

# LI Jiajun (Leo)

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## Education

<b>Hong Kong University of Science and Technology</b>	Hong Kong, China
• PhD & MPhil in Social Science	2023 - Present
• Supervisor: Prof. HENDRY David	
<b>Sun Yat-sen University</b>	Guangzhou, China
• Master of Sociology	2020 - 2023
• Supervisor: Prof. LIANG Yucheng	
• Bachelor of Political Science & Statistics (Minor)	2016 - 2020

## Research Interest

Political Psychology, Political Behavior, Causal Inference, Computational Social Science, Experimental Methods

## Working Paper

### Reticence or Theatrics? Grassroots Cadre Presence and Political Response in Surveys [Source]

- **Abstract:** Survey studies struggle to eliminate response bias, yet they frequently neglect the impact of the interview context. This article investigates the influence of grassroots cadre presence in surveys on self-censorship and social desirability bias. Using the China Family Panel Studies from 2012 to 2018 ( $N \approx 100,000$ ), I demonstrate that the presence of grassroots cadres can induce social desirability bias rather than self-censorship in responses to political queries, regardless of whether they are framed positively or negatively. Specifically, treated individuals tend to over-report their trust in grassroots officeholders and local government while under-reporting experiences of unfairness, unreasonable treatment, and conflict with authorities. Novelty, I perform randomized trial simulations ( $N \approx 6,000$ ) utilizing Retrieval-Augmented Generation and In-Context Learning, alongside implicit association tests ( $N \approx 100$ ), and findings indicate that social desirability bias is driven by authoritarian cognition (risk perception, fear-based anxiety, suppositional insight, and avoidant tendencies), consistent with the inference that fear of perceived or actual sanctions plays a crucial role in shaping responses.

**Public Opinions Towards Poverty Policy: A Discourse Network Analysis** (with PENG Chenhong and LI Sijia)

## Experience

### Web Scraping Project of Weibo Posts (Develop Independently)

- Python-based web scraping programming on servers: automatically collect thousands of tweets and user profiles, including nicknames, post sources, geolocations, and other metadata.
- Database: Over 20 million posts across diverse topics, such feminism, social welfare policy, artificial intelligence, and pro-violence attitudes.

### Teaching Assistant

• Computational Social Science (with Prof. WEI Jinlin)	2025.02 - 2025.05
• Experiments and Quasi-Experiments in the Social Sciences (with Prof. HENDRY David)	2024.09 - 2024.12 & 2025.09 - 2025.12
• Data Analysis for Quantitative Social Research (with Prof. SHEN Yifan)	2024.01 - 2024.05
• Computational Social Science (with Prof. LIANG Yucheng)	2022.09 - 2023.01

### Part-time Research Assistant

Work with Prof. PENG Chenhong	2023.04 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect and process data; perform the discourse network analysis; draft paper.</li> </ul>	
Work with Dr. WANG Jie	2018.12 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect and process data; draft paper; translate the book about structural equation modeling.</li> </ul>	

## Award

Dr. Charles Chan Scholarship for Excellent RPG (HKD 56,280), HKUST	2024
Postgraduate Scholarship (HKD 220,000 Per Year), HKUST	2023 - 2025
National Scholarship (RMB 20,000), Ministry of Education of the P. R. China	2022
Outstanding Postgraduate (RMB 8,000 Per Year), Sun Yat-sen University	2020 - 2023
Second Class Prize of Outstanding Paper (Awardee), Inst. of Edu., Tsinghua University	2020
Outstanding Undergraduate (RMB 5,000 Per Year), Sun Yat-sen University	2017 & 2019

## Skill

**Programming:** R (6 years), Stata (8 years), Python (5 years),  $\text{\LaTeX}$ (5 years).  
**Languages:** English, Mandarin (native), Cantonese (native).

## Reference

### HENDRY David

Associate Professor,  
Division of Social Science,  
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  
[Link](#)

### LIANG Yucheng

Professor,  
Department of Sociology,  
Sun Yat-sen University  
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### PENG Chenhong

Assistant Professor,  
Department of Social Work,  
The University of Hong Kong  
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### WANG Jie

Research Fellow,  
School of Politics and Public Administration,  
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### SHEN Yifan

Assistant Professor,  
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