Mathieu Paillé

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Education

2017–2022	**Ph.D., Linguistics • McGill University** Dissertation title: *Strengthening Predicates* Supervisors: Bernhard Schwarz and Luis Alonso-Ovalle
2012–2017	**B.A. Honours, Interdisciplinary Linguistics • University of Winnipeg**

Academic positions

(for Oct 2025)	Postdoctoral scholar • **Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS)** Supervisor: Uli Sauerland
2022–	Postdoctoral scholar • **University of Calgary** Supervisors: Elizabeth Ritter and Dimitrios Skordos

Research

Dissertation

2022	Mathieu Paillé. "Strengthening Predicates". PhD thesis. Montréal: McGill University, 2022.

Journal articles

submitted   Mathieu Paillé. "Beyond thematic uniqueness". In: *Glossa* (submitted). Status: first revisions submitted (February 2025). 31 pages.

2025   Mathieu Paillé. "An interaction between logical vocabulary and predicate meanings". In: *Linguistics & Philosophy* 48.1 (2025), pp. 89–140. DOI: 10.1007/s10988-024-09425-5.

2024   Mathieu Paillé. "Co-predications and the quantificational force of summative predicates". In: *Journal of Semantics* 41.3–4 (2024), pp. 279–330. DOI: 10.1093/jos/ffae002.

Proceedings papers

2025   Mathieu Paillé. "Truth-value gaps with integrative predicates". In: *Proceedings of the 41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Ed. by Nikolas Webster, Yağmur Kiper, Richard Wang, and Sichen Larry Lyu. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press, 2025, pp. 466–475.

2024   Mathieu Paillé. "Généraliser l'unicité thématique : une alternative à base d'exhaustivité [Generalizing thematic uniqueness: an alternative based in exhaustivity]". In: *Actes du colloque 50 ans de linguistique à l'UQAM*. ed. by Reine Pinsonneault and Yoann Léveillé. 2024, pp. 191–202.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Trivalent Exh and summative predicates". In: *Proceedings of SALT 33*. Ed. by Juhyae Kim, Burak Öney, Yao Zhang, and Fengyue (Lisa) Zhao. 2023, pp. 421–438.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Optionally co-occurring additive expressions as a challenge for the *Maximize Presupposition* account of obligatory additives". In: *Proceedings of the Fifty-Third Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*. Ed. by Suet-Ying Lam and Satoru Ozaki. Vol. 3. Amherst, MA: GLSA (Graduate Linguistics Student Association), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2023, pp. 1–10.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Alternatives and jurisdiction in predication". In: *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 27*. Ed. by Maria Onoeva, Anna Staňková, and Radek Šimík. Prague: Charles University, 2023, pp. 483–499.

2023   Nina Haslinger and Mathieu Paillé. "Comparing contextual shifts in total/partial predication and plural non-maximality". In: *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 27*. Ed. by Maria Onoeva, Anna Staňková, and Radek Šimík. Prague: Charles University, 2023, pp. 272–290.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "Subatomic and plural homogeneity as exhaustification effects of different kinds". In: *Proceedings of the 23rd Amsterdam Colloquium*. Ed. by Marco Degano, Tom Roberts, Giorgio Sbardolini, and Marieke Schouwstra. 2022, pp. 236–243.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "On additives' interaction with exhaustivity: the view from negative continuations". In: *Proceedings of the Fifty-Second Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*. Ed. by Özge Bakay, Breanna Pratley, Eva Neu, and Peyton Deal. Vol. 3. Amherst, MA: GLSA (Graduate Linguistics Student Association), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2022, pp. 1–10.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "Subatomic homogeneity without the excluded middle presupposition: an argument from conjunction". In: *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 26*. Ed. by Daniel Gutzmann and Sophie Repp. Cologne: University of Cologne, 2022, pp. 658–676.

