Variation and Adaptation in Lexical Processing and Acquisition

CONVENED by:

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Main Objectives and Agenda

Recent emphasis on language knowledge as an emergent dynamic system has drawn considerable attention to the role of time in the way speakers acquire and use their own language. There are at least three levels on which time matters. At the processing level, the interaction between processing and memory constraints, and in particular between short-term and long-term memory issues, is understood to shape the way we recode and organise time-bound sequences of linguistic signals. On an ontogenetic scale, the age of acquisition of language input data, and the duration of exposure (in the case of multilingual contexts) are known to interact with issues of cognitive maturation and brain plasticity, yielding different outcomes as a function of different time intervals. In this connection, also the distribution of input data in a particular linguistic environment (both in terms of word type and token frequency) is bound to have an impact on rate and speed of acquisition and on overall knowledge organisation. Finally, all previously mentioned time-effects conspire to make the language system change through usage and acquisition in passing from one generation to the ensuing one.

The present workshop is intended to address some of these issues through the joint contribution of a number of invited leading scholars, and a few younger research fellows who are currently carrying out joint interdisciplinary research under the 2012-13 NetWordS granting scheme.
Programme

Thursday, 19 September 2013

9:30  0:15  WELCOME

9:45  0:30  Vedran Galetić - University of Zagreb, Croatia
Towards capturing latent conceptual spaces

10:15  0:30  Kevin Tang - University College London, United Kingdom & Paweł Mandera - Ghent University, Belgium
The OpenLexicons Project - Development and Uses of Subtlex-Corpora for Investigating Sound Symbolism and Brazilian Portuguese

10:45  0:30  COFFEE BREAK

11:15  0:45  Stephen Anderson – Yale University, USA
The Sources of Non-Concatenative Morphology in Diachronic Change

12:00  0:30  Stela Manova - Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Corpus Linguistics and Text Technologies – Vienna, Austria
Suffix ordering in Italian and Russian: A cognitive approach

12:30  0:30  Aleksandra Bagasheva - Department of English and American Studies, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Bulgaria
Semantically-conditioned two-suffix constructions in English and Bulgarian

13:00  0:30  Daniela Katunar - University of Zagreb, Croatia
Constructional effects on prepositional antonymy

13:30  1:30  lunch

15:00  0:45  Geert Booij, Leiden University, The Netherlands
Language use and the architecture of grammar: a Construction Morphology perspective

15:45  0:45  Angela Ralli – University of Patras, Greece
Variation in Morphology

16:30  0:30  COFFEE BREAK
17:00 0:45  Christina L. Gagné, Thomas L. Spalding – University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada  

*Adaptation Effects in Lexical Processing*

17:45 0:45  Marko Tadić – University of Zagreb, Croatia  

*New language resources, tools and services for morphological processing*

18:30 END of the day

20:00 DINNER

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**Friday, 20 September 2013**

9:00 0:45  Ingo Plag - Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, Germany  

*Against homophony: the acoustics of English {s} morphemes*

9:45 0:45  Hanne Ruus, University of Copenhagen, Denmark  

*Diachronic Variation in Danish Morphology*

10:30 0:45  Petar Milin – University of Tuebingen, Germany – University of Novi Sad, Serbia  

*Morphology Acquisition with Naïve Discriminative Learning*

11:15 0:30  COFFEE BREAK

11:45 0:30  Claudia Marzi - ILC-CNR, Pisa, Italy & Walter Daelemans, University of Antwerp, Belgium  

*On memory and computation: a reappraisal of German noun plural inflection*

12:15 0:30  Emmanuel Keuleers- Ghent University, Belgium & Marcello Ferro - ILC-CNR, Pisa, Italy  

*A psycho-computational view on wordlikeness*

12:45 0:45  Mila Vulchanova - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway & Wolfgang Dressler – University of Vienna, Austria  

*The LangEqual project*

13:30 END OF THE WORKSHOP

15.00 3rd NetWordS Steering Committee Meeting