

# Dr. Sandrien van Ommen

SvOmmen.github.io ◇ sandrienvo@gmail.com

## GENERAL

---

**Date of birth** 13-08-1985  
**Nationality** Dutch  
**Languages** ☐ Dutch (Native; ILR 5)  
☐ English (ILR 4)  
☐ Italian (ILR 2)  
☐ French (ILR 2)  
☐ German (ILR 2)

## EDUCATION

---

### PhD

*1 February 2011 - 4 March 2016*

**Department** Utrecht Institute of Linguistics OTS

**University** Utrecht University

**Supervisors** Prof. Dr. R.W.J. Kager, Prof. Dr. W. Zonneveld

**Thesis** Listen to the beat - A cross-linguistic perspective on the use of stress in segmentation (Published by LOT)

### Master (Cum Laude)

*1 September 2007 - 30 September 2010*

**Program** Research Master Neurolinguistics and models of grammar

**University** Rijksuniversiteit Groningen

**Supervisors** Dr. D.G. Gilbers, Prof. Dr. P. Hendriks, Dr. Charlotte Gooskens

**Thesis** Lenition and the asymmetry in mutual intelligibility of Danish and Swedish (Published in Lingua)

### Bachelor

*1 September 2004 - 31 March 2008*

**Program** General Linguistics

**University** Rijksuniversiteit Groningen

**Supervisors** Dr. D.G. Gilbers, Prof. Dr. J. Hoeksema

**Thesis** Heeeeele lange vocalen - een onderzoek naar emphatische rekking (Published in TAalkundig Bulletin)

## EXPERIENCE

---

### Maitre Assistante

*1 March 2022 - Present*

*Department of Fundamental Neurosciences, University of Geneva*

*Geneva, Switzerland*

**Project** Temporal Hierarchies; The prosodic word in Vietnamese. (NCCR Evolving Language, Swiss National Science Foundation)

**Collaborators** Prof. Dr. Balthasar Bickel (University of Zürich), Prof. Dr. Anne-Lise Giraud (University of Geneva)

### Marie Curie Fellow

*1 January 2021 - Present*

*Department of Fundamental Neurosciences, University of Geneva*

*Geneva, Switzerland*

**Project** Rhythmic prediction in speech perception: are our brain waves in sync with our native language? (Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellowship, European Commission)

**Collaborators** Prof. Dr. Anne-Lise Giraud (University of Geneva)

### Postdoctoral researcher

*1 January 2018 - 31 December 2020*

*Integrative Neuroscience and Cognition Center, Université Paris Descartes*

*Paris, France*

**Project** Cross-linguistic developmental comparison of the processing of consonants and vowels in early lexical acquisition (jointly funded by ANR / DFG)  
**Collaborators** Dr. T. Nazzi, Dr. S. Schmandt (Universität Postdam)

**Postdoctoral researcher**

1 February 2016 - 31 December 2017

*Laboratoire Psychologie de la Perception, Université Paris Descartes*

*Paris, France*

**Project** Multilevel prosodic processing in a cross-linguistic perspective (jointly funded by ANR / DFG)  
**Collaborators** Dr. T. Nazzi, Prof. Dr R. Bijeljac-Babic, Prof. Dr. B. Höhle (Universität Postdam), Dr. N. Boll-Avetisyan (Universität Postdam)

**PhD researcher**

1 February 2011 - 4 March 2016

*Utrecht Institute of Linguistics, Utrecht University*

*Utrecht, the Netherlands*

**Project** Parsing and metrical structure - Where phonology meets processing (funded by NWO)  
**Collaborators** Prof. Dr R.W.J. Kager, Prof. Dr. W. Zonneveld, Dr. B.M. Keij, Dr. T. Lentz

## GRANTS

---

- 2020 Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellowship (190k)
- 2014 NWO Aspasia Fund seed money
- 2013 Swiss National Science Foundation, conference participation support
- 2008 Stichting Groninger Universiteitsfond, grant for excellent students

