

## Education

**2022 – PhD Linguistics (Psycholinguistics), University College London**

Project: Factors and mechanisms in prediction during language comprehension (Supervisor: Dr. Wing-Yee Chow)

**2018 – 2019 MSc Language Sciences, University College London**

Thesis: Tone information in the prediction in online language processing in Chinese (Supervisor: Dr. Wing-Yee Chow)

**2014 – 2018 Bachelor's Degree in French Language and Literature, Beijing Foreign Studies University****2016 – 2017 Translation (Exchange programme with BFSU), Université Catholique de Lyon, France**

## Research Projects

**The role of Mandarin Chinese tone sandhi in prediction during language comprehension**

Human comprehenders make predictions about upcoming languages on the fly. Research has shown that listeners can use a wide range of linguistic or non-linguistic cues to predict during comprehension. In this project, I use behavioural and eye-tracking methods, to investigate the role of Mandarin Chinese tone sandhi (the T3 sandhi, the yi sandhi) in prediction during language comprehension, particularly as an input to prediction.

**Comprehenders' strategic control in prediction during language comprehension**

A large number of studies have shown that comprehenders routinely predict during language comprehension. However, realistic language input is highly versatile and comprehenders' predictions can often turn out to be wrong. Prediction errors can be costly in a few different ways, hindering language comprehension. In this project, I investigate to what extent prediction during language comprehension may be under the comprehender's control; in other words, whether comprehenders can inhibit their predictions when their task strongly disfavours prediction.

## Publications

**Huo, Y.** & Chow, W.Y. (preprint) Listeners do not use tone sandhi in numerals to predict nouns: an eye-tracking study.

**Huo, Y.** & Chow, W.Y. (in prep) Prediction during language comprehension may be under strategic control: evidence from eye movements.

## Talks and Conference Presentations

**Huo, Y.** (2023) Limited involvement of Mandarin Chinese tone sandhi in prediction during language comprehension. Talk at the Symposium: Tone and prediction in language. 17 Nov. 2023, Lund University, Lund, Sweden.

**Huo, Y.**, Lan, X., Yuan, X., & Chow, W.Y. (2024) Prediction during language comprehension may be under strategic control: evidence from eye movements. Poster presented at AMLaP 2024 - Architectures and Mechanisms of Language Processing 2024, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

Chen, K., **Huo, Y.**, Xu, J., Wang, Z., Xia, F., & Chow, W.Y. (2024) Co-registration of mouse cursor and eye movements reveals comparable sensitivity of mouse and eye-tracking to prediction during language comprehension. Poster presented at AMLaP 2024 - Architectures and Mechanisms of Language Processing 2024, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

**Huo, Y.**, & Chow, W.Y. (2024) Gap between comprehenders' linguistic knowledge and their ability to make predictions: evidence from Mandarin Chinese tone sandhi. Poster presented at LingO 2024: Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Linguistics, Jesus College, Oxford, UK.

**Huo, Y.**, Hsu, Y.C., & Chow, W.Y. (2024) Limited impact of phonological information on listeners' expectations: sentence completion evidence from Mandarin Chinese tone sandhi. Poster presented at HSP 2024: 37th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.

Chen, K., **Huo, Y.**, Xu, J., Wang, Z., Xia, F., & Chow, W.Y. (2024) Co-registration of mouse cursor and eye movements reveals comparable sensitivity of mouse and eye-tracking to prediction during language comprehension. Poster

presented at HSP 2024: 37th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.

**Huo, Y., Wang, S., & Chow, W.Y. (2023)** Task modulates predictive behaviour in constraining context: Eye-tracking evidence from a prediction error study. Poster presented at LingCologne2023: Prediction in Language, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

**Huo, Y., Wang, S., & Chow, W.Y. (2023)** Do listeners detect prediction errors in lexical tone? An investigation with tone sandhi in Mandarin Chinese shows unexpected prediction inhibition. Poster presented at the 36th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

**Huo, Y. & Chow, W.Y. (2022)** An investigation into listeners' selective failure to use phonological knowledge in language prediction. Poster presented at the Architectures and Mechanisms of Language Processing (AMLaP) 2022, University of York, York, UK.

**Huo, Y. & Chow, W.Y. (2022)** An investigation into listener's selective failure to use phonological knowledge in language prediction. Poster presented at the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, University of California Santa Cruz, CA, USA.

