vicenik (2008); Nancy Ward (2010, 2011); Jamie White (2010); Yun Kim (2012); Ekaterina Khlystova (2020; 2021, 2022 funded by Keck Fellowship); Lily Xu (2022); Elizabeth Sola-Llonch (Mellon fellowship 2022); Jahnavi Narkar (2022-23 Graduate Research Mentorship); John McGahay (2024-25, 2025-26 Graduate Research Mentorship); Marisabel Cabrera Sanchez (2024-25 Graduate Research Mentorship); John McGahay (2025; 2025-26 & 2026-27 Graduate Research Mentorship)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Reader

Anna Xu (2009; Neuroscience Graduate Program)

Undergraduate Research Mentorship

Morgan Tfelt (2014-2015)

Undergraduate Internship

Emily Wachtel (2007, UCLA); Siena Rosemary Leslie (2009, Harvard University); Kim Ostergaard (2009, University of Calgary)

Visiting researcher

Kathleen McCarthy (2012, Bogue Fellow, University College London)

Teaching Experience

- 2007- **Undergraduate Courses:** Introduction to Phonetics, Applied Phonetics, Linguistics & Speech Pathology
Graduate courses: Speech Perception, Phonetic Theory, Research Methods
Graduate seminars: Development of Speech perception, Spoken Word recognition, Recognition of pronunciation variants and reduced forms; Recognition of morphologically complex words; Acquisition of Phonotactics, Intonational bootstrapping in acquisition (co-taught with Sun-Ah Jun); Acquisition of function elements (co-taught with Nina Hyams)
- 2009 Acquisition of phonetic categories in infancy, École d'automne de linguistique, Ealing VIII, École Normale Supérieure, Paris
- 1998-03 **Graduate teaching for MA in Speech Pathology at McGill University:** Speech Science, Audiology, Audiology Lab

Departmental Service at UCLA

- 2020-23 Department Representative, Alliance for Multi-Campus Inclusive Graduate Admissions
- 2018- Advisor for a career in Speech Pathology
- 2007- Teaching evaluation (including chair); Research evaluation (including chair); Multiple search committees (including chair); Graduate Admission's committee (including chair); Student research funding; Fellowships and awards; Visiting scholars Committee

Professional & Community Service

- 2024 Parent outreach event at Children's Institute, Otis Booth Campus, Los Angeles
- 2024 Parent outreach event at Para Los Ninos, Charter Elementary School, Los Angeles
- 2021 VistaMar High School on language acquisition
- 2020 Speech Perception Review Panel, International Conference on Infant Studies
- 2014 Dual Language Learners, UCLA Early Care and Education, Krieger Food for thought speaker series
- 2013 Panel discussant on 'Raising bilingual children' at UCLA Lab School. Moderated by Ana Flores, co-founder of SpanglishBaby.com, the award-winning blog and online community for parents raising bilingual and bicultural kids. She is also the co-author of the book, *Bilingual is Better: Two Latina Moms on How the Bilingual Parenting Revolution is Changing the Face of America*.
 Friends of Linguistics, Community and Alumni outreach event
- 2012, 13 Language and Cognition in dual language learners, Parent outreach at Fernald Center, Early Care and Education, UCLA
- 2011 Judge for 'Best Student Paper Award' Speech Communication at the 162nd meeting of *Acoustical Society of America*, San Diego
- 2009 Session Chair titled "Second language and cross-linguistic speech." At the 157th Meeting of *Acoustical Society of America*, Portland
 Judge for "Best Student Paper" award in Speech Communication at the 157th Meeting of *Acoustical Society of America*, Portland
 Advised a non-profit organization advocating quieter classrooms in the LA Unified School District

- 2006-07 Member, Multicultural Issues Board, American Speech Language & Hearing Association (ASHA)
- 2006 Session Co-Chair at the 4th Joint Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America* & the *Acoustical Society of Japan*, Honolulu
 Judge for “Best Student Paper” award in Speech Communication at the 4th Joint Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America* & the *Acoustical Society of Japan*, Honolulu
- 2005 ASHA Convention Program Committee – Language Science
- 2005-06 President, Asian-Indian Caucus of ASHA
- 2004 Vice-president, Asian-Indian Caucus of ASHA
 Organizer for special session titled “Digital systems for child phonologists”, ASHA Annual Convention (with Eugene Buder)
 Organizer & Session Co-Chair for a special session titled “Speech perception and production in monolingual and bilingual acquisition”, 147th Meeting of *Acoustical Society of America*, NYC (with Linda Polka)
- 2003 Editor, ASHA-Kiran, Newsletter of the Asian-Indian Caucus of ASHA
 Presenter at Children’s World Academy for 6th graders during Brain Awareness Week
- 2001 Session Chair at the 142nd Meeting of the *Acoustical Society of America*, Ft Lauderdale
 Invited participant in Research Focus Group for New Investigators, ASHA Annual Convention, New Orleans