

Johann-Mattis List – Curriculum Vitae

Date of Birth: 16.07.1981
 Place of Birth: Kassel
 Email: list@shh.mpg.de
 Website: http://lingulist.de

Education

06/02/2013 **PhD**, Heinrich Heine Universität, Düsseldorf, *summa cum laude*.
 Disputatio in General Linguistics

02/2009–08/2012 **Doctoral Studies**, Heinrich Heine Universität, Düsseldorf.
 Topic “Sequence Comparison in Historical Linguistics”.

25/06/2008 **Magister Artium**, Freie Universität / Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, *1,0*.
 Master degree in Comparative and Indo-European Linguistics (major) and Sinology and Russian Philology (minors).

09/2007–01/2008 **Visiting Student**, Fúdàn University, Shànghǎi.
 Courses in historical linguistics and General and Applied Linguistics, Institute for Chinese Language and Literature (中國語言文學系).

09/2005–07/2006 **Language Student**, Fúdàn University, Shànghǎi.
 Chinese language courses (advanced level)

10/2003–09/2008 **Master (Magister) Studies**, Freie Universität / Humboldt-Universität, Berlin.
 Comparative and Indo-European Linguistics (major) and Sinology and Russian Philology (minors).

10/2002–09/2003 **Master (Magister) Studies**, Eberhard-Karls Universität, Tübingen.
 Rhetorics (major), Comparatistics and Russian Philology (minors).

19/06/2001 **Abitur (Highschool Diploma)**, Gymnasium Carolinum, Osnabrück, *1.6*.
 Highschool Diploma, with Latin, Chemistry, History, and Music as main subjects.

PhD Thesis

Title *Sequence Comparison in Historical Linguistics*

Supervisors Prof. Dr. Hans Geisler, Dr. Wiebke Petersen

Description The thesis introduces new methods for automatic phonetic alignment and automatic cognate detection.

Magister Thesis

Title *Rekonstruktion der Aussprache des Mittel- und Altchinesischen. Vergleich der Rekonstruktionsmethoden der indogermanischen und der chinesischen Sprachwissenschaft* [Reconstruction of the pronunciation of Middle and Old Chinese. Comparison of the reconstruction methods in Indo-European and Chinese linguistics]

Supervisors Prof. Dr. Michael Meier-Brügger, Dr. Ingo Schäfer

Description The thesis deals with the methods that are applied in order to reconstruct unattested stages of ancestral languages in Indo-European and Chinese linguistics..

Research

since 01/2017 **Senior Scientist**, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena, Germany.
 Group leader of an ERC-funded research project on “Computer-assisted language comparison”

01/2015–12/2016 **Research Fellow**, Centre de Recherches Linguistiques sur l’Asie Orientale (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales), Paris, France.
 Research fellow funded for two years by the German Research Foundation.

- 10/2012–12/2014 **Research Assistant**, Philipps-Universität, Marburg.
Research assistant (post-doc) in the ERC-funded research project “Quantitative Language Comparison” at the Research Center Deutscher Sprachatlas.
- 02/2009–09/2012 **Research Assistant**, Heinrich Heine Universität, Düsseldorf.
Research assistant (doctoral student) in the BMBF-funded research project “Classification and Evolution in Biology, Linguistics, and the History of Science”.

Teaching

Summer semester 2017

List, J.-M. (2017): **Neue Ansätze in der historischen Sprachwissenschaft** [New Approaches to Historical Linguistics]. Institut für Indogermanistik: Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena..

Summer semester 2015

List, J.-M. (2015): **Computergestützter Sprachvergleich mit Python und Javascript** [Computer-assisted language comparison with Python and Javascript]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Summer semester 2014

List, J.-M. (2014): **Lautwandel** [Sound Change]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

List, J.-M. (2014): **Chinesische Dialektologie** [Chinese Dialectology]. Forschungszentrum Deutscher Sprachatlas: Philipps-Universität Marburg..

Winter semester 2013

List, J.-M. (2013): **Theoretische und praktische Aspekte der quantitativen historischen Linguistik** [Theoretical and practical aspects of quantitative historical linguistics]. Forschungszentrum Deutscher Sprachatlas: Philipps-Universität Marburg..

