CHÉN Qiūshí

陳 秋實 [tʂʰənˊ tɕʰjəu˥˩ʂɻˊ]

Email: qiushi.chen@uconn.edu

Website: https://www.chenqsling.com/

Ph.D. candidate

Department of Linguistics

University of Connecticut

365 Fairfield Way, Herbst Hall, Unit 1145

Storrs, CT, 06269-1145

EDUCATION

Degree programs

2021–2027 **Ph.D.** in Linguistics
Department of Linguistics, University of Connecticut
Dissertation: *Unvalued and unrealized features: An interface theory of agreement displacement and beyond*
Committee: Željko Bošković (chair), Vicki Carstens, Mamoru Saito, Adrian Stegovec

2017–2020 **M.A.** in Chinese Philology
Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Fudan University

2012–2016 **B.A.** in Chinese Language and Literature
School of Literature, Nankai University

Non-degree programs

2023 The 2023 LSA Linguistic Institute, University of Massachusetts Amherst
[Received James McCawley Fellowship]

2019 Linguistics Institute of China (中國語言學書院), Tianjin

2019 Exchange student program, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu

2018 14th China Linguistics Summer Institute (全國語言學暑期高級講習班), Kunming

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Broad Syntax and its interfaces, morphology, historical linguistics, generative typology, language documentation

Narrow Agreement, allomorphy, argument structure, case, concord, constituent order, direct/inverse systems, discontinuity, grammatical tone, grammaticalization, indexical shift, locality, nominal structure, person hierarchy, phase theory, reanalysis
African languages (Bantu, Kwa, etc.), East Asian languages (Ainu, Gyalrongic, Japonic, Sinitic, etc.)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal papers

Chén, Qiūshí. To appear. Discontinuous DPs, *wh*-in-situ, and lower copy pronunciation in Chichewa. *Linguistic Inquiry*. https://doi.org/10.1162/LING.a.565

Chén, Qiūshí. 2026. Scrambling in the nominal domain: Evidence from the Chichewa DP. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 44:13.1–30. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-026-09697-5

Chén, Qiūshí. 2024. 论汉语数词的句法位置：来自吴语和西南官话的证据 [On the positions of Chinese numerals: Evidence from Wu and Southwestern Mandarin]. 汉语语言学 [*Chinese Linguistics*] 4:304–330.

Chén, Qiūshí & Shèng Yìmín (盛益民). 2023. 重庆石柱方言表定指「名数量」结构 [The NOUN-NUM-CL phrase as a definite construction: A case study of Shizhu Mandarin]. 方言 [*Dialect*] 4:416–425.

Chén, Qiūshí. 2022. 言者意外与听者意外：从四川资阳方言看意外范畴的两个参项 [Now I am surprised, now you are surprised: On Mirativity in Ziyang and the sub-types of Mirativity]. 语言学论丛 [*Essays on Linguistics*] 2:62–78.

Chén, Qiūshí. 2022. 语法化与重新加标：以资阳方言的「样」为例 [Grammaticalization and relabeling: A case study on *yang* in Ziyang]. 语言研究集刊 [*Bulletin of Linguistic Studies*] 29:206–226.

Chén, Qiūshí. 2022. 比较视野下的石柱方言定指「名数量」短语 [The definite N-(NUM)-CL phrase in Shizhu dialect from a comparative perspective]. 当代语言学 [*Contemporary Linguistics*] 24.2:231–251.

Book chapters

Chén, Qiūshí. 2021. 重庆石柱方言的定指表达手段 [Definite expressions in Chongqing Shizhu]. In Shèng Yìmín (ed.), 汉语方言定指范畴研究 [*Studies on Definiteness across Chinese Dialects*], 44–55. Shanghai: 中西书局 Zhongxi Book Company.

