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SCALab

SCIENCES COGNITIVES ET SCIENCES AFFECTIVES

YEARBOOK

2025

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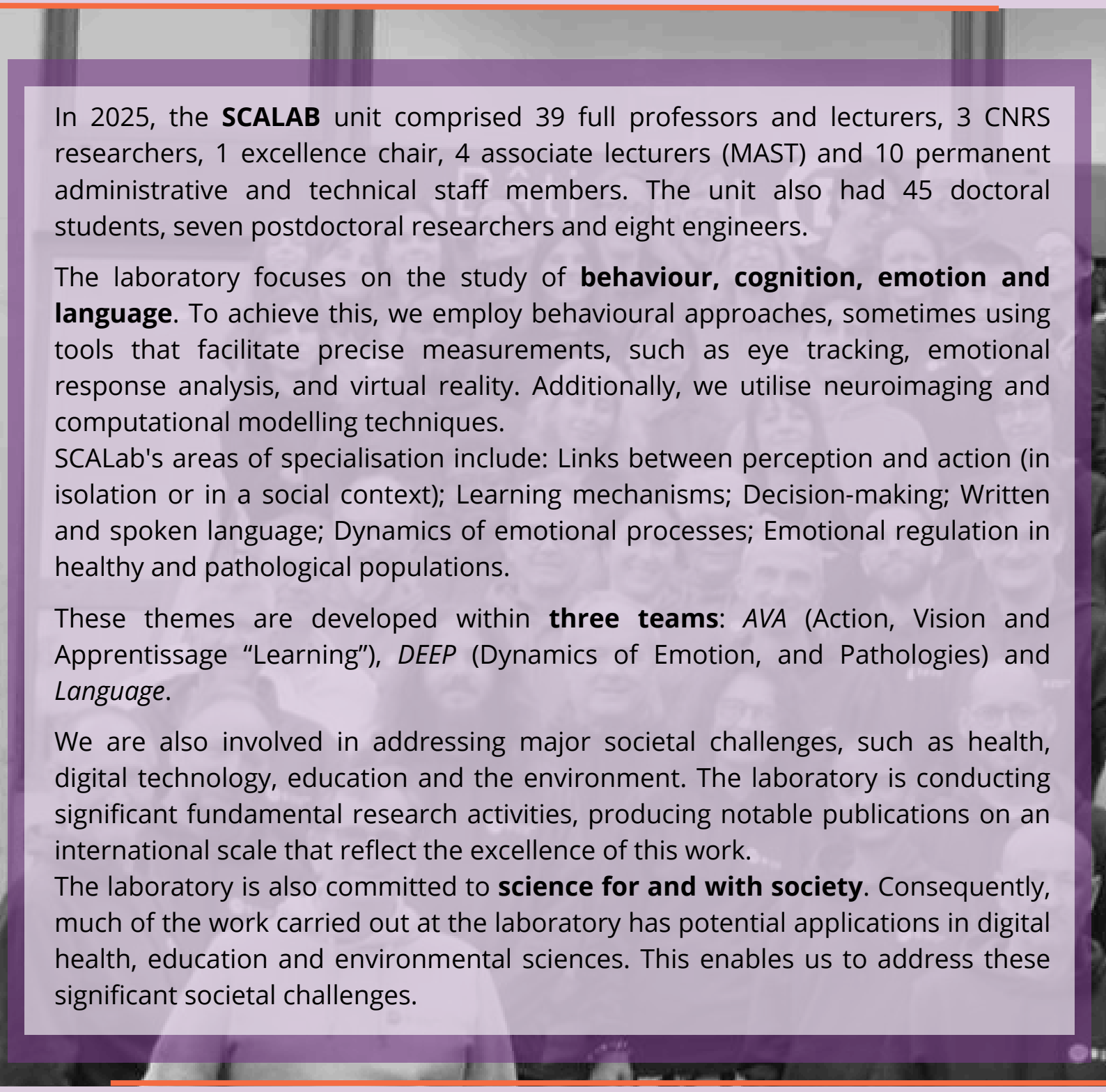
The director's message



In 2025, the **SCALAB** unit comprised 39 full professors and lecturers, 3 CNRS researchers, 1 excellence chair, 4 associate lecturers (MAST) and 10 permanent administrative and technical staff members. The unit also had 45 doctoral students, seven postdoctoral researchers and eight engineers.

The laboratory focuses on the study of **behaviour, cognition, emotion and language**. To achieve this, we employ behavioural approaches, sometimes using tools that facilitate precise measurements, such as eye tracking, emotional response analysis, and virtual reality. Additionally, we utilise neuroimaging and computational modelling techniques.
SCALab's areas of specialisation include: Links between perception and action (in isolation or in a social context); Learning mechanisms; Decision-making; Written and spoken language; Dynamics of emotional processes; Emotional regulation in healthy and pathological populations.

These themes are developed within **three teams**: *AVA* (Action, Vision and Apprentissage "Learning"), *DEEP* (Dynamics of Emotion, and Pathologies) and *Language*.

We are also involved in addressing major societal challenges, such as health, digital technology, education and the environment. The laboratory is conducting significant fundamental research activities, producing notable publications on an international scale that reflect the excellence of this work.
The laboratory is also committed to **science for and with society**. Consequently, much of the work carried out at the laboratory has potential applications in digital health, education and environmental sciences. This enables us to address these significant societal challenges.

2025 was a rich and eventful year for our **strong and often joyful SCALab community**.

We celebrated the **10th birthday** of our unit together, and took this opportunity to thank Yann Coello, whose vision and determination led to the creation of SCALab, a CNRS-affiliated research unit.

However, 2025 was also a year marked by sadness. Yvonne Delevoye, a SCALab professor, passed away after bravely fighting illness. 2026 will be an opportunity to celebrate not only her contribution, but also her enthusiasm, warmth and passion for everything she undertook.

Finally, 2025 was a pivotal year as we prepared a **new contract for 2026–2030**. During this process, the management team was renewed, with Jean-Louis Nandrino stepping down from his management duties after leading SCALab for several years to refocus on research. We would like to take this opportunity to thank him for dedicating his expertise and humanity to the research unit.

As you browse through the pages of this yearbook, we hope you will discover the spirit of SCALab: **scientific rigour, dynamism, a willingness to share and the pleasure of working together.**

Séverine Casalis
Director

Laurent Madelain
Deputy Director

Emmanuelle Fournier
Administrative Manager

Directory

SCALab Members

Glossary

- **ATER**: Attaché.e Temporaire d'Enseignement et de Recherche (Non-permanent teaching and research fellow)
- **CR**: Chargé de Recherche CNRS (CNRS Researcher)
- **IGE**: Ingénieur.re d'étude (Non-permanent Research Engineer)
- **IGR**: Ingénieur.re de recherche (Permanent Research Engineer)
- **MCF**: Maître.sse de Conférences (Lecturer /Associate Professor)
- **PR**: Professeur.e (Professor)
- **MAST**: Maître.sse de Conférences Associé.e (Part-time lecturer)

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Coordinators:

Solène Kalénine

Laurent Madelain

FOCUS

Exploring a functional approach of vision, the relations between perception and action, and the role of reinforcement in behavioral changes. Research topics encompass behavioral, cognitive and brain mechanisms. Applications relate to the digital domain (cognitive technologies, virtual reality, etc.) and neuropsychology.

METHODOLOGIES

Quantifying response times and choices, eye movements, fNIRS, EEG, EMG, EDA, motion capture, static and dynamic virtual reality, force platform, computational modeling, neural networks

POPULATIONS

Healthy adults
Patients with neurological or psychopathological disorders
Children with typical and atypical development
Older adults

Effects of multiple examples and nonexamples on learning the concept of reinforcement by undergraduate students

Jérôme Alessandri, ***Joelle Nuchadee***, Constance Nikolov, Benjamin Leroy, Carlos Cançado & ***Vinca Rivière***

Direct Instruction (DI) is awell-researched model and has been shown to be one of the most effective methods in education. We investigated the effects of some of the principles of Direct Instruction (DI) or the effects of multiple exemplar training (MET) and nonexamples to teach the concept of reinforcement to undergraduate students. Our goal was to assess the effects, both within- and between-subjects, of providing examples and nonexamples on concept learning. Student performance was more effective when training involved the presentation of multiple and varied examples and even more so, when juxtaposing nonexamples that were minimally different, rather than maximally different, from the examples presented. Our results replicate previous research and extend the applicability and effectiveness of some of the principles of Direct Instruction to higher-order concept learning in university settings. A practical implication of our results suggests that only providing a definition and an example of a concept is not sufficient for learning. For efficient teaching of concept, it is necessary to provide both multiple examples and corresponding nonexamples.

Alessandri, J., Nuchadee, J., Nikolov, C., Leroy, B., Cançado, C., & Rivière, V. (2025). Effects of multiple examples and nonexamples on learning the concept of reinforcement by undergraduate students. European Journal of Behavior Analysis, 1-24.

The neural bases of meaningful intransitive gestures: A meta-analysis of lesion and fMRI studies

Josselin Baumard, Alice Laniepce, Léna Guezouli, François Osiurak, Mathieu Lesourd & ***Angela Bartolo***

Meaningful intransitive (MFI) gestures have long been used by clinicians and researchers to assess gesture production and recognition, especially in the context of neuropsychological disorders like apraxia. Their neural bases, however, remain unclear. The goal of this systematic, theory-driven meta-analysis of 6 lesion studies and 21 fMRI studies was to investigate the cerebral networks of MFI gestures. The results suggested that MFI gesture processing depends on a large, left-lateralized, cortico-subcortical, fronto-temporo-insular and cerebellar neural network also involved in social cognition and skills. A bilateral cluster was also found in medial and cingulate brain regions. The left inferior parietal lobe, typically involved in tool use and imitation skills, was part of this network for gesture production - although it did not survive statistical control. These results challenge traditional neurocognitive models and suggest that MFI gestures, although represented widely in the brain, call for specific socio-cognitive processes. The discussion offers a comprehensive framework of the neural bases of MFI gestures, along with methodological considerations and future directions.

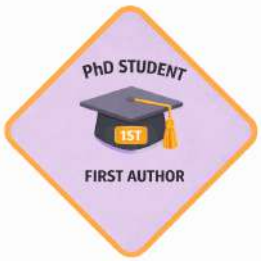
Baumard, J., Laniepce, A., Guezouli, L., Osiurak, F., Lesourd, M., & Bartolo, A. (2025). The neural bases of meaningful intransitive gestures : A meta-analysis of lesion and fMRI studies. Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews, 177, 106316.

Success in goal-directed visual tasks: the benefits of alternating sitting and standing instead of only sitting

Wafa Cherigui, ***Mélen Guillaume***, Sérgio T. Rodrigues, ***Cédrick T. Bonnet***

Both excessive sitting and excessive standing have been shown to be detrimental for performance, productivity and health. In the present study, our objective was specifically to determine the effect of alternating the body position (between standing and sitting) on task performance and visual attention in the Attention Network Task (ANT), relative to a sitting-only condition. Twenty-four participants (aged 18–35) performed the ANT six times in both conditions (5 min 35 per ANT). The proportion of blinks was significantly lower in the alternating condition than in the sitting-only condition. In both between-condition and within-condition analyses, the reaction times were significantly shorter when standing than when sitting. Humans may be more effective (i.e. a shorter reaction time) and have greater visual attention (i.e. less frequent proportion of blinking) in an alternating condition than in a sitting-only condition. In practice, the use of sit-stand desks might usefully help to both reduce the time spent sitting and improve task performance.

Cherigui, W., Guillaume, M., Rodrigues, S. T., & Bonnet, C. T. (2025). Success in goal-directed visual tasks: the benefits of alternating sitting and standing instead of only sitting. Applied Ergonomics, 129, 104611.



The effect of social settings and olfactory environments on spontaneous movement synchrony

Marine R. Coeugnet, Yvonne N. Delevoye-Turrell, Wolfgang Tschacher & Joana Coutinho

Interpersonal synchrony refers to the temporal coordination between two individuals, signaling the coupling of their behaviors. Optimal movement synchrony in dyads is linked to more affiliative behavior, cooperation, and trust. However, there is limited research on how the sensory environment impacts interpersonal synchrony. One significant environmental factor influencing human behavior and social interactions is ambient odors. This study aimed to examine the effect of ambient odor on interpersonal synchrony, particularly in-phase movement synchrony. Motion energy analysis and windowed cross-correlations were used to measure synchrony levels between participants during video-recorded interactions. Twenty-five same-sex friend dyads performed three interaction tasks designed to create fun, cooperative, or competitive atmospheres. These tasks were conducted with a pleasant, stimulating peppermint odor or in a control condition without odor. Consistent with previous studies, higher synchrony levels were observed in fun atmospheres compared to competitive and cooperative ones. No significant effects of odor stimulation were found. Overall, the results confirm that social context significantly influences movement synchrony and affiliation, while ambient odor might not affect interpersonal synchrony, at least when the odor is irrelevant to the task.

Coeugnet, M. R., Delevoye-Turrell, Y. N., Tschacher, W., & Coutinho, J. (2025). The effect of social settings and olfactory environments on spontaneous movement synchrony. Scientific Reports, 15(1), 8229.

Effect of Traffic Separation and Nature Integration on Affect and Cerebral Oxygenation During Active Transport: An Immersive Virtual Reality and Multi-Study Design

Layan Fessler, Ségolène M. R. Guérin &
Yvonne N. Delevoye-Turrell

Increasing active transport, such as walking or cycling, is key to reducing human-driven greenhouse gas emissions and improving health outcomes. To facilitate the transition from private cars to active transport, it is crucial to create urban environments that induce positive experiences of active transportation, fostering positive affective memories and increasing the intention to use these modes in the future. The proposed programmatic registered report aims to investigate whether integrating traffic separation and nature integration into urban concrete environments during active transport sessions (i.e., cycling [Study 1] or walking [Study 2]) would improve the affective experience and result in changes to cerebral oxygenation. A minimum of 36 adults will take part in three 15-min, moderate-intensity cycling (n = 18; Study 1) or walking (n = 18; Study 2) sessions. These sessions will involve three different virtual environments using the Meta Quest 3 headset: (a) an urban environment without traffic separation; (b) an urban environment with traffic separation; and (c) an urban environment with traffic separation and natural features. Affective valence will be measured six times during each session using self-report questionnaires. To assess the neural mechanisms underlying cognitive effort in relation to physical activity, haemodynamic responses in the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (dlPFC) will be monitored using multichannel functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) throughout the sessions. Remembered pleasure will be measured after each session, using self-reported questionnaires. It is hypothesised that the separation of motorised and non-motorised traffic in an urban concrete environment will lead to higher affective valence (H1) and remembered pleasure (H2), as well as lower cerebral oxygenation of the dlPFC (H3). We expect this effect to be magnified by the inclusion of natural natural features. Pilot data (n = 9) indicated that the protocol was considered to be acceptable (M = 5.74 ± 1.30 out of 9), with low-to-moderate cybersickness reported (M = 33.92% ± 19.64), indicating that virtual scenes and body movements were well synchronised. The findings are expected to advance the theoretical understanding of how environmental influences impact affective variables and prefrontal activation. This experimental research will pave the way for future empirical studies, such as randomised controlled trials, examining how urban design can facilitate the transition to active transport.

