

Pauline Maes

Postdoctoral Fellow

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CURRENT RESEARCH POSITIONS

- AUG 2023-PRESENT **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Center for Autism Research Excellence (CARE), Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Boston University
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) 24-27 global fellow (outgoing phase)
Belgian American Educational Foundation (BAEF) 23-24 fellow
Supervisor: Dr. Helen Tager-Flusberg
- AUG 2024-PRESENT **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Autism in Context: Theory and Experiment (ACTE), Department of Language and Letters, Université libre de Bruxelles
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) 24-27 global fellow (host institution)
Supervisor: Dr. Mikhail Kissine

PREVIOUS RESEARCH POSITIONS

- JULY 2022-JUNE 2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Autism in Context: Theory and Experiment, Department of Language and Letters, Université libre de Bruxelles
Postdoctoral researcher and project coordinator for the multi-centric research project [Belgian Language in Autism Study](#)
Supervisor: Dr. Mikhail Kissine
- JULY 2018-JUNE 2022 **Doctoral Research Assistant**, Autism in Context: Theory and Experiment, Department of Language and Letters, Université libre de Bruxelles
Doctoral researcher for the *Detecting Early Signs of Autism* project
Supervisor: Dr. Mikhail Kissine

EDUCATION

- 2018-2022 **PhD in linguistics**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
‘Social attention and profiles of expressive language in young autistic children’ under the supervision of Dr. Mikhail Kissine
14 DEC 2021 private defense passed with no revision

26 JAN 2022 public defense (PhD award date)

2016-2018 **Master in linguistics**, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
2012-2015 **Bachelor in translation and interpreting**, Institut libre Marie Haps, Belgium

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Maes, P.**, La Valle, C., & Tager-Flusberg, H. (2024). Frequency and characteristics of echoes and self-repetitions in minimally verbal and verbally fluent autistic individuals. *Autism & Developmental Language Impairments*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23969415241262207>.
2. **Maes, P.**, Stercq, F., & Kissine, M. (2024). Brief report: temporal distribution of visual attention between the eyes and mouth in young autistic children. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 110, 102292. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.RASD.2023.102292>.
3. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2023). Structure and acoustics of the speech of verbal autistic preschoolers. *Journal of Child Language*, 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0305000923000417>
4. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2023). Describing (pre)linguistic oral productions in 3- to 5-year-old autistic children: a cluster analysis. *Autism*, 27(4), 967-982. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13623613221122663>
5. Weyland, M., **Maes, P.**, Kissine, M., & Defresne, P. (2022). Impact of Belgian COVID-19 lockdown restrictions on autistic individuals' socio-communicative behaviors and their parents' quality of life. *PloS one*, 17(8), e0273932. <https://doi.org/10.1371/JOURNAL.PONE.0273932>
6. **Maes, P.**, Stercq, F., & Kissine, M. (2021). Attention to intentional versus incidental pointing gestures in young autistic children: An eye-tracking study. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 210, 105205. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2021.105205>
7. Clin, E., **Maes, P.**, Stercq, F., & Kissine, M. (2020). No preference for direct versus averted gaze in autistic adults: a reinforced preferential looking paradigm. *Molecular autism*, 11(1), 91. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13229-020-00398-3>

Manuscripts in press, under review, and in preparation

8. Gaynor, C., **Maes, P.**, & Tager-Flusberg, H. (in prep). Language in autism: the forgotten group between minimally verbal and verbally fluent.
9. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., Kissine, M., & BeLAS consortium (in prep). Optimizing the participation in experimental research: implementation of a mobile lab for young autistic children.
10. Weyland, M., **Maes, P.**, & Kissine, M. (in prep). Can expert clinicians 'hear' the autism diagnosis at a vocal and preverbal stage? A first impression study.
11. Weyland, M., **Maes, P.**, & Kissine, M. (in prep). Quantitative and qualitative analyses of (pre)verbal productions of children with elevated likelihood of autism: beyond group differences.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions , Postdoctoral global fellowship (266,648.16€)	2023
Belgian American Educational Foundation , Postdoctoral fellowship (50,000\$)	2023
F.R.S-FNRS Scientific meeting abroad , Travel grant for conference (724.45€)	2023
International Society for Autism Research , INSAR Dissertation Award Finalist	2023
F.R.S.-FNRS/FWO Excellence of Science (PI: Mikhail Kissine), Selected by PI for a postdoctoral researcher position	2022
F.R.S.-FNRS Stay abroad , Travel grant for research stay at Boston University (1298.09€)	2022
Université libre Bruxelles , CCCI mobility funding for research stay at University College London (1800€ - <i>cancelled</i>)	2020
F.R.S.-FNRS Stay abroad , Travel grant for research stay at University College London (1800€ - <i>cancelled</i>)	2020
ROGER DE SPOELBERCH Foundation (PI: Mikhail Kissine), Selected by PI for a doctoral researcher position	2018

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

FEBR 2019-JUNE 2023	Lecturer , inter-university Certification on Autism Spectrum Disorder, Belgium Epidemiology of Autism Spectrum Disorder
SEPT 2018-JUNE 2023	Teaching Assistant , Department of Language and Letters, Université libre de Bruxelles General linguistics I (undergraduate level – BA) General linguistics II (undergraduate level – BA) Quantitative methods in linguistics (graduate level – MA)

Invited talks

1. **Maes, P.** (2024, February). *Preverbal vocalizations or early vocal stereotypies? A longitudinal follow-up of autistic preschoolers with different language profiles*. Invited talk for the language-focused TalkShop Series, University of Connecticut (CT), USA.

