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Today's question



What do we share?

PSYC63: Experimental Study of Human Interaction DARTMOUTH

Shared Conceptual Spaces I





Lecture 5

Today's docket

1. Theoretical framework

Building a shared conceptual space

2. Neural predictions

Neural activity supporting shared conceptual spaces

3. Neuroscientific evidence

MEG, TMS, and lesion studies

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Problem: You determine the context?

Solution: We build a shared conceptual space?



Today's docket

1. Theoretical framework

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*

- 1. Achieving mutual understanding should evoke neural activity reflecting flexible conceptual processes, in regions known to support conceptual knowledge
- There should be shared patterns of neural activity during communicative production and comprehension given that these processes relate to the same conversational context
- 3. The timing of this shared neural patt not follow, the occurrence of a communicative interaction r ongoing communicative interaction r signal itself
- 4. The temporal dynamics of the share Autism should reflect the communicators' a shared conceptual space Conceptual spaces

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What's different?

Multiple communication channels (vocalizations, bodily and facial postures/movements, eye contact)

Access to pre-existing conventions (a common language, body emblems, facial expressions)

Spontaneous turn-taking

Single communication channel (movements of a geometric shape: experimental control over communicative environment)

Novel communicative signals (lack of pre-existing shared representations: experimental control over shared cognitive history)

Experimentally-controlled roles (isolation of production and comprehension)

What's identical?

Dynamic communicative context (jointly built, updated according to the fleeting idiosyncrasies of an ongoing interaction) Control interaction task involving the same stimuli, responses, attention and between-subjects dependencies, but <u>no communicative necessities</u>



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- 2. There should be shared patterns of neural activity during communicative production and comprehension given that these processes relate to the same conversational context
- 3. The timing of this shared neural pattern should lead, not follow, the occurrence of a communicative signal, given that the conceptual space is defined by the ongoing communicative interaction rather than by the signal itself
- 4. The temporal dynamics of the shared neural pattern should reflect the communicators' adjustments of their shared conceptual space



Arjen Stolk^{a,1}, Lennart Verhagen^a, Jan-Mathijs Schoffelen^{a,b}, Robert Oostenveld^a, Mark Blokpoel^a, Peter Hagoort^{a,b}, Iris van Rooij^a, and Ivan Toni^a

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Understanding communicative actions: A repetitive TMS study

Arjen Stolk ^{a,*}, Matthijs L. Noordzij ^b, Inge Volman ^{a,c}, Lennart Verhagen ^a, Sebastiaan Overeem ^d, Gijs van Elswijk ^d, Bas Bloem ^d, Peter Hagoort ^{a,e} and Ivan Toni ^a





Necessary for integrating knowledge of the recent communicative history



Necessary for tuning decisions with knowledge of a communicative partner



Altered Communicative Decisions following Ventromedial Prefrontal Lesions

Arjen Stolk,^{1,*} Daniela D'Imperio,^{2,3,4} Giuseppe di Pellegrino,^{2,3} and Ivan Toni¹





Supports communicative behaviors in a statedependent manner



Communicative interactions
Instrumental interactions





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Take-home concepts

Communicators and addressees achieve mutual understanding by using the same computational procedures and neuronal substrates

(implemented in a right-lateralized frontotemporal network)

•Brain regions supporting communication are already upregulated before a communicative utterance is produced or observed



- Shared Conceptual Spaces II
- Paper Review due Wednesday night
- •Exam Questions (4) due Friday night

Bonus: A putative neuronal integrative mechanism DARTMOUTH



Ongoing contextual inputs can hold neurons near an excitability threshold

Bonus: Perturbing neural integration



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Right pSTS is necessary to benefit from the recent communicative history