

# Curriculum Vitae

## Maria Becker

Institute for Computational Linguistics, Heidelberg University (Germany)  
DFG Priority Program „Robust Argumentation Machines“  
Leibniz ScienceCampus for Empirical Linguistics & Computational Language Modeling

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## Education

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- Since 04/2016      PhD student, Heidelberg University, Department of [Computational Linguistics](#) (in collaboration with Leibniz ScienceCampus for Empirical Linguistics & Computational Language Modeling (since 04/2016) and with the DFG Priority Program „Robust Argumentation Machines“ (since 04/2018))  
Topic: [Knowledge Acquisition for Argument Analysis](#)  
Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Anette Frank, Dr. Vivi Nastase
- 10/2012 – 03/2015      Master in [German Linguistics](#) (major) and [Philosophy](#) (minor), Heidelberg University, Germany (with distinction)
- 08/2012 – 01/2015      Master in [Language & Communication](#) (major) and [Psychology](#) (minor), University of Mannheim, Germany (with distinction)
- 10/2008 – 07/2012      Bachelor in [German Philology](#) (major) and [Philosophy](#) (major), Heidelberg University, Germany

## Summerschools and Training

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- 10/2017      Workshop on "Leadership Skills", Heidelberg, Germany.
- 09/2017      1st Summer School of [Digital Humanities](#): Distant Reading - Potentials and Applications. Heidelberg, Germany.
- 08/2017 – 09/2017      12<sup>th</sup> [Machine Translation](#) Marathon: Neural Machine Translation. Lisbon, Portugal.
- 07/2017      7<sup>th</sup> [Machine Learning](#) School. Lisbon, Portugal.
- 09/2016      Second Summer School on [Argumentation](#): Computational and Linguistic Perspectives. Potsdam, Germany.

07/2015 – 08/2015 Culture & Technology - 6th European Summer University in [Digital Humanities](#). Classes: Basic Statistics and Visualization with R (week 1) und Stylometry (week 2). Leipzig, Germany.

## Experience

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04/2015 – 03/2016 Research Assistant ([Leibniz Science Campus](#) for Empirical Linguistics & Computational Language Modeling, Institute for German Language Mannheim (IDS))

Since 02/2015 Project Coordinator ([Discourse Lab](#): Information and research platform for digital discourse analysis, University of Heidelberg/TU Darmstadt) (part-time)

10/2013 – 01/2015 Student Assistant ([Department of German Linguistics](#)/Institute for German Philology, University of Heidelberg)

01/2013 – 12/2014 Student Assistant (Department of Pragmatics/[Institute for German Language Mannheim](#) (IDS), Project: Medical Communication)

11/2010 – 08/2014 Tutor for Linguistics ([Department of German Linguistics](#)/ Institute for German Philology, Heidelberg University)

07/2010 – 12/2012 Student Assistant (Department of Pragmatics/[Institute for German Language Mannheim](#) (IDS), Project: FOLK (Spoken Language Corpus))

## Teaching

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WS 2015/2016 Undergraduate Seminar (Proseminar) Grammatik der geschriebenen und gesprochenen Sprache [Grammar of Written and Spoken Language]. Department of German Linguistics/ Institute for German Philology, Heidelberg University.

## Workshop Organization

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10/2017 Discourse Lab Workshop „Korpustools im Vergleich“ [Corpus tools in comparison]. Heidelberg University.

02/2017 Discourse Lab Workshop zu qualitativen und quantitativen Methoden der Korpuslinguistik [Qualitative and quantitative approaches to textual corpora]. Heidelberg University.

## Computer Skills

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Languages	Python, R
Technologies	NLTK, KERAS, STYLO, COSMAS, Gephi, LATEX, InDesignCC
Systems	Linux/UNIX, Windows

## Languages

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German (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate), Spanish (intermediate), Italian (intermediate), Latin (intermediate)

## Research Interests

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Argumentation Mining, Knowledge Acquisition, Inference, Deep Learning, Corpus Linguistics, Discourse Analysis, Media Linguistics, Spoken Language, Medical Communication, Information Retrieval, Text Simplification

## Volunteer Work

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02/2014 – 03/2014	Working in a children's home and in schools in Iriga City, Philippines (Kolping Workcamp)
09/2012 – 03/2015	Mentor at Big Brothers Big Sisters / KinderHelden: Mentoring of children from difficult social conditions

## Publications

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### Books

#### 2015

Becker, M.: Der Asyldiskurs in Deutschland. Eine medienlinguistische Untersuchung von Presstexten, Onlineforen und Polit-Talkshows [Debating about refugees in Germany. A media-linguistic analysis of newspapers, online forums and political talkshows]. Frankfurt et al.: Peter Lang.

