

Department of Linguistics,  
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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Topics **Phonetics & Phonology:** Experimental and developmental phonology and phonetics, acoustic, auditory, and articulatory phonetics, speech perception, sound change, multiple cues

## EDUCATION

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### DEGREE PROGRAMS

2025- **University of California, Los Angeles**  
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN LINGUISTICS

2025- **University of California, Los Angeles**  
MASTER OF ARTS IN LINGUISTICS

2024 **The University of Hong Kong**  
BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (FIRST CLASS HONOURS)  
*Majors:* Politics and Public Administration; Linguistics  
*Advisors:* Jonathan Havenhill, Haohan Chen

### NON-DEGREE TRAININGS

2023 **University of California, Berkeley**, Undergraduate Visiting Student

2022 **Korea University**, International Summer and Winter Campus

2021 **The Luso-Brazilian Association of Linguistics**

## PUBLICATIONS & MANUSCRIPTS

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### INVITED ARTICLES

2024 **Du, B.**, Pfiffner, A., Johnson, K. Visible articulatory variation as a cue to sound change: Lip rounding and lip protrusion variability in the Mandarin sibilant merger. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*, 30(2).

### CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES

In prep **Du, B.**, Alexandra A. Multiple and cross-modality cue integration and weighting: Lip rounding and acoustic cues in the Mandarin sibilant merger

To appear **Du, B.** Acoustic distance effect on the perception of sibilants mergers between retroflexes and alveolars in Taiwan Mandarin. In *Proceedings of Seventh Annual Berkeley Undergraduate Linguistics Symposium 2023*. Linguistic Society of University of California, Berkeley, CA

To appear Do, Y.<sup>\*</sup>, Van Hoey, T., Yu, X., **Du, B.**, Tan, L. Implicit and explicit learning of vowel harmony patterns in phonotactics and alternations. *Linguistics Vanguard*

2023 **Du, B.** *The backfire effect in the perception and judgement of congruent and incongruent interpretation of political propaganda*. Undergraduate Thesis of Political Psychology, University of Hong Kong, HK.

## PRESENTATIONS

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*(As presenting author)*

### WORKSHOPS

- 2023 **Du, B.** Introduction to Advanced R Programming with RMarkdown. The Sociolinguistic Lab at UC Berkeley.

### CONFERENCE PAPERS AND POSTERS

- 2023 **Du, B.**, Pfiffner, A., Johnson, K. The role of visible articulatory variation in the Mandarin sibilant contrast and merger. Paper presented at the 98th Annual Meeting of Linguistic Society of America (LSA2024), New York City, NY.
- 2023 Havenhill, J, **Du, B.** The role of visual cues in sound change: A cross-modality perceptual account for the typological rarity of labial palatalization. Poster presented at the 185th Meeting of Acoustical Society of America (ASA185), Sydney, Australia.
- 2023 **Du, B.**, Pfiffner, A., Johnson, K. Consonant and vowel rounding: same acoustics, different visuals. Poster presented at the 185th Meeting of Acoustical Society of America (ASA185), Sydney, Australia.
- 2023 **Du, B.**, Pfiffner, A., Johnson, K. Visible articulatory variation as a cue to sound change: Lip rounding and lip protrusion variability in the Mandarin sibilant merger. Paper presented at New Ways of Analyzing Variation 51 (NWAV51), Queens College CUNY, New York City, NY.
- 2023 **Du, B.** Acoustic distance effect on the perception of sibilants mergers between retroflexes and alveolars in Taiwan Mandarin. Poster presented at the 184th Meeting of Acoustical Society of America 2023 (ASA 184), Chicago, IL.
- 2023 **Du, B.** An audio-visual account for synchronic sound changes towards sibilants merger in Taiwan Mandarin. Paper presented at the Seventh Annual Berkeley Undergraduate Linguistics Symposium 2023, University of California, Berkeley, CA.
- 2023 **Du, B.** The backfire effect in the perception and judgement of congruent and incongruent interpretation of political propaganda. Poster presented at Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program Poster Session: Student Research Posters, University of Hong Kong, HK.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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2023	Ms Cecilia Vong Prize of Linguistics	HK\$1,000
2022	Globalink Research Award, Mitacs	CA\$12,000
2022	Undergraduate Research Fellowship	HK\$10,000
2022	K.K.Ho Prize	US\$2,560
2022	Dean's Honor List	
2021	Dean's Honor List	
2020	Dean's Honor List	
2019	Soong Ching-ling Foundation Scholarship	US\$ 30,700

