Weijie Xu

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Education

2021- **University of California, Irvine**, Irvine, CA
Ph.D., Language Science
Advisor: Richard Futrell

2019-2021 **The University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL
M.A., Computational Social Science
Thesis: *Is there a predictability hierarchy in reference resolution?*
Advisor: Ming Xiang

2015-2019 **Shanghai International Studies University**, Shanghai, China
B.A., Spanish Language and Literature

Additional Training

The North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI), USC, 2022

The 6th Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology, University of Potsdam, 2022

Research Interests

Psycholinguistics; language processing; computational linguistics; cognitive modeling; language change and evolution; cross-linguistic variations

Publications

submitted **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Syntactic dependency length shaped by strategic memory allocation.

2023 **Weijie Xu**, Jason Chon, Tianran Liu & Richard Futrell. The linearity of the effect of surprisal on reading times across languages. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2023*.

2022 Ming Xiang, Christopher Kennedy, **Weijie Xu** & Timothy Leffel. Pragmatic reasoning and semantic convention: A case study of gradable adjectives. *Semantics and Pragmatics* 15.

2021 **Weijie Xu** & Ming Xiang. Is there a predictability hierarchy in reference resolution? In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* Vol. 43.

Conference Presentations

2023 **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Dependency locality optimized for computational rationality. Poster at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing Asia (AMLaP Asia), Hong Kong, Dec 1-3.

2022 **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Informativity enhances memory precision in the agreement attraction effect. Poster at the 28th Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), York, Sept 7-9.

2022 **Weijie Xu**, Jiaxuan Li, Ming Xiang & Richard Futrell. Syntactic adaptation to short-term cue-based distributional regularities. Poster at the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci), Toronto, July 27-30.

2022 **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Informativity affects memory precision in the agreement attraction effect. Poster at the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP), Santa Cruz, March 24-26.

2022 **Weijie Xu**, Jiaxuan Li & Ming Xiang. Syntactic adaptation to short-term cue-based distributional regularities. Poster at the 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP), Santa Cruz, March 24-26.

2021 **Weijie Xu** & Ming Xiang. Is there a predictability hierarchy in reference resolution? Poster at the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci), Vienna, July 26-29.

2021 **Weijie Xu** & Ming Xiang. Processing referring expressions: Accessibility is not predictability. Poster at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Philadelphia, March 4-6.

2021 Ming Xiang & **Weijie Xu**. Reanalysis difficulty modulates cumulative structural priming effects in sentence comprehension. Poster at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Philadelphia, March 4-6.

2021 Ming Xiang, Christine Gu, Yixue Quan, **Weijie Xu** & Suiping Wang. Probability matching vs. regularization in contact-induced syntactic change. Poster at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Philadelphia, March 4-6.

Scholarships and Awards

2020 The University Merit-Based Scholarship, The University of Chicago ($40,200)

2019 Phoenix Research Award, The University of Chicago ($20,000)

Teaching Assistant

Winter 2022 Introduction to Linguistics
Instructor: Dr. Richard Futrell

Research and Work Experience

Jan 2020 - Jun 2021 Research Assistant

Language Processing Lab, The University of Chicago

May 2018 - Oct 2018 Consumer Insight Research Intern
Dyson Technology (Shanghai) Limited

Skills

Language Mandarin Chinese (native)
Gan Chinese (native)
English (proficient)
Spanish (intermediate)

Technical Programming skills (Python, R, SQL); basic web design (HTML); web scraping (BeautifulSoup); large scale computing (Spark, PyWren, Amazon Web Services); experiment toolkits (PCIbex, Amazon MTurk, Prolific)