2021   Mathieu Paillé. "Exhaustivity and the meaning of colour terms". In: *Proceedings of the 38th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Ed. by Rachel Soo, Una Y. Chow, and Sander Nederveen. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press, 2021, pp. 334–344.

2021   Mathieu Paillé. "Tucking-in and pivot-third word order". In: *Proceedings of the Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA)*. ed. by Henrison Hsieh and Keely New. London, ON: University of Western Ontario, 2021, pp. 83–97.

2020   Mathieu Paillé. "The distribution of controlled exhaustivity". In: *Proceedings of SALT 30*. Ed. by Joseph Rhyne, Kaelyn Lamp, Nicole Dreier, and Chloe Kwon. 2020, pp. 843–860.

2020   Mathieu Paillé. "V=*nya* in colloquial Malay". In: *Proceedings of the Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA)*. ed. by Ileana Paul. London, ON: University of Western Ontario, 2020, pp. 209–226.

2018   Mathieu Paillé and Bernhard Schwarz. "Knowing *whether* and ignorance inferences". In: *Proceedings of the 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Ed. by Richard Stockwell, Maura O'Leary, Zhongshi Xu, and Z.L. Zhou. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press, 2018, pp. 306–315.

Presentations

Invited talks

2025   Mathieu Paillé. "A unified approach to three kinds of strength in predication". Invited talk presented at Rutgers University. January 31, 2025.

2025   Mathieu Paillé. "Seminar on additive particles". Seminar presented at Rutgers University. January 30, 2025.

2024   Mathieu Paillé and Nina Haslinger. "Contrastive reduplication, degree predication, and the case of numeral imprecision". Invited talk presented at the Syntax/Semantics reading group at McGill. February 8, 2024.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "A neo-structuralist linguistics". Invited talk presented at the University of Ottawa. February 8, 2023.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Class on homogeneity". Guest lecture presented at LIN 5318 (Semantics I), University of Ottawa. February 9, 2023.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "A neo-structuralist research programme". Invited talk presented at the University of Calgary. January 27, 2023.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Truth-value gaps and contextual weakness with integrative predicates". Invited talk presented at the Student Squib Hour at the University of Göttingen. January 16, 2023.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "Features and alternatives: modelling the local exhaustification of predicates". Invited talk presented at the Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS). Berlin, September 20, 2022.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "On the strength of predicates: *and*, *also*, and local exhaustivity". Invited talk presented at the Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS). Berlin, September 19, 2022.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "Inclusion of parts, or exclusion of predicates? Comparing two exhaustivity accounts of homogeneity". Invited talk presented at the Workshop on Part–Whole Structures in Natural Language. Masaryk University in Brno, May 27, 2022.

2021   Mathieu Paillé. "On the strengthening of non-scalar predicates and the syntactic distribution of exhaustivity". Invited talk presented at Oberseminar English Linguistics (Syntax–Semantics), University of Göttingen. December 21, 2021.

2021   Mathieu Paillé. "Derivational morphemes exhaustify roots: a hypothesis on the relationship between language and concepts". Invited talk presented at Humboldt University of Berlin. November 9, 2021.

2021   Mathieu Paillé. "The Low-Expl hypothesis: evidence from a split-vP language". Guest lecture presented at LING 675 (Seminar in Syntax), McGill. January 27, 2021.

2018   Mathieu Paillé. "Desire predicates and the hurdles of selection". Guest lecture presented at LING 201 (Intro Linguistics), McGill. December 3, 2018.

Refereed presentations

2025   Mathieu Paillé. "Towards a semantics for letter predicates". Talk presented at the Annual Conference of the Canadian Linguistics Association (CLA). McGill, Montréal, June 4, 2025.