**Chow, W.Y., & Huo, Y. (2020)** Listeners can use tone information to predict: Evidence from Mandarin Chinese. Poster presented at the 33rd annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference, University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA, USA.

## Awards

### Scholarships/Studentships:

**2020** China Scholarship Council Research Excellence Scholarship, University of Cardiff, Cardiff, UK.

**2016** First degree studentship, Beijing Foreign Studies University

**2015** Second degree studentship, Beijing Foreign Studies University

### Other:

**2024** Best student poster award, AMLaP 2024 - Architectures and Mechanisms of Language Processing 2024, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.

**2022** PALS Conference Fund, University College London, London, UK.

## Work Experience

**2019 – 2020 Research Assistant**, Speech, Language, and Neuroscience Group, East China Normal University  
Responsibilities:

Project Design & Management: Collaborated closely with the Principal Investigator and lab members to design experiments, collect data, and conduct data analysis.

Documentation & Reporting: Assisted in drafting academic reports and preparing ethics applications.

Lab Community Engagement: Organized social events for lab members.

**2015 – 2022 Tutor/Private teacher**

## Teaching Project Organisation

**2024-2025 UCL Linguistics Short Courses 2024, Organiser**

Responsibilities: Coordinate with instructors on course curriculum and content, handle enrollment and course promotion, create and manage the course website, and coordinate the scheduling and location of courses.

**2023-2024 UCL Linguistics Autumn School 2023, Co-organiser**

Responsibilities: Create and manage the course website, assist the organiser in coordinating course schedules and locations, promote the course, and communicate with students via email.

## Teaching

### Lead Lecturer:

**University College London:**

**2024-2025 The Eye-tracking Method and its Application in Language Research**, UCL Linguistics Short Courses 2024

**2023-2024** Introduction to the Eye-tracking Method and its Application in Language Research, UCL Linguistics Autumn School 2023

**2023-2024** PLINSTAT Introduction to Statistics for Linguists using R

**2021-2022** PLINSTAT Introduction to Statistics for Linguists using R

**Beijing Foreign Studies University:**

**2017-2018** French as a second foreign language, the Department of Chinese Language and Literature

**Guest Lecturer:**

**Division of Psychology and Language Sciences, UCL:**

**2024-2025** Introduction to Event-Related Potentials (ERPs) in Language Research, PALS 0001 Introduction to the Brain and Imaging the Brain

**Teaching Assistant:**

**Division of Psychology and Language Sciences, UCL:**

**2024-2025** PALS0001 Introduction to the Brain and Imaging the Brain

**2023-2024** PALS0001 Introduction to the Brain and Imaging the Brain

**Department of Linguistics, UCL:**

**2024-2025** PLIN0033 Psycholinguistics: General Processing

**2023-2024** PLIN0033 Psycholinguistics: General Processing

**2023-2024** PLIN0038 Neurolinguistics

**2022-2023** PLIN0038 Neurolinguistics

## Skills and Certificates

**IT:**

**Data analysis:** Frequentist and Bayesian data analysis based on R (lme4, brms) and Python (pandas)

**Programming:** Software programming based on Python (pygame, PsychoPy) and JavaScript (JsPsych)

**Web development:** HTML/CSS/Markdown

**Languages:**

**Mandarin Chinese** (native language)

**English** (IELTS **8.5**, L9 R9 W8 S8)

**French** (DALF **C1**)

**Japanese** (JLPT **N1**)

## Student (Co-)supervision

I assisted my supervisor in overseeing undergraduate/postgraduate student projects. My responsibilities included assigning research topics, organising discussions, designing experiments, training students in data collection and data analysis, supervising thesis writing, etc. Projects include:

**Tong Li (MSc, 2023 – 2024):** The mass/count distinction in language prediction in English – an EEG study

**Xuechen Lan & Xiang Yuan (MA, 2023 – 2024):** Task effects in language prediction

**Effie Lu & Yiming Ning (MA, 2023 – 2024):** The effect of Mandarin Chinese tone sandhi on word predictability

**Yi-Chen Hsu (MA, 2022 – 2023):** The effect of Mandarin Chinese tone sandhi on word predictability

**Ruo Chen Fan, Youyang Huang, & Weiyue Zhang (BSc, 2024 – 2025):** Comprehenders' usage of different predictive cues in language prediction

**Naz Kabalak & Ruoning Meng (BSc, 2022 – 2023):** The role of Mandarin Chinese tone sandhi in prediction during language comprehension