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Cambridge Elements

Elements in Perception
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MULTISENSORY INTERACTIONS IN THE REAL WORLD

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-46822-0 — Multisensory Interactions in the Real World
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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108468220

DOI: 10.1017/9781108578738

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Luis Morís-Fernández and Mireia Torralba 2019

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First published 2019

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-108-46822-0 Paperback

ISSN 2515-0502 (online)

ISSN 2515-0499 (print)

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Abstract: The interactions between the senses are essential for cognitive functions such as perception, attention, and action planning. Past research helped understanding multisensory processes in the laboratory. Yet, the efforts to extrapolate these findings to the real-world are scarce. Extrapolation to real-world contexts is important for practical and theoretical reasons. Multisensory phenomena might be expressed differently in real-world settings compared to simpler laboratory situations. Some effects might become stronger, others may disappear, and new outcomes could be discovered. This Element discusses research that uncovers multisensory interactions in complex environments, with an emphasis on the interplay of multisensory mechanisms with other processes.

Keywords: multisensory, real-world, attention, perception, cognitive conflict

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ISBNs: 9781108468220 (PB), 9781108578738 (OC)
ISSNs: 2515-0502 (online), ISSN 2515-0499 (print)

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