Chuyao (Julian) Wang

c.wang85@lse.ac.uk   **LSE Departmental Profile (Link)**

I study AI governance, political communication, and AI in social sciences,
using computational and experimental methods

Education

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

    Ph.D. in Social Research Methods, Department of Methodology   2022-26

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

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

Yale University

    Visiting Assistant in Research, Department of Political Science, Advisor: Joshua Kalla   2025

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)

    M.Phil. in Social Science   2020-22

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

    M.Sc. in Global China Studies, with Dean's Award   2019-20

Shandong University

    B.A. in History (Economic History)   2016-20

        Exchange Study: UCLA; University of Hong Kong

Summer Institutes

    2nd Oxford Large Language Models Workshop for Social Science (Oxford LLMs 2024), Oxford 2024

    4th Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS 2021), HKUST   2021

Research Overview

Interest: Computational Social Science; AI in Social Sciences; Political Communication; AI Governance
Research: 8 papers, including 5 as sole or first author, and 6 as corresponding author (with some overlap)
Status: All papers are published, under review, or in preparation for general science or SSCI Q1 journals

Publication

[1] **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*, 2025; IF = 3.6, SSCI Q1
Published on **nature.com** (Nature Portfolio); 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

[2] **AI Labeling Reduces the Perceived Accuracy of Online Content but Has Limited Broader Effects**
First and corresponding author; under review at *Nature Communications*; IF = 15.7, SCI Q1
Full text at **arXiv**
- Designed a 2 × 2 × 2 survey experiment among a nationally representative, high-quality sample of 3,861
- Revealed limited scope of AI labeling (disclosing AI authorship), i.e., reduced information credibility and interest in the described policy, but not policy support or general misinformation concern

[3] **Bureaucrat-Expert Collaboration in Large Language Model Adoption: An Institutional Logic Perspective on China's Public Sector**
Second author, under review at *Technology in Society*; IF = 12.5, SSCI Q1
- Revealed priority conflicts between bureaucratic control and professional logics in LLM deployment
- Analyzed how cross-sector negotiations shaped model choice, data security, and censorship integration

[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; IF = 4.3, SSCI Q1
- Applied machine learning on emotional profiling of 257,056 images to reveal bias in the visual framing
- Found Chinese media portray Trump as more negative, less masculine, and less trustworthy than US one

[5] **Governing Online Political Discourse: A Social Simulation of Self-Censorship using LLM**
Second and corresponding author; manuscript for *PNAS Nexus*; IF = 3.8
- Applied LLM-based annotation on 343,764 tweets and counterfactual simulation with policy shock
- Demonstrated how regulatory intervention induces online self-censorship through collective adaptation

Selected Working Papers

[6] **How LLM Sycophancy Shapes Individuals' Perceived Social Norms and Affects Policy Support**
First author; for *Nature Human Behaviour*; IF = 15.9, SSCI Q1
- Investigated how LLMs' sycophancy produces biased information and distorts human policy attitudes
- Designed a personalized, human-AI conversational survey experiment on a probability sample of 3,100

[7] **How AI Labeling Affects Policy Support in Social Networks: Simulation and Survey Experiment**
Second and corresponding author; for *Political Analysis*; extended abstract at SSRN; IF = 5.4, SSCI Q1

[8] **Advancing Heterogeneous Treatment Effect Analysis with Machine Learning and Causal Inference**
Sole author; for *Political Science Research and Methods*; IF = 2.6, SSCI Q1

Teaching

Taught 3 undergraduate and postgraduate courses across 7 terms in social sciences and quantitative methods; received formal pedagogical training and achieved excellent teaching evaluation scores.

Teaching Interests
>   Computational Social Science; AI for Social Sciences; Research Design; Network Modeling
>   AI and Society; Political Communication; Public Policy Analysis; Digital Governance; AI Ethics

Teaching Experiences
>   LSE Graduate MY464 - Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Media and Communications
>   HKUST Undergraduate SOSC1190 - China and the World (3 Terms)
>   HKUST Undergraduate SOSC1470 - 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 received: US$ 1,050,000
Research Grants: 6 grants (4 external and 2 university level), all as the sole 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
>   **OpenAI's Researcher Access Program, US$ 5,000**, OpenAI   2024-25
>   Tailored ChatGPT API for social science research (e.g., LLM sycophancy and persuasion)
>   Google Cloud Research Credits, US$ 1,000, Google   2024-25

ACM WebSci24 Student Grant, € 500, Association for Computing Machinery   2024
Research and Dissertation Grant, HK$ 90,000, CUHK [Declined]
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

Information Technology and Politics Section Travel Grant, US$ 250, APSA   2024
Postgraduate Travel Fund, £ 1,000, LSE   2024
Ph.D. Academy Micro-Internship Award, £ 1,000, LSE   2023
LSE Ph.D. Studentship, £ 170,000, LSE (80 Places across All Departments)   2022-26
Hong Kong Ph.D. Fellowship, HK$ 1,010,000, Research Grant Council [Declined]
Computational Social Science Ph.D. Fellowship, HK$ 210,000, CUHK CSS Lab [Declined]
Vice-Chancellor's Ph.D. Scholarship, HK$ 80,000, CUHK [Declined]
Postgraduate Studentship, HK$ 430,000, HKUST   2020-22
Dean's Award, HKUST (3 Places, Top 5%)   2020
Scholarship for UCLA Study, SDU   2017

Peer-Reviewed Conference Acceptances

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)

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)

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

Journal Reviewer: *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*
Conference Reviewer: IC2S2 2025, IC2S2 2024; ICA 2025, ICA 2024; NCA 2024
Founding Member, Inaugural Organizing Committee, Ph.D. Affiliate Network, LSE DSI   2025-26
Convenor and Presenter, Ph.D. Affiliate Lightning Talk, LSE DSI   2025

Research Training, Skills and Languages

Methods: Survey Experiment, Causal Inference, Social Network Analysis, Case Studies,
    Human-AI Interaction, Computational Visual and Textual Analysis, Applied Machine Learning
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 of Quantitative Social Science and Head of Department
Department of Methodology
London School of Economics and Political Science
Email: p.sturgis@lse.ac.uk

Prof. Daniel de Kadt
Assistant Professor of Quantitative Research Methods
Department of Methodology
London School of Economics and Political Science
Email: d.de-kadt@lse.ac.uk

Prof. Han Zhang
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology and Watson Institute of International and Public Affairs
Brown University
Email: han_zhang4@brown.edu