

JIAYI LU

jiayi.lu@northwestern.edu

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor Department of Linguistics, Northwestern University	<i>2025-present</i>
Postdoctoral Fellow Department of Linguistics, University of Pennsylvania Advisors: Julie Anne Legate, Charles Yang	<i>2024-2025</i>

EDUCATION

PhD in Linguistics Department of Linguistics, Stanford University Dissertation Committee: Judith Degen (Chair), Michael C. Frank, Daniel Lassiter, Thomas Wasow	<i>2024</i>
BA in Linguistics, Neuroscience, Integrated Science <i>summa cum laude</i> Northwestern University Thesis advisors: Masaya Yoshida, Shayne Sloggett	<i>2019</i>
Linguistics Summer Session Universiteit Utrecht	<i>2017</i>
The LSA Linguistics Institute University of Kentucky	<i>2017</i>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

(Formal and Experimental) Syntax, Psycholinguistics,

PUBLICATIONS

*: Equal contributions

Lu, J.*, Pan, D.*, and Degen, J. 2025. Evidence for a Discourse Account of Manner-of-Speaking Islands. *Language* 101(4): 627-659

Lu, J., Frank, M., and Degen, J. 2024. Which Islands Satiate: a Meta-Analysis. *Glossa Psycholinguistics* 3(1): X, 1-33

Lu, J., Merchan, J., Wang, L., and Degen, J. 2024. Can Syntactic Log-Odds Ratio Predict Acceptability and Satiation?. *Society for Computation in Linguistics* 7(1): 1019

Kim, N., and **Lu, J.**. 2024. Coordination of Unlike Categories Creates Grammaticality Illusion. *Korean Journal of English Language and Linguistics* 24(1): 52-61

Zhan, M., Chen, S., Levy, R., **Lu, J.**, and Gibson, E. 2023. Rational Sentence Interpretation in Mandarin Chinese. *Cognitive Science* 47(12): e13383.

Kim, N., Li, Z., and **Lu, J.**. 2023. Island-Sensitivity of Two Different Interpretations of *Why* in Chinese. *Frontiers in Psychology* 13: 1059823.

Lu, J., Wright, N., and Degen, J. 2022. Satiation Effects Generalize Across Island Types. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*: 2724-2730.

Lu, J., and Kim, N. 2022. The Puzzle of Argument Structure Mismatch in Gapping. *Frontiers in Psychology* 13: 907823.

- Kim, N., and **Lu, J.** 2022. Predictive Sentence Processing: Evidence from Passive Relative Clause Processing. *Korean Journal of English Language and Linguistics* 22(1): 70-85.
- Kim, N., and **Lu, J.** 2021. An Illusion of Grammaticality in Wh-Questions. *Korean Journal of Linguistics* 46(3): 607-618.
- Lu, J.**, Lassiter, D., and Degen, J. 2021. Syntactic satiation is driven by speaker-specific adaptation. *Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*: 1493-1499.
- Lu, J.**, Thompson, C.K., and Yoshida, M. 2020. Chinese Wh-in-situ and Islands: a Formal Judgment Study. *Linguistic Inquiry* 51(3): 611-623

UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS

- Lu, J.**, and Kim, N. *under review*. Adjunct Island Effect on Wh-Scrambling in Korean.
- Lu, J.**, Legate, J.A., and Yang, C. *under review*. The Learnability of Bridge Effects.
- Lu, J.** 2022. An Adjunction Analysis of Clause Chaining in Turkish. Second PhD Qualifying Paper advised by Boris Harizanov (Chair), Vera Gribanova, and Dan Lassiter.
- Lu, J.** 2021. Satiation as Rapid Syntactic Adaptation. First PhD Qualifying Paper advised by Judith Degen (Chair), Boris Harizanov, and Dan Lassiter

