

# EURO-XPRAG: ESF Research Networking Programme

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## Common Ground and Granularity of Referring Expressions

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### Scientific Report. Short Visit in March 2011.

**Host: Kees van Deemter, Aberdeen, United Kingdom.**

The purpose of this visit was to hold the second meeting of our XPRAG project. The work carried out during the visit included:

1. Analysis of pilot data collected online during the weeks before the meeting.
2. Design of the production experiments to be carried out in Glasgow.
3. Planning of next steps.

For each of the tasks above, the output of the meeting was the following:

1. The analysis of the pilot data allowed us to formulate some preliminary hypotheses regarding the use of numerical expression for subitizable targets and the differences between “many” and “most”.
2. In light of the preliminary observations from the pilot data, we designed two production experiments (PE):
  - PE1 will be run online and should give us evidence about which types of expressions are commonly used in different scenarios. We designed the stimuli and the web interface for the experiment, including instructions for participants and debriefing.
  - PE2 will be run in the lab in Glasgow. We will collect spoken output and eye-tracking data. We designed the basic setting and methodology for the experiment, which will include one participant plus two conversational partners that will be confederates.
3. We agreed on the following schedule for the coming months:
  - March 30: stimuli for online experiment ready
  - Run experiment 1st week of April
  - Quantitative summary of results by 15 April
  - Skype meeting
  - Start production experiment in Glasgow with eye-tracking by 25th April
  - Data collected by end of May (around 20 pairs)
  - Transcriptions with speech onset by mid June
  - Analysis of data during second half of June
  - Next meeting in Glasgow first week of July.