Summer semester 2013

List, J.-M. (2013): **Phonologie der chinesischen Dialekte** [Phonology of Chinese dialects]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Cysouw, M. and J.-M. List (2013): **Digital Humanities: Einführung in die maschinelle Sprachverarbeitung** [Digital humanities: Introduction to natural language processing]. Forschungszentrum Deutscher Sprachatlas: Philipps-Universität Marburg..

Winter semester 2012

List, J.-M. (2012): **Neue Ansätze in der historischen Sprachwissenschaft** [New approaches in historical linguistics]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Winter semester 2011

List, J.-M. (2011): **LaTeX II**. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

List, J.-M. (2011): **LaTeX I**. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

List, J.-M. (2011): **Geschichte der Sprachwissenschaft** [History of Linguistics]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Summer semester 2011

List, J.-M. (2011): **Python**. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Winter semester 2010

List, J.-M. (2010): **Chinesische Phonologie** [Chinese Phonology]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich

Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Summer semester 2010

List, J.-M. (2010): **Sprachkontakt und Sprachwandel** [Language contact and language change]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Winter semester 2009

List, J.-M. (2009): **Linguistische Rekonstruktion: Theorien und Methoden** [Linguistic Reconstruction: Theory and Methods]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Summer semester 2009

Sommerfeld, S. and J.-M. List (2009): **Quantitative Methoden in der Klassifikation von Sprachen** [Quantitative Methods in Language Classification]. Institut für Sprache und Information: Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf..

Supervisor of Bachelor and Master Theses

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| 8/2014 | Boyu Cang , Bachelor Thesis, “Formale und funktionale Aspekte der nichtamtlichen Personennamengebung im Deutschen und Chinesischen” [Formal and functional aspects of non-official naming practice in German and Chinese], Philipps-University Marburg.
Secondary Supervisor |
| 11/2013 | Marisa Delz , Master Thesis, “A theoretical approach on automatic loanword detection”, Eberhard-Karls Universität Tübingen.
Secondary Supervisor |
| 06/2013 | Yang Liu , Bachelor Thesis, Variation der Numeralklassifikation im Chinesischen [Variation of numeral classification in Chinese]”, Philipps-Universität Marburg.
Secondary Supervisor |
| 10/2010 | Isabell Haller , Bachelor Thesis, “Modelle der genetischen Sprachklassifikation: Bäume, Wellen, Netze [Models of genetic language classification: Trees, Waves, Networks]”, Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf.
Supervisor |

Reviewer for Academic Journals and Conferences

- *Africana Linguistica*
- *Biology & Philosophy*
- *BioEssays*
- *BMC Bioinformatics*
- *BMC Evolutionary Biology*
- *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*
- *Diachronica*
- *Language Dynamics and Change*
- *Historiographica Linguistica*
- *International Journal of Diachronic Linguistics and Linguistic Reconstruction*
- *Journal of Historical Linguistics*
- *Linguistics*

- Phylogenetic Methods in Historical Linguistics (Tübingen, 2017, program committee)
- Proceedings B
- Proceedings B
- Quantitative Investigations in Theoretical Linguistics (Tübingen, 2015, program committee)

Organisation

- 20/04/2017 **Mini-Workshop on Poetry**, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena.
Main organiser
- 06/02/2014 **Demo and poster session of the section on computational linguistics organized as part of the 36th Meeting of the German Society for Linguistics (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft)**, Philipps-Universität, Marburg.
Participant of the organisational board, together with Thomas Mayer and Nathalia Levshina.

Further Occupations and Activities

- 09/2001–08/2002 **Civil Service**, Children’s Circus Upsala, Saint Petersburg.
Assistant and juggling trainer in the social project “Upsala Cirk [Upsala Circus]”.

