

# Mahesh Srinivasan

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## Academic Positions

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| 2019-Present | Associate Professor<br>Department of Psychology<br>Director, Language and Cognitive Development Laboratory<br>University of California, Berkeley |
| 2013-2019    | Assistant Professor<br>Department of Psychology<br>Director, Language and Cognitive Development Laboratory<br>University of California, Berkeley |
| 2012-2013    | Assistant Project Scientist<br>Department of Psychology<br>University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA                                     |
| 2011-2012    | Post-Doctoral Research Fellow<br>Department of Psychology<br>University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA                                   |

## Education

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| 2007-2011 | Ph.D., Developmental Psychology<br>Harvard University, Cambridge, MA                                  |
| 2005-2007 | A.M., Developmental Psychology<br>Harvard University, Cambridge, MA                                   |
| 2001-2005 | B.S. with Departmental Honors, Symbolic Systems (Phi Beta Kappa)<br>Stanford University, Stanford, CA |

## Research Interests

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My research focuses on linguistic and cognitive development, and I also study social cognitive development across different cultural contexts. My research on language and cognition spans

topics such as word learning, lexical semantics, pragmatics, linguistic relativity, historical semantic change and cross-linguistic typology. My research in social cognitive development focuses on intergroup attitudes, social norms, moral reasoning, and religious cognition.

## Grants

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2021-2023	Economic and Social Research Council, “Charting Lexical Development through Dense Coding and Analysis of Word Senses” (Lead PI: Hugh Rabagliati), £300,000.
2021	Russell Sage Foundation, “Poverty and Parental Engagement” (co-PI), \$34,675.
2021	Abdul Lateef Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) North America, “Cash Transfers and Parent-Child Interactions” (co-PI), \$49,586.
2020-2021	Center for Effective Global Action Seed Funding Award, “How is the COVID-19 Pandemic Impacting Parenting?”, \$24,995.
2020-2025	John Templeton Foundation, “Developing Religious Belief in Israel and India,” \$450,000
2020-2022	Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, “Psychology and Economics of Poverty Collaborative,” (co-PI; through UC Berkeley Center for Effective Global Development), \$900,000
2020-2021	Social Science Matrix Research Team, “Psychology and Economics of Poverty”, \$5,000
2020-2021	Institute for Cognitive and Brain Sciences Seed Funding Award, “Does Financial Scarcity Cause Parents to Speak Less to their Children?” \$4,000
2020-2021	Center for Effective Global Action Seed Funding Award, “Does Financial Scarcity Cause Parents to Speak Less to their Children?” \$4,400
2019-2025	James S. McDonnell Scholar Award, “Learning to Learn: How Polysemy Scaffolds Development,” \$600,000
2018-2019	Hellman Fellow Fund, “Reasoning about Religious Norms”, \$47,058
2016-2019	National Science Foundation, “The Development of Lexical Flexibility”, \$325,000
2016-2019	National Institute of Child Health & Human Development, “Longitudinal Research on the Links between Reasoning and Math” (co-PI), \$168,414
2014-2015	University of California Faculty Research Grant, “The Origins of

Conventionality”, \$8,800

2011-2013 IARPA “Validation of Metaphor” Grant (co-PI), 2011-2013

2006-2009 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

### **Other Honors and Awards**

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Association for Psychological Science Rising Star, 2016

World Economic Forum Young Scientist, 2016

Cognitive Development Society Travel Award, 2011

APA Dissertation Research Award, 2010-2011

Norman H. Anderson Graduate Psychology Award, 2009-2011

Harvard University Stimson Restricted Funds Award, 2009

Society for Research in Child Development Travel Award, 2009

Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Award, 2005-2006

Phi Beta Kappa, 2005

Center for Study of Language and Information Research Fellowship, 2003-2004

Boothe Prize in Writing Excellence Finalist, 2002

### **Published or In-Press Journal Articles**

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(\* = Postdoctoral mentee; \*\* = Graduate or Postbac mentee; \*\*\* = Undergraduate mentee)

Langenhoff, A. F.\*\*, Dahl, A., & **Srinivasan, M.** (in press). Preschoolers learn new moral and conventional norms from direct experiences. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*.

Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.\*\*, Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (in press). What causes the word gap? Financial concerns may systematically suppress child-directed speech. *Developmental Science*.

Winter, B., & **Srinivasan, M.** (in press). Why is semantic change asymmetric? The role of concreteness and intersubjective accessibility in metaphor and metonymy. *Metaphor and Symbol*.

**Srinivasan, M** & Rabagliati, H. (2021). The implications of polysemy for theories of word learning. *Child Development Perspectives*, 15(3).

Starr, A.\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2021). The future is in front, to the right, or below: Development of spatial representations of time in three dimensions. *Cognition*, 210, 104603.

