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Research Interests

Substantive

- **Digital journalism**, i.e., Generative AI and news production and dissemination; AI-mediated news product and user experience, comparative media studies
- **Political communication**, i.e., the political implications of digital technologies, AI policy and regulation, AI and global governance
- **Public health communication**, i.e., public health communication campaigns, disinformation intervention, content regulation, health policy intervention

Methodological

- **Social science research design** (comparative social surveys, experimental design, content analysis)
- **Computational methods** (i.e., network analysis, applied machine learning)

Academic Qualifications

- Ph.D., Media and Communication, City University of Hong Kong (2013)
 - Recipient of the full Scholarship by the University Grants Council (UGC) Scholarship for Research Degree Studies, Hong Kong SAR
- M.A. with *Distinction*, Communication & New Media, City University of Hong Kong (2009)
- B.A., Broadcasting Journalism, Guangzhou University, China (2008)

Academic Positions

- 2024 – Present. **Associate Professor (tenured)**. Department of Media and Communication, City University of Hong Kong
- 2023 – 2024. **Associate Professor (tenured)**. Department of Interactive Media, Hong Kong Baptist University
- 2022. **Visiting Scholar**, Department of Communication, University of California, Davis, US
- 2019 – 2023. **Assistant Professor**, Department of Interactive Media (2022 – 2023, the founding faculty member), Department of Journalism (2019 – 2022), Hong Kong Baptist University (recruited by the Hong Kong Baptist University's *University Strategic Research Cluster under its Institutional Strategic Plan 2018-2028*, equivalent to CityUHK's *Presidential Assistant Professors Scheme*)
- 2016 – 2019. **Research Assistant Professor**, Department of Journalism, Hong Kong Baptist University

- 2014 –2016. **Lecturer**, School of Professional Education and Executive Development, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- 2013 –2014. **Post-doctoral Research Fellow**, Department of Media and Communication, City University of Hong Kong

Professional and Management Experience

- **External Professional Service**
 - 2025 – Present. Editorial Board Member, *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* (the flagship journal of the Association of Education of Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), published by Sage)
 - 2024 – Present. Editorial Board Member, *Human Communication Research* (the flagship journal of the International Communication Association (ICA), published by the Oxford University Press; Q1 in SSCI-communication (2022), IF = 5.0)
 - 2023 – Present. Editorial Board Member, *Chinese Journal of Communication* (an internationally reputable journal in communication research related to the Chinese context published by the Taylor & Francis Group; Q2 in SSCI-communication (2021), IF = 3.698)
 - 2022 – Present. Editorial Board Member, *Digital Journalism* (an international leading journal in digital journalism studies published by the Taylor & Francis Group; ranking 3/95 of SSCI-communication (2021), IF = 7.986)
- **Internal Management Service**
 - 2024 – Present. **Member of the College Research Committee**, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS), City University of Hong Kong
 - 2024 – Present. **Director of Research**. Department of Media and Communication (COM), City University of Hong Kong
 - 2019 – 2023. **Programme Director (Founding)**. Master of Science in AI and Digital Media, School of Communication, Hong Kong Baptist University
 - A pioneering postgraduate programme of its kind in the Asia-Pacific region, integrating computational social science, data mining and machine learning, and digital humanities in the study of journalism, ethical AI, human-computer interaction and user experience, and digital marketing
 - Selected to be funded by the Targeted Taught Postgraduate Programmes Fellowships Scheme by the University Grants Committee (UGC), the Hong Kong SAR, a highly prestigious government scholarship
 - Coordinating with 10 full-time academic staffs, five part-time staffs, and four administrative staffs, serving ~95 students in any given year
 - 2016 –2019. **Programme Director (Founding)**. The Data and Media Communication Concentration, Bachelor of Communication in Journalism, Department of Journalism, Hong Kong Baptist University
 - The first data journalism undergraduate programme in Hong Kong
 - Coordinating with eight academic faculties from the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Journalism and three administrative staffs that serve ~50 students in any given year
 - 2014 – 2016. **Course Leader**. School of Professional Education and Executive Development, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

- Coordinating with five academic faculties for the delivery of various university-wide general education courses.

Research Grants

External grants

1. 2024 – 2025. Co-Investigator (**Co-I**), with Prof Yunier Zhu (Hong Kong Baptist University). General Research Fund (**GRF**), the Research Grants Council (**RGC**), Hong Kong SAR. *How Does Censorship Drive Conspiratorial Beliefs? The Roles of Information Uncertainty and Motivated Reasoning*. [411,855 HKD]. (On-going).
2. 2021 – 2022. Principal Investigator (**PI**), Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (**PPR**) of the Government of the Hong Kong SAR, *Hong Kong Media's Coverage of Political Polarization and its Effects on People's Political Attitudes and Behaviors*. [356,972 HKD]. (Completed).
3. 2020 – 2022. Principal Investigator (**PI**), with Prof Tai-quan Peng (Michigan State University, the US), Prof Qinfeng Zhu (University of Groningen, the Netherlands), Prof Li Chen (Hong Kong Baptist University), and Dr. Nancy Guo (Hong Kong Polytechnic University). General Research Fund (**GRF**), the Research Grants Council (**RGC**), Hong Kong SAR. *Why Fact-Checking Fails? Factors Influencing the Effectiveness of Corrective Messages Countering Misinformation on Social Media: A Comparison of Hong Kong, the United States, and the Netherlands*. [408,256 HKD]. (Completed). [Link to the project information page](#) at the RGC database.
4. 2019 – 2021. Principal Investigator (**PI**), with Prof William H. Dutton (University of Oxford), Prof Wan-Ying Lin (City University of Hong Kong). General Research Fund (**GRF**), the Research Grants Council (**RGC**), Hong Kong SAR. *The Making and Unmaking of the Public Sphere: Outcomes of Political Disagreement, Expression Avoidance, and a Filtered Information Repertoire*. [445,520 HKD] (Completed). [Link to the project information page](#) at the RGC database.