Peer-reviewed conference proceedings papers

Chén, Qiūshí. 2026. A scattered deletion account of Chichewa partial dislocation. In Vicki Carstens, Katherine Russell, Olawale Akingbade, Deborah Morton & Michael Diercks (eds.), *Pamoja tena 'Together again': African linguistics after COVID*, 381–401. Berlin: Language Science Press. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20285216

Conference proceedings papers with peer-reviewed abstracts

Chén, Qiūshí. To appear. On mixed alignment in Hokkaido Ainu and its variations. In *Proceedings of the Sixty-First Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*.

Chén, Qiūshí. 2026. On the dual status of the *e*-ending in Old Japanese verbal morphology. In Youngdong Cho, Young-Hoon Kim & John Whitman (eds.), *Japanese/Korean Linguistics* 32:265–279. https://doi.org/10.5070/J7.66680

Chén, Qiūshí. 2026. Deep and surface zeros in Japhug person agreement. In *Proceedings of GLOW 47*. 1–14. https://doi.org/10.11576/glow-1268

Chén, Qiūshí. 2025. The art of losing specifiers: On the synchrony and diachrony of N(P)-fronting in Shizhu and Zunyi. In Xiaobei Chen, Sercan Karakaş & Jaehong Shim (eds.), *Proceedings of the Sixtieth Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*, 113–126.

Chén, Qiūshí. 2025. The hidden conjoint/disjoint alternation in Chichewa. In Shweta Akolkar, Amber Galvano, Akil Ismael, Kang Franco Liu & Line Mikkelsen (eds.), *Proceedings of the 42nd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, 84–93.

Chén, Qiūshí. 2025. N-to-D movement, scrambling, and DP-internal constituent order in Chichewa. In Duygu Demiray, Roger Cheng-yen Liu & Nir Segal (eds.), *NELS 55: Proceedings of the Fifty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society, Volume One*, 129–138.

Chén, Qiūshí. 2025. On the secondary nature of morphosyntactic change: An argument from Southwestern Mandarin. In Muhammed İleri, Chun-Hung Shih & Wesley M. Lincoln (eds.), *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics* volume 31.1: *Proceedings of the 48th Annual Penn Linguistics Conference*, 19–28.

Chén, Qiūshí. 2023. Deriving *Mizenkei* in Old Japanese verbal morphology. In Sara Williamson, Adeola Aminat Babayode-Lawal, Laurens Bosman, Nicole Chan, Sylvia Cho, Ivan Fong, & Kaye Holubowsky (eds.),*Japanese/Korean Linguistics* 30:289–303.

Unpublished manuscripts (selected)

Chén, Qiūshí. 2020. 「数量名」语言中的定指「名（数）量」短语：石柱方言名词性结构研究 [The definite 'NP-(NUM)-CL' phrase in a 'NUM-CL-NP' language: A Study on the nominal structure in Shizhu]. Master's thesis, Fudan University.

PRESENTATIONS

Peer-reviewed conference presentations

2026 NP-fronting in Shizhu vs. N-to-D in Zunyi: On shifts in movement type
The 15th International Workshop on Theoretical East Asian Linguistics (TEAL-15), CUHK, Hong Kong, June 5–6

2026 The interaction of person and number in Japhug: Towards a theory of cyclic fission
GLOW Syntax Workshop—Less documented languages in formal linguistics: Empirical problems and theoretical perspectives, Florence, Apr. 20

2026 Accidental gaps and agreement in Hokkaido Ainu
The 2nd GLOW in Asia Workshop for Young Scholars, Nanzan University, Nagoya, Mar. 13–15

2026 On fission and the cycle: Lessons from Japhug agreement
The 2026 LSA Annual Meeting. New Orleans. Jan. 8–11
[Received the Centennial Student Fund]

2025 On the dual status of *-e-* in Old Japanese verbal morphology
The 32nd Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (J/K 32; Satellite Workshop on Japanese/

Korean Historical Linguistics), Cornell University, Ithaca, Jun. 13–15

2025 Sometimes tripartite, sometimes neutral, but underlyingly nominative-accusative: On Ainu person indexation and its variations

The 61st Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 61), The University of Chicago, Chicago, May 9–11

