Cognitive Neuroscience of Natural Language Use

When we think of everyday language use, the first things that come to mind include colloquial conversations, reading and writing emails, sending text messages or reading a book. But can we study the brain basis of language as we use it in our daily lives? As a topic of study, the cognitive neuroscience of language is far removed from these language-in-use examples. However, recent developments in research and technology have made studying the neural underpinnings of naturally occurring language much more feasible. In this book a range of international experts provide a state-of-the-art overview of current approaches to making the cognitive neuroscience of language more 'natural' and closer to language use as it occurs in real life. The chapters explore topics including discourse comprehension, the study of dialogue, literature comprehension and the insights gained from looking at natural speech in neuropsychology.

ROEL WILLEMS is a senior researcher at the Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour and Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Cambridge University Press 978-1-107-04201-8 - Cognitive Neuroscience of Natural Language Use Edited by Roel M. Willems Frontmatter More information Cambridge University Press 978-1-107-04201-8 - Cognitive Neuroscience of Natural Language Use Edited by Roel M. Willems Frontmatter More information

Cognitive Neuroscience of Natural Language Use

Edited by Roel M. Willems





CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

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/9781107042018

© Cambridge University Press 2015

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2015

Printed in the United Kingdom by Clays, St Ives plc

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

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data
Cognitive neuroscience of natural language use / edited by Roel M. Willems.
p. ; cm.
Includes bibliographical references and index.
ISBN 978-1-107-04201-8 (hardback)
1. Biolinguistics. 2. Neurolinguistics. 3. Language and languages –
Origin. 4. Natural language processing. I. Willems, Roel M., 1980– ,
editor. [DNLM: 1. Language. 2. Cognition – physiology.
3. Neuropsychology. P 107]
P132.C64 2014
401–dc23

ISBN 978-1-107-04201-8 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Contents

	List of plates List of figures List of contributors	<i>page</i> vii ix
	List of abbreviations	xii
1	Cognitive neuroscience of natural language use: introduction ROEL M. WILLEMS	1
2	fMRI methods for studying the neurobiology of language under naturalistic conditions MICHAEL ANDRIC & STEVEN L. SMALL	8
3	Why study connected speech production? SHARON ASH & MURRAY GROSSMAN	29
4	Situation models in naturalistic comprehension CHRISTOPHER A. KURBY & JEFFREY M. ZACKS	59
5	Language comprehension in rich non-linguistic contexts: combining eye-tracking and event-related brain potentials PIA KNOEFERLE	77
6	The NOLB model: a model of the natural organization of language and the brain JEREMY I. SKIPPER	101
7	Towards a neurocognitive poetics model of literary reading ARTHUR M. JACOBS	135
8	Putting Broca's region into context: fMRI evidence for a role in predictive language processing LINE BURHOLT KRISTENSEN & MIKKEL WALLENTIN	160

vi	Contents	
9	Towards a multi-brain perspective on communication in dialogue ANNA K. KUHLEN, CARSTEN ALLEFELD, SILKE ANDERS, & JOHN-DYLAN HAYNES	182
10	On the generation of shared symbols ARJEN STOLK, MARK BLOKPOEL, IRIS VAN ROOIJ, & IVAN TONI	201
11	What are naturalistic comprehension paradigms teaching us about language? URI HASSON & GIOVANNA EGIDI	228
	Index	256

Plates

The color plate section appears between pages 114 and 115

- 3.1 Correlations of cortical atrophy with speech rate in naPPA, svPPA and bvFTD.
- 3.2 Correlation of gray matter atrophy with speech rate in lvPPA.
- 3.3 Overlap of correlations of measures of language production and neuropsychological test performance with cortical atrophy in Lewy body spectrum disorder.
- 3.4 Correlation of atrophy with noun phrase pauses in svPPA.
- 3.5 Correlation of gray matter atrophy with well-formed sentences in lvPPA.
- 3.6 Gray matter atrophy and reduced white matter fractional anisotropy in primary progressive aphasia, and regressions relating grammaticality to neuroimaging.
- 4.1 Regions that in Yarkoni *et al.* (2008) showed a significant change in activity across time by story condition, and their corresponding time courses. Reproduced with permission.
- 4.2 From Ezzyat and Davachi (2011). (A) Regions showing an increase in activity at event boundaries. (B) Regions showing an increase in activity as events unfolded across time. Reproduced with permission.
- 4.3 From Ezzyat and Davachi (2011). (A) Within-event binding in memory performance was correlated with three regions that increased in activity as events unfolded. (B) Memory for information in event boundaries was correlated with three regions that increased in activity at event boundaries. Reproduced with permission.
- 4.4 Regions showing modality-specific imagery effects in Kurby and Zacks (2013). Reproduced with permission.

