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

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

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

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.

Li, Zhuofan. "When Being a Data Annotator Was Not Yet a Job: The Laboratory Origins of Dispersible Labor in Computer Vision Research." *Socius* 10 (Special Issue: Sociology of Artificial Intelligence): 10.1177/23780231241259617.

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

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.

Some Work in Progress

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

Li, Zhuofan. "The Rise of Open Science and the New Infrastructure of Corporate Power."

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."

Abramson, Corey, Zhuofan Li, and Tara Prendergast. "Qualitative Sociology in a Computational Era: Classic Issues, Emerging Trends, and New Possibilities." Invited Submission.

PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Abramson, Corey, Zhuofan Li, and Tara Prendergast. "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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

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.

Li, Zhuofan. "A Semantic Network Approach to Category-Spanning Identities." Paper pre-

sented at Networks 2021: A joint Sunbelt and NetSci Conference, hosted by Indiana University

Network Science Institute, Online.

Workshops

Abramson, Corey, Tara Prendergast, and Zhuofan Li. "Verification in Qualitative Social Sci-

ences." Center for Qualitative and Multi-Method Inquiry, Syracuse University, New York,

NY.

Abramson, Corey, Zhuofan Li, Daniel Dohan. "Introduction to Machine Learning for Qualita-

tive Research." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (ASA 2022), Los Angeles,

CA.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

EXTERNAL

2023-2024 National Science Foundation/American Sociological Association Doctoral Dissertation Re-

search 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

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

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 Program and Curriculum Committee, Department of Sociology

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 & Inclu-

sion

SKILLS

PROGRAMMING: Python, R, STATA, C++, SQL, MTEX, HTML, CSS

LANGUAGES: Chinese (native), French (reading)

Last updated: January 2025