

EDUCATION

- 2019-2024 **Ph.D. in Linguistics**, *University of Pennsylvania, USA*
(Expected) Committee: Meredith Tamminga (advisor), David Embick, Laurel Mackenzie (NYU)
Dissertation: *Inferring dynamics of sociolinguistic variation in speech perception*
- 2016-2019 **M.A. in Foreign Languages and Literatures**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China*
- 2011-2016 **B.A. in English Language and Literature**, *Shandong University, China*
- 2011-2016 **L.L.B. in International Politics**, *Shandong University, China*

NON-DEGREE STUDIES

- 2021 **Graduate Teaching Certificate**, *University of Pennsylvania, USA*
- July 2019 **Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute**, *University of California, Davis, USA*
- 2014–2015 **Exchange student in International Politics**, *University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Experimental sociolinguistics, Sociolinguistic cognition, Sociophonetics, Language variation and change, Psycholinguistics, Speech perception and production, Quantitative methods

RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2023-2025 **NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (BCS-2234838)**, “*Experimental priming of phonological variant choices*”, Co-PI, with Meredith Tamminga, \$18094.
- 2021-2022 **UPenn Integrated Language Sciences and Technology (ILST) small research grant**, \$2000.
- 2020-2022 **UPenn Language and Communication Sciences (LCS) funds**, \$1500.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2023 **Aini Li**, Wei Lai and Jianjing Kuang. Creak identification in Mandarin: The effects of pitch range, prosodic position, creak locality and tone. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 154(1), 126-140. [paper](#)
- 2023 **Aini Li** and Gareth Roberts. Co-occurrence, extension, and social salience: The emergence of indexicality in an artificial language. *Cognitive Science*, 47(5): e13290. [paper](#)
- 2023 **Aini Li**, Meredith Tamminga, & Hai Hu. Intra- and inter-speaker repetitiveness in Chengdu Mandarin locative variation. *Language Variation and Change*, 35(1), 107-127. [paper](#)
- 2022 **Aini Li**, Ruaridh Purse, & Nicole Holliday. Variation in global and intonational pitch settings among Black and white speakers of Southern American English. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 152(5), 2617-2628. [paper](#)

- 2022 **Aini Li**. Dialect leveling in Mandarin Chinese: The case of locative variation in the Chengdu dialect. *Asia-Pacific Language Variation*, 8(1), 32-71. [paper](#)
- 2022 Wei Lai and **Aini Li**. Integrating phonological and phonetic aspects of Mandarin Tone 3 sandhi in auditory sentence disambiguation. *Laboratory Phonology*, 13(1):8, 1-31. [paper](#)

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2023 **Aini Li** and Meredith Tamminga. The role of immediately prior exposure and talker accent on sociolinguistic variant identification. In: *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS 2023)*. [paper](#)
- 2022 June Choe, Yiran Chen, May Pik Yu Chan, **Aini Li**, Xin Gao, and Nicole Holliday. Language-specific Effects on Automatic Speech Recognition Errors in American English. In: *Proceedings of the 29th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2022)*. [paper](#)
- 2022 May Pik Yu Chan, June Choe, **Aini Li**, Yiran Chen, Xin Gao, and Nicole Holliday. Training and structural bias in ASR performance for world Englishes. In: *Proceedings of Interspeech 2022*. [paper](#)
- 2022 Wei Lai and **Aini Li**. The perceptual generalization of normalized cue distributions across speakers. In: *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. [paper](#)
- 2022 **Aini Li**, Wei Lai and Jianjing Kuang. How do listeners identify creak? The effects of pitch range, prosodic position and creak locality in Mandarin. In: *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 2022*. [paper](#)
- 2021 **Aini Li**, and Gareth Roberts. The emergence of indexicality in an artificial language. In: *Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. [paper](#)
- 2020 Wei Lai and **Aini Li**. Integrating the application and realization of Mandarin 3rd tone sandhi in the resolution of sentence ambiguity. In: *Proceedings of Interspeech 2020*. [paper](#)