viii List of plates

- 6.1 Language use is supported by most of the brain. Activity in language comprehension networks is shown across all levels and units of linguistic analysis as determined by a neuroimaging meta-analysis (Laird *et al.*, 2011).
- 6.2 Caricature of the NOLB model as applied to a listener who was looking at a moving object in the sky and who is asked "Is it an airplane or a bird?" by a visible interlocutor.
- 8.1 Map of Broca's region based on the distribution of receptors of neurotransmitters and modulators. Reprinted with permission from the authors and from the publisher (Amunts & Zilles, 2012, figure 4).
- 8.2 Effects in Broca's area in sentence processing.
- 10.1 Tacit Communication Game. Reproduced with permission from Stolk *et al.* (2013).
- 10.2 Generating and understanding novel shared symbols during live communicative interactions induced neural upregulation (of 55–85 Hz gamma-band activity) over right temporal and ventromedial brain regions. Reproduced with permission from Stolk *et al.* (2013).
- 10.3 A sequence of analogical inferences can give rise to an inferred new meaning of a novel symbol such as the "wiggle."
- 10.4 Functional imaging data, supported by observation of consequences following brain injury, highlight a fundamental role for right temporal and ventromedial prefrontal brain regions in the coordination of conceptual knowledge in communication.
- 11.1 The keyhole error: the world appears shaped like a keyhole when viewed through one. A view of Rome through a keyhole on the Aventine Hill. Copyright Clive Harris, photosoul.co.uk, used with permission.
- 11.2 A language network? Regions where BOLD activity tracked story-related arousal in Wallentin *et al.* (2011a). We thank M. Wallentin for making available the data used to create this figure.

Figures

4.1	Regions that showed modality-specific imagery effects in Kurby and Zacks (2013), Study 1, increased in activity only during the reading of coherent stories (Study 2). Reproduced with permission.	page 72
6.1	PubMed searches for terms pertaining to levels (left) and units (right) of linguistic analysis in the titles or abstracts of studies of the organization of language and the brain in 20	
	top neuroscience journals.	105
6.2	The 'classical' OLB. Reproduction of Figure 2 from 'The organization of language and the brain' (Geschwind, 1970,	
	p. 941).	106
7.1	(a) Correlation between Arousal span (max – min, as estimated by the BAWL) and rated Suspense for 65 segments of the story <i>The Sandman</i> ; $r^2 = 0.25$, $p < 0.0001$. (b) Correlation between mean Emotional Valence (as estimated by the BAWL) and rated Valence for 120 excerpts from Harry Potter books (in German); $r^2 = 0.28$,	
	<i>p</i> <0.0001.	141
7.2	Simplified version of the neurocognitive model of literary reading (Jacobs, 2011).	142
8.1	Response accuracy and response time from reading study by Kristensen <i>et al.</i> (2014a).	167

Contributors

- CARSTEN ALLEFELD Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience Berlin, Charité–Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany and Berlin Center of Advanced Neuroimaging, Charité–Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- SILKE ANDERS Department of Neurology, University of Lübeck, Lübeck, Germany
- MICHAEL ANDRIC Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMeC), University of Trento, Trento (TN), Italy
- SHARON ASH Department of Neurology, Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA
- MARK BLOKPOEL Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Radboud University Nijmegen, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- GIOVANNA EGIDI Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMeC), University of Trento, Trento (TN), Italy
- MURRAY GROSSMAN Department of Neurology, Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA
- URI HASSON Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMeC), The University of Trento, Trento (TN), Italy
- JOHN-DYLAN HAYNES Berlin School of Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany, Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience Berlin, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany and Berlin Center of Advanced Neuroimaging, Charité–Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- ARTHUR M. JACOBS Neurocognitive Psychology, Free University of Berlin, Germany and Dahlem Institute for Neuroimaging of Emotion (D.I.N.E.), Berlin, Germany

