

# ACADEMIC LECTURE



**Dr. Tim Man Ho LI**  
**Research Assistant Professor**  
**Dept. of Psychiatry**  
**CUHK**

**Date: 25 Aug 2022 (THU)**  
**Time: 14:30 - 16:00**  
**Venue: To be held by Zoom**



## **Topic: Natural language processing in mental health research**

### **Abstract:**

Natural language processing (NLP) applies computational techniques to the analysis and synthesis of texts. NLP has various applications in healthcare nowadays, supporting mental health promotion, intervention, and assessment. My research aims to develop NLP techniques and tools for mental health interventions and assessments. For example, some people leave text messages showing suicidal distress on the Internet and social media. An NLP system to automatically assess one's suicide risk on social media can increase the opportunity for early identification of at-risk individuals. Besides, most digital mental health interventions are designed and delivered with didactic and informational content. NLP-based chatbots will extend the boundary of digital interventions to provide interactive and conversational content in the future.

### **Biography:**

Dr. Li is a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He specializes in Digital Mental Health development. Before joining CUHK, Dr. Li worked as a Software Engineer of natural language processing in R&D companies. He earned his B.Eng. (Computer Science) in 2010, M.Sc. (Computer Science) in 2011, and Ph.D. (Youth Studies) in 2015 at the University of Hong Kong. He then obtained his M.A. (Linguistics) in 2021 at the City University of Hong Kong. He completed a research post-doctoral fellowship in pediatric rehabilitation at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. His research interests lie in digital mental health interventions, natural language processing, and computerized handwriting assessment. He received the INFORMS ISS Design Science Award 2020. He has published a total of 38 peer-reviewed articles and 3 book chapters to date.

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