

7th Evolution of Language Conference Barcelona 2008

Last update: March 7, 2008.

WORKSHOP

Room: Auditori (floor -2)

Tuesday, March 11

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| 9:00 | Registration (workshop and/or regular conference) and welcome coffee |
| 10:00 | Welcome (Ramon Ferrer i Cancho) |
| 10:10 | Introduction (Jared Tagliatela) |
| 10:30 | “The language skills of apes and how they are acquired”, Duane Rumbaugh (Great Ape Trust of Iowa) |
| 11:20 | “Pointing towards language”, Dave Leavens (University of Sussex) |
| 12:10 | “Natural vocal communication in chimpanzees: current and future focuses”, Katie Slocombe (University of York) |
| 13:00 | Lunch |
| 14:30 | “Our gesturing cousins: insights from their natural gestural communication”, Simone Pika (University of Manchester) |
| 15:20 | “Do chimpanzees have a "language-ready" brain? Some new thoughts (and data) on some old ideas”, William Hopkins (Agnes Scott College & Yerkes National Primate Research Center) |
| 16:10 | Comments by Jim Hurford (University of Edinburgh) |
| 17:00 | End |

REGULAR CONFERENCE

Rooms (-2 floor)	Plenary sessions	Auditori
	Sessions A	Àgora
	Sessions B	γ (gamma)
	Sessions C	Auditori

Wednesday, March 12

14:30	Registration	
16:15	Opening address	
16:30	Plenary speaker 1: “Language as kluge”, Gary Marcus	Chair: Jim Hurford
17:30	Plenary speaker 2: “Taking Wittgenstein seriously. Indicators of the evolution of language”, Camilo José Cela-Conde	
18:30	Presentation of <i>Biolinguistics</i> + break	
18:45	Welcome cocktail	
20:00	End	

Thursday, March 13

9:00	Plenary Speaker 3: “Language, culture and biology: does language evolve to be passed on by us, and did humans evolve to let that happen?”, Simon Kirby	Chair: Jean-Louis Dessalles
10:00	Plenary Speaker 4: “Gesture, speech, and language”, Susan Goldin Meadow	
11:00	Coffee Break	
	Session 1A (Chair: Guillermo Lorenzo)	Session 1B (Chair: Kenny Smith)
11:30	“How much grammar does it take to sail a boat? (or, what can material artifacts tell us about the evolution of language?)”, D. Gil	“Coexisting linguistic conventions in generalized language games”, A. Baronchelli, L. Dall’asta, A. Barrat & V. Loreto
		Session 1C (Chair: Simone Pika)
		“The development of a social signal in free-ranging chimpanzees”, M. Laporte, K. Zuberbühler

12:00	“The multiple stages of protolanguage”, M. Dowman	“Modelling language competition: bilingualism and complex social networks”, X. Castelló, V. M. Eguíluz, M. San Miguel, L. Loureiro-porto, R. Toivonen, J. Saramäki & K. Kaski.	“A numerosity based alarm call system in king colobus monkeys”, A. M. Schel, K. Zuberbuehler
12:30	“What use is half a clause?”, L. Progovac	“On the impact of community structure on self-organizing lexical networks”, A. Mehler (O. Pustynnikov)	“Discourse without symbols; orangutans communicate strategically in response to recipient understanding”, E. A. Cartmill & R. W. Byrne
13:00	“After all a “leap” is necessary for the emergence of recursion in human language”, M. Ike-Uchi.	“Language scaffolding as a condition for growth in linguistic complexity”, K. Lakkaraju, L. Gasserl & S. Swarup	“Wild chimpanzees modify the structure of victim screams according to audience composition”, K. E. Slocombe & K. Zuberbühler
13:30	Lunch		
	Session 2A (Chair: Bart de Boer)	Session 2B (Chair: Josefina Sierra)	Session 2C (Chair: Katie Slocombe)
15:00	“Signalling signalhood and the emergence of communication”, T. C. Scott-Phillips, S. Kirby, G. Ritchie	“Self-interested agents can bootstrap symbolic communication if they punish cheaters”, E. Wang & L. Steels	“Artificial symbol systems in dolphins and apes: analogous communicative evolution or evidence for basic communicative rules?”, H. Lyn
15:30	“An experimental study on the role of language in the emergence and maintenance of human cooperation”, J. W. F. Small & S. Kirby	“Coping with combinatorial uncertainty in word learning: a flexible usage-based model”, P. Wellens	“The evolution of fundamental frequency control among primates”, D. Demolin

