YING LI

Associate Professor

Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

E-mail: liying@psych.ac.cn

RESEARCH INTEREST

The words we use in our daily life reflect who we are, what we feel, and the social relationships we are in. This makes language a fertile ground for studying psychology. I am interested in how the language we produced reveals or shapes our mind. My research uses open-ended surveys, sizable linguistic corpora, network analysis, and language models, with applications to the following topics:

Theme 1: Risk perception

- How has the perception of *risk* changed over the past two centuries?
- What events do people consider risky, and how do these events relate to each other?
- To develop a culturally universal risk preference scale.

Theme 2: Emotion and wellbeing

- Developed a new affect scale using free recall paradigm (the Emotional Recall Task)
- How do meanings of emotion words vary across social and cultural groups?
- How do children acquire emotion concepts?
- How do meanings of emotion words change over history?
- Can forward-looking attitude predict national wellbeing and economic prosperity?

Theme 3: Corpus linguistics

- Why are some words more likely to acquire new meanings than others over history?
- The role of psycholinguistic factors in information transmission.
- Perception of conceptual metaphors.

EDUCATION & EXPEREINCE

Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	2022 – Present
Associate Professor	
Max Planck Institute for Human Development	2019 – 2022
Postdoc Researcher	
The University of Warwick	2016 – 2019
PhD in Psychology	
The University of Warwick	2014 – 2015
Msc in Behavioral and Economic Science	
Singapore Management University	2009 – 2013
BA in Accountancy	

FUNDINGS & AWARDS

The BR Research Fund (RMB 750,000)	2022-2025

CAGE Research Fund (GBP 2,000)	2020 – 2021
Leverhulme Doctoral Scholarship	2016 – 2019
MOE (Ministry of Education Singapore) Scholarship	2009 – 2013

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Li, Y**[*]., Engelthaler, T., Siew, C. S., & Hills, T. T. (2019). The Macroscope: A tool for examining the historical structure of language. *Behavior Research Methods*, *51*, 1864–1877. [5-Y IF: 7.023]

2. **Li, Y**[*]., Hills, T.T, & Hertwig, R. (2020). A brief history of risk. *Cognition*, *203*,104344. [5-Y IF: 4.327]

3. **Li, Y**[*]., Masitah, A., & Hills, T. T. (2020). The Emotional Recall Task: Juxtaposing recall and recognition-based affect scales. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition, 46*, 1782–1794. [5-Y IF: 3.435]

4. **Li, Y**[*]., & Hills, T. (2021). Language patterns of outgroup prejudice. *Cognition*, *215*, 104813. [5-Y IF: 4.327]

5. *Li, Y., Luan, S*[*]*., Li, Y., & Hertwig, R. (2021). Changing emotions in the COVID-19 pandemic: A four-wave longitudinal study in the United States and *China. Social Science & Medicine, 285,* 114222. *[5-Y IF: 5.299]*

6. **Li, Y**., Luan, S*., Li, Y., Wu, J., Li, W., & Hertwig, R. (2022). Does risk perception motivate preventive behavior during a pandemic? A longitudinal study in the United States and China. American Psychologist, 77(1), 111. [5-Y IF: 11.740]

7. **Li, Y**[*]., & Siew[*], C. S. (2022). Diachronic semantic change in language is constrained by how people use and learn language. Memory & cognition, 1-15. [5-Y IF: 2.82]

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Social science research method; Academic writing; Workshops on computational approaches to language studies

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Macroscope (http://www.macroscope.tech): The Macroscope is a powerful tool built to provide comprehensive analyses of historical meaning of English words.