Nick Huang

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Academic positions

2021–	Assistant Professor, Department of English, Linguistics, and Theatre Studies, National University of Singapore (NUS).
2019–2021	Senior Tutor, Department of English Language and Literature, NUS.

Education

2014–2019	Ph.D. in Linguistics. University of Maryland, College Park, U.S. Advisors: Dr. Colin Phillips and Dr. Howard Lasnik. Dissertation: *Variation and learnability in constraints on A-bar movement*.
2007–2011	B.A., *magna cum laude*. Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, U.S. Distinction in double majors of linguistics and economics. Advisor: Dr. Raffaella Zanuttini. Linguistics thesis: *Too heavy to move*.

Selected grants and awards

2020-2022	*A Tagged and Annotated Corpus of Singapore English* (Bao Zhiming and Nick Huang; NH: co-PI). DSO National Laboratories, Singapore. S$399,202.
2019–2021	National University of Singapore Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship for postgraduate research at the University of Connecticut. Advisor: Dr. Jon Sprouse; co-advisor: Dr. Lisa Pearl (University of California, Irvine).
2015–2019	National Science Foundation's Research Traineeship Fellow, Language Science Center, University of Maryland, College Park. Link to program website here.
Jun 2018	Howard Lasnik Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Graduate Student. Department of Linguistics, University of Maryland, College Park.

Publications and manuscripts

Articles in refereed journals

Under review	Annemarie van Dooren, Nick Huang, and Gesoel Mendes. "A future for desire verbs: Language change from a synchronic perspective". (AvD, NH, GM: joint first authors.)
Under review	Nick Huang, Diogo Almeida, and Jon Sprouse. "A nearly exhaustive experimental investigation of bridge effects in English".
Accepted	Nick Huang. "Finiteness in a language without finite morphology: an experimental study of Mandarin Chinese". Accepted with revisions for *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*.

To appear	Li Lin, Kunmei Han, Jiawen Hing, Luwen Cao, Vincent Ooi, Nick Huang, and Zhiming Bao. "Tagging Singapore English". *World Englishes*. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/weng.12597 (NH and ZB: corresponding authors)
2022	Nick Huang. "How subjects and possessors can obviate phasehood." *Linguistic Inquiry* 53(3): 427–458. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1162/ling_a_00414
2022	Nick Huang, Aaron Steven White, Chia-Hsuan Liao, Valentine Hacquard, and Jeffrey Lidz. "Syntactic bootstrapping attitude verbs despite impoverished morphosyntax." *Language Acquisition* 29(1): 27-53. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1080/10489223.2021.1934686
2021	Nick Huang and Colin Phillips. "When missing NPs make double center-embedding sentences acceptable." *Glossa* 6(1): 37. 1–28. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5334/gjgl.1292
2018	Nick Huang. "Control complements in Mandarin Chinese: implications for restructuring and the Chinese finiteness debate." *Journal of East Asian Linguistics* 27(4), 347–376. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s10831-018-9185-1
2017	Phoebe Gaston, Nick Huang, and Colin Phillips. "The logic of syntactic priming and acceptability judgments." *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 40, 23–24. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/S0140525X17000371

