

Yen-Chieh (David) Liao

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Birmingham

Research Fellow at the Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Government

Sep 2024 –

University College Dublin

Post-doctoral Researcher at the School of Politics and International Relations

Aug 2023 – Sep 2024

University of Bamberg

Pre-doctoral Researcher at the Chair of Comparative Politics

Dec 2021 – Dec 2022

EDUCATION

University of Essex

PhD in Politics (integrated PhD programme)

Oct 2017 – Jan 2023

National Taipei University

MA in Public Administration and Policy

Sept 2010 – Feb 2014

BA in Public Administration and Policy

Jun 2005 – Aug 2010

ACADEMIC TRAINING

2024 *ARCHER2 Message Passing Programming with MPI*, EPCC (Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre) | *Introduction to High Performance Computing (SLURM)*, BlueBEAR (Birmingham Environment for Academic Research)

2023 *Oxford Large Language Models for Social Science Workshop*; *57th Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis*, Advanced Survey Data Analysis and Survey Experiments

2022 *56th Essex Summer School in Social Science in Data Analysis*, Introduction to Social Network Analysis

2021 *Machine Learning Summer School*, Standard Training Programme; *55th Essex Summer School in Data Analysis*, Advanced Methods for Text-as-Data: Natural Language Processing | Quantitative Methods for Causal Inference and Policy Evaluation

2019 *54th Essex Summer School in Social Science in Data Analysis*, Introduction to Bayesian Analysis for the Social Sciences

2018 *53rd Essex Summer School in Data Analysis*, Ideal Point Estimation and Scaling Methods | Generalized Linear Models

COMPUTING SKILLS

Programming : R, Python | **Database** : SQL, MongoDB | **HPCs** : SLURM, PBS | **DevOps**: Docker

RESEARCH

Publications

2025 Catalysts for Progress? Mapping Policy Insights from Energy Research. *Energy Research and Social Science*. (with Brian Boyle, Stefan Müller, Sarah King and Robin Rauner) [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2025.103955>]

2024 (Mis)perception of Party-voter Congruence and Satisfaction with Democracy. (with Li Tang and Royce Carroll) *Political Science Research and Methods* [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2024.48>]

2024 Electoral Reform and Fragmented Polarization: New Evidence from Taiwan Legislative Roll Calls. *Legislative Studies Quarterly* [DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1111/lsq.12459>]

2023 The Role of Rituals in Adversarial Parliaments: An Analysis of Expressions of Collegiality in the British House of Commons. *Historical Social Research* 48 (3): 209-234 (with David Beck and Thomas Saalfeld) [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.12759/hsr.48.2023.31>]

2015 The Rationale for Supporting Nuclear Power: Analysis of Taiwanese Public Opinion Survey. *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 15 (1): 147-176 (with Xiaochen Su, Chung-li Wu, Tai-De Lee and Chen Tsao) [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/irap/1cu019>]

Under Review

Estimating Factions of Red Guard under Mao's China: A Slogan-based Text Scaling Method with Historical Documents. (with Yi-Nung Tsai)

Electoral Reform and Geographically-Targeted Oversight: Evidence from Taiwan Legislative Yuan. (with Li Tang)
Revise and Resubmit

Working Papers

Who Believes and Shares Fake News: A Multi-Agent System for Experimental Misinformation Research with Large Language Models. (with Linette Lim and Slava Jankin)

How Electoral Systems Shape Policy Attention Proximity: Evidence from Taiwan's Ministerial Interpellations. (with Yu-Ceng Liao and Yi-ting Wang)

Selecting and Validating Classifiers for Multilingual and Cross-Domain Stance Detection. (with Stefan Müller)

From Legislators to Mayors: Political Career Paths and Distributive Politics in Taiwan

Grandstanding under the Spotlight: Unveiling Elites Crisis Communication in the Council of the European Union. (with James Cross and Paula Montano)

TEACHING & SUPERVISION

Postgraduate Supervision

Florida Ferizolli and Jiaqi Liu (MSc AI & Sustain Development, University of Birmingham)

Course and Module

2024 *University College Dublin* Quantitative Text Analysis (Led by Stefan Müller)

Guest Lecturer in Weeks on Word Embeddings and Transformers

Workshops and Seminars

2025 *Taiwan R Lady* Data Analysis and Applications with legisTaiwan.

