

# Tong Li

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11 Yuk Choi Road, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong, 99077

## EDUCATION

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### Doctor of Philosophy, Linguistics

Sep 2024 – present

Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Supervisor: Professor Yao Yao

### 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 Uyghur Learners*

Supervisor: Professor Hui Feng

### Bachelor of Arts, English

GPA:3.8/4.0

Sep 2017 – Jul 2021

School of Foreign Languages, Tianjin University

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Co-researcher, Project: Intonational Typology

Sept 2022 – Jun 2024

- 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 R to identify significant predictors of sociolinguistic variation and evaluate corresponding contributions to the variation.

### Lead-researcher, Project: Global TIMIT Mandarin Chinese-Dongbei 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.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### 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.
- 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.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Conference Proceedings

- **Li, T. & Yao, Y.** (2025). Production evidence for the perceptual asymmetry of Mandarin question and statement intonations. Proceedings of *the 3rd International Conference on Tone and Intonation 2025*.
- **Li, T. & Feng, H.** (2024). Cross-linguistic influence on intonation acquisition: A study on the production of L2 Mandarin and L3 English intonations by Uyghur speakers. Proceedings of *Speech Prosody 2024*, 96-100.
- **Li, T., Feng, H. & Jia, Y.** (2022). Prosodic encoding of Mandarin Chinese intonation by Uyghur 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.

## PRESENTATIONS

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- 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) Jun 2022  
L2 acquisition of sociolinguistic variation by Chinese EFL learners

## SELECTED HONOURS AND AWARDS

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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

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<b>Languages</b>	Mandarin, English
<b>Scientific software</b>	Praat, R, SPSS, Origin, MATLAB

## ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

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- 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.