Fessler, L., Guérin, S. M. R., & Delevoye-Turrell, Y. N. (2025). Effect of Traffic Separation and Nature Integration on Affect and Cerebral Oxygenation During Active Transport: An Immersive Virtual Reality and Multi-Study Design. Zenodo.

Inferring Human Perception of Robots Through Event-Related Brain Potentials

Robin Gigandet & *Tatjana A. Nazir*

JOur study introduces a novel application of methods initially developed in psycholinguistics [10] to the field of robotics, specifically for evaluating human reactions to robots that either conform to or violate human expectations and social norms. Grounded in the measurement of the N400 brain response to semantic incongruence, this method provides unique insights into the implicit processes that shape our perceptions of robots, offering a more nuanced understanding of the specific attributes or actions of robots that may elicit feelings of ease or unease. Furthermore, it offers a quantifiable measure of social congruence, providing a metric for evaluating the social acceptability of robotic designs.

The implications of this methodological approach extend beyond academic research, offering valuable insights for designers and engineers of ASAs. By identifying characteristics that are most likely to elicit negative responses, designers can adopt a more human-centered approach to robotics and make informed decisions that enhance the social integration of these agents.

Gigandet, R., & Nazir, T. A. (2025). Inferring Human Perception of Robots Through Event-Related Brain Potentials. Dans Frontiers in artificial intelligence and applications.

Evidence accumulation in the pre-supplementary motor area and insula drives confidence and changes of mind

Dorian Goueytes, François Stockart, Alexis Robin, Lucien Gyger, Martin Rouy, Dominique Hoffmann, Lorella Minotti, Philippe Kahane, Michael Pereira & Nathan Faivre

Evidence accumulation is a powerful mechanism to explain the temporal dynamics of decisions, as well as their metacognitive components such as confidence judgments and changes of mind. However, it is still unclear how and where in the brain evidence accumulation leads to these two metacognitive components. We report intracranial high-gamma activity in patients with epilepsy recorded while they perform a visual discrimination task and estimate their confidence level. Our results indicate an anatomical overlap between the neural correlates of evidence accumulation, confidence, and changes of mind in the pre-supplementary motor area, as well as in the orbitofrontal, inferior frontal, and insular cortices. Behavioural and electrophysiological results are reproduced with a post-decisional evidence accumulation model, and the temporal dynamics of decision-making is characterized with mouse-tracking and intracranial electrophysiology. We conclude that confidence and changes of mind result from evidence accumulation, instantiated before the decision in the pre-supplementary motor area, and after the decision in the insula.

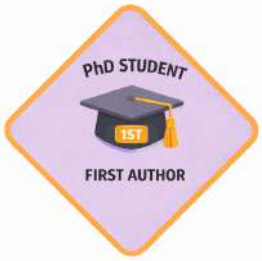
Goueytes, D., Stockart, F., Robin, A., Gyger, L., Rouy, M., Hoffmann, D., ... & Faivre, N. (2025). Evidence accumulation in the pre-supplementary motor area and insula drives confidence and changes of mind. Nature Communications, 16(1), 6998.

Improving lexico-semantic integration with gesture-enriched pictures: A word-learning study using the Picture-Word Interference paradigm

Solène Kalénine, *Laurent Ott*
& *Séverine Casalis*

This study aimed to evaluate the impact of static gesture cues on word learning and integration. Following embodied theories of language, gesture-enhanced images displaying the object-use gesture should favor learning and integration of object nouns. Sixty-two adult French speakers learned low-familiarity French nouns of manipulable objects (e.g., "étrille" – currycomb) with gesture-enhanced or neutral images during a short learning session. Immediately after, word recognition (lexical decision) and word production (Picture-Word Interference, PWI) tasks were used to evaluate the impact of image type on word learning and lexical integration, respectively. In the PWI, participants had to name a picture of a familiar object (e.g. "brosse" – brush) while ignoring a written distractor word. Words learned with gesture-enhanced or neutral images were used as distractors. Depending on the condition, they could be semantically related ("étrille" – currycomb) or unrelated ("burin" – chisel) to the target object to name. A control condition with unrelated distractor words not involved in learning ("salière" – salt shaker) was also added. Naming latencies in presence of related distractors, compared to unrelated distractors, indicated whether learned lexical representations engaged in competition during production. Lexical decision results did not show any influence of the image condition used during learning on word recognition. Critically, however, PWI results demonstrated that words trained with gesture-enhanced pictures entailed semantic interference effects during naming. Words trained with neutral pictures did not induce semantic interference. Findings highlight the relevance of gesture cues for lexico-semantic integration of object nouns and suggest considering the role of contextual images in vocabulary acquisition.

Kalénine, S., Ott, L., & Casalis, S. (2025). Improving lexico-semantic integration with gesture-enriched pictures: A word-learning study using the Picture-Word Interference paradigm. Memory & Cognition, 1-15.



Ownership Processing in Peripersonal Space: An Electroencephalographic Study

Lucie Lenglart, ***Clemence Roger***, Adriana Sampaio & ***Yann Coello***

A fundamental aspect of interacting with objects in the environment is the ability to distinguish between objects that can be directly acted upon in the peripersonal space (PPS) and those out of immediate reach in the extrapersonal space (EPS). Performing appropriate actions also requires integrating social conceptual information related to who owns a particular object. While prior research has demonstrated that spatial and social factors influence object processing, how these factors are integrated is not yet fully understood. To address this issue, the present study explored the neurophysiological correlates of object ownership processing when objects were located in either the PPS or EPS. Facing a virtual character, 28 participants estimated the reachability of self-owned or other-owned objects, placed at different distances. The analysis confirmed that self-owned objects are processed faster when located in PPS, and other-owned objects are processed faster when located in EPS. EEG signals analysis revealed that early ERP components, such as the N1 and anterior N2, were modulated solely by objects' spatial location. In contrast, later components, including the P3 and anterior N400, were influenced by object ownership, although depending on object's location in space. These results suggest an early perceptual prioritization of objects in the PPS and a prioritization of objects that engages the self at a postperceptual stage. Overall, the findings provide new insights into how objects are processed depending on their spatial and social properties, and confirm that virtual reality represents a promising tool to probe neural mechanisms supporting perception and action in social contexts.

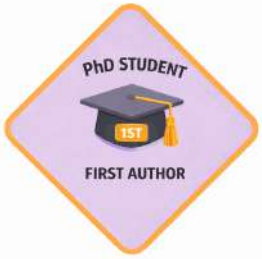
Lenglart, L., Roger, C., Sampaio, A., Coello, Y. (2025). Object ownership processing in peripersonal space: An EEG study. Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, 9, 1-13.

A large-scale database of Mandarin Chinese word associations from the Small World of Words Project

Bing Li, Ziyi Ding, Simon De Deyne & Qing Cai

Word associations are among the most direct ways to measure word meaning in human minds, capturing various relationships, even those formed by non-linguistic experiences. Although large-scale word associations exist for Dutch, English, and Spanish, there is a lack of data for Mandarin Chinese, the most widely spoken language from a distinct language family. Here we present the Small World of Words–Zhongwen (Chinese) (SWOW-ZH), a word association dataset of Mandarin Chinese derived from a three-response word association task. This dataset covers responses for over 10,000 cue words from more than 40,000 participants. We constructed a semantic network based on this dataset and evaluated concurrent validity of association-based measures by predicting human processing latencies and comparing them with text-based measures and word embeddings. Our results show that word centrality significantly predicts lexical decision and word naming speed. Furthermore, SWOW-ZH notably outperforms text-based embeddings and transformer-based large language models in predicting human-rated word relationships across varying sample sizes. We also highlight the unique characteristics of Chinese word associations, particularly focusing on word formation. Combined, our findings underscore the critical importance of large-scale human experimental data and its unique contribution to understanding the complexity and richness of language.

Li, B., Ding, Z., De Deyne, S., & Cai, Q. (2025). A large-scale database of Mandarin Chinese word associations from the Small World of Words Project. Behavior Research Methods, 57(1), 34.

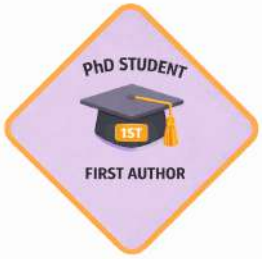


Ineffective cues for contextual saccade adaptation

Maxime Martel & *Laurent Madelain*

Contextual saccadic adaptation is investigated through a variant of the double-step paradigm, where two directions of intrasaccadic steps are signaled by two cues. This enables the simultaneous induction of two distinct saccadic adaptations. Surprisingly, contextual adaptation is effective only with motor-related cues, whereas visual cues such as target color and shape do not elicit significant adaptation. We tested nine different contextual cues to signal intrasaccadic steps in a contextual double-step paradigm: visual stimulus duration, lateralization of a sound, various statistical regularities across trials, symbolic cues, starting location of the target, and the amplitude of the first step or the target color and shape. Robust systematic contextual learning was found under the amplitude and the starting location experiments, whereas no learning occurred with any other cues. This lack of contextual learning further confirms that the prediction of the intrasaccadic steps depends on the nature of the context. In two additional experiments replicating those using target color and shape, and symbolic cues, participants were periodically prompted to explicitly report the contextual cue they had just experienced. Again, no systematic contextual adaptation was observed despite participants achieving reporting the contextual cue accurately. This dissociation between perceptual reports and motor tasks involving the same visual information aligns with previous results on the constraints for contextual learning. The saccadic system, evolutionarily specialized for spatial targeting, exhibits selective learning that prioritizes localization cues, effectively ignoring nonmotor cues in its learning processes, even when such cues are explicitly perceived.

Martel, M., & Madelain, L. (2025). Ineffective cues for contextual saccade adaptation. Journal of Neurophysiology.



Psychometric validation of the French version of the Hogg Eco-Anxiety Scale (HEAS-FR).

Marie Mathé, Fanny Grisetto, Nicolas Gauvrit
& ***Clémence Roger***

Interpersonal synchrony refers to the temporal coordination between two individuals, signaling the coupling of their behaviors. Optimal movement synchrony in dyads is linked to more affiliative behavior, cooperation, and trust. However, there is limited research on how the sensory environment impacts interpersonal synchrony. One significant environmental factor influencing human behavior and social interactions is ambient odors. This study aimed to examine the effect of ambient odor on interpersonal synchrony, particularly in-phase movement synchrony. Motion energy analysis and windowed cross-correlations were used to measure synchrony levels between participants during video-recorded interactions. Twenty-five same-sex friend dyads performed three interaction tasks designed to create fun, cooperative, or competitive atmospheres. These tasks were conducted with a pleasant, stimulating peppermint odor or in a control condition without odor. Consistent with previous studies, higher synchrony levels were observed in fun atmospheres compared to competitive and cooperative ones. No significant effects of odor stimulation were found. Overall, the results confirm that social context significantly influences movement synchrony and affiliation, while ambient odor might not affect interpersonal synchrony, at least when the odor is irrelevant to the task.

Mathé, M., Grisetto, F., Gauvrit, N., & Roger, C. (2025). Psychometric validation of the French version of the Hogg Eco-Anxiety Scale (HEAS-FR). Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science / Revue canadienne des sciences du comportement, 57(1), 59–65.

Influence of AI behavior on human moral decisions, agency, and responsibility

Adriana Salatino, ***Arthur Prével***, Emilie Caspar & Salvatore Lo Bue

There is a growing interest in understanding the effects of human-machine interaction on moral decision-making (Moral-DM) and sense of agency (SoA). Here, we investigated whether the "moral behavior" of an AI may affect both moral-DM and SoA in a military population, by using a task in which cadets played the role of drone operators on a battlefield. Participants had to decide whether or not to initiate an attack based on the presence of enemies and the risk of collateral damage. By combining three different types of trials (Moral vs. two No-Morals) in three blocks with three type of intelligent system support (No-AI support vs. Aggressive-AI vs. Conservative-AI), we showed that participants' decisions in the morally challenging situations were influenced by the inputs provided by the autonomous system. Furthermore, by measuring implicit and explicit agency, we found a significant increase in the SoA at the implicit level in the morally challenging situations, and a decrease in the explicit responsibility during the interaction with both AIs. These results suggest that the AI behavior influences human moral decision-making and alters the sense of agency and responsibility in ethical scenarios. These findings have implications for the design of AI-assisted decision-making processes in moral contexts.

