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of East Asian
Psycholinguistics

EDITED BY Ping Li, Li Hai Tan, Elizabeth Bates
and Ovid J. L. Tzeng

GENERAL EDITOR Ping Li

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The Handbook of East Asian Psycholinguistics

Volume 1: Chinese

Edited by

Ping Li

University of Richmond

Li Hai Tan

University of Hong Kong

Elizabeth Bates

University of California, San Diego

Ovid J. L. Tzeng

Academia Sinica, Taiwan

General Editor:

Ping Li



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Notes on contributors

TERRY KIT-FONG AU is Chair Professor of Psychology at the University of Hong Kong. Her main research interests include both language and cognition. She specializes in the relationship between language and cognition, language and conceptual development, and heritage language acquisition.

MICHAEL CHEE is Clinician Scientist at SingHealth and an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Science, National University of Singapore. His main research interest is evaluating the functional anatomy of memory and language using functional magnetic resonance imaging. Presently he is focusing on cognitive changes in aging and sleep deprivation.

JENN-YEU CHEN is Professor of Psychology at the National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan. His main research interests include a crosslinguistic investigation of speech production in Chinese as compared with Indo-European languages, an investigation of the potential effect of word spacing in reading Chinese texts, and the language–cognition interaction. He specializes in experimental/cognitive psychology, psycholinguistics, and human factors psychology.

MAY JANE CHEN is a Senior Lecturer of Psychology at the Australian National University. Her main research interests include cognition, language processing, and development of language. She specializes in Chinese psycholinguistics.

SAU-CHIN CHEN obtained a PhD degree from the National Chung-Cheng University in 2004. His main research interest is language processing.

SIK LEE CHEUNG is Professor of Cantonese at Stanford University. Her main research interests include psycholinguistics and foreign language learning. She specializes in the acquisition of Cantonese as a first or foreign language.

YUCHIN CHIEN is Professor and Associate Chair of Psychology at California State University, San Bernardino. Her main research interest is children's first

language acquisition from a crosslinguistic perspective. She specializes in experimental research on children's acquisition of binding principles and experimental research on the relationship between children's acquisition of language concepts, such as classifiers, and their conceptualization of the cognitive count-mass distinction.

EVE V. CLARK is Professor of Linguistics and Symbolic Systems at Stanford University. Her main research interests include psycholinguistics, lexical structure, word formation, and pragmatics. She specializes in first language acquisition, with emphasis on word meanings and pragmatics.

GARY S. DELL is Professor of Psychology at the Beckman Institute, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His primary research interests include psycholinguistics and connectionist models of psychological processes. He specializes in the study of language production and speech errors, with a focus on aphasic error patterns.

MARY S. ERBAUGH is Courtesy Research Associate at the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, University of Oregon. She specializes in Chinese psycholinguistics and sociolinguistics.

LAURIE BETH FELDMAN is Professor of Psychology at the State University of New York at Albany and Research Associate at Haskins Labs. Her main research interests include the phonological and morphological structure of words and its role in skilled and less skilled reading. She investigates word recognition in Serbian, Polish, and Hebrew as well as English and Chinese.

GARY FENG is Assistant Professor of Psychology at Duke University. His main research interests include the psychology of reading and reading development. He specializes in reading eye movement research and crosslinguistic comparisons.

PAUL FLETCHER is Professor of Speech and Hearing Sciences at University College Cork. His main research interests include normal and non-normal language development in children. He specializes in crosslinguistic investigations of grammatical impairment and early lexical development. His recent publications concern grammatical impairment, the relationship between early lexical and phonological development, and reading development.

JACKSON T. GANDOUR is a Professor of Linguistics in the Department of Audiology and Speech Sciences at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA. His main research interests focus on the breakdown of various aspects of speech prosody in brain-damaged patients and on the functional neuroanatomy underlying the perception of speech prosody in neurologically

intact adults. He specializes in the neurophonetics of tone languages spoken in Southeast (Thai) and East Asia (Chinese).

PETER C. GORDON is Professor of Psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research interests in language are very broad, currently focusing on the nature of the memory processes involved in understanding complex sentences, the identification of universal and language-specific processes in language comprehension, and the use of ERPs and fMRI to understand the relation between the brain mechanisms used for processing words in isolation and in meaningful context.

RANDALL HENDRICK is Professor of Linguistics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research interests focus on extending linguistic theories of syntax and semantics so that they can model broad domains of facts in Celtic and Polynesian languages. He has also examined experimental psycholinguistic results from the perspective of current theorizing about the language faculty in an attempt to fit groups of theories and data together in a way that maximizes their simplicity and explanatory value.

