

Chuyao (Julian) Wang

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[Academic Website](#)

Keywords

AI and Society; AI Governance; Computational Social Science; Survey and Human-AI Experiments

Research Focus

I study how AI and its governance jointly shape public trust, decision-making, and governance capacity in China and globally, by integrating AI-mediated, computational, and experimental methods to examine their sociopolitical consequences.

Education

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Ph.D. in Social Research Methods

2022-26

Ph.D. Affiliate, LSE Data Science Institute (DSI)

Supervisors: Patrick Sturgis F.B.A., Daniel De Kadt

Yale University

Visiting Assistant in Research, Department of Political Science

2025

Advisor: Joshua Kalla

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)

M.Phil. in Social Science

2020-22

Committee: Han Zhang (Supervisor), David Hendry, Haohan Chen

M.Sc. in Global China Studies, with Dean's Award

2019-20

Shandong University

B.A. in History (Economic History)

2016-20

Short-term Study: UCLA, University of Hong Kong

Summer Institutes

Oxford Large Language Models Workshop for Social Science (Oxford LLMs 2024)

2024

Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS 2021)

2021

Job Market Paper

[1] **Scope of Public Aversion to AI-Labeled Policy Information: A Survey Experiment**

First and corresponding author, under review at *Government Information Quarterly*, full text [online](#)

JCR Journal Metrics: Impact Factor = 10.0, SSCI Q1, Top 2% in Information Science & Library Science

- Conducted a $2 \times 2 \times 2$ survey experiment among a nationally representative, high-quality sample of 3,861
- Revealed that AI labeling (disclosing AI authorship) reduced policy information credibility and interest in the described policy, but did not affect policy support and general misinformation concern
- Provided the first robust evidence on the limited scope of AI labeling effects, informing its policy design

Publication

[2] **Panacea or Pandora's Box: Diverse Governance Strategies to Conspiracy Theories and Their Consequences in China**

Co-first and corresponding author, *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications* (Nature Portfolio), 2025

JCR Journal Metrics: Impact Factor = 3.6, SSCI Q1, Top 1% in Interdisciplinary Social Science

Published on [nature.com](#), highlighted by LSE DSI on LinkedIn, X, and official newsletter

- Analyzed authoritarian governance of conspiracy theories (CTs) via propagation, tolerance, and rebuttal
- Combined qualitative case analysis, social network analysis, and topic modeling of 46,387 Weibo posts
- Found that diverse CT governance strategies mobilize public opinion but risk loss of control and backlash

Under Review

[3] **Governing Online Political Discourse: AI-Based Computational Analysis and Social Simulation**

Second and corresponding author, under review at *PNAS Nexus* (the sibling journal of *PNAS*)

JCR Journal Metrics: Impact Factor = 3.8, Top 5% in Interdisciplinary Social Science

[4] **Framing Trump in Chinese and US News: A Computational Visual Analysis of Political Bias**

Sole author, under review at *International Journal of Press/Politics*, abstract at [SSRN](#)

JCR Journal Metrics: Impact Factor = 4.3, SSCI Q1, Top 10% in Political Science

[5] **Bureaucrat-Expert Collaboration in Generative AI Adoption: Institutional Logics in China**

Second author, under review at *Policy & Internet*

JCR Journal Metrics: Impact Factor = 3.6, SSCI Q1, Top 10% in Political Science

Selected Working Papers

[6] **How AI Sycophancy Distorts Social Perceptions and Polarizes Policy Discussion: Human-AI Conversational Experiments**

First and corresponding author, targets at *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*

- Articulated the implications of policy relevance with AI sycophancy (adaptation to user preferences)
- Investigated how AI sycophancy produces biased information and distorts public policy deliberation
- Designed a personalized, human-AI conversational survey experiment on a probability sample of 3,170

[7] **Governing Online Political Discourse: AI-Based Computational Analysis and Social Simulation**

Second and corresponding author, extended abstract at [SSRN](#)

[8] **Advancing Heterogeneous Treatment Effect Analysis with Machine Learning and Causal Inference**

First author

Teaching

Taught 3 courses across 7 terms, with formal pedagogical training and excellent teaching evaluations