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Lu, J.** 2026. Availability of Acceptable Alternatives Modulates Satiation. To be presented at the 2026 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Lu, J.**, Legate, J.A., and Yang, C. 2025. Examining the bridge/non-bridge verb distinction in Mandarin Chinese. The 38th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP), College Park, Maryland.
- Lu, J.**, Papineau, B., Jeong, S., Hernandez, A., Goodwin, E., and Anttila, A. 2025. Interspeaker Variation in Copular Agreement with Disjoined Subjects: an Optimality-Theoretic Account. The 2025 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Lu, J.**, Merchan, J., Wang, L., and Degen, J. 2024. Can Syntactic Log-Odds Ratio Predict Acceptability and Satiation?. The 2024 Meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL), Irvine, California.
- Merchan, J., Wang, L., **Lu, J.**, and Degen, J. 2024. Can Language Model Surprisal Predict Acceptability and Satiation. The 2024 California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP), Stanford, California.
- Yao, R., **Lu, J.**, and Degen, J. 2024. Perceived interpretability predicts satiability for Complex NP island but not Whether-island. The 2024 California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP), Stanford, California.
- Lu, J.**, Pan, D., and Degen, J. 2024. Evidence for a Discourse Account of Manner-of-Speaking Islands. The 2024 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) Annual Conference, New York City, New York.
- Pan, D., **Lu, J.**, and Degen, J. 2023. Discourse Foregrounding Ameliorates Manner-of-Speaking Islands. The 36th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP), Pittsburg, PA.
- Lu, J.**, and Degen, J. 2023. Which Islands Satiate: a Meta-analysis. The 2023 California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP), Los Angeles, California.
- Pan, D., **Lu, J.**, and Degen, J. 2023. Can Manner-of-Speaking Islands be Rescued Through Discourse Foregrounding?. The 2023 California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP). Los Angeles, CA.

- Lu, J.**, and Degen, J. 2023. Which Island-violating Sentences Satiate: a Meta-analysis. The 2023 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado.
- Lu, J.**, and Kim, N. 2023. Coordination of Unlike Categories Creates Grammaticality Illusion. The 2023 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado.
- Lu, J.**, Wright, N., and Degen, J. 2022. Satiation effects generalize across island types. The 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, Canada.
- Wright, N., **Lu, J.** and Degen, J. 2022. What is the representational target of island satiation effects?. The 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP), Santa Cruz, California (Online due to COVID-19).
- Lu, J.** and Kim, N. 2022. Maximizing Parallelism in the Processing of Gapping: Evidence from Argument Structure Mismatches. The 2022 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) annual conference, Washington, D.C.
- Lu, J.** 2021. Reducing conjunct islands to adjunct islands: Evidence from Turkish. The 2021 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) annual conference, San Francisco, California (Online due to COVID-19).
- Lu, J.**, Lassiter, D., and Degen, J. 2021. Satiation of Island Constraints is Partially Syntactic Adaptation. The 2021 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) annual conference, San Francisco, California (Online due to COVID-19).
- Lu, J.**, Walenski, M., and Thompson, C.K. 2019. EEG Evidence for Different Syntactic Expectations in Parsing Chinese Subject and Object-relative Clauses. The International Brain and Syntax Think Tank, Evanston, Illinois.
- Lu, J.**, Thompson, C.K., and Yoshida, M. 2019. Examining Argument-Adjunct Asymmetry of Island Effect in Mandarin Chinese. The 2019 Linguistics Society of America (LSA) Annual Conference, New York City, New York.
- Lu, J.**, Thompson, C.K., and Yoshida, M. 2018. Chinese Wh-in-situ and Islands: a Formal Judgment Study. The 2018 Annual Conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), Berlin, Germany.
- Lu, J.**, Walenski, M., and Thompson, C.K. 2018. EEG Evidence for Different Syntactic Expectations in Parsing Chinese Subject and Object-relative Clauses. The 2018 Society of Neurobiology of Language (SNL) annual conference, Quebec City, Canada.
- Lu, J.** and Ward, G. 2018. *Verb Meaning and Subject-Position Zero-Pronoun Comprehension in Mandarin Chinese*. The 2018 Southern California Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (SCULC), Los Angeles, California.
- Lu, J.** 2017. Processing Asymmetry in Mandarin Chinese Relative Clauses: A Literature Review and Suggestions for Future Studies. The 2017 Great Lakes Expo for Experimental and Formal Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (GLEEFUL), East Lansing, Michigan.

INVITED TALKS

- Probing the Satiation of Island Effects** 2025
Princeton University, New Jersey
- From Input to Change:
How Input Shapes Linguistic Knowledge and Language Use** 2025
Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science, Pomona College, California
- Discourse Effects on the Manner-of-Speaking Island** 2024
Speech and Sentence Processing Lab, University of California, Santa Cruz, California

An Adjunction Analysis of Clause Chaining in Turkish	<i>2023</i>
Syntax and Semantics Circle (SSCircle), University of California, Berkeley, California	
Discourse Effects on the Manner-of-Speaking Island	<i>2023</i>
Language and Cognition Lab, Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea	
Discourse Effects on the Manner-of-Speaking Island	<i>2023</i>
School of Foreign Studies, Nanjing University, China	

