Kevin Liang

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Website : kevinliang8.github.io

EDUCATION

- **University of California, Los Angeles** — Los Angeles, CA
  MA, PhD, Linguistics — *September 2022 - June 2027*
    - **Research Interests**: Language Acquisition, Computational Modelling, Psycholinguistics

- **University of Pennsylvania** — Philadelphia, PA
  BA, BS — *Aug. 2018 – May 2022*
    - **Majors**: Linguistics, Computer and Information Science **Minor:** Anthropology
    - **GPA**: 4.0/4.0
    - **Coursework**: Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Computational Linguistics, Algorithms, Psycholinguistics, Phonology, Phonetics, Formal Semantics, Syntax, Probability, Multivariable Calculus, Discrete Mathematics

EXPERIENCE

- **Research Intern** — Palo Alto, CA
  Stanford Language and Cognition Lab, Supervisor: Michael Frank, George Kachergis — *Summer 2021 - Summer 2022*
    - Ran a large-scale comparison of various cross-situational word-learning models
    - Implemented models using R, processed CHILDES data using tidyverse package, optimized models

- **Student Researcher** — Philadelphia, PA
  Supervisor: Charles Yang — *Summer 2020 - Summer 2022*
    - Developed a new computational model for child part of speech acquisition using the Tolerance Principle
    - Programmed model in Python, outperforming previous models on CHILDES data

- **Student Researcher** — Philadelphia, PA
  Supervisor: Eugene Buckley — *Summer 2019*
    - Elicited recordings of tone production from native speakers of Taishanese
    - Applied optimality theory to describe superhigh tones in Taishanese

- **Research Assistant** — Philadelphia, PA
  Penn Phonetics Lab, Supervisor: Jianjing Kuang — *Fall 2018 - Spring 2020*
    - Segmented recordings of Q'eqchi' and Mandarin using Praat
    - Analysis of voice quality of glottalic stops in Q'eqchi' using Voicesauce and R

PUBLICATIONS

Kevin Liang, Diana Marsala, and Charles Yang. (2022). Distributional Learning of Syntactic Categories. *Proceedings of the 46th Annual Boston Univeristy Confernce on Language Development.* Cascadilla Press.

PRESENTATIONS

Kevin Liang, and Charles Yang. (2022, January). *Distributional Learning of Syntactic Categories.* Talk to be given at the 96th Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Kevin Liang, and Charles Yang. (2021, November). *From Lexical Frames to Syntactic Categories.* Poster session to be presented at the 46th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.

Kevin Liang. (2020, March). *An Optimality Theoretic Analysis of Rising Changed Tones in Taishanese.* Talk at the 44th Penn Linguistics Conference, Philadelphia, PA. (Conference cancelled due to COVID-19)

Kevin Liang, and Jianjing Kuang. (2019, December). *Contextual and Speaker Variation of Glottalic Stops in Q'eqchi'.* Poster session presented at the 178th meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, San Diego, CA.

Teaching & Service

Teaching Assistant for CIS 522: Deep Learning, UPenn	*Spring 2022*
Teaching Assistant for CIS 350: Software Design and Engineering, UPenn	*Spring 2022*
Learning Assistant for LING 172: Data Science for Language and Mind, UPenn	*Fall 2021*
Learning Assistant for LING 001: Intro to Linguistics, UPenn	*Fall 2020*
Research Peer Advisor, UPenn	*Fall 2019 - Present*
Co-Chair Organizing Committee, North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad	*2018 - present*
Problem Writer, U.K. Linguistics Olympiad	*2018 - present*
Problem Writer, Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad	*2018 - present*

Awards & Honours

University Scholar, UPenn	*Fall 2018 - Spring 2022*
Phi Beta Kappa, UPenn (inducted as a Junior)	*Spring 2021*
Travel Grant, Acoustical Society of America	*Fall 2019*
Summer Research Grant, UPenn CURF (x3)	*Summer 2019, 2020, 2021*
Bronze Medalist, International Linguistics Olympiad	*Summer 2018*

Languages and skills

Native - English, Mandarin; Advanced - Spanish; Intermediate - Italian; Reading - French

Programming - Python, R, Java, C, JavaScript, OCaml, LaTeX

Packages: NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-Learn, NLTK, Matplotlib, TensorFlow, Tidyverse