2024   Mathieu Paillé. "Isolated contributors to goodness-of-example in language: Idealness with Italian *-issimo*". Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 29. Consorzio Universitario Mediterraneo Orientale, Noto, Italy, September 19, 2024.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Non-maximality without part-quantification". Talk presented at the second Workshop on Homogeneity and Non-Maximality. University of Vienna, July 19, 2023.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Trivalent Exh and the Exclusion theory of summative predicates". Talk presented at the 33rd Semantics and Linguistics Theory (SALT) conference. Yale, New Haven, CT, May 13, 2023.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Truth-value gaps with integrative predicates". Talk presented at the 41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL). UC Santa Cruz, May 5, 2023.

2023   Mathieu Paillé. "Optionally co-occurring additive expressions: an argument for obligatory additives as de-exhaustifiers". Poster presented at the 53rd North-East Linguistics Society (NELS) conference. University of Göttingen, January 13, 2023.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "Subatomic and plural homogeneity as exhaustification effects of different kinds". Talk presented at the 23rd Amsterdam Colloquium. University of Amsterdam, December 21, 2022.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "On quantificational force in conjoined and non-conjoined summative predicates, and its consequences for underspecification theories of homogeneity". Talk presented at the first Workshop on Homogeneity and Non-Maximality. Online, November 19, 2022.

2022   Mathieu Paillé. "Alternatives and jurisdiction in predication". Talk presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 27. Charles University in Prague, September 16, 2022.

2022   Nina Haslinger and Mathieu Paillé. "Comparing contextual shifts in total/partial predication and plural non-maximality". Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 27. Charles University in Prague, September 15, 2022.

2021   Mathieu Paillé. "Revisiting additives' interaction with exhaustivity: evidence from sentential negation". Poster presented at the 52nd North-East Linguistics Society (NELS) conference. Rutgers, New Brunswick, NJ, October 29, 2021.

2021   Mathieu Paillé. "Subatomic homogeneity without the excluded middle: an argument from conjunction". Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung 26. University of Cologne, September 8, 2021.

2021   Mathieu Paillé. "*Généraliser l'unicité thématique : une alternative à base d'exhaustivité* [Generalizing thematic uniqueness: an alternative based in exhaustivity]". Talk presented at 50 ans de linguistique à l'UQÀM. Université du Québec à Montréal, April 23, 2021.

2020   Mathieu Paillé. "Tucking-in and nominative-third word order". Talk presented at the 27th Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA) conference. National University of Singapore, August 22, 2020.

2020   Mathieu Paillé. "The distribution of local-only exhaustivity". Poster presented at the 30th Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT) conference. Cornell, August 18, 2020.

                                                        June 3, 2025

2020   Mathieu Paillé. "Exhaustivity and the meaning of colour terms". Talk presented at the 38th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL). UBC, March 8, 2020.

2019   Mathieu Paillé. "Colloquiual Malay VSO". Talk presented at the Annual Conference of the Canadian Linguistics Association (CLA). UBC, June 1, 2019.

2019   Mathieu Paillé. "Colloquiual Malay VSO". Talk presented at the 26th Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA) conference. University of Western Ontario, May 26, 2019.

2019   Mathieu Paillé. "VSO in Malay: head-movement with an expletive". Talk presented at the 19th Montreal–Ottawa–Toronto–Hamilton (MOTH) Syntax Workshop. Carleton University, April 28, 2019.

2018   Mathieu Paillé and Bernhard Schwarz. "Knowing *whether* and ignorance inferences". Talk presented at the 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL). UCLA, April 21, 2018.

2018   Mathieu Paillé. "Knowing *whether* and ignorance inferences". Talk presented at the Toronto–Ottawa–Montreal (TOM) Semantics Workshop. University of Ottawa, March 17, 2018.

2016   Mathieu Paillé. "Discursive uses of main-clause conjunct verbs in Ojibwe". Talk presented at the 48th Algonquian Conference. University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, 2016.

Other presentations

2025   Mathieu Paillé. "Seminar on additive particles". Seminar presented at McGill University. January 23, 2025.

2025   Mathieu Paillé. "A unified approach to three kinds of strength in predication". Talk presented at McGill University. January 22, 2025.

