

Lichao Sun

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EDUCATION

University of Houston (UH), Houston, TX **Aug.2016 - Now**
Ph.D. candidate in the Developmental, Cognitive, & Behavioral Neuroscience program (DCBN), department of Psychology

- Major in Psychology, GPA: 3.81
- Dissertation defense was approved in April 7, 2022

University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), California, CA **Sept.2014 – Jun.2016**
Master of Arts, Graduate School of Education & Information Studies (GSE&IS)

- Major in Human development and Psychology, GPA: 3.9/4.0

University of Colorado Denver (CU Denver), Denver, CO **Aug.2010 – Dec.2013**
Bachelor of Arts, the College of Liberal Arts and Science (CLAS)

- Major in Psychology, GPA: 3.9/4.0
- Major in Communication, GPA: 3.8/4.0

China Agricultural University (CAU), Beijing, China **Sept.2009 – Dec.2013**
Bachelor of Arts, the International College at Beijing (ICB)

- Major in Communication, GPA: 3.7/4.0

HONORS AND AWARDS

- UH Outstanding Dissertation Awards **2022**
- ICIS Graduate Student Travel Awards **2022**
- University of Houston Graduate Student Fellowship **2016 – 2022**
- University of Houston Graduate Travel Award **2017 – 2022**
- Televisa Foundation Education Fund for Graduate Research, UCLA **Fall 2015**
- College Honors of CLAS, CU Denver **Fall 2013**
- Cum Laude Honors in the Department of Communication, CU Denver **Fall 2013**
- Academic Athletes Award, CU Denver **2011-2012**
- Dean's list of CLAS, CU Denver **Fall 2010 –Fall 2012**
- ICB Denver Merit Scholarship, CU Denver **2011-2013**
- Outstanding student list in CAU **2009-2011**
- ICB Beijing Merit Scholarship, CAU **2009-2011**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate student for Dr. Hanako Yoshida **Aug.2016 - Now**

- Led the research project titled “The role of lexical access demand on bilingual cognitive advantage” (DCCS) with children aged from 4 to 6 years; conducted the research analysis investigating the role of task-level language input on cognitive performance in bilingual and monolingual children
- Run a longitudinal research project with infants aged from 0 to 18 months; conducted the research analysis of bilingual infant’s visual attention behaviors and its relations with early word learning
- Used eye-tracking equipment and electroencephalogram (EEG) measures in infants and toddlers

Research Assistant for Dr. Alison L. Bailey

Sept.2014 – Jun.2016

GSE&IS, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), Los Angeles, CA

- Participated in the research project titled “Learning Two Languages” (LTL)
- Assisted in the data entry and organization for the cognitive measures including skills of executive functioning and perspective taking
- Designed and conducted the research analysis investigating the effect of metalinguistic awareness on the trajectories of reading comprehension in monolinguals and bilinguals

Research Assistant for Dr. Sarah E. Watamura

Jan.2014 – Jun.2014

Child Health and Development Lab, University of Denver, Denver, CO

- Participated in the “Buffering Environmental Stress Together” project (BEST)
- Prepared equipment and assisted in data collection during home visit, such as spin saliva samples
- Participated in data entry and analysis of Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL for 1½-5) from parents and teachers

Research Assistant for M.D. Darcy A. Thompson

Nov.2013 – Jul.2014

Department of Pediatrics, Section of Nutrition, University of Colorado School of Medicine Anschutz Medical Campus, Denver, CO

- Participated in the TV study, investigating the relations with TV viewing behaviors, parenting and childhood health issues
- Assisted in the data collection and entry of 7-day TV viewing diaries from 300 participants
- Prepared literature review for the influences of TV viewing behavior on child-parent interactions and children’s health issues

MANUSCRIPTS

Sun, L., & Yoshida, H. (2022). Why the parent's gaze is so powerful in organizing the infant's gaze: The relationship between parental referential cues and infant object looking. *Infancy*, 1–29. <https://doi.org/10.1111/infa.12475>

Sun, L., Griep, C. D., & Yoshida, H. (2021). Shared Multimodal Input Through Social Coordination: Infants with Monolingual and Bilingual Learning Experiences. *Frontiers in Psychology, Developmental Psychology* (13). <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.745904>

Perkovich, E., Sun, L., Mire, S., Laakman, A., Sakhuja, U., & Yoshida, H. (under review). What Children with and without ASD See: Similar Visual Experiences with Different Pathways Through Parental Attentional Strategies. *Autism & Developmental Language Impairments*.

Sun, L., Castilla-Earls, A., Cannon, G., Martinez, G., Hiscock, M., & Yoshida, H. (under review). The Cost of Semantic Modification: Evidence from Bilingual and Monolingual Children in the Dimensional Change Card Sorting Task. *Language and Cognition*.

Sun, L., Gidh, N., & Yoshida, H. (in preparation). Why are Nouns Are Learned Early? Infant’s Multimodal Experiences During Parent-Infant Object Play. *Child Development*.

Hernandez, A. E., Claussenius-Kalman, H. L., Ronderos, J., Castilla-Earls, A. P., Sun, L., Weiss, S. D., & Young, D. R. (2019). Neuroemergentism: A framework for studying cognition and the brain. *Journal of neurolinguistics*, 49, 214-223.

