

Ka-Fai Yip 葉家輝

Ph.D. Candidate in Linguistics

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Research interests	(Broad) Syntax, morphology, semantics and their interfaces, syntax-phonology interface, language variations, corpus linguistics (Narrow) Focus, quantification, aspect, affixation, defocus, right dislocation, linearization, resumption, (anti-)locality, A/A'-dependencies, definiteness, adverbial clauses
Research languages	Cantonese (heritage included), Mandarin, Vietnamese (different varieties) Akan, Bangla, Japanese, Korean, Yorùbá, other Sinitic languages

Education and qualifications

2020– 2026 (expected)	Ph.D. in Linguistics, Yale University, U.S.A. Dissertation title (tentative): <i>Doubling down on Exclusivity: Issues on the Syntax-semantics Interface</i> Committee: Veneeta Dayal (chair), Zoltán Gendler Szabó, Raffaella Zanuttini, Michael Yoshitaka Erlewine (external)
2017– 2019	M.Phil. in Chinese Language and Literature, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), Hong Kong Thesis title: <i>The Incompleteness Effects of Cantonese Verbal Suffixes</i> (in Chinese) Committee: Bit-Chee Kwok (chair), Sze-Wing Tang (supervisor), Yam-Leung Lawrence Cheung, Po-lun Peppina Lee
2013– 2017	B.A. in Chinese Language and Literature (First Class Honors), Minor in Linguistics, CUHK, Hong Kong Thesis title: <i>The Relationship of Syntax and Semantics of Quantificational Verbal Suffix -can and its Preverbal Counterparts in Cantonese</i> (in Chinese) Supervisor: Sze-Wing Tang
2014	Second Class Upper, Putonghua Proficiency Test

Publications (*=co-first authors)

Journal articles (peer-reviewed)

Under review	Yip, Ka-Fai , and Xuetong Yuan. Defocus Rephrasing: right dislocation and syntax-prosody mismatches. <i>Natural Language & Linguistic Theory</i> .
Under review	Lee, Tommy Tsz-Ming*, and Ka-Fai Yip* . Partial Deletion on head chains: Discontinuous predicates in Cantonese. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i> .
Under review	Yip, Ka-Fai . Differentiating between evidential bias and epistemic bias in questions: Evidence from Cantonese. (<i>Earlier version awarded LSHK Outstanding Student Paper on Cantonese Linguistics, 2024</i>)
In revision	Jason Bishop, Mei-Ying Ki, Chen Zhou, and Ka-Fai Yip . Pragmatic skill modulates sensitivity to phonetic cues to prominence, especially pitch-based cues. <i>Laboratory Phonology</i> .
To appear	Liu, Yuyang*, and Ka-Fai Yip* . Again, split aspect and finiteness in Chinese languages. <i>Natural Language & Linguistic Theory</i> .
2025	Yip, Ka-Fai . A unified biclausal approach to right dislocation in Chinese. <i>Journal of East Asian Linguistics</i> 34: 631–674. DOI: 10.1007/s10831-025-09307-2
2025	Yip, Ka-Fai . Inner aspect in Cantonese. <i>FLaP FIRST</i> 1(1):15–36. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.15461747
2025	Yik-Po Lai, Mei-Ying Ki, Chaak-ming Lau, Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee, Oscar Wong, Kam Pang Wong, and Ka-Fai Yip . Online Quiz Game “Cantonese Master Challenge”: Gamifying Linguistics Popularization and Crowdsourced Data Collection. [in Chinese] <i>Journal of Digital Archives and Digital Humanities</i> 15: 83–116. DOI: 10.6853/DADH.202504_(15).0003

- 2024 | Lee, Tommy Tsz-Ming, and **Ka-Fai Yip**. Hyperraising, evidentiality, and phase deactivation. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 42(4): 1527–1578. DOI: 10.1007/s11049-023-09604-2
- 2022 | **Yip, Ka-Fai**. Converbs and adverbial clauses: a case study in Cantonese. *Studies in Chinese Linguistics* 43(2): 143–169. DOI: 10.2478/scl-2022-0006
- 2020 | **Yip, Ka-Fai**. Three discontinuous constructions of Cantonese verbal suffix *can*. [in Chinese] *Current Research in Chinese Linguistics* 99(1): 153–169.

Book chapters and conference proceedings (full papers peer-reviewed)

