

# DAOXIN LI

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<https://daoxinli.github.io>

## EDUCATION

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### Ph.D. in Linguistics

2019 - May 2024 (expected)

University of Pennsylvania

Dissertation: *Distributional learning of syntactic generalizations*

Committee: Charles Yang (advisor), Kathryn Schuler (co-advisor), Julie Anne Legate, John Trueswell, Marlyse Baptista

### B.A. in English Language

2015 - 2019

Tsinghua University

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Behavioral and computational study of language acquisition; Syntax and semantics acquisition; Distributional learning; Word learning; Psycholinguistics; Theoretical syntax; Quantitative methods

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-reviewed Articles

1. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn D. Schuler. (2023). Acquiring recursive structures through distributional learning. *Language Acquisition*, 30(3–4), 323–336. doi: 10.1080/10489223.2023.2185522  
**awarded *Language Acquisition* 2023 Best Paper by an Early Career Scientist**

2. Qing Lyu, Hua Zheng, **Daoxin Li**, Li Zhang, Marianna Apidianaki, & Chris Callison-Burch. (2022). Is “my favorite new movie” my favorite movie? Probing the understanding of recursive noun phrases. *Proceedings of the 2022 Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL 2022)*, 5286–5302. doi: 10.18653/v1/2022.naacl-main.388  
[Data & code]

3. Li Yin, R. Malatesha Joshi, **Daoxin Li**, & Seon-Kee Kim. (2020). Decisions about consonant doubling among non-native speakers of English: Graphotactic and phonological influences. *Reading and Writing*, 33, 1839–1858. doi: 10.1007/s11145-020-10017-5

### Manuscripts

1. **Daoxin Li**. (In revision). Controlling overt subjects in Mandarin. *Journal of East Asian Linguistics*.
2. **Daoxin Li** & Charles Yang. (To be submitted). Productivity and the distributional learning of recursive structures.
3. Kathryn Schuler, **Daoxin Li**, & Shengqi Zhong. (In prep). Adapting the head turn preference procedure for the web.
4. **Daoxin Li** & John Trueswell. (In prep). One meaning or two? The role of referential contrast in the learning of homophones and superordinate terms.

## Conference Proceedings

1. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn Schuler. (2023). Distributional learning of recursive structures: The role of the structural representation. In Paris Gappmayr and Jackson Kellogg (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 47th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 47)*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press. [PDF]
2. **Daoxin Li**, Shengqi Zhong, & Kathryn Schuler. (2023). Adapting infant looking time paradigms for the web. In Paris Gappmayr and Jackson Kellogg (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 47th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 47)*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press. [PDF]
3. **Daoxin Li**. (2023). Passives, impersonals, and Voice in Sakha. In Si Kai Lee, Sarah Asinari and Sabine Lazakovits (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 7th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic (Tu+7)* (pp. 88-103). doi: 10.3765/ptu.v7i1.5308
4. **Daoxin Li**. (2022). Syntactic bootstrapping mental verbs and perception verbs with limited morphosyntactic cues. In Ying Gong and Felix Kpogo (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 46th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 46)* (pp. 428-441). Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press. [PDF]
5. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn Schuler. (2021). Distributional learning of recursive structures. In *Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2021)*. (pp. 1437-1443). [PDF]
6. **Daoxin Li**, Lydia Grohe, Petra Schulz, & Charles Yang. (2021). The distributional learning of recursive structures. In Danielle Dionne and Lee-Ann Vidal Covas (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 45th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 45)* (pp. 471-485). Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press. [PDF]
7. **Daoxin Li**. (2021). Controlling overt subjects in Mandarin. In *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America*, 6(1), 303-316. doi: 10.3765/plsa.v6i1.4973
8. **Daoxin Li**, Xiaolu Yang, Thomas Roeper, Michael Wilson, Rong Yin, Jaieun Kim, Emma Merritt, Diego Lopez, & Austin Tero. (2020). Acquisition of recursion in child Mandarin. In Megan M. Brown and Alexandra Kohut (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 44th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 44)* (pp. 294-307). Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press. [PDF]

## PRESENTATIONS

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### Invited Talks

1. **Daoxin Li**. (2023). *Distributional learning of recursive structures*. Talk at the Language Acquisition Lab, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst MA, Sep 21, 2023. (Virtual)
2. **Daoxin Li**. (2021). *Distributional learning of recursive structures*. Talk at the Integrated Language Sciences and Technology (ILST) Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, Oct 1, 2021.
3. Petra Schulz, **Daoxin Li**, Lydia Grohe, & Charles Yang. (2020). *The distributional learning of recursive structures: The case of possessives in German*. Talk at the Language Acquisition Research Center (LARC) Roundtable, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst MA, Oct 30, 2020. (Virtual)

