Tong Li

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EDUCATION

Master of Arts, Foreign Linguistics and Applied Linguistics

WAM:91.4/100

Sep 2021 – Jun 2023

School of Foreign Languages, Tianjin University

Thesis title: Cross-linguistic Influence in Prosodic Encoding of Intonational Meaning by Uygur Learners

Supervisor: Professor Hui Feng

Bachelor of Arts, English (Major)

GPA:3.8/4.0

Sep 2017 – Jul 2021

School of Foreign Languages, Tianjin University

Bachelor of Management, Construction Management (Minor)

Feb 2019 – Jul 2021

College of Management and Economics, Tianjin University

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Master's Student, School of Foreign Languages, Tianjin University

Co-researcher, Project: Intonational Typology

Sept 2022 – present

- Reviewed prosody's role in speech comprehension, intonation, prosodic typology, and syntactic-prosodic interactions.
- Conducted a cross-linguistic study investigating the prosodic encoding of declarative and interrogative intonations in Chinese, English, and Uyghur, focusing on exploring form-function mapping across languages.
- Developed the annotation conventions for Tianjin Dialect, involving break index tier and stress tier.

Lead-researcher, Project: Cross-linguistic Influence on Intonation Acquisition

Apr 2022 – Jun 2023

- Conducted an in-depth study on the acquisition of Chinese and English declarative and interrogative intonations by Uyghur speakers, aiming to uncover potential cross-linguistic influence in L2 and L3 intonation production.
- Examined the effects of Chinese lexical tones and English lexical stress position on intonation patterns.
- Utilized linear discriminant analysis by R to identify significant prosodic cues in distinguishing declarative and interrogative intonations by Uyghur speakers.

Lead-researcher, Project: L2 Acquisition of Sociolinguistic Variation

Jul 2021 – Feb 2022

- Surveyed word-final t/d deletion in native speakers of English and relevant influencing factors.
- Conducted research on the systematicity of word-final t/d deletion by Chinese EFL learners based on recordings from 40 Chinese college students of intermediate and high English proficiencies.
- Established mixed-effects logistic regression models in Rrul to identify significant predictors of sociolinguistic variation and evaluate corresponding contributions to the variation.

Lead-researcher, Project: Global TIMIT Mandarin Chinese-Dongbei Dialect and Jin Dialect Jun 2021 – Oct 2021

- Arranged the overall schedule of data collection and supervised recording procedures as the student leader.
- Collected Chinese and English recordings from 25 Dongbei and Jin speakers over 60 hours.
- Checked and corrected the automatic labeling of over 3500 Chinese and English sentences at phonemic and text levels in Praat.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Research Center for Linguistic Sciences, Tianjin University

Apr 2021 – Jun 2023

- Conducted extensive literature reviews on phonetic and phonological features of Chinese dialects for corpus building.
- Responsible for the final project reports, including "English Lexical Stress Production and Perception by Native Speakers
 of Uyghur and Tibetan" and "Effect of Music Training on the Production of English Lexical Stress by Chinese English
 Learners".
- Contributed to the planning and organization of academic conferences, notably the 7th International Conference on Prosodic Grammar (ICPG7); assisted chairs in maintaining session order and invited speakers to deliver online speeches.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Academic Peer Mentor, Tianjin University

Sept 2020 - Jul 2021

- Offered regular training to undergraduate students in prosody annotation and speech segmentation using Praat and statistical analysis by R and provided support on their sub-projects, including assisting them in refining frameworks.
- Helped first-year students improve their overall academic performance, and provided advice, support and knowledge by weekly individual one-on-one meetings.

PUBLICATIONS

Conference Proceedings

- **Li, T.** & Feng, H. (Accepted). Cross-linguistic Influence on Intonation Acquisition: A Study on the Production of L2 Mandarin and L3 English Intonations by Uyghur Speakers. *Speech Prosody* 2024.
- Li, T., Feng, H. & Jia, Y. (2022). Prosodic encoding of Mandarin Chinese intonation by Uygur speakers in declarative and interrogative sentences. Proceedings of the 13th International Symposium on Chinese Spoken Language Processing (ISCSLP 2022), 300-304.
- Li, T. & Feng, H. (2021). A Study on English Word-Final Coronal Stop Deletion by Chinese EFL Learners. Proceedings of the 24th Conference of O-COCOSDA 2021, 88-93.

Works in Progress

- Li, T. & Feng, H. Prosodic resolution of syntactic ambiguity: In the case of Tianjin Mandarin.
- Li, T., Feng, H. & Li, J. Form and function of intonation: a cross-linguistic study.

PRESENTATIONS

• The 15th Phonetic Conference in China (PCC 2023)

Jul 2023

Prosodic encoding of intonational meanings: An experimental phonetic analysis of Chinese and English intonations by Uyghur speakers

• The 6th International Conference on Psycholinguistics in China (CAP2022) L2 acquisition of sociolinguistic variation by Chinese EFL learners

Jun 2022

SELECTED HONOURS AND AWARDS

Excellent Master's Thesis, Tianjin University	Jun 2023
Graduate Scholarship, First Class (Top 2 within school), Tianjin University	Oct 2022
Graduate Scholarship, First Class (Top 2 within school), Tianjin University	Oct 2021
Excellent Undergraduate Thesis, Tianjin University	Jun 2021
First Prize in Tianjin, China Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling (CUMCM)	Nov 2019
Beiyang Chunhui Scholarship (Top 4 within school), Tianjin University	Oct 2019

RELEVANT SKILLS

LanguagesMandarin, English (TOEFL 106)Scientific softwarePraat, R, SPSS, Origin, MATLAB

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

President, Students' TV Station, Tianjin University

Jul 2019 - Sept 2020

- Managed and coordinated the daily operations and activities of the Students' TV station with more than 80 members.
- Planned and executed two documentaries on campus culture and 13 campus video news films, gaining more than 200,000 viewers and retweeted by People's Daily and Xinhua News Agency.