Starr, A.,\* **Srinivasan, M.** & Bunge, S. (2020). Semantic knowledge influences visual working memory in adults and children. *PLoS One*, 15(11): e0241110.

Starr, A.\*, Cirolia, A.\*\*\*, Tillman, K. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020). Spatial metaphor facilitates

word learning. *Child Development*.

- Foushee, R.,\*\* **Srinivasan, M.** & Xu, F. (2020). Can preschoolers learn words and facts from naturalistic overheard speech? *Cognition*, 206, 104415.
- Xu, Y., Duong, K.,\*\*\* Malt, B. C., Jiang, S.\*\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020). Conceptual relations predict colexification across languages. *Cognition*, 201, 104280.
- Amir, D., Valeggia, C., **Srinivasan, M.**, Sugiyama, L. S., & Dunham, Y. (2019). Measuring subjective social status in children of diverse societies. *PLoS One*, 14(12): e0226550. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0226550.
- Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.,\*\* Berner, C.,\*\* Dunham, Y. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Indian = Hindu? The development of nationalist attitudes in Hindu and Muslim Indian children. *Child Development*.
- Shtulman, A., Foushee, R.,\*\* Barner, D., Dunham, Y. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). When Allah meets Ganesha: Developing supernatural concepts in a religiously diverse society. *Cognitive Development*.
- Srinivasan, M.**, Foushee, R.,\*\* Bartnof, A.\*\* & Barner, D. (2019). Linguistic conventionality and the role of epistemic reasoning in mutual exclusivity inference. *Cognition*, 189, 193-208. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2019.04.001
- Williams, A.,\*\* **Srinivasan, M.**, Liu, C. & Zhou, Q (2019). Why do bilinguals code-switch when emotional? Insight from immigrant parent-child interactions. *Emotion*. doi: 10.1037/emo0000568
- Starr, A.\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). Spatial metaphor and the development of cross-domain mappings in early childhood. *Developmental Psychology*, 54(10), 1822-1832. doi: 10.1037/dev0000573
- Srinivasan, M.**, Berner, C.,\*\* & Rabagliati, H. (2018). Children use polysemy to structure new word meanings. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. doi: 10.1037/xge0000454
- Srinivasan, M.**, Kaplan, E.,\*\* & Dahl, A. (2018). Reasoning about the scope of religious norms: Evidence from Hindu and Muslim children in India. *Child Development*. doi: 10.1111/cdev.13102
- Srinivasan, M.**, Wagner, K., Frank, M.C. & Barner, D (2018). The role of design and training in abacus expertise: The case of the abacus and visual attention. *Cognitive Science*, 42 (S3), 757-782. doi: 10.1111/cogs.12611
- Ramiro, C.,\*\*\* **Srinivasan, M.**, Malt, B. & Xu, Y (2018). Algorithms in the historical emergence of word senses. *Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences*, 115(10), 2323-

2328. doi: 10.1073/pnas.1714730115

Xu, Y., Malt, B. & **Srinivasan, M** (2017). Evolution of word meanings through metaphorical mapping: Systematicity over the past millennium. *Cognitive Psychology*, 96, 41-53. doi: 10.1016/j.cogpsych.2017.05.005

Tillman, K., Marghetis, T., Barner, D. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). Today is tomorrow's yesterday: Children's acquisition of deictic time words. *Cognitive Psychology*, 92, 87-100. doi: 10.1016/j.cogpsych.2016.10.003

**Srinivasan, M.**, Al-Mughairy, S.,\*\* Foushee, R.,\*\* Barner, D. (2017). Learning language from within: Children use semantic generalizations to infer new word meanings. *Cognition*, 159, 11-24. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2016.10.019

Barner, D., Alvarez, G., Sullivan, J., Brooks, N., **Srinivasan, M.**, & Frank, M.C. (2016). Learning mathematics in a visuospatial format: A randomized, controlled trial of mental abacus instruction. *Child Development*, 87(4), 1146-1158.

**Srinivasan, M.**, & Barner, D. (2016). Encoding individuals in language using syntax, words, and pragmatic inference. *WIREs Cognitive Science*, 7(5), 341-353. doi: 10.1002/wcs.1396

**Srinivasan, M.** & Rabagliati, H (2015). How concepts and conventions structure the lexicon: Cross-linguistic evidence from polysemy. *Lingua*, 157, 124-152. doi: 10.1016/j.lingua.2014.12.004

**Srinivasan, M.**, Dunham, Y., Hicks, C. & Barner, D. (2015). Do attitudes toward societal structure predict beliefs about free will and achievement? Evidence from the Indian caste system. *Developmental Science*, 19(1), 109-125. doi: 10.1111/desc.12294

