**YAJUN LIU**

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**EDUCATION**

PhD student in Linguistics and English Language 09/2021–08/2025

*School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences, University of Edinburgh*

MSc in Developmental Linguistics (Distinction) 09/2019–08/2020

*School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences, University of Edinburgh*

Master of Interpreting and Translation 09/2016–06/2018

*School of Foreign Languages, Soochow University*

Bachelor of Arts in English Education 09/2012–06/2016

*School of Foreign Languages, Henan University*

**PUBLICATIONS**

Liu, Y., Sorace, A., Smith, K. (Under Review). Mandarin bilingual speakers undergoing attrition produce more explicit referring expressions. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition.*

Liu, Y., Sorace, A., Smith, K. (Accepted). Beyond Crosslinguistic Influence: Mandarin Speakers with Exposure to Null-subject Languages Nonetheless Use Fewer Null Pronouns in Mandarin.

Liu, Y., Sorace, A., Smith, K. (Preprint). Do bilinguals avoid ambiguity? An experimental study of lexical ambiguity in spoken Mandarin. OSF.

Liu, Y., Sorace, A., Smith, K. (Manuscript). A desire to avoid ambiguity or ease processing? Insights from an experimental study of lexical ambiguity in spoken Mandarin using online eye-tracking

**WORK EXPERIENCES**

**Co-supervisor** with Professor Kenny Smith

Master’s dissertation project in Evolution of Language & Cognition 03/2024 – 08/2024

**Research Assistant**

Learning and Teaching Mandarin in Scotland Project 11/2022 – 12/2023

**Tutoring and Marking**

Simulating Language (Python) 01/2025 – 05/2025

Online Experiments for Language Scientists (jsPsych, JavaScript) 09/2024 – 12/2024

Introduction to Cognitive Science (Python) 09/2024 – 12/2024

Data Analysis for Psychology in R 2 (R) 09/2022 – 05/2023

**SELECTED TALKS & POSTERS**

Liu, Y., Sorace, A. & Smith, K. Beyond Crosslinguistic Influence: Mandarin Speakers with Exposure to Null-subject Languages Nonetheless Use Fewer Null Pronouns in Mandarin. Talk at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, San Francisco, US, July-August 2025

Liu, Y., Sorace, A. & Smith, K. A desire to avoid ambiguity or ease processing? Insights from an experimental study of lexical ambiguity in spoken Mandarin using online eye-tracking. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, San Francisco, US, July-August 2025

Liu, Y., Sorace, A. & Smith, K. Mandarin speakers undergoing attrition produce more explicit referring expressions. Poster presented at the Human Sentence Processing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, US, May 2024

Liu, Y., Sorace, A. & Smith, K. Mandarin speakers undergoing attrition produce more explicit referring expressions. Poster presented at the 79th Language Lunch, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK, April 2024 (Best Poster award).

Liu, Y., Sorace, A. & Smith, K. (2024). Mandarin speakers undergoing attrition produce more explicit referring expressions: More evidence from bilingual speakers who can speak two pro-drop languages. Talk at Centre for Language Evolution, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK, April 2024

Liu, Y., Sorace, A. & Smith, K. Comprehension and production don’t align: Evidence from referential forms in Mandarin Chinese. Poster presented at the Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), San Sebastian, Spain, September 2023

Liu, Y., Luo, Q., Sorace, A. & Smith, K. Exploring the role of communicative interaction in L1 attrition: Evidence from null and overt subjects in an artificial language. Poster presented at Bilingualism Matters Research Symposium, Edinburgh, UK, October 2022.

Liu, Y. (2021). From individual to generational attrition: Language change through communicative interaction. Talk at the Bilingualism Research Group, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK, October 2021.

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

**Wiki Admin of Centre for Language Evolution**

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK 05/2024 – present

**Volunteer of the 30th Architecture and Mechanisms of Language Processing**

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK 01/2024 – 09/2024

**Co-organiser of the Annual Retreat Trip of Centre for Language Evolution**

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK 05/2023 – 05/2024

**Co-organiser of Bilingualism & Developmental Linguistics Research Group**

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK 01/2022 – 09/2022

**Chair of Bilingualism Research Group**

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK 09/2022 – 09/2023

**Deputy Chair of the 29th Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference**

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK 09/2022 – 06/2023

**Plenaries & Workshops Coordinator of the 28th Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference**

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK 09/2021 – 06/2022