- Accepted (minor revision) | **Yip, Ka-Fai**, and Olabode Adedeji. A quantifier-particle approach to exclusive focus particles in Yorùbá. *Contemporary African Linguistics: Selected Papers from the 55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*.
- To appear | Lee, Tommy Tsz-Ming, and **Ka-Fai Yip**. Separable verbs in Cantonese. *The Routledge Handbook of Cantonese Linguistics*.
- To appear | **Yip, Ka-Fai**, Yaxuan Ji, Dicky Ko, Thomas Ho, and Benjamin K. Tsou. Converging and diverging variations in metaphorization of light verbs: A corpus study on four Chinese speech communities. In *Proceedings of the 39th Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC)*.
- To appear | Mei-Ying Ki, Yik-Po Lai, Chaak-ming Lau, and **Ka-Fai Yip**. Tonal representation for teaching and learning: from Graphical Cantonese Generator and CanTONEse to a unified data model. *When Cantonese Meets Digital Humanities*, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Press.
- To appear | Lai, Yik-Po, Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee, Chaak-ming Lau, Kam-Pang Wong, Mei-Ying Ki, Oscar Hok-yuen Wong, and **Ka-Fai Yip**. Public Digital Humanities Reflections on the “Cantonese Master Challenge”. *When Cantonese Meets Digital Humanities*, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Press.
- 2024 | Jonathan Him Nok Lee, **Yip, Ka-Fai**, Mark Liberman, Jianjing Kuang. Some prosodic consequences of varied discourse functions in a Cantonese sentence-final particle. In *Proc. Speech Prosody 2024*, 632–636.
- 2022 | **Yip, Ka-Fai**, and Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee. Modal movement licensed by focus. In Andrew Simpson, ed., *New Explorations in Chinese Theoretical Syntax: Studies in Honor of Yen-Hui Audrey Li*, 165–192. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
- 2020 | Tsou, Benjamin K., and **Ka-Fai Yip**. A corpus-based comparative study of light verbs in three Chinese speech communities. In Minh Le Nguyen, Mai Chi Luong, and Sanghoun Song, eds., *Proceedings of the 34th Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC)*, 302–311. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- 2020 | Tsou, Benjamin K., Ka Po Chow, John Lee, **Ka-Fai Yip**, Yaxuan Ji, and Kevin Wu. Bilingual multi-word expressions, multiple-correspondence, and their cultivation from parallel patents: the Chinese-English case. In Minh Le Nguyen, Mai Chi Luong, and Sanghoun Song, eds., *Proceedings of the 34th Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC)*, 589–602. Association for Computational Linguistics.

Conference proceedings (abstracts peer-reviewed)

- To appear | **Yip, Ka-Fai**. A parametric view on exclusive focus particles. In *Proceedings of the 43rd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL-43)*.
- To appear | **Yip, Ka-Fai**, and Squid Tamar-Mattis. Diagnosing multidominance by focus association of ‘only’. In *Proceedings of the 43rd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL-43)*.
- To appear | **Yip, Ka-Fai**. Right dislocation as multidominance, and beyond. In *Proceedings of Generative Linguistics in the Old World (GLOW)* 47.
- To appear | Yanting Li, Xiao Dong, **Ka-Fai Yip**, Gareth Junjie Yang. Linguistic and social aspects of sibilant palatalization in homeland and heritage Cantonese. In *Proceedings of the 36th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-36)*.
- 2025 | Fulang Chen, and **Ka-Fai Yip**. Facilitator effects in Mandarin topicalization: Evidence for a crossing-based view of anti-locality. In Duygu Demiray, Roger Cheng-yen Liu, and Nir Segal, eds., *Proceedings of the Fifty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS-55)*, vol.1, 115–128.

- 2025 **Yip, Ka-Fai.** Agreeing with ‘only’.
In Nikolas Webster, Yağmur Kiper, Richard Wang, and Sichen Larry Lyu, eds., *Proceedings of the 41st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL-41)*, 616–626. Somerville: Cascadia Proceedings Project
- 2024 **Yip, Ka-Fai.** Only ‘only’ only: A distributed meaning approach to exclusive doubling. In Yao Zhang, Fengyue (Lisa) Zhao, Youngdong Cho, and Yifan Wu, eds., *Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT)* 34, 480–501.
- 2024 **Yip, Ka-Fai.** Two types of temporal adverbial clauses in Cantonese. In Robert Autry, Gabriela de la Cruz, Luis A. Irizarry Figueroa, Kristina Mihajlovic, Tianyi Ni, Ryan Smith, and Heidi Harley, eds., *Proceedings of the 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL-39)*, 274–282. Somerville: Cascadia Proceedings Project.
- 2024 **Yip, Ka-Fai,** and Xuotong Yuan. Right dislocation, defocus, and variations in syntax-prosody mapping. In Hisao Tokizaki, ed., *Phonological Externalization volume 9*, 89–112. Sapporo: Sapporo University.
- 2024 **Yip, Ka-Fai,** and Xuotong Yuan. Defocus leads to syntax-prosody mismatches in right-dislocated structures. In Kutay Serova, and M. K. Snigaroff, eds., *Proceedings of the Fifty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS-59)*, 557–571.
- 2024 **Yip, Ka-Fai,** and Xuotong Yuan. Agreement in imperative clauses: Evidence from object resumptive pronouns in Mandarin Chinese. In Shaunak Phadnis, Carla Spellerberg, and Brynne Wilkinson, eds., *Proceedings of the Fifty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS-54)*, vol.2, 235–244.
- 2023 **Yip, Ka-Fai,** Ushasi Banerjee, and Margaret Chui Yi Lee. Are there “weak” definites in bare classifier languages? In Juhyae Kim, Burak Öney, Yao Zhang, and Fengyue (Lisa) Zhao, eds., *Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT)* 33, 253–275.
- 2023 **Yip, Ka-Fai,** and Comfort Ahenkorah. Non-agreeing resumptive pronouns and partial Copy Deletion. *UPenn Working Papers in Linguistics* 29(1): 206–215.
- 2023 Lohninger, Magdalena, and **Ka-Fai Yip.** (In)dependence of features on composite probes.
In Suet-Ying Lam, and Satoru Ozaki, eds., *Proceedings of the Fifty-Third Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS-53)*, vol.2, 155–164.
- 2023 Liu, Yuyang, and **Ka-Fai Yip.** High vs. low ‘again’: Mandarin *you* vs. *zai* and Cantonese *-faan* vs. *-gwo*.
In Wei William Zhou, Mineharu Nakayama, Marjorie K.M. Chan, & Zhiguo Xie, eds., *Buckeye East Asian Linguistics*, vol. 7, 94–104. Ohio State University.
- 2022 **Yip, Ka-Fai.** Universal concord as syntactic agreement.
UPenn Working Papers in Linguistics 28(1): 221–232.
- 2022 Chan, Sheila Shu-Laam, Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee, and **Ka-Fai Yip.** Discontinuous predicates as partial deletion in Cantonese. *UPenn Working Papers in Linguistics* 28(1): 26–36.
- 2021 **Yip, Ka-Fai,** Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee, and Sheila Shu-Laam Chan. Deriving separable verbs in Cantonese. In Wei William Zhou, John Bundschuh, Mineharu Nakayama, and Zhiguo Xie, eds., *Buckeye East Asian Linguistics*, vol. 5, 94–104. Ohio State University.
- 2021 Lee, Tommy Tsz-Ming, and **Ka-Fai Yip.** Raising, phase unlocked.
In Rachel Soo, Una Y. Chow, and Sander Nederveen, eds., *Proceedings of the 38th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL-38)*, 274–282. Somerville: Cascadia Proceedings Project.
- 2020 **Yip, Ka-Fai.** Syntax-prosody mapping of right-dislocations in Cantonese and Mandarin.
In Hisao Tokizaki, ed., *Phonological Externalization (Vol. 5)*, 73–90. Sapporo: Sapporo University.
- 2020 **Yip, Ka-Fai,** and Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee. Generalized Scope Economy.
In Kaidi Chen, ed., *Proceedings of the 32nd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-32)*, 345–360. Storrs, CT: University of Connecticut.

