RANRAN LI

Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security, and Law
Günterstalstraße 73, 79100 Freiburg im Breisgau

Website: ranranli.net; Email: r.li@csl.mpg.de

Website | Google Scholar | ORCID | LinkedIn

ACADEMIC POSITION

2025 –	Postdoc, Dept. Criminology
	Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security, and Law, Germany

EDUCATION

2020 – 2025	PhD candidate, Dept. Psychology
	Dissertation: Unlocking Personality: How Situational Strength and Situational Affordances Shape Behavioral Expression. https://doi.org/10.5463/thesis.1256
	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands
2024-25	PhD research visit, *Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security, and Law*
2018 – 2020	Research Master's in Psychology (with merit)
	University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
2016–17	Global Exchange, *University of Münster, Germany*
2014 – 2018	BSc in Psychology (distinction)
	Soochow University, Taiwan

RESEARCH STATEMENT

My research centers on person-situation interactions—how personality traits and psychological situational factors jointly shape behavior. I aim to bridge personality psychology with adjacent fields, including criminology, behavioral economics, and cultural psychology.

Support good science – open, replicable, reproducible, rigorous science – always on the way.

SKILLS

Methodological: economic games, review and meta-analysis, scale development, experiment, experience sampling/diary study,
Psychometrics: factor analysis, meta-analysis, multilevel modeling, network analysis, big data analytics. Analyses and visualizations in R.

PUBLICATIONS

Li, R, Zettler, I. (2025). Entangled Minds: A roadmap for bridging cultural and personality psychology research. ***Personality Science.*** https://doi.org/10.1177/27000710251388772

{review/conceptual}

Li, R., & Wilt, J. A. (2025). Situated selves: A cyclical model of personality expression in context. ***Current Opinion in Psychology***, 102104. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsyc.2025.102104

{review/conceptual}

Van Gelder, J.-L., **Li, R.**, Wiechert, S., & Frankenhuis, W. E. (2025). Short-term mindsets: Beyond traits and self-regulation. ***Current Opinion in Psychology***, 102112. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsyc.2025.102112

{review/conceptual}

Li, R., Balliet, D., Thielmann, I., & De Vries, R. E. (2024). Revisiting situational strength: Do strong situations restrict variance in behaviors? ***Journal of Personality and Social Psychology***. https://doi.org/10.1037/pspi0000475

{cooperative behavior}
{economic games; meta-analysis}

Li, R., Thielmann, I., Balliet, D., & De Vries, R. E. (2023). Development of the Generic Situational Strength (GSS) scale: Measuring situational strength across contexts. In L. R. Ford & T. A. Scandura (Eds.), ***The SAGE Handbook of Survey Development and Application***. https://doi.org/10.4135/9781529617757.n35

{scale development}

Li, R. Revisiting person–situation interactionism. ***Nat Rev Psychol*** (2022, journal club). https://doi.org/10.1038/s44159-022-00139-8.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREP

Li, R., Thielmann, I., Balliet, D., & De Vries, R. (R&R submitted). Trait activation in daily life: Comparing two perspectives on person-situation interactions.

{personality-behavior}
{diary study: retrospective}

Li, R., Thielmann, I., Balliet, D., & De Vries, R. (R&R). Incentivized dishonesty: Situational strength increases trait activation and variance in dishonest behavior.

{dishonesty}
{experimental cheating paradigm}

Ye, Z., Long, F., Feng, R., Van Dijk, W., **Li, R.** (under review). How Honesty-Humility shapes adjustments of communicated vs. experienced emotions in response to others' (mis)fortunes?

{moral emotions}
{vignette experiment; diary; interactive study}

Li, R, De Vries, R. E., Van Gelder, J.-L. (submitted). Entangled pathways to delinquency: How short-term mindsets and affective states bridge personality, situations, and macro-structures.

{conceptual}

Li, R. (submitted). The Soul of Science: On integrity in an age of pragmatic academia.