Dunham, Y., **Srinivasan, M.**, Dotsch, R. & Barner, D. (2014). Religion insulates ingroup evaluations: The development of intergroup attitudes in India. *Developmental Science*, 17(2), 311-319. doi: 10.1111/desc.12105

**Srinivasan, M.** & Snedeker, J. (2014). Polysemy and the taxonomic constraint: Children's representations of words with taxonomically-different meanings. *Language Learning and Development*, 10(2), 97-128. doi: 10.1080/15475441.2013.820121

**Srinivasan, M.** & Barner, D. (2013). The Amelia Bedelia effect: World knowledge and the goal bias in language acquisition. *Cognition*, 128, 431-450. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2013.05.005

**Srinivasan, M.**, Chestnut, E., Li, P., & Barner, D. (2013). Sortal concepts and pragmatic inference in children's early quantification of objects. *Cognitive Psychology*, 66, 302-326. doi: 10.1016/j.cogpsych.2013.01.003

**Srinivasan, M.** & Snedeker, J. (2011). Judging a *book* by its cover and its contents: The

representation of polysemous and homophonous meanings in four-year-old children. *Cognitive Psychology*, 62, 245-272. doi: 10.1016/j.cogpsych.2011.03.002

Matlock, T., Holmes, K.J., **Srinivasan, M.**, & Ramscar, M. (2011). Even abstract motion influences the understanding of time. *Metaphor and Symbol*, 26(4), 260-271. doi: 10.1080/10926488.2011.609065

**Srinivasan, M.** & Carey, S. (2010). The long and the short of it: On the nature and origin of functional overlap between representations of space and time. *Cognition*, 116, 217-241. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2010.05.005

**Srinivasan, M.** (2010). Do classifiers affect cognitive processing? A study of nominal classification in Mandarin Chinese. *Language and Cognition*, 2(2), 177-190. doi: 10.1515/langcog.2010.007

### Published or In-Press Book Chapters

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**Srinivasan, M.** & Barner, D. (in press). Lexical, syntactic, and pragmatic sources of countability: An experimental exploration of the mass-count distinction. In F. Moltmann & L. Tovenia (Eds.), *Mass and Count in Linguistics, Philosophy and Cognitive Science*.

Rabagliati, H. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Word senses. In C. Cummins and N. Katsos (Eds.), *Handbook of Experimental Semantics and Pragmatics* (pp. 369-386). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

**Srinivasan, M.** (2016). Concepts as explanatory theories: Evidence from word learning and the development of lexical flexibility. In D. Barner and A. Baron (Eds.), *Core Knowledge and Conceptual Change*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

### Journal Articles Under Review or Revision

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Langenhoff, A.\*\* , Engelmann, J. & **Srinivasan, M.** Children adjust their beliefs reasonably in light of disagreement.

Foushee, R.\*\* , **Srinivasan, M.**, & Xu, F. Selective attention based on speech complexity.

Vasilyeva, N., **Srinivasan, M.**, Ellwood-Lowe, M.\*\* , Delaney, S., Gopnik, A. & Lombrozo, T. Structural explanations lead young children and adults to rectify resource inequalities.

Skarabela, B., **Srinivasan, M.**, & Rabagliati, H. Developing a generative lexicon: Evidence from instrument verbs.

Dahl, A., Berner, C.,\*\* Jesuthasan, J.,\*\*\* Wehry, J.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** The limits of religious tolerance: Individual and contextual determinants of who can violate religious norms.

Foushee, R.,\*\* Xu, F., & **Srinivasan, M.** Active learning in language development.

Engelmann, J., Langenhoff, A.\*\* , Poprawe, F., **Srinivasan, M.**, & Schleihau, H. The origins of rational discourse: How children learn to give and respond to reasons.

## **Journal Articles in Preparation**

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Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** Could both be right? Children's developing sensitivity to subjectivity in language.

Rabagliati, H. & **Srinivasan, M.** How do children represent the meanings of polysemous words? Core meanings versus related senses.

Marghetis, T., Tillman, K., & **Srinivasan, M.** Learning to put time in its place: The development of metaphorical spatial gestures for time.

Baharloo, R.\*\* , Vasilyeva, N., Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.\*\* , & **Srinivasan, M.** Preschoolers' use of pragmatic inference to learn about the social world.

**Srinivasan, M.** & Dahl, A. Perceptions of the authorship, function, and changeability of rules among Hindu and Muslim youth in India.

Keating, V.\*\* , Dunham, Y., & **Srinivasan, M.** The development of intergroup attitudes in India: Insight from social networks.

Foushee, R.\*\* , Baharloo, R.\*\* , & **Srinivasan, M.** Sociolinguistic development in a diverse, multi-linguistic society: Evidence from 7- to 14-year-old children in Gujarat, India.

