

NETWORDS SUMMER SCHOOL 2012

(2nd - 6th July)

Abstract

The First NetWordS Summer School took place in Dubrovnik, Croatia at the Centre for Advanced Academic Studies (CAAS). The summer school offered courses to 76 participants, with an equal balance of methodology courses and topical courses broaching a variety of perspectives on investigating the architecture of the mental lexicon.

Scientific description

The school offered a broad and intensive range of mono-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary courses on issues related to the architecture of the mental lexicon. Teachers, top scholars in their respective fields, provided an informed synthesis of a variety of topics and approaches, with a view to promoting interdisciplinary methods of research and assessment for grammar architecture and language physiology. Methodological courses were focused on different disciplines such as neurolinguistics, psycholinguistics, cognitive linguistics and computational linguistics. The main goal of topical courses, on the other hand, was to present some of the most recent and prominent endeavours in understanding and explaining the structure and the functioning of the mental lexicon from a multi-disciplinary perspective. For each methodological course, two teachers with very different scientific backgrounds were asked to provide their own view on a common topic and to suggest synergic ways to promote further progress.

In spite of the wide variety of knowledge areas and topics covered, all courses raised considerable interest, as witnessed by the even distribution of per-course attendance and the ample range of students' scholarly background. Students had the opportunity to learn more about language-informed processes such as acquisition, word processing and word recognition and to understand their impact on morphological and syntactic structure. One of the most significant benefits of the school was arguably the opportunity for opened discussions during courses, and the availability of free time for students and teachers to meet and exchange thoughts in an informal setting. This also made room for both teachers and students to develop new personal and scientific contacts and plan prospective collaborations.

Assessment and impact of the event

By bringing together experts of various scientific domains and different theoretical inclinations, the First NetWordS Summer school contributed to advance the current awareness of theoretical, typological, psycholinguistic, computational and neurophysiological evidence on the structure and processing of words, with a view to fostering novel methods of research and assessment for grammar architecture and language physiology. The First NetWordS Summer School contributed to promote training and development of young scientists (Phd students and junior researchers) and gave momentum

for new scientific partnerships. Moreover, it enabled to shape new ways of thinking that will be conducive to cross-disciplinary breakthroughs.

All electronic records of the school, from teaching materials to syllabi, lists of references and evening lectures were made openly available on the *download area* of the NetWordS website (<http://www.networds-esf.eu>) through a simple identification procedure. The high level of participation and commitment witnessed in Dubrovnik, the overall amount of positive feedback received by the school organisers and the number of downloads from the School dedicated web area at the time of writing this report, provided a strong motivation for putting an even greater effort into a second NetWordS Summer School, to be held in two years.

Annex 1

Programme

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	type	title	teachers
09.00 - 10.30	10:00 Welcome by Prof. Milena Žic Fuchs	M1	M1	M1	M1	M1	Neuro. and Psycho-linguistic protocols for exploring the mental lexicon	Nicola Molinaro, Kepa Paz-Alonso
		M2	M2	M2	M2	M2	Statistics in psycholinguistic inquiry	Fermin Moscoso, Petar Milin
11.00 - 12.30	M1	T1	T1	T1	T1	T1	Construction-based and paradigm-based approaches to word structure	Geert Booij, James Blevins,
		T2	T2	T2	T2	T2	Phonology-morphology interaction: interdisciplinary evidence	Sabine Arndt-Lappe
	M2	T3	T3	T3	T3	T3	Morphological Compounding: theoretical and cognitive implications for the grammar architecture	Sergio Scalise, Gary Libben
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break			
14.00 - 15.30	T1	M3	M3	M3	M3	M3	Corpus-based approaches to word structure	Gero Kunter
	T2	M4	M4	M4	M4	M4	Exemplar-based versus abstractionist models of word processing	Antal van den Bosch, Colin Davis
	T3	M5	M5	M5	M5	M5	Psycho-computational models of lexical storage and access	Vito Pirrelli, H�el�ene Giraudo
15.30-16.00	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break			
16.00 - 17.30	M3	T4	T4	T4	T4	T4	Word Recognition and Production	Jon Andoni Du�nabeitia, Niels Janssen
	M4	T5	T5	T5	T5	T5	Cognitive linguistic and psychological perspectives on lexical semantics	R�eka Benczes, David Vinson
	M5	T6	T6	T6	T6	T6	Distributional approaches to word meaning	Magnus Salgren, Alessandro Lenci
18.00 - 19.30	T4	L1	L2	L3	Closing session	L1	Morphological constraints on orthographic processing	Jonathan Grainger
	L2					Processing words in a second language	Manuel Carreiras	
	L3					The Geometry of Meaning: Semantics Based on Conceptual Spaces	Peter Gaardenfors	