EURO-XPRAG – Barcelona Conference
Scientific Report

Overview

The 4th Biennial Conference of Experimental Pragmatics was held at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain. The Network was designed to support the biennial Experimental Pragmatics conferences, now known as XPRAG, that began to take shape with a conference in Cambridge (2005). These are 3-day long conferences with up to 8 invited speakers plus papers and posters accepted through evaluations by a large reviewing committee.

This edition was sponsored by the ESF research network EURO-XPRAG. The conference took place from Thursday June 2nd to Saturday 4th, and started at 9:10 on Thursday.

Evaluation

This conference was organized by Louise McNally, who is Spain's representative, Boban Arsenevic (a post-doc in McNally's laboratory), Bart Geurts, the Dutch representative, and Ira Noveck, the representative from France. The programme's was pleased to see that projects supported through the Network were represented as talks or accepted posters at the Barcelona conference. Plans are underway for the fifth in Utrecht, the Netherlands (end of June, 2013).

As the number of submissions (102) for talks and posters indicate (up from 60 in Lyon in 2009) as well as the number of participants (120 which is a 50% increase from 2009), the conference was a great success.

Younger scholars – whether they be post-docs, young faculty or doctoral students – were well represented among the conference-participants.

Meeting Programme

	Thurday June 2
9:10-9:20	Opening
9:20-10:10	Christopher Kennedy: What is the number of meanings of number words?
10:10-10:40	Break
10:40-11:10	Naomi Kamoen, Bregje Holleman, Rick Nouwen, Ted Sanders and Huub Van Den Bergh: Absolutely Relative or Relatively Absolute? The Linguistic Behavior of Gradable Adjectives and Degree Modifiers
11:10:11:40	Chris Cummins, Uli Sauerland and Stephanie Solt: Implicatures and Modified Numerals
11:40:12:00	Break
12:00-12:30	John Tomlinson and Lewis Bott: Understanding literal meanings before pragmatic inference: Mouse-trajectories of scalar implicatures
12:30-13:00	Bob Van Tiel: Embedded implicatures and prototypicality
13:00-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-15:00	Aviya Hacohen, Dana Kozlowski and Ariel Cohen: The Truth Shall Make You Slow: Superlative Quantifiers as Illocutionary Operators
15:00-15:30	Christine Boylan, Dimka Atanassov, Florian Schwarz and John Trueswell: A matter of ambiguity? Using eye movements to examine collective vs. distributive interpretations of plural sets
15:30-16:40	Poster session
16:40-17:30	Paula Rubio-Fernández: Colours & colores
17:45	EURO-XPRAG Steering Committee Meeting

	Friday June 3
9:20-10:10	Asli Ozyurek: From action to communication: Gestures as a window into others' thought?
10:10-10:40	Break
10:40-11:10	Christina Kim, Christine Gunlogson, Michael Tanenhaus and Jeffrey Runner: Presupposition Satisfaction Preserves Discourse Constituency
11:10:11:40	Edgar Onea and Jingyang Xue: Presupposition Projection and Contradicting
11:40:12:00	Break
12:00-12:30	Frauke Berger and Barbara Höhle: Interpretation of particle-triggered presuppositions: Evidence for adult-like performance in 3-year-old German-speaking children
12:30-13:00	Edmundo Kronmuller, Ira Noveck, Mohamed Krarzia and Rawan Charafeddine: A perspective-free interpretation of negation
13:00-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-15:00	Judith Degen and Florian Jaeger: Speakers sacrifice some (of the) precision in conveyed meaning to accommodate robust communication
15:00-15:30	Mikhail Kissine, Philippe De Brabanter and Jacqueline Leybaert: Request interpretation in low-level autism: an observational study
15:30-16:40	Poster session
16:40-17:30	Ulrike Hahn: Rational Argument: Where reasoning meets communication
20:30	Conference Dinner (Location TBA)

Saturday June 4	
9:20-10:10	Yoad Winter: On the formal pragmatics of reciprocals
10:10-10:40	Break
10:40-11:10	Dan Grodner, Maria Dalini, Sarah Pearlstein-Levy and Andrew Ward: Factors that contribute to the use of perspective in referent identification
11:10:11:40	Peter Bosch, Sascha Alexejenko, Kirsten Brukamp, Maria Cieschinger and Peter König: Definite reference is not the same as reference to the most salient referent
11:40:12:00	Break
12:00-12:30	Malte Wöstmann and Carina Krause: An ERP study of linguistic preference and world knowledge plausibility in pronoun resolution
12:30-13:00	Susanne Grassmann and Melanie Schreiner: The pragmatics of exclusion: Children exclude familiar objects as referents of applicable known super-ordinate terms
13:00-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-15:00	Tiffany Morisseau, Catherine Davies and Danielle Matthews: Children's Comprehension of Over- and Under-informative Utterances
15:00-15:30	Napoleon Katsos, Gerlind Grosse, Cornelia Schulze and Michael Tomasello: A simple(r) account of the acquisition of informativeness
15:30-16:40	Poster session
16:40-17:30	David Barner: Inference and exact numerical meanings in language acquisition