2025 A tale of two zeros: Lessons from person indexation in Japhug [Long talk (45+15mins)]

The 47th Generative Linguistics in the Old World Colloquium (GLOW 47), Frankfurt am Main and Göttingen, Mar. 25–27

2024 N-to-D movement, scrambling, and DP-internal constituent order in Chichewa [Poster]

The 55th Annual Meeting of the North East Linguistic Society (NELS 55), Yale University, New Haven, Oct. 17–18

2024 From phrasal movement to head movement

The 25th Diachronic Generative Syntax Conference (DiGS 25). University of Mannheim, Mannheim, Jun. 25–28

2024 The cyclic nature of grammatical tone in Chichewa

The 55th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 55), McGill University, Montreal, May 2–4

2024 On the units of syntactic reanalysis: Evidence from two Sinitic languages

The 60th Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 60), The University of Chicago, Chicago, Apr. 26–28

2024 How to realize your lower copy: Evidence from Chichewa object dislocation

The 42nd West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL 42), UC Berkeley, Apr. 12–14

2024 Be careful where you reanalyze your syntax: On N(P)-fronting in two Southwestern Mandarin varieties

The 36th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL 36), Pomona College, Claremont, Mar. 23–24

2024 On the secondary nature of (morpho-)syntactic change: Evidence from *yi* in Southwestern Mandarin

The 48th Annual Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC 48), UPenn, Philadelphia, Mar. 16–17

2023 On (partial) object dislocation without object marking in Chichewa

The 54th Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 54), UConn, Storrs, Jun. 12–14

2023 Deriving *Mizenkei* in Old Japanese verbal morphology

The 30th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (J/K 30), Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Mar. 11–13

2019 比较视野下的石柱方言定指「名（数）量」短语
[The Shizhu definite [N-(NUM)-CL] phrase in comparative perspective]
The 4th International Symposium on Linguistic Typology (語言類型學國際學術研討會), Renmin University of China, Beijing, Jul. 5–7

2019 「说」与「讲」：四川资阳方言的两个意外范畴标记
[*Shuo* and *jiang*: Two types of mirativity in Ziyang]
The 5th Inter-Regional Forum on Dialectal Grammar (方言語法博學論壇), Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, Jun. 15–16

2018 石柱方言「名数量」结构的指称属性与句法功能研究
[The referential properties and syntactic functions of the [N-NUM-CL] phrase in Shizhu]
The 4th Inter-Regional Forum on Dialectal Grammar (方言語法博學論壇), CUHK, Hong Kong, Jun. 15–16 [with Shèng Yìmín]

2017 石柱方言「名数量」结构的句法功能与指称属性研究
[On the syntactic functions and referential properties of the [N-NUM-CL] phrase in Shizhu]
The Workshop on Definite CL-N Structures in Chinese Dialects (漢語方言定指「量名」結構研究工作坊), Fudan University, Shanghai, Nov. 11–12 [with Shèng Yìmín]

Other presentations (selected)

2026 浅层零形式与深层零形式：嘉绒语茶堡话人称一致系统的形态学分析
[Surface zeros and deep zeros: A morphological analysis of the person-agreement system in Japhug Gyalrong]
The 1st Workshop on New Perspectives in Minority Languages (民族語研究新視野第一次工作坊), Fudan University, Shanghai, Jun. 22

2023 On the units of syntactic reanalysis: Evidence from two Sinitic languages
UConn Linguistics LingLunch, Dec. 5

2023 Where does economy play a role in morphological reanalysis?
13th UConn Linguistics Graduate Roundtable, Dec. 2

2022 汉语普通话有几个「自己」？
[How many *ziji* are there in Putonghua?]
Weekly Grammar Salon at Fudan University (復旦大學語法沙龍), online, Sept. 8

2022 谈上代日语未然形的共时本质和两种中心语移位
[On the essence of *mizenkei*/*a*-stem in Old Japanese and two types of head movement]
Weekly Grammar Salon at Fudan University (復旦大學語法沙龍), online, May 19

2020 中心语还是指定语？汉语中数词的句法位置
[Head or specifier? On the position of numerals in Chinese]
Weekly Grammar Salon at Fudan University (復旦大學語法沙龍), Mar. 19