Talks and presentations

Invited talks

- 2025 Parameterizing ‘only’
Semantics Reading Group (SURGE), Rutgers University, October 20, 2025.
- 2025 Semantic dependency between focus particles in exclusive doubling
Syntax/Semantics Reading Group, National University of Singapore, August 12, 2025.

- 2025 The structural matching effects in adverbial and converbial clauses
Guest lecture for “Main Clause Phenomena and the Syntax of Chinese” at National Tsing Hua University, May 1, 2025.
- 2025 Against a syntactic approach to *wh*-rhetorical questions—with special focus on Cantonese (and Vietnamese)
Colloquium at National Tsing Hua University, April 30, 2025.
- 2024 A parametric view on exclusive focus particles.
Colloquium at Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, December 2, 2024.
- 2024 Defocus Rephrasing: right dislocation and syntax-prosody mapping
Linguistics Brown Bag, Stony Brook University, April 10, 2024. (with Xuotong Yuan)
- 2024 Biclausal multidominant syntax of right dislocation in Chinese
Syntax Brown Bag, New York University, March 1, 2024.
- 2023 Agreeing and non-agreeing resumptive pronouns in Sinitic languages
Georgetown Syntax Reading Group, Georgetown University, November 9, 2023.
- 2023 Defocus and syntax-prosody mismatches in right-dislocated structures
LingLunch, University of Connecticut, April 25, 2023. (with Xuotong Yuan)
- 2023 A compositional account of “only” doubling
LFRG, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, March 15, 2023.
- 2022 Non-agreeing resumptive pronouns and partial Copy Deletion
LingLunch, University of Connecticut, April 26, 2022. (with Comfort Ahenkorah)
- 2021 Universal concord as syntactic agreement
Syntax Brown Bag, New York University, October 22, 2021.
- 2021 CanTONEse (a self-learning mobile app for Cantonese tones)
School of Cantonese Studies 2021, The Education University of Hong Kong, May 15–16, 2021.
(with Mei-Ying Ki and Yik-Po Lai)
- 2020 Universal concord as syntactic agreement
Syntax+, University of Southern California, October 5, 2020.

Refereed presentations

(FoCaL=Forum on Cantonese Linguistics; GLOW=Generative Linguistics in the Old World; LSA=Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America; LSHK-ARF=Linguistic Society of Hong Kong Annual Research Forum; NACCL=North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics; NELS=Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society; PLC=Penn Linguistics Conference; SALT=Semantics and Linguistic Theory; SuB=Sinn und Bedeutung; WCCFL=West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics; WOC=Workshop on Cantonese)

- 2026 Varieties in scalarity of exclusives
LSA-2026, New Orleans, January 8–11, 2026
- 2026 Does the Williams Cycle apply to Mandarin Chinese?
LSA-2026, New Orleans, January 8–11, 2026 (with Fulang Chen)
- 2025 Intervention effects are not uniform: evidence from exclusive doubling in Cantonese
The Fourth International Conference on Formal Approaches to Meaning in Chinese (ICFAMC-4), The Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 18–19, 2025
- 2025 Converging and diverging variations in metaphorization of light verbs: A corpus study on four Chinese speech communities
The 39th Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC 39), Vietnam Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics, December 5–7, 2025 (with Yaxuan Ji, Dicky Ko, Thomas Ho, and Benjamin K. Tsou)
- 2025 Exclusive focus in Akan and type flexibility
[Poster] *NELS-55*, New York University, October 17–19, 2025 (with Comfort Ahenkorah)
- 2025 Asymmetric reconstruction for binding but not for scope
SuB-30, Goethe University Frankfurt, September 23–27, 2025 (with Yusuke Yagi)
- 2025 Exclusive focus in Akan and type flexibility
The 12th edition of the TripleA workshop for semantic fieldworkers (TripleA 12), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, September 10–12, 2025 (with Comfort Ahenkorah)