### Referred Conference Talks

1. **Daoxin Li**. (2024). *Modelling the distributional learning of verb argument structure*. Talk at the 98th annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2024), New York NY, Jan 4 - 7, 2024.
2. Shengqi Zhong, **Daoxin Li**, & Kathryn Schuler. (2022). *Adapting infant looking time paradigms for the web*. Talk at the 47th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 47), Boston University, Boston MA, Nov 3 – 6, 2022.
3. Qing Lyu, Hua Zheng, **Daoxin Li**, Li Zhang, Marianna Apidianaki, & Chris Callison-Burch. (2022). *Is “my favorite new movie” my favorite movie? Probing the understanding of recursive noun phrases*. Talk at the 2022 Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL 2022), Seattle WA, Jul 10 - 15, 2022.
4. **Daoxin Li**, Shengqi Zhong, & Kathryn Schuler. (2022). *Adapting infant looking time paradigms for the web*. Talk at the XXII Biennial International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS 2022), Ottawa, Canada, Jul 7 – 10, 2022.
5. **Daoxin Li**. (2022). *Passives, impersonals, and Voice in Sakha*. Talk at the 58th annual meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 58), University of Chicago, Chicago IL, Apr 22 – 24, 2022. (Virtual)
6. **Daoxin Li**. (2022). *Passives, impersonals, and Voice in Sakha*. Talk at the 7th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic (Tu+7), University of Connecticut, Storrs CT, Feb 18 – 19, 2022. (Virtual)
7. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn Schuler. (2022). *Acquiring recursive structures through distributional learning*. Talk at the 96th annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2022), Washington DC, Jan 6 – 9, 2022.
8. **Daoxin Li**. (2021). *Syntactic bootstrapping mental verbs and perception verbs with limited morphosyntactic cues*. Talk at the 46th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 46), Boston University, Boston MA, Nov 4 – 7, 2021. (Virtual)
9. **Daoxin Li**. (2021). *Controlling overt subjects in Mandarin*. Talk at the 33rd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL 33), University of Chicago, Chicago IL, Jun 24 – 25, 2021. (Virtual)
10. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn Schuler. (2021). *Acquiring recursive structures through distributional learning*. Talk at “Recursion across Languages: The Intricacies of Babel” Workshop, Bucharest, Romania, Jun 1 – 2, 2021. (Virtual)
11. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn Schuler. (2021). *Acquiring recursive structures through distributional learning*. Talk at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (CUNY 34), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, Mar 4 – 6, 2021. (Virtual)
12. **Daoxin Li**. (2021). *Controlling overt subjects in Mandarin*. Talk at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2021), San Francisco CA, Jan 7 – 10, 2021. (Virtual)
13. **Daoxin Li**, Lydia Grohe, Petra Schulz, & Charles Yang. (2020). *The distributional learning of recursive structures*. Talk at the 45th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 45), Boston University, Boston MA, Nov 5 – 8, 2020. (Virtual)
14. Li Yin, R. Malatesha Joshi, **Daoxin Li**, & Seon-Kee Kim. (2019). *Graphotactic as well as phonological influences on decisions about consonant doubling among non-native speakers of English*.

Talk at the third annual conference of the Association for Reading and Writing in Asia (ARWA 2019), Birla Institute of Technology and Science Pilani, India, Feb 28 – Mar 1, 2019.