DOUGLAS N. HONOROF is Senior Research Scientist at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, Connecticut, USA. His main research interests include speech production, speech perception, and dialectology. Although he has worked on a number of languages, he specializes in Chinese and English.

CHIUNG-CHIH HUANG is Assistant Professor of Linguistics at the National Chengchi University. Her main research interests include language acquisition and discourse analysis.

GISELA JIA is Assistant Professor of Psychology at Lehman College, City University of New York. Her main research interests include bilingualism and second language acquisition. She specializes in age-related changes in the abilities to acquire a second language, and the language and academic adjustment of immigrant children in the US.

ALLARD JONGMAN is Associate Professor of Linguistics at the University of Kansas. His research specializes in using detailed acoustic and perceptual analyses of the speech signal to understand the complex interaction between phonetic, phonological, and lexical information across a wide variety of languages.

CHE KAN LEONG is currently Professor Emeritus in the Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education at the University of Saskatchewan and also Adjunct Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. His main research interests focus on children learning to read English and Chinese, developmental dyslexia, and related disorders.

IN-MAO LIU is Honorary Professor of Psychology at the National Taiwan University and the National Chung-Cheng University. His main research interests include language processing and reasoning.

YING LIU is Assistant Research Professor of Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh. His primary research interest involves comparing word reading of Chinese and English using behavioral, ERP, and fMRI methods. He specializes in the cognitive science of language and reading processes.

BARBARA LUST is Professor of Developmental Psychology, Linguistics and Cognitive Science at Cornell University. Her main research interests concern language acquisition, with a specialization in crosslinguistic investigation of the role of Universal Grammar in language and language acquisition.

CATHERINE MCBRIDE-CHANG is Professor of Psychology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her main research interests focus on crosscultural and developmental approaches to reading development. She specializes in developmental psychology, including both cognitive and social aspects.

CORINNE MOORE is the Product Manager at ProQuest Media Solutions, a division of ProQuest Company. She has recently worked on Controlled Language with major corporations such as Avaya Technologies and Diebold Incorporated, in addition to working in the software development industry. She specializes in language technologies, including text processing applications, grammar and lexicon development, and speech.

JEROME PACKARD is Professor of Chinese, Linguistics, and Educational Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His main research interests include Chinese linguistics, Chinese psycholinguistics, and the acquisition of Chinese as a first and second language. He specializes in Chinese word structure, Chinese sentence processing, and Chinese aphasia.

DAN-LING PENG is Professor of Psychology at Beijing Normal University. His main research interests include recognition of Chinese character and word, Chinese-English bilinguals, emotional modulation of character recognition, language disorder, computational simulation of Chinese language processing and representation, and neuroimaging studies of Chinese character recognition. He specializes in the neural basis of Chinese reading.

CHARLES PERFETTI is University Professor at the University of Pittsburgh. His main research interests include lower- and higher-level processes and the nature of reading ability. He specializes in the cognitive science of language and reading processes.

JOAN SERENO is Associate Professor of Linguistics at the University of Kansas. Her main research interests include the psycholinguistic

investigation of language comprehension and production processes in native and second language learners. Her particular approach is to seek converging evidence from both auditory and visual modalities, with the ultimate goal of relating these data to specific brain processes.

RUSHEN SHI is Associate Professor of Psychology at the Université du Québec à Montréal. Her main research interests include language processing in infants and adults, and language acquisition. She specializes in infant speech processing, development of early syntax, and early lexicon.

HUA SHU is Professor of Psychology at Beijing Normal University. Her main research interests include Chinese language processing and reading development. She specializes in reading development and developmental dyslexia in Chinese.

WAI TING SIOK is Assistant Professor in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Hong Kong. Her main research interests focus on bilingualism, language development, and language neuroscience. She specializes in technical aspects of fMRI data acquisition and analysis, neuroimaging research on dyslexia, and cognitive studies of Chinese character recognition and reading acquisition.

STEPHANIE STOKES is Professor of Clinical Linguistics at the University of Reading. Her main research interests include speech and language development and disorders. She specializes in the characterization of speech and language impairment.

IUE-RUEY SU is Assistant Professor of Psychology at Chung Yuan Christian University. His main research interest is language processing.

MARCUS TAFT is a Professor of Psychology at the University of New South Wales. His main research focus is lexical processing in different languages, with a special interest in orthography and morphology.