OTHER CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2022 **Aini Li** and Jianjing Kuang. Phonetic realization and variation of consonant geminates in Sakha. In: *Proceedings of the Linguistic Society of America, volume 7(1)*. [paper](#)
- 2021 **Aini Li** and Meredith Tamminga. Intra- and interspeaker repetitiveness in locative variation. In: *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics, volume 27(1)*. [paper](#)
- 2019 **Aini Li**. A variationist analysis of locative markers in Chengdu Dialect of Mandarin. In: *Proceedings of the 30th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics*. [paper](#)

MANUSCRIPTS

- To be submitted Hai Hu*, **Aini Li***, Yina Ma, Jiahui Huang and Charles Lin. Grammaticality in Chinese: Dialectal influences and sources of variability (* indicates equal contribution).
- In prep **Aini Li**. How do listeners evaluate creak? A matched-guise study in Mandarin Chinese.
- In prep **Aini Li** and Wei Lai. The perceptual generalization of normalized cue distributions across speakers.

VOLUMES EDITED

- 2023 **Aini Li** and Gwendolyn Hildebrandt, Eds., University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics: Selected papers from NWAV 50., 29(2).
- 2022 **Aini Li** and Gwendolyn Hildebrandt, Eds., University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics: Selected papers from NWAV 49., 28(2).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 **Aini Li**. Phonological variant priming decays but may not be sensitive to lexical repetition. Paper to be presented at the 99th Linguistic Society of America (LSA2024), New York City, January 4-7.
- 2023 **Aini Li**. The effects of stylistic covariation in phonological variant choices. Paper to be presented at the New Ways of Analyzing Variation 51 (NWAV 51), Queens College, NY, October 13-15.
- 2023 **Aini Li** and Meredith Tamminga. The role of immediately prior exposure and talker accent on sociolinguistic variant identification. Poster to be presented at the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS 2023), Prague, Czech Republic, August 7-11.
- 2023 **Aini Li** and Gareth Roberts. Co-occurrence, extension and social salience: the emergence of indexicality in an artificial language. Paper to be presented at the workshop on Language, Stereotypes and Social Cognition, Philadelphia, PA, May 22-23.
- 2023 **Aini Li**. Can phonological variants be primed in perception and production? Paper presented at the 98th Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA 2023), Denver, CO, January 5-8.
- 2023 **Aini Li** and Wei Lai. How do listeners evaluate creak: A matched-guise study in Mandarin Chinese. Paper presented at the 98th Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA 2023), Denver, CO, January 5-8.
- 2023 Wei Lai and **Aini Li**. Generalizing across various phonetics-to-phonology mapping systems. Paper presented at the 98th Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA 2023), Denver, CO, January 5-8.
- 2022 **Aini Li** and Wei Lai. The social meanings of creaky voice in Mandarin Chinese: a matched-guise study. Paper presented at New Ways of Analyzing Variation-Asia Pacific 7 (NWAV-AP7), Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, December 14-16.
- 2022 **Aini Li**. Can phonological variants be primed in perception and production? Paper presented at New Ways of Analyzing Variation 50 (NWAV 50), Stanford University, Stanford, CA, October 13-15.
- 2022 **Aini Li** and Wei Lai. A matched-guise study of Mandarin creaky voice. Paper presented at New Ways of Analyzing Variation 50 (NWAV 50), Stanford University, Stanford, CA, October 13-15.
- 2022 June Choe, Yiran Chen, May Pik Yu Chan, **Aini Li**, Xin Gao, and Nicole Holliday. Language-specific Effects on Automatic Speech Recognition Errors in American English. Paper presented at the 29th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2022), Gyeongju, Korea, October 12-17.
- 2022 May Pik Yu Chan, June Choe, **Aini Li**, Yiran Chen, Xin Gao, and Nicole Holliday. Training and structural bias in ASR performance for world Englishes. Paper presented at Interspeech 2022, Incheon, Korea, September 18-22.
- 2022 Wei Lai and **Aini Li**. The perceptual generalization of normalized cue distributions across speakers. Paper presented at the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2022), Toronto, Canada, July 27-30.
- 2022 **Aini Li**, Wei Lai and Jianjing Kuang. How do listeners identify creak? The effects of pitch range, prosodic position and creak locality in Mandarin. Paper presented at the 11th International Conference on Speech Prosody (Speech Prosody 2022), Lisbon, Portugal, May 23-26.
- 2022 **Aini Li** and Gareth Roberts. The role of social meaning in the emergence of indexicality. Paper presented at the 11th International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE 11), University of Vienna, Austria, April 11-14.

