Yaqian Huang

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Research Interests

Acoustic and articulatory phonetics; speech science; quantitative methods; psycholinguistics; perceptual learning; voice quality; tone

Academic employment

Department of Linguistics, University of Alberta — Edmonton AB, Canada
Assistant Professor, Director of Alberta Phonetics Lab — July 2025 – present

Acoustics Research Institute, Austrian Academy of Sciences — Vienna, Austria
Postdoctoral Researcher — June 2023 – June 2025

Department of Linguistics, UCLA — Los Angeles, CA
Lecturer — September 2022 – June 2023

Other Affiliations

Sound Studies Institute, University of Alberta — Edmonton AB, Canada
Affiliated Researcher — 2025 – present

Education

University of California San Diego — La Jolla, CA
Ph.D. in Linguistics and Cognitive Science — September 2017 – March 2023
Dissertation: Phonetics of Period Doubling
Committee Chair: Marc Garellek

University of Delaware — Newark, DE
M.A. in Linguistics & Cognitive Science — September 2015 – May 2017

University of International Business and Economics — Beijing, China
B.A. in Business English — September 2011 – June 2015
B.A. in Finance

Publications

Huang, Y. (2025). The role of tone and phrasing in the occurrence of period doubling and vocal fry in Mandarin. *Journal of Phonetics 111*, 101416. doi:10.1016/j.wocn.2025.101416

Huang, Y. (2025). F0 and voice quality of coarticulated Mandarin tones. *Language and Speech, Online First.* doi:10.1177/00238309251315081

Huang, Y. (2024). Perception and imitation of period-doubled phonation: Pitch and voice quality. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 156*(2), 1391-1412. doi:10.1121/10.0028193

Huang, Y. (2024). A phonetic and phonological analysis of the Rere vowel height system. In James Essegbey, Brent Henderson, Fiona McLaughlin & Michael Diercks (eds.), *Pushing the boundaries: Selected papers from the 51-52 Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, 43-73. Berlin: Language Science Press. doi:10.5281/zenodo.14038735

Mayberry, R., Hatrak, M., Ilkbasaran, D., Cheng, Q., **Huang, Y.**, Hall, M. (2023). Impoverished language in early childhood affects the development of complex sentence structure. *Developmental Science*, 00, e13416. doi:10.1111/desc.13416

Coretta, S., Casillas, J.V., [...], **Huang, Y**., [...], Roettger, T.B. (2023). Multidimensional Signals and Analytic Flexibility: Estimating Degrees of Freedom in Human-Speech Analyses. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, 6(3), 25152459231162570. doi:10.1177/25152459231162567

Garellek, M., Chai, Y., **Huang, Y.**, Van Doren, M. (2023, online: 2021). Voicing of glottal consonants and non-modal vowels. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*, 1-28. doi:10.1017/S0025100321000116

Huang, Y. (2020). Different attributes of creaky voice distinctly affect Mandarin tonal perception. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 147*(3), 1441-1458. doi:10.1121/10.0000721

Lau, S.H.*, **Huang, Y.***, Ferreira, V.S., Vul, E. (2019). Perceptual features predict word frequency asymmetry across modalities. *Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics, 81*(4), 1076-1087. doi:10.3758/s13414-019-01682-y (*equally contributed)

Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

Huang, Y. (2024). The effects of period doubling and vocal fry on the perceived naturalness of Mandarin tones. *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 2024*. Leiden. pp. 1279-1282. doi:10.21437/SpeechProsody.2024-258

Huang, Y. (2024). Exploration and classification of vocal fry, period doubling, and modal voice using acoustic and EGG measures. *Proc. ISSP 2024 - 13th International Seminar on Speech Production*. Autrans. pp. 140-143. doi:10.21437/issp.2024-36

Huang, Y. (2023). Perception and imitation of period doubling. *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Prague. pp. 327-331. link

Huang, Y. (2022). Articulatory properties of period-doubled voice in Mandarin. *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 2022*. Lisbon. pp. 545-549. doi:10.21437/SpeechProsody.2022-111

Huang, Y. (2019). The role of creaky voice attributes in Mandarin tonal perception. *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Melbourne. pp. 1465-1469. link