- 2025 Acoustic analysis of sibilant palatalization variation in homeland and heritage Cantonese
New Ways of Analysing Variation Asia Pacific 8 (NWAV-AP-8), Nanyang Technological University, August 4–7, 2025 (with Yanting Li, Xiao Dong, and Gareth Junjie Yang)
- 2025 Are splitting verbs in Yorùbá discontinuous heads?
[Poster] *The 56th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL-56)*, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, May 15–17, 2025 (with Olabode Adedeji)
- 2025 Diagnosing multidominance by focus association of ‘only’
WCCFL-43, University of Washington, April 25–27, 2025 (with Squid Tamar-Mattis)
- 2025 A parametric view on exclusive focus particles
[Poster] WCCFL-43, University of Washington, April 25–27, 2025.
- 2025 Biclausal multidominant syntax of right dislocation
PLC-49, University of Pennsylvania, April 5–6, 2025.
- 2025 Backward association of exclusive particles and scope freezing
GLOW-47, Goethe University Frankfurt, March 24–28, 2025. (with Daniel Aremu and Olabode Adedeji)
- 2025 Right dislocation as multidominance, and beyond
[Poster] GLOW-47, Goethe University Frankfurt, March 24–28, 2025.
- 2025 Parametric variations in discontinuous predicates in Sinitic languages
The Workshop on Theoretical East Asian Linguistics (TEAL) 14, University of Southern California, March 18–20, 2025. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2025 Scalarity in exclusive doubling
Workshop on the Syntax and Semantics of Scalarity, University of Stuttgart, March 3–4, 2025.
- 2024 Differentiating between evidential bias and epistemic bias in questions: Evidence from Cantonese*
The 28th International Conference on Yue Dialects, Hong Kong Metropolitan University, December 13–14, 2024.
*Awarded LSHK Outstanding Student Paper on Cantonese Linguistics (2024)
- 2024 Cantonese exclusive focus marker *-dak* as perfective aspect
The 28th International Conference on Yue Dialects, Hong Kong Metropolitan University, December 13–14, 2024.
- 2024 The dissection of Cantonese interjections: an exploration
The 28th International Conference on Yue Dialects, Hong Kong Metropolitan University, December 13–14, 2024. (with Mei-Ying Ki)
- 2024 Why right dislocation must be biclausal
LSHK-ARF-2024, Hong Kong Shue Yan University, December 8, 2024.
- 2024 Facilitator effects in Mandarin topicalization: Evidence for a crossing-based view of antilocality
NELS-55, Yale University, October 17–18, 2024. (with Fulang Chen)
- 2024 Public Digital Humanities Reflections on the “Cantonese Master Challenge”
[in Chinese] WOC-24, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, July 6, 2024. (with Yik-Po Lai, Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee, Kam Pang Wong, Mei-Ying Ki, Chaak-ming Lau, Oscar Wong)
- 2024 Teasing apart the prosodic effects of focus and of defocus: syntax-prosody mismatches in right dislocation
[Poster] *The 19th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon-19)*, HIPCS, Hanyang University, June 27–29, 2024. (with Xuotong Yuan)
- 2024 Variation of sibilant palatalization in homeland and heritage Cantonese
[Poster] *The 19th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon-19)*, HIPCS, Hanyang University, June 27–29, 2024. (with Yanting Li, Xiao Dong, & Gareth Junjie Yang)
- 2024 A tale of two types of exclusive doubling in Vietnamese
The 33rd Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS-33), National Tsing Hua University, June 15–17, 2024.
- 2024 Only ‘only’ only: a distributed meaning approach to exclusive doubling
SALT 34, University of Rochester, May 28–30, 2024.
- 2024 Exclusive focus particles in Yorùbá
The 55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL-55), McGill University, May 2–4 2024. (with Olabode Adedeji)

- 2024 Two types of subject resumption in Akan
The 55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL-55), McGill University, May 2–4 2024.
(with Comfort Ahenkorah)
- 2024 Defending a biclausal approach to right dislocation
NACCL-36, Pomona College, March 23–24, 2024.
- 2024 Linguistic and social aspects of sibilant palatalization in homeland and heritage Cantonese
NACCL-36, Pomona College, March 23–24, 2024. (with Yanting Li, Xiao Dong, & Gareth Junjie Yang)
- 2024 Right dislocation, defocus, and variations in syntax-prosody mapping
The 15th Workshop on Phonological Externalization of Morphosyntactic Structure: Theory, Typology and History (Phex-15), Tokyo Woman's Christian University, February 24, 2024. (with Xuotong Yuan)
- 2024 Agreement in imperative clauses: evidence from object resumptive pronouns in Mandarin Chinese
[Poster] *NELS-54*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, January 26–27, 2024. (with Xuotong Yuan)
- 2023 On the Rising-Falling boundary tone in Cantonese
The 27th International Conference on Yue Dialects, Ohio State University, November 30–December 2, 2023.
(with Mei-Ying Ki)
- 2023 Sibilant palatalization in Hong Kong and Toronto Cantonese: a corpus study
The 27th International Conference on Yue Dialects, Ohio State University, November 30–December 2, 2023.
(with Yanting Li & Xiao Dong)
- 2023 Online quiz game “Cantonese Master Challenge”: gamifying linguistics popularization and crowdsourced data collection
[in Chinese] *The 14th International Conference of Digital Archives and Digital Humanities*, National Cheng Kung University, December 1–3, 2023.
(with Yik-Po Lai, Mei-Ying Ki, Chaak-ming Lau, Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee, Kam Pang Wong, Oscar Wong)
- 2023 Jussive agreement with non-agreeing resumptive pronouns in Mandarin Chinese
16th edition of the Brussels Conference on Generative Linguistics (BCGL 16), CRISSP of KU Leuven, Brussels, October 5–6, 2023. (with Xuotong Yuan)
- 2023 Are there “weak definites” in bare classifier languages?
SALT 33, Yale University, May 12–14, 2023. (with Ushasi Banejee & Margaret Chui Yi Lee)
- 2023 Agreeing with ‘only’
WCCFL-41, University of California, Santa Cruz, May 5–7, 2023.
- 2023 Defocus leads to syntax-prosody mismatches in right dislocated structures
59th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 59), The University of Chicago, April 28–30, 2023. (with Xuotong Yuan)
- 2023 Agreeing with ‘only’ in Cantonese*
PLC-47, University of Pennsylvania, March 18–19, 2023. ***Awarded PLC-47 Best Abstract Award**
- 2023 (In)dependence of features on composite probes
[Poster] *NELS-53*, University of Göttingen, January 12–14, 2023. (with Magdalena Lohninger)
- 2023 Independence and what it allows you to do
[Poster] *LSA-2023*, Denver, January 5–8, 2023. (with Magdalena Lohninger)
- 2022 Doubling exclusive particles in Cantonese
LSHK-ARF-2022, The Hong Kong Baptist University, December 3, 2022.
- 2022 “Definite” bare nouns as quasi-names in Cantonese
The 26th International Conference on Yue Dialects, Jinan University, November 26–27, 2022. (with Margaret Chui Yi Lee)
- 2022 High vs. low ‘again’: Mandarin *you* vs. *zai* and Cantonese *-faan* vs. *-gwo*.
Buckeye East Asian Linguistics Forum 5 (BEAL-5), The Ohio State University, October 28, 2022. (with Yuyang Liu)
- 2022 “Archival collections” vs “Computational corpora”: The structure and concerns of text repositories built for disparate tasks
The Language Documentation and Archiving Conference (LD&A) 2022, Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, October 5–7, 2022. (with Irene Yi, Amelia Lake, Cassandra Haakman, Sarah Babinski, Sunkulp Ananthanarayan, Coralie Cram & Claire Bowern)
- 2022 Doubling exclusivity in Cantonese
NACCL-34, Indiana University Bloomington, September 24–25, 2022.