Internal grants

1. 2021- 2022. Principal Investigator (**PI**). Digital Scholarship Grant (DSG), Hong Kong Baptist University Library. *Sci-fi blockbusters' representation of female cyborgs and its impacts on audiences' perception of human-machine communication*. [88,200 HKD] (Completed)
2. 2020 – 2022. Co- Principal Investigator (**Co-PI**), The Interdisciplinary Research Clusters Matching Scheme (IRCMS) by the University Research Clusters, Hong Kong Baptist University. *Engaging the Audience with AI-powered News Chatbots: Developing and Evaluating a Critiquing-oriented Conversational Recommender System for Digital News*. [937,500 HKD]. (Completed)
3. 2018 – 2019. Principal Investigator (**PI**). Faculty Research Grant (FRG), Hong Kong Baptist University. *Codes and Coders in the Newsrooms: New Technology Adoption and Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Hong Kong's Local News Organizations*. [44,100 HKD] (completed)
4. 2017 – 2018. Principal Investigator (**PI**), Faculty Research Grant (FRG), Hong Kong Baptist University. *Effects of Freedom Restoration, Language Variety, and Issue Type on Psychological Reactance: An Experimental Study of Health Promotion Messages in*

Hong Kong. [49,752 HKD] (completed).

Full List of Publication

Section A. Peer-reviewed *journal* publications (Total: 41)

(# denotes the student author; * denotes the corresponding author. IF (impact factor, Web of Science) and CiteScore (Scopus) are listed for the corresponding publication year. For SSCI, only the **96** SSCI Communication Journals are used for IF percentage calculation; for Scopus, only the first **200** in each category will be used for CiteScore percentage calculation).

41. Pu, J. #, **Zhang, X.*** (2025, in press). Coding OpenAI in an open-sourced code sharing platform: Exploring the collective collaboration on ChatGPT projects on GitHub. *Human Machine Communication*.
40. **Zhang, X.** (2025, in press). Politically motivated retroactive self-censorship on social media: Managing political identities in a politically polarized environment. *Mass Communication and Society*.
39. **Zhang, X.**, Peng, T.-Q., & Zhu, Q. (2025). Social Media Misinformation Wars: How Message Features, Political Cynicism, and Conspiracy Beliefs Shape Government-Led Public Health Debunking Effectiveness. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*. Online first. doi: 10.1177/10776990251334107. [**Q1** in **SSCI** – Communication, 2024 JCR IF = 3.4, Sage Publications Ltd.]
38. **Zhang, X.**, Huang, W., & Zhu, J. J. H. (2025). How Journalism Researchers Navigate the AI Hype: Research Orientations and Intervention Recommendations. *Information, Communication & Society*. Online first. doi: 10.1080/1369118X.2025.2482666. [**Q1** in **SSCI** – Communication, 2024 JCR IF = 4.2, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.]
37. **Zhang, X.** & Lu, F. (2025). Enhancing public health policy communication through government-citizen social media interactions: The impact of replying agents, inquiry tone, and institutional trust. *Policy & Internet*. Online first. doi: 10.1002/poi3.70000. [**Q1** in **SSCI** – Communication, 2024 JCR IF = 4.1, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.]
36. Zhu, Q., Peng, T.-Q., & **Zhang, X.*** (2025). How do individual and societal factors shape news authentication? Comparing misinformation resilience across Hong Kong, the Netherlands, and the United States. *International Journal of Press/Politics*. Online first. doi: 10.1177/19401612251318838. [**Q1** in **SSCI** – Communication, 2024 JCR IF = 4.1, Sage Publications Ltd.]
35. Xue, H., Zhang, J., & **Zhang, X.** (2025). Facts or feelings? Leveraging emotionality as a fact-checking strategy on social media in the United States. *Social Media + Society*. Online first. doi: 10.1177/20563051251318172. [**Q1** (top 10%) in **SSCI** - Communication, 2024 JCR IF = 5.5, Sage Publications Ltd.]
34. Wang, C.-J., **Zhang, X.***, Gou, Z.#, & Wu, Y.# (2024). Yesterday once more: Collective storytelling and public engagement with digital cultural products on the music streaming platform. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*. 11, 1173. doi: 10.1057/s41599-024-03636-8. [**Q1** in **SSCI** – Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary. 2022 JCR IF = 3.70, Springer Nature Limited.]
33. **Zhang, X.**, Zhu, R.#, Chen, L., Zhang, Z.#, & Chen, M.# (2024). News from Messenger? A cross-national comparative study of news media's audience engagement strategies via Facebook Messenger chatbots. *Digital Journalism*, 12(3), 336-355. doi:

- 10.1080/21670811.2022.2145329. [Q1 (top 5%) in SSCI - Communication, 2021 JCR IF = 6.847, Sage Publications Ltd.]
32. **Zhang, X.** & Zhu, R.[#] (2024). Health journalists' social media sourcing during the early outbreak of the public health emergency. *Journalism Practice*, 18(7), 1660-1680. doi: 10.1080/17512786.2022.2110927. [SSCI - Communication, 2021 JCR IF = 2.328, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.]
31. Zhu, R.[#] & **Zhang, X.**^{*} (2023). Public sector's misinformation debunking during the public health campaign: a case of Hong Kong. *Health Promotion International*, 38(3). Online first. doi: 10.1093/heapro/daad053. [Q1 in SSCI - Health Policy & Services, 2021 JCR IF = 3.734, Oxford University Press.]
30. **Zhang, X.** (2023). Will political disagreement silence political expression? The role of information repertoire filtration and discussion network heterogeneity. *Human Communication Research*, 49(2), 139-148. doi: 10.1093/hcr/hqad009. [Q1 (top 12%) in SSCI - Communication, 2021 JCR IF = 5.333, Oxford University Press.]