RESEARCH CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

- Perkovich, E., **Sun, L.**, Sakhuja, U., Lagbenro, S., Laakman, A., Rosenbrock, G., Mire, S., & Yoshida, H. (August, 2022) Socially-Coordinated Gaze Behaviors in Children with Autism and their Predictivity on the ADOS-2. Poster presentation on APA 2022 Convention, online.
- Sun, L.** & Yoshida, H. (July, 2022). The impact of learning context in language acquisition and associated learning outcomes in early childhood. Symposium organizer at ICIS, Ottawa.
- Sun, L.**, Gidh, N., & Yoshida, H. (July, 2022). Why nouns are learned earlier than verbs: Does the child see a cup when hearing “cup”? The impact of word-learning context on the infant’s visual experiences. Symposium presentation at ICIS, Ottawa.
- Sun, L.**, Lipschutz, R., Bick, J., Sharp, C., & Yoshida, H. (May, 2022). Infant’s socially coordinated visual experiences in play and the relevance of neural attentiveness. An interactive presentation at the Leading Edge Workshop on Co-registration of EEG and eye-tracking.
- Perkovich, E., Mire, S., **Sun, L.**, Laakman, A., Rosenbrock, G., Sakhuja, U., Lagbenro, S., & Yoshida, H. (May, 2022) Gaze Behaviors in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and the Impact of Parental Gaze Behaviors on Joint Attention. Poster presentation at International Society of Autism Research, online
- Gidh, N., **Sun, L.**, and Yoshida, H. (April, 2022) Why are nouns learned earlier than verbs? An Individual talk at Southwestern Psychological Association, TX
- Perkovich, E., **Sun, L.**, Mire, S., Laakman, A., Rosenbrock, G., Sakhuja, U., Yoshida, H. (August, 2021) Parental Involvement and Visual Experiences for Young Children with ASD during Social Interaction. Poster presentation at APA 2021 Convention, online
- Sun, L.**, & Yoshida, H. (2021) The roles of social references and visual saliency on infant sustained attention. Flash talk presentation at SRCD Biennial Meeting, online.
- Gidh, N., Yoshida, H., **Sun, L.**, & Le, G. (2021) Infants' Visual Experiences During Noun and Verb Learning. Poster presentation at SRCD Biennial Meeting, online.
- Sun, L.**, & Yoshida, H. (October, 2020) The impacts of social references on infant visual experiences. Online oral presentation at Annual Meeting of the Southwest Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience Society (Armadillo).
- Sun, L.**, Sunbok, Lee., & Yoshida, H. (2020) Early Looking in Play, Word Learning, and Language Development. Poster presentation at International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS), online
- Yoshida, H., Lee, S., **Sun, L.**, Patel, A., and Burling, M. (2019) Measuring Early Language knowledge: Top-down and bottom-up attention processes. Abstract accepted for presentation at International Cognitive Linguistics Conference (ICLC-15), Japan.
- Sun, L.**, & Yoshida, H. (March, 2019) Word Learning Through Infant’s Interaction with English Monolingual vs. English-Spanish Bilingual Parents. Poster presentation at SRCD Biennial Meeting, Baltimore.

- Sun, L., & Yoshida, H. (2018)** The effects of language experience on infant's visual attention during early word learning. Paper presentation at the 48th annual meeting of Jean Piaget Society, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Sun, L., Cannon, G., & Yoshida, H. (2017).** The role of lexical access demand on bilingual cognitive advantage. Poster presentation at SRCD Biennial Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Sun, L., & Bailey, A.L. (May, 2016).** Analyzing Bilingual Advantage in Metalinguistic Awareness: the role of executive functioning and vocabulary knowledge on metalinguistic tasks. Poster presentation at the Research and Inquiry Conference, UCLA, *California, CA*
- Sun, L., & Bailey, A.L. (March, 2016).** Analyzing Bilingual Advantage in Metalinguistic Awareness: the role of executive functioning and vocabulary knowledge on metalinguistic tasks. Poster presentation at SoCal Conference, UCLA, *California, CA*
- Sun, L., & Bailey, A.L. (March, 2016).** Analyzing Bilingual Advantage in Metalinguistic Awareness: the role of executive functioning and vocabulary knowledge on metalinguistic tasks. Poster presentation at the Western Psychological Association, *California, CA*

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS) **2018 – present**
- American Psychological Association (APA) **2019 – present**
- International Society on Infant Studies (ISIS) **2019 - 2021**
- Jean Piaget Society **2017 – present**
- Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) **2017 – present**
- Western Psychological Association **2015 – 2016**

WORKING AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Fellowship in the Department of Psychology, UH.** **Aug, 2018 – present**
- Lecture instructor of undergraduate courses, including child development, and the introduction of statistics in behavioral sciences
- Teaching Assistant in the Department of Psychology, UH.** **2016 – 2018**
- Assisted the undergraduate courses including psychology of gender, cultural psychology, intro to I/O psychology, and child development
- Project Assistant, Center of English Testing & Assessment** **Jun.2015 – Sept.2015**
New Oriental Education & Tech. Group., Beijing, China
- Designed the score report of TOEFL vocabulary test
 - Completed the data collection and analysis for the marketing survey of English Language Learners (ELLS) who prepare for SAT and ACT tests
- Student Assistant in the Office of International Affairs** **Jan.2012 – Dec.2013**
University of Colorado Denver, Denver, CO
- Wrote at least 5 news articles each semester as the primary author of ICB Newsletter
 - Interviewed 3-5 ICB students, alumni, and faculty each semester
- Personal English tutor in Pop Child English** **Sept.2009 – Aug.2011**
New Oriental Education & Tech. Group., Beijing, China

- Taught basic English skills to three children (6-8 yrs), 2-3 hours per week for each child
- Helped students learn and improve skills in vocabulary, spelling, and reading comprehension

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Computer: MS Office, E-prime; Mac and PC competent.

Familiar with R programming language and beginner with MATLAB and Python

Statistic skills: master in statistic programs including SPSS, SAS, and Mplus; advanced analytic experience such as generalized linear modeling, structural equational modeling (SEM) etc.

Language: fluent in Mandarin Chinese and English, conversational in Japanese
