Research Methods in Linguistics

A comprehensive guide to conducting research projects in linguistics, this book provides a complete training in state-of-the-art data collection, processing, and analysis techniques. The book follows the structure of a research project, guiding the reader through the steps involved in collecting and processing data, and providing a solid foundation for linguistic analysis. All major research methods are covered, each by a leading expert. Rather than focusing on narrow specializations, the text fosters interdisciplinarity, with many chapters focusing on shared methods such as sampling, experimental design, transcription, and constructing an argument. Highly practical, the book offers helpful tips on how and where to get started, depending on the nature of the research question. The only book that covers the full range of methods used across the field, this student-friendly text is also a helpful reference source for the more experienced researcher and current practitioner.

ROBERT J. PODESVA is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Linguistics at Stanford University.

DEVYANI SHARMA is a Senior Lecturer in Linguistics at Queen Mary University of London.

Research Methods in Linguistics

EDITED BY

ROBERT J. PODESVA

Stanford University

AND

DEVYANI SHARMA

Queen Mary University of London

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

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/9781107696358

First published 2013

Printing in the United Kingdom by TJ International Ltd. Padstow Cornwall

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

ISBN 978-1-107-01433-6 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-107-69635-8 Paperback

Contents

Figures

Tables

Contributors

REBEKHA ABBUHL
California State University, Long Beach, US

R. HARALD BAAYEN
Eberhard Karls University, Tübingen, Germany, and University of Alberta, Canada

JOHN BEAVERS
The University of Texas at Austin, US

HÉLÈNE BLONDEAU
University of Florida, US

PAUL BOERSMA
University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

ISABELLE BUCHSTALLER
Leipzig University, Germany

SHOBHANA CHELLIAH
University of North Texas, US

BART DE BOER
Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

PENELOPE ECKERT
Stanford University, US

SUSAN EHRLICH
York University, Canada

SUSAN GASS
Michigan State University, US

STEFAN TH. GRIES
University of California, Santa Barbara, US

DANIEL EZRA JOHNSON
Lancaster University, UK

ELSI KAISER
University of Southern California, US

GHADA KHATTAB
Newcastle University, UK

EREZ LEVON
Queen Mary University of London, UK

BETTELOU LOS
Radboud University, Netherlands

ALISON MACKEY
Georgetown University, US

NAOMI NAGY
University of Toronto, Canada

JOHN NEWMAN
University of Alberta, Canada

ROBERT J. PODESVA
Stanford University, US

TANYA ROMANIUK
Portland State University, US

NATALIE SCHILLING
Georgetown University, US

CARSON T. SCHÜTZE
University of California, Los Angeles, US

PETER SELLS
University of York, UK

DEVYANI SHARMA
Queen Mary University of London, UK

JON SPROUSE
University of Connecticut, US

ANS VAN KEMENADE
Radboud University, Netherlands

JAMES A. WALKER
York University, Canada

WILLEM ZUIDEMA
University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

ELIZABETH ZSIGA
Georgetown University, US

Acknowledgments

This book has been a truly collaborative enterprise. It could never have been produced without the expertise and dedication of our contributing authors, to whom we owe our greatest debt. In our effort to foster dialogue across the subdisciplines of our field, we have asked contributors to take a broad perspective, to reflect on issues beyond their areas of particular specialization, and to neatly package their ideas for a diverse readership. In rising to meet this challenge, authors have consulted scholars and readings that interface with their own areas of expertise, endured a lengthy external review and extensive revision process, and in all cases produced chapters that we think will be useful to wide swaths of researchers. We thank the authors for their significant contributions.

The initial impetus for this book came from our students, who ask all the right questions about data (who? when? how much?) and analysis (why? how?). We hope they find answers and new questions in these pages. We are also indebted to five anonymous reviewers who, at an early stage of this project, affirmed the usefulness of the proposed collection and made crucial recommendations regarding its scope, structure, and balance of coverage.