---- Items after #30 are published after promotion to tenured Associate Professor ---

29. Zhao, X.[#], Chen, L., Jin, Y., & **Zhang, X.** (2023). Comparing button-based chatbots with webpages for presenting fact-checking results: A case study of health information. *Information Processing & Management*, 60(2), 103203. Online first. doi: 10.1016/j.ipm.2022.103203. [Q1 (top 14%) in SSCI – Information Science and Library Science, 2021 JCR IF = 7.466, Elsevier.]
28. **Zhang, X.** (2022). Expression avoidance and privacy management as dissonance reduction in the face of online disagreement. *Telematics and Informatics*, 75 (2022). doi: 10.1016/j.tele.2022.101894. [Q1 (top 5%) in SSCI - Information Science and Library Science, 2021 JCR IF = 9.14, Elsevier.]
27. **Zhang, X.**, Lin, W.-Y., & Dutton, W. H. (2022). The political consequences of online disagreement: The filtering of communication networks in a polarized political context. *Social Media + Society*, 8(3). doi: 10.1177/20563051221114391. [Q1 (top 15%) in SSCI - Communication, 2021 JCR IF = 4.636, Sage Publications Ltd.]
26. **Zhang, X.** & Fu, X. (2022). Fact-checkers' usage of clickbait element on social media and its effects on user engagement. *Global Journal of Media Studies*. 9, 3, p. 76-94 [in Chinese, CSSCI].
25. **Zhang, X.** & Zhu, R.[#] (2022). How source-level and message-level factors influence journalists' social media visibility during a public health crisis. *Journalism*, 23(12), 2627-2645. doi: 10.1177/14648849211023153. [Q1 (top 16%) in SSCI - Communication, 2020 JCR IF = 4.436, Sage Publications Ltd.]
24. **Zhang, X.** & Chen, M.[#] (2022). Journalists' adoption and media's coverage of data-driven journalism: a case of Hong Kong. *Journalism Practice*, 16(5), 901-919. doi: 10.1080/17512786.2020.1824126 [SSCI - Communication, 2019 JCR IF = 1.542, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.]
23. **Zhang, X.** & Ho, J. C. F. (2022). Exploring the fragmentation of the representation of data-driven journalism in the Twittersphere: A network analytics approach. *Social Science Computer Review*, 40(1), 42-60. doi: 10.1177/0894439320905522. [Q1 (top 13%) in SSCI - Social Sciences Interdisciplinary, 2019 JCR IF = 2.696, Sage Publications Ltd.]

22. Liang, H., & **Zhang, X.** (2021). Partisan bias of perceived incivility and its political consequences: Evidence from survey experiments in Hong Kong. *Journal of Communication*, 71(3), 357-379. doi: 10.1093/joc/jqab008. [**Q1** (top 6%) in **SSCI** - Communication, 2020 JCR IF = 7.270, Oxford Academic.]
21. **Zhang, X.** (2021). Innovation and conformity in music reproduction: A network analytics approach to contestants' song covering in reality shows in Mainland China and the US. *International Communication Gazette*, 83(7), 639-661. doi: 10.1177/17480485211014372. [**SSCI** - Communication, 2020 JCR IF = 1.859, Sage Publications Ltd.]
20. **Zhang, X.** & Zhong, Z.-J. (2020). Extending media system dependency theory to informational media use and environmentalism: A cross-national study. *Telematics & Informatics*, 50. doi: 10.1016/j.tele.2020.101378. [**Q1** (top 12%) in **SSCI** – Information Science and Library Science, 2019 JCR IF = 4.139, Elsevier.]
19. Ho, J. C. F., & **Zhang, X.** (2020). Strategies of marketing a new media form to the mass market: A text-mining-based case study of virtual reality games. *Journal of Open Innovation: Technology, Market, and Complexity*. 6(1). doi: <http://doi.org/10.3390/joitmc6010001>. [Scopus Journal, Elsevier]
18. **Zhang, X.** & Li, W.[#] (2020). From social media with news: Journalists' social media use for sourcing and verification. *Journalism Practice*, 14(10), 1193-1210. doi: 10.1080/17512786.2019.1689372. [**Q2** (top 30%) in **SSCI** - Communication, 2018 JCR IF = 2.124, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.]
17. **Zhang, X.** (2020). Effects of freedom restoration, language variety, and issue type on psychological reactance. *Health Communication*, 35(11), 1316-1327. doi: 10.1080/10410236.2019.1631565. [**Q2** in **SSCI** - Communication, 2018 JCR IF = 1.846, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.]
16. Lin, W.-Y., **Zhang, X.***, Cao, B. (2018). How do new media influence youths' health literacy? Exploring the effects of media channel and content on safer sex literacy. *International Journal of Sexual Health*, 30(4), 354-365. doi: 10.1080/19317611.2018.1509921. (**SSCI** - Social Science (interdisciplinary), 2017 JCR IF = 1.014, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.)
15. Lin, F. & **Zhang, X.** (2018). Movement-press dynamics and news diffusion: A typology of activism in digital China. *China Review*, 18(2), 33-63. URL: muse.jhu.edu/article/696528. [**Q2** in **SSCI** – Area Studies, 2017 JCR IF = 0.694, The Chinese University Press.]
14. **Zhang, X.** & Lin, W.-Y. (2018). Stoking the fires of participation: Extending the Gamson hypothesis on social media use and elite-challenging political engagement. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 79, 217-226. doi: 10.1016/j.chb.2017.10.036. [**Q1** (top 12%) in **SSCI** – Psychology (multidisciplinary), 2017 JCR IF = 3.536, Elsevier.]
13. **Zhang, X.** (2018). Visualization, technologies, or the public? Exploring the articulation of data-driven journalism in the Twittersphere. *Digital Journalism*. 6(6), 737-758. doi: 10.1080/21670811.2017.1340094. (**Q1** (top 18.2%) in **SSCI** - Communication, 2018 JCR IF = 2.679, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.)
12. **Zhang, X.** & Lin, W.-Y. (2018). Hanging together or not? Impacts of social media use and organisational membership on individual and collective political actions. *International Political Science Review*, 39(2), 273-289. doi: 10.1177/0192512116641842. [**Q2** in **SSCI** – Political Science, 2017 JCR IF = 1.321, Sage Publications Ltd., the flagship journal of

