

Thesis topics

Sprachwissenschaft des Deutschen: Psycholinguistik

The research focus of the group is on real-time context effects in language comprehension across the lifespan (in kindergarten children, young, and older adults). We examine visual context effects as well as linguistic context effects. We are interested in how rapidly comprehenders can exploit different contextual cues (e.g., using eye tracking or event-related brain potentials) but also in protracted context effects (e.g., as revealed in post-experiment comprehension and memory test scores).

Below are the areas in which I supervise theses. The individual areas provide merely a characterization of the topic and will require further specification.

1. Context effects in relation to language register
2. The Coordinated Interplay Account: Modeling linguistic representations word-by-word to generate hypotheses about context effects in language processing
3. World-language relations (e.g., verb-action congruence vs. thematic role relations congruence; associative vs. referential relationships) in language comprehension
4. Second language: To which extent does context facilitate processing and learning?
5. Comparing different contextual cues (e.g., emotional facial expressions, gaze, actions, color, size, gestures) in their effects on language processing
6. Language comprehension across the lifetime: Context effects in kindergarten children, older vs. younger adults
7. The role of the linguistic context (e.g., parallelism, lifetime effect)
8. Comprehension mechanisms in relation to genre and situations (e.g., poetry vs. prose texts)

Please feel free to consult the following publications to obtain some insight into the sort of research that we are conducting in the group. Please see here for lab information and lab procedure information: <https://www.linguistik.hu-berlin.de/de/institut/professuren/psycholinguistik/psyling/laboratory>

References

Edited volume

Pia Knoeferle, Pirita Pyykkönen-Klauck, & Matthew W. Crocker (eds). (2016). *Visually Situated Language Comprehension* (Advances in Consciousness Research). John Benjamins.

Articles

1. **P. Knoeferle** (2019). Predicting (variability of) context effects in language comprehension. *Journal of Cultural Cognitive Science*, 3, 141-158.
2. Abashidze, D., Carminati, M-N., & **Knoeferle, P.** (2019). Anticipating a future versus integrating a recent event?: Evidence from eye-tracking. *Acta Psychologica*, Article 102916, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actpsy.2019.102916>.
3. Rodriguez-Ronderos, C., Münster, K., Guerra, E., Kreysa, H., Rodriguez, A., Kröger, J., Kluth, T., Burigo, M., Abashidze, D., Nunnemann, N., & **Knoeferle, P.** (2018). Eye Tracking during visually situated language comprehension: flexibility and limitations in uncovering visual context effects. *Journal of Visualized Experiments*, 141, e57694, doi:10.3791/57694.
4. Guerra, E., & **Knoeferle, P.** (2018). Semantic interference and facilitation: understanding the integration of spatial distance and conceptual similarity during sentence reading. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 10.3389/fpsyg.2018.00718.
5. Kreysa, H., Nunnemann, E., & **Knoeferle, P.** (2018). Distinct effects of different visual cues on sentence comprehension and later recall: The case of speaker gaze versus depicted actions. *Acta Psychologica*, 188, 220-229. doi: 10.1016/j.actpsy.2018.05.001
6. Münster, K., & **Knoeferle, P.** (2018). Extending Situated Language Comprehension (Accounts) with Speaker and Comprehender Characteristics: Toward Socially Situated Interpretation. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 8, 10.3389/fpsyg.2017.02267.
7. Knoeferle, P., Urbach, T., & Kutas, M. (2014). Different mechanisms for role relations versus verb-action congruence effects: Evidence from ERPs in picture-sentence verification. *Acta Psychologica*, 152, 133-148.
8. Guerra, E., & Knoeferle, P. (2014). Effects of object distance on incremental semantic interpretation: similarity is closeness. *Cognition*, 133, 535-552.
9. Knoeferle, P., (2014). Conjunction meaning can modulate parallelism facilitation: Eye-tracking evidence from German clausal coordination *Journal of Memory and Language*, 75, 140-158.
10. Carminati, M.N., & Knoeferle, P. (2013). Effects of speaker emotional facial expression and listener age on incremental sentence processing. *PLoS ONE* 8(9): e72559. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0072559.
11. Knoeferle, P. & Kreysa, H. (2012). Effects of speaker gaze on syntactic structuring. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 2:376. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2011.00376.

12. Knoeferle, P., Carminati, M. N., Abashidze, D., & Essig, K. (2011). Preferential inspection of recent real-world events over future events: evidence from eye tracking during spoken sentence comprehension. *Frontiers in Psychology, 2*:376. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2011.00376
13. Knoeferle, P., Urbach, T., & Kutas, M (2011). Comprehending visual context influences on incremental sentence comprehension: insights from ERPs and picture-sentence verification. *Psychophysiology, 48*, 495-506.
14. Knoeferle, P., Habets, B., Crocker, M. W., Munte, T.F. (2008). Visual scenes trigger immediate syntactic reanalysis: evidence from ERPs during situated spoken comprehension. *Cerebral Cortex, 18*, 789-795.
15. Knoeferle, P., & Crocker, M.W. (2007). The influence of recent scene events on spoken comprehension: evidence from eye movements. *Journal of Memory and Language, 57*, 519-543.
16. Knoeferle, P., & Crocker, M. W. (2006). The coordinated interplay of scene, utterance, and world knowledge: evidence from eye-tracking. *Cognitive Science, 30*, 481-529.