Becker, M.: Ärztliche Empfehlungen in Therapieplanungs-gesprächen. Eine gesprächs-analytische Untersuchung [Medical recommendations in therapy planning discussions. A conversation analysis]. Gesprächsforschung Online, Reihe Empirische Kommunikationsforschung im Gesundheitswesen.

## Posters

### 2018

Becker, M., Staniek, M., Nastase, V., Palmer, A., Frank, A.: The Impact of Attention Mechanism, Context and Genre Information when Classifying Semantic Clause Types with Recurrent Neural Networks. 40th Annual Conference of the German Linguistic Society (DGfS). Stuttgart.

Becker, M., Staniek, M., Nastase, V., Palmer, A., Frank, A.: Automatisches Klassifizieren Semantischer Clauses: Modellierung von Kontext und Genremerkmalen mit Rekurrenten Neuronalen Netzwerken und dem Attention-Mechanismus. [Automated Classification of Semantic Clauses: Modeling Context and Genre Characteristics with Recurrent Neural Networks and Attention Mechanism.] 54. Jahrestagung des Instituts für Deutsche Sprache. Mannheim.

### 2017

Becker, M. and Meyer, J.: Quantitative Approaches to Language: A Study on Controversial Concepts in Climate Change Discourse. Summer School of Digital Humanities: Distant Reading - Potentials and Applications. Heidelberg

### 2016

Becker, M.: Argumentative Reasoning, Clause Types and Implicit Knowledge. Proceedings of the Second Summer School on Argumentation: Computational and Linguistic Perspectives, pp 1-2. Potsdam. **[Best Poster Award]**

## Papers

### 2018

Becker, M.: Frieden, Freiheit, Sicherheit. Kontextsensitive Bedeutungsanalysen dreier Konzepte in den Bundestagsdebatten von März bis Juli 1983. Analysen mit Python. [Peace, freedom, security. Context-sensitive analysis of three concepts in the Bundestag debates from March to July 1983. Analyzes with Python.] Discourse Lab Workshop „Korpustools im Vergleich“. Heidelberg. Published on Discourse Lab Blog: <https://dislab.hypotheses.org/> **[Best Presentation Award]**

### 2017

Becker, M., Staniek, M., Nastase, V., Palmer, A., Frank, A.: Classifying Semantic Clause Types: Modeling Context and Genre Characteristics with Recurrent Neural Networks and Attention. \*SEM (Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics)

Becker, M., Staniek, M., Nastase, V., and Frank, A.: Enriching Argumentative Texts with Implicit Knowledge. Frasinca, F., Ittoo, A., Nguyen, L., and Metais, E. (eds.), Applications of Natural Language to Data Bases (NLDB) - Natural Language Processing and Information Systems, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Springer.

Becker, M., Palmer, A., Frank, A.: Semantic Clause Types and Modality as Features for Argument Analysis. Argument & Computation. Special Issue on Language and Argumen-

tation.

Stegmeier, J., Schünemann, W., Müller, M., Becker, M., Steiger, S., Stier, S.: Multi-method discourse analysis of twitter communication. A comparison of two global political issues. In: Scholz, R. (ed.): Quantifying methods in discourse studies. Basingstoke: Palgrave.

Becker, M., Spranz-Fogasy, Th.: Ärztliche Beratung und Empfehlungen [Medical advice and recommendations]. In: Pick, I. (ed.): Beraten ist Sprechen. Eine linguistische Typologie zu Beratungsgesprächen in verschiedenen Handlungsfeldern. Frankfurt u.a.: Peter Lang.

Becker, M., Müller, M.: Wörter und Dinge. Interdisziplinarität als Modus und Gegenstand der Reflexiven Diskursanalyse [Words and things. Interdisciplinarity as the mode and object of reflexive discourse analysis]. In: Kämper, H., Reising, M., Warnke, I., Hess-Lüttich, E. (eds.): Diskurs - semiotisch. Berlin: Akademie.