16:00	“Natural selection for communication favours the cultural evolution of linguistic structure”, K. Smith & S. Kirby	“The emergence of a lexicon by prototype-categorising agents in an infinite world”, C. Laskowski	“Referential gestures in chimpanzees in the wild: precursors to symbolic communication?” S. Pika & J. Mitani
16:30	Coffee Break		
17:00	Plenary speaker 5: Juan Uriagereka		Chair: Maggie Tallerman
	Session 3A (Chair: Xavier Castelló)	Session 3B (Chair: Mieko Ogura)	Session 3C (Chair: Kazuo Okanoya)
18:00	“A human model of color term evolution”, M. Dowman, J. Xu, T. L. Griffiths	“Reanalysis vs. metaphor? What grammaticalisation can tell us about language evolution”, S. Hoefler & A. D. M. Smith	“Neural dissociation between vocal production and auditory recognition memory in both songbirds and humans”, J. J. Bolhuis
18:30	“Regular morphology as a cultural adaptation: non-uniform frequency in an experimental iterated learning model” A. Beqa, S. Kirby, J. Hurford	“The subcortical foundations of grammaticalization”, G. P. Argyropoulos	“Evolution of song culture in the zebra finch”, O. Feher, P. P. Mitra, K. Sasahara & O. Tchernichovski
19:00	End		

Posters

Do individuals preferences determine case marking systems?	D. J. C. Hawkey
What impact do learning biases have on linguistic structures?	D. J. C. Hawkey,
An evo-devo perspective on use of articulatory space in speech	P. F. MacNeilage, B. L. Davis & C. Matyear
From mouth to eye	D. Philps
Emergence of sentence types in simulated adaptive agents	R. Uno, T. Ikegami, D. Marocco & S. Nolfi
A crucial step in the evolution of syntactic complexity	J. C. Moreno Cabrera

Reconstitution of fossil vocal tracts: speech potentialities

**L.-J. Boë, J. Granat,
J.-L. Heim, É. Peyre
& P. Badin**

The origins of preferred argument structure

C. Everett

The adaptiveness of metacommunicative interaction in a foraging environment

**Z. Macura & J.
Ginzburg**

Friday, March 14

9:00	Plenary speaker 6: “Unravelling the evolution of language with help from the giant water bug, natterjack toad and horned lizard”, Rudolf Botha			Chair: Chris Knight
10:00	Plenary speaker 7: “Mechanistic language circuits: what can be learned? What is pre-wired?”, Friedemann Pulvermüller			
11:00	Coffee Break			
	Session 4A (Chair: Itziar Laka)	Session 4B (Chair: Andrew Smith)	Session 4C (Chair: Heidi Lyn)	
11:30	“Unravelling digital infinity”, C. Knight & C. Power	“A gradual path to hierarchical phrase-structure: insights from modeling and corpus-data”, W. Zuidema	“Evolution of phonological complexity: loss of species-specific bias leads to more generalized learnability in a species of songbirds”, K. Okanoya & M. Takahasi	
12:00	“Kin selection and linguistic complexity”, M. Tallerman	“The emergence of compositionality, hierarchy and recursion in peer-to-peer interactions”, J. de Beule	“On the correct application of animal signalling theory to human communication”, T. C. Scott-Phillips	
12:30	“What do modern behaviors imply for the evolution of language?”, B. Dubreuil	“The emergence of semantic roles in fluid construction grammar”, R. van Trijp	“Continuity between non-human primates and modern humans?”, J-M. Hombert	

13:00	“Why the transition to cumulative symbolic culture is rare”, M. Tamariz	“Constraint-based compositional semantics”, W. J. M. B. van den Broeck	“Spontaneous narrative behaviour in homo sapiens: how does it benefit to speakers?”, J.-L. Dessalles
13:30	Lunch		
	Session 5A (Chair: Simon Kirby)	Session 5B (Chair: Kleanthes K. Grohmann)	Session 5C (Chair: Jared Tagliatela)
15:00	“Linguistic adaptations for resolving ambiguity”, T. Briscoe & P. Buttery	“Long-distance dependencies are not uniquely human”, R. Ferrer i Cancho, V. M. Longa & G. Lorenzo	“What can the study of handedness in nonhuman apes tell us about the evolution of language?” R. Harrison
15:30	“Pragmatic plasticity: a pivotal design feature?”, S. Hoefler	“The syntax of coordination and the evolution of syntax”, W. Cowart & D. McDaniel	“Broadcast transmission, signal secrecy and gestural primacy hypothesis”, S. Waciewicz & P. Żywicznyński
16:00	"Pragmatics and theory of mind: a problem exportable to the origins of language", T. Bejarano	“Syntax, a system of efficient growth”, A. Soschen	“Gestural modes of representation – a multi-disciplinary approach”, K. Liebal, H. Lausberg, E. Fricke & C. Müller
16:30	Coffee Break		
	Session 6A (Chair: Sergi Balari)	Session 6B (Chair: Ted Briscoe)	Session 6C (Chair: Joachim de Beule)
17:00	“The joy of sacs”, B. de Boer	“Iterated language learning in children”, M. Flaherty & S. Kirby	“The role of cultural transmission in intention sharing”, T. Gong, J. W. Minett & W. S-Y. Wang
17:30	“Seeking compositionality in holistic proto-language without substructure – do counterexamples overwhelm the fractionation process?”, S. Johansson	“Iterated learning with selection: convergence to saturation”, M. Kalish	“Evolution of the global organization of the lexicon”, M. Ogura & W. S-Y. Wang