### Referred Conference Posters

1. **Daoxin Li** & John Trueswell. (2024). *One meaning or two? The role of referential contrast in the learning of homophones and superordinate terms*. Poster at the 98th annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2024), New York NY, Jan 4 - 7, 2024.
2. **Daoxin Li**. (2023). *Modelling the distributional learning of verb argument structure*. Poster at the 48th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 48), Boston University, Boston MA, Nov 2 – 5, 2023.
3. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn Schuler. (2023). *Distributional learning of recursive structures: The role of the structural representation*. Poster at the 45th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2023), Sydney, Australia, Jul 26 – 29, 2023.
4. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn Schuler. (2023). *Distributional learning of recursive structures: The role of the structural representation*. Poster at the 36th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP 2023), University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA, Mar 9 – 11, 2023.
5. **Daoxin Li** & John Trueswell. (2023). *Cross-situational learning homophones and general categories: The role of the referential domain*. Poster at the 97th annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2023), Denver CO, Jan 5 – 8, 2023.
6. Kathryn Schuler & **Daoxin Li**. (2022). *Distributional learning of recursive structures: The role of the structural representation*. Poster at the 47th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 47), Boston University, Boston MA, Nov 3 – 6, 2022.
7. Qing Lyu, Hua Zheng, **Daoxin Li**, Li Zhang, Marianna Apidianaki, & Chris Callison-Burch. (2022). *Is “my favorite new movie” my favorite movie? Probing the understanding of recursive noun phrases*. Poster at the 9th annual Mid-Atlantic Student Colloquium on Speech, Language and Learning (MASC-SLL 2022), Temple University, Philadelphia PA, Apr 30, 2022.
8. **Daoxin Li**, Shengqi Zhong, & Kathryn Schuler. (2022). *Adapting infant looking time paradigms for the web*. Poster at the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP 2022), University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz CA, Mar 24 – 26, 2022. (Virtual)
9. **Daoxin Li**. (2022). *Syntactic bootstrapping mental verbs and perception verbs with limited morphosyntactic cues*. Poster at the 96th annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2022), Washington DC, Jan 6 – 9, 2022.
10. **Daoxin Li** & Kathryn Schuler. (2021). *Distributional learning of recursive structures*. Poster at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2021), University of Vienna, Austria, Jul 26 – 29, 2021. (Virtual)
11. **Daoxin Li**, Lydia Grohe, Petra Schulz, & Charles Yang. (2021). *The distributional learning of recursive structures*. Short talk at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (CUNY 34), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, Mar 4 – 6, 2021. (Virtual)
12. **Daoxin Li**, Xiaolu Yang, Thomas Roeper, Michael Wilson, Rong Yin, Jaieun Kim, Emma Merritt, Diego Lopez, & Austin Tero. (2019). *Acquisition of recursion in child Mandarin*. Poster at the

44th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 44), Boston University, Boston MA, Nov 7 – 10, 2019. (Accepted as an alternate for talk)

13. **Daoxin Li**, Xiaolu Yang, Thomas Roeper, Michael Wilson, Rong Yin, Jaieun Kim, & Emma Merritt. (2019). *Acquisition of recursion in child Mandarin*. Poster at the 14th bi-annual conference on Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition (GALA 14), University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy, Sep 12 – 14, 2019.

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & GRANTS

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**Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant** *Submitted*  
National Science Foundation

**Benjamin Franklin Fellowship** *2019 - 2024*  
University of Pennsylvania

**Prize for the 2023 Best Original Research Article by an Untenured Scientist** *2023*  
*Language Acquisition* Editorial Team

**Dean's Travel Subvention** *2019, 2022(2×), 2023*  
The School of Arts and Sciences (SAS), University of Pennsylvania

**Research Travel Grant** *2019, 2023*  
The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA), University of Pennsylvania

**Research Fund** *2019, 2022, 2023*  
Language and Communication Sciences (LCS) Initiative, University of Pennsylvania

**Travel Grant** *2021*  
The Graduate Student Government of the School of Arts and Sciences (SASGov), University of Pennsylvania

**Professional Society Membership Grant** *2021*  
The Graduate Student Government of the School of Arts and Sciences (SASGov), University of Pennsylvania

**Paula Menyuk Award** (awarded to students who are first authors on top-rated abstracts) *2021*  
The 46th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 46)

**Outstanding Graduate Award** *2019*  
Tsinghua University

**Merit-based Scholarship** for all school years *2016 - 2018*  
Tsinghua University

**Undergraduate Summer Research Travel Grant** *2018*  
Tsinghua University

**Tsinghua Initiative Scientific Research Fund** *2018*  
Tsinghua University

**Academic Travel Award**  
Tsinghua University & Banco Santander

2017

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

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**Graduate Researcher** 2021 - present

Language Learning Lab, University of Pennsylvania (PI: John Trueswell)  
Project: Cross-situational learning homophones and superordinate terms

**Graduate Researcher** 2020 - present

Child Language Lab, University of Pennsylvania (PI: Kathryn Schuler)  
Project 1: Distributional learning of recursive structures in artificial language  
Project 2: Adapting the head-turn preference procedure over the web

**Graduate Researcher** 2020 - present

Syntax Lab, University of Pennsylvania (PI: Julie Anne Legate)  
Project: Controlling overt subjects in Mandarin

**Undergraduate Researcher** 2018 - 2019

Dept of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Tsinghua University (Supervisors: Xiaolu Yang & Tom Roeper (UMass Amherst))  
Project: Acquisition of recursive possessives in child Mandarin

