

## Y. (Yan) Gu, PhD

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Department of Psychology and Language Science, UCL, [yan.gu@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:yan.gu@ucl.ac.uk)

### **Research Interests**

Gesture, sign language and embodied cognition; metaphor; developmental psychology; bilingualism; multimodal communication, cognitive science

### **Education and Training**

- 1 Sep 2012–5 June 2018 **Ph.D. in Psycholinguistics**, Tilburg University  
Dissertation: *Chinese hands of time: The effects of language and culture on temporal gestures and spatio-temporal reasoning*  
Supervisors: Prof. Marc Swerts, Dr. Marieke Hoetjes, Dr. Rein Cozijn
- 1 Sep 2010–21 March 2012 **ReMa Language & Communication**, Radboud & Tilburg University  
Thesis: *Non-verbal behaviours of bilinguals who stutter*  
Supervisor: Prof. M. Swerts; second reader: Prof. Marianne Gullberg
- 1 Feb 2010–20 Dec 2010 **Internship at Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics**  
*Learning of super-segmental timing and pitch categories*  
Supervisor: Dr. Makiko Sadakata (Language comprehension group)
- 1 Sep 2009–1 Aug 2011 **Master in Linguistics**, Radboud University Nijmegen  
Thesis: *Intonation & reference maintenance in Chinese learners of Dutch*  
Supervisors: Prof. Aoju Chen & Prof. Carlos Gussenhoven
- 1 Sep 2005–20 June 2009 **Bachelor in English Pedagogy**, Nantong University  
Thesis: *A study on VOT values of English plosives based on L2 English read speech corpus*  
Supervisors: Prof. Hua Chen (Nanjing University), Ms. Xinping Sun

### **Professional Experience**

- 1 April 2022- Honorary research fellow, University College London
- 1 April 2022 - Lecturer in Psychology, University of Essex
- 1 Sep 2019 – March 2022 Research Fellow, Language & Cognition Lab, University College London  
Working on an individual project funded by NWO Rubicon fellowship: *Getting the point: What can caregivers' and children's multimodal language reveal about word learning?*  
Host supervisor: Prof. Gabriella Vigliocco
- 15 Feb 2018 – 31 July 2019 Post-doc research associate/assistant, University College London  
Working for the project *Ecological Language: A multimodal approach to language and the brain* (ERC advanced Grant)  
Supervisor: Prof. Gabriella Vigliocco

### **Scholarships and Prizes**

- August 2022 Diversity & inclusion conference awards (\$1,000 USD), Cognitive Science society 2022 for the paper “Zheng, Y., Gu†, Y. Backus, A. & van Soest A. (2022) The value of host-country language: The effect of Dutch language proficiency on immigrants' income, savings and financial wealth in the Netherlands” <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/88g132bk>

1 Sep 2019–21 Aug 2022	NWO Rubicon Grant, The Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research € 196,273.
3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2021	Paula Menyuk Award Winner (best abstract) to the bachelor student I supervised (Jinyu Shi), the 46th annual Boston University conference on language development.
23 June 2021	BPS cognitive section prize nomination on behalf of UCL (Undergraduate Project Prize) to the bachelor student I supervised (Jana Mertova)
25 July 2017	Best student presentation award at the Workshop: The role of gesture in cognitive and linguistic processes. Given by Prof. Sotaro Kita at the University of Warwick.
1 Sep 2012–31 Aug 2016	NWO PhDs in the Humanities Grant, [322-89-007], € 203,532.
1 Sep 2012–31 Aug 2016	PhD scholarship by Chinese Scholarship Council, € 60,000 (declined).
9 June 2016	ISGS Student Bursaries for the ISGS 7 conference, Paris, € 250
10–22 Aug 2015	A fellowship for attending <i>An interdisciplinary summer school on Economy and Language</i> , University of Chicago Center in Paris.
13 June 2014	Student Travel Grant for the Cognitive Science 2014 conference, \$500.
27 June 2014	Best Poster Prize, LOT summerschool 2014, Radboud University.
3 April 2014	ISGS Student Bursaries for the ISGS6 conference, UCSD, \$250.
1 Sep 2010–31 Aug 2011	Huygens Scholarship Programme 2010, Nuffic, Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, € 24,308.
August 2011	Stichting Nijmeegs Universiteitsfonds (Radboud University research fund).
1 Sep 2009–31 Aug 2010	Huygens Scholarship Programme 2009, Nuffic, Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, € 19,438.
April 2010	Stichting Nijmeegs Universiteitsfonds (Radboud University research fund).
June 2009	Excellent Bachelor Thesis of Nantong University, China.
May 2009	Excellent Investigation Report Award, Nantong University.
March 2009	FANG Scholarship of Nantong University (1 in the school).
2017–2008	Excellent Student Leader, Nantong University.
1 Sep 2017–31 Aug 2008	First Prize Scholarship of Nantong University.
2007- 2008	Research & Innovation Scholarship of Nantong University.
Dec 2007	The Third Prize in national teaching skills contest for the English majors of higher normal schools awarded by the Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education, China.