Other Conference Proceedings, Working Papers, and Preprints

Huang, Y. (2024, April 29). F0 and voice quality of coarticulated Mandarin tones. doi:10.31219/osf.io/nyva6

Huang, Y. (2021). A mixed height and ATR system of vowels in Rere. *San Diego Linguistic Papers*: Iss.8. link

Huang, Y. (2019). Revisiting non-idempotency in Tibetan vowel harmony. *San Diego Linguistic Papers*: Iss.7. link

Huang, Y.; Athanasopoulou, A.; Vogel, I. (2018). The effect of focus on creaky phonation in Mandarin Chinese tones. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics, 24*(1), Article 12. link

Conference Presentations

An acoustic and articulatory study of voice quality in coarticulated Hanoi Vietnamese tones. (2025). Talk, 3rd Graz-Vienna Speech Workshop. Vienna, Austria. (April 23rd - 25th)

The perception of laterals in Austrian German: Is there a "Meidlinger L"?. (2024). Poster, 12th International Conference on Language Variation in Europe. Vienna, Austria (ICLaVE 12). (July 8th - 11st) (Joint work with Reinisch, E., Luttenberger, J., & Dzever, S.)

The effects of period doubling and vocal fry on the perceived naturalness of Mandarin tones. (2024). Poster, Speech Prosody 2024. Leiden, The Netherlands. (July 2nd - 5th)

The effects of vocal fry and period doubling on the perceived naturalness of Mandarin tones. (2024). Poster, 19th Conference on Laboratory Phonology. Seoul, South Korea (LabPhon 19). (June 27th - 29th)

Exploration and classification of vocal fry, period doubling, and modal voice using acoustic and EGG measures. (2024). Poster, 13th International Seminar on Speech Production. Autrans, France (ISSP 2024). (May 13rd - 17th)

Perception and imitation of period doubling. (2023). Poster, 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences. Prague, Czech Republic (ICPhS 2023). (August 7th - 11th)

Tonal and phrasal distributions of sub-phonemic creaky voice in Mandarin. (2023). Talk, HISPhonCog 2023. Seoul, Korea. (May 26th - 27th) link

Low tone bias during perception of period doubling (2022). Poster, 183th Acoustical Society of America (ASA Fall 2022). Nashville, TN. (December 5th - 9th) doi:10.1121/10.0015927

The tonal system of Hengyang Xiang (2022). Poster, 183th Acoustical Society of America (ASA Fall 2022). Nashville, TN. (December 5th - 9th) doi:10.1121/10.0016290

Articulatory properties of period-doubled voice in Mandarin (2022). Poster, Speech Prosody 2022. Lisbon, Portugal. (May 23rd - 27th)

Does Rere have vowel harmony? (2021). Talk, 51th-52nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 51-52). University of Florida, FL. (April 8th - 10th)

F0 and voice quality of coarticulated Mandarin tones (2020). Poster, LabPhon 17. Vancouver, Canada. (July 6th - 8th) (Joint work with Chai, Y.)

Voice quality of coarticulated Mandarin tones (2019). Poster, 178th Acoustical Society of America (ASA Fall 2019). San Diego, CA. (December 2nd - 6th) (Joint work with Chai, Y.) doi:10.1121/1.5137426

The role of creaky voice attributes in Mandarin tonal perception (2019). Talk, 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (ICPhS 2019). Melbourne, Australia. (August 5th - 9th)

Low-f0 as a creak attribute in Mandarin tone perception (2019). Talk, 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 2019). New York City, NY. (January 3rd - 6th)

The phonological word in Mandarin: Evidence from Tone 3 Sandhi in reduplication (2018). Talk, 26th Annual Conference of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-26). University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI. (May 4th - 6th)

Phonation and pitch properties of Mandarin tones: Syllable and focus effects (2018). Talk, 26th Annual Conference of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-26). University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI. (May 4th - 6th) (Joint work with Athanasopoulou, A. and Vogel, I.)

The phonological word in Mandarin: Evidence from Tone 3 Sandhi in reduplication (2018). Talk, Southern California Annual Meeting on Phonology (SCAMP). University of South California, CA. (April, 7th)

The effect of focus on creaky phonation in Mandarin Chinese tones (2017). Talk, 41st Penn Linguistics Conference. University of Pennsylvania, PA. (March 24th - 26th) (Joint work with Athanasopoulou, A. and Vogel, I.)