Articles in conference proceedings

2022	Nick Huang, Yu'an Yang, Valentine Hacquard and Jeffrey Lidz. "Learning subcategorization properties of attitude verbs in wh in-situ languages." *Proceedings of the 46th Boston University Conference on Language Development*, ed. Ying Gong and Felix Kpogo, volume 1, 338-350. Somerville, Mass.: Cascadilla Press. (NH and YY: joint first authors)
2020	Nick Huang, Annemarie van Dooren, and Gesoel Mendes. "'Wanting' the future: the case of future *yao.*" *Proceedings of the 32nd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics*, ed. Kaidi Chen, volume 2, 189-205. Storrs, Conn.: University of Connecticut.
2020	Nick Huang and Gesoel Mendes. "On pronominalization and ellipsis in clausal idioms." *Proceedings of the 49th meeting of the North East Linguistics Society*, ed. Maggie Baird and Jonathan Pesetsky, volume 2, 123–130. Amherst, Mass.: GLSA.
2018	Nick Huang. "The bound possessor effect: a new argument for the phasehood of definite DPs." *Proceedings of the 48th meeting of the North East Linguistics Society*, ed. Sherry Hucklebridge and Max Nelson, volume 2, 39–52. Amherst, Mass.: GLSA.
2018	Nick Huang, Chia-Hsuan Liao, Valentine Hacquard, and Jeffrey Lidz. "Learning attitude verb meanings in a morphosyntactically-poor language." *Proceedings of the 42nd Boston University Conference on Language Development*, ed. Anne B. Bertolini and Maxwell J. Kaplan, 359-373. Somerville, Mass.: Cascadilla Press.
2015	Nick Huang. "Syntactic tense in Chinese: evidence from *jiang.*" *Proceedings of the 27th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics*, ed. Hongyin Tao et al., volume 2, 406–423. Los Angeles: UCLA.

Articles in edited volumes

2021	Colin Phillips, Phoebe Gaston, Nick Huang, and Hanna Muller. "Theories all the way down." *Cambridge Handbook of Experimental Syntax*, ed. Grant Goodall. 587–616. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108569620.023

Presentations

Invited presentations

Mar 2022	"The syntax of Chinese attitude verbs: complications and implications for language acquisition". Institute of Linguistics. National Tsing-Hua University. Taoyuan, Taiwan.
Feb 2022	"Cross-linguistic variation in a grammaticality illusion". Department of English Language and Literature. Dongguk University. Seoul, South Korea.
Sep 2021	"Probing the limits of linguistic experience in our theories of language". Virtual Psycholinguistics Forum. Chinese University of Hong Kong. Hong Kong.
May 2021	"Clarifying the role of linguistic experience in our theories of language". Department of English Language and Literature, National University of Singapore. Singapore.
Mar 2021	"Cross-linguistic variation and its lessons for learnability". Colloquium at the Department of Linguistics & Languages. McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.
Nov 2019	"Toward a better theory of bridge verbs." Yale Linguistics Friday Lunch Talk. Department of Linguistics, Yale University. New Haven, Conn.
Jul 2019	"Drawing rich inferences from sparse input: Two cross-linguistic case studies." Computation and Psycholinguistics Lab, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.
Apr 2019	"Missing XP effects." "Prosody and Sentence Processing" graduate seminar at the CUNY Graduate Center, New York, N.Y.
Apr 2019	"Sparse input, rich inferences: connecting comparative syntax and learnability concerns." Department of English Language and Literature, National University of Singapore. Singapore.
Mar 2019	"Sparse input, rich inferences: connecting comparative syntax and learnability concerns." Integrated Language Science and Technology program, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, Pa.
Feb 2019	Nick Huang. "Variation and learnability in *wh*-movement constraints." Department of Linguistics, University of Delaware, Newark, Del.

Conference talks

May 2022	Nick Huang, Diogo Almeida, and Jon Sprouse. "How good are leading theories of bridge verbs? An experimental evaluation". The 40th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics. Stanford University.
Sep 2020	Nick Huang. "Nominal expressions without nouns in Mandarin." The 32nd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics, University of Connecticut. Storrs, Conn.