- 2022 Rethinking the internal syntax of adverbial clauses and operator movement
GLOW in Asia XIII, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, August 4–7, 2022. (with Zhuo Chen)
- 2022 On the positions of ‘again’: Comparing Cantonese *-faan*, *-gwo* with Mandarin *you*, *zai*
WOC-22, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, June 25, 2022. (with Yuyang Liu)
- 2022 Processing discontinuous predicates in Cantonese
FoCaL-5, City University of Hong Kong, June 4, 2022.
(with Carmen Kin Man Tang, Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee and Sheila Shu-Laam Chan)
- 2022 Over Forty Thousand Responses to the Online Quiz Game “Cantonese Master Challenge”: The Public Understanding of Cantonese Linguistics
[in Chinese] *FoCaL-5*, City University of Hong Kong, June 4, 2022.
(with Yik-Po Lai, Kenith Chan, Mei-Ying Ki, Chaak-ming Lau, Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee, Kam Pang Wong, Oscar Wong)
- 2022 Separable verbs as partial deletion in Cantonese
The 28th Annual Conference of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-28), The Chinese University of Hong Kong, May 20–22, 2022. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee and Sheila Shu-Laam Chan)
- 2022 MSC variations in metaphorization among Pan-Chinese speech communities
The 28th Annual Conference of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-28), The Chinese University of Hong Kong, May 20–22, 2022. (with Benjamin K. Tsou)
- 2022 Non-agreeing resumptive pronouns and partial Copy Deletion
PLC-46, University of Pennsylvania, March 18–20, 2022. (with Comfort Ahenkorah)
- 2022 Adverbial clauses with and without operator movement
LSA-2022, Washington, DC, January 6–9, 2022. (with Zhuo Chen)
- 2022 Non-agreeing resumptive pronouns and partial Copy Deletion
[Poster] *LSA-2022*, Washington, DC, January 6–9, 2022. (with Comfort Ahenkorah)
- 2021 Converbs and adverbial clauses: a case study in Cantonese
The 25th International Conference on Yue Dialects, Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao University Alliance for Chinese, December 18–19, 2021.
- 2021 Partial deletion at word-level: discontinuous predicates in Cantonese
The Brussels Conference on Generative Linguistics 14 (BCGL-14), CRISSP of KU Leuven, December 16–18, 2021. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee and Sheila Shu-Laam Chan)
- 2021 Non-agreeing resumptive pronouns and partial Copy Deletion
SYNC 2021, CUNY Graduate Center, December 4, 2021. (with Comfort Ahenkorah)
- 2021 Two kinds of resumption in Cantonese
LSHK-ARF-2021, City University of Hong Kong, December 4, 2021.
- 2021 Adverbial clauses with and without operator movement
The 9th International Conference on Formal Linguistics (ICFL-9), Fudan University, November 5–7, 2021.
(with Zhuo Chen)
- 2021 Universal concord as syntactic agreement
The 13th Workshop on Formal Linguistics (WFL-13), Auditório do Instituto de Letras, Universidade de Brasília, September 14–17, 2021.
- 2021 Hyper-raising, evidentiality, and phase deactivation
The 13th Workshop on Formal Linguistics (WFL-13), Auditório do Instituto de Letras, Universidade de Brasília, September 14–17, 2021. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2021 Differential metaphorization and grammaticalization in Chinese light verbs
The 54th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE-54), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, August 30–September 3, 2021. (with Benjamin K. Tsou)
- 2021 Concord as syntactic agreement: evidence from intervention effects
[Poster] *Colloquium on Generative Grammar 30 (CGG-30)*, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, June 30–July 2, 2021.
- 2021 Where is the dividing line between spoken and written Cantonese data source: from the LIVAC perspective
[in Chinese] *WOC-21*, The Education University of Hong Kong, June 26, 2021. (with Benjamin K. Tsou and Yaxuan Ji)