- the International Political Science Association (IPSA), ranked 6th in the “*Top read articles in 2018*” published by the journal.]
11. Lin, W.-Y., Cao, B., & **Zhang, X.** (2017). To speak or not to speak: Predicting college students’ outspokenness in the pro-democracy movement in Hong Kong. *International Journal of Communication*, 11, 17. Full text: <http://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/6723>. [Q2 (top 32%) in **SSCI** – Communication, 2016 JCR IF = 1.498, USC Annenberg Press.]
 10. Cui, L. & **Zhang, X.** (2017). What happened to those fans several years later? Empowerment from *Super Girls’ Voice* for girls in China (2007-2015). *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, 34(4), 400-414. doi: 10.1080/15295036.2017.1319070. [**SSCI** – Communication, 2016 JCR IF = 0.881, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.]
 9. Zhong, Z.-J. & **Zhang, X.*** (2017). A mediation path to Chinese netizens’ civic engagement: The effects of news usage, civic motivations, online expression and discussion. *China: An International Journal*, 15(2), 4-26. [**SSCI** - Area Studies. The NUS Press, National University of Singapore.]
 8. Lin, W.-Y., **Zhang, X.**, Song, H.-Y., & Omori, K. (2016). Health information seeking in the Web 2.0 age: Trust in social media, uncertainty reduction, and self-disclosure. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 56, 289-294. doi: 10.1016/j.chb.2015.11.055. [Q1 (top 12%) in **SSCI** – Psychology (multidisciplinary), 2015 JCR IF = 2.880, Elsevier.]
 7. **Zhang, X.** (2015). Voting with dollars: A cross-polity and multilevel analysis of political consumerism. *International Journal of Consumer Studies*, 39(5), 422-436. doi: 10.1111/ijcs.12181. [**SSCI** – Business, 2014 JCR IF = 1.293, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.]
 6. Lin, F., Chang, T.-K., & **Zhang, X.** (2014). The spillover effect and power relations: The case of online protest and mainstream media in China. *Asian Journal of Communication*, 25(3), 235-254. doi: 10.1080/01292986.2014.955859. [**SSCI** – Communication, 2013 JCR IF = 0.412, Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Ltd.]
 5. **Zhang, X.**, & Lin, W.-Y. (2014). Political participation in an unlikely place: How individuals engage in politics through social networking sites in China. *International Journal of Communication*. 8, 21-42. Full text: <http://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/2003/1047>. [**SSCI** – Communication, 2013 JCR IF = 0.786, USC Annenberg Press.]
 4. Lin, W.-Y., **Zhang, X.**, & Lee, F. L. F. (2013). Making the world a distant place? How foreign TV news affects individual cynicism in post-colonial Hong Kong. *International Communication Gazette*. 75(8), 715-731. doi: 10.1177/1748048513497160. [**SSCI** – Communication, Sage Publications Ltd.]
 3. Liu, N., & **Zhang, X.** (2013). The influence of group communication, government-citizen interaction, and perceived importance of new media on online political discussion. *Policy & Internet*. 5(4), 444-461. doi: 10.1002/1944-2866.POI348. [**SSCI** – Communication, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.]
 2. Lin, W.-Y., **Zhang, X.**, Jung, J.-Y., & Kim, Y.-C. (2013). From the wired to wireless generation: Investigating teens’ internet use through the mobile phone. *Telecommunications Policy*. 37(8), 651-661. doi: 10.1016/j.telpol.2012.09.008. [Q1 (18%) in **SSCI** – Communication, 2012 JCR IF = 1.594, Elsevier.]
 1. Lin, W.-Y., & **Zhang, X.** (2012). Seeking the invisible youth: Examining the Otaku’s online-offline social capital construction in Hong Kong. *Mass Communication Research*, 2012(7), 233-270. Full text: <http://mcr.nccu.edu.tw/word/1314522013.pdf>. [in Chinese, TSSCI].