TWILA TARDIF is Associate Professor of Psychology, Associate Research Scientist at the Center for Human Growth and Development and Faculty Associate of the Center for Chinese Studies at the University of Michigan. Her main research interests include young children's spoken language development. She specializes in understanding relationships between children's early vocabulary and early cognitive development in English and Chinese.

YUE WANG is Assistant Professor of Linguistics at Simon Fraser University. Her main research interests include phonetics, psycholinguistics, neurolinguistics, and cognitive science. She specializes in the use of behavioral and neuroimaging techniques to study the processing and acquisition of second language speech sounds with the goal of learning more about brain plasticity.

BRENDAN WEEKES is Associate Professor of Experimental Psychology at the University of Sussex. His primary research interest is word recognition in English and Chinese. He specializes in the cognitive neuropsychology of language processing.

ANITA MEI-YIN WONG is Assistant Professor in the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences at the University of Hong Kong. Her primary research interests are child language and disorders, and the manifestations of Specific Language Impairment (SLI) in Cantonese-speaking children in particular.

JEI-TUN WU is Professor of Psychology at the National Taiwan University. His main research interest is language processing.

NINGNING WU received her PhD from Beijing Normal University. Her main research interests include language cognition, Chinese processing, and reading development. She specializes in the resolution of lexical ambiguity, the processing of words with syntactic ambiguity in Chinese sentence reading, and the role of sublexical information, especially phonetic information, in the reading development of Chinese children.

CHARLES YANG teaches linguistics and psychology at Yale University. His research interests focus on language acquisition, language change, and computational linguistics.

CHIN-LUNG YANG is a Research Associate at the Learning Research and Development Center at the University of Pittsburgh. His main research interest involves disentangling how different aspects of language, lexicon, semantics, syntax, and pragmatics contribute to the mental representation of language processing. He adopts an interdisciplinary approach, using cognitive, neurocognitive, corpus-linguistic, and crosslinguistic methods, to examine the processes and representation of different levels of language comprehension in typologically distinct writing systems.

MICHAEL YIP is Lecturer of Psychology at the Open University of Hong Kong. His main research interests include psycholinguistics, cognitive sciences, educational psychology, and language learning.

VIRGINIA YIP is Professor of Linguistics and Modern Languages at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her main research interests include language acquisition, Cantonese grammar, and comparative syntax. She specializes in bilingual development and second language acquisition.

YAXU ZHANG is Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Peking University. His main research interests include the relationship between semantic and syntactic processing and the resolution of lexical and

syntactic ambiguity in Chinese sentence reading. He specializes in sentence processing in Chinese.

YIPING ZHONG is Associate Professor of Psychology at Xiangtan Normal University. His main research interests focus on components of memory and social cognition. He specializes in cognitive psychology, including Chinese text processing in both children and adults.

Preface

This handbook is part of a three-volume series on East Asian psycholinguistics that includes Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, the languages that have received significant research interest in psycholinguistics outside the Indo-European language family. The handbook project grew out of the discussions in a workshop that we organized in 2001 under the auspices of the National Science Foundation, at the University of California Santa Barbara, in conjunction with the Summer Institute of the Linguistic Society of America. Leading scholars in psycholinguistic studies of Chinese presented their research at the workshop, and they agreed that we need a handbook such as this one to synthesize the many lively debates on language acquisition, language processing, and language and the brain with particular reference to Chinese and other East Asian languages. The authors contributing to the handbook are mostly the presenters at the workshop, plus several others who could not attend the workshop. We are indebted to the organizers of the LSA Summer Institute, especially Charles Li, for making the workshop event possible. In addition to the conference grant provided by the NSF, the Office of the President at the University of Richmond also provided generous support for this project, for which we are grateful.

This volume represents a truly joint enterprise: we have more than thirty chapters from more than fifty authors, discussing important issues in psycholinguistics from all angles as they relate to the Chinese language. Our thanks go to all authors for their excellent contributions, and for their willingness and efforts to revise, adapt, and improve their chapters to make this handbook a comprehensive, consistent, and significant volume. In addition to the editors' reviewing and editing work, many authors have also contributed to the project as reviewers for chapters written by their colleagues.

The bulk of the editing work was completed during the 2002–2003 academic year, when one of us (PL) was on sabbatical leave at the University of Hong Kong. Countless emails and attachments crossed the Pacific Ocean and the Euro-Asian continent during this time. We would like to thank many of our colleagues in the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences at the University of Hong Kong, especially Paul Fletcher, Valter Ciocca, and Tara Whitehill, for their encouragement and support for the project. Colleagues and students at

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