18:00	“Labels and recursion: from adjunction syntax to predicate-argument relations”, A. Irurtzun	“Removing ‘mind-reading’ from the iterated learning model”, S. F. Worgan & R. I. Dampier	“An experiment exploring language emergence: how to see the invisible hand and why we should”, H. Cornish
18:30	“Evolutionary framework for the language faculty”, E. Luuk & H. Luuk	“The role of naming game in social structure”, T. Gong, W. S-Y. Wang.	“Regularity in mappings between signals and meanings”, M. Tamariz & A. D. M. Smith
19:00	End		
20:30	Dinner		

Posters

Syntactical and prosodic cues in song segmentation learning by bengalese finches	M. Takahashi & K. Okanoya
Simulation of creolization by evolutionary dynamics	M. Nakamura, T. Hashimoto & S. Tojo
An experimental approach to the rôle of freerider avoidance in the development of linguistic diversity	G. Roberts
On there and then: from object permanence to displaced reference	M. Schouwstra
Complex systems approach to color categorization	A. Baronchelli, V. Loreto & A. Puglisi
How complex syntax could be	M. Dowman
An inquiry into the different units and levels of language evolution	N. Gontier
Three issues in modeling the language convergence problem as a multiagent agreement problem	K. Lakkaraju, L. Gasser

Saturday, March 15

9:00	Plenary speaker 8: “The archaeology of language origin”, Francesco d'Errico		Chair: Angelo Cangelosi
10:00	Plenary speaker 9: “Critical conditions for symbolic units”, Derek Bickerton		
11:00	Coffee Break		
	Session 7A (Chair: Juan Uriagereka)	Session 7B (Chair: Davide Morocco)	Session /C (Chair: Txuss Martín)
11:30	“Language, the torque and the speciation event”, T. J. Crow	“Form-meaning compositionality derives from social and conceptual diversity”, G. Lupyán & R. Dale	“Prosody and linguistic complexity in an emerging language”, W. Sandler, I. Meir, S. Dachkovsky, M. Aronoff & C. Padden
12:00	“Is pointing the root of the foot? Grounding the «prosodic word» as a pointing word”, C. Abry & V. Ducey	“Modeling language emergence by way of working memory”, A. Plebe, V. de la Cruz & M. Mazzone	“Causal correlations between genes and linguistic features – the mechanism of gradual language evolution”, D. Dediu
12:30	“Recent adaptive evolution of human genes related to hearing”, J. Hawks	“Simple, but not too simple: learnability vs. functionality in language evolution”, S. Swarup & L. Gasser	“The formation, generative power, and evolution of toponyms: grounding a vocabulary in a cognitive map”, R. Schulz, D. Prasser, P. Stockwell, G. Wyeth & J. Wiles

13:00	“How does niche construction in learning environment trigger the reverse Baldwin effect?”, H. Yamauchi	“On the origins of recursive rules: a usage based account“, J. Bleys	“Handedness for gestural communication and non-communicative actions in chimpanzees and baboons: implications for language origins”, A. Meguerditchian, J. Vauclair, Molly J. Gardner, S. J. Schapiro & W. D. Hopkins
13:30	Lunch		
15:00	General discussion and conclusion		Chair: Jim Hurford
16:00	End		

Posters

Verbal interference causes categorization impairments	G. Lupyan
A reaction-diffusion approach to modelling language competition	A. Kandler & J. Steele
Origins of communication in autonomous robots	D. Marocco & S. Nolfi
Reflections on the invention and reinvention of the primate playback experiment	G. Radick
The replicator dynamics of language processing	L. Steels & E. Szathmary
Inhibition and language: a pre-condition for symbolic communicative behaviour	C. Hernandez-Sacristan
Displaced reference in an evolutionary perspective: a matter of intelligibility or reliability?	H. Mercier
Communication, cooperation and coherence	F. Sangati & W. Zuidema
Unidirectional meaning change with metaphoric and metonymic inferencing	T. Hashimoto & M. Nakatsuka