Li, W., Germine, L. Mehr, S., **Srinivasan, M.** & Hartshorne, J. Building a generalizable and replicable developmental psychology with citizen science.

Park, Y. R.,\* Kaur, S., Zhao, J., Hallesz, K. & **Srinivasan, M.** The psychology of poverty: A causal framework.

## **Conference Papers and Presentations**

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Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2021). Early lexical knowledge in infants primarily exposed to overheard speech. Talk presented at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development. Virtual.

Mankewitz, J.,\*\*\* Meylan, S. C., Floyd, S., Rabagliati, H., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2021). English-learning children hear and use multiple meanings for words in early speech. Talk presented at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development. Virtual.

Meylan, S. C., Mankewitz, J.,\*\*\* Floyd, S., Rabagliati, H., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2021). Quantifying lexical ambiguity in speech to and from English-learning children. Talk

presented at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. Virtual.

- Dahl, A., Jesuthasan, J.\*\*\*, Wehry, J.\*\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2021). Perceived authorship, function, and changeability of rules among Hindu and Muslim youth in India. Talk presented at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Virtual.
- Diesendruck, G., Roash, S., Trujillo, Y. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2021). Children's tolerance of religious norm violations: Lessons from Israel and India. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. Virtual.
- Langenhoff, A.\*\* , **Srinivasan, M.** & Engelmann, J. (2021). How children change their beliefs in light of disagreement. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. Virtual.
- Dahl, A., Jesuthasan, J.\*\*\*, Wehry, J.\*\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2021). Conceptions of the origins, functions, and changeability of religious and non-religious norms among Hindu and Muslim youth in India. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. Virtual.
- Schnitker, S., Legare, C., **Srinivasan, M.**, King, P. & Balkaya-Ince, M. (2021). Socio-cultural perspectives on religion and child/adolescent development research across six continents and diverse faith traditions. Conversation roundtable presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. Virtual.
- Foushee, R.\*\* , Wehry, J.\*\*\*, Starr, A.\* , O'Grady, S. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2021). How should we use words like could? Children's developing understanding of epistemic modal verbs. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development. Virtual.
- Nair, S.\*\*\*, **Srinivasan, M.**, Meylan, S. C. (2020). Contextualized word embeddings encode aspects of human-like word sense knowledge. Paper presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Cognitive Aspects of the Lexicon, Barcelona, Spain. Virtual.
- Foushee, R.\*\* , Starr, A.\* , Wehry, J.\*\*\*, O'Grady, S. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020). How should we use words like could? Development in epistemic modal verbs as seen through modal judgment tasks. Talk presented at the 45th Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA. Virtual.
- Langenhoff, A.F.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020) Do preschoolers use new words with speakers who don't know those words? Poster presented at the 45th Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA. Virtual.
- Foushee, R.\*\* , **Srinivasan, M.** & Xu, F. (2020). The impact of speech complexity on preschooler attention and learning. Poster presented at the 45th Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA. Virtual.



- Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020). Do speakers consult an internal jury of their peers in judging linguistic “fault” and subjectivity? Poster to be presented at the 46th Annual Meeting for the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP). Cancelled
- Dahl, A., Jesuthasan, J.\*\* , Wehry, J.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020). Reasoning about religious norms among children and adolescents in India. Talk to be presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence, San Diego, CA. Cancelled.
- Foushee, R.\*\* , Jansen, R.\*\* , & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020). Transmission of religious and scientific explanations within chains of Hindu and Muslim children. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. Virtual.
- Starr, A.\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020). The future is in front, to the right, or below: Development of spatial representations of time in three dimensions. Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Conference Society. Virtual.
- Starr, A.\* , Cirolia, A.J.\*\*\* , Tillman, K.A., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2020). Spatial metaphor facilitates word learning. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Congress of Infant Studies. Virtual.
- Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.\*\* , Foushee, R.\*\* , & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Financial constraints suppress parents’ speech with their children. Talk presented at the 44th Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Vasilyeva, N.\* , Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.\*\* , & **Srinivasan M.** (2019). Children's and adults' use of pragmatic inference to learn about the social world. Talk presented at the 44th Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Meylan, S., Braginsky, M., deMayo, B., Sanchez, A., Schonberg, C., **Srinivasan, M.**, Vlach, H., Lupyan, G., Griffiths, T. & Frank, M.C. (2019). Wordful: Tracking early productive vocabulary growth with smartphones. Talk presented at the 44th Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Foushee, R.\*\* , Xu, Y. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). How do we talk to children? Leveraging speech corpora to quantify how we simplify speech to children. Poster presented at the 44th Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Langenhoff, A. F.\*\* , Dahl, A., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019) Preschoolers' and Adults' Understanding of Novel Moral and Conventional Violations. Poster presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Wehry, J.\*\* , Rabagliati, H., Skarabela, B., Saouri, A. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019) Daxing with a dax: The relationship between artifact-function polysemy and the design stance. Poster presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.