- 2021 Converbs and adverbial clauses: a case study in Cantonese
NACCL-33, The University of Chicago, June 24–25, 2021.
- 2021 MSC variations in metaphORIZATION among Pan-Chinese speech communities
NACCL-33, The University of Chicago, June 24–25, 2021. (with Benjamin K. Tsou)
- 2021 Separable verbs as partial deletion in Cantonese
NACCL-33, The University of Chicago, June 24–25, 2021. (with Sheila Shu-Laam Chan and Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2021 Differential metaphORIZATION and grammaticalization: a case study of Chinese light verbs
Researching and Applying Metaphor (RaAM) 14: Metaphor and Space, Vilnius University, June 23–26, 2021.
- 2021 Syntax-prosody mapping of right dislocation: a comparative study of Cantonese and Mandarin*
The 7th International Conference on Prosodic Grammar (ICPG-7), Beijing Language and Culture University and Tianjin University, April 17–18, 2021. *Awarded Young Scholar Award for Prosodic Grammar, First Place
- 2021 Two types of temporal adverbial clauses in Cantonese
[Poster] WCCFL-39, The University of Arizona, April 8–11, 2021.
- 2021 Universal concord as syntactic agreement
PLC-45, University of Pennsylvania, March 19–21, 2021.
- 2021 Verbal “infixation” as partial deletion: a case in Cantonese verbs
PLC-45, University of Pennsylvania, March 19–21, 2021. (with Sheila Shu-Laam Chan and Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2021 Two types of temporal adverbial clauses in Cantonese
Buckeye East Asian Linguistics Forum 4 (BEAL-4), The Ohio State University, March 5, 2021.
- 2021 Deriving separable verbs in Cantonese
Buckeye East Asian Linguistics Forum 4 (BEAL-4), The Ohio State University, March 5, 2021.
(with Sheila Shu-Laam Chan and Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2021 Separable verbs, syllable deletion, and micro-variations
The 11th Workshop on Phonological Externalization of Morphosyntactic Structure (Phex-11), Sapporo University, February 13, 2021. (with Sheila Shu-Laam Chan and Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2020 Indirect evidence as a licensing condition of hyperraising in Cantonese and Vietnamese
The Brussels Conference on Generative Linguistics 13 (BCGL-13), CRISSP of KU Leuven, December 16–18, 2020.
(with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2020 On the position of perfective aspect
LSHK-ARF-2020, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 11–12, 2020.
- 2020 A preliminary study on metaphORIZATION of Chinese verbs: comparing Hong Kong, Macau and Beijing
[in Chinese] *LSHK-ARF-2020*, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 11–12, 2020.
(with Benjamin K. Tsou and Yaxuan Ji)
- 2020 CanTONEse: a self-learning mobile app for Cantonese tones
The 24th International Conference on Yue Dialects, University of Macau, November 13–14, 2020.
(with Mei-Ying Ki and Yik-Po Lai)
- 2020 Bilingual multi-word expressions, multiple-correspondence, and their cultivation from parallel patents: the Chinese-English case
PACLIC Workshop on Multiword Expressions in Asian languages (MWEA 2020), VNU University of Science, October 26, 2020. (with Benjamin K. Tsou, Ka Po CHOW, John LEE, Yaxuan Ji and Kevin WU)
- 2020 A corpus-based comparative study of light verbs in three Chinese speech communities
The 34th Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC-34), VNU University of Science, October 24–26, 2020. (with Benjamin K. Tsou)
- 2020 Generalized Scope Economy
NACCL-32, University of Connecticut, September 18–20, 2020. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2020 Hyperraising and evidentiality
The 22nd Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG-22), Gyeongsang National University, Korea, August 12–14, 2020. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2020 Generalized Scope Economy
The 22nd Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG-22), Gyeongsang National University, Korea, August 12–14, 2020. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)

