

Lin Ai

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Education

MS	Georgetown University , Computational Linguistics • GPA: 4.0/4.0	Sep 2025 – May 2027 (expected)
MSt	University of Oxford , Master of Studies in Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics • Degree awarded with Merit • Distinction in Graduate Semantics & Pragmatics	Oct 2024 – Jun 2025
BA	Cornell University , Triple Major in Literatures in English, Classics and the College Scholar Program • Summa Cum Laude	Sep 2019 – May 2023

Research Interests

Language models for understanding human language; Language model evaluation and interpretability; Discourse and Pragmatics

Publications

- Kohei Kajikawa*, **Lin Ai***, Tatsuki Kuribayashi, Ethan Gotlieb Wilcox. [Using LMs to Model the Effects of Context and Coreference during Sentence Comprehension](#). In *Proceedings of the 2026 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*. Oct 2026
- Lin Ai**, Amir Zeldes. [DM Doppelgangers: Implicit Connectives as eRST Signals](#). In *Proceedings of CODI-CRAC 2026* (co-located with ACL 2026). **[Best Paper Award]** Jul 2026

* Equal contribution.

Work in Progress

Lin Ai, Emma Thronson, Katherine Conhaim, Amir Zeldes. [The Sum of All Summaries: PROPALIGN for Graded Proposition Salience Evaluation](#). *Under review*.

Research Experience

Research Assistant at Psycholinguistics, Information, and Computation Lab (PICoL) Washington, D.C.
PI: Ethan Wilcox (Georgetown University) Mar 2026 – Present

- Designed and wrote up the EMNLP 2026 paper's counterfactual coreference analysis, showing that obscuring coreference links reduced long-context GPT-2's predictive power for human reading times by 20–40%.
- Built the counterfactual experiment's pipeline using Stanza's coreference parser and an LLM API to create coreference- and singleton-disrupted texts; modified GPT-2 surprisal inference algorithm to score original target words in those contexts.

Research Assistant at Corpus Linguistics Lab (Corpling) Washington, D.C.
PI: Amir Zeldes (Georgetown University) Oct 2025 – Present

- Developed and evaluated an algorithm linking implicit connectives to discourse relations, adding 1,003 secondary edges to the GUM corpus; led the CODI-CRAC paper's experiments and writing.

- Built the PROPALIGN pipeline and ran single-model LLM experiments via API calls, finding stronger agreement with summary-based prompts; contributed to manual proposition-to-summary annotations.
- Wrote most of PROPALIGN’s Methods and Results sections and edited its abstract, introduction, and related work.

Conference Presentations

- Lin Ai**, Amir Zeldes. Implicit Connectives Are Also eRST Signals! **Poster** presented at *American Association of Corpus Linguistics (AACL) Conference 2026*, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. Apr 2026
- Lin Ai**. “Still” as a Negation of Negative Events. **Talk** presented at *Linguistics and English Language Postgraduate Conference 2025*, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK. Jun 2025

Honors, Awards, and Grants

- Best Paper Award**, CODI-CRAC 2026 Jul 2026
- CODI-CRAC 2026 Student Travel Grant** Jun 2026
- Georgetown University Department of Linguistics Graduate Travel Grant** May 2026
- Robert S. Harrison College Scholar Program**, Cornell University 2021–2023
- Summer Language Study Fellowship**, Cornell University 2022
- Tanner Dean’s Scholars**, Cornell University 2019

Skills

- Natural Languages:** Mandarin and English (near-native), German (advanced), Japanese and Cantonese (intermediate), French (beginner)
- Programming Languages:** Python and R
- Tools:** PyTorch, Hugging Face Transformers, pandas, wandb, Git, LaTeX