## **Publications**

**Representative papers** (\* joint first author, † corresponding author).

Zheng, Y., Gu†, Y., & Cozijn, R., Swerts, M. (in revision) Looking downward to the future: What eye movements reveal about Chinese people's conceptualisations of time, *Psychological Science*.

Shi\*, J., Gu\*†, Y., Vigliocco, G. (early view online) Prosodic modulations in child-directed language and their impact on word learning. *Developmental Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13357>

Callizo-Romero, C., Tutnjević, S., Pandza, M., Ouellet, M., Kranjec, A., Ilić, S., Gu, Y., Göksun, T., Chahboun, S., Casasanto, D. & Santiago, J. (2022). Does time extend into the past and the future symmetrically or asymmetrically? A cross-cultural study. *Language and Cognition*, 14(2), 275-302.

- Lin\*, H. & Gu\*†, Y.** (2022) “Hold infinity in the palm of your hand” A functional description of time expressions through fingers based on the naturalistic data of Chinese Sign Language. *Language and Cognition*, 14(1), 61 – 84.
- Callizo-Romero, C., Tutnjević, S., Pandza, M., Ouellet, M., Kranjec, A., Ilić, S., **Gu, Y.**, Göksun, T., Chahboun, S., Casasanto, D. & Santiago, J. (2020). Temporal focus and time spatialization across cultures. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-020-01760-5>
- Gu, Y., Zheng, Y., & Swerts, M. (2019). Which is in front of Chinese people, past or future? The effect of language and culture on temporal gestures and spatial conceptions of time. *Cognitive Science*, 43(12), e12804. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cogs.12804>
- Gu, Y., Zheng, Y. & Swerts, M. (2019). Having a different *pointing* of view about the future: The effect of signs on co-speech gestures about time in Mandarin–CSL bimodal bilinguals. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, 22(4), 836– 847. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1366728918000652>
- Gu, Y., Mol, L., Hoetjes, M. & Swerts, M. (2017). Conceptual and lexical effects on gestures: the case of vertical spatial metaphors for time in Chinese. *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*, 32 (8), 1048-1063. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23273798.2017.1283425>
- Chen, H., **Gu, Y.** & H., Zuo (2013) Theories on the relationship between gesture and speech-Also on implications for cognitive linguistics (手势与言语的关系论——兼谈对认知语言学的启示), *Journal of Foreign Languages (外国语)*,36(5), 50-58.

