

Yang Wang [jaŋ³⁵ waŋ³⁵]

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Employment

2024 - **University of Utah**
Assistant professor, Department of Linguistics

Education

2021 - 2024 **University of California, Los Angeles**
Ph.D. in *Linguistics*
Dissertation: [Studies in morphophonological copying: Analysis, experimentation, and modeling](#)
Committee: Tim Hunter, Bruce Hayes (co-chairs), Claire Moore-Cantwell, Kie Zuraw, Colin Wilson (external)

2019 - 2021 **University of California, Los Angeles**
M.A. in *Linguistics*
Thesis: [Regular languages extended with reduplication: Formal models, proofs and illustrations](#)
Committee: Tim Hunter (chair), Bruce Hayes, Dylan Bumford

2015 - 2019 **University of California, Los Angeles**
BACHELOR OF ARTS AND SCIENCE *Cum Laude*
Major in *Mathematics of computation*
Major in *Linguistics*

NON-DEGREE TRAINING

2023 *Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology*; Advanced Bayesian statistics with Stan
University of Potsdam
2023 *LSA Summer Institute*; University of Massachusetts Amherst
2021 *European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information*; Held virtually
2019 *European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information*; University of Latvia
2019 *LSA Summer Institute*; University of California, Davis

Publications

(= indicates alphabetically-ordered authors.)

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES & PROCEEDINGS

Accepted **Wang, Yang** & Bruce Hayes. Learning underlying representations: The role of abstractness. *Linguistic Inquiry*.
2023 **Wang, Yang** & Tim Hunter. [On regular copying languages](#). *Journal of Language Modelling*. 11(1): 1–66
2021 **Wang, Yang**. [Recognizing reduplicated forms: Finite-State Buffered Machines](#). In *Proceedings of the 18th SIGMORPHON Workshop on Computational Research in Phonetics, Phonology, and Morphology*, 177–187, Online. Association for Computational Linguistics.

WORK IN PROGRESS

In prep **Wang, Yang** & Colin Wilson. Inductive bias in learning partial reduplication: Evidence from artificial grammar learning.

Presentations

(* indicates the presenter if multiple-authored; ‡ indicates equal contribution)

INVITED TALK

- 2025 *planned* **Wang, Yang.** *Learning biases reflect linguistic typology: The case of reduplication.* Invited talk at the Breiss Lab. University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA. February 26.
- 2024 **Wang, Yang.** *Copying and how to learn it: Insights from computation and experimentation.* Colloquium. University of Utah. Salt Lake City, UT, February 6.
- 2024 **Wang, Yang.** *Copying and how to learn it: Insights from computation and experimentation.* Colloquium. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. January 23.
- 2024 **Wang, Yang.** *What does formal language theory tell us about the nature of reduplication?* Invited talk presented at the session on Formal Language Theory in Morphology and Phonology. The 97th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New York, NY. January 4-7.
- 2023 Hayes, Bruce* & **Yang Wang***. *Learning underlying representations in phonology: The role of abstractness.* Colloquium. Stony Brook University. New York, NY. April 14.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 **Wang, Yang.** *The emergent typology of reduplication: Universals and variations in learning biases.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting on Phonology. Rutgers University, New Brunswick. November 1-3, 2024.
- 2022 Wilson, Colin & **Yang Wang***. *Inductive bias in learning partial reduplication: Evidence from artificial grammar learning.* Talk presented at the Annual Meeting on Phonology. UCLA, Los Angeles, CA. October 21-23.
- 2022 **Wang, Yang*** & Bruce Hayes*. *Learning underlying representations: Expectation-maximization and the KK-Hierarchy.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting on Phonology. UCLA, Los Angeles, CA. October 21-23.
- 2021 **Wang, Yang.** *A formal model for recognizing reduplication.* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting on Phonology. Online, hosted by the University of Toronto and York University. October 1-3.
- 2021 **Wang, Yang.** *Adding reduplication to finite-state machinery.* Talk presented at the 32nd ESSLI Student Session. Online. August 6.
- 2021 **Wang, Yang.** *Recognizing Reduplicated Forms: Finite-State Buffered Machines.* Talk presented at the 18th SIG-MORPHON. Online. August 5.

