Yue Chen

Curriculum Vitae

Research Interests

Language Acquisition, Language Processing, Multilingualism, Heritage Language, Semantics, Perception, Production, Cognition

——— **Education**

University of Southern California (USC)

2024 - Present **Ph.D. Linguistics**

The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

2023   **B.A. Linguistics and Psychology,** Minor in Comparative Literature

Honors Thesis 1: Acquisition of English Reflexive Pronouns: Evidence from Naturalistic Observation
Advisor: Catherine M. Sandhofer

Honors Thesis 2: Unveiling the Parallel Function Hypothesis on Personal Pronouns: A Corpus Analysis Utilizing Eye-Tracking Data
Advisor: Jesse Harris

Summer School

2023   /L+/ International Summer / Winter School on Language Acquisition, University of Potsdam, Online
2025   The North American Summer School for Logic, Language and Information (NASSLLI '25), University of Washington, Seattle, Online

——— **Scholarship and Awards**

2022   UCLA/Keck Humanistic Inquiry Undergraduate Research Award (Keck)
2023   Rose Gilbert in Memory of Maggie Gilbert Scholarship
2023   UCLA College of Letters and Science College Honors
2023   UCLA Linguistics Department Honors
2023   UCLA College of Letters and Science Latin Honors: Cum Laude
2025   Paula Menyuk Award for BUCLD50

——— **Journal Publications**

1. Fuchs, Z., Kealey, E., Eldem, E., Mermelstein, L., Pham, L., Runova, A., **Chen, Y**., Oguz, M., Hong, S., Pan, C., Subramony, J., (2025). Measuring Adult Heritage Language Lexical Proficiency for Studies on Facilitative Processing of Gender. In O. Ivanova & O. Loureda (Eds.), Language Processing in Spanish Heritage Speakers [Special issue]. Languages, 10(8), 189. https://doi.org/10.3390/languages10080189

Yue Chen
Curriculum Vitae

2. Mai, Z., Wong, P. C., Matthews, S., Yip, V., Liao, H., Nie, J., **Chen, Y**. (2025). Zhuang-Mandarin bilingual children in rural China and the role of grandparental input in early bilingualism. PloS one, 20(6), e0326671.
3. **Chen, Y.**, Neer, E., Zhang, E., Sandhofer, C.M., (2024). Acquisition of English Reflexive Pronouns: Evidence from Naturalistic Observation. UCLA Undergraduate Psychology Journal, 11(1), 6-16.

——— **Selected Conference Presentations and Posters**

1. **Chen, Y.** (2025, November). *From 'Um' to Words: The Role of Disfluency Interactions in Shaping Early Language Development*. **[Poster] (One of the top-rated student submissions; Paula Menyuk Award)** 50th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Boston, MA.
2. **Chen, Y**., Mai, Z., Shang, M., (2025, July). *Cross-Linguistic Influence and Developmental Patterns in Reflexive Pronoun Use Among Monolingual, Bilingual, and Trilingual Children*. [**Poster**] CogSci 2025, San Francisco, CA.
3. Fuchs, Z., Kealey, E., Eldem, E., Mermelstein, L., Pham, L., Runova, A., Hong, S., Oguz, M., **Chen, Y.**, Pan, C., Subramony, J., (2025, June). *Predicting facilitative processing of gender in Heritage Spanish using measures of lexical proficiency*. 16th Heritage Language Research Institute (HLRI), [**Poster**] Madison, WI.
4. **Chen, Y.**, Mai, Z., Chen, Y., (2024, November). *Employing Machine Learning and Language Models to Differentiate Language Patterns in Mandarin-Speaking Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. [**Poster**] California Meeting on Psycholinguistics 7 (CAMP7), San Diego, CA.
5. **Chen, Y.**, Su, Y., (2024, November). *Exploring Reflexive Pronoun Development and Usage in Mandarin-Learning Toddlers: A Comparative Study of ASD and TD Groups*. [**Poster**] California Meeting on Psycholinguistics 7 (CAMP7), San Diego, CA.
6. **Chen, Y**., Mai, Z., Hu, X., Shang, M., (2024, July). *Reflexive pronouns in Chinese-learning monolingual, bilingual, and trilingual toddlers, and their parental input*. [**Poster**] Child Language Symposium 2024, Newcastle, UK.
7. **Chen, Y.** (2024, May). *Unveiling the Parallel Function Hypothesis on Personal Pronouns: A Corpus Analysis Utilizing Eye-Tracking Data*. [**Poster**] The 11th Conference on Language, Discourse, and Cognition, Taipei, Taiwan.
8. **Chen, Y.** (2023, February). *Acquisition of English Reflexive Pronouns: Evidence from Naturalistic Observation*. [**Poster**], 22nd Meeting of the Texas Linguistics Society, Austin, TX.