- 2020 Syllable deletion and morphological length in Cantonese verbs
FoCaL-3, The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong, June 27, 2020.
(with Sheila Shu-Laam Chan and Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2020 How to identify intonations on sentence-final particles?
WOC-20, Hong Kong Baptist University, June 6, 2020. (with Jonathan Him Nok Lee)
- 2020 Zero-coded passives in Cantonese
The 5th Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (WICL-5), The Ohio State University, April 18, 2020. (with Sheila Shu-Laam Chan and Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2020 The prosodic syntax of right dislocation in Cantonese
The 5th Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (WICL-5), The Ohio State University, April 18, 2020.
- 2020 Raising, phase unlocked
WCCFL-38, The University of British Columbia, March 6–8, 2020. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2020 Syntax-prosody mapping in clausal domains: right dislocation in Mandarin and Cantonese
The 10th workshop on Phonological Externalization of Morphosyntactic Structure: Universals and Variables (Phex 10), The University of Tokyo, February 15, 2020.
- 2019 Sentence-initial root modals and focus
LSHK-ARF-2019, The Education University of Hong Kong, December 7, 2019. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2019 The prosodic syntax of right dislocation in Cantonese
[in Chinese] LSHK-ARF-2019, The Education University of Hong Kong, December 7, 2019.
- 2019 Verbs of saying in Chenghai Min
[in Chinese] *The 5th Inter-Regional Forum on Dialectal Grammar (IRF-5)*, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, June 15–16, 2019. (with Jia Jin)
- 2019 Attitude verbs, uncertain propositions and hyper-raising
FoCaL-2, The Education University of Hong Kong, June 1, 2019. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2019 Re-classifying Cantonese verbal suffixes
[in Chinese] *FoCaL-2*, The Education University of Hong Kong, June 1, 2019.
- 2019 Subordinate affixes in Cantonese and intervention effects
The 27th Annual Conference of International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL-27), Kobe City University of Foreign Studies, Japan, May 10–12, 2019.
- 2018 A preliminary study on subordinate affixes in Cantonese
[in Chinese] *The 23rd International Conference on Yue Dialects*, Jinan University, Guangzhou, December 15–16, 2018.
- 2018 Two subclasses of verbs of thinking in Cantonese
LSHK-ARF-2018, City University of Hong Kong, December 1, 2018. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2018 Complex sentence formation of Cantonese affix *can*
[in Chinese] *The 8th International Conference on Formal Linguistics (ICFL-8)*, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, November 24–25, 2018.
- 2018 Cantonese verbal suffix *dak* and intentionality
The 4th Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (WICL-4), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, June 23–24, 2018.
- 2017 Three discontinuous constructions of Cantonese verbal suffix *can*
[in Chinese] *The 22nd International Conference on Yue Dialects*, The Education University of Hong Kong, December 8–9, 2017.
- 2017 A study of Cantonese intentional verbal suffix *dak*
[in Chinese] LSHK-ARF-2017, Hong Kong Baptist University, December 2, 2017.
- 2015 Properties of Cantonese classifier *zan*
[in Chinese] *The 20th International Conference on Yue Dialects*, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 11–12, 2015.

Other presentations

- 2025 Linguistics at Yale and Research on Vietnamese
VNU University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Faculty of Linguistics and Vietnamese Studies, December 7, 2025.

- 2024 | Non-agreeing resumptive pronouns in imperatives
The CUHK-UChicago Forum on Comparative Linguistics, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, March 5, 2024.
(with Xuetong Yuan)
- 2023 | CHAIN FAITHFULNESS: restricting Partial Copy Deletion on discontinuous constituents
[Poster] *Syntax near NYU*, New York University, November 17, 2023. (with Tommy Tsz-Ming Lee)
- 2022 | On Cantonese yes-no question particle *aa4*: evidential bias and confirmation
[Poster] *Language Diversity, Linguistic Theory and Cultural Identity in South Asia*, Yale University, April 29–30, 2022.
- 2021 | Tones are colourful and animate: the self-learning mobile app CanTONEse
International Conference on Technology-Enhanced Language Learning and Teaching & Corpus-based Language Learning and Teaching 2021 (TeLLT & CoLLT 2021), The Education University of Hong Kong, July 7–9, 2021.
(with Mei-Ying Ki and Yik-Po Lai)
- 2021 | Exclusive focus in Yoruba
The Southern New England Workshop in Semantics (SNEWS) 2021, University of Connecticut, May 1, 2021.
- 2020 | Facilitating the self-learning of Cantonese: an innovative e-approach
Teaching and Learning Innovation Expo 2019/20, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, July 28–30, 2020.
(with Pit Shun Lai and Yik-Po Lai)
- 2019 | Universal Concord: evidence from Cantonese pseudo affixal quantifier *-can*
[Poster] *2019 LSA Linguistic Institute*, University of California, Davis, July 7, 2019.

Teaching experience

- 2022–2025 | Teaching Fellow, Yale University
- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| - LING2630 | Semantics I | (Fall 2025, Instructor: Prof. Simon Charlow) |
| - LING280 | Advanced Morphology | (Fall 2024, Instructor: Prof. Jim Wood) |
| - LING275/CGSC275/PHIL280 | Pragmatics | (Spring 2024, Instructor: Prof. Laurence R. Horn) |
| - LING217/EDST237/PSYC317 | Language and Mind | (Fall 2023, Instructor: Prof. Maria Piñango) |
| - LING116/CGSC216/PSYC116 | Cognitive Science of Language | (Spring 2023, Instructor: Prof. Robert Frank) |
| - LING253 | Syntax I | (Fall 2022, Instructor: Prof. Raffaella Zanuttini) |
- 2024–2025 | Cantonese language partner, Directed Independent Language Study (DILS), Yale University
- 2020 | Teaching Assistant, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- | | | |
|------------|--------------------|---|
| - MILE5304 | Chinese Lexicology | (Spring 2020, Instructor: Prof. Benjamin K. Tsou) |
|------------|--------------------|---|
- 2018 | Teaching Assistant, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|--|
| - CHLL2131 | Intro to Chinese Phonology | (Fall 2018, Instructor: Prof. Bit-Chee Kwok) |
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Other study experience

- Jun–Jul 2023 | 2023 LSA Linguistic Institute, Linguistic Society of America, University of Massachusetts Amherst, U.S.A.
- Jun–Jul 2019 | 2019 LSA Linguistic Institute, Linguistic Society of America, University of California, Davis, U.S.A.
- Jul–Aug 2017 | Summer Institute, 2017 Core Course (First Grade), Linguistics Institute of China, Tianjin Normal University, China