Section B. Selected conference presentations and proceedings

52. Zhu, Y., **Zhang, X.**, & Zhong, B. (2025, June). *The code war: GenAI patent race among China, Europe, and the United States (2005–2023)*. Paper Accepted for presentation at the 75th Annual Meeting of International Communication Association (**ICA**), Denver, CO., the US. 12 – 16 June 2025.
51. **Zhang, X.**, Wei, R., & Lo, V.-H. (2025, June). *Digital disconnectivity in 2024 U.S. college protests: Effects of news exposure, third-person effect, and polarization*. Paper Accepted for presentation at the 75th Annual Meeting of International Communication Association (**ICA**), Denver, CO., the US. 12 – 16 June 2025.
50. Huang, W.[#], Wu, Y.[#], Skoric, M., & **Zhang, X.** (2025, June). *Chasing quality traffic: Professional journalists' traffic-oriented strategies on social media in Greater China*. Paper Accepted for presentation at the 75th Annual Meeting of International Communication Association (**ICA**), Denver, CO., the US. 12 – 16 June 2025.
49. Pu, J.[#] & **Zhang, X.** (2024, Aug). *Source and message effects on reactance to conflict reporting: Evidence from a survey experiment in Hong Kong*. Paper accepted by the 2024 Annual Conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (**AEJMC**), Philadelphia, the U.S., 4 - 8 August 2024.
48. Zhou, S., Liu, X. F., Nah, F. F. H., Harrison, S., **Zhang, X.**, Zhen, S., ... & Li, P. (2024, July). *Understanding and Fighting Scams: Media, Language, Appeals and Effects*. In the Proceedings of 26th International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction (HCI International 2024). volume 69, LNCS 15380. Springer.
47. Deng, D.[#], **Zhang, X.**, Guo, S. (2024, June), *Do people trust female more than male as a voice assistant?* Pacific Asia Conference on Information Systems (PACIS 2024) Proceedings. 4, 1-9. URL: https://aisel.aisnet.org/pacis2024/track19_userbeh/track19_userbeh/4
46. **Zhang, X.** & Lu, F. (2024, June). *The consequences of observing the government-citizen social media interactions: The role of inquiries' tone and replying agents*. Paper presented at the 74th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 20 – 25 June, 2024.
45. Goyanes, M., **Zhang, X.**, & Skoric, M. (2024, June). *The mechanisms of unfriending: Linking social media news use with unfriending via political discussion frequency and concerns about social threats*. Paper presented at the 74th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 20 – 25 June, 2024.
44. Zhu, Q., Peng, T.-Q., & **Zhang, X.** (2024, June). *How do individual and societal factors shape news authentication? Comparing misinformation resilience across Hong Kong, the Netherlands, and the United States*. Paper presented at the 74th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 20 – 25 June, 2024.
43. Zhou, T., **Zhang, X.**, Peng, T.-Q., & Zhu, Q. (2024, June). *The (unintended) effects of active fact-checking behaviors on conspiracy beliefs and political cynicism: The moderating role of partisanship*. Paper presented at the 74th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 20 – 25 June, 2024.

42. Zhou, Y.-Q., Zhang, M., Gu, Y., & **Zhang, X.** (2024, June). *Comments as digital public sphere: Text mining comments of Shenzhen Health Commission*. Paper presented at the 74th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Gold Coast, Australia, 20 – 25 June, 2024.
41. **Zhang, X.**, Peng, T.-Q., & Zhu, Q. (2023, Aug). *Factors influencing debunking messages' effectiveness: Comparing Hong Kong, the Netherlands, and the United States*. Paper presented at the 2023 Annual Conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), DC, the U.S., 7 - 11 August 2023.
40. Guo, S., **Zhang, X.**, Wang, D. (2023, May). *Zoom boom and sensor-mediated impression management: The role of expertise and power relations*. Paper presented at the 73rd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Toronto, Canada, 25 - 29 May 2023.
39. **Zhang, X.**, Zhu, R. (2023, May). *Will political disagreement foster a civic culture? The role of social media self-Withdrawal and network heterogeneity in a polarized context*. Paper presented at the 73rd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Toronto, Canada, 25 - 29 May 2023.
38. Zhu, R., **Zhang, X.** (2023, May). *Public sector's misinformation debunking during the public health campaign: A case of Hong Kong's COVID-19 vaccination programme*. Paper presented at the 73rd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Toronto, Canada, 25 - 29 May 2023. Best Poster Award, the Health Communication Division.
37. Gou, Z., Wu, Y., **Zhang, X.**, Wang, C. (2023, May) *Yesterday Once More: Collective storytelling constitutes the success of digital cultural products on music streaming platforms*. Paper presented at the 73rd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Toronto, Canada, 25 - 29 May 2023.
36. **Zhang, X.** (2022, August). *Expression avoidance and privacy management as dissonance reduction in the face of online disagreement*. Paper presented at the 2022 Annual Conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), 3 – 7 August 2022.
35. Chen, L., Zhang, Z., **Zhang, X.**, & Zhao L. (2022, July) *A pilot study for understanding users' attitudes towards a conversational agent for news recommendation*. In Proceedings of ACM Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI'22), July 26-28, 2022.
34. **Zhang, X.** & Fu, X. (2022, May). *Codes, collaboration, and communities: A network analysis of the online communities of data-driven journalism on a social coding platform*. Paper presented at the 72nd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France, 26-30 May 2022.
33. Fu, X., **Zhang, X.**, Zhu, R., Ping, H., & Chang, Y. (2022, May). *"FALSE! Read about it here!" Fact-checkers' social media language feature and its effects on user engagement*. Paper presented at the 72nd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France, 26-30 May 2022.
32. **Zhang, X.**, Lin, W.-Y., Dutton, W. (2022, May). *The political consequences of online disagreement: The filtering of communication networks in a polarized political context*. Paper presented at the 72nd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France, 26-30 May 2022.