The effect of focus on creaky phonation in Mandarin Chinese tones (2017). Talk, Cognitive Science Graduate Student Conference. University of Delaware, DE. (March 3rd) (Joint work with Athanasopoulou, A. and Vogel, I.)

Invited Presentations

The role of period-doubled voice in speech production and perception (Feb 26, 2025). Keynote, Vienna Doctoral School for Cognition, Behavior, and Neuroscience, University of Vienna.

How period doubling reshapes what we think about voice quality (Apr 12, 2024). Talk, University of Alberta.

Speech signal processing (Jan 25, 2024). Guest lecture, Linguistics 411/511, University of Oregon.

Where voice quality interfaces with pitch in lexical tones: acoustics, articulation, and perception (July 26, 2023). Info talk, Acoustics Research Institute, Austrian Academy of Sciences.

Shiny app to track skills-based grading (June 5, 2023). Workshop, Phonetics seminar, UCLA.

Implementing dimensionality reduction on phonetic data (Oct. 31, 2022). Workshop, Phonetics seminar, UCLA.

Application of dimensionality reduction techniques in phonetics (Oct. 17, 2022). Talk, Phonetics seminar, UCLA.

F0 and voice quality of coarticulated Mandarin tones (Sep. 27, 2022). Talk, EVOTONE Community, LMU Munich.

Production and perception of period doubling (May 11, 2022). Talk, Department of Linguistics and English Language, University of Edinburgh.

Tone in languages (April 14, 2022). Guest lecture, LIGN 101 Introduction to the Study of Language, UC San Diego.

Volumes Edited

Huang, Y., Kaldhol, N.H., Lim, J.J., Rose, S., Struthers-Young, A. (eds.). (2024). *ACAL in SoCAL: Selected papers from the 53rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics. (Contemporary African Linguistics 11).* Berlin: Language Science Press. doi:10.5281/zenodo.11189852

Public Outreach

Acoustics Research Seminar 2024 for Austrian Academy of Sciences Study Foundation Sep. 16-19, 2024

Watch your tongue - How we produce and perceive speech, Long Night of Research 2024 May 24, 2024

Ultrasound and experimental stations, Noise Awareness Day (Tag gegen Lärm) 2024, 2025

The "Meidlinger L" in Viennese minds (Das "Meidlinger L" in den Köpfen der Wiener*innen) at the City of Vienna Presentation Event Jan. 23, 2024

Researchers on the hunt for the "Meidlinger L" (Forscher auf der Jagd nach dem "Meidlinger L"), Newspaper article, Kronen Zeitung Jan. 28, 2024

The "Meidlinger L" study: how does the L sound right? (Die "Meidlinger L"-Studie: wie klingt das L richtig?), Podcast, Radio Wien Jan. 31, 2024

Viennese dialect: What does "Meidlinger L" actually sound like? (Wiener Dialekt: Wie klingt eigentlich das "Meidlinger L"?), Newspaper article, KURIER Feb. 3, 2024

Honors and Awards

Austrian Research Association "International Communication" travel grant (€500) 2024

DDr. Franz-Josef-Mayer-Gunthof Wissenschafts- und Forschungsstiftung (€2640) 2024

GO.INVESTIGATIO Fellowship (€2600) 2024

Project: "An acoustic and articulatory study of types of voice quality in Hanoi Vietnamese non-modal tones"

City of Vienna Fund (PI: Eva Reinisch) (€18500) 2023 – 2024

Project: "The 'Meidlinger L' in the minds of the Viennese: A perception study on the explanation of terms based on the assessment of acoustic stimuli."

UCLA Unit 18 Faculty Professional Development Award ($1000) 2022 – 2023

NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant ($18845) 2022 – 2023

BCS-2141433: "Phonetics of period doubling" (PI: Marc Garellek)

ASA Speech Communication Student Poster Competition, 1st Prize ($300) 2022
"The tonal system of Hengyang Xiang"

Speech Prosody 2022 Student Travel Grant (€500) 2022

Liz Bates Research Award for Speech Prosody 2022 registration (€177) 2022

UCSD Doctoral Qualifying Fund ($4903) Summer 2021

UCSD Doctoral Qualifying Fund ($4760) Summer 2020

UCSD International Institute Fellow ($2100) 2020 – 2021
Project: "Documenting Hengyang, An Under-Studied Dialect in China"

