

ZHUOFAN LI

/JWO-FAHN/

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EMPLOYMENT

2024- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech
Affiliated Faculty, Department of Science, Technology, and Society

EDUCATION

2018-2024 Ph.D. Sociology, University of Arizona
Graduate Certificate in Computational Social Science
COMMITTEE: Ronald Breiger (Chair), Corey Abramson, Joseph Galaskiewicz, Erin Leahey
DISSERTATION: *Corporate Open Science and Relational Infrastructure in Artificial Intelligence Research*
*American Sociological Association 2023 Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant

2014-2018 B.A. Sociology, *magna cum laude*, Franklin & Marshall College

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Social Networks; Computational Social Science; Economic Sociology; Organizations and Work; Science and Technology; Cultural Sociology; Theory; Methodology

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2024 Abramson, Corey, Zhuofan Li, Tara Prendergast, and Martín Sánchez-Jankowski. "Inequality in the Origins and Experiences of Pain: What 'Big (Qualitative) Data' Reveal about Social Suffering in the U.S." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 10(5): 34-65.
- 2024 Li, Zhuofan. "When Being a Data Annotator Was Not Yet a Job: The Laboratory Origins of Dispersible Labor in Computer Vision Research." *Socius* 10: 10.1177/23780231241259617.
- 2021 Li, Zhuofan, Daniel Dohan, and Corey Abramson. "Qualitative Coding in the Computational Era: A Hybrid Approach to Improve Reliability and Reduce Effort for Coding Ethnographic Interviews." *Socius* 7: 10.1177/23780231211062345.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2025 Li, Zhuofan and Corey Abramson. "Ethnography and Machine Learning: Synergies and New Directions." Forthcoming in *The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Machine Learning*, edited by Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra and Christian Borch. Oxford University Press.

UNDER REVIEW

Li, Zhuofan, Daniel Dohan, and Corey Abramson. “Temporal Misalignment and Unequal Agency: A Relational Sociology of Time from the Case of Terminal Cancer Patients.” **Reject & Resubmit.**

Li, Zhuofan. “Selling Big Data Surveillance: The Embeddedness of Legitimacy in A Moralized Market of Facial Recognition Technology.”

SOME WORK IN PROGRESS

Li, Zhuofan. “The Rise of Open Science in Artificial Intelligence Research and the New Relational Infrastructure of Corporate Power.”

Li, Zhuofan. “AI-Generated Content, Categorical Resistance, and Creative Reskilling: The Case of Digital Fan Artists.”

Li, Zhuofan. “Hyperbrokerage.”

Li, Zhuofan and Yongjun Zhang. “Performative Labor and Tokenism in the Corporate Newsroom.”

Fu, Zheng, Jeffrey Shen, and Zhuofan Li. “Stop Citing Granovetter.”

Abramson, Corey, Zhuofan Li, Tara Prendergast, and Martín Sánchez-Jankowski. “Qualitative Sociology in a Computational Era: Classic Issues, Emerging Trends, and New Possibilities.” Invited Submission.

Galaskiewicz, Joseph, Eunsung Yoon, Kate Freeman-Anderson, Kristen Pogreba-Brown, Zhuofan Li, Zheng Fu, Wanjun Chen, and Caleb Moore. “Public Health Guidance, Neighborhood Effects, and SARS-CoV-2.”

Robey, Derek J., Sebastian Karcher, Sondra Stegenga, Corey Abramson, Max Besbris, Sadie Dempsey, Sarah Hart, Tiffany Huang, Zhuofan Li, Tara Prendergast, Breda O’Keeffe, and Reuel Rogers. “Verification in Qualitative Social Science Research: A Pilot Study with Research Teams Analyzing the American Voices Project Dataset.”

PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCE PAPERS

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| 2024 | Abramson, Corey, Zhuofan Li, Tara Prendergast, and Daniel Dohan. “Qualitative Sociology in the Computational Era: Classic Issues, Emerging Trends, New Possibilities” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA 2024), Montréal, Canada. |
| 2024 | Galaskiewicz, Joseph, Eunsung Yoon, Kate Freeman-Anderson, Kristen Pogreba-Brown, Zhuofan Li, Zheng Fu, Wanjun Chen, and Caleb Moore. “Public Health Guidance, Neighborhood Effects, and SARS-CoV-2.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA 2024), Montréal, Canada. |
| 2024 | Li, Zhuofan. “The Embeddedness of Legitimacy in A Moral Economy of Big Data Surveillance Technology.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management (AOM 2024), Chicago, IL. |
| 2024 | Li, Zhuofan. “The Rise of Corporate Open Science: Boundaries, Brokerage, and Power in Artificial Intelligence Research.” Paper presented at the International Network for Social |

Network Analysis Sunbelt Conference (Sunbelt 2024), Online.