**Undergraduate Researcher** 2018

Child Cognition Lab, Tsinghua University (Supervisor: Peng Zhou)  
Project: Acquisition of serial verb constructions in Mandarin Chinese

**Research Assistant** 2017 - 2018

Center for the Study of Language and Psychology, Tsinghua University (PI: Li Yin)  
Project 1: Early writing facilitation in typically & atypically developing children  
Project 2: Graphotactic and phonological influences on ESL learners' consonant doubling

**Research Assistant** 2017

Language Acquisition Lab, Tsinghua University (PI: Xiaolu Yang)  
Project: Temporal reference in the production of Mandarin-speaking children

## TEACHING & MENTORING

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**Teaching Assistant** for *LING 2700: Language Acquisition* 2023 Fall

Instructor: Aletheia Cui, University of Pennsylvania

**Guest Lecturer** for *LING 4000: Tutorial in Linguistics* 2023 Fall

"Research in experimental language acquisition"  
Instructor: Aletheia Cui, University of Pennsylvania

**Undergraduate Research Mentor** to M. Korobko 2023 Summer - Present

Child Language Lab, University of Pennsylvania

**Undergraduate Research Mentor** to Z. Tabaza 2023 Summer - Present

MindCORE Summer Research Fellowship Program/Child Language Lab, University of Pennsylvania

<b>Recitation Instructor</b> for <i>LING 0001: Introduction to Linguistics</i> Instructor: Lacey Wade, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2023 Spring</i>
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> for <i>LING 300: Tutorial in Linguistics</i> Instructor: Julie Anne Legate, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2021 Fall</i>
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> for <i>LING 300: Tutorial in Linguistics</i> “Statistics fundamentals” “Research in computational language acquisition” Instructor: Julie Anne Legate, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2021 Fall</i>
<b>Recitation Instructor</b> for <i>LING 001: Introduction to Linguistics</i> (Virtual) Instructor: Martin Salzmann, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2021 Spring</i>
<b>Undergraduate Research Mentor</b> to S. Zhong (Virtual) Child Language Lab, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2020 Fall - 2021 Spring</i>
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> for <i>LING 270: Language Acquisition</i> (Virtual) Instructor: Charles Yang, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2020 Fall</i>

## SERVICES

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<b>Mentor</b> , Penn Mind Sciences Diversity & Equity Initiative	<i>2021 - Present</i>
<b>Editorial Board</b> , Penn Working Papers in Linguistics (PWPL)	<i>2019 - Present</i>
<b>Treasurer</b> , Penn Graduate Linguistics Society	<i>2021 - 2023</i>
<b>Session Chair</b> , Locality in Theory, Processing and Acquisition Workshop	<i>2023</i>
<b>Session Chair</b> , the 47th Penn Linguistics Conference	<i>2023</i>
<b>Coordinator</b> , Penn Linguistics Professional Development Workshop Series	<i>2022</i>
<b>Session Chair</b> , the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing	<i>2022</i>
<b>Session Chair</b> , the 34th CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing	<i>2021</i>
<b>Committee Chair</b> , the 45th Penn Linguistics Conference	<i>2020 - 2021</i>
<b>Organizing Committee</b> , the 44th Penn Linguistics Conference	<i>2019 - 2020</i>
<b>Volunteer</b> , the 2nd International Conference on Theoretical East Asian Psycholinguistics	<i>2019</i>
<b>Co-founder &amp; Vice President</b> , Students' Linguistic Society of Tsinghua University	<i>2018 - 2019</i>

## REVIEWING

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<b>Journals</b>	
Journal of Chinese Linguistics	<i>2022</i>
<b>Conferences</b>	
Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)	<i>2023</i>
Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC)	<i>2022 - 2023</i>
Biennial Conference on Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition (GALA)	<i>2022</i>

## MEMBERSHIPS

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International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS)	<i>2022 - Present</i>
Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)	<i>2020 - Present</i>
Linguistic Society of America (LSA)	<i>2020 - Present</i>

## SKILLS

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### Technical Skills

C, Python, R, jsPsych, PCIbex, CLAN, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Praat, Audacity, Premiere, Prolific, Lookit

### Languages

English (fluent)

Mandarin Chinese (native)

German, Latin (beginner)

Sakha (fieldwork)

### Certificates

Certificate in CITI Program: Human Research – Social / Behavioral Research

Certificate in College and University Teaching, Penn Center for Teaching & Learning