

AMBER X. CHEN

amber.chen@psych.ucsb.edu \diamond <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3359-9075> \diamond github.com/amberxuqianchen

EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Barbara

PhD candidate in Social Psychology

Advisor: Prof. Hongbo Yu

Sept 2022 – July 2027 (expected)

Santa Barbara, CA, U.S.A

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

M.A. in Psychology

Thesis: *See What You Want to Avoid: Motivation Impacts Emotion Recognition through Attentional Selection*

Advisor: Prof. Helene H. Fung

November 2017

Hong Kong SAR, China

Sun Yat-sen University

B.B.L. in Sociology

Thesis: *An Empirical Analysis of Chinese Social Class Schema Based on CLDS 2016*

Advisor: Prof. Yucheng Liang

June 2016

Guangdong Province, China

University of California, Berkeley

Exchange Student

August – December 2014

Berkeley, CA, U.S.A

PUBLICATIONS

Chen, A. X., Cao, R., Lin, C., Wang, S., & Yu, H. (in prep). A dual-route model of face processing: Dissociating the perceptual and conceptual contributions.

Cao, J.*, **Chen, A. X.***, Mai, C.*, & Fung, H. H. (submitted). Age Bias in People's Daily Across 72 Years. doi: [10.31234/osf.io/2bf56](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/2bf56)

Chen, A. X., Sun, S., & Yu, H. (2024). Moral attitudes towards effort and efficiency: A comparison between American and Chinese history. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 11(1), 1–14. doi: [10.1057/s41599-024-03603-3](https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-024-03603-3)

Mai, C., Chen, D., Olivos, F., & **Chen, A. X.** (2023). Disentangling Stereotypes towards Older Age Groups: Evidence from Factorial Survey Experiments in China and the USA. *Gerontology*, 1–24. doi:

Chen, Y., **Chen, A. X.**, Yu, H., & Sun, S. (2023) Unraveling moral and emotional discourses on social media: a study of three cases, *Information, Communication Society*. doi: [10.1080/1369118X.2023.2246551](https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2023.2246551)

Galkin, F., Kochetov, K., Koldasbayeva, D., Fung, H. H., **Chen, A. X.**, & Zhavoronkov, A. (2022). Psychological factors substantially contribute to biological aging: Evidence from the aging rate in Chinese older adults. *Psychology and Aging*. doi: [10.1037/pag0000696](https://doi.org/10.1037/pag0000696)

Chen, A. X.*, Tsang, V. H. L.*, Wong, J. T. K.*, Fung, H. H., & Ayalon, L. (2020). Three Ways that Ageing Affects Women Differently from Men: Menopause, Changes in Physical Appearance and Caregiving. In *Cambridge Handbook of the International Psychology of Women*. Fanny M. Cheung & Diane F. Halpern. (Eds.), (pp. 124-136). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: [10.1017/9781108561716.012](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108561716.012)

Fung, H. H., Chu, S. T. W., Jiang, D., **Chen, A. X.**, & Ng, C. C. (2019). Contrasting the Effects of Mortality Salience and Future Time Limitation on Goal Prioritization in Older and Younger Adults. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*. doi: [10.1093/geronb/gbz133](https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbz133)

*Co-first authors contributed equally to this work.

INVITED TALK

Invited Participant, *A Neurocomputational Framework for Mapping Social Relationships: Insights from EEG*. Bridging the Inter-Disciplinary Gap in the Mathematical Modeling of Social Phenomena Workshop. Banff International Research Station (BIRS), Alberta, Canada. November 2-7 2025

CONFERENCES

Chen, A. X. & Yu, H. (2025, April 23 - 27). *A dual-route model of social trait perception from face: Dissociating the perceptual and conceptual contributions behaviorally and neurally*. Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Conference [Oral Presentation]. Chicago, IL, USA.

Chen, A. X., Cao, R., Wang, S., & Yu, H. (2024, February 7-10). *Contextualized Social Information Predicts Neuronal Representation of Social Traits Perceived from Faces*. Computational Psychology Preconference, Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) 2024 Annual Convention [Oral Presentation]. San Diego, CA, USA.

Chen, A. X., Sun, S., & Yu, H. (2023, February 22-25). *Moralization of unproductive effort: Cross-cultural and historical analysis based on Natural Language Processing*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) 2023 Annual Convention [Poster Presentation]. Atlanta, GA, USA.

Chen, A. X., Lu, M., & Fung, H. H. (2022, March 30 - April 2). *Cultural differences in the prevalence and spread of emotional complexity on social media*. The Society for Affective Science (SAS) 2022 Annual Conference [Oral Presentation]. Online.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Motivation and Emotion Laboratory, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Lab Manager

Sept 2017 – July 2022

- Managed research projects on cultural differences and emotions using psychophysiological techniques, experience sampling, and surveys; Supervised undergraduate research assistants;

Center for Social Survey, Sun Yat-sen University

Research Assistant

May 2014 – August 2016

- Managed data collection for the Chinese Education Panel Survey (CEPS; 2014-2016).

