

Liang Zhao

Department of Language and Linguistic Science (LLS)

University of York, UK

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EDUCATION

2019 – present University of York, UK

PhD in Linguistics

Advisors: Prof. Eleanor Chodroff, Prof. Paul Foulkes

Doctoral project: The production and perception of the Mandarin dialect tone systems

Research areas: acoustic phonetics, corpus phonetics, tone perception, speech adaptation

2016 – 2017 University College London, UK

MA in Linguistics (with Distinction)

Advisor: Prof. Yi Xu

Dissertation: *The Neglected Tone in Chinese Word Recognition --An Account of Frequency Effect on Lexical Access*

2012 – 2016 Jiangnan University, China

BA in English Language and Literature (with Honors; GPA 3.95/4; ranked 1/149)

Advisor: Prof. Minfen Yan

Dissertation: *A Corpus-Based Study on Chinese EFL Learners' Use of MV-Around Constructions*

Award: The First Prize for the Final Project of Bachelor's Degree in Jiangsu Province

Member of the Honors School of Jiangnan University

PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

2023 **Zhao, L.**, Sloggett, S. & Chodroff, E. (Aug 2023). Conditions on Adaptation to an Unfamiliar Lexical Tone System: The Role of Quantity and Quality of Exposure. To present at the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Science (ICPhS 2023). Prague, Czech Republic.

2023 Hou, X.Z., **Zhao, L.** & Chodroff, E. (2023). Intermingling Tone Systems: The Relationship of Nanning Mandarin to Nanning Cantonese and Standard Mandarin. To present at the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Science (ICPhS 2023). Prague, Czech Republic.

2023 **Zhao, L.** and Chodroff, E. (June 2023). Rapid adaptation to unfamiliar lexical tone systems: the effects of dialect and explicit exposure. Talk at Phonetics and Phonology in Europe Conference (PaPE 2023). Nijmegen, Netherlands.

2023 **Zhao, L.** (Feb 2023). Production and Perception of Mandarin Dialect Tone Systems. Invited talk at the Department of Language Studies, Hunan University, China (virtual)

- 2022 **Zhao, L.** (July 2022). Hybrid processing of familiar and unfamiliar tone systems of Mandarin dialects. Invited talk at Institute of Phonetic Science (IPS), Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany. (virtual)
- 2022 **Zhao, L.** and Chodroff, E. (June 2022). The ManDi Corpus: A Spoken Corpus of Mandarin Regional Dialects. Poster at Language Evaluation and Resources (LREC 2022). Marseille, France.
- 2022 **Zhao, L.**, Sloggett, S., Chodroff, E. (May 2022). Top-down and bottom-up processing of familiar and unfamiliar Mandarin dialect tone systems. Poster at Speech Prosody 2022. Lisbon, Portugal.
- 2022 **Zhao, L.** and Chodroff, E. (April 2022). Rapid adaptation to unfamiliar Mandarin dialect tone systems: Evidence from bottom-up tone processing. Talk at the Colloquium of the British Association of Academic Phoneticians (BAAP 2022). York, UK. (virtual)
- 2021 **Zhao, L.** and Chodroff, E. (September 2021). Integrated top-down and bottom-up processing in the perception of non-native tone system. Talk at the 7th Postgraduate Academic Researchers in Linguistics at York conference (PARLAY 2021). (virtual)
- 2020 **Zhao, L.**, Harrison, P., Foulkes, P., Chodroff, E. (December 2020). One million km²: Broad coverage of Mandarin Chinese dialects using smartphone technology. Talk at Australian Linguistic Society (ASL) workshop. (virtual)

Lab presentations

- 2022 Zhao, L. Processing reaction time data from the *Gorilla* Experiment Builder in R
PhD Stats Group meeting at LLS, University of York, 27/January/2022
- 2021 Zhao, L. Hybrid processing of unfamiliar tone system
Experimental Lab meeting at LLS, University of York, 15/November/2021
- 2020 Zhao, L. Remote speech data collection using smartphone recording applications
Experimental Lab meeting at LLS, University of York, 28/November/2020

PUBLICATIONS

In prep

Zhao, L. & Chodroff, E. The acoustic-phonetic realization of lexical tone categories across the six Mandarin dialects – Beijing, Chengdu, Jinan, Taiyuan, Wuhan and Xi'an Mandarin. In preparation.

Zhao, L., Sloggett, S. & Chodroff, E. The Effect of Exposure on the Adaptation to Unfamiliar Mandarin Dialect Tone Systems. Draft prepared for submission.

Zhao, L., Sloggett, S. & Chodroff, E. (2023). Conditions on Adaptation to an Unfamiliar Lexical Tone System: The Role of Quantity and Quality of Exposure. To appear in the *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Science* (ICPhS 2023). [[preprint](#)]

Hou, X.Z., **Zhao, L.** & Chodroff, E. (2023). Intermingling Tone Systems: The Relationship of Nanning Mandarin to Nanning Cantonese and Standard Mandarin. To appear in the *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Science* (ICPhS 2023).

Zhao, L. and Chodroff, E. (2022). The ManDi Corpus: A Spoken Corpus of Mandarin Regional Dialects. *Proceedings of the 13th Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC 2022)*, 1985–1990. [[PDF](#)]

Zhao, L., Sloggett, S., Chodroff, E. (2022). Top-Down and Bottom-up Processing of Familiar and Unfamiliar Mandarin Dialect Tone Systems. *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 2022*, 842-846, doi: 10.21437/SpeechProsody.2022-171. (EI indexed). [[PDF](#)]

For the undergraduate literature project:

Zhao, L. (2015). The Structure of Space in *Amsterdam* by Ian McEwan, *Overseas English*, 2015 (20). ISSN1009-5039.

