

# Yenan Sun (孫葉楠)

Department of Chinese Language and Literature  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Fung King Hey Building  
Shatin NT, Hong Kong SAR

EMAIL: [yenansun@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:yenansun@cuhk.edu.hk)  
WEB: <https://yenano9.github.io/>

## Research Interests

Broad: Semantics, Pragmatics, Syntax-Semantics interface, Chinese Linguistics  
Narrow: Tense and Aspect, Degree semantics, Equatives and similatives, Information Structure

## Education

- 2016-2022 The University of Chicago, USA  
PhD in Linguistics  
Dissertation: *Incompleteness Under Discussion*  
Committee: Chris Kennedy (chair), Itamar Francez, Ming Xiang, Anastasia Giannakidou
- 2012-2016 Nanjing University, China  
BA in Chinese Language and Literature

### NON-DEGREE STUDY

- 2018 The North American Summer School in Logic, Language and Information  
2017 The European Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information  
2014 Visiting student in Linguistics at University of California, Berkeley

## Employment

- 2022- The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR  
Assistant Professor, Department of Chinese Language and Literature

## Teaching & Research Experience

- Feb - July 2022 Research Assistant at The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
*Inner aspect le in Mandarin Chinese* (PI: Lawrence Y. L. Cheung)
- 2021 Instructor at the University of Chicago  
*Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics*
- 2019 - 2020 Teaching Assistant at the University of Chicago  
*Introduction to Linguistics*  
*Elementary Logic*  
*Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics*

## Publications

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2022 **Yenan Sun.** [Decomposing same.](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-021-09522-1) *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 40(3): 911-931. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-021-09522-1>
- 2021 **Yenan Sun.** [A bipartite analysis of zhiyou ‘only’ in Chinese.](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10831-021-09228-w) *Journal of East Asian Linguistics* 30(4): 319-355. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10831-021-09228-w>
- 2019 Eszter Ronai, **Yenan Sun**, Alan Yu & Ming Xiang. [Integration of contextual-pragmatic and phonetic information in speech perception: An eye-tracking study.](http://doi.org/10.5334/labphon.186) *Laboratory Phonology: Journal of the Association for Laboratory Phonology* 10(1): 20, pp. 1–15. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5334/labphon.186>

### CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2020 **Yenan Sun.** [Only-concord in Vietnamese: Support for a bipartite analysis and Undermerge.](#) In *Proceedings of the 50th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*: 183-192.
- 2020 **Yenan Sun.** [Same as the parameter of an equation construction.](#) In *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 24*: 306-318.
- 2019 **Yenan Sun.** [Equating degrees or state-kinds, or both.](#) In *Proceedings of the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium*: 523-532.
- 2019 **Yenan Sun**, Jackie Yan-Ki Lai. [The morphosyntax of Chinese adjectival reduplication: The role of RED.](#) In *Proceedings of the 49th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society*: 203-210.
- 2019 **Yenan Sun**, Jackie Yan-Ki Lai. [Revisiting the restrictive/appositive distinction in Mandarin relative clauses: The confound of demonstratives.](#) In Patrick Farrell (eds.) *Proceedings of the 93th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America* 4, 28:1-14.
- 2018 **Yenan Sun.** [Two strategies of sameness: Chinese tong and xiangtong.](#) In *Proceedings of the 20th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar*: 369-380.
- 2018 Jackie Yan-Ki Lai, **Yenan Sun.** [On Apparent Parasitic Gaps in Mandarin Chinese.](#) In *Proceedings of the 20th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar*: 195-199.
- 2018 **Yenan Sun.** [Two Kinds of Quantificational Domains: Mandarin mei with or without dou.](#) In *Proceedings of the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*: 365-379.

### EDITED VOLUMES

- 2019 Eszter Ronai, Laura Stigliano and **Yenan Sun** (eds.), *Proceedings of the Fifty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*. CLS.

## Presentations

### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 **Yenan Sun.** What is Under Discussion: A Pragmatic Perspective on Chinese Incompleteness. The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Department of Chinese Language and Literature. April 1.

- 2022 **Yenan Sun.** Revisiting incompleteness from a pragmatic perspective. Fudan University, China. Department of Chinese Language and Literature. Feb 24.
- 2021 **Yenan Sun.** What is under Discussion? A pragmatic perspective into incompleteness. Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China. School of Humanities. Dec 9.
- 2020 **Yenan Sun.** Multidimensionality of Meaning: A pragmatic account towards Chinese incompleteness phenomena. Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China. Nov 19.
- 2020 **Yenan Sun.** Incompleteness, anchoring, and at-issueness. Nanjing University, China. Nov 2.

#### REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 **Yenan Sun.** Maintaining Mandarin *hen* as a weak intensifier. Poster presented at GLOW 45 (Workshop on Typological generalizations and semantic theory), London [virtual].
- 2022 **Yenan Sun.** Maintaining Mandarin *hen* as a weak intensifier. Talk given at Theoretical Linguistics at Keio (TaLK 2022), Toyko [virtual].
- 2021 **Yenan Sun.** Potentially incomplete sentences are imperfectives: A cross-linguistic perspective into Chinese incompleteness. Talk given at the 9th International Conference on Formal Linguistics (ICFL-9), Shanghai [virtual].
- 2021 **Yenan Sun.** (Potentially) incomplete sentences in Chinese are imperfective. Poster presented at the 39th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 39), Tucson [virtual].
- 2021 **Yenan Sun.** Aspectual marking and (not-)at-issue updates in Mandarin Chinese. Poster presented at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 95), San Francisco [virtual].
- 2020 **Yenan Sun.** The interaction of aspect marking and QUD in Chinese. Talk given at the Annual Research Forum of the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong (ARF 2020), Hong Kong [virtual].
- 2020 **Yenan Sun.** Where does Mandarin *zhiyou* ‘only’ move? Not to CaiP! Poster presented at the 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 94), New Orleans.
- 2020 Jackie Yan-Ki Lai, **Yenan Sun.** When TPs Can(not) Move: The View from Cantonese. Poster presented at the 94th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 94), New Orleans.
- 2019 **Yenan Sun.** Equating degrees or state-kinds, or both. Poster presented at the 22nd Amsterdam Colloquium (Workshop on Semantic Universals), Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- 2019 Jackie Yan-Ki Lai, **Yenan Sun.** When TPs Can(not) Move: The View from Cantonese. Talk to be given at the Arizona Linguistics Circle 13 (ALC 13), Tucson, AZ.
- 2019 **Yenan Sun.** Where does Mandarin *zhiyou* ‘only’ move? Not to CaiP! Talk given at the Arizona Linguistics Circle 13 (ALC 13), Tucson, AZ.
- 2019 **Yenan Sun.** *Only*-concord in Vietnamese: Support for a bipartite analysis and Undermerge. Poster presented at the 50th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 50), Boston, MA.
- 2019 **Yenan Sun.** Where is the parameter in the ‘same’ construction? Poster presented at Sinn und Bedeutung (SuB 24), Osnabrück University, Germany.
- 2019 **Yenan Sun,** Jackie Yan-Ki Lai. Demonstratives and the Restrictive/Appositive Distinction in Mandarin Relative Clauses. Talk given at the 93rd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 93), New York City.

- 2018 Peter Alrenga, Daniel Hardt, Line Mikkelsen, **Yenan Sun**. One and \*(the) same. Talk given at the 9th Meeting of California Semantics and Pragmatics (CUSP 11), Berkeley.
- 2018 **Yenan Sun**, Jackie Yan-Ki Lai. Two positions of reduplication morpheme (RED) in Chinese Adjectival Compounding. Poster presented at the 49th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 49), Ithaca.
- 2018 **Yenan Sun**. Two strategies of *sameness*: Chinese *tong* and *xiangtong*. Talk given at the 20th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 20), Seoul, Korea.
- 2018 Jackie Yan-Ki Lai, **Yenan Sun**. On Apparent Parasitic Gaps in Mandarin Chinese. Talk given at the 20th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar (SICOGG 20), Seoul, Korea.
- 2018 Mingya Liu, **Yenan Sun**, Anastasia Giannakidou. Numeral *yi* ‘one’ as domain restrictor in Mandarin Chinese. Talk given at the 10th International Conference of the European Association of Chinese linguistics (EACL 10), Milan, Italy.
- 2018 **Yenan Sun**, Eszter Ronai, Alan Yu & Ming Xiang. The role of contextual-pragmatic information in speech perception: an eye-tracking study. Poster presented at the 31st Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing (CUNY 31), UC Davis.
- 2018 **Yenan Sun**, Laura Stigliano, Eszter Ronai, Amara Sankhagowit, Anisia Popescu, Alan Yu, Ming Xiang. 2018. The role of contextual-pragmatic information in speech perception: an eye-tracking study. Poster presented at the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA 92), Salt Lake City.
- 2017 **Yenan Sun**. Two Kinds of Quantificational Domains: Mandarin *mei* with or without *dou*. Talk given at the 53rd annual meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 53), Chicago.
- 2015 **Yenan Sun**. Is Chinese *mei* a quantifier? Talk given at the 4th Syntax and Semantics in China (SSiC 2015), Xi’an, China.

#### OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 **Yenan Sun**. *Only* with movement: Where does Mandarin *zhiyou* move? Talk given at the University of Chicago *Morphology and Syntax Workshop*, Chicago.
- 2018 **Yenan Sun**. Two strategies of *sameness*: Chinese *tong* and *xiangtong*. Talk given at the University of Chicago *Linguistics and Philosophy Workshop*, Chicago.

#### Grants & Awards

- 2021-2022 Mellon Foundation-University of Chicago Dissertation Completion Fellowship, UChicago
- 2020 Graduate Research Aid Initiative in Linguistics Award, UChicago.
- Fall 2019 Division of the Humanities Conference Grant, UChicago.
- Fall 2019 Graduate Council Travel Fund Grant, UChicago.
- Fall 2019 Graduate Research Aid Initiative in Linguistics Award, UChicago.
- Fall 2018 Division of the Humanities Conference Grant, UChicago.
- Fall 2018 Graduate Research Aid Initiative in Linguistics Award, UChicago.
- Summer 2018 Graduate Research Aid Initiative in Linguistics Award, UChicago.

2014 National Scholarship (Top 3% at School of Liberal Arts), Nanjing University.  
2013 Wu Hong Scholarship, Nanjing University.

## Service & Activities

Organizer 54th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 54)

Reviewing 53rd, 54th, 55th Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 53, CLS 54, CLS 55)