
Inter- and Intra-individual Variability in Prosodic Cue Production

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Speakers show a fair amount of intra- and inter-individual variability in their use of different prosodic cues for resolving (morpho-)syntactic ambiguities (e.g. Clifton et al., 2002; Peters et al., 2005; Cangemi et al., 2015). We present results of a larger project on variability in producing and processing prosody in different types of ambiguities in German: (i) structurally ambiguous coordinate name sequences, disambiguated or not disambiguated by prosodic cues after the second NP, (ii) semantically reversible locally case-ambiguous SVO and OVS main clauses, and (iii) reversible globally case-ambiguous main clauses. Concerning (i), we extend previous results (e.g. Holzgrefe-Lang et al., 2016) by addressing how production of prosodic cues can be modified by manipulation of top-down information (e.g. the speaker's knowledge, expectations about the communicative situation). Regarding (ii) and (iii), we will explore which prosodic cues are realised acoustically, the type and strength of the cues, and inter-individual differences in producing prosody.

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