For their expert advice and truly generous contributions, we thank an army of reviewers and advisors, none of whom of course bears any responsibility for the choices ultimately made: David Adger, Paul Baker, Joan Beal, Claire Bowern, Kathryn Campbell-Kibler, Charles Clifton, Paul De Decker, Judith Degen, Susanne Gahl, Cynthia Gordon, Matthew Gordon, Tyler Kendall, Roger Levy, John Moore, Naomi Nagy, Jeanette Sakel, Rebecca Scarborough, Morgan Sonderegger, Naoko Taguchi, Marisa Tice, Anna Marie Trester, and Alan Yu.

We would also like to acknowledge our departments: the Department of Linguistics at Stanford University and the Department of Linguistics at Queen Mary University of London. The range of methods represented in the work of our closest colleagues continues to inspire us and push our field forward. Thanks also to the Department of Linguistics at Georgetown University and the Department of English at the National University of Singapore, where we spent significant time during the production of this volume.

Helena Dowson, Fleur Jones, Gnanadevi Rajasundaram, Christina Sarigiannidou, Alison Tickner and the team at Cambridge University Press provided efficient and very patient support throughout the production schedule. Finally, special thanks to Andrew Winnard at Cambridge University Press for his encouragement and support. Like us, he recognized the many challenges of

developing such a project, but also shared our enthusiasm for its potential uses in a fast-developing field. We hope this book represents a proof of concept.

The editors and publisher acknowledge the following sources of copyright material reproduced in Chapter 8 and are grateful for the permissions granted:

Figure 8.1 Reprinted from *Journal of Memory and Language* 38, Allopenna, Magnuson, and Tanenhaus, Tracking the time course of spoken word recognition: evidence for continuous mapping models. Copyright 1998, with permission from Elsevier.

Figure 8.2 reprinted from:

(a) *Journal of Memory and Language* 38, Allopenna, Magnuson, and Tanenhaus, Tracking the time course of spoken word recognition: evidence for continuous mapping models. Copyright 1998, with permission from Elsevier.

(b) *Cognition* 73, Trueswell, Sekerina, Hill, and Logrip, The kindergarten-path effect: studying on-line sentence processing in young children, 89–134. Copyright 1999, with permission from Elsevier.

(c) *Cognition* 109, Brown-Schmidt and Konopka, Little houses and casas pequeñas: message formulation and syntactic form in unscripted speech with speakers of English and Spanish, 274–80. Copyright 2008, with permission from Elsevier.

(d) *Verb-Instrument Information During On-line Processing*, Rachel Sussmann, Copyright 2006, with permission from the author.

Figure 8.3 reprinted from:

(a) *Journal of Memory and Language* 49, Kamide, Altmann, and Haywood, Prediction and thematic information in incremental sentence processing: evidence from anticipatory eye movements, 133–56. Copyright 2003, with permission from Elsevier.

(b) *Cognition* 88, Weber, Grice, and Crocker, The role of prosody in the interpretation of structural ambiguities: a study of anticipatory eye movements, B63–B72. Copyright 2006, with permission from Elsevier.

(c) *Language and Cognitive Processes* 26, Kaiser, Consequences of subject-hood, pronominalisation, and contrastive focus, 1625–66. Copyright 2011, reprinted by permission of Taylor & Francis Ltd, www.tandf.co.uk/journals.

(d) *Cognition* 76, Arnold, Eisenband, Brown-Schmidt, and Trueswell, The rapid use of gender information: eyetracking evidence of the time-course of pronoun resolution, B13–B26. Copyright 2000, with permission from Elsevier.

Figure 8.4 Reprinted from *Cognitive Psychology* 49, Snedeker and Trueswell, The developing constraints on parsing decisions: the role of lexical-biases and referential scenes in child and adult sentence processing, 238–99. Copyright 2004, with permission from Elsevier.