For the National & Jiangsu Provincial Innovation and Research Training Programs for Undergraduate Students (China), supervised by Prof. Xiaobin Gong, Jiangnan University:

Zhu, L.D., Zhong, W.X, **Zhao, L.**, Li, H. & He, Y.N. (2015). The Problems and Solutions of Talent Cultivation in Undergraduate Education - The Case Study of Jiangnan University. *Northern Literature*, 000(004), 196-200. (in Chinese).

Zhong, W.X, Zhu, L.D., **Zhao, L.**, Li, J.P. & Shi, J.L. (2015). The Problems and Solutions of English Language Majors in Universities in Jiangsu. *Overseas English*, (13), 4. (in Chinese).

Book chapters

Zhao, L. & Yang, F.Z. (2021). “Overall Introduction” & “Reading Comprehension” Chapters. The Series of Guidebooks on the National Entrance Exam for Graduate School: Secrets of the English Test. Offcn English Research Unit. World Publishing Corporation, Beijing.

TEACHING

Graduate Teaching Assistantship

2023 *Intermediate Phonetics and Phonology* (Module convener: Dr. Thomas Kettig)
Spring GTA at the LLS, University of York
& Summer Involved in leading lab practical sessions and marking

2022 *Intermediate Phonetics and Phonology* (Module convener: Dr. Eleanor Chodroff)
Spring GTA at the LLS, University of York

& Summer Involved in leading lab practical sessions and marking

2021-2022 *Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology* (Module convener: Dr. George Bailey)
Full Year GTA at the LLS, University of York
Involved in leading seminars and marking

2020-2021 *Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology* (Module convener: Dr. George Bailey)
Full Year GTA at the LLS, University of York
Involved in leading seminars and marking

Mentorship

2020 – 2021 Part-time mentoring in phonetics, phonology, experimental methods in linguistics
ViaX Education, Beijing (remote)
Involved in co-supervising undergraduate research projects

Former Employment

2018 – 2019 *Fundamentals in Linguistics* (as the instructor)
How to Survive Graduate School Interviews? (as the instructor)
During full-time employment as the curriculum developer at *Open Education & Technology Co.,Ltd* (Beijing Headquarter)

2016 – 2017 *Reading and Writing in Academic IELTS* (as the instructor and group leader)
During part-time employment at *Global IELTS*

Undergraduate Teaching Assistantship

2016 Lab assistant at Department of Language Studies, Hebei University of Architecture
Summer Involved in organizing lab workshops and drafting reports

2014 – 2016 Student mentor for BA in English Language & Literature, Jiangnan University

2014 Teaching assistant for *Conversational English Summer School* held by Zhishan Honors School, Jiangnan University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Student Membership

2021 – International Phonetics Association
2021 – Association for Laboratory Phonology

Conference reviewing

2023 International Congress of Phonetic Science (ICPhS)
2023 The Centre for Research in Language Learning and Use (CRoLLU) PGR conference

AWARDS, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIP

2023	The Gösta Bruce Scholarship and Travel Bursary, IPA
2022	IPA Student Award, IPA
2022	Student Travel Grant, Speech Prosody Organizing Committee
2022	Departmental Postgraduate Student Travel Grant, University of York
2021	University Internal Research Funding, University of York
2015 – 2016	National Scholarship, twice awarded, Ministry of Education, China
2016	Dexin Enterprise Joint Scholarship for Academic Excellence
2016	Outstanding Student Award (Equivalent to Sanhao Student Award), Jiangsu Province
2015	Outstanding Student Award, Wuxi City
2013 – 2015	Outstanding Student Award, Jiangnan University, twice awarded
2013 – 2016	The First Prize Scholarship of Jiangnan University, three times awarded

INTERNSHIP & ACTIVITIES

2022 Sep.	Student volunteer for <i>AMLAP 2022</i> (Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing) at York, UK
2022 Jun. – Jul.	Student volunteer for <i>ACTL</i> (Advanced Core Training in Linguistics) summer school, University of York
2020 full year	Student mentor for the Postgraduate Buddying Scheme, University of York
2015 summer	English Editor for <i>China Daily</i> Wuxi Sub-branch,
2014 summer	English interpreter for <i>Wuxi Charity Gala</i> and related events
2014 winter	Piano accompanist for <i>New Year Night</i> , Dept. of Foreign Studies, Jiangnan University
2013 summer	Volunteer teacher of English writing in Baoshan Primary School in Yulong, China

CERTIFICATES

Certificate for Music Performance (Piano) - Grade 10, issued by *Chinese Musicians' Association*

IELTS - Overall Band: 8 (Listening: 8.5, Reading: 9, Writing: 7, Speaking: 7; test taken in 2015)

Shanghai English-Chinese Interpretation Accreditation (written translation) - Advanced level

Standard Mandarin Proficiency Test Certificate - Upper level, Grade A

Test for English Majors (TEM4 & TEM8, China) - Grade: "Excellent"

LANGUAGES

Standard Mandarin (native), English (fluent), French (basic)

TOOLS

R Studio, Praat, Montreal Forced Aligner, Gorilla, Qualtrics, Prolific, ELAN

SCRIPTING

Praat, R, R Markdown

HTML/CSS (beginner)