- Srinivasan, M.**, Vasilyeva, N.\* , & Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.\*\* (2019). Learning about the social world through pragmatic inference. Talk presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Sociolinguistic development in a diverse, multi-linguistic society: Evidence from 7- to 14-year-old children in Gujarat, India. Talk presented at the 11th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Berger, E.\*\* , Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.\*\* , Jauregui, M.\*\*\* , Foushee, R.\*\* , Bunge, S.A., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Tuned in: Children learn from overheard speech while engaged in a cognitively demanding task. Poster presented at the 10th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Ellwood-Lowe M.E.\*\* , Foushee R.\*\* , & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Exploring the “word gap”: The role of financial constraints. Talk presented at the Psychology and Economics of Poverty Convening, Center for Effective Global Action, Berkeley, CA
- Foushee, R.\*\* , Jansen, R.\*\* , & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Conceptions of math and art are linked to avoidance of the domains. Talk presented at the 1st Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society Conference, Ottawa, CA.
- Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.\*\* , Foushee, R.\*\* , & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Financial concerns suppress parents’ speech with their children. Invited talk presented at Evidence to Action 2019: Innovations in Health Data and Measurement, San Francisco, CA.
- Srinivasan, M.**, Berner, C.\*\* & Dahl, A. (2019). Applications of religious norms across contexts among Hindu and Muslim children in India. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Dunham, Y. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Mapping the gender and religious dynamics of social ties in a diverse school in India. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Ellwood-Lowe, M.\*\* , Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). What accounts for socioeconomic differences in child-directed speech? The role of resource scarcity. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Could both be right? Children’s developing understanding of subjectivity in language. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Foushee, R.\*\* , **Srinivasan, M.** & Xu, F. (2019). Development in preschoolers’ learning from

- naturalistic overheard speech. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Shtulman, A., Foushee, R.,\*\* Barner, D., Dunham, Y. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). When Allah meets Ganesha: Developing supernatural concepts in a religiously-diverse society. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Starr, A.\*, **Srinivasan, M.** & Bunge, S. (2019). Children's semantic knowledge influences visual working memory capacity. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Ellwood-Lowe, M.,\*\* Berner, C.,\*\* Dunham, Y. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2019). Indian=Hindu? The development of nationalist attitudes among Hindu and Muslim children in India. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Williams, A.\*\*, **Srinivasan, M.**, Liu, C. & Zhou, Q. (2019). Why do bilingual speakers code-switch when feeling emotional? Dynamic approach to immigrant parent-child communication. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Vasilyeva, N.\*, **Srinivasan, M.**, Ellwood-Lowe, M.\*\*, Gopnik, A. & Lombrozo, T. (2019). Structural explanations promote resource allocations that compensate for inequality. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Jansen, R.\*\*, Foushee, R.\*\*, & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). When 7 is closer to 9 than to 8: An expanded measure of implicit number conception. Poster presented at the 2nd Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society Conference (MCLS), Oxford, UK.
- Vasilyeva N.\*, Ellwood-Lowe, M.E.\*\*, Lombrozo, T., Gopnik, A., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). Structural explanation promotes rectification of inequality in a resource allocation task. Poster presented at the 59th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- Starr, A.\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). Do spatial metaphors facilitate word learning? Poster presented at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Starr, A.,\* **Srinivasan, M.**, & Bunge, S.A. (2018) Knowledge about real-world objects influences visual working memory capacity. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society. St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Foushee, R.,\*\* Xu, F. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). The 'Goldilocks Effect' in preschoolers' attention to spoken language. *Proceedings of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Society*, Madison, WI.

- Skarabela, B., Rabagliati, H. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). The development of a generative lexicon: Evidence from instrument verbs. *Proceedings of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Society*, Madison, WI.
- Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). Faultless disagreement judgments track adults' estimates of population-level consensus over adjective-referent pairs. *Proceedings of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Society*, Madison, WI.
- Xu, Y., Malt, B. C. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). Lexical evolution, cognition, and computation. *Proceedings of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Society*, Madison, WI.
- Zhu, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). Children's acquisition of regular metonymy: Exploring the producer-product pattern. Poster presented at the *Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science*.
- Skarabela, B., Rabagliati, H. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2018). The development of a generative lexicon: Evidence from instrument verbs. Talk presented at Child Language Symposium, Reading, UK.
- Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). Could both be right? Children's prolonged metalinguistic development in understanding relative and subjective adjectives. Talk presented at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Skarabela, B., **Srinivasan, M.** & Rabagliati, H. (2017). The development of a generative lexicon: Evidence from instrument verbs. Poster presented at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Cirolia, A.,\*\*\* Starr, A.,\* **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). Do Re Metaphor: Spatial metaphor provides an advantage for learning pitch words. Poster presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Srinivasan, M.**, Kaplan, E. A.,\*\* & Dahl, A. (2017). Reasoning about religious and moral norms among Hindu and Muslim children in India. Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). Could both be right? Children's and adults' sensitivity to subjectivity in language. *Proceedings of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, London, UK.
- Starr, A.\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). Spatial language promotes cross-domain associations in early childhood. *Proceedings of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, London, UK.
- Ramiro, C.,\*\*\* Malt, B. C., **Srinivasan, M.** & Xu, Y. (2017). Mental algorithms in the historical