31. Zhang, Z., **Zhang, X.**, & Chen, L. (2021, September). *Informing the design of a news chatbot. IVA '21: The 21st ACM International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents*. September 14 - 17, 2021. Virtual Event, Japan.
30. **Zhang, X.**, & Deng, X. (2021, August). *Exploring users' co-commenting behaviors on social video platforms: A network analysis of Danmaku comments*. Paper presented at the 2021 Annual Conference (virtual) of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (**AEJMC**), 4 – 7 August 2021.
29. **Zhang, X.** & Zhu, R. (2021, May). *Health journalists' social media sourcing during the public health emergency: A network analytics approach*. Paper presented at the 71st Annual Conference (virtual) of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), 27-31 May 2021.
28. Zhu, R. & **Zhang, X.** (2021, May). *How source-level and message-level factors influence journalists' social media visibility during a public health emergency*. Paper presented at the 71st Annual Conference (virtual) of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), 27-31 May 2021.
27. Peng, Z., Huang, J., Wang, H., Wang, S., Chu, X., **Zhang, X.**, ... & Xu, J. (2021, April). BU-trace: A permissionless mobile system for privacy-preserving intelligent contact tracing. In *International Conference on Database Systems for Advanced Applications* (pp. 381-397). Springer, Cham.
26. **Zhang, X.**, Guo, N., & Li, R. (2020, May). *Robot journalists currently not needed: Exploring newsrooms' practices of AI-powered initiatives with a mix-method approach*. Paper (virtually) presented at the 70th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 21-25 May 2020.
25. **Zhang, X.** (2020, May). *Supply-demand versus social learning: Pathways from social media use to citizens' demand for democracy*. Paper (virtually) presented at the 70th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 21-25 May 2020.
24. **Zhang, X.** & Li, W. (2020, May). *From social media with news: Journalists' social media use for sourcing and verification*. Paper (virtually) presented at the 70th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 21-25 May 2020.
23. Lin, W.-Y. & **Zhang, X.** (2020, May). *Are social media a political movement equalizer? Survey evidences from two Asian polities*. Paper (virtually) presented at the 70th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 21-25 May 2020.
22. Lin, W.-Y., Oktavianus, J., & **Zhang, X.** (2020, May). *Feeling politics? How communication mediates the effects of emotions on political participation*. Paper (virtually) presented at the 70th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia, 21-25 May 2020.
21. **Zhang, X.** (2019). *Data, coders, and designers in the newsrooms: The adoption of data-driven journalism in Hong Kong's local news organizations*. Paper presented at the 69th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (**ICA**), DC, USA, 24 - 28 May 2019.
20. Ho, J. C. F. & **Zhang, X.** (2019). *Marketing virtual reality games with text: A text mining analysis of game descriptions on Steam*. Paper (poster session) presented at the 69th

- Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), DC, USA, 24 - 28 May 2019.
19. **Zhang, X.**, Zhang, L., Zhang, M., Liu, Y., He, W., & Zhou, W. (2018). *Monkey King, Naruto, and Mickey Mouse: Mapping the co-consumption network of animation protagonists in China*. Paper presented at the 68th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), Prague, The Czech Republic, 24 - 29 May, 2018.
 18. **Zhang, X.** (2017) Exploring the country co-occurrence network in the Twittersphere at an international economic event. In: Cheng X., Ma W., Liu H., Shen H., Feng S., Xie X. (eds) *Social Media Processing. SMP 2017. Communications in Computer and Information Science*. Vol. 774, 308-318. Springer, Singapore. doi: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-10-6805-8_25 [EI, acceptance rate: 20% (28/140)].
 17. **Zhang, X.** (2017) *Visualization, technologies, or the public? A text mining analysis of the articulation of data-driven journalism in the Twittersphere*. Paper presented at the 67th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), San Diego, USA, 25 – 29 May, 2017.
 16. **Zhang, X.** & Lin, W.-Y. (2017). *Extending the Gamson hypothesis on social media use and elite-challenging political participation: A cross-polity study*. Paper presented at the 67th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), San Diego, USA, 25 – 29 May, 2017.
 15. **Zhang, X.** (2016). *The effects of freedom restoration, message frames, and language variety on psychological reactance*. Paper presented at the 66th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), Fukuoka, Japan, 9-13 June, 2016.
 14. Cui, L., & **Zhang, X.** (2016). *What happened to those tomboys several years later?: Empowerment from Super Girls' Voice for girls in mainland China (2007-2015)*. Paper presented at the 66th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), Fukuoka, Japan, 9-13 June, 2016.
 13. Lin, W.-Y., Cao, B., & **Zhang, X.** (2016). *To speak or not to speak: Predicting college students' outspokenness in the pro-democracy movement in Hong Kong*. Paper presented at the 66th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), Fukuoka, Japan, 9-13 June, 2016.
 12. **Zhang, X.**, & Zhong, Z.-J. (2015). *Mapping the boundary of media effects on environmental concerns: Evidence from 37 societies*. Paper presented at the 65th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, 21-25 May 2015.
 11. Lin, W.-Y., & **Zhang, X.** (2015). *From spectators to participants: A study of affective intelligence, media uses, and political participation in Hong Kong*. Paper presented at the 65th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, 21-25 May 2015.
 10. Wang, C.-J., Chen, H.X., & **Zhang, X.** (2015) *The landscape of information diffusion on Sina Weibo: Investigating the rich-club effect*. Paper presented at the 65th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, 21-25 May 2015.
 9. **Zhang, X.**, & Lin, W.-Y. (2014) *The cynics in action: Social networking sites use, political attitudes, and political participation in mainland China and Hong Kong*. Paper presented at the 64th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA).

- Seattle, Washington, the U.S., May 2014. Awardee of the competitive Political Communication Division Travel Grant.
8. **Zhang, X.,** & Lin, W.-Y. (2014) *Bowling alone or together? Social media uses, organizational membership, and political participation.* Paper presented at the **ICA** 2014 Pre-conference: *New Media and Citizenship in Asia: Values, Digital Politics, and Civic Well-Being*, Seattle, Washington, the U.S., May 2014. Awardee of the travel grant of the pre-conference.
 7. Zhong, Z.-J., & **Zhang, X.** (2014). *Media and psychological predictors of civic engagement: Uses of news, motivation, political efficacy, and relative deprivation.* Paper presented at the 64th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (**ICA**). Seattle, Washington, the U.S., May 2014.
 6. **Zhang, X.,** & Zhang, F. (2013). *Powered by democracy? - A multilevel model of media uses and political participation across Asian countries.* Paper presented at the Annual Conference of Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (**AEJMC**), D.C., the U.S., Aug 8 – 11, 2013. McCombs Shaw Best Student Paper Award, the Political Communication Interest Group.
 5. **Zhang, X.,** & Zhang, W. (2013). *The willingness to fight for the People's Republic of China? The individual determinants of political support in the post-colonial Hong Kong.* Paper presented at the 99th Annual Convention of National Communication Association (**NCA**). D.C., the U.S., Nov 21-24, 2013.
 4. **Zhang, X.** (2013). *The myth of "voting with dollars": A cross-polity and multilevel analysis of political consumerism.* Paper presented at the 63rd Annual Conference of International Communication Association (**ICA**). London, the U.K., June 17-21, 2013.
 3. Lin, W.-Y., **Zhang, X.,** & Lee, F. L. F. (2013). *Making the world a distant place? How foreign TV news affects individual cynicism in post-colonial Hong Kong.* Paper presented at the 63rd Annual Conference of International Communication Association (**ICA**). London, the U.K., June 17-21, 2013.
 2. Liu, N., & **Zhang, X.** (2012). *Talking as communicators: Effects of group communication, government-citizen interaction, and perceived media importance on online political discussion.* Paper presented at the 100th Annual Convention of Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (**AEJMC**). Chicago, the U.S., Aug 9-12, 2012.
 1. Lin, F., & **Zhang, X.** (2012). *Contextualizing inter-media influence: Diffusion of online news about three collective actions in China.* Paper presented at the 62nd Annual Conference of International Communication Association (**ICA**). Phoenix, Arizona, the U.S., May 24-28, 2012.