X

List of contributors

- PIA KNOEFERLE Cognitive Interaction Technology Excellence Center (CITEC), Bielefeld University, Germany
- LINE BURHOLT KRISTENSEN Department of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen S, Denmark and Center of Functionally Integrative Neuroscience, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus C, Denmark
- ANNA K. KUHLEN Berlin School of Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany, Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience Berlin, Charité–Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany and Berlin Center of Advanced Neuroimaging, Charité–Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- CHRISTOPHER A. KURBY Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI, USA
- IRIS VAN ROOIJ Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Radboud University Nijmegen, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- JEREMY I. SKIPPER Division of Psychology and Language Sciences, University College London, London, UK
- STEVEN L. SMALL Department of Neurology, University of California, Irvine School of Medicine, Irvine, CA, USA
- ARJEN STOLK Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Radboud University Nijmegen, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- IVAN TONI Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Radboud University Nijmegen, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- MIKKEL WALLENTIN Center of Functionally Integrative Neuroscience, Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus C, Denmark and Center for Semiotics, Aarhus University, Aarhus C, Denmark
- ROEL M. WILLEMS Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Radboud University Nijmegen, Nijmegen, The Netherlands and Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

JEFFREY M. ZACKS Washington University, St. Louis, MO, USA

xi

Abbreviations

	Alphaimar's diagona
AD al	anterior insula
	anterior introporital autous
	anterior intrapartiel suicus
Amy	
ANEW	Affective Norms for English Words
ANS	autonomic nervous system
AOS	apraxia of speech
AROM	associative read-out models
aTL	anterior temporal lobe
BA	Brodmann area
BAWL	Berlin Affective Word List
BIASLESS	Biasless Identification of Activated Sites by Linear
	Evaluation of Signal Similarity
BOLD	blood-oxygenation-level dependent
bvFTD	behavioral variant frontotemporal dementia
CBS	corticobasal syndrome
dACC	dorsal anterior cingulate cortex
DCM	dynamic causal modelling
DEF	definitive
DMN	default-mode network
dmPFC	dorsomedial prefrontal cortex
DoA	Dictionary of Affect
dPCC	dorsal posterior cingulate cortex
EEG	electroencephalography
ELN	extended language network
ERP	event-related potential
EST	event segmentation theory
FA	fractional anisotropy
FAS	verbal fluency test using the letters F, A, S
FFG	fusiform gyrus
fMRI	functional magnetic resonance imaging
fNIRS	functional near-infra red spectroscopy

xii

CAMBRIDGE

List of abbreviations

FPC	frontopolar cortex
FTD	frontotemporal dementia
fvFTD	frontal variant frontotemporal dementia
FWE	family-wise error
FWHM	full width at half maximum
GLM	general linear model
GM	gray matter
HRV	heart rate variability
IAPS	International Affective Picture System
ICA	independent components analysis
IFG	inferior frontal gyrus
IFGOp	inferior frontal gyrus, pars opercularis
IFGOr	inferior frontal gyrus, pars orbitalis
IFGTr	inferior frontal gyrus, pars triangularis
IPL	inferior parietal lobule
ISC	inter-subject correlations
LBD	Lewy body disease
LBSD	Lewy body spectrum disorder
LH	left hemisphere
LIFG	left inferior frontal gyrus
lvPPA	primary progressive aphasia, logopenic variant
mCC	middle cingulate cortex
MEG	magnetoencephalography
MLU	mean length of utterance
MMSE	mini Mental State Examination
mPFC	medial prefrontal cortex
MR	magnetic resonance
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MROM	multiple read-out model
MT+	middle temporal complex
MTG	middle temporal gyrus
MVPA	multi-voxel pattern analysis
naPPA	primary progressive aphasia, non-fluent/agrammatic
	variant
NOLB	natural organization of language and the brain
NP	noun phrase
OLB	organization of language and the brain
OS	object–subject
OSV	object-subject-verb
OVS	object–verb–subject
PCG	precentral gyrus

xiv	List of abbreviations
PD	Parkinson's disease
PDD	Parkinson's disease with dementia
PFC	prefrontal cortex
PPA	primary progressive aphasia
PPI	psycho-physiological interactions
PRS	present tense
PSP	progressive supranuclear palsy
pSTS	poster superior temporal sulcus
REFL	reflexive
RH	right hemisphere
ROI	region of interest
RS	repetition suppression
rTMS	repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation
SD	standard deviation
SEM	structural equation modeling
SFG	superior frontal gyrus
SII	secondary somatosensory cortex
SMA	supplementary motor area
SMG	supramarginal gyrus
SO	subject-object
SOA	stimulus onset asynchrony
SOV	subject-object-verb
SPL	superior parietal lobule
STG	superior temporal gyrus
STP	supratemporal plane
svPPA	primary progressive aphasia, semantic variant
TL	temporal lobe
ToM	Theory of Mind
TPJ	temporo-parietal junction
TS	time series
tvFTD	temporal variant frontotemporal dementia
VAR	vector autoregressive modelling
vmPFC	ventromedial prefrontal cortex
VP	verb phrase
vPMC	ventral premotor cortex
WM	white matter
wpm	words per minute