

4th International Conference "Prominence in Language"

Conference Program

23-24 April 2026
University of Cologne

Venue

Leonardo Royal Hotel Köln - Am Stadtwald
Dürener Str. 287 | 50935 Cologne

<https://www.leonardo-hotels.de/cologne/leonardo-royal-hotel-koln-am-stadtwald>

22 April - Wednesday

18:30 - 23:00 KICK-OFF MEETING
Herbrand's Ehrenfeld (<https://herbrands.de>)
Herbrandstr. 21, 50825 Cologne

23 April - Thursday

08:00 - 09:00 REGISTRATION
Leonardo Royal Hotel Köln - Am Stadtwald
Dürener Str. 287, 50935 Cologne

09:10 - 09:30 WELCOME

Birgit Hellwig

Vice Dean for International Affairs, University of Cologne

Petra Schumacher

Spokesperson of the CRC 1252, University of Cologne

SESSION 1

Chair Janne Lorenzen

09:30 - 10:30

Invited Speaker: Katharina Zahner-Ritter

Trier University

Learning what sounds prominent - Listener adaptation to prosodic cues

10:30 - 11:00

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 2*Chair Klymentii Myslyvyi*

11:00 - 11:30

Hans Rutger Bosker*Radboud University Nijmegen*

Prominence-lending hand movements can guide word segmentation downstream

11:30 - 12:00

Lena Pagel, Simon Roessig, Doris Mücke*University of Cologne*

Multidimensional and multimodal cues to prosodic prominence: Can we compare monologic and dialogic scenarios?

12:00 - 12:30

Fabian R. Eckert¹, Aviad Albert¹, Jeremy Steffman², T. Mark Ellison¹, Petra B. Schumacher¹, Martine Grice¹*University of Cologne¹, University of Edinburgh²*

The quality of prosodic quantity: Sonority is driving length illusions in perception

12:30 - 14:00

LUNCH BREAK

SESSION 3*Chair Heiko Seeliger*

14:00 - 14:30

Dominic Schmitz¹, Melanie J. Bell², Ingo Plag¹*Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf¹, Anglia Ruskin University²*

Semantics and pitch contour predict one another in English compounds

14:30 - 15:00

Yvonne Portele, Markus Bader*Goethe University Frankfurt*

Revisiting Rule 1 of Centering Theory

15:00 - 15:30

Timo Buchholz¹, Jet Hoek², Klaus von Heusinger³*University of Tübingen¹, Radboud University Nijmegen², University of Cologne³*

Propositional accessibility depends on the context of the anaphoric clause

15:30 - 16:00

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 4

16:00 - 17:00

POSTER SESSION 1

SESSION 5*Chair Max Bonke*

17:00 - 18:00

Invited Speaker: Steffen Heidinger*University of Graz*

Focus affinity as prominence?

19:00 - 23:00

CONFERENCE DINNER

Brauerei zur Malzmühle (<https://brauereizurmalzmuehle.de/>)
Heumarkt 6, 50667 Cologne

24 April - Friday

SESSION 6

Chair Aviad Albert

09:00 - 09:30

Wenxi Fei, Yu-Yin Hsu

Hong Kong Polytechnic University

How Fast Do Prosodic Cues Update? Evidence from Short-Term Cue Reweighting in Mandarin Prosodic Focus

09:30 - 10:00

Jackson Kellogg

Boston University

The issue of "prominence" in prosodic typology: Phonological strength vs. narrow focus

10:00 - 10:30

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 7

10:30 - 11:30

POSTER SESSION 2

SESSION 8

Chair Fiona Maier

11:30 - 12:00

James Griffiths, Güliz Güneş

University of Tübingen

On the prosody and pragmatics of English reference and quiz questions

12:00 - 12:30

Ebrar Beşinci¹, Timo Buchholz¹, Robin Edds¹, Ilaria Frana², James Griffiths¹, Paula Menéndez Benito¹