- 2022 Hai Hu, **Aini Li**, Jiahui Huang, Yina Ma and Chien-Jer Charles Lin. Examining the replicability of grammaticality judgments in Chinese journal articles: dialectal influences and sources of variability. Paper presented at 35th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP 2022), University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA, March 24-26 (Virtual).
- 2022 **Aini Li** and Gareth Roberts. Co-occurrence, extension, and social salience: the emergence of indexicality in an artificial language. Paper presented at Georgetown University Round Table 2022 (GURT 2022: Dialect Contact), Georgetown University, Washington, DC, March 10-13 (Virtual).
- 2022 **Aini Li** and Jianjing Kuang. Phonetic realization and variation of consonant geminates in Sakha. Poster presented at the 96th Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA 2022), Washington, DC, January 6-9.
- 2022 **Aini Li**, Wei Lai and Jianjing Kuang. How do listeners identify creak? The effects of tone, pitch range, prosodic position and creak locality in Mandarin. Poster presented at the 96th Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA 2022), Washington, DC, January 6-9.
- 2021 **Aini Li** and Gareth Roberts. The emergence of indexicality in an artificial language. Paper presented at New Ways of Analyzing Variation 49 (NWAV 49), University of Texas at Austin, October 19-24 (Virtual).
- 2021 **Aini Li** and Gareth Roberts. The emergence of indexicality in an artificial language. Poster presented at 43rd annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2021) (Virtual).
- 2021 Hai Hu, **Aini Li**, Jiahui Huang, Yina Ma and Chien-Jer Charles Lin. Replicating Acceptability Judgments from Syntax Papers in Chinese. Paper presented at 33rd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL 33) (Virtual).
- 2021 **Aini Li**, Ruairidh Purse and Nicole Holliday. Do African Americans really have lower voices? Pitch, gender and ethnicity in Memphis. Paper presented at PLC 45, University of Pennsylvania, March 20-21st (Virtual).
- 2020 Wei Lai and **Aini Li**. Integrating the application and realization of Mandarin 3rd tone sandhi in the resolution of sentence ambiguity. Paper presented at Interspeech 2020, Shanghai International Convention Center, Shanghai, October 25-29 (Virtual).
- 2020 Wei Lai and **Aini Li**. Integrating phonetic and phonological aspects of Mandarin third tone sandhi in auditory sentence disambiguation. Poster presented at LabPhon 17, University of British Columbia, July 6-8 (Virtual).
- 2020 **Aini Li** and Meredith Tamminga. Priming and anti-priming in intra- and interspeaker variation. Paper presented at PLC 44, University of Pennsylvania, March 27-29 (Cancelled).
- 2020 **Aini Li** and Meredith Tamminga. Priming and anti-priming in intra- and interspeaker variation. Poster presented at CUNY 33, UMass Amherst, March 19-21 (Virtual).
- 2020 Wei Lai and **Aini Li**. The integration of Mandarin third tone sandhi in auditory sentence disambiguation. Poster presented at CUNY 33, UMass Amherst, March 19-21.
- 2019 Hai Hu, **Aini Li**, Yiwen Zhang and Phillip Weirich. Vowel raising in Chengdu Dialect of Mandarin. Poster presented at the 93rd Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, New York city (LSA 2019), January 3-6.
- 2018 **Aini Li**. A variationist analysis of locative markers in Chengdu Dialect. Paper presented at NACCL 30, Ohio State University, March 9-11.
- 2018 **Aini Li**. A variationist analysis of locative markers in Chengdu Dialect. Paper presented at New Ways of Analyzing Variation 47, New York University (NWAV 47), October 18-21.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Nov. 2023 **Aini Li.** Co-occurrence, extension and social salience: The emergence of indexicality in an artificial language. Integrated Language Science and Technology (ILST) Seminar, University of Pennsylvania.
- Sep. 2023 **Aini Li.** Do listeners use stylistic cues from production to identify sociolinguistic variants in perception? Workshop on Planning to Produce Speech. Northwestern University.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTOR

- Summer 2023 **LING0600: Introduction to Sociolinguistics**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2022-2023 **SAIL** (Structured Active In-class Learning) **Graduate Fellow**, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania.
- Spring 2018 **EN028: College English (4)**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Fall 2022 **LING4000: Tutorials in Linguistics**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Instructor: Dr. Martin Salzmann
- Spring 2022 **LING102: Introduction to Sociolinguistics**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Instructor: Dr. Nicole Holliday
- Fall 2021 **LING001: Introduction to Linguistics**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Instructor: Dr. Gareth Roberts
- Spring 2021 **LING102: Introduction to Sociolinguistics**, *University of Pennsylvania*, Instructor: Dr. Meredith Tamminga
- Fall 2017 **EN064: College English (4)**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*, Instructor: Yurong Xia
- Fall 2017 **EN063: College English (3)**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*, Instructor: Xiaoling Ji
- Spring 2017 **EN026: College English (2)**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*, Instructor: Xinghua Ding
- Fall 2016 **EN025: College English (1)**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*, Instructor: Xinghua Ding

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING

- 2023 Sophie Faircloth, RA for NSF Grant: Doctoral Dissertation Research: Experimental priming of phonological variant choices, PIs: Aini Li and Meredith Tamminga.
- Summer 2022 Mridula Srinivasan (Mount Holyoke College), NSF REU in Interdisciplinary Mind and Brain Studies, Upenn MindCORE summer fellowship program.

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

- Fall 2023 “Open Science Practices in Linguistics Research.” Course: Quantitative Analysis of Linguistic Data. Instructor: Dr. Meredith Tamminga, University of Pennsylvania.
- Fall 2023 “Research Methods in Sociolinguistics.” Course: Tutorials in Linguistics. Instructor: Dr. Aletheia Cui, University of Pennsylvania.
- Spring 2023 “Introduction to Sociolinguistics.” Course: Origins and Evolution Of Language. Instructor: Dr. Gareth Roberts, University of Pennsylvania.

- Spring 2023 Paper discussion on *Co-occurrence, Extension, and Social Salience: The Emergence of Indexicality in an Artificial Language*. Course: Graduate seminar: Evolutionary Linguistics. Instructor: Dr. Gareth Roberts, University of Pennsylvania.
- Fall 2022 “Methods: Statistical Fundamentals.” Course: Tutorials in Linguistics. Instructor: Dr. Martin Salzmann, University of Pennsylvania.
- Fall 2022 “Research in Sociolinguistics.” Course: Tutorials in Linguistics. Instructor: Dr. Martin Salzmann, University of Pennsylvania.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Summer 2022 Graduate Research Assistant for PIs Dr. Meredith Tamminga and Dr. Dave Embick, University of Pennsylvania University Research Foundation Award
- 2016-2018 Research Assistant for PI Dr. Zheng Xu, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

REVIEWING

CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

- 2023-present Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC)
- 2023-present Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting (LSA)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2021 - Penn Working Papers in Linguistics (PWPL), NWAV volume editor
- 2019 - Penn Working Papers in Linguistics (PWPL), Editorial board
- 2024 Penn Linguistics Conference 48, Content committee
- 2023 Penn Linguistics Conference 47, Session chair
- 2022 Penn Linguistics Conference 45, Content committee
- 2021 Penn Linguistics Conference 44, Hospitality committee

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2019 - Linguistic Society of America
- 2019 - Cognitive Science Society
- 2022 - International Phonetic Association

AWARDS

- 2019-2024 **Benjamin Franklin Fellowship**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2023 **ICPhS 2023 IPA Student Award**, *The International Phonetic Association*
- 2023 **The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) research travel grant**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2022 **NWAV50 Student Travel Award**, *Stanford University*
- 2022 **The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) research travel grant**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2023 **School of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Travel Subvention**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2022 **School of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Travel Subvention**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2020 **School of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Travel Subvention**, *University of Pennsylvania*
- 2019 **Outstanding Graduate Student Award (Top 5%)**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*
- 2016-2019 **First Class Scholarship**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*
- 2012-2014 **Excellent Student Scholarship**, *Shandong University*
- 2015 **Overseas Study Scholarship**, *Shandong University*

LANGUAGES

Native	Mandarin	Fluent	English
Beginner	Japanese, Cantonese	Fieldwork	Sakha

COMPUTER SKILLS

R, L^AT_EX, HTML, ELAN, Praat, Audacity, PCIBex, Qualtrics