

DINGYI (PENNY) PAN

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<https://pennydy.github.io/>

EDUCATION

UC San Diego, La Jolla, CA

September 2023 - Present

Ph.D. Student in Linguistics

Advisor: Andrew Kehler

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

September 2021 - June 2023

M.S. in Symbolic Systems

Thesis: “*Projection inferences with clause-embedding predicates in RSA models*”

Advisor: Judith Degen

Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY

August 2017 - May 2020

B.A. in Cognitive Science, Correlate in Computer Science, *Cum Laude*

Thesis: “*Are there roses in the maze?: Auditory word recognition in Mandarin-English bilinguals*”

Advisor: Janet Andrews

LSA Summer Institute, Amherst, MA

2023

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

September 2016 - June 2017, Summer 2018

Department of Linguistics

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Psycholinguistics, Pragmatics, Cognitive Science

PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS

*: Equal contribution

Lu, J.*, **Pan, D.***, & Degen, J. (2025). Discourse Effects on the Manner-of-Speaking Island. *Language* 101(4), 627-659.

Pan, D., & Kehler, A. (2025). Do Large Language Models Recognize and Utilize Non-Mandated Pragmatic Enrichments? In *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Pan, D. & Kehler, A. (2025). Pragmatic Competence in LLMs: The Case of Eliciture. *Society for Computation in Linguistics*. 8(1): 43.

Pan, D., & Bergen, B. (2025). Are explicit belief representations necessary? A comparison between Large Language Models and Bayesian probabilistic models. In *Proceedings of the 2025 Annual Conference of the Nations of the Americas Chapter of the ACL*.

Pan, D., & Degen, J. (2023). Towards a computational account of projection inferences in clause-embedding predicates. In *Proceedings of the 45th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Pan, D., & Warstadt, A. (2025). When to drop “that”: Revisiting the UID hypothesis on complementizer-dropping in English. Talk presented at California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 8). Davis, CA.

Pan, D. & Kehler, A. (2025). Do Large Language Models Recognize and Utilize Non-Mandated Pragmatic Enrichments? Poster to be presented at the 47th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society. San Francisco, CA.

Pan, D. & Kehler, A. (2025). Pragmatic Competence in LLMs: The Case of Eliciture. Poster to be

presented at the 8th Meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL). Eugene, OR.

Pan, D. & Kehler, A. (2024). Can LLMs draw conversational elicitors and put them to use? Talk presented at the 7th California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 7). La Jolla, CA.

Pan, D. & Degen, J. (2024). A computational model for projection inferences in clause-embedding predicates. Poster presented at the 6th California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 6). Stanford, CA.

Lu, J., **Pan, D.**, and Degen J. (2024). Evidence for a discourse account of Manner-of-Speaking islands. Talk presented at LSA. New York, NY.

Pan, D., & Degen, J. (2023). Towards a computational account of projection inferences in clause-embedding predicates. Talk presented at the 45th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society. Sydney, Australia.

Pan, D., Lu, J., & Degen, J. (2023). Discourse Foregrounding Ameliorates Manner-of-Speaking Islands. Poster presented at HSP 2023. Pittsburgh, PA.

Pan, D., Lu, J., & Degen, J. (2023). Can Manner-of-Speaking Islands be Rescued Through Discourse Foregrounding? Short talk presented at the 5th California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 5). Los Angeles, CA.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

interActive Language Processing Lab (ALPS) , Stanford University	<i>2022 - 2023</i>
Member, PI: Judith Degen (Linguistics)	
Cognitive Science Department , Vassar College	<i>2019 - 2020</i>
Project member, Faculty mentor: Josh de Leeuw (Cognitive Science)	
Undergraduate Research Summer Institute (URSI) , Vassar College	<i>Summer 2019</i>
Member, Faculty mentor: Jonathon Gordon (Computer Science)	
Language Development and Processing Lab , University of Washington	<i>Summer 2018</i>
Summer Volunteer, PI: Akira Omaki (Linguistics)	
IMB Undergraduate Summer Workshop , University of Pennsylvania	<i>Summer 2018</i>
Attendee	
German Department , Vassar College	<i>2017 - 2018</i>
Research Assistant, Advisor: Lioba A. Gerhardi (German)	

AWARDS AND HONORS

SCiL 2025 Travel Award (\$500)	<i>2025</i>
HSP 2023 Travel Award (\$400), University of Pittsburg	<i>2023</i>
Eloise Ellery Fellowship (\$3000), Vassar College	<i>2020</i>
<i>Phi Beta Kappa</i> , <i>Sigma Xi</i> , Vassar College	<i>2020</i>
<i>Psi Chi</i> , Vassar College	<i>2019</i>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UC San Diego	
LIGN 17: Making and Breaking Codes	
Instructor: Christopher Vogel	<i>Fall 2025 - Present</i>
Instructor: Andrew Kehler	<i>Winter-Fall 2024, Winter & Summer 2025</i>
LIGN 117: The Language Code	<i>Spring 2025</i>
Instructor: Andrew Kehler	
LIGN 170: Psycholinguistics	<i>Summer 2024</i>
Instructor: Ebru Evcen	
Stanford University	
SYMSYS 1: Minds and Machines	<i>Summer 2022, Winter 2023</i>
Instructors: David Gottlieb (Summer 2022), Noah Goodman (Winter 2023)	
Vassar College	

CMPU 101: Computer Science I: Problem-Solving and Abstraction
Instructor: Luke Hunsberger
CHIN 305/306: Advance Chinese Chinese (as drill instructor)
Instructor: Linfeng Li

Winter 2019

2017 - 2018

WORK EXPERIENCE

Cognitive Computing Lab, Baidu Research, Beijing

January - July 2021

Linguistics Specialist Intern

Speech and Audio Team, ByteDance AI Lab, Beijing

May - December 2020

Linguistics Specialist Intern

SERVICE

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewer

First Language, Open Mind

Conference Reviewer

Cogsci

2025, 2026

California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP)

2022, 2023, 2025

Conference and Event Organizing Committees

Emerging Scholar Event, Center for Research in Language (CRL), UCSD

2025

The 7th California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 7), UCSD

2024

Departmental Service

Colloquium Committee, Department of Linguistics, UCSD

2023 - Present

Admission Committee, Symbolic System Program, Stanford University

2023

SKILLS

Languages

Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent),
German (intermediate), Tigre (research knowledge)

Programming Languages

Python, R, Java, Scheme, Racket, Linux, C++, Javascript, HTML,
CSS, WebPPL