Student supervision

María Alejandra Zegarra, undergraduate research intern	2024
Béatrice Busson, master's thesis	2022-2023

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (*featuring only first-author presentations*)

Oral presentations

1. **Maes, P.**, Busson, B., & Kissine, M. (2023, May). *Highlighting the importance of early (pre)verbal productions: language outcomes of young autistic children*. International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) Annual Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden.

2. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2022, November). *Using naturalistic speech samples to follow linguistic profiles of autistic children*. Marguerite-Marie Delacroix Support Fund Symposium, Brussels, Belgium.
3. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2022, August). *Early linguistic productions or (pre)verbal stereotypies: a language follow-up of autistic preschoolers*. Second Workshop on Early Language in Neurodevelopmental Disorders (NeuroD-WELL), Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal.
4. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2022, June). *Describing (pre)linguistic oral productions in young autistic children: a cluster analysis*. TABU Dag, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, The Netherlands.
5. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2022, May). *Describing (pre)linguistic oral productions in young autistic children: a cluster analysis*. International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) Annual Meeting, Austin (TX), USA.
6. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2021, November). *Describing (pre)linguistic oral productions in young autistic children: a cluster analysis*. Groupe de contact FNRS Psycholinguistique et Neurolinguistique (GCPN) Meeting, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium.
7. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2021, September). *Language heterogeneity in autism: linguistic profiles of young children on the spectrum*. Journée des doctorants ED3bis, Université de Mons, Belgium.
8. **Maes, P.**, Stercq, F., & Kissine, M. (2020, December). *Attention to intentional vs. incidental pointing gestures in young autistic children: an eye-tracking study*. Language Abilities in Children with Autism (LACA) Zoom Meeting, online.
9. **Maes, P.**, Weyland, M., & Kissine, M. (2020, December). *Coding procedure for analysis of early linguistic productions in autism spectrum disorder*. Language Abilities in Children with Autism (LACA) Zoom Meeting, online.

Poster presentations

1. **Maes, P.**, & Tager-Flusberg, H. (2024, August). *Brain correlates of autistic echolalia: a naturalistic fNIRS study*. Neuroscience of the Everyday World Conference, Boston University (MA), USA.
2. **Maes, P.**, La Valle, C., & Tager-Flusberg, H. (2024, March). *Frequency and linguistic complexity of spontaneous and non-spontaneous speech in minimally verbal and verbally fluent autistic individuals*. Meeting on Language in Autism (MoLA), Duke University (NC), USA.
3. **Maes, P.**, Busson, B., & Kissine, M. (2023, March). *Characterizing vocal and verbal stereotypies in autistic children who were minimally verbal at preschool*. Meeting on Language in Autism (MoLA), Duke University (NC), USA.
4. **Maes, P.**, Stercq, F., & Kissine, M. (2021, May). *Attention to intentional vs. incidental pointing gestures in young autistic children: an eye-tracking study*. International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) Annual Meeting, online.
5. **Maes, P.**, Clin, E., Stercq, F., & Kissine, M. (2020, June). *Autistic children show a preference for subtle averted gaze versus direct gaze*. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, online.

6. **Maes, P.**, Stercq, F., & Kissine, M. (2020, March). *Can autistic children discriminate intentional from incidental pointing gestures in a word learning context?* Meeting on Language in Autism (MoLA), *cancelled*.
7. **Maes, P.**, Clin, E., Stercq, F., & Kissine, M. (2019, December). *Autistic children show a preference for subtle averted gaze versus direct gaze.* Groupe de contact FNRS Psycholinguistique et Neurolinguistique (GCPN) Meeting, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium.
8. **Maes, P.**, & Kissine, M. (2019, December). *Anticipatory Eye Movement: an adequate paradigm to measure categorical perception of speech?* Groupe de contact FNRS Psycholinguistique et Neurolinguistique (GCPN) Meeting, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium.
9. **Maes, P.**, Clin, E., Stercq, F., & Kissine, M (2019, November). *Autistic children show a preference for subtle averted gaze versus direct gaze.* Marguerite-Marie Delacroix Autism Research Workshop (MMD3), Brussels, Belgium.
10. **Maes, P.**, & Kissine, M. (2019, November). *Categorical perception of speech in neurotypical children and children with autism spectrum disorder.* Workshop on Early Language in Neurodevelopmental Disorders (NeuroD-WELL), Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Behavioral/language assessments

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (research reliable), Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals, Leiter International Performance Scale, Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales

Specific data collection methods

Eye tracking, natural language sampling

Stimulus presentation softwares

E-prime, Tobii Studio, Psychopy

Data processing softwares

Tobii Studio, Praat, Systematic Analysis of Language Transcripts (SALT), ELAN linguistic annotator

Programming languages

R, MATLAB

Languages

French (native), English (excellent proficiency), Spanish (excellent proficiency), Italian (good proficiency), Dutch (passive knowledge)