University of Tübingen¹, University of Enna Kore²

Bias in negated (Campania) Italian questions with discourse particles and prosodic prominence

12:30 - 14:00

LUNCH BREAK

SESSION 9

Chair Gina Reinhard

14:00 - 14:30

Roohollah Mofidi¹, Klaus von Heusinger²

Ruhr-Universität Bochum¹, University of Cologne²

Differential Object Indexing in Nayini: The complex interaction of animacy, referentiality and grammatical function

14:30 - 15:00

Peter Arkadiev

University of Potsdam

Prominence hierarchies and indexing of oblique participants

15:00 – 15:30 **Yanis da Cunha**
University of Graz
Gender prominence across text genres: a corpus study on English,
French and Spanish

15:30 – 16:00 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 10 *Chair Birgit Hellwig*

16:00 – 16:30 **Bénédicte Grandon¹, Esther Ruigendijk²**
Nantes Université¹, University of Oldenburg²
The role of marker prominence in the acquisition and processing of
German noun plurals in school-aged children with and without
Hearing Loss

16:30 – 17:30 **Invited Speaker: Caroline F. Rowland**
MPI Nijmegen, Radboud University Nijmegen
The role of multimodal interaction in children’s language
acquisition

17:30 CLOSING REMARKS

Poster Sessions
See next 2 pages

23 April - Thursday

POSTER SESSION 1

16:00 - 17:00

[1] Derya Çokal and Klaus von Heusinger

University of Cologne

Conceptual vs. Individual Reference: How Domain Structure Shapes the Accessibility of Conceptual and Referential Entities

[2] Kristin Emmrich and Martina Penke

University of Cologne

Syntactic Priming and Visual Attention Effects on Passive Production in German-Speaking Children With DLD

[3] Sam Hellmuth¹ and Elisa Passoni²

University of York¹, Queen Mary University of London²

When 'not less' is still more: emphatic consonantal lengthening in Multicultural London English

[4] Evan Hochstein and Jesse Harris

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Cognitive animacy perceptions and the animacy hierarchy

[5] Jet Hoek¹ and Hans A. Wilke²

Radboud University¹, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen²

Individual differences at the Right Frontier

[6] Jian Ma

Humboldt University of Berlin

Voice Constraints, Prominence Shifts, and Event Structure: An Empirical Study on Potential-for-Change Verbs in Mandarin Chinese and German

[7] Klymentii Myslyvyi¹, Janne Lorenzen² and Stefan Baumann¹

University of Cologne¹, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz²

Gestural and accentual prominence are cumulative - An exploratory analysis of a German TED Talk

[8] Eirik Tengedal

Oslo Metropolitan University, University of Oslo

Estimating prosodic prominences in verb-particle constructions from the Nordic Word Order Database with continuous wavelet transform

[9] Margaret Zellers

Stockholm University

Multimodal implementation of prominence in overlapping speech

24 April - Friday

POSTER SESSION 2

10:30 - 11:30

[1] Stephanie Berger

Kiel University

The distribution of prominent syllables on YouTube - A case study

[2] Alina Gregori¹, Pilar Prieto^{2,3} and Frank Kügler¹

Goethe University Frankfurt¹, ICREA², University Pompeu Fabra³

Multimodal prominence relations: post-focal de-accentuation and de-gesticulation in German?

[3] Katja Jasinskaja and Klaus von Heusinger

University of Cologne

Tracking multiple common grounds: Mismatches in activation

[4] Simon Roessig¹, Mortaza Taheri-Ardali², Lena Pagel¹ and Doris Mücke¹

University of Cologne¹, Carleton University²

Using EMA to Explore Prosodic Strengthening in Persian

[5] Christopher Saure

University of Cologne

Perspectival prominence: Unlocking perspective shift in indirect discourse

[6] Tiana V. Simovic and Craig Chambers

University of Toronto

Perspective reasoning as a determinant of entities' prominence in discourse

[7] Anna Staňková

Charles University Prague

Disambiguating contrastive topic from focus: a case of Czech polar questions