

# Baichen (Albert) Du

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## Education

- 2019 - 2024 **The University of Hong Kong**, Bachelor of Social Sciences (*Highest Honor Distinction Expected*),  
Linguistics and Political Science.  
GPA: 3.93 out of 4.3 | GPA of Linguistics: 4.08.
- 2023 **University of California, Berkeley**, Visiting Undergraduate Student  
Linguistics.
- 2020 & 2021 **Korea University**, International Winter and Summer Campus  
GPA – 4.07/4.5  
Data analysis with R, Social psychology, Game Theory, Korean democratization.
- 2021 **The Luso-Brazilian Association of Speech Sciences**  
Statistical method in Linguistic research, Speech analysis.

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## Presentation, Publication, and Manuscripts

### Presentations

- Accepted **Du, B.** (2023). Acoustic distance effect on the perception of sibilants mergers between retroflexes and alveolars in Taiwan Mandarin. 184th Meeting of Acoustical Society of America 2023 (ASA 2023), Chicago, IL.
- Accepted **Du, B.** (2023). An audio-visual account for synchronic sound changes towards sibilants merger in Taiwan Mandarin. Seventh Annual Berkeley Undergraduate Linguistics Symposium 2023, University of California, Berkeley, CA.

### Publications

- In Prep **Du, B.** (2023, May). Acoustic distance effect on the perception of sibilants mergers between retroflexes and alveolars in Taiwan Mandarin. In *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics 184ASA*. Acoustical Society of America, 2023.
- Under Review Do, Y.<sup>\*</sup>, Van Hoey, T., Yu, X., **Du, B.**, Tan, L. (2022). Adults intuitively prefer learning regular novel phonological patterns: A tale of two planets. Under review.

### Working Papers

- In Prep Havenhill, J.<sup>\*</sup>, **Du, B.** (In prep). Cross-modal cue integration and phonological evolution: An audio-visual account for palatalization and sound change in diachronic and synchronic Time.
- In Prep Pfiffner, A.<sup>\*</sup>, **Du, B.** (In prep). The acoustics of plosive lenition in Dutch.
- In Prep Do, Y.<sup>\*</sup>, Lung, Z. S., **Du, B.**, Ho, T. Z., Wang, T. K. (In prep). Bilingual speakers performance in simultaneous generalization of multiple phonological patterns.
- In Prep Soderstrom, M.<sup>\*</sup>, Casar, M., **Du, B.** (In prep). Examining infant language experiences in a cross-cultural context.

### Pre-registration

- 2023 **Du, B.**<sup>\*</sup> (2023). The backfire effect in the perception and judgement of congruent and incongruent interpretation of political propaganda. *Undergraduate Thesis of Political Psychology*.

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## Honors, Awards, and Grants

- 2022 **Transdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Initiative Grant**, HKD 3,830 (USD 490)  
The University of Hong Kong.  
◦ Project: An audio-visual account for linguistic and social selectivity in the accommodation to sibilant mergers in Mandarin.
- 2022 **Globalink Research Award**, CAD 12,000 (USD 9,200)  
Mitacs, Canada Government.  
◦ Project: Distraction affects prosodic features of Infant-Directed Speech.
- 2022 **Leung Kau Kui Research and Teaching Grant**, HKD 10,000 (USD 1,270)  
Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU.  
◦ Project: Explanatory power or facts: endorsement for speculations and conjectures when social facts are absent.
- 2022 **The K.K.Ho Prize**, HKD 20,000 (USD 2,550)  
Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU.  
◦ Awarded in recognition of academic performance and social responsibility.
- 2019 - 2022 **Dean's Honor List**.
- 2019 **Soong Ching-ling Foundation Scholarship**, CNY 200,000 (USD 29,500).  
◦ Awarded to undergraduates newly admitted to universities in Hong Kong & Macau, in recognition of academic performance and social activities.