2019 西南官话 DP 左缘结构的制图分析
[The left periphery of Southwestern Mandarin DP: A cartographic approach]
Weekly Grammar Salon at Fudan University (復旦大學語法沙龍), Dec. 5

2019 语法化与重新加标：以资阳方言的「样」为例
[Grammaticalization and relabeling: A case study of the final particle *yang* in Ziyang]
Weekly Grammar Salon at Fudan University (復旦大學語法沙龍), Sept. 12

TEACHING AND OTHER EXPERIENCES

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

At UConn

LING-2010Q *The Science of Linguistics*: Fall 2025, Fall 2026

JAPN-1101 *Elementary Japanese I*: Winter 2026 (online synchronous)

JAPN-1102 *Elementary Japanese II*: Spring 2025

TEACHING ASSISTANT

At UConn

LING-1010 *Language and Mind* (leading multiple discussion sections): Fall 2022 (×3), Fall 2023 (×4), Fall 2024 (×1), Spring 2025 (×1), Spring 2026 (×2)

LING-1030 *The Diversity of Languages* (leading multiple discussion sections): Spring 2023 (×3), Spring 2024 (×2)
[Received David Michaels Teaching Assistant Award in Spring 2023]

At Fudan University

現代漢語 2-2 [*Modern Chinese 2-2*] (grading, holding office hours): Spring 2020

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCES

Spring 2026	Research Assistant (PI: Željko Bošković), UConn
Summer 2025	Research Assistant (PI: Adrian Stegovec), UConn
Spring 2024	Research Assistant (PI: Željko Bošković), UConn
2020–2021	Assistant editor (助理編輯), Journal Publishing Center (期刊中心), Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press (外語教學與研究出版社)
2018–2019	Assistant librarian (資料室助管), Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Fudan University

ACADEMIC SERVICE

REVIEWING

Journals

Natural Language & Linguistic Theory: 2026

Asian Languages and Linguistics: 2024

语言研究集刊 [*Bulletin of Linguistic Studies*]: 2023

The Linguistic Review: 2022, 2023, 2024

Conference proceedings

Proceedings of *the Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic* (Tu+): 2022

Conference abstracts

Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS): 2025, 2026

The Penn Linguistics Conference (PLC): 2024, 2025

Jornadas de Filología y Lingüística Histórica (JFILIH): 2024

Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL): 2023

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING

2023 Organizing committee member, *The 54th Annual Conference on African Linguistics* (ACAL 54). UConn, Storrs. Jun. 12–14

2017 Student helper, 漢語方言定指「量名」結構研究工作坊 [*Workshop on Definite CL-N Structures in Chinese Dialects*], Fudan University, Shanghai. Nov. 11–12

SERVICE TO UCONN

2023–2025 Treasurer of UConn Linguistics Club

2022–2023 Co-organizer of UConn LingLunch

2021–2022 Member of UConn Linguistics Archive Committee

PRIMARY DATA WORK

May – Jul. 2026; *ongoing*	Japhug (Gyalrong, Trans-Himalayan)
Jan. – May 2024	Twi (Kwa)
Jan. – May 2023	Urhobo (Edoid, Volta-Niger)
Jan. – Jun. 2022; *ongoing*	Chichewa (Bantu)
Jan. 2019; *ongoing*	Shízhù 石砫話 (Southwestern Mandarin, Sinitic)
Aug. – Sept. 2018	Líshuǐ 麗水話 (Southern Wu, Sinitic)

Jan. 2018 Yúháng 餘杭話 (Northern Wu, Sinitic)

LANGUAGES

Speaking & comprehension

Mandarin Chinese (Southwestern Mandarin & Pǔtōnghuà), English, Japanese

Reading

Old Japanese, Early Middle Japanese, Classical Chinese

Linguistic knowledge/research

Sinitic (Mandarinic, Wu, Yue (Cantonese), etc.), Chichewa, Japhug, Korean, Urhobo, etc.

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