

LAURA SCHMITZ

Curriculum vitae

PERSONAL DETAILS

Date of birth 8th October 1988

Current position PhD student
Social Mind Center, Department of Cognitive Science
Central European University (CEU)
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am interested in social cognition with a focus on real-time action coordination. My PhD research explores how people create and use non-verbal communication systems, how people represent each other's actions when they act together, and more broadly which cognitive mechanisms support temporal coordination.

EDUCATION

2013 - present **PhD student in Cognitive Science**
Central European University
Supervised by Günther Knoblich and Natalie Sebanz

2012 - 2013 **M.Sc. in Cognitive Science** (*passed with distinction*)
University of Osnabrück, Germany
Thesis title: "Improvement of Joint Action Coordination through Strategic Reduction of Temporal Variability"

2008 - 2012 **B.Sc. in Cognitive Science** (*passed with distinction*)
University of Osnabrück, Germany
Thesis title: "Understanding How We Understand – Theory, Simulation, or Direct Perception in Interaction?"

1999 - 2008 Abitur, Albert-Einstein-Schule, Bochum, Germany

March - May 2017 **Visiting fellowship**
Institute of Philosophy, School of Advanced Study, London

Sept. - Dec. 2012 **Research internship**
Social Mind and Body Lab, Central European University

Sept. - Dec. 2010 **Semester abroad** (studying Philosophy)
Franklin & Marshall College, PA, USA

2005 - 2006 **High School Exchange**, Coventry High School, RI, USA

SCIENTIFIC EXPERIENCE

Work and teaching:

- 2010 - 2013 Teaching assistant for "Introduction to Philosophy of Mind"
Institute of Cognitive Science, University of Osnabrück
- 2009 - 2012 Student assistant
Institute of Cognitive Science, University of Osnabrück

Organization of scientific events:

6th Joint Action Meeting (JAM 6) in Budapest, Hungary (2015); organized together with Andrea Jenei, Günther Knoblich, Natalie Sebanz and Cordula Vesper

Scientific outreach:

TA{s}TE event within the framework of the TATE Exchange program at the TATE Gallery of Modern Art (London), April 27-30, 2017

Review experience:

Psychological Science, Journal of Experimental Social Psychology

Memberships:

Cognitive Science Society, Association for Psychological Science, German Society for Analytic Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles:

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (in prep.). Co-actors Represent the Order of Each Other's Actions.

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (under review). When Height Carries Weight: Communicating Hidden Object Properties for Joint Action.

Vesper, C., **Schmitz, L.**, & Knoblich, G. (in press). Modulating Action Duration to Establish Non-Conventional Communication. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*.

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2017). Co-representation of Others' Task Constraints in Joint Action. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, 43(8), 1480-1493.

Vesper, C., Abramova, E., Bütepage, J., Ciardo, F., Crossey, B., Effenberg, A., Hristova, D., Karlinsky, A., McEllin, L., Nijssen, S., **Schmitz, L.**, & Wahn, B. (2017). Joint Action: Mental Representations, Shared Information and General Mechanisms for Coordinating with Others. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 7, 2039.

Vesper, C., **Schmitz, L.**, Safra, L., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2016). The Role of Shared Visual Information for Joint Action Coordination. *Cognition*, 153, 118-123.

Conference papers:

Vesper, C., **Schmitz, L.**, & Knoblich, G. (2016). Using Violations of Fitts' Law to Communicate during Joint Action. *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2219-2224).

Wahn, B., **Schmitz, L.**, König, P., & Knoblich, G. (2016). Benefiting from Being Alike: Interindividual Skill Differences Predict Collective Benefit in Joint Object Control. *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2747-2752).

Vesper, C., **Schmitz, L.**, Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2013). Joint Action Coordination Through Strategic Reduction in Variability. *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1522 - 1527).

Book contribution:

An introduction to the chapter on Psychology in '*Handbuch Kognitionswissenschaft*' (handbook of Cognitive Science) (2013), eds. Achim Stephan, Sven Walter. J.B. Metzler.

PRESENTATIONS

Oral presentations:

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2017). How Do We Represent Others' Action Sequences? *7th Joint Action Meeting (JAM7)*, London, UK.

Vesper, C., **Schmitz, L.**, & Knoblich, G. (2016). Using Violations of Fitts' Law to Communicate during Joint Action. *38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Philadelphia, USA.

Wahn, B., **Schmitz, L.**, König, P., & Knoblich, G. (2016). Benefiting from Being Alike: Interindividual Skill Differences Predict Collective Benefit in Joint Object Control. *38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Philadelphia, USA.

Vesper, C. & **Schmitz, L.** (2015). Communicating in Time: Exaggeration of Action Duration for Joint Action. *6th Joint Action Meeting (JAM6)*, Budapest, Hungary.

Poster presentations:

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2016). Co-representation of Others' Spatial Task Constraints in Joint Action. *13th Biannual Conference of the German Society for Cognitive Science*, Bremen, Germany.

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2016). When Grasp Height Carries Weight: Informing Others about Invisible Object Properties. Workshop: *Linking social effects in language processing to social effects in language evolution*, MPI for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2016). Your Obstacle on My Mind: Task Co-representation in Coordination is Modulated by External Timing Cues. *38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Philadelphia, USA.

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2016). Co-representation of Others' Task Constraints in Joint Action. 4th *Aegina Summer School*, Aegina, Greece.

Schmitz, L., Wahn, B., König, P., & Knoblich, G. (2015). Let's Move It Together: The Costs and Benefits of Shared Action Control. 6th *Joint Action Meeting (JAM6)*, Budapest, Hungary.

Schmitz, L., Knoblich, G., & Vesper, C. (2015). Communicating in Time: Exaggeration of Action Duration for Joint Action. 3rd *Aegina Summer School*, Aegina, Greece.

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2014). When I Can(not) See What You Do: How Sharing Visual Information Influences Joint Action Coordination. 2nd *Aegina Summer School*, Aegina, Greece.

Schmitz, L., Vesper, C., Sebanz, N., & Knoblich, G. (2013). Strategic Reduction of Variability for Joint Action Coordination. 5th *Joint Action Meeting (JAM5)*, Berlin, Germany.

Schmitz, L. (2012). Understanding Through Direct Perception – A Complement to Gallagher's Interaction Theory. 8th *International Congress of the Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP)*, Konstanz, Germany.

TRAVEL GRANTS & AWARDS

2017	CEU Doctoral Research Support Grant
2016	CEU Summer School Grant CEU PhD Conference Travel Grant
2015	CEU Summer School Grant
2014	CEU Academic Achievement Award for First Year Doctoral Students
2010	DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) scholarship

SKILLS

Software and methods:

- ⊙ 3D-motion capture and analysis
- ⊙ Use of MATLAB; basics in Python, E-Prime, PsyScope
- ⊙ SPSS statistical analysis, Excel

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), French (basic), Hungarian (elementary)

last updated: September 2017