Other research experience

(CUHK=The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Jul–Aug, Dec 2024, Jan 2025	Fieldwork at Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, Dalat) - Project: Exclusive doubling in Vietnamese from a comparative perspective
Feb–Jun 2020, Jul 2021	Research Assistant, ChiLin (HK) Limited (<i>Supervisor: Benjamin K. Tsou</i>) - Project: A corpus-based comparative study of light verbs in Chinese speech communities - Project: Differential metaphorization and grammaticalization in Chinese light verbs
Oct 2019–Jul 2020	Junior Research Assistant, Department of Chinese Language and Literature, CUHK - Assisting online learning of Mandarin and Cantonese (<i>Supervisor: Sze-Wing Tang</i>)
Jul, Dec 2018–May 2019	Research Assistant (postgraduate student), CUHK - Developing the self-learning app <i>CanTONEse</i> for learning Cantonese tones - Designing a self-assessment test on Cantonese
Jun–Aug 2014	Student helper, Human-Computer Communications Laboratory, CUHK - To transcribe and assess data of interviewees having central dysarthria

Grants and honors

(CUHK=The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

2020–	Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Fellowship (tuition and stipend)
2024–2025	MacMillan International Dissertation Research Fellowship (USD 8860) - Project: Exclusive doubling in Vietnamese from a comparative perspective
2024	LSHK Outstanding Student Paper on Cantonese Linguistics, Linguistic Society of Hong Kong The 28th International Conference on Yue Dialects, Hong Kong Metropolitan University, December 13–14, 2024.
2022–2025	MacMillan Center International Conference Travel Grant, Yale University
2024–2025	Council on East Asian Studies Conference Fund, Yale University
2023	Linguistic Society of America Summer Program Award, Yale University
2023	PLC-47 Best Abstract Award The 47th Annual Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC-47), University of Pennsylvania, March 18–19, 2023.
2021	Young Scholar Award for Prosodic Grammar, First Place The 7th International Conference on Prosodic Grammar (ICPG-7), Beijing Language and Culture University and Tianjin University, April 17–18, 2021.
2017–2019	Postgraduate Studentship, CUHK
2017	Undergraduate “Independent Research” Paper Award (Language and Linguistics) Department of Chinese Language and Literature, CUHK
2014	Gold Award, Best Essay Award (In Dialogue with Nature) General Education, CUHK

Academic service

Conference organization

2018–2025	Organizing committee, The Forum on Cantonese Linguistics (FoCaL) - FoCaL-1: The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 31 May, 2018 - FoCaL-2: The Education University of Hong Kong, 1 June, 2019 - FoCaL-3: The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong, 27 June, 2020 - FoCaL-4: Hong Kong Baptist University, 29 May, 2021 - FoCaL-5: City University of Hong Kong, 4 June, 2022 - FoCaL-6: The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 10 June, 2023 - FoCaL-7: Hong Kong Shue Yan University, 22 June, 2024 - FoCaL-8: University of Hong Kong, 21 June 2025
2024	Organizing committee, The 55th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS-55) Yale University, 17–18 October, 2024

2023	Organizing committee, The 27th International Conference on Yue Dialects The Ohio State University, 30 November–2 December, 2023
2023	Organizing committee, Stony Brook, Yale, NYU, CUNY Linguistics Conference (SYNC-23) Yale University, 4 March, 2023
2022	Organizing committee, The Southern New England Workshop in Semantics (SNEWS) 2022 Yale University, 12 November, 2022
2018	Student organizer, The 11th Cross-Strait Symposium on Modern Chinese Language The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 7–8 Dec, 2018
2017	Student helper, The International Symposium on Chinese in the Maritime Silk Road The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 7–8 Apr, 2017

Reviewing

Journals	<i>Folia Linguistica</i> (2025), <i>Glossa: a journal of general linguistics</i> (2025), <i>Journal of East Asian Linguistics</i> (2021, 2024), <i>Language and Linguistics</i> (2024, 2025), <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i> (2024), <i>Snippets</i> (2026), <i>The Journal of Comparative Germanic Linguistics</i> (2026), <i>The Linguistic Review</i> (2026), <i>Tsing Hua Journal of Chinese Studies</i> (2025), <i>Yale Undergraduate Research Journal</i> (2021)
Conferences	<i>Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe (ConSOLE)</i> (2024, 2025, 2026), <i>International Conference on Yue Dialects</i> (2023), <i>International Conference on Formal Approaches to Meaning in Chinese</i> (2025), <i>NELS</i> (2024, 2025), <i>PLC</i> (2024, 2025, 2026), <i>SYNC</i> (2021, 2023, 2024, 2025), <i>WOC</i> (2025)

Public and community outreach

Jul–Aug, Dec 2024, Jan 2025	Fieldwork on different varieties of Vietnamese at Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, and Dalat, Vietnam
14 Jan 2025	Cultural exchange workshop at Albert Einstein School (Vietnam) (Trường Einstein HCM)
Jul – Aug 2024	Educational project “CÁC EM CỐ LÊN” (“Try you best, kids!”) at SOS Children's Village Dien Bien Phu (Promoting positive futures for at-risk Vietnamese youth through an education and cultural exchange summer program)
2022	Co-developed online quiz game “Cantonese Master Challenge” (attracted over 40,000 participants)
2018–2019	Co-developed Cantonese learning app “CanTONEse” (available on iOS and Android app stores)
2016 – 2017	Co-organized world-wide Chinese literary competition “Youth Literary Awards” (Publishing Secretary, The 43rd Organizing Committee, Youth Literary Awards Association)
Aug 2014	Fieldwork on the Mosuo culture at the Lugu Lake, Yunan, China (Youth Journey to China 2014 – Social Research Program, China Young Leaders Foundation)

Skills

Languages

Cantonese	Native	English	Advanced
Mandarin	Near-native	Japanese	Course work
Vietnamese	Research & fieldwork		

Technical

Linguistics	Audacity, Praat	Statistics	R, SPSS
	AntConc, ELAN, jEdit, Python	Other	LaTeX, Microsoft Word & Excel
	PCIbex		