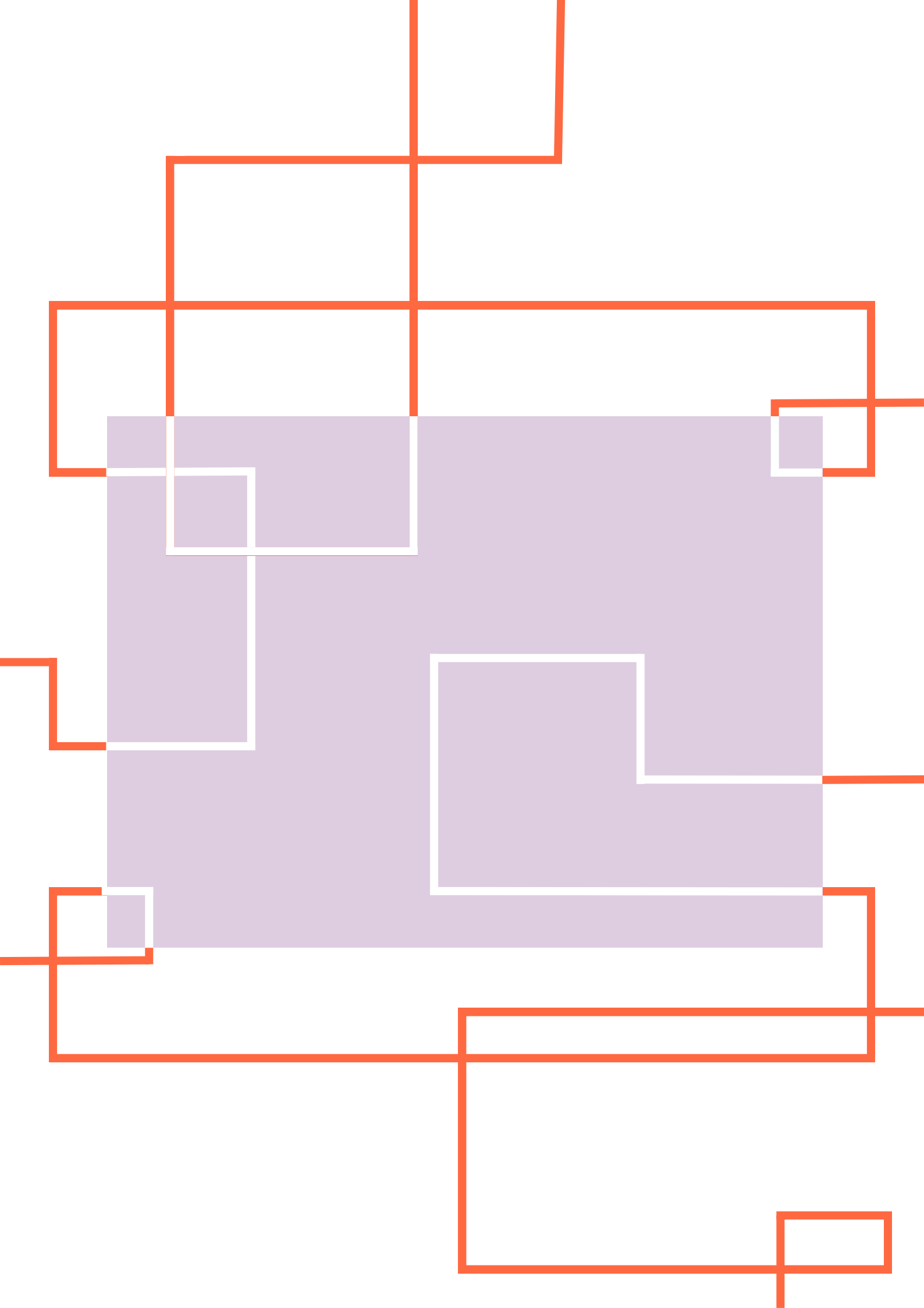
Salatino, A., Prével, A., Caspar, E., & Bue, S. L. (2025). Influence of AI behavior on human moral decisions, agency, and responsibility. Scientific Reports, 15(1), 12329.

The risks of bold claims with fragile data: No evidence that negated actions are simulated in the primary motor cortex

Melisa Yavuz, *Robin Gigandet*
& *Tatjana A. Nazir*

Dupont et al. (2025) claim that motor simulations in primary motor cortex are engaged during the processing of both affirmative and negated action sentences, based on a novel analysis of TMS data. Given the theoretical implications for embodied accounts of language, this commentary addresses methodological concerns that bear directly on the validity of this conclusion. We argue that key analytical and timing choices limit the interpretability of the reported motor-evoked potentials and obscure their relation to action word processing. Consequently, the available evidence does not support the claim that negated actions engage motor simulations in primary motor cortex.

Yavuz, M., Gigandet, R., & Nazir, T. A. (2025). The risks of bold claims with fragile data : No evidence that negated actions are simulated in the primary motor cortex. Neuroscience, 568, 323.



Team DEEP

Coordinators:

Delphine Grynberg

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FOCUS

Leads a global project to establish a competence center in Affective Sciences, focusing on the analysis and dynamics of emotional regulation processes linked to major pathologies and health challenges. Using advanced multilevel methods, the research spans emotional analysis from brain mechanisms to complex social interactions, with the goal of developing innovative and effective therapeutic approaches at both individual and family levels.

METHODOLOGIES

Brain recordings (EEG, ERPs, Oscillations, MEG); autonomic recordings (facial thermal variations, electrodermal activity, heart rate and variability, respiratory and pupillary variations); behavioral measures (eye movements, quantitative narrative analysis, psychometric assessments, video-behavioral analysis).

POPULATIONS

Healthy adults or having sub-clinical symptoms and patients with mental, somatic or neurological illnesses.

Mentalizing Oneself and Others in Anorexia Nervosa: From Subjective Evaluation to Performance

Emilie Auger, Jean-Louis Nandrino
& *Karyn Doba*

The present study examined impairment in two main dimensions of mentalizing (self-other and emotional-cognitive) in patients with anorexia nervosa (AN) by combining self-reported measures with performance-based tasks. Forty-five patients with AN recruited from an eating disorder unit and 45 healthy controls (HCs) recruited from the general population completed the Mentalization Scale and the Movie for Assessment of Social Cognition. The results revealed that in self-reported evaluations of their mentalization process, patients with AN hypo-mentalized about themselves and others' mental states. However, they used more hyper-mentalizing than HCs when mentalizing others' emotional and cognitive mental states in performance-based tasks. Finally, the severity of eating symptoms in patients with AN was associated with higher levels of perceived hypo-mentalizing about their own mental states and lower levels of perceived hypo-mentalizing of others' mental states. No associations were found between the severity of eating symptoms and mentalizing performance This study emphasizes the importance of mentalizing impairment in patients with AN, which should be considered via a multidimensional approach that considers both emotional and cognitive dimensions and the ability to assess
patients' competences.

Auger, E., Nandrino, J.-L. and Doba, K. (2025), Mentalizing Oneself and Others in Anorexia Nervosa: From Subjective Evaluation to Performance. Journal of Clinical Psychology, 81: 557-566.

Confusing my viewpoint with his: Altered self-other distinction performance in antisocial personality disorder

Alix Bigot, Luca A. Tiberi, ***Xavier Saloppé, Jean-Louis Nandrino***, Thierry Pham & Henryk Bukowski

Deficits of social cognition are regularly but inconsistently reported among individuals with antisocial personality disorder (ASPD). Because of the multifaceted nature of social cognition, deficits might be only observed when assessing specific facets of social cognition and under sufficiently demanding conditions. This study examined self-other distinction performance, a key facet lying at the core of the attachment-based model of mentalizing (Fonagy & Luyten, 2009). Twenty-one forensic inpatients with ASPD and 19 participants from the community completed a visual perspective-taking paradigm allowing to tease apart self-other priority (i.e., how self-focused one is) from self-other distinction performance (i.e., how much one confuses his with others' mental states). The ASPD group made significantly more errors at handling conflicting self-other viewpoints when requiring self-other distinction (19%) than the control group (4%), but the ASPD group was not significantly more self-focused. In contrast, the Interpersonal Reactivity Index self-report scale did not differentiate the two groups. However, a novel measure of self-other distinction based on empathic concern (i.e., the tendency to experience feelings of concern and compassion for others) and personal distress subscales (i.e., the tendency to experience personal distress in response to the distress of others) did differentiate the two groups, albeit to a significantly lower extent than the objective measure of self-other distinction. Altogether, these findings indicate the presence of a self-other distinction deficit in ASPD and advocate for psychometric approaches that embrace the multifaceted nature of social cognition and the need for objective measures with sufficient sensitivity.

Bigot, A., Tiberi, L. A., Saloppé, X., Nandrino, J., Pham, T., & Bukowski, H. (2025). Confusing my viewpoint with his : Altered self–other distinction performance in antisocial personality disorder. Personality Disorders Theory Research And Treatment, 16(2), 110-121.

Unraveling the brain expression of bdnf in a mouse model of anorexia nervosa

Jingxian Cao, Nicolas Lebrun, Shiou-ping Chen, Chloé Tezenas du Montcel, Philip Gorwood, Céline Cruciani-Guglielmacci, Virginie Tolle, Nicolas Ramoz & ***Odile Viltart***

Anorexia nervosa (AN) is a complex psychiatric disorder characterized by severe caloric restriction and distorted body image, leading to significant psychological and physiological complications. Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) plays a critical role in cognitive function and metabolic regulation. A mutation in the BDNF gene is associated with anorexia nervosa. This study examines the effects of food restriction, refeeding and short-term refeeding on the expression of Bdnf and its receptor (tropomyosin receptor kinase B TrkB/Ntrk2) in key brain regions involved in reward and cognitive function. We assessed BDNF mRNA levels in the dorsal striatum (DS), nucleus accumbens, ventral tegmental area, and prefrontal cortex (PFC) of AN-like mice subjected to different feeding regimes combined with or without physical activity. Cognitive flexibility was assessed using the Y-maze test. Whole RNA sequencing was also performed to analyse gene expression changes. Food restriction induced a transient decrease in cognitive flexibility and significantly decreased Bdnfexpression in the DS and PFC. Progressive refeeding restored Bdnf in the DS but not the PFC. Short refeeding restored Bdnf levels to baseline. TrkBexpression is increased by restriction only in the PFC. The presence of a running wheel cancelled these effects, suggesting an interaction between physical activity and diet. Pathway analysis of dysregulated genes revealed enrichment in immune regulation and cell-cell communication pathways. These findings highlight the complex relationship between diet, exercise, and brain function in AN-like mouse model and suggest avenues for further research into the clinical relevance of BDNF and TrkB as biomarkers of eating disorders.

Cao, J., Lebrun, N., Chen, S., Du Montcel, C. T., Gorwood, P., Cruciani-Guglielmacci, C., Tolle, V., Ramoz, N., & Viltart, O. (2025). Unraveling the brain expression of bdnf in a mouse model of anorexia nervosa. Translational Psychiatry, 15(1), 417. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41398-025-03618-7

Do the Characteristics of Autobiographical Memories Vary Across the Alcohol Use Disorder Continuum? A Comparison Between People with Mild and Severe Alcohol Use Disorder

Clara De Groote & *Jean-Louis Nandrino*

Disturbances in autobiographical memory have been reported in individuals with alcohol use disorder (AUD) but have not been examined in terms of differing severities of AUD. Fifty-six individuals with severe AUD, 39 individuals with mild AUD, and 56 controls performed an autobiographical memory task that involved recalling two important autobiographical memories over four life periods. Autobiographical memories were coded for specificity, emotional valence, theme, and meaning making. Individuals with severe AUD recalled more general, more neutral, fewer positive, fewer achievement-related, and more alcohol-related autobiographical memories than individuals with mild AUD and controls and fewer meaning-making autobiographical memories than controls. Individuals with mild AUD retrieved more party-related autobiographical memories than people with severe AUD and controls. Using a new recall procedure, our findings suggest that autobiographical memory impairments appear in the most severe form of AUD, but not in the mild form. These specific autobiographical memory disturbances cannot be explained solely by the AUD symptoms.

De Groote, C., & Nandrino, J. L. (2025). Do the Characteristics of Autobiographical Memories Vary Across the Alcohol Use Disorder Continuum? A Comparison Between People with Mild and Severe Alcohol Use Disorder. Substance Use & Misuse, 1–11.

“L’Échelle de Connexion au Soi”: French validation of the Self-Connection Scale and relationships with health and social outcomes

Gérald Delelis, Théo Zérouali
& Maxime Retailleau

Klussman et al. (2021a) propose a measure of the connection with the self, the “Self-Connection Scale” and show its favorable links with health outcomes. No French validation of this scale currently exists. The primary aim of the present study is to propose this scale for French users. The second aim is twofold: first, to test the links between self-connection scores (including its three sub-dimensions: self-awareness, self-acceptance, and self-alignment) and health and social outcomes (anxiety, depression, social and emotional loneliness, and solitude); second, to compare these links with those frequently observed for self-esteem on similar outcomes. Eighty-seven women (M = 35.1, SD = 17.2) and 56 men (M = 32.4, SD = 13.8) took part in this study by filling out a booklet of questionnaires. This French validation presents very satisfactory factorial structure and reliability. The scores are similar to the original ones. Higher scores of self-connection relate to lower scores of anxiety, depression, and solitude and lesser troubles of social and emotional loneliness. Finally, the effects of self-esteem and self-connection on these outcomes do not fully overlap. We discuss the potential of this scale in identifying specific weaknesses related to the self. Its use could be of significant interest to professionals, serving both as an identification tool and as a possible basis for practice. Additionally, we propose avenues for further research to better understand which dimensions of the connection to the self play a role in various outcomes, and why this is the case.

Delelis, G., Zérouali, T., & Retailleau, M. (2025). “L’Échelle de Connexion au Soi” : French validation of the Self-Connection Scale and relationships with health and social outcomes. Psychologie Française, 70(4), 301-314.

"Are you ready?" A longitudinal interpretative phenomenological analysis of couples' experiences with breast reconstruction decision-making

Léa Demeulenaere, Aurélie Untas, Cécile Flahault, Léonor Fasse & ***Kristopher Lamore***

In this study, we aimed to explore women's and their male partners' experiences with breast reconstruction (BR) decision and to study the evolution of their experiences since undergoing mastectomy to one year after. Unstructured individual interviews with four couples facing mastectomy for breast cancer and BR decision-making were conducted following mastectomy (T1) and one year after mastectomy (T2). Longitudinal interpretative phenomenological analysis (LIPA) was conducted on the data. A total of 16 interviews were conducted, revealing seven group experiential themes: six applicable across time and one related to a specific timepoint. The results highlight two critical aspects: the ambivalence surrounding BR and the perceived importance of moving forward. Women and their partners expressed mixed feelings about BR, weighing the potential for improved quality of life and body image against fears of surgery and medical complications. The decision to undergo BR evolved over time, influenced by experiences related to body acceptance, aesthetic considerations, practical concerns, and societal norms for femininity. Partners played a significant role in the decision-making process, offering emotional support and influencing the decision both directly and indirectly. Moreover, the interpretative accounts underline how couples may see BR as a strategy for repairing both physical and psychological damage. Our findings emphasize the importance of understanding BR not only as a medical procedure but also as a deeply psychosocial process shaped by individual and relational factors. Furthermore, we provide reflections on the use of LIPA since it is a rarely used method.

