

Towards an integrative-interactive approach to spoken language development

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Spoken communication is a biological behavior emerging very early in development in the context of other skills in the speech motor, perception, lexical and phonological domains. While those competences have been well studied in the last decades, how they interact over time is not yet well understood.

In this talk, I will discuss research addressing the development of coarticulation in relation to children's growing lexicon and phonological awareness, all three reflecting the ability to (dis)assemble speech units of varied size. I will further provide preliminary results showing how reading acquisition – initiated years after children have started to speak - interacts with speech motor organization for casual speech.

Drawing on this evidence, I will argue that various language-related skills interact dynamically over time and must be considered to fully account for the development of spoken language fluency.

Suggested readings (open access):

Noiray, A., Popescu, A., Killmer, H., Rubertus, E., Krüger, S., & Hintermeier, L. (2019). Spoken language development and the challenge of skill integration. *Frontiers in Psychology, Language Sciences*.

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.02777/full>

Noiray, A., Wieling, M., Abakarova, D., Rubertus, E., & Tiede, M. (2019). Back from the future: nonlinear anticipation in adults and children's speech. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, 62*(8S), 3033–3054.

https://pubs.asha.org/doi/10.1044/2019_JSLHR-S-CSMC7-18-0208