### Other publications and manuscripts under review

- Gu\*, Y & Lin\*, H. & Zheng, Y. (in revision) Back to the future or the past? The effect of Chinese Sign Language (CSL) on deaf CSL-Mandarin bilinguals’ spatial conceptualisation of time. [https://osf.io/y937u/?view\\_only=36f5136946b842f480bfb6e565034c7e](https://osf.io/y937u/?view_only=36f5136946b842f480bfb6e565034c7e), *Journal of Memory and Language*
- Swerts, M., **Gu, Y.**, & Boerrigter, T. (2022). Yes or No: How children combine gestures and speech to express honest and deceiving attitude. *Stem-, Spraak-en Taalpathologie*, 27, 206-222.
- Donnellan, E., Özder, L., Man, H., Grzyb, B., **Gu, Y.**, & Vigliocco, G. (2022). Timing relationships between representational gestures and speech: A corpus based investigation. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 44. Retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7w349725>
- Xi, Z., **Gu, Y.**, & Vigliocco, G. (2022). Speaking Rate in 3-4-Year-Old Children: Its correlation with gesture rate and word learning. *Proc. Speech Prosody 2022*, 235-239.
- Zheng, Y., **Gu†, Y.**, Backus, A., & van Soest, A. (2022, to submit). The value of host-country language: The effect of Dutch language proficiency on immigrants’ income, savings and financial wealth in the Netherlands. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 44. Abstract retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/88g132bk>
- Zheng, Y., **Gu†, Y.**, & van Soest, A. (2022, to submit). Beyond financial knowledge and IQ: The effect of temporal values on pension planning and financial wealth of natives and immigrants in the Netherlands. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 44. Abstract retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/4gj9r21c>
- Zheng, Y., **Gu†, Y.**, & van Soest, A. (2022, to submit). Time to get attention: The effect of temporal values on health, income and happiness. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 44. Abstract retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7hx523xm>
- Dong, S.Y., **Gu†, Y.**, Vigliocco, G. (2021) The impact of child-directed language on children’s lexical development. *Proceeding of 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society.
- Shi, J.Y., **Gu†, Y.**, Grzyb, B., & Vigliocco, G. (2020) Child-directed speech: the impact of variations in speaking rate on word learning. In S. Denison., M. Mack, Y. Xu, & B.C. Armstrong (Eds.), *Proceeding of 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1043-1049). Cognitive Science Society. [nominated for the **SAYAN GUL AWARD** for outstanding undergraduates]
- Gu, Y., Zheng Y., Swerts, M. (2017). Does Mandarin spatial metaphor for time influence Chinese deaf

- signers' spatio-temporal reasoning? In G. Gunzelmann, A. Howes, T. Tenbrink, E. J. Davelaar (Eds). *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp.445-450). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
- Gu, Y., Mol, L., Hoetjes, M., Swerts, M. (2014). Does language shape the production and perception of gestures? A study on late Chinese-English Bilinguals' conceptions about time. In P. Bello, M. Guarini, M. McShane, & B. Scassellati (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (547-552). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
- Swerts, M., Boerigter, T. & Y. Gu (2014) Head gestures as congruent or incongruent signs of children's attitudes. In P. Bello, M. Guarini, M. McShane, & B. Scassellati (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (2961-2966). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
- Gu, Y., Mol, E.M.M., Hoetjes, M.W., & Swerts, M. (2013). What can Chinese speakers' temporal gestures reveal about their conception of time? *Proceedings of TiGeR 2013: The combined meeting of the 10th international Gesture Workshop (GW) and the 3rd Gesture and Speech in Interaction (GESPIN) conference*. Tilburg, Netherlands.
- Mol, E.M.M., Gu, Y., & Postma-Nilsenova, M. (2013). Structural adaptation in gesture and speech. *Proceedings of TiGeR 2013: The combined meeting of the 10th international Gesture Workshop (GW) and the 3rd Gesture and Speech in Interaction (GESPIN) conference*. Tilburg, NL.
- Halteren, H., Martell, C., Du, C., Gu, Y., Kobben, J., Panjaitan, L., Schubotz, L., Vasilenko, K., & Vladimirova Y. (2011) Im chattin :- ) u wanna NLP it: Analyzing reduction in chat. *Computational Linguistics in the Netherlands Journal*, 1, 95-108.
- Gu, Y., & Ivanchenko, I. (2011) Non-verbal behaviours during stuttered speech – preliminary results from a case study of a bilingual who stutters. *Proceeding of GESPIN 2011: Gesture and Speech in Interaction*, Bielefeld, Germany.
- Gu, Y., Fan, Y. N., & Zhu. S. S. (2009). An investigation report of students' extra-curriculum study in Jiangsu Province (江苏省小学生课外学习现状调研及对策), *Journal of Schooling Studies*, 1, 55-57.
- Zhai, J.W., & Gu, Y. (2008). Reform and innovation of Chinese Fairy-tales based on Andersen's Tales (安徒生童话背景下的中国童话的变革与创新). *Journal of Changzhou Institute of Technology*, 3: 46-51.
- Lu, Y., Gu, Y. & Zhu, S. S. (2008). An analysis and solution of the current situation of migrant workers' children in Nantong (南通民工子女生存现状分析与对策), *Journal of Siit*, 3, 63-65.
- Gu, Y. (2007). Analysis of the causes of listening difficulty for L2 English learners (英语听力困扰学习者之原因分析). *Journal of Siit*, 1, 50-53.