Grants, Scholarships and Awards

- 04/2017–03/2022 **ERC Starting Grant**, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History, Jena.
ERC Starting Grant for the project “Computer-assisted language comparison”, awarded by the European Research Council (Grant ID: 715618)
- 01/2015–12/2016 **Research Fellowship**, UPMC/CRLAO, Paris.
Research Scholarship awarded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) to pursue an interdisciplinary project on “Vertical and lateral aspects of Chinese dialect history” (Grant ID: 261553824)
- 03/02/2014 **Best Dissertation of the Philosophical Faculty in 2013**, Heinrich Heine Universität, Düsseldorf.
Annual prize (2500 Euros) awarded by the Philosophical Faculty of Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf.
- 11-13/08/2013 **Young Scholars Symposium**, University of Washington, Seattle.
Invitation of the “LFK Society for Chinese Linguistics” to take part in the fully sponsored LFK Young Scholars Symposium.
- 02/2009 **Graduate Scholarship**, German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn.
Scholarship for up two years of studies in China. [**declined**]
- 09/2007–01/2008 **Semester Scholarship**, German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn.
Scholarship for one semester at Fúdàn University Shànghǎi.
- 09/2005–08/2006 **Exchange Scholarship**, Freie University Berlin / Fúdàn Universität Shanghai, Berlin / Shanghai.
Scholarship of Freie Universität Berlin in cooperation with Fúdàn University Shànghǎi for two semesters of Chinese language studies at Fúdàn University Shànghǎi.
- 23/10/2004 **Young Talents of Cabaret Competition**, Sophienhof, Kiel, *Second Prize*.
Second prize (500 Euros) for a “Funny Juggling Performance with Rings”.
- 07/06/2001 **Federal Competition “Jugend musiziert”**, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Hamburg, *Second Prize*.
Second Price, Category “Plucked Instruments / Trio” (together with Katun Luc and Katharina Dornieden.

Language Skills

German	native speaker
Russian	fluent
Chinese	fluent

English	fluent	TOEFL iBT: 107
French	good knowledge	CEF C2
Latin	good knowledge	Major Latinum
Old Greek	good knowledge	Graecum
Sanskrit	good knowledge	
Swedish	basic knowledge	
Danish	basic knowledge	

Computer Skills

Languages	Python, R, C++, AWK, BASH (Unix Shell), PHP, SQL, JavaScript
Formatting	L ^A T _E X, Microsoft Word, LibreOffice, HTML/CSS
Graphics	PSTricks, GIMP, InkScape
Operating Systems	Linux, Windows

Publications

Forthcoming

Jäger, G. and J.-M. List (forthcoming): **Using Ancestral State Reconstruction Methods for Onomasiological Reconstruction in Multilingual Word Lists.** *Language Dynamics and Change* ???. ??-??.

Hill, N. and J.-M. List (forthcoming): **Challenges of annotation and analysis in computer-assisted language comparison: A case study on Burmish languages.** *Yearbook of the Poznań Linguistic Meeting* 3.1. ??-??.

2017

List, J.-M., J. Pathmanathan, N. Hill, E. Bapteste, and P. Lopez (2017): **Vowel purity and rhyme evidence in Old Chinese reconstruction.** *Lingua Sinica* 3.1. 1-17.

List, J.-M. (2017): **Using network models to analyze Old Chinese rhyme data.** *Bulletin of Chinese Linguistics* 9.2. 218-241.

List, J.-M. (2017): **[Book Review] Cultural Phylogenetics: Concepts and Applications in Archaeology.** – Edited by Larissa Mendoza Straffon. *Systematic Biology* 66.2. 474-476.

List, J.-M. (2017): **A web-based interactive tool for creating, inspecting, editing, and publishing etymological datasets.** In: *Proceedings of the 15th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics. System Demonstrations.* 9-12.

List, J.-M., S. Greenhill, and R. Gray (2017): **The potential of automatic word comparison for historical linguistics.** *PLOS ONE* 12.1. 1-18.

Jäger, G., J.-M. List, and P. Sofroniev (2017): **Using support vector machines and state-of-the-art algorithms for phonetic alignment to identify cognates in multi-lingual wordlists.** In: *Proceedings of the 15th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics. Long Papers.* 1204-1215.

List, J.-M. (2017): **Contraction.** In: Sybesma, R. (ed.): *Encyclopedia of Chinese language and linguistics.* 672-675.

List, J.-M. (2017): **Fāngyán** 方言. In: Sybesma, R. (ed.): *Encyclopedia of Chinese language and linguistics.* Brill: Leiden and Boston. 219-225.

2016

List, J.-M., A. Terhalle, and D. Schulzek (2016): **Traces of embodiment in Chinese character formation. A frame approach to the interaction of writing, speaking, and meaning.** In: Ströbel, L. (ed.): *Sensory-motor concepts. At the crossroad between language & cognition.* Düsseldorf University Press: 45-62.