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Integrated Language Sciences and Technology (ILST) Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2025</i>
Integrated Language Sciences and Technology (ILST) Small Grant, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2025</i>
Graduate Research Opportunity Grant (\$4,850), Stanford University	<i>2023 - 2024</i>
Centennial Teaching Assistant Award, Stanford University	<i>2023</i>
Departmental Research Grant (\$1,000), Stanford University Department of Linguistics	<i>2020</i>
<i>Phi Beta Kappa</i> , Northwestern University	<i>2019</i>
Community Service Award, Northwestern University Integrated Science Program	<i>2019</i>
Fletcher Undergraduate Research Award, Northwestern University	<i>2017</i>
Abraham Demoz Prize in Linguistics, Northwestern University	<i>2017</i>
Academic Year Undergraduate Research Grant (\$1,000 each), Northwestern University	<i>2017, 2019</i>
GLEEFUL Conference Travel Award, Michigan State University	<i>2017</i>
Excellence in Mathematics by a First Year Student, Northwestern University	<i>2016</i>
Dean's List: 2015 Fall to 2019 Spring (12 Quarters), Northwestern University	<i>2015 - 2019</i>

SERVICE

Journal Reviewer

Canadian Journal of Linguistics (1), Folia Linguistica (1), Frontiers in Psychology (2), Glossa Psycholinguistics (1), Journal of Linguistics (2), Journal of Memory and Language (1), Language (1), Languages (1), Linguistics (1), Natural Language & Linguistic Theory (4), PLOS One (1), University of Georgia Working Papers in Linguistics (1).

Conference Reviewer

Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci) 2022 - 2025, California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP) 2021 - 2025, Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA) 2025 - 2026, Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC) 2025, West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL) 2022 - 2025.

Conference Organizing Committees

6th California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 6)	<i>2024</i>
40th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 40)	<i>2022</i>

Departmental Service

QP Fest Committee, Stanford Department of Linguistics	<i>2023</i>
Undergraduate mentor TA, Stanford Department of Linguistics	<i>2022 - 2024</i>
Colloquium Committee, Stanford Department of Linguistics	<i>2021 - 2022</i>
Application reviewer and mentor, Stanford CSLI Summer Internship Program	<i>2021 - 2022</i>

Coordinator for Stanford Syntax and Morphology Circle (SMircle)	2020 - 2022
Social Committee, Stanford Department of Linguistics	2019 - 2020
Weinberg College Student Advisory Board, Northwestern University	2018 - 2019
Integrated Science Program Student Programming Board, Northwestern University	2018 - 2019
Coordinator for Syntax Club, Northwestern University Department of Linguistics	2017 - 2019

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

As Primary Instructor:

Northwestern University

LING 360: Fundamentals of Syntax 2025 Fall

GEN-LA 298: Alternative Science: Pseudoscience, Parascience, and Fringe Science 2018 Spring

University of Pennsylvania

LING 2500: Introduction to Syntax 2024 Fall

Stanford University

LINGUIST 196: Introduction to Undergraduate Research 2023 Winter, Fall

LINGUIST 195A: Undergraduate Research Workshop 2023 Winter, Spring, 2024 Winter, Spring

As Teaching Assistant:

Stanford University

LINGUIST 130B: Introduction to Lexical Semantics (Instructor: Cleo Condoravdi) 2024 Spring

LINGUIST 121A: The Syntax of English (Instructor: Bonnie Krejci) 2023 Spring

LINGUIST 130: Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics (Instructor: Chris Potts) 2022 Winter

LINGUIST 145: Introduction to Psycholinguistics (Instructor: Judith Degen) 2020 Fall

Undergraduate Students Mentored:

Shirley Yang (Northwestern University) 2025 Fall to present

Jonathan Merchan (Stanford University) 2023 Summer

Lian Wang (Stanford University) 2023 Spring, Summer

Ruoqing Yao (College of William and Mary, through the Stanford CSLI program) 2022 Summer

Nicholas Wright (College of William and Mary, through the Stanford CSLI program) 2021 Summer

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Advisor: Ted Gibson) 2018

Summer Research Intern

Northwestern University (Advisor: Masaya Yoshida) 2017-2019

Research Assistant

Northwestern University (Advisor: Cynthia K. Thompson) 2016-2019

Research Assistant

SKILLS

Languages

Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent),
Turkish (research knowledge), Japanese (research knowledge),
Samoan (research knowledge)

Programming Languages

Python, javascript, HTML, WebPPL

Softwares and Tools

LATEX, R, ELAN, Praat, OTSoft