Section C. Book chapters and professional contributions

4. **Zhang, X.,** Chang, Y.[#], Ping, H.[#], & Zhu, R.[#] (2024). Government and public institution's disinformation clarifications: The case of COVID-19 vaccines. In Tsang, J., Zhou, L. & Huang, Y. (Eds.), *Deconstructing fact-checking* (pp. 206–231). Hong Kong: Commercial Press [in Chinese].
3. Lin, W.-Y. & **Zhang, X.** (2020). Digital Politics in Mainland China: Participation in an Unlikely Place, in Dutton, W. H. (Ed.), *A Research Agenda for Digital Politics*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.

2. Zhu, J. J. H., Huang, Y., & **Zhang, X.** (2018). Dialogue on computational communication research: Origins, theories, methods, and research questions. *Communication & Society*, 44, 1–24 [in Chinese]. Full text: <http://cschinese.com/word/15554202018.pdf>
1. Wang, Q.[#], **Zhang, X.**, & Man, Z.[#] (2018). Survey of content production in Hong Kong Media. In Li, R. & Huang, Y. (eds), *Hong Kong digital media development report 2018* (pp. 224–247). Hong Kong: Chung Hwa Press [in Chinese].

Selected Invited Talks (since 2021)

- June 2025. Invited speaker. *Why governments are losing the social media disinformation war*. School of Public Health, the University of Hong Kong (HKU). Hong Kong.
- May 2025. Invited speaker. *Citizen's information resilience and disinformation debunking for global governance in the age of GenAI*. Department of Information Management, Peking University (PKU), Beijing, China.
- May 2025. Keynote speaker. *Human-AI collaboration for news production and global governance*. The First International Workshop on Human-AI Communication, Psychology, and Social Change. Shenzhen University. Shenzhen, China.
- Mar 2025. Invited plenary speaker, *How Generative AI (GenAI) Empowers News Fact-Checking: Challenges and Transformations for Editorial Decision-Makers*. The “Editors-in-Chief Lecture Series”, the Hong Kong Headquarters of Phoenix TV, Hong Kong SAR.
- Nov 2024. Invited plenary speaker. *The Hype vs. Reality of Generative AI in Newsrooms: Navigating Ethical Pitfalls and Implementation Challenges*. The International Symposium on AI and Journalism, the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Seoul, South Korea.
- July 2024. Invited plenary speaker. *How AI Fails the Newsroom*. The 4th International Academic Conference on Global Bay Area Development Economic Development and Social Governance. Institute of Guangdong, Hongkong and Macao Development Studies, Sun Yat-sen University. Shenzhen, China.
- June 2024. Invited speaker. *The Politics of Public Health Communication*. School of Public Health, the University of Hong Kong (HKU). Hong Kong.
- May 2024. Invited plenary speaker. *Digital Technologies-Enhanced Government-Citizen Interaction for Public Health Campaigns*. The 10th Macao International Communication Week, 2024. Macau University of Science and Technology. Macau.
- May 2023. Panel Discussant, *Generative AI Insights*. Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). Hong Kong.
- Oct 2022. Invited speaker. *Digitally Mediated Disconnectivity*. Social Media Lab, Stanford University. the US.
- Jan 2021. Speaker and Panel Discussant. *Digital Media as Data and Methods*. Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), Communication Visiting Scholar Program 2021, Hong Kong.

Academic Awards & Honors

- May 2023. **Best Poster Award**, the Health Communication Division, the International Communication Association (ICA)
- May 2022. **Performance Award of Teaching**, the President's Award Scheme, Hong Kong Baptist University (2022)
- May 2021. **Performance Award as Young Researcher**, the President's Award Scheme, Hong Kong Baptist University (2021)
- Nov 2018. **Distinguished Alumni Award** (2008 – 2018)
 - Awarded at the 10th Anniversary of the Department of Media and Communication, City University of Hong Kong.
- May 2013. **McCombs Shaw Best Student Paper Award**, the Political Communication Interest Group, the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC).
- Sep 2012. **Outstanding Academic Performance Award**
 - Awarded by Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies, City University of Hong Kong [1,000 HKD].
- Sep 2012. **Research Tuition Scholarship**
 - Awarded by Chow Yei Ching Graduate School, City University of Hong Kong [42,000 HKD].
- Mar 2011. **Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies Scholarship**
 - Awarded by Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies, City University of Hong Kong [60,000 HKD]. *This is a meritorious award and is granted on a strictly competitive basis, for students' outstanding academic performance. Around 10 awards are given out each year, with each department only one nominee.*