{meta-science}

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Slides/posters available at osf.io/a83tv

Symposium Organizer: International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS), Brussels, Mar 2023: "Trait and situation activation in daily life and organizational settings"

Session Moderator: Academy of Management (AOM), Boston, Aug 2023: "Methodological Advances in OB Research"

Other presentations (selected):

Personality-Social Psych	European Conference of Personality (ECP); Differentielle Psychologie (DPPD) conference; Association for Research in Personality (ARP) conference; Kurt Lewin Institute (KLI) Conference;	Berlin, Aug 2024; Madrid, Aug 2022; Kassel, Sept 2025; Evanston, July 2023; Utrecht, April 2024;
Criminology	American Society of Criminology (ASC) conference;	Washington DC, Nov 2025
Behavioral Economics/ Interdisciplinary	Matterhorn Symposium; International Conference on Social Dilemmas (ICSD); Cognition, Behavior, & Evolution Network (CBEN) conference;	Brig, Switzerland, Sept 2025; Leiden, July 2024; Maastricht, Oct 2024;
Management	Academy of Management (AOM) conference; Working community of Dutch Work & Organizational Psychology (WAOP),	Boston 2023; Tilburg, Nov 2022; Groningen, Nov 2023
VR, Computational	XR meeting; VIRTUES VR meeting; Summer Institute Computational Social Science	Würzburg, Oct 2025; Hagen, Sept 2025; Rotterdam, June 2022;

GRANTS, AWARDS

Grants/Fellowship

2026   **Humboldt Postdoc Fellowship**: two-year

2025   **Chinese Government Award for Outstanding PhDs**: $6,000

2024   **DAAD (German Grant Council) Research Grant**: Bi-nationally Supervised Doctoral Degrees, €1,300*7 months

2024   iBBA **Online Experiment Grant** €2,500, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

2021   Kurt Lewin Institute (KLI) **SeedCorn Research Grant** €3,000

Awards

2024   **Best Student Presentation Award**, International Conference on Social Dilemmas (ICSD), Leiden, Netherlands

2024   **Runner-up for the Best Paper Award**, Kurt Lewin Institute, Netherlands

2022   **Best Paper Award**, Working community of Dutch Work & Organizational Psychology (WAOP) conference, Tilburg, Netherlands

Scholarship

2024   Travel Grant European Conference of Personality (ECP)

2023   Academy of Management (AOM) conference registration scholarship

2017   DAAD (German Grant Institute) - STIBET fellowship

2014 - 2018   Soochow University Scholarship for students with outstanding academic performance (*7 times); Franklin Scholarships for Dual Degree of Soochow University (*3 times). Sum up to NT$ 400,000 (≈12,680€)

REVIEWING

Personality and Social Psychology Review: Graduate Student/Postdoc Editorial Board (2023–)

European Journal of Personality (2023–)

Collabra: Psychology (2024–)

Academy of Management (AOM) conference proceedings paper submissions (2021)

SAGE Handbook of Survey Development and Application (2023)

TEACHING

Guest Lecture	**Invited Guest Lecture** on personality, Feb 2024, *Amsterdam Business School, University of Amsterdam*
Thesis supervision	Master thesis supervision and assessment: 2020 – 2024, *Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*
	Bachelor thesis supervision: 2022-2023, *Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*
Grading	Grading master's course 'Personality at Work', *Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*
	Grading bachelor's course 'Methodological Research Projects', *University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Business School*

SCIENCE COMMUNICATIONS

Columnist: Promote science communication in personality-social psychology, promote methodological rigor in scientific practices. Selected blogs include:

❖ How Situational Settings Influence Behavior: New Insights from Behavioral Research. (Link)
❖ Recent Development in Personality Assessment. *Amsterdam Leadership Lab*. (Link)
❖ AOM (Academy of Management) Conference Reflections (Link)
❖ The Limitations of p-value and Bayesian Hypothesis Testing (Link)
❖ Big Data Analytics in Psychology and Management Research (Link)
❖ Computational Modeling: Translating informal theories into formal theories (Link)
❖ Is Psychology a useless discipline? (Link)
❖ Questionable Research Practices (QRPs) in Social Science Research (Link)

Translations (English–Chinese) for cross-cultural projects @*Psychological Science Accelerator* (and colleagues') to enhance the generalizability of psychological science.