List, J.-M., J. Pathmanathan, P. Lopez, and E. Bapteste (2016): **Unity and disunity in evolutionary sciences: process-based analogies open common research avenues for biology and linguistics.** *Biology Direct* 11.39. 1-17.

List, J.-M., P. Lopez, and E. Bapteste (2016): **Using sequence similarity networks to identify partial cognates in multilingual wordlists.** In: *Proceedings of the Association of Computational Linguistics 2016 (Volume 2: Short Papers)*. Association of Computational Linguistics. 599-605.

List, J.-M. (2016): **Beyond cognacy: Historical relations between words and their implication for phylogenetic reconstruction.** *Journal of Language Evolution* 1.2. 119-136.

List, J.-M., M. Cysouw, and R. Forkel (2016): **Concepticon. A resource for the linking of concept lists.** In: *Proceedings of the Tenth International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation*. 2393-2400.

Jäger, G. and J.-M. List (2016): **Investigating the potential of ancestral state reconstruction algorithms in historical linguistics.** In: *Proceedings of the Leiden Workshop on Capturing Phylogenetic Algorithms for Linguistics*.

2015

Chacon, T. and J.-M. List (2015): **Improved computational models of sound change shed light on the history of the Tukanooan languages.** *Journal of Language Relationship* 13.3. 177-204.

List, J.-M. (2015): **Network perspectives on Chinese dialect history.** *Bulletin of Chinese Linguistics* 8. 42-67.

Jäger, G. and J.-M. List (2015): **Factoring lexical and phonetic phylogenetic characters from word lists.** In: *Proceedings of the 6th Conference on Quantitative Investigations in Theoretical Linguistics*. Eberhard-Karls University.

2014

List, J.-M., S. Nelson-Sathi, W. Martin, and H. Geisler (2014): **Using phylogenetic networks to model Chinese dialect history.** *Language Dynamics and Change* 4.2. 222-252.

List, J.-M. (2014): **Sequence comparison in historical linguistics.** Düsseldorf University Press: Düsseldorf.

Mayer, T., J.-M. List, A. Terhalle, and M. Urban (2014): **An interactive visualization of cross-linguistic colexification patterns.** In: *Visualization as added value in the development, use and evaluation of Linguistic Resources. Workshop organized as part of the International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation*. 1-8.

List, J.-M. and J. Prokić (2014): **A benchmark database of phonetic alignments in historical linguistics and dialectology.** In: *Proceedings of the Ninth International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation*. 288-294.

List, J.-M. (2014): **Investigating the impact of sample size on cognate detection.** *Journal of Language Relationship* 11. 91-101.

List, J.-M., S. Nelson-Sathi, H. Geisler, and W. Martin (2014): **Networks of lexical borrowing and lateral gene transfer in language and genome evolution.** *Bioessays* 36.2. 141-150.

2013

Nelson-Sathi, S., O. Popa, J.-M. List, H. Geisler, W. Martin, and T. Dagan (2013): **Reconstructing the lateral component of language history and genome evolution using network approaches.** In: *Classification and evolution in biology, linguistics and the history of science. Concepts – methods – visualization*. Franz Steiner Verlag: Stuttgart. 163-180.

Lopez, P., J.-M. List, and E. Bapteste (2013): **A preliminary case for exploratory networks in biology and linguistics: the phonetic network of Chinese words as a case-study.** In: Fangerau, H., H. Geisler, T. Halling, and W. Martin (eds.): *Classification and evolution in biology, linguistics and the history of science. Concepts – methods – visualization*. Franz Steiner Verlag: Stuttgart. 181-196.

Geisler, H. and J.-M. List (2013): **Do languages grow on trees? The tree metaphor in the history of linguistics.** In: Fangerau, H., H. Geisler, T. Halling, and W. Martin (eds.): *Classification and evolution in biology, linguistics and the history of science. Concepts – methods – visualization.* Franz Steiner Verlag: Stuttgart. 111-124.

List, J.-M. and S. Moran (2013): **An open source toolkit for quantitative historical linguistics.** In: *Proceedings of the ACL 2013 System Demonstrations.* Association for Computational Linguistics. 13-18.

