



2018-19 School of Chinese seminar

Recent advances in Chinese linguistics: what can statistical modeling bring?

統計模型如何推進漢語語言學的發展？

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時間 **Time: 11:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. Friday 1 February 2019**

地點 **Venue: Room 730, Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus, The University of Hong Kong**

演講語言 **Language: Putonghua 普通話**

Abstract

There is a recent shift towards quantitative approaches across multiple subfields of Chinese linguistics. This talk specifically addresses recent development of the quantitative trend in phonetic and phonological research. For phonetic processes, statistical modeling of acoustic data can help us test typological hypotheses, which could hardly be achieved without recent techniques. Statistical techniques also allow more complex designs of perceptual experiments, and further our understanding of the relationship between speech production and perception. For example, we may compare formulas of minimum duration required for producing and perceiving pitch directions. For phonological processes such as tone sandhi, we have more powerful tools to describe them, to understand non-native speakers' acquisition of these processes and whether speech training improves their speech production. Furthermore, modeling may shed light on fundamental issues such as the debate on the relationship between phonetics and phonology. We can even use some techniques to separate phonetic and phonologized effects better.

漢語語言學領域採用定量研究方法已成新趨勢。講座將重點探討漢語語音和音韻學中 定量研究的最新進展。對語音數據進行統計建模有助於更好地比較漢語與其他語言中的同類現象。此外，也利於設計更複雜的語音感知實驗，深入理解言語生成和感知之間的關係。統計技術也能應用於諸如三聲變調等音韻問題的研究，加深對非母語者習得變調過程的理解，以及更準確地判斷語音訓練是否改善發音，乃至幫助理解語音和音韻學之間的關係。

Bio

Dr. Si Chen received her Ph.D. in linguistics and her master's degree in statistics from the University of Florida in 2014. She is now a research assistant professor at the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Her current research interests include Chinese linguistics, phonetics, phonology, statistical modeling of linguistic data, speech training and speech disorders. She obtained 14 grants, including ECS and GRF grants. She also serves as an academic editor of the journal PLOS ONE and a reviewer of RGC grants and journals such as Language, Cognition and Neuroscience and TESOL Quarterly.

陳思博士，2014 年獲得佛羅里達大學語言學博士及統計學碩士，現任香港理工大學 中文及雙語學系研究助理教授。主要研究漢語語言學、語音學和統計。曾獲包括 ECS 和 GRF 在內的 14 個項目。現任 PLOS ONE 期刊編輯、並為 TESOL Quarterly 等著名期刊審稿。

All are welcome