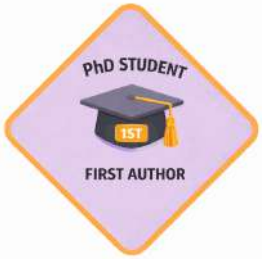
Demeulenaere, L., Untas, A., Flahault, C., Fasse, L., & Lamore, K. (2025). "Are you ready ? " A longitudinal interpretative phenomenological analysis of couples' experiences with breast reconstruction decision-making. European Journal Of Oncology Nursing, 74, 102781.

Suicide risk, mentalizing and emotion regulation in adolescents: The role of maternal maladaptive emotion regulation

Karyn Doba, Martin Debbané, *Emilie Auger* & *Jean-Louis Nandrino*

While a substantial body of research has demonstrated associations between family factors and adolescent suicide risk, little is known about whether maternal mentalizing and emotion regulation play a role in adolescent suicide risk. The objective of this study was to test whether maternal mentalizing and maternal emotion regulation strategies are related to adolescent suicide risk through adolescents' mentalizing ability and emotion regulation strategies. A total of 130 adolescents and young adults (63.6 % female; aged 15–23 years) and their mothers completed a series of self-report questionnaires assessing their suicide risk, anxiety and depression, mentalizing difficulties and cognitive emotion regulation strategies. Structural equation modeling revealed significant indirect effects between adolescent mentalizing and adolescent suicide risk through adolescent adaptive and maladaptive emotion regulation. The results also showed a moderating effect of adolescent anxiety and depression on the relationships between adaptive emotion regulation strategies and suicide risk in adolescents and young adults. Importantly, maternal maladaptive emotion regulation strategies (i.e., self-blame and catastrophizing) have significant effects on suicidal risk through mentalizing difficulties and adaptive and maladaptive emotion regulation strategies in adolescents and young adults. Our findings provide preliminary support for the specific roles of maternal emotion regulation strategies by demonstrating that a higher use of maternal maladaptive emotion regulation strategies are associated with less adolescent mentalizing, which in turn contributes to a higher use of maladaptive strategies and a lower use of adaptive strategies among adolescents, thus increasing the risk of suicide in adolescence and young adulthood.

Doba, K., Debbané, M., Auger, E., & Nandrino, J. (2025). Suicide risk, mentalizing and emotion regulation in adolescents : The role of maternal maladaptive emotion regulation. Journal Of Affective Disorders, 374, 342-349.



Experience with an online positive psychology intervention for caregivers of people with Alzheimer's disease: an interpretative phenomenological analysis

Marie Dobignies, Clotilde Larochette, Eva Andreotti, ***Faouzia Millequant-Gouraria***, Johanna Gonzalez de Linaresa, ***Louise Lefebvre***, Pascaline Cassagnaud, Florence Pasquier & ***Pascal Antoine***

Considering the distress experienced by caregivers, numerous support systems have been devised. Recently, interventions focused on positive psychology have resulted in beneficial effects for caregivers. This study aimed to investigate the experience of caregivers of people with Alzheimer's disease with an online positive psychology intervention. To understand caregivers' experiences of an 8-week positive psychology intervention, 10 participants participated in a semistructured individual interview. Interpretative phenomenological analysis was carried out on the interviews. Three themes were identified. [1] Engaging half-heartedly: Positive psychology was initially perceived as an unknown and caregivers expressed their scepticism before gradually integrating the intervention into their daily routine. [2] Letting yourself be destabilized: Caregivers went through an uncomfortable phase, becoming aware of their overprotective or controlling behaviours and the consequences of their psychological distress. [3] A springboard to change: Several realizations resulted in changes, such as reactivating internal resources and cultivating a more balanced outlook with less focus on the illness of the care receiver and the caregiving situation. The results show that caregivers were completely autonomous during the online intervention and engaged in the processes promoted by positive psychology, which supports further development of online resources for caregivers.

Dobignies, M., Larochette, C., Andreotti, E., Millequant-Gourari, F., Gonzalez de Linares, J., Lefebvre, L. Cassagnaud, P., Pasquier, F., Antoine, P. (2025). Experience with an online positive psychology intervention for caregivers of people with Alzheimer's disease: an interpretative phenomenological analysis. International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-Being, 20(1).

Autobiographical reasoning in patients with alcohol use disorder: A life story perspective.

Marie-Charlotte Gandolphe**,** Lyla Rigoulot, Emmanuel Brunelle & ***Mélissa Allé***

This study examined autobiographical reasoning in the life story of patients with alcohol use disorder (AUD). We compared the coherence of life narratives from 37 AUD patients with those of 34 control participants. Compared to controls, AUD patients showed more difficulties explaining how events have shaped their identity. They also relied heavily on negative events to explain their identity development, and a substantial proportion of recalled events were alcohol-related. Patients also described more negative implications of their experiences on the self than controls did. In contrast, the ability to describe stable aspects of the self did not differ between groups, suggesting preserved identity stability in AUD patients. Interestingly, this ability was associated with the age at alcohol onset. The global coherence of life narratives was preserved in AUD patients. These results suggest a specific type of autobiographical reasoning in AUD patients and raise questions about its implications for recovery and relapse.

Gandolphe, M., Rigoulot, L., Brunelle, E., & Allé, M. C. (2025). Autobiographical reasoning in patients with alcohol use disorder : A life story perspective. Journal Of Applied Research In Memory And Cognition.

Exploring Communication Dynamics Between Patients and Healthcare Providers in Oncology: A Systematic Review

Pauline Justin, Valentyn Fournier, ***Ambre Naeyaert***, Lisa Laroussi-Libeault, ***Christelle Duprez, Pascal Antoine*** & ***Kristopher Lamore***

Patient–physician communication in oncology has been studied extensively. Most studies have focused on healthcare professionals' (HCPs) communication, showing the importance of a patient-centred approach. While some studies have explored the behaviours of patients and their relatives, the majority have centred on HCPs' behaviours, with much less attention to patients' communication patterns during consultations. The main objective of this systematic review was to examine how patients communicate and behave during oncology consultations and to identify the factors influencing these behaviours. Five databases were searched to find studies analyzing the communication patterns of patients and their relatives during oncology consultations that were audio- and/or video-recorded. Based on the 34,779 references identified, we included 47 studies in our review. Three main themes emerged from the analysis: (1) patients' communication patterns and the topics discussed during oncology consultations; (2) factors influencing patient communication; and (3) patients' perception of and satisfaction with the consultation. Patients exhibited active behaviours during consultations. However, many factors can influence interactions. We recommend taking a comprehensive approach that involves considering communication factors and supporting the development of patient-centred strategies tailored to individual patient needs. HCPs should not only practice patient-centred care; they should also implement specific actions to address patients' psychosocial needs. Future research should also utilize complex models to better understand the dynamics of patient–provider communication.

Justin, P., Fournier, V., Naeyaert, A., Laroussi-Libeault, L., Duprez, C., Antoine, P., & Lamore, K. (2025). Exploring Communication Dynamics Between Patients and Healthcare Providers in Oncology : A Systematic Review. Health Expectations, 28(6), e70519.

Cancer progression: how to announce it? The perspective of physicians and nurses

Julia Kolly, Sophie Lelorain & ***Kristopher Lamore***

The aim of this study was to explore healthcare professionals' (HCPs) experiences of oncology consultations in which a change of treatment is proposed and discussed with patients (and their family caregivers, if present) due to cancer progression. Twenty semi-structured interviews were conducted with HCPs (oncologists, surgeons, and nurses) who regularly disclosed cancer progression. The data were analyzed using a thematic analysis. The member reflections method was used to verify the accuracy of the content of the analysis. Six themes were identified, demonstrating that the disclosure of cancer progression is a process that is not limited to a single consultation. HCPs rely on their knowledge of patients and family caregivers to adapt their communication considering their preferences. Communication skills such as empathy and self-questioning are highly endorsed. The findings highlight the process of breaking bad news and the way in which HCPs deal with consultations to announce the progression of cancer considering criticisms made and proposed improvements. Breaking bad news is a difficult process. Introducing compulsory training as part of the medical curriculum, creating safe, individual listening areas, and encouraging teamwork can help to better support HCPs.

Kolly, J., Lelorain, S. & Lamore, K. Cancer progression: how to announce it? The perspective of physicians and nurses. Humanit Soc Sci Commun 12, 898 (2025).

Factors contributing to sexual dissatisfaction in women with breast cancer: The specific role of conjugal relationship quality

Kristopher Lamore **,** Anna Maria Giardinelli & ***Émilie Wawrziczny***

Purpose: The purpose of this study was (1) to investigate the personal, interpersonal, social, and cultural factors related to sexual dissatisfaction in women with breast cancer and (2) to explore these differences regarding surgery (lumpectomy vs. mastectomy).
Methods: This cross-sectional study included women diagnosed with breast cancer (n = 87). Women were invited to complete questionnaires assessing sexual satisfaction, relationship satisfaction, conjugal support, quality of life, subjective health, anxiodepressive symptomatology, body image, self-esteem, and religiosity. Partial least squares path modeling (PLS−PM) was used.
Results: No direct links were observed between resources (intraindividual and social) and sexual dissatisfaction (SD) or between vulnerability (physical and emotional) and SD. The quality of the conjugal relationship acted as a mediator between these different variables. Intraindividual resources are influenced directly by physical and emotional vulnerability. Age influenced only SD in women who had undergone a lumpectomy compared with those who had undergone a mastectomy. Finally, religiosity and the length of the couple relationship had no influence on SD.
Conclusion: The results highlight the importance of considering different levels of variables when considering SD in women with breast cancer, particularly the role of the conjugal relationship. Hence, these results encourage the need to promote conjugal relationship quality to improve sexual satisfaction.

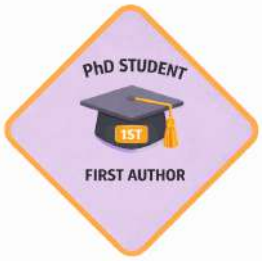
Lamore, K., Giardinelli, A. M., & Wawrziczny, É. (2025). Factors contributing to sexual dissatisfaction in women with breast cancer : The specific role of conjugal relationship quality. European Journal Of Oncology Nursing, 76, 102866.

Empathy and Burnout among Oncology Healthcare Professionals

Charlotte Manceau & *Sophie Lelorain*

Cancer is a chronic disease that poses numerous challenges for patients, their families and healthcare providers. The demanding treatments and the numerous decisions that need to be made during cancer care put the empathy of healthcare providers at the forefront, both for patients and healthcare professionals. Because of the many strong emotions and high uncertainty about the future in cancer care, as well as the relational qualities inherent in the health care profession, a considerable body of literature has addressed the risk of burnout among health care providers. This chapter aims to provide a scientific perspective on the links between healthcare provider empathy and burnout and to offer preventive measures against burnout in the context of oncology and strategies to alleviate healthcare provider distress.

Charlotte Manceau, Sophie Lelorain. Empathie et burnout du personnel soignant en oncologie. Un@. Comprendre la fatigue liée au cancer, 5, 2025, S@nté en contextes, 979-10-300-1146-3. ⟨10.46608/santencontextes5.9791030011456.12⟩.



Do Individuals With Overweight and Obesity Have Reduced Affective and Cognitive Empathy? A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Céline Maupin, Pierre Gerain, Charlotte Dassonneville & ***Delphine Grynberg***

Obesity is associated with various interpersonal difficulties. Previous research on empathy has indicated that weight is negatively correlated with empathic skills in children and adolescents. However, few studies have examined this question in adults, and the existing studies have provided inconsistent results. This systematic review and meta-analysis aimed to examine empathic skills among people with overweight and obesity. Six databases were searched to find studies based on performance measures and self-report questionnaires investigating cognitive and affective empathy in adults with overweight and obesity (BMI > 25 kg/m^2) compared with normal-weight individuals. Ten studies involving 2648 individuals were included after screening the 6779 references that were initially retrieved from the database. Analyses revealed a significant difference between individuals with overweight/obesity and normal-weight individuals ($k = 11$, Hedge's $g = -0.52$ [−0.97, −0.07], $Z = -2.26$, $p = 0.024$). Subgroup analyses revealed no significant difference between people with overweight and people with obesity ($Q = 0.36$, $p = 0.546$). However, the effect size for cognitive empathy was higher than that for affective empathy ($Q = 7.30$, $p = 0.007$), and the effect size for performances measures was higher than that for self-report questionnaires ($Q = 6.61$, $p = 0.010$). Adults with overweight or obesity present lower scores of empathy, particularly for cognitive empathy. These results emphasize the need to better understand which specific components of cognitive empathy might be affected and to conduct studies to evaluate affective empathy beyond self-report questionnaires. Future research should also determine the underlying mechanisms and longitudinally test the role of empathy in the onset and maintenance of obesity.

Maupin, C., Gerain, P., Dassonneville, C., & Grynberg, D. (2025). Do Individuals With Overweight and Obesity Have Reduced Affective and Cognitive Empathy ? A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Obesity Reviews, 26(10), e13948.

Posttraumatic stress disorder in adulthood after the experience of childhood maltreatment: Does attachment to foster or biological parents make a difference?

Raphaële Miljkovitch, Camille Danner Touati, Aino Elina Sirparanta, Camille Toléon & Anne-Sophie Deborde

Childhood maltreatment (CM) is associated with disorganized attachment which, in turn, is linked to a range of negative outcomes including posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). When maltreatment within the family leads to out-of-home placement, examining the effects of multiple attachment relationships on children's outcomes seems appropriate. This study examined whether (a) attachment to each biological parent mediates the association between CM and PTSD and whether (b) attachment to a foster parent mitigates the effects of CM and of attachment to biological parents on PTSD. Ninety-six adults placed during childhood responded to the Attachment Multiple Model Interview to assess attachment to each biological parent and to the foster parent, the Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview for PTSD, and the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire for CM. Past records were used to substantiate responses on factual information regarding CM. Partial Least Squares Path Modeling analyses show that (a) attachment (insecurity and disorganization) with the biological mother partially mediates the link between maltreatment and PTSD and that (b) attachment to the foster parent moderates the link between attachment to the mother and PTSD. Although attachment insecurity to the father is associated with maltreatment severity, it does not mediate its effect on PTSD. Findings suggest that secure and organized attachment with the mother or with an alternative caregiver is associated with a reduced risk of PTSD following maltreatment.

