

# **Language-space interface: Dynamic spatial representations of motion events in language processing**

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When we hear or read a sentence that describes an object moving from one place to another, we have to keep in memory where the object was initially, then where it is after the movement, in order to understand the event described in the sentence. This talk investigates how spatial representations of the objects in motion events are established and updated in the comprehenders' minds as the sentences unfold. First I will present a few experiments that investigate mental representations of the trajectory (path) of moving objects in language-mediated motion event processing (e.g., 'The cat will jump/crawl onto the sofa'). The second line of research explores how the speed of motion events is represented (e.g., 'The cat will dash/crawl onto the sofa'). Our results will be discussed in relation to the issue of 'mental simulations' of events in language processing.