

Quasy 2025

**Third Workshop on Quantitative Syntax (QUASY,
SyntaxFest 2025)**

Proceedings

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Introduction

Quantitative Syntax (QUASY) is a workshop series dedicated to advancing quantitative, statistical, and computational methods in syntactic research. The workshops bring together researchers to discuss and explore quantitative, statistical, and computational methods in syntax research, responding to the growing need for linguistic meetings that focus on empirical data-driven approaches to syntactic theory. Since the first QUASY workshop in 2019 in Paris, the series has brought together researchers working at the intersection of syntax, corpus linguistics, computational methods, and related empirical approaches. This year’s workshop, the third QUASY 2025, is held as part of SyntaxFest 2025 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, which brings together five related but independent events:

- 18th International Conference on Parsing Technologies (IWPT 2025)
- 8th Universal Dependencies Workshop (UDW 2025)
- 8th International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (DepLing 2025)
- 23rd Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT 2025)
- 3rd Workshop on Quantitative Syntax (QUASY 2025)

In addition, a pre-conference workshop organized by the COST Action CA21167 – Universality, Diversity and Idiosyncrasy in Language Technology (UniDive) was held prior to the main event, with dedicated sessions on the 1st UniDive Shared Task on Morphosyntactic Parsing and the 2nd Workshop on Universal Dependencies for Turkic Languages.

SyntaxFest 2025 continues the tradition of SyntaxFest 2019 (Paris, France), SyntaxFest 2021 (Sofia, Bulgaria), and GURT/SyntaxFest 2023 (Washington DC, USA) in bringing together multiple events that share a common interest in using corpora and treebanks for empirically validating syntactic theories, studying syntax from quantitative and theoretical points of view, and training machine learning models for natural language processing. Much of this research is increasingly multilingual and cross-lingual and requires continued systematic analysis from various theoretical, applied, and practical perspectives. By co-locating these workshops under a shared umbrella, SyntaxFest fosters dialogue between overlapping research communities and supports innovation at the intersection of linguistics and language technology. As in previous editions, all five workshops at SyntaxFest 2025 shared a common submission and reviewing process, with a unified timeline, identical submission formats, and a shared program committee. During submission, authors could indicate one or more preferred venues, but the final assignment of papers was determined by the collective program chairs, composed of the individual workshop chairs, based on thematic alignment. All accepted submissions were peer-reviewed by at least three reviewers from the shared program committee.

In total, SyntaxFest 2025 received 94 submissions, of which 73 (78%) were accepted for presentation. The final program included a total of 47 long papers, 21 short papers, and 5 non-archival contributions, distributed across the five workshops: 5 papers were presented at IWPT (2 long, 3 short); 20 at UDW (14 long, 5 short, 1 non-archival); 16 at DepLing (12 long, 2 short, 2 non-archival); 18 at TLT (10 long, 7 short, 1 non-archival); and 14 at QUASY (9 long, 4 short, 1 non-archival).

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who made this event possible. We thank all authors for their submissions and the reviewers for their time and thoughtful feedback, which contributed to a diverse and high-quality program. Special thanks go to the local organizing team at the University of Ljubljana and the Slovene Language Technologies Society for hosting the event, and to the sponsors for their generous support. Finally, we gratefully acknowledge ACL SIGPARSE for endorsing the event and the ACL Anthology for publishing the proceedings.

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Ljubljana, August 2025

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Keynote

The rhetorical and pragmatic functions of syntactically complex structures in academic and second language writing

Xiaofei Lu

The Pennsylvania State University



Abstract: Previous studies of linguistic complexity in academic and second language (L2) writing has often focused on quantitative differences across different writer groups and/or longitudinal changes over time, without systematic attention to the rhetorical or pragmatic functions that complex forms are used to convey. This talk argues for the importance of and delineates the scope of the function dimension of linguistic complexity analysis in L2 writing research, reviews the methods and findings of emerging efforts on this dimension, and discusses how future L2 writing research could attend to this dimension.

Bio: Xiaofei Lu is the George C. and Jane G. Greer Professor of Applied Linguistics and Asian Studies at The Pennsylvania State University. His research has long centered on computational and quantitative analyses of linguistic complexity in reading materials, second language production, and academic writing. His current work explores mappings between linguistic forms and rhetorical/pragmatic functions in language production and sense-aware measurements of linguistic complexity that account for the specific meanings of polysemous linguistic forms in context. He has published over 90 peer-reviewed articles in leading journals, including *Applied Linguistics*, *Behavior Research Methods*, *Computer Assisted Language Learning*, *Language Learning*, *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, *TESOL Quarterly*, and *The Modern Language Journal*. He received the 2023 Ken Hyland Best Paper Award from the *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*. His latest book, *Corpus Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition: Perspective, Issues, and Findings*, was published by Routledge in 2023.

Non-Archival Abstract

Syntactic Complexity and News Credibility in Czech Media

Miroslav Kubát, Xinying Chen, Michaela Nogolová and Michal Místecký
University of Ostrava

This study examines how syntactic complexity varies across news articles differing in credibility, using a Czech-language corpus annotated with five credibility levels: credible, partially credible, misleading, manipulative, and unclassifiable. We apply a dependency parsing pipeline and compute five syntactic metrics measuring features such as sentence length, clause density, and hierarchical depth. Results show that manipulative texts are structurally the most complex, while misleading and unclassifiable texts are simpler and more fragmented. Credible texts display balanced complexity consistent with journalistic norms. These findings highlight the role of syntax in shaping rhetorical strategies and contribute to the linguistic understanding of news credibility.

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