Miljkovitch, R., Danner Touati, C., Sirparanta, A. E., Toléon, C., & Deborde, A.-S. (2025). Posttraumatic stress disorder in adulthood after the experience of childhood maltreatment: Does attachment to foster or biological parents make a difference? Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy.

When “good enough” is no longer enough: Parenting perfectionism, intolerance of uncertainty, and emotion regulation in postnatal depression

Kelly Saint Denny, Karyn Doba, Laurent Storme
& ***Jean-Louis Nandrino***

This study addresses the call for psychological research to examine the impact of social expectations and modern parenting paradigms on parents' mental health. We explore parenting perfectionism as a predictor of postnatal depression, with intolerance of uncertainty and emotion regulation difficulties as mediators. Using Partial Least Square Structural Equation Modelling (PLS-SEM) on a sample of 232 mothers, we examined both direct and indirect effects of parenting perfectionism on postnatal depression symptoms, including mediation analysis of emotion regulation difficulties and intolerance of uncertainty. Findings support that parenting perfectionism predicts the risk of postnatal depression through these mediating mechanisms. Limitations of the study include its cross-sectional design and reliance on self-reported measures. Volunteer bias, higher education and employment levels among participants may limit the generalizability of the results. Despite these limitations, this study shows the importance of emotion regulation difficulties and intolerance of uncertainty as key mechanisms by which parenting perfectionism increases the risk of postnatal depression in mothers during the first year postpartum. This study provides novel and actionable targets for the treatment and prevention of postnatal depression and demonstrates how social and cultural contexts of parenthood can be operationalized for psychological inquiry through complex statistical modelling.

Denny, K. S., Doba, K., Storme, L., & Nandrino, J. (2024). When “good enough” is no longer enough : Parenting perfectionism, intolerance of uncertainty, and emotion regulation in postnatal depression. Personality And Individual Differences, 233, 112910.

Emotion Regulation Assessment: A New Perspective Using Simultaneous Electroencephalographic and Electrodermal Recordings

Sonia Sistiaga, Alice Bodart, ***Henrique Sequeira*** & Salvatore Campanella

Recognized as a transdiagnostic factor, emotion regulation (ER) is increasingly embedded into conceptualizations of psychopathology development and maintenance, emerging as a core component of treatment methodologies. Therefore, the incorporation of ER into various facets of affective sciences, including theoretical frameworks, experimental paradigms, assessment methods, and intervention strategies, raises new challenges, particularly regarding the measurement of ER. In the evaluation and understanding of complex, multifaceted processes like ER, the combination of different assessment methods encompassing diverse units of analysis across multiple domains encompassing cerebral, physiological, and behavioral measures can prove particularly interesting. Among these approaches, the concurrent recording of electroencephalographic (EEG) and electrodermal activity (EDA) emerges as a promising strategy, enabling a more holistic exploration of the ER process at both central and peripheral levels. This brief paper aims to explore current literature concerning the utilization of EEG and EDA in the investigation of ER and to bring arguments supporting their simultaneous recording in order to gain a better understanding of ER processes.

Sistiaga, S., Bodart, A., Sequeira, H., & Campanella, S. (2025). Emotion Regulation Assessment: A New Perspective Using Simultaneous Electroencephalographic and Electrodermal Recordings. Clinical EEG and Neuroscience, 56(4), 295-304.

Team Language

Coordinators:
Angèle Brunellière
Sandrine Mejias

FOCUS

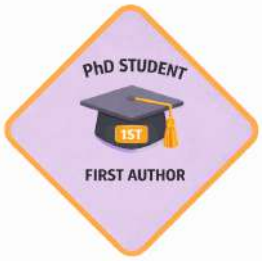
The Language team investigates the cognitive and neurocognitive mechanisms involved in spoken and written language learning and processing. Research covers reading acquisition, word learning in first and second languages, spoken communication, and numerical skills, with particular attention to interactions between language, memory, and communication.

METHODOLOGIES

The team uses experimental approaches combining behavioral measures, brain imaging, psychometric assessments, and computational modeling. These methods make it possible to study language and numerical processes from basic perception to higher-level cognition.

POPULATIONS

Studies include typical and atypical populations, involving both children and adults. Target groups include individuals with developmental disorders such as dyslexia and second-language learners in school contexts, with a focus on interactions with other cognitive systems, non-linguistic information and influencing factors.



Vocabulary Acquisition

Sabah Al Bilani, Junior Vargas Cuevas, Ludivine Javourey-Drevet & *Séverine Casalis*

Although we learn words throughout our lives, the mechanisms differ according to age. We focus on the fast and slow mapping mechanisms that take place in early childhood and then show how reading makes a major contribution to vocabulary development. We also discuss the importance of understanding internal and external factors, as well as implicit and explicit mechanisms, in order to develop the most appropriate teaching methods. This is also illustrated by the means vocabulary is assessed.

Al Bilani, S., Vargas Cuevas, J., Javourey-Drevet, L., & Casalis, S. (2025). Vocabulary Acquisition. In *Reference Module in Social Sciences*. Elsevier.

How emotion and production effects reveal the dynamics of dialogue memory

Cléo Bangoura, Sandrine Gil, ***Dominique Knutsen***,
Edouard Emberger & Ludovic Le Bigot

Common ground is crucial to ensure the effectiveness and harmony of a dialogue. However, even if the information forming the common ground is, by its very nature, shared between two collaborating partners, biases related to individual processes (production and emotional effects) may shape its accessibility in memory for each partner. The aim of this work was to examine the respective roles of individual and collective processes in dialogue memory by showing that they are implemented differently at the beginning versus the end of the grounding process. Using an adapted referential communication task, we developed three complementary studies to investigate memory for the content (i.e., what was said) and source (i.e., who said it) of information through the study of repeated reference to a set of referents. The results confirmed that individual processes impact memory for information provided at the beginning of the interaction, whereas no significant effect was observed for information provided at the end of the interaction. In contrast, the role of each partner (director vs. matcher) in the collaborative task appears to have an influence on memory, as the director enjoyed greater conceptual pact accessibility and better source memory, highlighting the collective processes at play. Taken together, these results enhance current understanding of the dynamic by which collective and individual processes contribute to common ground construction during dialogue.

Bangoura, C., Gil, S., Knutsen, D., Emberger, E., & Le Bigot, L. (2025). How emotion and production effects reveal the dynamics of dialogue memory. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*.

Neural evidence for perceiving a vowel merger after a social interaction within a native language

Mélodie Bellegarda, ***Gary Boddaert***, Sophie Dufour,
Dominique Knutsen & ***Angèle Brunellière***

Although previous research has shown that speakers adapt on the words they use, it remains unclear whether speakers adapt their phonological representations, leading them to perceive new phonemic contrasts following a social interaction. This event-related potential (ERP) study investigates whether the neuronal responses to the perception of the /e/-/ɛ/ vowel merger in Northern French speakers show evidence for discriminating /e/ and /ɛ/ phonemes after interacting with a speaker who produced this contrast. Northern French participants engaged in an interactive map task and we measured their ERP responses elicited after the presentation of a last syllable which was either phonemically identical to or different from preceding syllables. There was no evidence for discrimination between /e/ and /ɛ/ phonemes before the social interaction, while mismatch negativity (MMN) and late responses revealed /e/-/ɛ/ discrimination after the social interaction. The findings suggest rapid neuronal adaptations of phonemic representations thanks to the social interaction.

Bellegarda, M., Boddaert, G., Dufour, S., Knutsen, D., & Brunellière, A. (2025). Neural evidence for perceiving a vowel merger after a social interaction within a native language. Brain and Language, 261, 105529.

Cognitive Predictors of Decoding Skills in Newcomer and Monolingual French-Speaking Children

Matthieu Bignon, Séverine Casalis
& *Sandrine Mejias*

Purpose: Newcomer dyslexic children face a double disadvantage: They must catch up on the schooling delay caused by their late arrival in France, while the lack of early diagnostic tools for dyslexia delays their access to appropriate intervention. However, cognitive predictors of decoding skills in alphabetic scripts are well known. Clinicians and teachers could use the latter for early identification of children at risk of reading disorders. This study aimed to determine whether the main cognitive predictors of decoding skills in monolingual children efficiently predict reading skills in newcomer children. We also compared the performance of both groups on these predictors.
Method: A total of 165 monolingual and 157 newcomer primary school children completed tasks assessing decoding skills, phonological awareness, rapid automatized naming, nonword repetition, vocabulary, and visual–verbal paired-associate learning.
Results: Cognitive predictors showed a strong correlation with decoding abilities in newcomer children. However, the latter scored lower than monolingual children on all predictors except for nonword repetition, probably thanks to its universal properties.
Conclusions: Cognitive predictors can be used to identify newcomer children at risk of reading failure, provided that specific norms and tests are developed, except for the nonword repetition task. Native norms should be used for newcomers on this task, as monolingual and newcomer children showed similar performance. We also provide recommendations to establish norms for the other tests.

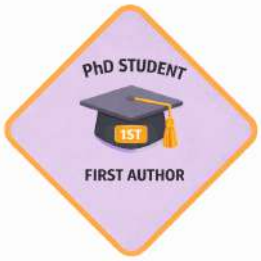
Bignon, M., Casalis, S., & Mejias, S. (2025). Cognitive Predictors of Decoding Skills in Newcomer and Monolingual French-Speaking Children. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, *68*(11), 5505–5522.

Error dynamics as a marker of reading efficiency development: Insights from lexical decision performance in young readers

Fanny Grisetto, ***Clémence Roger***
& ***Gwendoline Mahé***

Understanding reading development requires investigating how visual word recognition capacities develop, particularly through lexical decision tasks. Traditionally, accuracy and reaction times (RTs) are analysed separately, overlooking their interaction, which provides crucial insights into performance. This study proposes a novel framework, hypothesizing that error dynamics (i.e., error distribution through RTs) could be an objective marker of reading efficiency. To test this hypothesis, the study investigated the relationship between reading skills in learning-to-read children and the dynamics of lexical decision errors. Lexical decision performance was analysed in 56 French-speaking children (22 Grade 1 and 34 Grade 2, 36 females). Two complementary methodologies were employed: RTs comparison between correct and incorrect responses and Conditional Accuracy Functions (CAFs) to evaluate accuracy as a function of RTs. Results showed that pseudoword errors were faster than correct responses whereas word errors were slower than correct responses. Of importance, fewer slow word errors and more fast pseudoword errors correlated with reading skills. The findings suggested that as reading skills improve, error dynamics would progressively shift from slow word errors to fast pseudoword errors. This study demonstrated that integrating accuracy and RTs via error dynamics analysis could provide objective markers of reading development. Crucially, it highlights a novel developmental index of reading skills through the shift of error patterns, offering a promising avenue for early identification of reading difficulties.

Grisetto, F., Roger, C., & Mahé, G. (2025). Error dynamics as a marker of reading efficiency development: Insights from lexical decision performance in young readers. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, *260*, 106347.



Theoretical proposal for a unified Bayesian model of adaptation in non-interactive and interactive speech production

Mélen Guillaume, Anahita Basirat
& Julien Diard

In the scientific study of speech production, as well as in speech and language therapy, a variety of experimental paradigms and tasks resulting in plasticity and adaptation of the system are used. However, existing computational models accounting for adaptation appear segregated: feedback effects during non-interactive, altered speech are mostly accounted for by speech production models, whereas accommodation effects during interactive speech are mostly accounted for by speech perception models. In this paper, we consider COSMO, a previous unified Bayesian framework of speech perception and speech production, as the basis for a theoretical proposal and Bayesian model of adaptation effects. We show how these effects in both non-interactive and interactive speech production experiments could be described in this framework, thanks for its ability to separate knowledge and representations from their involvement during speech tasks.

Guillaume, M., Basirat, A., Diard, J. (2025) *Theoretical proposal for a unified Bayesian model of adaptation in non-interactive and interactive speech production*. Proc. Interspeech 2025, 1028-1032

On the acquisition of typing skills without formal training by school-aged children

Svetlana Pinet, Christelle Zielinski, F.-Xavier Alario & Marieke Longcamp

Typing is not formally taught at school in most European countries, despite digital activities being increasingly prevalent in children's curricular requirements. Typing skills presumably emerge from informal practice, modulated by the availability and use of keyboards at school or at home. The cognitive processes leading to typing skill acquisition in children have not been described in any detail. We explored whether these processes can be characterized within a standard theory of typing automatization in adults. We collected data from a cross-sectional sample of 131 children schooled in grades 4–9. The study was conducted on-line, at home, under the supervision of a caregiver. Children performed various chronometric tasks requiring single letter, single word, and sentence typing, followed by a questionnaire of typing habits, each lasting a few minutes. Questionnaire self-reports indicate that the time spent typing or handwriting was stable over grades, but that the number of fingers used increased with grade. Across chronometric tasks, typing speed increased and keypress duration variability decreased with grade. Typing performance for single letters and for words was modulated by a combination of psycholinguistic factors and physical constraints, whose influence decreased with grade. This pattern points to the ongoing—yet incomplete—organization of the typing process into two control loops, similar to adults. Performance in text composition and text copying were highly correlated, indicating that composition quality is much influenced by peripheral processes. The current study opens avenues to fully understand the cognitive processes underlying the acquisition of typing skills, and to inform educators about the stakes involved in teaching typing in school.

Pinet, S., Zielinski, C., Alario, F.-X., & Longcamp, M. (2025). On the acquisition of typing skills without formal training by school-aged children. *Reading and Writing*.