Sep 2020	Nick Huang, Annemarie van Dooren, and Gesoel Mendes. "Wanting the future: the case of desire and future *yao*." The 32nd North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics, University of Connecticut. Storrs, Conn.
Mar 2020	Nick Huang. "'Nounless' nominal expressions in Mandarin Chinese: Implications for classifier semantics and nominal syntax." The 38th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, University of British Columbia. Vancouver.
Nov 2019	Annemarie van Dooren, Nick Huang, Gesoel Mendes. "Polysemous *want*: Language change from a synchronic perspective." Formal Diachronic Semantics 4, Ohio State University. Columbus, Ohio.
Nov 2017	Nick Huang, Chia-Hsuan Liao, Valentine Hacquard, and Jeffrey Lidz. "Selection properties of Mandarin attitude verbs and consequences for syntactic bootstrapping." SelectionFest, Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft. Berlin, Germany.
Nov 2017	Nick Huang, Chia-Hsuan Liao, Valentine Hacquard, and Jeffrey Lidz. "Learning attitude verb meanings in a morphosyntactically-poor language via syntactic bootstrapping." The 42nd Boston University Conference on Language Development. Boston, Mass.
Oct 2017	Nick Huang. "The bound possessor effect: a new argument for the phasehood of definite DPs." The North East Linguistics Society 48th annual meeting, University of Iceland. Reykjavík, Iceland.
Apr 2017	Nick Huang. "Restructuring control predicates can appear in biclausal configurations: a reply to Cinque and Grano." ECO5 student conference, University of Connecticut. Storrs, Conn.
Apr 2015	Nick Huang. "Syntactic tense in Chinese: evidence from *jiang*." The 27th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics, University of California, Los Angeles.
Jan 2011	Nick Huang, Zachary Maher, Sabina Matyiku and Raffaella Zanuttini. "Toward an atlas of micro-syntactic variation in varieties of English." The 2011 Linguistics Society of America Annual Meeting. Pittsburgh, Pa. Project website at `https://ygdp.yale.edu/`.
Apr 2010	Nick Huang. "Clausal complements and a 'finite'/'non-finite' distinction in Chinese." Cornell Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium. Ithaca, N.Y.

Conference posters

Mar 2022	Nick Huang and Colin Phillips. "Language statistics vs. interference in processing center-embedding illusions: insights from Mandarin Chinese". 2022 Conference on Human Sentence Processing. University of California, Santa Cruz.
Mar 2022	Nick Huang, Diogo Almeida, and Jon Sprouse. "An experimental evaluation of three leading theories of bridge verbs". 2022 Conference on Human Sentence Processing. University of California, Santa Cruz.
Jan 2022	Yu'an Yang and Nick Huang. "How do learners know attitude verbs select what in wh-in situ languages?". 2022 Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C.
Nov 2021	Nick Huang. "The prediction and processing of Mandarin null objects". The 3rd International Conference on Theoretical East Asian Psycholinguistics. Hsinchu, Taiwan.

Nov 2021	Nick Huang, Yu'an Yang, Valentine Hacquard, and Jeffrey Lidz. "Learning subcategorization properties of attitude verbs in wh in-situ languages". 46th Boston University Conference on Language Development. Boston, Mass.
Apr 2019	Gesoel Mendes and Nick Huang. "Null subjects and ellipsis from an idiom perspective." "Sluicing and Ellipsis at 50" workshop, University of Chicago. Chicago, Ill.
Oct 2018	Nick Huang and Gesoel Mendes. "On pronominalization and ellipsis in clausal idioms." The North East Linguistics Society 49th annual meeting, Cornell University. Ithaca, N.Y.
Oct 2017	Annemarie van Dooren, Nick Huang, Gesoel Mendes, and Valentine Hacquard. "The future of *want*." MACSIM 7, Georgetown University. Washington, D.C.
Apr 2017	Nick Huang and Colin Phillips. "A 'missing NP illusion' in Mandarin Chinese doubly center-embedded sentences." The 30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, Mass.
Oct 2016	Nick Huang, Chia-Hsuan Liao, Valentine Hacquard, and Jeffrey Lidz. "Syntactic bootstrapping with minimal verbal morphology: Learning Mandarin Chinese attitude verb meanings." MACSIM 6, the City University of New York. New York, N.Y.

Teaching

All courses are undergraduate courses, unless otherwise stated.

Courses at the National University of Singapore

Sem. 1, 2022-3	Approaches to Language (EL5104; introductory course for Masters students).
Sem. 1, 2022-3	Psycholinguistics (EL3206).
Sem. 2, 2021-2	Grammar and Language Processing (EL4880F).
Sem. 2, 2021-2	Psycholinguistics (EL3206).
Sem. 1, 2021-2	Tutor for "The Nature of Language" (EL1101E, introductory linguistics; primary instructor: Dr. Leslie Lee).

