

Hening Wang

Ph.D. candidate in General Linguistics
University of Tübingen

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ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **University of Tübingen** Tübingen, Germany
Research Assistant — PI: Prof. Dr. Michael Franke Apr. 2024 – Present
 - **Affiliation:** Linguistic Meaning and Bayesian Modeling (LMBayes) project at the Leibniz-Centre General Linguistics (ZAS), part of the Leibniz Association
 - **Topic:** Understanding pragmatic reasoning in causal communication
 - **Methods:** Behavioral experiments, Bayesian modeling, computational pragmatics, and large language models
- **University of Tübingen** Tübingen, Germany
Research Assistant — PI: Dr. Fabian Schlotterbeck Jul. 2022 – Dec. 2023
 - **Experimental Research:** Designed, implemented, and conducted self-paced reading, picture-sentence verification, forced-choice, free-production, and slider-rating experiments
 - **Data Analysis:** Data preprocessing, visualization, and frequentist and Bayesian inference
 - **Teaching Assistance:** Introduction to Linguistics (B.A. level) and Experimental Methods (M.A. level)
 - **Organization:** Supported ethics and grant applications, experiment preregistrations, and workshop organization
- **University of Tübingen** Tübingen, Germany
Student Research Assistant — PI: Dr. Fabian Schlotterbeck Apr. 2020 – Dec. 2021

EDUCATION

- **University of Tübingen** Tübingen, Germany
Ph.D. candidate in General Linguistics Apr. 2024 – Present
- **University of Tübingen** Tübingen, Germany
M.A. in German Linguistics with a focus on Psycholinguistics, GPA: 1.8/1.0 Oct. 2019 – Jun. 2022

Thesis: Subjektivität vs. Diskriminatorische Stärke: Eine experimentelle Studie zu Adjektivenreihenfolgenpräferenzen (*Subjectivity vs. Discriminatory Strength: An Experimental Study of Adjective Ordering Preferences*)
Supervisors: Dr. Fabian Schlotterbeck & Prof. Dr. Britta Stöterfoht
- **Nanjing University** Nanjing, China
B.A. in German Studies with a focus on Linguistics, GPA: 4.63/5 Sep. 2016 – Jun. 2019

Thesis: Eine kontrastive Studie zu kausalen komplexen Sätzen im Chinesischen und Deutschen (*A Contrastive Study of Causal Complex Sentences in German and Chinese*)
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Lingling Chang

WORKSHOPS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

- **The 1st European Summer School on Artificial Intelligence** Ljubljana, Slovenia
Introductory courses to probabilistic machine learning July 2023
- **ESSLLI Summer Schools (34th and 32nd)** Ljubljana, Slovenia / online
Language and computation; language and logic Aug. 2023 / Aug. 2021
- **Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology Summer School** Online
Introduction to Bayesian data analysis Sep. 2021

MANUSCRIPT UNDER REVIEW

Fausto Carcassi*, **Hening Wang***, Chris Cummins, & Michael Franke (2026). What guides utterance production and interpretation in argumentative language use? Submitted to *Cognition*. *Equal contribution.

PUBLICATIONS

- Hening Wang**, Daniel Lassiter, & Michael Franke (2026). When correlation means causation: Pragmatic factors modulate causal implicatures in decision-making contexts. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 48, 2929–2935. [Paper]
- Fausto Carcassi, **Hening Wang**, Chris Cummins, & Michael Franke (2026). What guides utterance choice in argumentative language use? *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 48, 389–395. [Paper]
- Polina Tsvilodub*, **Hening Wang***, Sharon Grosch, & Michael Franke (2024). Predictions from language models for multiple-choice tasks are not robust under variation of scoring methods. arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.00998. *Equal contribution.
- Hening Wang**, Leixin Zhang, & Ondřej Bojar (2024). Human and Machine: Language Processing in Translation Tasks. In *Proceedings of the 7th International Conference on Natural Language and Speech Processing (ICNLSP 2024)* (pp. 243-250).
- Qi Yu, Fabian Schlotterbeck, **Hening Wang**, Naomi Reichmann, Britta Stolterfoht, Regine Eckardt, & Miriam Butt (2024). Ad Hoc Compounds for Stance Detection. In *Proceedings of the Joint Workshop on Multiword Expressions and Universal Dependencies (MWE-UD)@ LREC-COLING 2024* (pp. 231-242).
- Fabian Schlotterbeck, & **Hening Wang** (2023). An Incremental RSA Model for Adjective Ordering Preferences in Referential Visual Context. *Proceedings of the Society for Computation in Linguistics*, 6(1), 121-132.
- Nadine Balbach, Fabian Schlotterbeck, **Hening Wang** & Oliver Bott (2022). Disentangling semantic empty-set effects in quantifier comprehension from simple associations: processing evidence from exceptive-additives. *Proceedings of the Amsterdam Colloquium 2022*.