Eye Movements of French Dyslexic Adults While Reading Texts: Evidence of Word Length, Lexical Frequency, Consistency and Grammatical Category

Aikaterini Premeti, Frédéric Isel
& Maria Pia Bucci

Background/Objectives: Dyslexia, a learning disability affecting reading, has been extensively studied using eye movements. This study aimed to examine in the same design the effects of different psycholinguistic variables, i.e., grammatical category, lexical frequency, word length and orthographic consistency on eye movement patterns during reading in adults. Methods: We compared the eye movements of forty university students, twenty with and twenty without dyslexia while they read aloud a meaningful and a meaningless text in order to examine whether semantic context could enhance their reading strategy. Results: Dyslexic participants made more reading errors and had longer reading time particularly with the meaningless text, suggesting an increased reliance on the semantic context to enhance their reading strategy. They also made more progressive and regressive fixations while reading the two texts. Similar results were found when examining grammatical categories. These findings suggest a reduced visuo-attentional span and reliance on a serial decoding approach during reading, likely based on grapheme-to-phoneme conversion. Furthermore, in the whole text analysis, there was no difference in fixation duration between the groups. However, when examining word length, only the control group exhibited a distinction between longer and shorter words. No significant group differences emerged for word frequency. Importantly, multiple regression analyses revealed that orthographic consistency predicted fixation durations only in the control group, suggesting that dyslexic readers were less sensitive to phonological regularities—possibly due to underlying phonological deficits. Conclusions: These findings suggest the involvement of both phonological and visuo-attentional deficits in dyslexia. Combined remediation strategies may enhance dyslexic individuals' performance in phonological and visuo-attentional tasks.

Premeti, A., Isel, F., & Bucci, M. P. (2025). Eye Movements of French Dyslexic Adults While Reading Texts: Evidence of Word Length, Lexical Frequency, Consistency and Grammatical Category. *Brain Sciences*, *15*(7), Article 7.

Shared reading: Benefits, implementation procedures and active principles

Amélie Rémy-Néris, ***Bruno Facon***
& Lucie Macchi

Picture-book reading to young children is reputed to promote oral language development. However, a close examination of the literature shows that the ways in which this activity is implemented vary, and that their effects on language development are not equivalent. This review describes the practices that fall under the heading of “shared reading” and, based on the scientific literature, pays particular attention to “Dialogic reading”, a method whose principles have been described in greater detail over the years. The benefits of these shared reading activities are examined from the viewpoint of children’ s lexical and syntactic acquisition. The active principles of these practices, in particular the rich linguistic content of the books and the interactive dimension of the activity, are then described in detail. The use of shared reading as an intervention tool for children with language disorders is also considered, as well as the appropriate way to train parents and professionals in its use. The findings confirm the value of the most interactive methods of shared reading for improving children's vocabulary. However, research on morphosyntax and on the training parameters that optimise its effects are still limited. The results suggest that the key to effectiveness lies in the training of adults in interactive methods and in the selection of books appropriate to the child's level. Questions that remain to be clarified about the ins and outs of this activity, as well as research perspectives to be considered, are raised throughout this review.

Rémy-Néris, A., Facon, B., & Macchi, L. (2025). Lecture partagée : Intérêts, modalités de mise en oeuvre et principes actifs. *Psychologie Française, 70*(3), 225-243

Congrats
to the new doctors (2025)

September 12.

Laurine MILVILLE's thesis defense

Hope Among Parents Facing Their Child's Cancer: Couple Experience, Questionnaire Development, and Identification of Influencing Factors

October 3.

Lucie LENGLART's thesis defense

Interaction Between the Sense of Object Ownership and Peripersonal Space: Behavioral, Neurophysiological, and Neuroimaging Studies

October 7.

Faouzia GOURARI's thesis defense

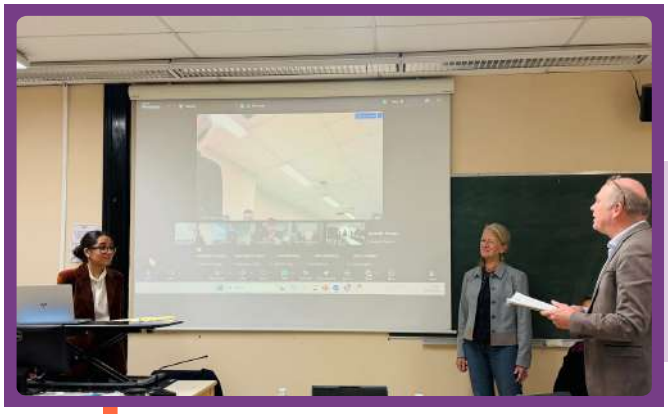
Supporting Patients in Maintaining Physical Activity in Cardiac Telerehabilitation: A Study of Lived Experience and Factors Influencing Motivation

November 12.
Luc VIRLET's thesis defense

Developmental Dyslexia as a Possible Symptom of an Alteration in the Automatization of Perception–Action Coupling

November 17.
Clara DE GROOTE's thesis defense

Sense of Self and Autobiographical Memory in Alcohol Use Disorder



November 19.
Isabel CASSO's thesis defense

To Feel and to Act: Exploring Motor and Affective Processes in Human and Human–Robot Interaction

December 10.

Marie DOBIGNIES' thesis defense

Supporting Caregivers Facing Alzheimer's Disease or Related Disorders: Evaluation of a Digital Intervention Focused on Well-Being, Acceptance, and Information Provision

December 10.

Robin GIGANDET's thesis defense

Perceiving Social Beings in Artificial Agents

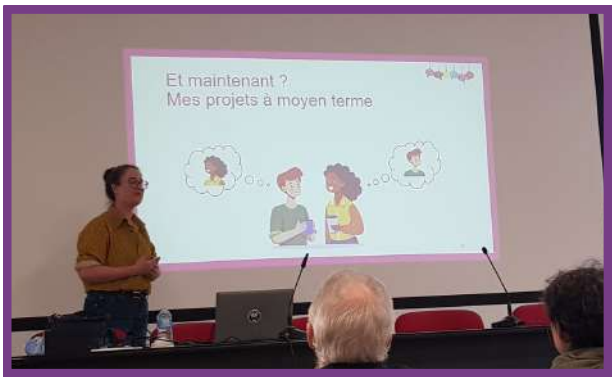
December 15.

Maxime MARTEL's thesis defense

Causal Attribution and Learning Selectivity in Saccadic Adaptation

Congrats
to the new HDR (2025)

Congratulations to Dr. Dominique KNUTSEN on obtaining her Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches (HDR) on January 21, 2025.



Collaboration in Dialogue and Conversational Memory: An Analysis of the Cognitive Processes Underlying Human Dialogue

A dialogue is considered successful when individuals manage to understand each other. A number of theories have been developed in order to account for the psychological processes and the mental representations which dialogue partners rely upon to reach mutual comprehension. As part of this effort, my research has focused on conversational memory, which refers to being able to remember what was said and who said it. Studying this kind of memory enables us to better understand which knowledge dialogue partners rely on to adapt to each other in subsequent interactions. I have also studied feedback markers (such as “yeah” and “okay”) during dialogue. These “little words” play a central role in dialogue success, as they enable each partner to signal that the information produced by the other person has been understood correctly. Identifying the factors likely to affect feedback marker production thus leads to a better understanding of the circumstances in which both partners are more likely to reach mutual understanding. Finally, I have worked on referential communication in dialogue, with a specific interest for situations in which two people do not conceptualise the referent under discussion in the same way, and for how they overcome these differences to ensure mutual comprehension. As a whole, my work sheds light on how dialogue partners manage to overcome individual constraints and limitations in order to reach mutual comprehension as they interact.

Welcome
to the new doctoral students

DOBROWOLSKI Lison, Team DEEP

FILISETTI Anaëlle, Team Language

LEFEBVRE Clara, Team DEEP

LIFFRAN Clémence, Team Language

LORANT Adrien, Team AVA

MAJDALANI Saria, Team DEEP

RICHEZ Louise, Team DEEP

TAHAR Chaïnez, Team DEEP

VIOLET Esteffe, Team AVA

Welcome
to the new post-doctoral researchers

Matthieu BIGNON

Matthieu has a PhD in psycholinguistics and a degree in speech therapy. He is interested in reading acquisition in children from all backgrounds, including those from multicultural backgrounds and those with dyslexia. He is currently working as a postdoctoral researcher on cognitive control in dyslexia and ADHD under the supervision of Gwendoline Mahé and Clémence Roger as part of the IMDELEC project (Impact of Error Detection on Reading Performance in Children with Dyslexia and ADHD), which is funded by the Brain Research Foundation.

Layan FESSLER

Layan holds a PhD in Sport and Exercise Psychology, specialising in the promotion of physical activity among vulnerable populations. He is a postdoctoral researcher working with Yvonne Delevoye-Turrell as part of the Sensoria Industrial Chair. The project aims to test the effect of a multisensory urban natural environment on affective experience and cognitive effort during active transport (cycling and walking). To this end, they utilise the technologies provided by the Chair, including odours, sonic environments, virtual reality, functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) and motion capture.

Charlotte MANCEAU

Charlotte holds a PhD in Psychology from the University of Lille, completed in 2024. Her research work explored couples' experience of neurodegenerative diseases and how they might modify their relational dynamics. She is currently working as a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Emilie Wawrziczny on a project funded by the association France Parkinson, which aims to model the psychological and contextual factors involved in family caregivers' management of their relatives' Parkinson's disease symptoms, with a focus on controlling helping behaviours.

Welcome
to the new MCFs

Emilie CONSTANT

Developmental trajectories and relational dynamics in couples and families: An integrative research and clinical approach

My research focuses on understanding the developmental trajectories of individuals and how non-integrated traumatic experiences and emotional dysregulation may impact relational dynamics and representations within couples and families. Grounded in an integrative and multidimensional approach, my work explores these issues by combining multiple methodologies ranging from self-report questionnaires to neurophysiological and behavioral measures.

My research is organized around three main axes:

1. Violence and marital distress, with a focus on modeling the relationships between traumatic history, attachment styles, mentalization capacities, and relational dynamics;
2. The study of developmental trajectories of patients and their families, aimed at understanding the severity of eating disorders and;
3. The development and implementation of innovative clinical intervention projects. The strength of my work lies in the integration of quantitative and qualitative methods to develop applications in mental health and family support.

My PhD and my post-doctoral experiences were shaped and enriched by this integrative and multidimensional perspective. I conducted studies adopting an this and using diverse methodologies (i.e, self-report questionnaires, physiological and behavioral measures, qualitative analyses) with couples from the general population as well as couples facing serious illnesses such as cancer or Parkinson's disease. I also developed specialized clinical expertise in supporting young adults with eating disorders, and in working with couples and families in this context.

Welcome
to the new MCFs

Svetlana PINET

From words to actions: Psycholinguistic and neurocognitive approaches to language-motor interactions

My research focuses on how we produce language. The main aim of my work lies in bridging the gap between language and motor functions at the intersection of psycholinguistics, cognitive psychology, and neuroscience. I lead several research lines that investigate:

- spoken and written language production
- expertise and action control
- interactions between language and action

I rely on a combination of behavioral (chronometric, acoustic), neurophysiological (EEG/MEG), and computational methods.

After a training in Biology at the Ecole Normale Supérieure (France) and in Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience in the UK (MSc at Goldsmiths, University of London), I obtained my PhD in Psychology in 2016 (Aix-Marseille University, France), focusing on the cognitive and neural correlates of word typing. I completed my postdoctoral training at Johns Hopkins University (USA) and at the Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language (BCBL, Spain).

At SCALab, I will pursue my existing research lines and develop projects around the implications and possible limitations of using technologies to express our thoughts and communicate. While aiming at deepening our theoretical understanding of human cognition, I have a growing interest in questioning the sustainability of our research practices.

10 years of the laboratory

1992

Creation of URECA*

2011

Creation of LNFP**

2015

Merger URECA And LNFP

SCALab is born - CNRS

2025

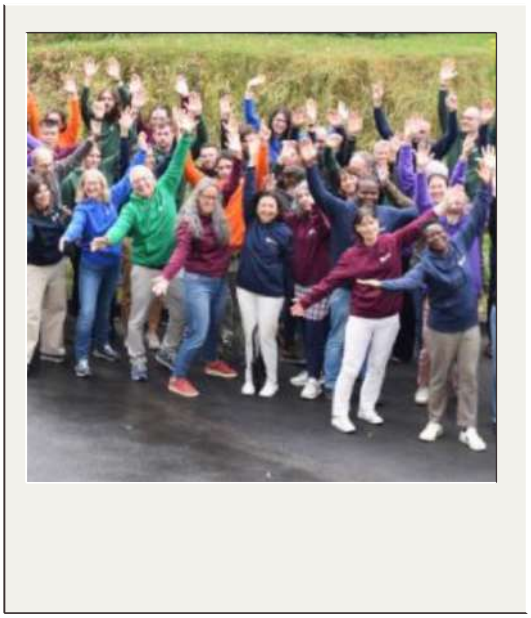
10 years Let's celebrate

*URECA : Cognitive and Affective Sciences Research Unit
**LNFP : Functional Neuroscience and Pathologies Laboratory

Nearly one hundred members, alumni, collaborators, and partners gathered to celebrate a decade of research, innovation, and shared achievements. More than a milestone, the anniversary day became a moment of reflection, connection, and collective joy.

Reflecting on the Journey

The Legend of SCALab offered a look back at the laboratory's story — its origins, evolution, and the people and projects that have shaped ten years of scientific exploration.



Science, People & Inspiration

The poster session and lunch sparked lively discussions, blending research, reunions, and shared memories. A special highlight welcomed back **Lucie Macchi**, **François Quesque**, and **Emilie Wawrziczny**, while **Hélène Loevenbruck's** lecture brought stimulating perspectives.

Celebration & Shared Moments

From the SCALab quiz to the karaoke session, the day embraced creativity and humor. The PhD students' song stood out as a memorable moment. The celebration continued into the evening at Box2Box, extending conversations and laughter

SCALab news

Cédrick Bonnet

An App to Reduce Sedentary Behavior at Work

In 2025, Cédrick has been developing an innovative software solution aimed at reducing excessive sedentary behavior among office workers using sit-stand desks. The application monitors sitting and standing time, provides real-time feedback, and encourages regular posture changes through personalized alerts, promoting healthier work habits.

Kristopher Lamore

International Conference on Psycho-Oncology

In October 2025, Kristopher organized the *OPSYRII conference* at the ONCOLille Institute, bringing together researchers and clinicians in psycho-oncology. The event aimed to promote interdisciplinary exchange and support the translation of scientific evidence into clinical practice to improve the quality of life of cancer patients and their families.

