Runyi Yao

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Wolfson College, Linton Road, Oxford, OX2 6UD

Research interests

Broad | Psycholinguistics, Experimental Semantics & Pragmatics

Narrow | Predictive Processing, Sentence & Discourse Comprehension, Causal Inferences

Education

2022 – Present
University of Oxford – Oxford, UK
DPhil in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics (Expected)
Language and Brain Laboratory
Supervisors: Prof E. Matthew Husband & Prof Daniel Altshuler

2020 – 2022
University of Oxford – Oxford, UK
MPhil in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics
Supervisor: Prof E. Matthew Husband
Thesis: *A psycholinguistic investigation of intra-sentential explanation relations driven by resultative adjectives.* [link]

2016 – 2020
Jilin University – Changchun, China
B.A. in Chinese Language and Literature, B.A. in History
Kuang Yaming Honors Program in Humanities, College of Humanities
GPA: 3.83/4.00   Ranking:1/29

Experiences

ACADEMIC VISITING

2019 Fall
Visiting undergraduate student, Leiden University (Leiden, Netherlands)

07/2024 – 12/2024
Junior Research Fellow, University of Cologne (Cologne, Germany)
PI: Dr Katja Jasinskaja
Project: Prominence in Language (SFB 1252)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

2020 Summer
Research assistant, Language and Cognition Lab, UCL (London, UK)
PI: Prof. Gabriella Vigliocco
Project: Ecological Language (ECOLANG)

2019 Fall
Research Assistant, Leiden University Center for Linguistics (Leiden, Netherlands)
PI: Prof Marina Terkourafi
Project: Pragmatic Functions and Speech Acts behind the Phrase *real name* in the Chinese Online Discourse in #MeToo Campaign.

2019 Summer
Mitacs research intern, Child Language and Speech Studies Lab, University of Toronto (Mississauga, Canada)
PI: Prof Elizabeth K. Johnson
Project: Developmental sociolinguistics (Children's perceptions of accents)

2019 Spring	**Corpus Annotator (remote)**, Institute of Big Data and Language Education Studies, Beijing Language and Culture University (Beijing, China) PI: Prof Endong Xun Project: Performed syntactic annotations for Beijing Language and Culture University corpus (BCC Corpus)

INTERNSHIP

2022 Summer	**Research Intern**, Centre for Teaching and Learning, University of Oxford (Oxford, UK) Project: Supporting Students' Academic Transition

Publications

2024	**Yao, R.**, Husband, E.M. and Altshuler, D. (forthcoming) Topichood and temporal interpretation of DPs guide clause-internal, causal coherence. In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 28*. [LingBuzz]

Presentations

POSTERS

2024	**Yao, R.**, Husband, E.M. and Altshuler, D. (2024). Implicit questions-under-discussion raise expectations only in at-issue main clauses. Poster presented at the 37th annual conference on Human Sentence Processing, Ann Arbor, MI. [abstract] [poster]
2023	**Yao, R.**, Husband, E.M. and Altshuler, D. (2023). Topichood and temporal interpretation of DPs guide clause-internal, causal coherence. Poster given at the 28th annual Sinn und Bedeutung Conference, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. & the 10th biannual XPrag Conference, Paris, France.[abstract] [poster] [slides]
2023	**Yao, R.**, Sasaki, K., Altshuler, D. and Husband, E.M. (2023). Asymmetric processing effects of intra-sentential explanation coherence. Poster given at the 29th annual Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing Conference, San Sebastian, Spain. [abstract] [poster]
2023	**Yao, R.**, Sasaki, K., Altshuler, D. and Husband, E.M. (2023). Explanation coherence inside sentences, but only offline. Poster given at the 36th Human Sentence Processing Conference, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, US. [abstract] [poster]