RESEARCH GRANTS

General Research Fund

August 2023 – April 2026

Research Grants Council of Hong Kong

Project: Age Differences in Information Spreading: A Social Network Perspective

Role: Co-Investigator, Leading Facebook Study; Amount: HKD 1,042,719

Social Science Research Impact Fund

June 2021 – Feb 2023

Faculty Office of Social Science, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Project: Increasing preparation of ageing and decreasing negative age stereotypes by increasing self-relevance

Role: Co-Investigator, Leading Weibo Study; Amount: HKD 500,000

Interdisciplinary Research Seed Funding

August 2021 – April 2022

Faculty Office of Social Science, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Project: Age stereotypes across time and the roles of self-relevance: A computational social science approach

Role: Co-Investigator; Amount: HKD 15,000

Research Grant

January 2021 – April 2021

Hong Kong Sociological Association

Project: Ageism Under the Covid-19 Pandemic and Its Cross-cultural Variations

Role: Co-Investigator; Amount: HKD 5,000

Interdisciplinary Research Seed Funding

October 2020 – April 2021

Faculty Office of Social Science, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Project: Ageism Under the Covid-19 Pandemic and Its Cross-cultural Variations: A Computational Social Science Approach

Role: Co-Investigator, Leading Twitter Study; Amount: HKD 15,000

Tencent Anthropology Fieldwork Grant

June 2014 - December 2015

Tencent Research Institute, Tencent Holdings Ltd, China

Project: How Adolescents Adopt Different Perceptions of the Same Social Network: The Role of Network Position

Role: Principal Investigator; Amount: CNY 3,000

AWARDS AND HONORS

African and Asian Students in STEM Scholarship, UCSB 2025

Highlighted Poster Award, The 2019 Technology, Mind & Society, Washington, D.C., USA. 2019

Academic Excellence Scholarship (top 5%), School of Sociology and Anthropology, SYSU 2014 - 2015

Active Member Award, SYSU 2014 - 2015

Third Place Award at Survey Contest of Political Affairs, Guangdong Province 2014

Project: “How Time Costs and Inference Accuracy Contribute to Limited Social Networks on Weibo”

Second Place Award at Social Investigation Contest of Social Issues, SYSU 2014

Project: “Useful but Expensive: The Maintenance of Heterogeneity in Social Networks among 65 Adults”

Outstanding Individual Scholarship, SYSU 2013 – 2014

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

NeuroAI(Funded by Individualized Professional Skills Grant, UCSB) Jul 14 - 28 2025

Modules: task structure, microcircuitry, neural architecture, learning rules.

Neuromatch Academy

Konstanz School of Collective Behavior(Fully funded)

Jul 22 - Aug 9, 2024

Focuses: Modeling collective behaviors of animals and humans.

University of Konstanz, Germany

NeuroDataReHack (Accommodation funded)

Jul 8-12, 2024

Focuses: Collaborative neuroinformatics projects and data science. Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Virginia, USA

Certified Carpentries Instructor Training

Mar 2025

Courses: Carpentries Pedagogical Model, Build a Workshop Website, Participatory Live Coding

[The Carpentries](#)

Big Data Analytics

Jan - Mar 2024

Courses: Big Data Fundamentals/Feature Engineering/Machine Learning with PySpark

DataCamp

Computational Neuroscience

Jul 2022

Modules: Dynamical Systems, Stochastic Processes, Group Project on fMRI and CNN

Neuromatch Academy

Research Ethics Training

Aug 2020

Domains: Human Subject Ethics, Survey and Behavioral Ethics, Publication Ethics

CUHK

Summer Institute in Computational Social Science

Jul - Aug 2016

Modules: Information Diffusion in Online Social Networks, Agent-based Social Simulation, etc.

SYSU

Summer Institute in Advanced Quantitative Methods (Travel and accommodation funded)

Jul 2014

Modules: Multilevel Modeling, Counterfactual Model of Causality, etc.

Xi'an Jiaotong University, China

SKILLS

- Proficient in Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, and Social Network Analysis

- Experienced in using PsychoPy, E-Prime, Eye-tracking techniques, and physiological measurements
- Language and Software: Python, R, Matlab, Stata, and SPSS; FSL and Workbench

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Statistics Fellow, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, UCSB *2023/24*

Coordinator of Journal Club *ReproducibiliTea* *2023-2024*

Mentor for graduate applications

Yichen Wang, Cornell *2023/24*

Jing Chen, Virginia Tech

Yinbo Zheng, University of Georgia

Kun Wang, Baylor University

Weifang Huang, Boston College

Leyi Zhuang, CUHK

Junsong Lu, UCSD *2022/23*

Lyu Meng, Boston College

Yilin Kou, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University