2024   Mathieu Paillé. "Weakness and part-structure in artificial integrative predicates". Talk presented at the Alberta Conference on Linguistics (ACOL) at the University of Calgary. November 2, 2024.

2023   Mathieu Paillé and Nina Haslinger. "Against syntactic constraints on contrastive reduplication". Talk presented at the Alberta Conference on Linguistics (ACOL) at the University of Lethbridge. November 25, 2023.

2023	Mathieu Paillé. "An acquisition project on vocabulary and concepts". Talk presented at the Developmental Psycholinguistics Lab at the University of Calgary. March 24, 2023.
2022	Mathieu Paillé. "Which types of predicates act as alternatives to one another? The view from clause-internal additivity". Talk presented at the McGill Syntax/Semantics reading group. Montréal, February 25, 2022.
2021	Mathieu Paillé. "*Généraliser l'unicité thématique : une alternative à base d'exhaustivité* [Generalizing thematic uniqueness: an alternative based in exhaustivity]". Talk presented at the McGill Syntax/Semantics reading group. Montréal, April 16, 2021.
2021	Mathieu Paillé. "Subatomic homogeneity and the total–partial distinction in predication". Talk presented at the McGill Syntax/Semantics reading group. Montréal, January 29, 2021.
2020	Mathieu Paillé. "Tucking-in in nominative-third languages". Talk presented at the McGill Syntax/Semantics reading group. Montréal, February 19, 2020.
2020	Mathieu Paillé. "Exhaustivity and the meaning of colour terms". Talk presented at the McGill Syntax/Semantics reading group. Montréal, February 26, 2020.
2019	Mathieu Paillé. "Contradiction in copular clauses". Talk presented at the McGill Syntax/Semantics reading group. Montréal, November 18, 2019.
2019	Mathieu Paillé. "Revisiting VSO in Malay". Talk presented at the McGill Syntax/Semantics reading group. Montréal, April 25, 2019.
2018	Mathieu Paillé. "Bahasa expletive =*nya*: consequences for the crosslinguistic distribution of expletive subjects". Talk presented at the McGill Syntax/Semantics reading group. Montréal, November 7, 2018.
2017	Mathieu Paillé. "The Ojibwe Particle *mii* in the C and D systems". Talk presented at the University of Winnipeg Linguistics Colloquium. 2017.
2016	Mathieu Paillé. "Insubordination in Ojibwe". Talk presented at the University of Winnipeg Linguistics Colloquium. 2016.

Awards, scholarships, and fellowships

Post-doctoral

2025   **Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship ($140,000)**, *for Oct. 2025 – Sept. 2027*.
To be held at the Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS).

2023   **SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship ($117,083)**, *for Oct. 2023 – Sept. 2025*.
From the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), to
be held at the University of Calgary. $45,000 annually until Aug. 2024, then $70,000
annually.

2022   **Eyes High Postdoctoral Match-Funding Fellowship ($50,000)**, *offered for Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2024; accepted $25,000 for Oct. 2022 – Sept. 2023*.
A University of Calgary fellowship matching external funding for postdoctoral research.

Graduate

2023   **K.B. Jenckes Prize ($1000).**
"Awarded annually by GPS [Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at McGill] to the
most outstanding graduate receiving a Ph.D. degree during the academic year in any
discipline in the social sciences and humanities. The winner will be chosen from
among candidates nominated by eligible departments and faculties, assessed by the
quality of their academic records, the scholarly significance of their research and the
stylistic and substantive excellence of their theses and other publications."

2022   Lara Riente Memorial Prize in Linguistics ($800).
An award given by the Department of Linguistics at McGill to one graduate student
per year for quality of research.

2020   Graduate Research Enhancement and Travel Award ($387).

2019   **Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship ($150,000)**, *for Sept. 2019 – Aug. 2022*.
"Vanier Scholars demonstrate leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement in graduate studies."