- 2023 Li, Zhuofan. "A Moral Economy of Big Data: Moral Attachment and Disembedding in the Facial Recognition Technology Market." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA 2023), Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 Li, Zhuofan. "Corporate Participation in Open Science: From Spillover to Brokerage." Poster presented at the International Conference on Science of Science and Innovation (ICSSI 2023). Evanston, IL.
- 2023 Abramson, Corey, Tara Prendergast, Zhuofan Li, Martín Sánchez-Jankowski. "Inequality in the Origins and Experiences of Pain." Paper Presented at International Sociological Association Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility. Melbourne, Australia.
- 2022 Abramson, Corey, Tara Prendergast, Zhuofan Li, Martín Sánchez-Jankowski. "How Americans Make Sense of Chronic Pain." Paper Presented at the Russell Sage Foundation Conference: Building an Open Source Qualitative Social Science. New York, NY.
- 2022 Li, Zhuofan, Corey Abramson, and Daniel Dohan. "The Temporal Structure of Capitals: Lessons from the End of Life." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA 2022), Los Angeles, CA.
- 2021 Li, Zhuofan. "Lexicons into Categories: A Semantic Network Approach to Category-Spanning Identities." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA 2021), Online.
- 2021 Li, Zhuofan. "A Semantic Network Approach to Category-Spanning Identities." Paper presented at Networks 2021: A joint Sunbelt and NetSci Conference, hosted by Indiana University Network Science Institute, Online.

WORKSHOPS

- 2024 Abramson, Corey, Tara Prendergast, and Zhuofan Li. "Verification in Qualitative Social Sciences." Center for Qualitative and Multi-Method Inquiry, Syracuse University, New York, NY.
- 2022 Abramson, Corey, Zhuofan Li, Daniel Dohan. "Introduction to Machine Learning for Qualitative Research." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (ASA 2022), Los Angeles, CA.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

EXTERNAL

- 2023-2024 National Science Foundation/American Sociological Association Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (ASA DDRIG)

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

- 2023-2024 Social and Behavioral Sciences Graduate Fellowship
- 2023 Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC) Travel Grant
- 2022 Social and Behavioral Sciences Summer Dissertation Fellowship
- 2019-2020 Federick & Margaret S. Conrad Graduate Scholarship

2018-2019 Social and Behavioral Sciences Graduate Fellowship

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE

2017-2018 Nissley Grant

2017 Hackman Summer Research Scholarship

HONORS & AWARDS

2024 Sánchez-Jankowski Graduate Paper Award, University of Arizona

2024 Raymond V. Bowers Graduate Paper Award, University of Arizona

2021 Honors Pass, Comprehensive Exam in Social Networks, University of Arizona

2020 Honors Pass, Comprehensive Exam in Organizations and Work, University of Arizona

2018 William M. Kephart Prize in Sociology, Franklin & Marshall College

2018 Tourish Prize in Criminology, Franklin & Marshall College

2018 Phi Beta Kappa

OTHER RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

2024- Research Associate, School of Sociology, University of Arizona

2022- Affiliated Researcher, Center for Ethnographic Research, Institute of the Study of Societal Issues, University of California, Berkeley

TEACHING

GRADUATE

Digital Sociology (S25)

UNDERGRADUATE

Digital Sociology (F24)

Introductory Sociology (F21, S22, S25)

SERVICE

AD HOC REVIEW

2024- Academy of Management, *Journal of Mathematical Sociology*, National Science Foundation (MMS), *Sociological Methodology*, *Socius*

EXTERNAL

2023 Panelist, American Sociological Association Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (ASA DDRIG) Proposal Preparation Workshop, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia

2023 Volunteer, American Sociological Association Economic Sociology Section Awards Showcase Panel

VIRGINIA TECH

2024-2025 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Sociology

2024 Volunteer, Lunch with the Chair, Department of Sociology

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

2023 Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Studies Committee

2021-2023 Co-organizer, Social Organization Seminar

2021-2022 Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Recruitment Committee

2020-2021 Conception & Survey Design, Graduate Student Climate Survey on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

SKILLS

PROGRAMMING: Python, R, STATA, C++, SQL, \LaTeX , HTML, CSS

LANGUAGES: Chinese (native), French (reading)

Last updated: December 2024