emergence of word meanings. *Proceedings of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, London, UK.

**Srinivasan, M.**, Berner, C.,\*\* & Rabagliati, H. (2017). Children's use of lexical flexibility to structure new noun categories. *Proceedings of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, London, UK.

Jansen, R.,\*\* Foushee, R.,\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). What counts as *math*? Relating conceptions of math with anxiety about math. *Proceedings of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, London, UK.

**Srinivasan, M.**, Kaplan, E. A.,\*\* & Dahl, A. (2017). How do children reason about religious doctrines? Evidence from Hindu and Muslim children in India. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

**Srinivasan, M.**, Dunham, Y., Hicks, C. & Barner, D. (2017). The impact of social structure on psychological mindset: Evidence from the Indian caste system. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). Developing sensitivity to subjectivity in language. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Jansen, R.,\*\* Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). Broad definitions of math are linked to lower levels of math anxiety. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Williams, A.I.,\*\* **Srinivasan, M** & Zhou, Q. (2017). The relations between parental code-switching and emotion expression in multilingual families. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Foushee, R.,\*\* Dubey, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). The impact of social structure and culture on mindset and math anxiety: Evidence from an Indian middle school. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Yazdi, H., Heyman, G., **Srinivasan, M.** & Barner, D. (2017). Indian children endorse growth mindset beliefs despite awareness of an unfair world. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Bartnof, A.,\*\* Foushee, R.,\*\* Barner, D. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2017). Do young children expect newly-learned words to be shared by others? Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

Starr, A.,\* Vendetti, M., **Srinivasan, M.** & Bunge, S. (2017). Eye movements provide insight into the development of analogical reasoning. Poster presented at the Biennial

Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

- Srinivasan, M.**, Berner, C.\*\* & Rabagliati, H. (2016). Children's use of polysemy to structure new noun categories. Talk presented at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Xu, Y., Malt, B. & **Srinivasan, M** (2016). Evolution of polysemous word senses from metaphorical mappings. *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Tillman, K., Marghetis, T., Barner, D. & **Srinivasan, M** (2016). Deconstructing "tomorrow": How children learn the semantics of time. *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Foushee, R.,\*\* Griffiths, T., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2016). Lexical complexity of child-directed and overheard speech: Implications for learning. *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Philadelphia, PA.
- Moty, K.\*\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2016). Pragmatic inferences in definite and indefinite contexts. Poster presented at the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2016). Sensing subjectivity: Children's semantic and epistemological development. Poster presented at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Austin, TX.
- Srinivasan, M.** & Matlock, T. (2016). Battles and journeys with cancer. Talk presented at the Metaphor and Cancer Research Workshop, Berkeley, CA.
- Srinivasan, M.**, Bartnof, A.,\*\* Foushee, R.,\*\* & Barner, D. (2015). The scope of conventionality: Do children expect newly-learned words to be mutually known? Talk presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Al-Mughairy, S.,\*\* Foushee, R.,\*\* Barner, D., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2015). Daxing with a dax: Evidence of productive lexical structures in children. Talk presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Tillman, K., Marghetis, T., Barner, D., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2015). Placeholder structures in word learning: The case of deictic time. Poster presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Rabagliati, H., Conte, S., & **Srinivasan, M.** (2015). Words as invitations to form categories? The case of polysemy. Poster presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.