Yann Coello

Creation of a 3D Digitization Expertise Center

In 2025, Yann established a 3D digitization expertise center (*Holusion, FEDER*), advancing technological capabilities and providing a hub for research and innovation in digital modeling and visualization

Sabah Al Bilani

Best Poster Award at *ISP*

In 2025, Sabah received the Best Poster Award at the *International Symposium of Psycholinguistics*, recognizing her contribution to research in language processing and cognitive science.

Arthur Prével

Invited Talk on AI-Assisted Moral Decision-Making

In 2025, Arthur gave a presentation at the *French Military Academy of Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan*, within the Chair of Artificial Intelligence and Behavioral Engineering. He presented ongoing collaborative research with the Royal Military Academy of Brussels on AI-assisted moral decision-making.

Alice Lagacy

Poster Publication

In 2025, Alice Lagacy presented her poster “Attentional bias to food stimuli in anorexia nervosa: a pilot study” at the 22nd World Congress of Psychophysiology (Krakow, Poland). The work was published in the International Journal of Psychophysiology. This contribution highlights the visibility of her research within the international scientific community.

Guide for Early-Career Researchers in Physical Activity

In 2025, Layan coordinated and authored the *Guide for Early-Career Researchers in Physical Activity and Sport: From Doctorate to Professional Integration* for the Association of Researchers in Physical Activity and Sport (ACAPS), providing practical advice and support for emerging researchers navigating the transition to professional careers.

Layan Fessler

Television Appearance on Caregiving

On October 30, 2025, Pauline took part in the television program *Synapse TV*, focusing on the role and experiences of caregivers. This media appearance contributed to disseminating scientific perspectives on caregiving issues to a broader public.

Pauline Justin

Research-to-Innovation Transfer through JuSém

In 2025, Tatjana advanced the CNRS Innovation project *JuSém*, developed with Bing Li, illustrating the translation of research knowledge into concrete applications. The project was selected to enter the *EuraCreative incubator*, marking a new step in its development and highlighting the importance of encouraging early-career researchers to valorize their research outcomes.

Tatjana Nazir

International Conference Contributions

In 2025, Dominique Knutsen served as a discussant at the *Nijmegen Lectures (Max Planck Institute, Netherlands)* in January and presented at the *Text and Discourse conference* in Padua, Italy, in summer. These activities promoted scientific exchange and strengthened her international collaboration network.

Dominique Knutsen

Best Poster Award at AFPSS Congress

On September 27, 2025, Léa received the Best Poster Award at the *4th Congress of the Francophone Association for the Promotion of Sexual Health (AFPSS)* in Brussels, for her poster “Sexual Health of Women in Remission from Cervical Cancer: A French Study”.

Léa Demeulenaere

Executive Secretary Mandate at FESN

In 2025, Angela Bartolo’s international mandate as Executive Secretary of the *Federation of European Societies of Neuropsychology (FESN, 2023–2025)* was renewed for a new term running until 2027, reflecting her ongoing leadership and contribution to the European neuropsychology community.

Angela Bartolo

Mélen Guillaume

Fulbright Fellowship for Research in the US

In 2025, Mélen received a *Fulbright Fellowship* to spend six months in the United States, working on speech synthesis tools designed to reproduce diverse prosodic behaviors. This research aims to advance the understanding and development of human-like vocal communication technologies.

Henrique Sequeira

Presentation on SPNC History

In 2025, Henrique presented a historical overview of the *French Society of Psychophysiology and Affective Neuroscience (SPNC)*, highlighting its role in disseminating knowledge on psychophysiological recordings and supporting early-career researchers. The talk also offered an original perspective on the evolution of neurocognitive recordings in France.

Angèle Brunellière

Horizon Europe Project on Human-AI Communication

In 2025, Angèle Brunellière joined the Horizon Europe MASC project *Bridging Communication Gaps in Human and Human-AI Interactions*, investigating the impact of accented speech on neurocognitive mechanisms and social dynamics. The project promotes interdisciplinary research on human–AI communication and its applications in real-world social contexts.

Charlotte Manceau

Seminar on Supporting Caregivers

In January 2025, Charlotte Manceau delivered a seminar for healthcare professionals at the *Federation of Respite Platforms* in Hauts-de-France, presenting research insights and clinical reflections on supporting couples where one partner is a caregiver.

Lucas De Zorzi

Oral Presentation at IOP 2025

In 2025, Lucas De Zorzi presented his research at the *22nd International Congress of Psychophysiology (IOP 2025, Krakow)* during the symposium organized by Prof. Sequeira. The work, published in *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, introduced a novel approach using autonomic measures to differentiate dimensions of alexithymia.

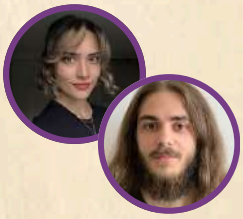
Marine Coeugnet

Top 3 French Young Researchers in Olfaction

In October 2025, Marine presented her work on relaxation induced by scented creams at *GDRO3*, a french research group on olfaction. Her presentation was selected among the Top 3 Promising Young Researchers in olfaction, and she received a mobility grant for her visit to Lyon.

Co-Organization of ESLP 2025

In 2025, Melisa and Robinco-organized the *ESLP conference* in Aix-en-Provence, contributing to the successful coordination of this international event and fostering exchanges among researchers in the field of language and psycholinguistics.



Melisa Yavuz
Robin Gigandet

Doctoral Fellowship Awarded by Fondation Perce-Neige

In 2025, Bruno secured a three-year doctoral fellowship from the *Fondation Perce-Neige*, a French nonprofit supporting research and care for people with intellectual disabilities, for Clémence Liffran. Her research focuses on developmental language disorders, dyslexia, links between oral and written language, assessment methods, and intellectual disability.

Bruno Facon

Conference in Bilingualism and Psycholinguistics

In 2025, Matthieu presented a poster at the *International Symposium of Bilingualism* and gave a talk at the *Psycholinguistics in Flanders conference*, contributing to international exchanges in language research.

Matthieu Bignon

Best Poster Award at IOP 2025

In 2025, Pierre Csigai received the Best Poster Award at the *22nd International Congress of Psychophysiology (IOP 2025, Krakow)* for his work on resting heart rate variability as a predictor of physiological adaptability to psychosocial stress in virtual reality, published in *International Journal of Psychophysiology*.

Pierre Csigai

Patent Contribution

In 2025, Odile Viltart contributed to the filing of a patent led by Pr Philippe Gorwood (IPNP) on LEAP2 as a metabolic biomarker in anorexia nervosa. This work was carried out in collaboration with Dr Virginie Tolle, Dr Philippe Duriez, and Dr C. Tezenas-du-Montcel. It highlights the translational and clinical significance of the project.

Odile Viltart

Fellowship from France Parkinson : *ParkNRythm Project*

In 2025, Jules Fumel received a Social Sciences and Humanities fellowship from *France Parkinson* for the *ParkNRythm project*, investigating how rhythm and sensorimotor skills influence speech in Parkinson's disease. The project aims to better understand prosodic difficulties and develop rhythm- and music-based strategies to improve communication and quality of life.

Jules Fumel

When members...
have won awards

Clément BRUNET

RETIN-AI

The **RETIN-AI project** aims to develop new tools for the diagnosis and rehabilitation of cognitive disorders, combining eye-tracking, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality.

Regional Starthèse Laureate – *July, 2025*

Starthèse is an entrepreneurship competition for PhD students. Clément was selected as laureate and qualified to represent the region at the national Starthèse challenge.

National Starthèse Challenge Award – *December, 2025*

Selected among 23 PhD researchers at the national level, Clément received the **Jury's Special Award** *("Coup de cœur")* in the Health category.

First Prize Innovation Competition – *December, 2025*

The **PUI Lille Innovation Competition** is a regional entrepreneurship competition for scientists wishing to launch a startup. Clément's project ***RETIN.AI*** was awarded First Prize at the University of Lille Startups Meeting.

When research ...
receives funding

ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS AND DRUGS

Narrative identity and maintaining abstinence in alcohol use disorder: a pilot longitudinal study

Funding INCa - National Cancer Institute
IReSP - Institute for Public Health Research

Marie-Charlotte Gandolphe *(Project leader)*

Mélissa Allé

Christelle Duprez

Delphine Grynberg

Jean-Louis Nandrino

Louise Ramadas

Partnership
Centre for Addiction Treatment, Support and Prevention (CSAPA) in Hénin Beaumont

MECHANISMS UNDERLYING COMMON THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES TO BRAIN DISEASES

Improving error monitoring in dyslexia and ADHD: neurobehavioural impact of feedback on reading and non-verbal tasks

Funding FRC - Brain Research Federation

Gwendoline Mahé *(Project leader)*

Clémence Roger

Ludivine Javourey-Drevet

Lucie Macchi

Matthieu Bignon

ANRs

Influence of Perceived Dialogic Abilities on Collaborative Interaction

Funding ANR JCJC PerDiAb

Dominique Knusten *(Project leader)*

Gwendoline Mahé

Séverine Casalis

Learning and teaching words in English as a second language: the role of spelling input in school-age children

Funding ANR PRC LEXONOR

Séverine Casalis *(Project leader)*

Ludivine Javourey-Drevet

SCALABOSCOPE

The podcast of laboratory SCALab CNRS - University of Lille

When research is told differently...

Why a podcast ?

"I have always been **passionate about science** since childhood, which drives my interest in **science communication**. While studying psychology, I discovered podcasts; I listened to many of them and realized they were a great way to **share knowledge**. The idea stuck with me: why not start one? After discussing it with my entourage, I gained the confidence to start this project with the aim of talking about **our lab and the research we do**. Following discussions with Dominique Knutsen, our communications officer, we began planning. **We assembled a team, and then, the SCALAboscope was born!"- Paul Butin**

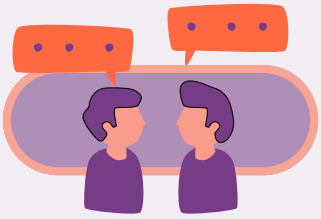
The objectives

- **Promoting research**
- **Making science accessible**
- **Create connections**
- **Hearing from researchers**

Who is SCALaboscope for?

Students

General public



Scientists

Professionals

Where can i find it ?

Spotify YouTube

Paul Butin

Léa Demeulenaere

Clément Brunet

Elisa Ryckewaert

Focus on...
the administrative team

They keep SCALab alive, organised and sane. Let's check if you know them.

How many people make up SCALab's administrative and financial team?
A. 6
B. 4
C. 8

SCALab's administrative team works...
A. Across two sites
B. Exclusively from home
C. From one single office at Pont de Bois

Which of these tasks is NOT handled by the administrative team?
A. Travel and purchase requests
B. Almost every task you can imagine... and more
C. The technical development of your research projects

What is probably the most common action performed by the admin team?
A. Signing papers
B. Answering emails
C. Attending conferences

Beyond administration, what does the team contribute most to SCALab's life?
A. A welcoming presence
B. Problem-solving & Human support
C. All of the above

ANSWERS

1. B – yes, just four people *(Diane, Emmanuelle, Ouria, and Sabine)* handle all of this work.
2. A – the team is split across two sites, with Diane taking care of the SCV Research Federation in Tourcoing, while Emmanuelle, Ouria, and Sabine work at Pont de Bois.
3. C – but no worries : for the technical development, our engineers (Christelle, Fabien, Laurence, Laurent, and Paul-Audain) are here to help you.
4. B – according to Manu, answering emails is the task they perform the most.
5. C – and we thank them for that !

Focus on...
the indoc internship

An indoc is a short-term research mobility carried out during the PhD, in a host laboratory. In this *Focus on...*, you will have the opportunity to read the experience feedback of one of our third-year PhD candidates, **Ambre Ittouchene**, who has just returned from her indoc in Australia, as well as the perspective of **Dorian Goueytes**, Associate Professor, who hosted an indoc student during the year 2025.

Dorian GOUEYTES

MUNI Masaryk University

Who came for an indoc with you, and from where were they coming from?
Barbora Urbancova, a PhD Student from **Masaryk University** in Brno, Czech Republic, came to stay for a month as an indoc

Why did you choose to host an indoc in your team?
I have had a **long-standing collaboration** with Barbora's team, and we realized that I had **skills** regarding the analysis of a type of data (invasive EEG) they were collecting that could be useful at the same time for Barbora during her PhD and for the rest of the team in general. The indoc was a perfect way to have some time to work on Barbora's project while teaching her these skills, which she could later share with her colleagues

What did this mobility bring to the laboratory ?
The indoc was a great way to further **cement the collaboration** with our colleagues in the Czech Republic, as well as to **share knowledge and skills** across labs through the PhD student. For me, it was an opportunity to collaborate on the analysis of a **rare dataset** of invasive EEG, and for Barbora and her colleagues to learn some new analysis techniques for this type of data.
At a **human level**, it is, hopefully, for the PhD student an opportunity to learn, and to have some time dedicated to a specific task without distraction in a supportive environment. It is also, both for the indoc and the host team, a chance to **exchange with new people**, and to **discover new ways of working, socializing and doing research**. In Barbora's case, it was also a good time to discover France, and notably some of our world-famous climbing sites.

In your opinion, what makes an indoc successful?
Besides reaching specific scientific or learning objectives, which may vary greatly, I think what makes a successful indoc is to have a **global learning experience**, that will broaden the perspective of both the host team and the PhD student. In addition to learning scientific skills, if a PhD student finishes an indoc with a **clearer view** of their career, their objectives and how they can fit in a global research community, I would consider it a success.

Ambre ITTOUCHENE

Where did you go and for how long?

I went to **Sydney** to work within the **PoCoG laboratory** (Psycho-Oncology Cooperative Research Group) for two months, from October 8 to December 12, 2025.

What was your main objective in going abroad?

My main objective was to **develop new skills**, integrate into an **international research team**, establish an **international collaboration**, and discover the work of **Dr. Rebekah Laidsaar-Powell**, whose research aims to improve clinical care and the psychosocial well-being of people living with chronic physical and/or mental illnesses, as well as their informal caregivers.

One skill or area of expertise you really developed there?

This mobility allowed me to **strengthen my knowledge in interventional health research**, particularly through the discovery of digital interventions such as eTRIO (an online support program for cancer patients and their caregivers) and Carer Can Adapt (a digital intervention designed to support caregivers in adapting to illness), developed by Dr. Rebekah Laidsaar-Powell.
I also developed **new scientific writing skills**, notably through the preparation of an article based on the meta-synthesis method, which is specific to qualitative research.
In addition, I gained **new knowledge about communication dynamics** between cancer patients and their loved ones, as well as clinical aspects of fear of cancer recurrence, particularly regarding communication about this fear. I also **improved my English language skills**, both spoken and written, in a scientific and professional context.