2024 *SPIRe PhD Workshop University College Dublin* Basic Application of High-Performance Computing

2023 *GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science*

Instructor in Big Data and Computation for Social Data Science (Co-lecturing with Dr. Akitaka Matsuo)

2022 *55th Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis*

Teaching Assistant in Quantitative Text Analysis | Introduction to Programming in Python

2021 *54th Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis*

Teaching Assistant in Introduction to Quantitative Methods in R

2021 *EITM Europe Summer Institute*

Teaching Assistant in Quantitative Text Analysis Using R and Linking Theory with Text as Data

2020 *53rd Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis*

Teaching Assistant in Introduction to Quantitative Text Analysis

2020 *ECPR Summer School*

Teaching Assistant in Machine Learning with Big Data for Social Scientists

2019 *53rd Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis*

Teaching Assistant in Introduction to Quantitative Text Analysis

MAINTAINER OF OPEN-SOURCE TOOLKIT

flaiR: An R wrapper for accessing the Flair NLP library in Python.

legisTaiwan: An R package for accessing real-time Taiwan Legislative Data.

asmcjr: An R Package for Supporting the Book ‘Analyzing Spatial Models of Choice and Judgment, 2nd Edition’ and Streamlining Estimation Scaling and Visualization with ggplot2 (with Dave Armstrong, Royce Carroll, Christopher Hare, Ryan Bakker, Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal).

RESEARCH GRANTS & FUNDING

2023 The Scholarship for Attending Oxford Large Language Models for Social Science Workshop (£300)

2022 University of Essex Departmental Fund (£900) and Travel Grant from Taiwan’s Council of Indigenous Peoples for attending 2022 MPSA Conference (USD\$678)

2019 University of Essex Departmental Fund (£450) and Travel Grant from Taiwan’s Council of Indigenous Peoples (USD\$630) for attending 2019 EPSA Conference

2018 Attendance Scholarships (£250) to Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis

2021–2022 Taiwan Overseas Pioneers Grants of Ministry of Science and Technology Taiwan (Aug 2021 - Jul 2022), USD\$32,000

2017–2021 The Government Doctoral Scholarship in Legislative Studies and Comparative Politics, Ministry of Education Taiwan (Aug 2017- Jul 2021), USD\$168,000

PRESENTATION (*: discussant ; +:poster)

2025 PolMeth Europe, London; Annual Conference of American Political Science Association, Vancouver; Annual Conference of European Political Science Association, Madrid,.

2024 COMPTTEXT Conference, Amsterdam; Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association, Cologne; Annual Conference of American Political Science Association, Philadelphia

2024 COMPTTEXT Conference, Amsterdam; Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association, Cologne; Annual Conference of American Political Science Association, Philadelphia

2023 Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association, Glasgow; Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, LA*; ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments, Vienna

2022 Annual Conference of European Consortium for Political Research, Innsbruck; PolMeth Summer Meeting, St. Louis USA⁺, COMPTTEXT Conference, Dublin

2022 Machine Learning Summer School, Taiwan⁺; Annual Conference of American Political Science Association, Online

2019 Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association, Online; Asian PolMeth, Online

2018 Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association, Belfast

REFERENCE

Dr Stefan Müller (Postdoc PI)

Associate Professor in the School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin

Dr Thomas Saalfeld (Predoc PI)

Chair of Comparative Politics, University of Bamberg

Dr Royce Carroll (PhD Supervisor)

Professor in the Department of Government, University of Essex

Dr Nicole Baerg (PhD Supervisor)

Senior Lecturer in the Department of Government, University of Essex

Dr Jonathan Sullivan (PhD External Examiner)

Associate Professor in the School of Politics and International Relations, University of Nottingham