### **Research monographs and book chapter**

- Gu, Y (2022) Chinese hands of time: Gesture and Sign, in Anna Piata, Daniel Alcaraz, Adriana Gordejuela (eds) *On the Edges of Time: Time Representations in the Perspective of Human Creativity* (pp.209-232). John Benjamins
- Gu, Y. (2018). *Chinese hands of time: The effects of language and culture on temporal gestures and spatio-temporal reasoning*. LOT Publisher: Utrecht.
- Gu, Y. & Chen, A. (2014) Information status and L2 prosody: A study of reference maintenance in Chinese learners of Dutch. In: Caspers, Johanneke, Yiya Chen, Willemijn Heeren, Jos Pacilly, Niels O. Schiller and Ellen van Zanten (eds.), *Above and Beyond the Segments: Experimental linguistics and phonetics* (pp. 120–130), Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Gu, Y. (2010). A study on VOT values of English plosives based on L2 English read speech corpus. In Chen Hua & Yang Jun (Eds). *Second language Phonetics Research in China* (pp. 352–371). Beijing: Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press.

### **Teaching**

Developmental Psychology (2022), Lab tutorial, University of Essex

Applied Psychology (2022), BA level, University of Essex  
Language and Cognition (2020), BA level, University College London.  
Classics & Academic English (2014, 2015), BA level, Tilburg University.  
Guest lecturer of Nonverbal Communication (2015, 2016), MA level, Tilburg University.  
Tutor for the course Statistics (2015), Pre-master level, Tilburg University.  
A volunteer Mandarin teacher at Stichting Chinese School Arnhem (NL), 2013- 2014.

### **Students Supervision**

#### ***Thesis supervision:***

2021-2022: Loh, Rachel (bachelor, UCL); Zhenyang (Wellani) Xi (master placement, UCL); Niki, Theofilogiannakou (master, UCL)  
2020-2021: Jana Mertova; Zedu Gao; Juliet Zhang (bachelor, UCL); Connie Ng (Master, UCL)  
2019-2020: Jinyu (Jessie) Shi (bachelor, UCL)  
2018-2019: Viktor Kewenig (master, UCL)  
2015-2016: Roxanne Damen; Hong Wang (master, Tilburg University)

#### ***Internship supervision:***

2020: Yue Kong (Peking University); Mingtong Li (Cornell Uni); Shiyu Dong (Tsinghua University)  
2019: Yi Lyu (University of Cambridge); Yi Wang (University of Oxford); Junying Song (Peking University); Zhuolun Zhao (University of Edinburgh)