Teaching Experiences

LSE Graduate MY464 - Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Media and Communications

HKUST Undergraduate SOSCI190 - China and the World (3 Terms)

HKUST Undergraduate SOSCI1470 - Political and Economic Development of Modern Japan (3 Terms)

Teaching Evaluation Scores: 5.00, 4.91, and 5.00 (out of 5)

Formal Pedagogical Training

HKUST PDEV6800I - Introduction to Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (3 Terms)

HKUST PDEV6770D - Professional Development for Research Postgraduate Students (3 Terms)

Selected Grants and Awards

Total amount of grants and awards secured: **US\$ 248,000 (RMB 1,817,000)**

Research Grants: 5 grants (4 external and 1 university level), all as the Principal Investigator (PI)

Research and Impact Support Fund (Artificial Intelligence Spotlight Call), £ 4,817, LSE 2024-25

Top 16 student awardees in the inaugural cohort, highlighted by LSE: [World-leading AI research](#)

Researcher Access Program, US\$ 6,000, OpenAI (Twice) 2024-26

Tailored ChatGPT API for social science research (e.g., AI sycophancy in political persuasion)

Google Cloud Research Credits, US\$ 1,000, Google 2024-25

ACM WebSci24 Student Grant, € 500, Association for Computing Machinery 2024

SICSS Research Grant, Social Science Research Council (SSRC), USA 2021

Top 25 awardees among 21 sites worldwide, highlighted by SSRC: [SICSS Research Grantees](#)

Selected Academic Awards

LSE Ph.D. Studentship, £ 170,000, LSE (80 Places across All Departments) 2022-26

Hong Kong Ph.D. Fellowship, HK\$ 1,010,000, Hong Kong Research Grant Council Declined Offer

Information Technology and Politics Section Travel Grant, US\$ 250, APSA 2024

Postgraduate Travel Fund, £ 2,000, LSE	2024-26
Postgraduate Studentship , HK\$ 430,000, HKUST	2020-22
Dean's Award, HKUST (3 Places, Top 5%)	2020

Peer-Reviewed Conference Acceptances

Political Science

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA 2025)
 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA 2024)
 Annual Conference of European Political Science Association (EPSA 2025)
 Annual Meeting of Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth 2025)
 Annual Meeting of Society for Political Methodology, Europe (PolMeth Europe 2025)

Computational Social Science

Oxford Internet Institute Summer Doctoral Program (SDP 2025)
 International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2 2024)
 Association for Computing Machinery Web Science Conference (ACM WebSci 2024)

Communication

Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA 2025)
 National Communication Association Annual Convention (NCA 2024)
 Chinese Internet Research Conference (CIRC 2022)

Sociology

Annual Conference of American Sociological Association (ASA 2025)

Services

Founding Member, Inaugural Organizing Committee, LSE DSI 2025-26

- Initiated interdisciplinary collaboration opportunities connecting PhD students and faculty
- Contributed to the strategic development of initiatives integrating social science with generative AI

Convenor and Presenter, Ph.D. Affiliate Lightning Talk, LSE DSI 2025-26

- Organized talk series to promote knowledge exchange and engage external stakeholders

Journal Reviewer: *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*

Conference Reviewer: IC2S2 2025, IC2S2 2024, ICA 2025, ICA 2024, NCA 2024

Research Training, Skills and Languages

Methods: Human-AI Conversational Experiments, Computational Visual and Textual Analysis
 Survey Experiments, Causal Inference, Social Network Analysis, Case Studies

Programming and Software: R, Python, Cloud Computing, Stata, Qualtrics, Gephi, \LaTeX

Languages: English (IELTS 8.0, advanced proficiency for research and teaching), Chinese (Native)

References

Prof. Patrick Sturgis, F.B.A.
 Professor and Head of Department, LSE
 Email: p.sturgis@lse.ac.uk

Prof. Daniel de Kadt
 Assistant Professor, LSE
 Email: d.de-kadt@lse.ac.uk

Prof. Han Zhang
 Assistant Professor, Brown University
 Email: han_zhang4@brown.edu