Müller, M., Becker, M.: Von Hunden, Hürden und Brücken. Tropen der deutsch-chinesischen Begegnung im kulinarischen Diskurs [Of dogs, hurdles and bridges. Tropes of the German-Chinese encounter in the culinary discourse]. In: Friedemann Vogel / Jia Wenjian (Eds.): Chinesisch-Deutscher Imagereport (CDI). Das Bild Chinas im deutschsprachigen Raum aus kultur-, medien- und sprachwissenschaftlicher Perspektive. Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter, pp. 119-136.

## 2016

Becker, M., Palmer, A., and Frank, A.: Clause Types and Modality in Argumentative Microtexts. Workshop on Foundations of the Language of Argumentation (in conjunction with COMMA), pp. 1-9.

Becker, M., Palmer, A., and Frank, A.: Argumentative texts and clause types. Proceedings of the 3rd Workshop on Argument Mining (ACL Workshop), pp. 21-30.

Spranz-Fogasy, Th., Becker, M.: Beschwerdenexploration und Diagnosemitteilung im ärztlichen Erstgespräch [Symptoms and diagnosis in the initial medical consultation]. In: Busch, A., Spranz-Fogasy, Th. (eds.), Handbuch Sprache und Medizin, Berlin/Boston: de Gruyter, pp. 93-115.

Müller, M., Becker, M.: Wissenskonflikte im Gespräch [Conflicts of Knowledge in Conversation]. In: Luth, J., Vogel, F., Ptashnyk, S. (eds): Linguistische Zugänge zu Konflikten in europäischen Sprachräumen. Berlin/Boston: de Gruyter, pp. 93-112.

Becker, M.: Die Flüchtlingsdebatte in den Medien Deutschlands: Eine korpus- und diskurslinguistische Untersuchung der Konzeptualisierung von Angst [The refugee debate in the German media: A corpus- and discurslinguistic study of the conceptualization of anxiety]. In: Sprachreport 2/2016, pp. 1-11.

Knuchel, D., Becker, M.: Conceptualisations of HIV/AIDS in two German message boards. A corpus linguistic approach. Symposium Language and Health Online. Typing yourself healthy. Basel (CH).

## 2015

Burel, S., Becker, M., Kleitsch, L.: Kommunikative Strategien von Unternehmen zwischen Inszenierung und Adressierung [Communicative strategies of companies between staging

and addressing]. In: Grucza, S., Kolago, L. (eds), Kommunikationsmanagement in multikulturellen Projektteams. Frankfurt am Main et al.: Peter Lang, pp. 229-245.

## **2014**

Spranz-Fogasy, Th., Becker, M., Menz, F., Nowak, P.: Bibliografie zur Medizinischen Kommunikation [Bibliography on Medical Communication]. In: GAIS (Gesprächsanalytisches Informationssystem)

## **Editing**

### **2014**

Becker, M., Jacob, K., Luth, J., Schedl, E., and Schnedermann, T.: Diskurszukünfte. Jubiläumszeitschrift des Forschungsnetzwerks "Sprache und Wissen". [The Future of Discourses. Anniversary Journal of the Research Network "Language and Knowledge"]. Heidelberg. (DOI: 10.11588/heidok.00018444).

### **Since 2015**

Becker, M., Meyer, J. Discourse Lab: Information and Research Platform for Discourse Analysis – Blog [<https://dislab.hypotheses.org/>]

## **Invited Talks**

### **2016**

Becker, M.: Quantitative Approaches to Language. Colloquium "Discourse Analysis". Heidelberg University, Romanisches Seminar.

### **2018**

Becker, M.: Reconstructing Implicit Knowledge in Argumentative Texts. Colloquium "Digital Philology". Technische Universität Darmstadt, Institut für Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft.

## **Talks (without a paper)**

### **2017**

Becker, M., Meyer, J.: Quantitative Zugänge zu sprachlichen Korpora. Eine exemplarische Studie zu agonalen Zentren im Klimawandel-Diskurs [Quantitative approaches to linguistic corpora. An exemplary study on agonal centers in the climate change discourse]. Discourse Lab Workshop zu qualitativen und quantitativen Methoden der Korpuslinguistik.

### **2015**

Müller, M., Becker, M.: Establishing identity and alterity in epistemic cultures. 15th conference of DiscourseNet 'Discourses of Culture – Cultures of Discourse'. Belgrade.