

# Weijie Xu

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## Education

- 2021-2026 **University of California, Irvine**  
Ph.D., Language Science  
Advisor: Richard Futrell
- 2019-2021 **The University of Chicago**  
M.A., Computational Social Science  
Thesis: *Is there a predictability hierarchy in reference resolution?*  
Advisor: Ming Xiang
- 2015-2019 **Shanghai International Studies University**  
B.A., Spanish Language and Literature

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2022 The North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI), USC
- 2022 The 6th Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology, U of Potsdam

## Publications

- under review* **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Informativity enhances memory robustness against interference in sentence comprehension. [available upon request]
- accepted **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. A hierarchical Bayesian model for syntactic priming. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*
- 2024 **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Syntactic dependency length shaped by strategic memory allocation. In *Proceedings of the 6th Workshop on Research in Computational Linguistic Typology and Multilingual NLP*.
- 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 on 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

- 2024     **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Dependency length shaped by strategic memory allocation: A corpus study in 11 languages. Poster at 37th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP), Ann Arbor, May 16-18.
- 2024     **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. A hierarchical Bayesian model for syntactic priming. Poster at 37th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP), Ann Arbor, May 16-18.
- 2024     **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Syntactic dependency length shaped by strategic memory allocation. Oral presentation at the 6th Workshop on Research in Computational Linguistics Typology and Multilingual NLP (SIGTYP), Malta, March 21.
- 2024     **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. Dependency locality shaped by resource rationality: Evidence from English and Spanish. Oral presentation at California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP), Palo Alto, Jan 13-14.
- 2024     **Weijie Xu** & Richard Futrell. A hierarchical Bayesian model for syntactic priming. Poster at California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP), Palo Alto, Jan 13-14.
- 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 Experience

### TEACHING ASSISTANT AT UC IRVINE

LSCI 20	Introduction to Syntax	Spring 2024
LSCI 155	Psychology of Language	Winter 2024
LSCI 3	Introduction to Linguistics	Winter 2022, Fall 2022, Winter 2023
SocSci 70c	Comparing Cultures	Spring 2022

### PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

The Course Design Essentials (CDE) Program, UC Irvine, 2024

Mentoring Excellence Certificate Program, UC Irvine, 2024

## Research and Work Experience

2020.1 - 2021.6 Research Assistant  
*Language Processing Lab, The University of Chicago*

2018.5 - 2018.10 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 (PCLbex, Amazon MTurk, Prolific)