- Srinivasan, M.**, Al-Mughairy, S.,\*\* Kaplan, E.\*\* & Dahl, A. (2015). Preschoolers' reactions to novel moral and conventional violations. Poster presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Foushee, R.\*\* & **Srinivasan, M.** (2015). Children's understanding of subjectivity in language. Poster presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Yazdi, H., **Srinivasan, M.**, Dunham, Y., Frank, M.C., & Barner, D. (2015). Children's perceptions of inter-caste sharing in India. Poster presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Tillman, K., Marghetis, T., Al-Mughairy, S.,\*\* Barner, D. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2015). The development of explicit and implicit spatial representations of time. Poster presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Al-Mughairy, S.,\*\* Foushee, R.,\*\* Barner, D. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2015). Daxing with a dax: Evidence of productive lexical structures in children. *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Pasadena, CA.
- Tillman, K. Marghetis, T., Barner, D. & **Srinivasan, M.** (2015). When time becomes a place: Temporal gestures, timelines, and the development of children's spatial understanding of time. Poster presented at Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia, PA.
- Srinivasan, M.**, Wagner, K., Frank, M.C. & Barner, D. (2014). Does expertise direct the allocation of attention within visual arrays? The case study of mental abacus. Talk presented at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Cognitive Science Conference, Quebec City, Canada.
- Marghetis, T., Tillman, K., **Srinivasan, M.** & Barner, D. (2014). Linking space and time in the child's mind: The case of gesture. *Proceedings of the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Cognitive Science Conference*, Quebec City, Canada.
- Barner, D., Alvarez, G., Sullivan, J., Brooks, N., **Srinivasan, M.** & Frank, M. C. (2014). Learning mental abacus improves mathematics achievement. *Proceedings of the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Cognitive Science Conference*, Quebec City, Canada.
- Marghetis, T., Tillman, K., **Srinivasan, M.** & Barner, D. (2014). Learning to put time in its place: The development of spatial gestures for time. Poster presented at the Sixth Conference of the Society for Gesture Studies, San Diego, CA.
- Heintz, I., Gabbard, R., **Srinivasan, M.**, Barner, D., Black, D. S., Freedman, M., & Weischedel, R. (2013). Automatic extraction of linguistic metaphor with LDA topic modeling. Paper presented at *The First Workshop on Metaphor in NLP*, Atlanta, GA.

- Chestnut, E., **Srinivasan, M.**, Li, P., & Barner, D. (2013). Sortal concepts and pragmatic inference in children's early quantification of objects. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, WA.
- Srinivasan, M.** & Barner, D. (2013). Putting milk onto cows: World knowledge and the goal bias in language acquisition. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, WA.
- Srinivasan, M.** & Barner, D. (2013). *Daxing* with a *dax*: 4- and 5-year-olds expect words to label instruments and the actions they support. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, WA.
- Srinivasan, M.** & Barner, D. (2012). Putting milk onto cows: A put-on bias in early denominal verb interpretation. Talk presented at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Chestnut, E., **Srinivasan, M.**, Li, P., & Barner, D. (2012). Pragmatic inference and part-whole language in children's early quantification of objects. Poster presented at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Srinivasan, M.** & Snedeker, J. (2011). Four- and five-year-old children expect words to have taxonomically different meanings. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- Khan, M., **Srinivasan, M.**, Wittenberg, E., & Snedeker, J. (2011). Phonological overlap in German affects English lexical processing in German-English bilinguals. Poster presented at Architectures and Mechanisms in Language Processing, Paris, France.
- Srinivasan, M.** & Snedeker, J. (2011). The role of generative structures in the representation and acquisition of polysemous words. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, Quebec.
- Srinivasan, M.** & Snedeker, J. (2009). Distinguishing polysemy and ambiguity in the child's mental lexicon. Poster presented at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.
- Srinivasan, M.** & Snedeker, J. (2009). On the development of representations of polysemous and ambiguous words. Talk presented at Architectures and Mechanisms in Language Processing, Barcelona, Spain.
- Srinivasan, M.**, & Carey, S. (2009). On the nature and origin of structural similarities between representations of space and time. Talk presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO.
- Srinivasan, M.**, & Snedeker, J. (2008). The acquisition of polysemous words. Poster



presented at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.

**Srinivasan, M., & Snedeker, J. (2008).** On the nature of early lexical representations of polysemous words. Talk presented at the Sixth International Conference on the Mental Lexicon, Banff, Alberta.

**Srinivasan, M. & Carey, S. (2008).** The representation of spatial and temporal length. Talk presented at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.

## **Invited Talks**

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Srinivasan, M. (2021). Understanding variation in the language environment and in children's language learning strategies. Talk presented at Language and Cognition seminar, Harvard University. Virtual.

Srinivasan, M. (2020). Understanding variation in the language environment and in children's language learning strategies. Talk presented at Lab for Developmental Studies, Harvard University. Virtual.

Srinivasan, M. (2020). The development of reasoning about religious norms: Insights from Hindu and Muslim children in India. Talk presented at Institute of South Asia Studies, Berkeley, CA.

Srinivasan, M. (2020). The implications of polysemy for word learning and cognitive development. Talk to be presented Department of Psychology, Princeton University. Cancelled.

Srinivasan, M. (2020). Supporting language development. Talk presented at Early Childhood Education Program Speaker Series, Berkeley, CA.

Srinivasan, M. (2019). Children's use of pragmatic inference to learn about the social world. Talk presented at Institute of Cognitive and Brain Sciences Retreat, Berkeley, CA.