Courses at the University of Maryland

Spring 2018	Teaching assistant for Syntax II (Ling 312, primary instructor: Dr. Norbert Hornstein).
Fall 2017	Instructor for "Island constraints and their exceptions" (Ling 419K, a syntax/psycholinguistics seminar)
Spring 2017	Teaching assistant for Syntax II (Ling 312, primary instructor: Dr. Norbert Hornstein).
Fall 2016	Teaching assistant for Syntax I (Ling 311, primary instructor: Dr. Tonia Bleam).
Spring 2016	Teaching assistant for Introductory Linguistics (Ling 200, for non-majors, primary instructor: Dr. Tonia Bleam).
Fall 2015	Teaching assistant for Introductory Linguistics (primary instructor: Dr. Margaret J. Antonisse).

Mentoring

Jun–Jul 2018	Phoebe Cao (high school research assistant, Thacher School; now at University of Chicago) for an English corpus annotation project.
Jun–Dec 2017	Scott Kaplowitz (University of Maryland) for an English corpus annotation project and an experiment design project.
Jun–Sep 2017	Yuhan (Claire) Zhang (Tsinghua University, now pursuing a Ph.D. in linguistics at Harvard University) for a Mandarin Chinese corpus annotation project.

Service and professional experience

Conference and event organising

(All conferences and events listed below were at the University of Maryland.)

2015–2017	Planning committee, Language Science Day.
2015–2016	Organising committee, Mayfest 2016 / PHLINC 3 *Context*.
2015	Co-chair, Language Science Day 2015 student organising committee.
2014–2015	Organising committee, Mayfest 2015 *Morphest*.

Committee service

(All activities listed below are/were at the University of Maryland.)

2017–2019	Member, Professional Development and Communications student committee, UMD Language Science Center. Worked with students, faculty, and other university staff to organise workshops on academic publishing, online presence, career planning, conflict resolution.
Spring 2017	Student member, Department of Linguistics Chair Review Committee, College of Arts and Humanities.
2016–2017	Co-chair (with Rachel Adler), Professional Development and Communications student committee, UMD Language Science Center.
2015	Working group co-leader (with Nur Basak Karatas), "Syntactic processing by adult L1 and L2 speakers," Winter Storm 2015 (a two-week professional and research workshop), UMD Language Science Center.

Reviewing

| Journals | *Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Chinese Language and Discourse, Frontiers in Psychology, Glossa, Glossa Psycholinguistics, Journal of East Asian Linguistics, Languages, Language Acquisition, Linguistic Inquiry, Linguistic Vanguard, Natural Language and Linguistic Theory, Natural Language Semantics, Poznan Studies in Contemporary Linguistics, Snippets, Syntax, The Linguistic Review* |
| Conferences | The North East Linguistics Society, Society for Computation in Linguistics, North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics, International Association of Chinese Linguistics, International Conference on Theoretical East Asian Psycholinguistics. |

Other grants and awards

Jul 2022	*Exploring structural and non-structural approaches to wh-dependencies* (Zheng Shen and Nick Huang; NH: co-PI). National University of Singapore. S$19,880.
Mar 2022	*The grammar and acquisition of attitude verbs*. National University of Singapore. S$163,400.
Sep 2021	National University of Singapore faculty start-up grant.
Aug 2020	National University of Singapore Development Grant. S$4,256
Oct 2017	College of Arts and Humanities Travel Grant. University of Maryland, College Park.
Oct 2017	International Conference Student Support Award. University of Maryland, College Park.
Feb 2015	Jacob K. Goldhaber travel grant. University of Maryland, College Park.

Skills

Languages	Native competence: English (including colloquial Singapore English), Mandarin Chinese Heritage speaker: Chaozhou (Teochew, Southern Min) Some speaking and reading knowledge: Indonesian / Malay
Experimental/ quantitative	Formal behavioral experiments (e.g. acceptability judgments and self-paced reading), corpus analysis.
Software	Python, R, LaTeX, Microsoft Office, CLAN, Ibex, Qualtrics.

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