Programme for the poster presentations

	Thursday June 2
37	Yaron Mcnabb. The Effect of Context and Scale Structure on the Use of Gradable Predicates and Intensifiers
6	David Peeters. Demonstrating the importance of joint attention in the choice of demonstratives: The case of Turkish
59	Heather Ferguson. Eye movements reveal rapid concurrent access to factual and counterfactual interpretations of the world
82	Jana Basnakova, Kirsten Weber, Karl-Magnus Petersson, Peter Hagoort and Jos Van Berkum. Understanding speaker meaning: Neural correlates of pragmatic inferencing in discourse comprehension
93	Oliver Bott and Torgrim Solstad. Abductive inferences in discourse: an eyetracking study of the processing of complex causes
65	Judith Holler and Katie Wilkin. Co-speech gestures in response to addressee feedback
36	Lilla Magyari, Marcel C.M. Bastiaansen, Jan P. De Ruiter and Stephen C. Levinson. Neuronal correlates of anticipation related to turn-taking in conversations
84	Joanne Ingram. An event related potential investigation of complement set reference
104	Kriszta Szendroi. Blocking quantifier raising with passives
72	Maartje Schulpen and Ana Aguilar Guevara. Understanding the meaning enrichment of weak definites: an experimental approach
42	Ming Xiang, Julian Grove and Anastasia Giannakidou. Interference "licensing" of NPIs: pragmatic reasoning and individual differences
20	Pilar Prieto, Joan Borràs-Comes, Susagna Tubau and Teresa Espinal. The contribution of prosody and gesture to the perception of double negation
9	Tania Ionin, Cornelia Ebert and Britta Stolterfoht. One indefinite escapes scope islands more readily than another: an experimental pragmatics study of indefinite scope
99	E. Allyn Smith and Kathleen Currie Hall. Homogeneity and Heterogeneity Among Projective Meanings
14	Minyao Huang. Vagueness as semantic indeterminacy: experimental findings

	Friday June 3
46	Núria Esteve-Gibert. Gesture and prosody signal the emergence of intentional communication: evidence from Catalan-babbling infants
52	Thom Scott-Phillips, Gerlind Grosse and Michael Tomasello. Hidden Authorship in Children
49	Cat Davies, Clara Andrés Roqueta and Courtenay Norbury. Sensitivity to quantity maxims in children with autism and language impairment
64	Katrijn Pipijn and Walter Schaeken. The development of dual-process reasoning and implicatures
62	Richard Breheny and Heather Ferguson. Taking the Epistemic Step
25	Sara Verbrugge. Content and epistemic relations: a developmental study of recall (and eye tracking)
91	Valentina Bambini, Alexandra Kratschmer and Irene Ricci. Epistemic adjectives: Multiple degrees of certainty but two degrees of effort
30	Alexey Yavetskiy. Relevance of Semantic Inconsistencies in the Processing of Metaphors
81	Donatella Resta, Valentina Bambini and Mirko Grimaldi. Literary halo: ERP correlates of poetic metaphor
95	Eleni Kapogianni. Types of verbal irony and the test of explicit cancellability
70	Felicity Deamer and Nausicaa Pouscoulous. A contrastive look at the processing of metaphor and hyperbole
54	Francesca Ervas, Katarzyna Bromberek-Dyzman and Tiziana Zalla. "They are all like that". Experimenting with gender stereotypes in irony comprehension
45	Hanna Weiland and Petra Schumacher. Priming Literal Meaning During Figurative Composition: A Masked-Priming ERP Study
50	Nausicaa Pouscoulous. Very early metaphor understanding
87	Nicola Spotorno. Reading metaphor: Metaphor comprehension process from an ecological prospective
61	Stavros Assimakopoulos, John Tomlinson Jr and Lewis Bott. Understanding the dynamics of interpretation: pragmatic enrichment and different types of non-literal speech.

	Saturday June 4
43	Andrea Beltrama and Ming Xiang. "Can a decent student get into Harvard"? A study on scalar implicatures and gradable adjectives.
22	Caroline Andrews, Pranav Anand and Matthew Wagers. Implicature calculation and the pragmatics of experiments
75	Cécile Barbet. Lexical constraints on scalar inferences: evidence from French
74	Daniel Schmerse. Understanding belief reasoning: German children's understanding of the discourse particle 'doch'
77	Diane Rak. Are there embedded implicatures?
90	Eileen Graf and Anna Theakston. Quantity and manner: Under-informativeness and ambiguity in 3;6-year-olds' production of referring expressions
92	Judith Degen and Michael K. Tanenhaus. A constraint-based approach to scalar implicature processing
79	Kyriakos Antoniou and Napoleon Katsos. Only some listeners reject under-informative utterances.
24	Leen Janssens and Walter Schaeken. An experimental investigation of the conventional implicature 'but'
51	Patricia Amaral and Chris Cummins. Backgrounding through Presupposition
57	Stefanie Röhrig, Petra Schumacher, Matthias Schlesewsky and Jörg Meibauer. Und = & ?! The role of context for the interpretation of the conjunction 'und'
89	Daphna Heller and Craig Chambers. Effects of adjective type on referential expectations in discourse
16	Derya Cokal, Patrick Sturt, Sukriye Ruhi and Fernanda Ferreira. Anaphora Processing: 'It' and 'This'
17	Derya Cokal, Patrick Sturt, Sukriye Ruhi and Fernanda Ferreira. Processing of Deixis:'This and That' in Written Discourse
83	Francesca Foppolo, Luisa Meroni, Marco Marelli and Andrea Gualmini. You are "the only one"…how far do we go in search for referents?
29	Ruud Koolen, Emiel Krahmer and Marc Swerts. On children's perception of overspecification in referring expressions