Srinivasan, M. (2019). Fair game? A discussion of colorism in India. Panelist at Asha for Education, Berkeley, CA.

Srinivasan, M. (2019). The development of reasoning about religious norms: Insights from Hindu and Muslim children in India. Talk presented at the Developing Belief Network Conference, Riverside, CA.

Srinivasan, M. (2019). Why are words so flexible? A view from language development. Talk presented at Lexical Flexibility: Perspectives on Lexical Semantics and Polysemy. Workshop held at University of Edinburgh.

- Srinivasan, M. (2019). The development of reasoning about religious norms: Insights from Hindu and Muslim children in India. Talk presented at the Department of Psychology, UC Davis.
- Srinivasan, M. (2019). The development of reasoning about religious norms: Insights from Hindu and Muslim children in India. Talk presented at the Institute of Personality and Social Research, University of California, Berkeley.
- Srinivasan, M. (2018). New directions in linguistic and cognitive development. Talk presented at Early Development and Learning Science seminar, University of California, Berkeley.
- Srinivasan, M. (2018). Understanding SES-related variation in linguistic and cognitive development. Talk presented at The Psychology and Economics of Poverty, University of California, Berkeley.
- Srinivasan, M. (2016). The development of intergroup attitudes and religious tolerance in India. Talk presented at the Department of Psychology, Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara, Gujarat, India.
- Srinivasan, M. (2016). Words as windows onto thought. Talk presented at Homecoming Weekend, University of California, Berkeley.
- Srinivasan, M. (2016). The scope of conventionality: Do children expect newly-learned words to be mutually known? Talk presented at the Department of Psychology, University of California, San Diego.
- Srinivasan, M. (2016). Language as a signature of the flexible human mind. Talk presented at the World Economic Forum, Tianjin, China.
- Srinivasan, M. (2016). The role of flexible language in linguistic and cognitive development. Talk presented at the Department of Psychology, New York University.
- Srinivasan, M. (2016). The role of flexibility in linguistic and cognitive development. Talk presented at the Department of Psychology, University of California, Santa Cruz.
- Srinivasan, M. (2015). The scope of conventionality: Do children expect newly-learned words to be mutually known? Talk presented at the Cognitive Linguistics Seminar, University of California, Berkeley.
- Srinivasan, M. (2015). The role of biology and experience in language development. Talk presented at the Wright Institute, Berkeley, California.
- Srinivasan, M. (2014). The development of lexical flexibility. Talk presented at the Department of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley.
- Srinivasan, M. (2013). The role of societal structure in children's beliefs about their own

attributes: Evidence from the Indian caste system. Talk presented at the Stanford-Berkeley Cognitive Science Seminar.

Srinivasan, M. (2013). The role of children's cognitive biases in the structure of the lexicon: Cross-linguistic evidence from polysemy. Talk presented at the Change Plasticity and Development Seminar, University of California, Berkeley.

Srinivasan, M. (2013). The role of children's cognitive biases in the structure of the lexicon: Cross-linguistic evidence from polysemy. Talk presented at the Department of Cognitive Science, University of California, Merced.

Srinivasan, M. (2013). The role of children's cognitive biases in the structure of the lexicon: Cross-linguistic evidence from polysemy. Talk presented at the Department of Psychology, Stanford University.

Srinivasan, M. (2013). Flexibility in thought and language. Talk presented at the Cognitive Linguistics Seminar, University of California, Berkeley.

Srinivasan, M. (2012). Flexibility in thought and language. Talk presented at the Department of Psychology, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ.

Srinivasan, M. (2011). The development of representations of polysemous words. Talk presented at the Center for Research in Language Seminar, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA.

Srinivasan, M. (2009). Flexibility in language and thought. Talk presented at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Srinivasan, M. (2009). What we can learn from flexible language. Talk presented at the New York University Center for Child Language, New York, NY.

Srinivasan, M. (2009). Flexibility in language and thought. Talk presented at the Cognition, Brain, and Behavior Seminar, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

## **Professional Service**

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**Ad hoc journal reviewer:** *Child Development, Cognition, Cognitive Development, Cognitive Linguistics, Cognitive Psychology, Cognitive Science, Developmental Psychology, Developmental Science, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition, Journal of Pragmatics, Lingua, PLOS ONE, Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology, Language Learning and Development, Child Development Perspectives.*

**Conference reviewer:** *Cognitive Science Society, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Society for Research in Child Development, Boston University Conference for Language Development, Cognitive Development Society.*

**Grant reviewer:** *National Science Foundation*

**Membership in Professional Societies**

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*Association for Psychological Science, Cognitive Development Society, Cognitive Science Society, Society for Language Development, Society for Research in Child Development*