PEER-REVIEWED POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Yuhan Guo, & **Hening Wang** (2027). Beyond Common Ground: Knowledge-Type Preferences of German *ja*. Talk accepted at DGfS 2027, AG 2: “Zooming in on Modal Particles”.
- Hening Wang**, Yuhan Guo, & Michael Franke (2026). From controversy to consensus: Modelling community-sensitive common ground management in German discourse markers. Talk accepted at Linguistic Evidence 2026, Mannheim. [Abstract]
- Fausto Carcassi, **Hening Wang**, Chris Cummins, & Michael Franke (2026). What guides utterance choice in argumentative language use? Oral presentation at CogSci 2026, Rio de Janeiro.
- Hening Wang**, Daniel Lassiter, & Michael Franke (2026). When correlation means causation: Pragmatic factors modulate causal implicatures in decision-making contexts. Poster presented at CogSci 2026, Rio de Janeiro.
- Hening Wang**, Fabian Schlotterbeck & Michael Franke (2025). Incremental RSA Model Explains Adjective Ordering Preferences by Communicative Efficiency Across Contexts. Poster presented at the Computational Psycholinguistics Meeting 2025, Utrecht University.
- Hening Wang**, Fabian Schlotterbeck & Michael Franke (2025). Bayesian Inference with Rational Speech Act models in Numpyro. Methodology Lightning Talk given at the 8th meeting of Society for Computation in Linguistics (SciL) 2025, University of Oregon.
- Hening Wang***, Jia Ren * & Michael Franke (2025). Interpreting Plural Predication in Visual Contexts: Cover-Based Resolution of NP Structures. Poster presented at the 11th Biennial Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPRAG 2025), University of Cambridge, and also at AMLaP 31 - The Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing, Charles University.

- Hening Wang**, & Fabian Schlotterbeck (2024). Vagueness and Competition in Spatial Language: Rating and Self-Paced Reading Data. Poster presented at AMLaP 30 - The Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing, University of Edinburgh.
- Hening Wang**, & Fabian Schlotterbeck (2024). Exploring Communicative Efficiency in Adjective Ordering Preferences in Visual Referential Contexts: An Experimental and Computational Approach. Poster presented at the CORE Project Workshop: Unpacking Efficient Communication: The Roles of Cognitive Bias and Extralinguistic Context in Referring Expression Choice, University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona.
- Hening Wang**, & Fabian Schlotterbeck (2023). A Quantitative Exploration of Adjective Ordering Preferences with an Incremental Rational Speech Acts Model. Talk held at Workshop session of the 34th European Summer School in Language, Logic and Information (ESSLLI) 2023: Procedural and computational models of semantic and pragmatic processes.
- Hening Wang**, & Fabian Schlotterbeck (2022). Even with subjective adjective precedence, precedence precedes dominance. Poster presented at AMLaP 28 — The Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing, University of York.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Magenau-Wacker Scholarship. 2020–2022
- China Scholarship Council (CSC) — Scholarship for excellent undergraduate students — Fully funded one-year exchange to the University of Tübingen. 2018–2019
- National Scholarship of China. 2017
- Second Prize Winner in the 10th National German Studies Debate Contest, China. 2017

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Foreign Language Institute of Nanjing University** Nanjing, China
German Language Instructor *Nov. 2016 – Jul. 2018*
 - **Courses from A1 - C1 levels:** Emphasized oral communication and debate techniques, enhancing fluency, argumentation, and public speaking skills.

SKILLS SUMMARY

- **Natural Languages:** Mandarin Chinese native; **German C2; English C1**
- **Programming Languages:** R, Python, PyTorch, WebPPL, Pyro, PHP, JavaScript
- **Tools:** Git, LaTeX, Microsoft Office