——— **Teaching Experience**

TAships at University of Southern California

Fall 2025: **LING115 Language and Society**
Instructor: Professor Andrew Simpson

——— **Working Manuscript**

Yue Chen
Curriculum Vitae

- Parental Input of the Chinese Bare Reflexive Pronoun 'ziji' and Its Impact on Children's Reflexive Understanding: An Analysis of Prosodic Bootstrapping
- From "Um" to Words: The Role of Disfluency Interactions in Shaping Early Language Development
- Too Much Information? Mandarin Classifiers from Humans to LLMs
- Empathy Locus and Discourse Topicality: Reflexive Pronoun Resolution in Mandarin Chinese

——— **Work Experiences**

2023 - 2024 **Linguistics Research Assistant for Professor Maggie Mai from CUHK**
Involved in multiple research projects, including modeling, CHILDES corpus building, early multilingual development and heritage language acquisition and processing, responsible for literature review, manuscript preparation, coordination between different laboratories and academics, transcription using CLAN and CHAT, and data collection.

——— **Lab Experiences**

2024 - **Psycholinguistics of Mono- and Multilingualism Lab (PoMMLab)**
Involved in stimulus creation, in charge of data organization.
Principal Investigator: Zuzanna Fuchs

2021- 2023 **Language Processing Lab**
Involved in phonetics stimulus creation by using Praat, in charge of data organization, running eye-tracking, pupillometry, self-paced reading, and reading reaction experiments both in person and online.
Principal Investigator: Jesse Harris

2021- 2023 **Language and Cognition Development Lab**
Involved in Research design, in charge of critical thinking and methodology development for social cue projects, data (behavior) coding, lexicon building for each transcript, utterance by utterance transcription of each video by using CLAN, data organization, data analysis, creating RA manuals, new RA-training, and literature review of articles related to social cues and parent-child interactions.
Principal Investigator: Catherine M. Sandhofer
Ph.D. Student Supervisors: Emily Neer and Erjing Zhang

Summer 2022 **Language Acquisition Lab**
In charge of subject scheduling and recruitment, organizing timeslot, and helping run in-person infant preferential-looking paradigm experiments.
Principal Investigator: Megha Sundara and Laurel Perkins

Yue Chen
Curriculum Vitae

────── **Public and University Events**

Winter 2023 **Invited Presenter,** Bruin Day for Admitted Transfers, UCLA
A presentation on my current honors thesis, sharing insights from my undergraduate research journey as a first-generation college student at UCLA. The session will include a Q&A on conducting research and accessing resources as an undergraduate.

────── **Academic Service**

2025 – Present: **Colloquium Coordinator (with Yingyu Su)**, Graduate Students in Linguistics (GSiL), University of Southern California (USC)
2025:   **Conference Support**, Workshop on Theoretical East Asian Linguistics 14 (TEAL-14), University of Southern California (USC)

Reviewer: CAMP7, CAMP8, SAIS 2025, CogSci 2025, AMCIS 2025, PACIS 2025

────── **Volunteer**

UCLA Undergraduate Research Peer Mentor
Child Rescue Organization - China (Non-Profit)
Exploring Your Universe (EYU) - UCLA Psychology Department

────── **Skills**

Language: Mandarin Chinese (Native), Wu Chinese (Native), English, Spanish, Italian
Programming skills: C/C++, Python (NumPy, PyTorch, Transformers), MATLAB, R

Data presentation and analysis: SPSS, MATLAB, LaTeX, Praat, ELAN, CLAN, Qualtrics, SynthWorks, Rezonator, PCIbex

────── **Certificate**

2023 - 2025 CPR – Adult / Pediatrics / First-Aid Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

────── **Other Services and Memberships**

Present   Member of the Linguistics Society of America
Present   Cognitive Science Society
Present   Human Sentence Processing