UCSD Linguistics Departmental Travel Fund ($1255) 2018, 2019

UCSD Graduate Student Association Travel Grant ($1000) 2018, 2019

UD Linguistics Departmental Competitive Tuition Scholarship ($20,000) Fall 2016

UD Linguistics Departmental Summer Funding ($4000) Summer 2016

UD Linguistics Dean's Scholarship ($12,400) 2015 – 2016

UIBE Summer Social Practice Travel Award (top 10%) 2013

Mentoring Experience

Acoustic Research Institute Intern March - April 2025
Mentoring undergraduate research intern from Scholarship Program on phonetic analysis and eye-tracking experiments at ARI

UCSD Research Mentorship Program 2021 – 2022
Mentoring undergraduate research assistants on research projects of language documentation and phonetic analysis at UCSD Field Research Lab and Phonetics Lab

UCSD Independent Study (LIGN 199) 2019 – 2020
Mentoring undergraduate research assistants on a phonetics research project at UCSD Phonetics Lab

Teaching Experience

As Instructor

Acoustic Phonetics (LING 205), U of A Fall 2025

Research Design and Statistical Methods (LING 239), UCLA Spring 2023

Introduction to General Phonetics (LING 103), UCLA Winter 2023

Linguistics and Speech Pathology (LING 115), UCLA Fall 2022

Phonetics (LIGN 110), UCSD Summer 2021

Child Language Development, Private organization Summer 2020

As Teaching Assistant

Computational Social Science BootCamp (CSS 202), UCSD Summer 2022

Phonetics (LIGN 110), UCSD Fall 2021, 2020; Winter 2019

	Hearing Science and Hearing Disorders (LIGN 113), UCSD	Spring 2020
	Speech Sounds and Speech Disorders (LIGN 112), UCSD	Winter 2020
	Phonology (LIGN 111), UCSD	Winter 2022
	Independent Directed Language Study (LIDS 19), UCSD	Spring, Fall 2019
	Language Representation in the brain (LIGN 180), UCSD	Fall 2018
	Languages and Cultures of America (LIGN 8), UCSD	Summer 2018; Fall 2017
	Morphology (LIGN 120), UCSD	Spring 2018
	Language Processing in the Brain (LIGN 181), UCSD	Winter 2018

Academic Service

Journal reviews

The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America; *Journal of Phonetics*; *IEEE Transactions on Audio, Speech and Language Processing*; *IEEE Signal Processing Letters*; *Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics*; *Frontiers in Psychology*; *Second Language Research*; *Journal of Memory and Language*; *The Cleft Palate Craniofacial Journal*; *Journal of the Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain*

Conference reviews

Forum Acousticum Euronoise 2025
INTERSPEECH 2024, 2023
Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development 2024
20th International Congress of the Phonetic Sciences 2023
53rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics 2022

Conference organizers

21st International Congress of the Phonetic Sciences 2027
1st Meeting of Methods and Techniques in Speech Science, UAlberta 2025
Forum Acousticum Euronoise 2025
53rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, UCSD 2022
6th Annual Meeting on Phonology, UCSD 2018
47th Linguistics Symposium on Romance Languages, UD 2017

Other

U of A Linguistics Colloquium Committee 2025 – 2026

	Head, UCSD Linguistics Grad Student Body International Student Committee	2022
	Student Representative, UCSD Linguistics Curriculum Committee	2019 – 2022
	Student Organizer, UCSD Linguistics Colloquium Committee	2017 – 2019

Professional Memberships	International Speech Communication Association	2022 – present
	Association for Laboratory Phonology	2020 – present
	International Phonetic Association	2019 – present
	International Association of Chinese Linguistics	2018 – present
	Linguistic Society of America	2016 – present

Skills	Programs:	R, Praat scripting, MATLAB, Python, LaTeX, Haskell, PsychoPy, E-Prime, PCIbex Farm, Labvanced, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, VoiceSauce, EGGWorks, Adobe Audition CS6, WordSmith Tools, Wmatrix, SPSS
	Languages:	Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent), German (intermediate), French (intermediate), Japanese (intermediate), Koalib (field experience), Vietnamese (research knowledge)