### **Oral Presentations at Conferences/Workshops**

Aug 2022 British Applied linguistics conference 2022, Belfast, UK  
Aug 2022 EuroSLA 2022, Fribourg, Switzerland  
July 2022 Cognitive Science 2022 conference, Canada  
Nov 2021 46th Annual Boston University conference on language development  
July 2020 UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference 2020.  
July 2017 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, London, UK.  
July 2017 Workshop the role of gesture in cognitive and linguistic processes, University of Warwick, UK  
May 2017 Workshop CREATIME Time concepts and their expression, University of Navarra, Spain.  
Jan. 2017 7th biennial conference of Belgium Netherlands Cognitive Linguistics, Nijmegen, Netherlands.  
Aug. 2016 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Philadelphia, USA.  
July 2016 7th International Society of Gesture Studies, Sorbonne Nouvelle University, Paris, France.  
Oct. 2015 Nijmegen-Tilburg Multi-modality workshop, Tilburg, Netherlands.  
May 2015 Invited speaker for *Meeting a Linguist*, Amsterdam University College, Netherlands.  
Apr. 2015 Colloquium Grammar and Cognition Lab, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands.  
Sept. 2014 Colloquium Gesture and Sign Language Lab *Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics* (MPI) Nijmegen, Netherlands.  
July 2014 36th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Quebec, Canada.  
Sept. 2013 Workshop Chinese Linguistics in the Netherlands, Leiden University, Netherlands.

- June 2013 TiGeR 2013: The combined meeting of the 10th international Gesture Workshop (GW) and the 3rd Gesture and Speech in Interaction (GESPIN) conference. Tilburg, Netherlands.
- July 2012 5th International Society for Gesture Studies, Lund University, Sweden.
- Sept. 2011 Workshop Gesture and Speech in Interaction, Bielefeld University, Germany.
- May 2010 Conference Phonetics and Phonology, Shanghai International Studies University, China.
- Sept. 2008 Symposium on English Pronunciation Teaching & Research, Nantong University, China.

### **Invited Poster Presentations at Conferences/Workshops**

- Nov 2021 46th Annual Boston University conference on language development
- July 2021 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Vienna, Austria.
- July 2020 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Canada.
- Oct. 2016 Perception Metaphor Workshop, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen.
- July 2014 6th International Society of Gesture Studies, UC San Diego, USA.
- June 2014 LOT summerschool 2014, Radboud University.
- Apr. 2008 8<sup>th</sup> Phonetics Conference of China and the International Symposium on Phonetic Frontiers Chinese Social Science Academy, Beijing, China.

### **Press and Media Coverage**

Dutch website NEMO Kennislink “Het verleden ligt boven, de toekomst beneden”

<https://www.nemokennislink.nl/publicaties/het-verleden-ligt-boven-de-toekomst-beneden>

Dutch BNR radio “Wat wij vooruitgang vinden, zien chinezen als neergang?”

<https://www.bnr.nl/radio/wetenschap-vandaag/10318792/wat-wij-vooruitgang-vinden-zien-chinezen-als-neergang>

AlphaGalileo news: “An intercultural study finds that we picture the past ahead of us or behind us depending on the importance we attach to it”

<https://www.alphagalileo.org/en-gb/Item-Display/ItemId/200807?returnurl=https://www.alphagalileo.org/en-gb/Item-Display/ItemId/200807>

### **Ad hoc Reviewer**

*Acta Psychologica; Bilingualism: Language and Cognition; Cognitive Science; International Journal of Bilingualism; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance; JEP: General; Lingua; Language and Cognition; Philosophical Psychology; Speech Communication; CogSci conference, GESPIN conference*

### **Language Proficiency**

Native speaker of Mandarin and Wu Chinese (Shanghai, Suzhou dialects)

Fluent in English, Dutch A2

### **Skills**

R, SPSS, Praat, ELAN, Audacity, Audiovisual data processing, Qualtrics questionnaire

### **Other Activities**

A member of International Society for Gesture Studies (ISGS), Cognitive Science Society

A member of the Huygens Talent Circle (HUTAC), the Netherlands

A member of Netherlands Alumni Network in China (NANC)

Writing Chinese calligraphy in a charity sale to support Stichting Chinese School Arnhem

A member of the British Association for Applied Linguistics, 2022