

## **The pragmatics of attitude ascription**

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## **REPORT OF FIRST MEETING – GRONINGEN OCTOBER 2010**

The aim of our first meeting was twofold:

First, we had planned to discuss the proposed experiments in more detail. In particular, we wanted to discuss the specific hypotheses that will be tested with each experiment as well as the order in which the experiments should be run and the age of the children that will be tested.

Second, we had arranged to visit the two eye-tracking labs that we will be using at the University of Groningen, one set up for adults and the other one for children.

Both objectives were met in our first meeting – note that this meeting lasted only 1 day:

Regarding the proposed experiments, we have agreed to run two eye-tracking studies using avoidance false-belief tasks, one with adults and another one with children. The objective of the first study will be to investigate the nature of any possible biases in adults' responses to this type of task – as reported by Leslie and colleagues in an earlier study. The objective of the developmental study will be to evaluate to what extent the results observed by Leslie et al. in previous studies were due to screening tasks included in the experimental design, or to genuine biases in children's false-belief reasoning.

After visiting the eye-tracking labs where we will be carrying out the research, we were also able to discuss more specific details about the set-up of the experiments, especially for the developmental study since we need to persuade children to perform a computer version of the false-belief task in such a way that we are able to record not only their responses but also their eye-movements during performance.

Future meetings:

We have agreed to meet again in Groningen in early February 2011 to run the pilot for the study with adults as well as develop the set-up for the study with children in more detail.