List, J.-M., A. Terhalle, and M. Urban (2013): **Using network approaches to enhance the analysis of cross-linguistic polysemies.** In: *Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Computational Semantics – Short Papers.* Association for Computational Linguistics. 347-353.

2012

List, J.-M. (2012): **Improving phonetic alignment by handling secondary sequence structures.** In: *Computational approaches to the study of dialectal and typological variation. Working papers submitted for the workshop organized as part of the ESSLLI 2012.*

List, J.-M. (2012): **LexStat. Automatic detection of cognates in multilingual wordlists.** In: *Proceedings of the EACL 2012 Joint Workshop of Visualization of Linguistic Patterns and Uncovering Language History from Multilingual Resources.* 117-125.

List, J.-M. (2012): **SCA. Phonetic alignment based on sound classes.** In: Slavkovik, M. and D. Lassiter (eds.): *New directions in logic, language, and computation.* Springer: Berlin and Heidelberg. 32-51.

List, J.-M. (2012): **Multiple sequence alignment in historical linguistics. A sound class based approach.** In: *Proceedings of ConSOLE XIX.* 241-260.

2011

Holman, E., C. Brown, S. Wichmann, A. Müller, V. Velupillai, H. Hammarström, S. Sauppe, H. Jung, D. Bakker, P. Brown, O. Belyaev, M. Urban, R. Mailhammer, J.-M. List, and D. Egorov (2011): **Automated dating of the world's language families based on lexical similarity.** *Current Anthropology* 52.6. 841-875.

Nelson-Sathi, S., J.-M. List, H. Geisler, H. Fangerau, R. Gray, W. Martin, and T. Dagan (2011): **Networks uncover hidden lexical borrowing in Indo-European language evolution.** *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B: Biological Sciences* 278.1713. 1794-1803.

2010

Geisler, H. and J.-M. List (2010): **Beautiful trees on unstable ground. Notes on the data problem in lexicostatistics.** In: Hettrich, H. (ed.): *Die Ausbreitung des Indogermanischen. Thesen aus Sprachwissenschaft, Archäologie und Genetik.* Reichert: Wiesbaden.

List, J.-M. (2010): **Phonetic alignment based on sound classes. A new method for sequence comparison in historical linguistics.** In: *Proceedings of the 15th Student Session of the European Summer School for Logic, Language and Information.* 192-202.

Wichmann, S., E. Holman, A. Müller, V. Velupillai, J.-M. List, O. Belyaev, M. Urban, and D. Bakker (2010): **Glottochronology as a heuristic for genealogical language relationships.** *Journal of Quantitative Linguistics* 17.4. 303-316.

2009

List, J.-M. (2009): **Sprachvariation im modernen Chinesisch.** *CHUN – Chinesischunterricht* 24. 123-140.

List, J.-M. (2009): **Historische Aspekte der komparativen Methode** [Historical aspects of the comparative method]. Working paper.

2008

List, J.-M. (2008): **The validity of reconstruction systems.** Research Proposal.

List, J.-M. (2008): **The puzzling case of Boshan tone sandhi**. Working paper.

List, J.-M. (2008): **Resultativkomposita im Chinesischen** [Resultative compounds in Chinese]. Summary.

List, J.-M. (2008): **Rekonstruktion der Aussprache des Mittel- und Altchinesischen. Vergleich der Rekonstruktionsmethoden der indogermanischen und der chinesischen Sprachwissenschaft** [Reconstruction of the pronunciation of Middle and Old Chinese. Comparison of reconstruction methods in Indo-European and Chinese linguistics]. Magister thesis. Freie Universität Berlin.

2007

List, J.-M. (2007): **Typology and linguistic reconstruction**. Working paper.

List, J.-M. (2007): **The derivational character of the Chinese writing system**. Working paper.

List, J.-M. (2007): **Osnovy rekonstrukcii srednekitajskogo i drevnekitajskogo jazykov** [Introduction to the reconstruction of Middle and Old Chinese]. Summary.

List, J.-M. (2007): **Cóng Éwén de jiǎodù lái kàn pànduàn dòngcí "shì" de qǐyuán yǔ yǎnbiàn** 从俄文的角度来看判断动词“是”的起源与演变 [Origin and change of the Chinese copula shì from a Russian perspective]. Working paper.