2018   **Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master's, McGill ($17,500)**, *for Sept. 2018 – Aug. 2019*.
"Supporting students who demonstrate a high standard of achievement in undergraduate and early graduate studies"; "provides financial support to high-calibre scholars
who are engaged in eligible master's or, in some cases, doctoral programs in Canada"

2018   Margaret Edna Anderson Fellowship ($4,000).
                "Support of one or more outstanding graduate students in the Faculty of Arts ... on
                the basis of academic merit."

2017   **McGill's Faculty of Arts Doctoral Fellowship in Indigenous Cultural Studies ($60,000)**, *for Sept. 2017 – Aug. 2020*.

2017   University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowship ($28,000; declined).
                "Offered to students who have demonstrated superior intellectual ability and academic
                accomplishment."

2017   Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master's, University of Manitoba
                ($17,500; declined).

Undergraduate

2017   **Governor General's Silver Medal**
                "Recognize[s] the outstanding scholastic achievements of students in Canada" and
                is "awarded to the student graduating with the highest average." Silver is the highest
                distinction for undergraduates.

2017   Gold Medal for Achievement in a Major (Honours) – Interdisciplinary
                Linguistics

2017   Chancellor's Gold Medal for the Highest Standing in Arts (Honours)

2016–2017   Genevieve Doidge Scholarship in Arts ($350).

2016–2017   Marsha P. Hanen Undergraduate Scholarship ($2,000).
                "Awarded to a student who has an outstanding academic record."

2016–2017   Sarah and Isadore Gurevitch Memorial Scholarship in Anthropology
                ($575).

2016–2017   Academic Proficiency Scholarship (Winnipeg Rh Institute) ($400).

2015–2016   **Dr. and Mrs. Roderick Hunter Scholarship ($7,500).**
                "Awarded to a continuing, undergraduate student [at U. of Winnipeg] with high
                academic standing, outstanding leadership qualities, and significant extracurricular
                involvements on campus."

2015–2016   Academic Proficiency Scholarship (Winnipeg Rh Institute) ($400).

2015–2016   Principal J.W. Sparling Scholarship ($100).

2015–2016   Friends of Graham Hall Scholarship ($350).

2015–2016   Angela Mattiacci Memorial Scholarship in Linguistics ($1,000).

2014–2015	Academic Proficiency Scholarship (Herbert L. Draper Fund) ($450).
2014–2015	Kenneth M. Hamilton Scholarship in Religious Studies ($200).
2014–2015	Isbister Undergraduate Scholarship ($900).
2014–2015	Marsha P. Hanen Undergraduate Scholarship ($2,000).
2013–2014	Academic Proficiency Scholarship (Winnipeg Rh Institute) ($500).
2013–2014	Chancellor W. John A. Bulman Scholarship ($3,250).
	"Awarded to an outstanding student or students in any undergraduate degree program" at U. of Winnipeg.
2012–2013	University of Winnipeg Special Entrance Scholarship ($2,250).
2012–2013	President's Award of Merit

Prior

2012	**Governor General's Bronze Medal** and $1,500 award
	"Recognize[s] the outstanding scholastic achievements of students in Canada" and is "awarded to the student graduating with the highest average." Bronze is the highest distinction for high school students.
2006	Grand Pythagoricien
	National Pythagoras Contest (`https://mathematica.ca/`).

Work experience

2024	**Instructor** • McGill
	Meaning in Language (LING 260)
	Enrollment: 61 students. Supervision of one TA (Massimo Lipari).
2021	**Grader** • McGill, for Bernhard Schwarz
	Structure of a Specific Language: German (LING 410)
2020	**Co-instructor** • McGill, with Francisco Torreira
	Intro Linguistics (LING 201)
	Enrollment: 234 students. Supervision of four TAs.
2019	**TA** • McGill, for Junko Shimoyama
	Intro Syntax (LING 371)
	Enrollment: 54 students. Tasks: teaching two conferences a week, grading assignments and exams, having office hours.