Fellowships, Honors & Awards

- 2023-2024 Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$20,000), UCLA Graduate Division
- 2022 Summer Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (\$6,000), UCLA Graduate Division (Supervisor: Tim Hunter)
- 2020-2021 Edward L. Keenan Mathematics & Language Graduate Fellowship (\$3950)
- 2019 Graduate Dean's Scholar Award (\$14,500) *with two years of summer funding*
- 2019 - 2020 Friends of Linguistics Scholarship (\$15,000), UCLA Linguistics department
- 2019 Departmental Honors, UCLA Linguistics department
- 2019 Phi Beta Kappa, UCLA

Teaching

AS AN INSTRUCTOR

- Ling 3340 **Introduction to Computational Linguistics** (University of Utah; undergraduate)
2025 Spring
- Ling 2200 **Introduction to the study of languages** (University of Utah; undergraduate)
2024 Fall
- Ling 185A **Computational Linguistics I** (UCLA; undergraduate)
2023 Summer

AS A TEACHING ASSISTANT (UCLA)

- Ling 20 **Introduction to Linguistic Analysis**
2020 Fall (Instructor: Tim Hunter)
2022 Fall (Instructor: Ben Eischens)
- Ling 185A **Computational Linguistics I**
2022 Winter (Instructor: Dylan Bumford)
2021 Winter (Instructor: Tim Hunter)
- Ling 185B **Computational Linguistics II**
2023 Spring, 2022 Spring, 2021 Spring (Instructor: Tim Hunter)
- Ling 119A **Applied Phonology**
2024 Spring (Instructor: Sam Zukoff)

GUEST LECTURER

- 2024 Fall Computational learning models in linguistics (University of Utah; Instructor: Caleb Belth)
Lecture: Maximum Entropy and the “Inductive Baseline” approach to abstract structure
- 2021 Winter Computational Linguistics I (UCLA; Instructor: Tim Hunter)
Lecture: Subregular phonology and the puzzle of reduplication

Research Experience

- 2022 Winter Research assistant, Supervisor: Dr. Tim Hunter, UCLA Department of Linguistics
• Troubleshoot [the CCPC software](#) on the finite partition function of weighted context-free grammars
- 2021 Fall Research assistant, Supervisor: Dr. Bruce Hayes, UCLA Department of Linguistics
- 2022 Summer • Developed a learning algorithm that applies expectation maximization to maximum entropy grammars
• Simulated data from different scaled languages by using the developed algorithm

UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE

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|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 2017-2019 | Sound Categorization & Prosody
Principal Investigator: Dr. Jeremy Steffman | Research Assistant
UCLA Phonetics Lab |
| 2018-2019 | Variance and Invariance in Voice Quality
Principal Investigator: Dr. Patricia Keating | Research Assistant
UCLA Phonetics Lab |
| June 2018 -
Aug. 2018 | Activities Classification in LAPD Body Worn Videos
Project Lead: Dr. Matthew Haberland | Research Assistant
UCLA Applied Math REU |
| June 2016 -
Sep. 2016 | China Education Panel Survey
National Survey Research Center at Renmin University of China | Research Assistant |

Service

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

2024- **Member**, Colloquium Committee
2024- **Member**, Undergraduate Committee in Linguistics

UCLA

01 - 06/2024 **Co-Organizer**, Graduate student writing group
2022 - 2023 **Chair**, Colloquium Committee
2021 - 2023 **Member**, Colloquium Committee

AD-HOC REVIEWING

Grants National Science Foundation (Linguistics)
Journals Phonology, Open Linguistics
Conferences Annual Meeting on Phonology (AMP)

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

2020 - 2021 **Rater**, UCLA Test of Oral Proficiency for international Teaching Assistants
2017 - 2019 **Undergraduate homework grader**, UCLA Mathematics Department

Skills

Languages **Native:** Mandarin Chinese
Fluent: English
Basic: Russian
Fieldwork: Cantel K'iche'

Technical Python, Haskell, R, MATLAB, C++ , \LaTeX , git