INVITED TALK

2024	**Yao, R.** & Fan, Y. Online prediction update: evidence from Chinese classifiers. Talk given at Languages of China: Past, present and future Workshop, All Souls College, Oxford, UK, May 2024. [slides]
2023	**Yao, R.** Temporal interpretation of DPs guide clause-internal coherence, but only offline. Talk given at the Oxford Syntax-Semantics Workshop, Oxford, UK, May 2023. [handout]

Honors and awards

2024	**Short-term Junior Fellowship**, Collaborative Research Centre (SFB 1252), University of Cologne (€10,800)

2024	**HSP 2024 Travel Award**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor & National Science Foundation ($400)
2023	**Fieldwork and Travel Bursary**, Philological Society (£915)
2023-2024	**Wolfson College Travel Grant**, Wolfson College, University of Oxford (£1200)
2023	**HSP 2023 Travel Award**, University of Pittsburgh & National Science Foundation ($400)
2022-2024	**Postgraduate Student Research Grant**, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics, University of Oxford (£1,500)
2021	**Vision Scholar**, Vision Academy (¥60,000)
2020	**First Grade Outstanding Graduate Scholarship**, Jilin University (¥2,000)
2020	**Valedictorian**, Jilin University
2019	**Mitacs Globalink & Outstanding Undergraduate Overseas Program Scholarship**, Mitacs & CSC ($7,500)
2019	**Lv Zhenyu Scholarship** (Best performance in the Humanities Division), Jilin University (¥2,000)
2018	**National Scholarship** (The highest level scholarship in China), Chinese Ministry of Education (¥8,000)
2018	**Third Prize, Competition on Computer Design for Undergraduates**, Chinese Ministry of Education
2017	**Outstanding Student Leader**, Jilin University

Professional services

ORGANIZING

2023 & 2024	**Organizing committee**, The 2nd & 3rd Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Linguistics (LingO 2023 & LingO2024), University of Oxford, UK
2020 - 2021	**Co-organizer**, Oxford Chinese Student and Scholars Association Research Seminars Series, University of Oxford, UK
2019	**Student co-organizer**, The 2nd National Symposium on Academics and Educations Among Everest Program, Jilin University, China

REVIEWING

2023 & 2024	The 2nd & 3rd Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Linguistics (LingO 2023 & LingO2024)

TEACHING

2023 - 2024	Tutor for *Prelims Syntax.* University of Oxford, UK.
2023	Tutor for *North American Computational Linguistics Open Competition (NACLO).* PalmDriver, US
11/2022	*Running Experiments Online: An Introduction to PCIbex Farm.* Lab Skills Workshop, Phonetics Lab, University of Oxford, UK. [slides]

LEADERSHIP

2024 - 2025	**Elected member of governing body**, Wolfson College, University of Oxford

2023 - 2024	**Postgraduate student representative**, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics, University of Oxford

Outreach

2024	**Outreach Assistant**, Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics, University of Oxford
2024	**Marker**, UK Linguistics Olympiad
2021	**Volunteer**, The 18th International Linguistics Olympiad
2017-2018	**Vice President for Academic Affairs, Student Union**, Jilin University
2017	**Volunteer & Editor**, Hangzhou Disabled Persons Federation & Zhejiang Vocational College of Special Education ¡Project: Barrier-free Film—Narrate films for the blind¿
2017	**Volunteer & Commentator**, Zhejiang Museum

Professional memberships

2023 – Present	The Philological Society
2023 – Present	Society for Human Sentence Processing
2021 – Present	Experimental Psychology Society
2020 – Present	Oxford Linguistics Society
2020 – 2021	Cognitive Science Society

Skills

Language	English (Full professional proficiency), Mandarin Chinese (Native), German (Basic), Cantonese (Intermediate), Classical Chinese (Advanced reading & writing knowledge)
Programming	R, Python, Mathematica
Experimental	Experiment Builder, EyeLink, Data Viewer, PCIbex
Others	Praat, LaTeX , Microsoft Office, Adobe Packages