## GRANTS AND FUNDINGS

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2023	Down Funder Student Travel Funding, ASA: <i>185th Meeting of Acoustical Society of America &amp; 2023 Meeting of the Australian Acoustical Society, Sydney</i>	US\$1,000
2023	UC Berkeley Departmental Instruction Grants: <i>Audiovisual production of Mandarin sibilants &amp; Cross-modal cue integration and weighting in the perception of Mandarin high front vowel contrast</i>	US\$600
2022	HKU Transdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Initiative Grant: <i>An audio-visual account for linguistic and social selectivity in the accommodation to sibilant mergers in Mandarin</i>	HK\$3,830
2022	HKU Leung Kau Kui Research and Teaching Endowment: <i>The backfire effect in the perception and judgement of congruent and incongruent interpretation of political propaganda</i>	US\$1,300

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE

2023	<b>Korean tonogenesis among native and heritage speakers</b> <b>Multiple adaptive cue weighting in Korean palatal contrast</b> <b>Mandarin sibilant merger and differential cue weightings</b> <i>PI: Dr. Keith Johnson</i> <i>Roles: Independent projects on cue weightings and bilingualism, study design, experimentation, analyses and manuscript preparation.</i>	UC Berkeley
2023	<b>Integration of emotion in speech perception</b> <i>PIs: Dr. Keith Johnson, Dr. Yao Yao</i> <i>Roles: Leading project on smiling speech. Study design, experiment programming, administering audiovisual production, facial expression tracking and action unit analysis, audiovisual alignment and segmentation.</i>	Polytechnic University of Hong Kong
2023	<b>Audiovisual perception of Korean labial palatalization</b> <i>PIs: Dr. Jonathan Havenhill</i> <i>Roles: Acoustic analysis, speech manipulation and synthesis with KlattGrid, audiovisual stimuli creation, experiment programming, analyses and presentation</i>	University of Hong Kong
2022	<b>The ManyBaby project</b> <i>PI: Prof. Melaine Soderstrom.</i> <i>Roles: Acoustic measurement, statistical modelling of prosodic changes in Child Directed Speech</i>	University of Manitoba
2022	<b>The backfire effect in the perception of political views</b> <i>Advisor: Dr. Haohan Chen</i> <i>Roles: Conducting this independent study, including web data extraction using R, analyzing and interpreting text data. Compiling tutorials of advanced data science course of POLI3148: Data Science in Politics and Public Administration.</i>	University of Hong Kong
2021-22	<b>Learnability of vowel rounding harmony for kids and adults</b> <i>PI: Dr. Youngah Do</i> <i>Roles: Study design, stimuli creation, experiment programming, data analysis, manuscript preparation</i>	University of Hong Kong

## SKILLS

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Language	English, Mandarin, Cantonese
Scripting	R, Praat Scripting, $\text{\LaTeX}$ , Markdown, HTML, Python
Tools	<b>Statistics:</b> RStudio, jamovi <b>Experiment:</b> PsychoPy, EyeLink 1000 Plus, Pavlovian.org <b>Measurement:</b> Praat, OpenFace, Qualtrics <b>Processing:</b> Klatt Synthesis, Montreal Forced Alignment, TANDAM-STRAIGHT, ffmpeg, ELAN, Polly <b>Recruitment:</b> Mechanical Turk, Prolific
Others	<b>Statistical Modelling:</b> Frequentist and Bayesian statistics (e.g., Linear/Generalized Mixed Effects Regression), Structural Equation Modeling (e.g., EFA, CFA, Latent Growth Model, Multi-level Modelling), <b>Text Data Processing:</b> web data extraction, topic modelling, sentiment analysis <b>Computer Vision:</b> Facial Landmarks Tracking, Emotion Detection, Eye Tracking

## MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICES

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2023-	Acoustical Society of America	Student member
2021-	Linguistic Society of America	Student member
2023	Mitacs	Globalink Research Ambassador
2022	Undergraduate Buddy Program	Mentor to Fu Jia'ni
2021-23	Chinese Culture Committee at R.C.Lee Hall	Chariperson
2020-21	Social Service Fund, HKUSU	External Secretary
2021	Pad for Hope Foundation	Teaching Assistant
2020	University Service Centre of CUHK	Student Helper