Academic Teaching and Research Supervision

- **Courses offering (Jan 2017 – present)**
 1. CityUHK, COM5513 AI Communication Ethics and Governance, (average enrolment per year: 50). Postgraduate, elective, course proposer (since 2026)
 2. CityUHK, COM2510 Generative AI for Multimedia Authoring (average enrolment per year: 50). Undergraduate, core, course proposer (since 2025)
 3. CityUHK, COM5111 AI and Digital Marketing for Entrepreneurs (average enrolment per year: 50). Postgraduate, elective, course proposer (since 2025)
 4. CityUHK, COM3109 Media and Communication in Chinese Context (average enrolment per year: 100). Undergraduate, core
 5. HKBU, AIDM7410 Computational Journalism (average enrolment per year: 39), Postgraduate, elective, course proposer
 6. HKBU, AIDM7340 AI for Digital Media (average enrolment per year: 90), Postgraduate, core, course proposer
 7. HKBU, AIDM7460 Digital Media Research Project (average supervisee: 3), Postgraduate, elective
 8. HKBU, AIDM7330 Basic Programming for Data Science (average enrolment per year: 35), Postgraduate, core, course proposer
 9. HKBU, COMM7190 Issues and Cases for Mass Communication (average enrolment per year: 25), Postgraduate, elective

10. HKBU, JOUR4036 Communication Theory (average enrolment per year: 70), Undergraduate, core

- **Research supervision**

- 1) **Research students**

- Siyu Zhang (Ph.D., 2024 – present) Co-supervision with Prof. Jonathan Zhu, Chair Professor, City University of Hong Kong, in-progress.
- Jingyi Pu (Ph.D., 2024 – present), Principal Supervision, *ABD*.
- Tianlun Zhou (Ph.D., 2022 – present), Principal Supervision (2022-24), Co-supervision with Prof Kenneth Tan (HKBU) due to institution change, *ABD*.
- Ruifeng Qie (Ph.D., 2020 – present) Principal Supervision (2021-24), Co-supervision with Prof Nick Zhang (HKBU) due to institution change, *ABD*.
- Xiaohang Deng (M.Phil., 2020 - 2022) Principal Supervision, Hong Kong Baptist University, *Graduated*.
- Zhi Lin (M.Phil., 2019 - 2021) Co-supervision with Prof. Daya Thussu, Professor, Hong Kong Baptist University, *Graduated*.
- Wenshu Li (Ph.D., 2018 - 2022) Co-supervision with Dr. Leanne Chang, Associate Professor, Hong Kong Baptist University, *Graduated*.

- 2) **Research intern & project assistants**

- Rui Zhu (2020 – 2021), Department of Journalism
- Hiu Yan Ping (2021), Department of Journalism
- Minyi Chen (2019 – 2020), Department of Journalism
- Jingwen Ma (2019 – 2020), Department of Computer Science
- Xiaohang Deng (2019 – 2020), Department of Journalism
- Can He (2018 - 2019), Department of Computer Science
- Chen Xu (2018 - 2019), Department of Computer Science
- Mengyi Zhang (2017 - 2018), Department of Journalism

Other Service

- **External Professional Service**

- 2022. Organizing Committee Member. The 19th Chinese Internet Research Conference (CIRC): *China and the Future of the Internet*, hosted by the Centre for Media and Communication Research (CMCR), School of Communication and Film, Hong Kong Baptist University, as a pre-conference of the 2022 annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France.
- 2017 - Present. Judging Panel Member. The Annual Campus Newspaper Award, China Daily (Asia).
- 2017 - Present. Judging Panel Member. Hong Kong Commercial Radio 50th Anniversary Scholarship, for outstanding students from the School of Communication and Film, Hong Kong Baptist University.

- **University and School Committee Service**

- 2024 – Present. Member of the College Research Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS), City University of Hong Kong
- 2024 – Present. Director of Research. Department of Media and Communication (COM), City University of Hong Kong

- 2023 – 2024. School Staff Review Committee. School of Communication. Hong Kong Baptist University.
- 2020 – 2024. Committee Member. Research Postgraduate Studies Committee. School of Communication. Hong Kong Baptist University.
- 2019 – Present. Committee Member. Taught Postgraduate Programmes Management Committee. School of Communication. Hong Kong Baptist University.
- 2017 – 2022. Committee Member. The Committee on the Research Ethics Committee (REC) (the former Use of Human & Animal Subjects in Teaching and Research (HASC)), Hong Kong Baptist University.
- 2017 – 2022. Committee Member. The E-learning Committee. Centre of Holistic Teaching and Learning (CHTL), Hong Kong Baptist University.
- 2010 – 2011. Graduate Study Committee Member (Student Representative), College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, City University of Hong Kong.
- 2008 – 2009. Class Representative by Election, MA in New Media and Communication, City University of Hong Kong.
- **Ad-hoc Reviewer for the below peer-reviewed academic journals (selected). Note:** Most journal review records are documented and verified in my Publon profile: <https://publons.com/researcher/1613458/xinzhi-zhang>
 - *Journal of Communication (SSCI), Communication Research (SSCI), Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication (SSCI), Human Communication Research (SSCI), New Media & Society (SSCI), American Journal of Political Science (SSCI), International Journal of Public Opinion Research (SSCI), Political Communication (SSCI), Computers in Human Behaviors (SSCI), Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly (SSCI), Digital Journalism (SSCI), Mass Communication & Society (SSCI), Social Science Computer Review (SSCI), International Political Science Review (SSCI), International Journal of Communication (SSCI), Information, Communication, and Society (SSCI), Youth & Society (SSCI), Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking (SSCI), Telematics and Informatics (SSCI)*
- **Research Paper Reviewer:** International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Convention submissions, from 2013 – present

Skills/Interests

- Data analytics: Python, R, SQLite, STATA, SPSS, Gephi, Tableau
- Language: English (professional), Cantonese (Native), Mandarin (Native)
- Music: Piano Tenth Level Certificate (highest) certified by the China National Music Association (Beijing, National); Jazz Drum (10 years)