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## Research Experience

- Jan 2023 - **Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program**, Department of Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley  
*Part-time Research Assistant*.  
PI: Dr. Alexandra Pfiffner  
Assistance to the study titled "The acoustics of plosive lenition in Dutch".
- Sep - Dec, 2022 **Undergraduate Research Fellowship**, Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU  
*Undergraduate Research Fellow*.  
Supervisor: Dr. Haohan Chen  
Conducting independent study titled "Explanatory Power or Facts: Endorsement for Speculations and Conjectures When Social Facts are Absent".
- 2021 - 2022 **The Language Development Lab**, Linguistics Department, HKU  
*Lab Member*.  
PI: Assoc Prof. Youngah Do & Dr. Jonathan Havenhill  
Assistance to designing and executing four of the above projects, literature review, experiment building in PsychoPy using Python and JavaScript, data collection, analyzing experimental data using R, and manuscript preparation.
- Jun - Sep, 2022 **The Baby Language Lab**, Department of Psychology, University of Manitoba  
*Full-time Research Assistant*.  
PI: Prof. Melanie Soderstrom  
Conducted prosodic analysis of Infant-Directed-Speech to compare differences in F0 when caregivers paying attention to babies versus caregivers are distracted by the use of smartphones. ELAN, Praat scripting, and R programming were extensively used.
- Jan - Apr, 2022 **Department of Politics and Public Administration**, HKU  
*Part-time Research Assistant*.  
PI: Dr. Haohan Chen  
Assisting web data extraction using R. Analyzing and interpreting text data. Compiling tutorials of advanced data science for POLI3148: Data Science in Politics and Public Administration.
- Jan - May, 2021 **Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program** Faculty of Arts, HKU  
*Research Assistant*.  
Supervisor: Dr. Jonathan Havenhill  
Assistance to the study titled "An Audio-visual Account for Palatalization and Sound Change in Diachronic and Synchronic Time".

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## Skills

Languages	English, Mandarin, Cantonese
Programming*	R, Praat Scripting, Python, $\LaTeX$ , HTML, Julia
Research Tools	RStudio, Praat, PsychoPy, ELAN, Qualtrics, Amazon Polly Speech Synthesis, Amazon Mechanical Turk, Montreal Forced Alignment
Research Skills	Frequentist Statistics(e.g., Linear Mixed Effects Regression, Generalized Mixed Effects Regression), Web Data Extraction, Text Data Processing (e.g., Topic Modelling, Sentiment analysis)

\*In a descending order of proficiency

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## Key Courses

Linguistics	Phonetics(A), Advanced Phonetics(Pending), Experimental Phonetics(Pending), Phonology(A+), Phonetic-Phonology interface(A+), Variation analysis(A-), Advanced Sociolinguistics(Pending), Laboratory linguistics(A), Second language research(A+), Languages of the world(A+), Grammatical description(A+), Semantics(A-).
Methodology	Research methods in social sciences(A+), Data science in politics and public administration(A+), Data Analysis with R(A), Policy and program evaluation(A-)

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## Extracurricular Activities and Services

2023	<b>Mitacs</b> , Globalink Research Internship Ambassador.
2022	<b>HKU Information Day</b> , Department of Linguistics, Volunteer.
2021 - 2022	<b>Chinese Culture Sub-committee</b> , Student Association of HKU R.C.Lee Hall, <i>Chairperson</i> . Responsible for rights protection, equal opportunity and equal access to hall-wide activities, readmission affairs, and general communication between local and non-local students.
2020 - 2021	<b>Social Service Fund</b> , HKU <i>External Secretary</i> . Responsible for general communication between university professors of media law/human rights and the Refugee Union in Hong Kong. Conducting interviews with refugee and diaspora communities. Public events advertising.
2021	<b>Pad for Hope Foundation</b> <i>Teaching Intern</i> . Delivering summer courses offered to rural students, responsible for course designing, event organizing, and general communication between parents and the foundation.
2020 - 2021	<b>University Service Centre</b> , The Chinese University of Hong Kong <i>Helper</i> . Filing and categorizing local gazetteers published by Chinese local government at the China Studies Collection.