The biggest challenge during this mobility?

The main challenge was **adapting quickly to a new academic and cultural environment**, as well as to new working methods, while communicating exclusively in English on a daily basis.

What did this experience change for you (in your PhD, your vision of research, or your future career)?

This mobility will have a direct impact on my PhD, as I will integrate an **additional article** resulting from a systematic review entitled "*The nature and impact of dyadic communication on fear of cancer recurrence*." The findings of this systematic review will also allow me to **develop a specific module** focused on communication about fear of recurrence, intended for cancer patients and their informal caregivers.
More broadly, this experience **strengthened the international dimension of my PhD** and **expanded my vision of research**. It encouraged me to consider the next steps of my career within a more open and collaborative framework, with the intention of pursuing a postdoctoral position abroad in 2027.

Focus on...
collaborations
with Andreas Lazartigues

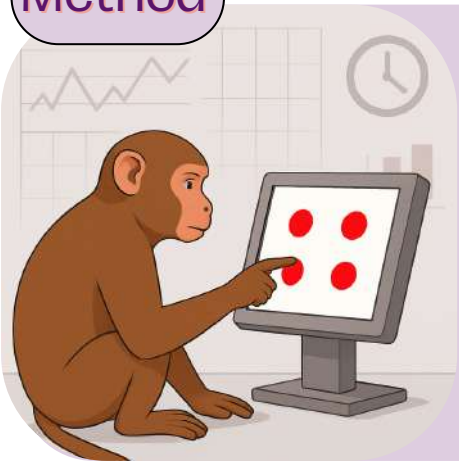
Led by **Arnaud Rey** from *CRPN at Aix Marseille University and in collaboration with* **Frédéric Lavigne** at BCL *Côte d'Azur University* as part of the **ANR HEBBIAN** program.

Objectives

(1) to test the **specific and interactive** effects of **frequency and transitional probability** during **learning in monkeys,** and

(2) the learning and use of **retrospective transitional probabilities in sequential processing in monkeys.**

Method



- **Red circles** appeared on a **touch screen** and the **monkeys had to press them as quickly as possible.**

- Statistical regularities

→ Sequence frequency and prospective transitional probabilities for **the first study**
→ Backward transitional probabilities for **the second study** were manipulated

- Response times we recorded

Finally

A simple **computational model** proposed to account for our data, highlighting that, in the context of statistical learning, **frequency is fundamental to enable learning, but the actual object of learning is rather the transitional probability.**

Focus on...
collaborations
with Andreas Lazartigues

Led by **Jérôme Tagu** from the *psychology laboratory at the University of Bordeaux* and in collaboration with **Sabrina Hansmann-Roth** at *Icelandic Vision Lab at the University of Iceland*, a work package in the **ANR JCJC MULTIFOR** program

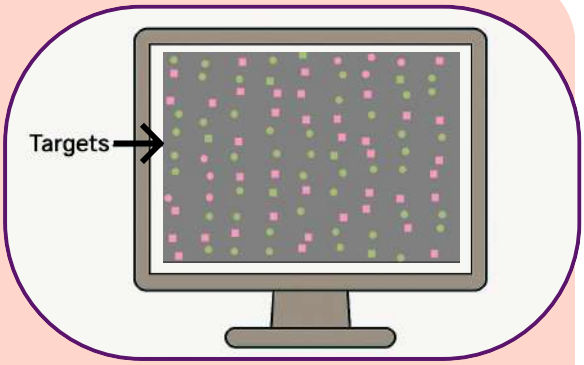
Objectives

(1) to test the **specific and interactive** effects of **frequency and transitional probability** during **learning in monkeys,** and

(2) the learning and use of **retrospective transitional probabilities in sequential processing in monkeys.**

Method

- Stimuli appear on the screen, including **targets** (green squares) and **decoys** (green circles, pink squares, pink circles).
- In each trial, the targets appear in **two specific areas** depending on the experimental condition.
- The **frequency** of target appearance in an area and the **conditional probability** of target appearance in an area, given that targets were present in another area, were manipulated.



Response times for selecting the first target and the **time taken to move** from one area to another were recorded.

Finally

Poster presentation

GDR Vision Meeting, January 29-30, Rennes, France.

Batikh, A., Lazartigues, A., Hansmann-Roth, S., & Tagu, J. (2026). Investigating the learning of statistical regularities during visual foraging.

Focus on...
sharing research

Karyn DOBA

Jean-Louis NANDRINO

Scientific Days of the Francophone Network for Mentalization-Based Therapies : for the first time in Lille

This event highlighted work on the theoretical foundations, clinical applications, and methodological developments of **mentalization.** Significant attention was given to empirical research, intervention evaluation studies, and doctoral work**.** Discussions also focused on the **relationship between mentalization, trauma, psychopathology, and development.** These days have fostered fruitful dialogue between research and clinical practice within the French-speaking community.

Day 1: November 19, 2025

Research news | Moderators: Karyn Doba, Jean-Louis Nandrino, and Martin Debbané

- **Henryk Bukowski (University of Leuven)**

Assessing the foundations of mentalization performance across mental disorders

- **Raphaële Miljkovitch (Paris 8 University)**

Mentalization and survival

- **Eva Rüfenacht (Geneva University Hospitals)**

Randomized controlled feasibility study comparing trauma-focused mentalization-based treatment (TFM-FT) with MBT in patients with complex post-traumatic stress disorder and borderline personality disorder

- **Martin Debbané and Alessandro Giardina (University of Geneva)**

Psychoeducation in adolescent and adult ADHD

- **Aziz Essadek (University of Paris Cité)**

Network analysis meets psychoanalysis: mentalization as a central node in psychopathology

- **Nicolas Berthelot (University of Quebec at Trois-Rivières)**

Mentalization and trauma: current research in Quebec

- **Olivier Grondin (University of Bordeaux) and Alice Dulau (Cadillac Hospital Center)**

The mentalization compass, a mediator in child psychotherapy: clinical and research perspectives

CONFERENCE

Professor Alexandra Philipsen (University of Bonn)

Dialectical behavior therapy for people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and emotional regulation difficulties (ED) – A perfect pairing

Day 2: November 20, 2025

Doctoral presentations | Moderator: Margaux Bouteloup

- **Flora Descartes (University of Geneva)**

French validation of the MentS and the role of mentalization in the link between childhood trauma and adult psychopathology

- **Célia Petersen (Marie and Louis Pasteur University)**

Study of the impact of mentalization on the quality of psychological envelopes in adults who grew up in foster care

- **Emilie Auger (University of Lille)**

Anorexia nervosa in the face of traumatic exposure: the mediating role of borderline symptoms and mentalization of self and others

- **Carolina Aparício Araújo (University of Lille and University of Minho)**

Empathy in adolescent boys and girls: What role do mentalization abilities, attachment, and emotion regulation play?

Research activities and program implementation | Moderator: Mario Speranza

- **Mario Speranza (Paris-Saclay University, Versailles Hospital Center)**

Family Minds Program: results of a study on changes in parents' mentalization skills

- **Justine Cesari (University of Burgundy), Margaux Bouteloup (Marie and Louis Pasteur University), Alexandra Laurent (University of Burgundy)**

Participatory research project involving psychologists working in intensive care units: the role of mentalization in hospitals

- **Marjolaine Corbeil, Axelle Nuttens, Karyn Doba, Jean-Louis Nandrino (University of Lille)**

Pilot study of a mentalization-focused group for adolescents exposed to potentially traumatic events

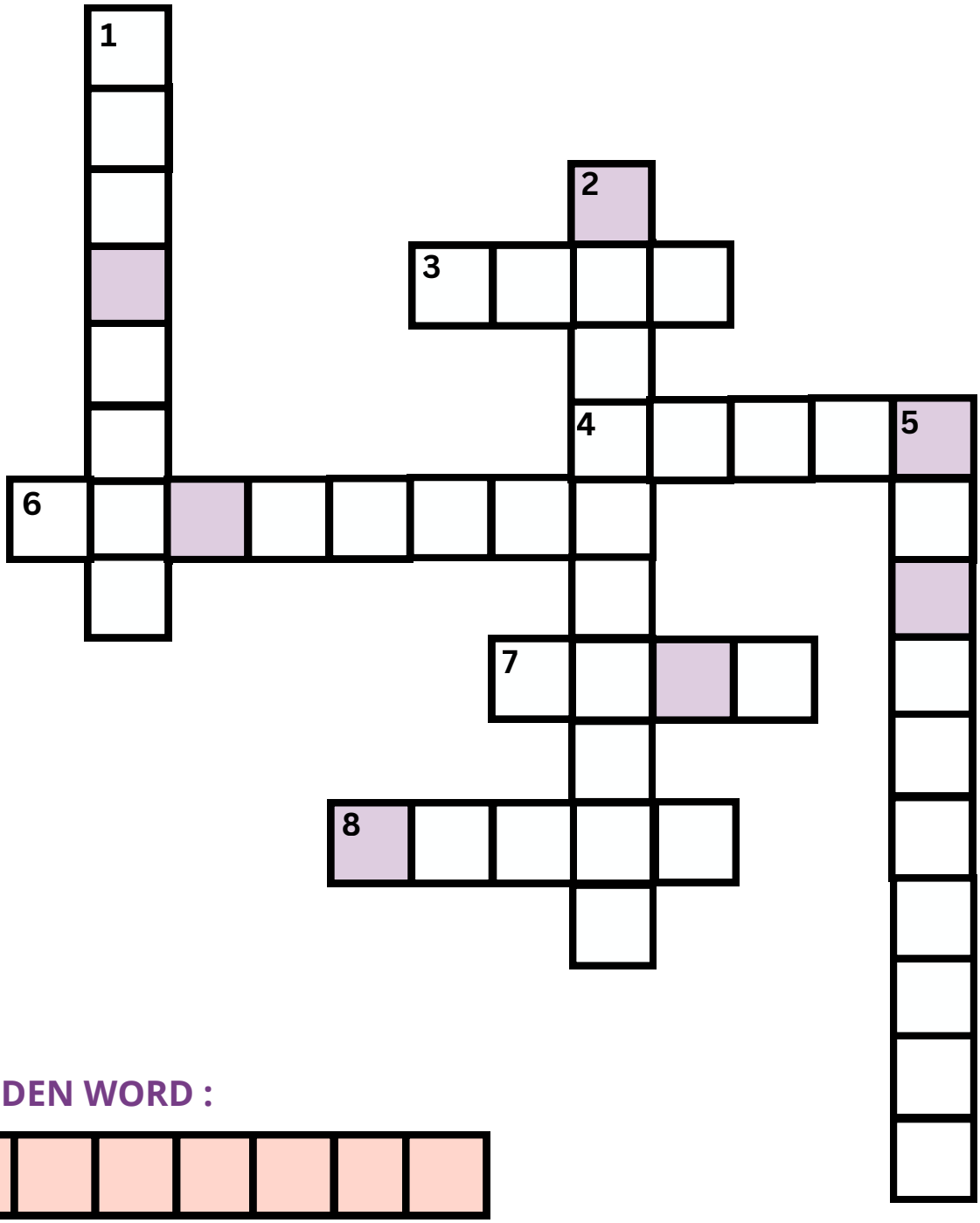
Closing remarks | Mario Speranza

SCALab Bingo

Send a submission at 11:59 PM	Disagree with Reviewer 2	Re-run an analysis for the third time
Add “just one small variable”	Attend a meeting that lasts longer than expected	Struggle with participant recruitment
Discover an unexpected but interesting result	Rewrite the abstract the day before submission	Meet an ANR / grant deadline
Modify slides 10 minutes before the presentation	Discuss effect sizes	Start a project over coffee
Deal with data more complex than expected	Celebrate collective pride after publication	Decide “we could turn this into a paper”

Crossword
SCALab

Welcome to the crossword puzzle! The objective is to find the words using the provided definitions. Additionally, there is a hidden word in this crossword. To discover this hidden word, you need to take the 7 letters from the purple cells. Good luck and have fun!



HIDDEN WORD :

DEFINITIONS

VERTICAL

1 - That person whose comments make us nervous (especially if they're listed second)
2 - An event full of talks, networking, and a chance to expand your collection of tote bags and pens
5 - The discipline that juggles probabilities, is essential to research, loved by some, feared by others, and practiced together during lab afternoons

HORIZONTAL

3 - The platform that saved our meetings during COVID and that we still use today, half the time hearing "*You're muted*"
4 - The state we're often in (until a notification or a coffee break interrupts us)
6 - A date that always seems far away, until it's suddenly tomorrow
7 - A piece of furniture that's always in short supply in the PhD room, showing just how open SCALab is to students and interns
8 - The sacred break where we try not to talk work, and during which we meet to bond across the lab on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

A special thought

The SCALab and Yearbook teams have decided to dedicate this page to **Yvonne Delevoye-Turrell**, who sadly left us in 2025.

Yvonne joined SCALab in 2004 and was a deeply committed researcher, devoted to both science and teaching, and actively engaged in numerous collaborations with industry. Recently appointed as a Senior Member of the Institut Universitaire de France (IUF), her research focused on an embodied approach to cognitive psychology, **exploring how attitudes toward effort, shaped by affective responses, influence the intention to act.**

Passionate about multisensory experiences, she was committed to putting **the senses back at the heart of our lives** – a principle she made the motto of her industrial chair SENSORIA, which brought together a consortium of companies and researchers around the study of multisensory perception and effort. She also co-founded the Federation of Research Ethics in 2018, and had been its president since 2021, while contributing to the creation and development of the Master's program in Cognitive Sciences, ensuring it was both innovative and internationally open.

Yvonne was driven by a desire to innovate and to approach research with creativity. She will stay a true inspiration for **resilience, dynamism, courage, and motivation**. Her dedication extended far beyond research : into basketball and running clubs, guide dog associations, and, most importantly, to her friends and family.

We dedicate these few words to her memory and keep her in our thoughts.


GRAND·AMPHITHEATRE
institut
universitaire
de France

TEAM YEARBOOK 2025

Elisa Chaïnez Katerina Marine

NOTES

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