2019	**Head TA** • McGill, for Heather Goad and Jessica Coon Intro Linguistics (LING 201) *Enrollment in my conferences: 30 and 15 students. Tasks: teaching two conferences a week, grading assignments and exams, having office hours, consulting with professors on class material, attending lectures and reporting on them to other TAs.*
2018	**TA** • McGill, for Francisco Torreira and Jessica Coon Intro Linguistics (LING 201) *Enrollment in my conferences: 23 and 25 students. Tasks: teaching two conferences a week, grading assignments and exams, hosting occasional office hours.*
2018	**Grader** • McGill, for Bernhard Schwarz Meaning in Language (LING 260)
2017	**RA** • U. of Manitoba, for Will Oxford Research on Algonquian linguistics
2014–2016	**RA** • U. of Manitoba, for Nicole Rosen Research on French dialects in the Prairies and French language acquisition
2014–2015	**Grader** • U. of Winnipeg Grading for Persis Clarkson (anthropology) and Meera Sahawneh (linguistics)

Event organising

2020–2021	The 28th Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association conference (online at McGill and the National University of Singapore) Role: head of programme committee.
2019	The 51st Algonquian Conference (at McGill) Role: organizing programme, chairs, logistics (venue, book sales, etc.).
2018–2019	Parameters Workshop in Honour of Lisa Travis (at McGill) Role: early planning, website.
2015	TEDx (at the U. of Winnipeg) Role: general support/organizing.

Service

2025	Reviewer • Annual Conference of the Canadian Linguistic Association (CLA)

2025	Reviewer • *Semantics and Pragmatics*
2024	Reviewer • *Journal of Semantics*
2024	Reviewer • 3rd Workshop on Gaps and Imprecision in Natural Language Semantics [formerly Workshop on Homogeneity and Non-Maximality]
2024	Reviewer • Sinn und Bedeutung 29
2024	Reviewer • 35th European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI)
2023	Reviewer • Second Workshop on Homogeneity and Non-Maximality

2019–2020   Graduate Students Representative • McGill Linguistics
Role: representing graduate students at department meetings and communicating back to them.

2019   Reviewer • Parameters Workshop in Honour of Lisa Travis

Community involvement

2019–2022   Co-founder and president • **Graduate Linguistics Association of McGill (GLAM)**
I co-founded a graduate student association for the linguistics department at McGill, federated into the Postgraduate Students' Society of McGill.

2019–2020   Organizer • **Climate Justice Action – McGill**
I organized graduate students on climate justice issues.

2019–2020   Co-founder and volunteer • **Earth-ling**
I co-founded an environmental committee within the linguistics department at McGill.

2012–2016   Member and organizer • **Fun Class**
I was an organizer with a U. of Winnipeg–based community organizing group. Successful campaigns I helped organize include:

- fall 2014–winter 2015: campaign for more general mental health counsellors on campus;
- winter 2014: campaign for a better meal plan for students living in residence;
- fall 2013: student referendum for a university-wide ban on sweatshop-made goods.

2014–2015   LGBT* Director • **University of Winnipeg Students' Association**
I was on the UWSA's board and executive committee; I attended LGBT* Centre meetings and organized LGBT* Students' Councils.

2014–2015   Co-founder and organizer ● **Divest UW**
                 I helped organize a group working on having the U. of Winnipeg divest from fossil
                 fuels.
2013   Co-founder ● **Anishinaabemodaa!**
                 I organized an Ojibwe self-study group at the U. of Winnipeg.

Language abilities

- **Native:** French

- **Fluent:** English

- **Conversational:** Italian

- **Basic to intermediate:**
  Japanese, Latin, Spanish, Welsh, Ojibwe, Malay, Modern Standard Arabic

- **Fieldwork:** Malagasy, Cebuano