## ALL PUBLICATIONS

---

- Under Review** **van Ommen, S.**, Torres, C., Lâm Quang, D., Giraud, A-L. and Bickel, B. Telling compounds and phrases apart in Vietnamese. A random forest classification
- Under Review** Boll-Avetisyan, N., **van Ommen, S.**, Höhle, B. and Nazzi, T. Categorical perception of lexical stress by adult listeners
- 2023 Langus, A., Boll-Avetisyan, N., **van Ommen, S.** and Nazzi, T. Music and language in the crib: Early cross-domain effects of experience on categorical perception of prominence in spoken language *Developmental Science*
- 2022 Peter, V., **van Ommen, S.**, Kalashnikova, M., Mazuka, R., Nazzi, T. and Burnham, D. Language-specific speech processing: Cortical tracking to speech rhythm at mora, syllable, and foot levels *Scientific Reports* 12:13477
- 2022 Von Holzen, K., **van Ommen, S.**, White, K., and Nazzi, T. The impact of phonological biases on mispronunciation sensitivity and novel accent adaptation. *Language Learning and Development*
- 2021 **van Ommen, S.** Review of Shlomo Izre'el, Heliana Mello, Alessandro Panunzi and Tommaso Raso (eds.)(2020). In search of basic units of spoken language: a corpus-driven approach.(Studies in Corpus Linguistics 94.) Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company. Pp. xi+ 440. *Phonology* 38 (2), 357-362
- 2021 Darriba, Á, Hsu, Y-F, **van Ommen, S.**, Waszak, F. Intention-based and sensory-based predictions. *Scientific Reports* 11 (1), 1-16
- 2021 Darriba, Á, **van Ommen, S.**, Hsu, Y-F, Waszak, F. Visual predictions operate on different time-scales. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience* 33 (6), 984-1002
- 2020 **van Ommen, S.**, Boll-Avetisyan, N., Larraza, S., Wellmann, C., Bijeljac-Babic, R., Höhle, B.; Nazzi, T. Language-specific prosodic acquisition: a comparison of phrase boundary perception by French- and German-learning infants. *Journal of Memory and Language* 112, 104108

- 2018 Boll-Avetisyan, N., Nixon, J., Lentz, T., Liu, L., **van Ommen, S.**, Óltekin, C., and van Rij, J. Neural response development during distributional learning, *Proceedings of Interspeech 2018, Iderabad, India*.
- 2018 Nixon, J.S, Boll-Avetisyan, N. Lentz, T. O., **van Ommen, S.**, Keij, B., Óltekin, C., Liu, L., and van Rij, J. Short-term exposure enhances perception of both between- and within-category acoustic information. *Proceedings of Speech Prosody 2018*.
- 2017 Helo, A., **van Ommen, S.**, Pannasch, S., Danten-Dordogne, L., Rämä, P. Influence of semantic consistency and perceptual features on visual attention during scene viewing in toddlers, *Infant Behavior and Development*, 49, 248-266.
- 2016 **van Ommen, S.** *Listen to the beat: A cross-linguistic perspective on the use of stress in segmentation*. Doctoral dissertation, Utrecht University. Published by LOT (Landelijke Onderzoeksschool Taalwetenschap).
- 2013 Nerbonne, J., **van Ommen, S.**, Gooskens, C.G. and Wieling, M. Measuring socially motivated pronunciation differences, *In: Lars Boring and Aju Saxena (eds.) Approaches to Measuring Linguistic Differences, Mouton De Gruyter*.
- 2013 Nerbonne, J., **van Ommen, S.**, Gooskens, C.G. and Impe, L. A corpus of regional Dutch speech. *In: Charlotte Gooskens and Renee van Bezooijen (eds.) Phonetics in Europe. Perception and production, Peter Lang*.
- 2013 **van Ommen, S.**, P. Hendriks, D. G. Gilbers, V. J. J. H van Heuven and C. S. Gooskens. Is diachronic lenition a factor in the asymmetry in intelligibility between Danish and Swedish? *Lingua* 137, 193-213.
- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Progressive Use of Metrical Cues: a Cross-linguistic Study. *In: Proceedings of NLPCS 2012, 9th International Workshop on Natural Language Processing and Cognitive Science, Wroclaw, Poland, p. 74-84*.
- 2007 **van Ommen, S.**, J. Hoeksema and D.G. Gilbers. Heeeeee lange vocalen: een onderzoek naar emphatische rekking, *TABU*, 36-1/2, 39-64.

## METHODS AND SKILLS

---

- Methods** Various adult and infant behavioral paradigms; Electroencephalography (EEG); Near-infrared Spectroscopy (fNIRS); Eyetracking; Phonetic resynthesis
- Analyses** (Bayesian and frequentist) Linear Mixed Models; Machine Learning (Classification analyses); Information Theory (Corpus analyses); Phonetic analysis and transcription
- Software** R; Python; Praat; OpenSesame; EEGlab (MATLAB); LaTeX; Javascript; html5; css3; GIMP; Blender; Kdenlive

## INVITED TALKS

---

- 2023 **van Ommen, S.** Phan, T., Marchesotti, S., Torres Orjuela, C., Giraud, A-L and Bickel, B. Perceptual chunking in Vietnamese compounds vs. phrases *Invited Talk at XPP-L, Zürich, Switzerland, 6-8 November 2023*
- 2023 **van Ommen, S.** Telling compounds and phrases apart - The role of prosody in Vietnamese perceptual chunking *Invited Talk at Topics in Vietnamese Linguistics, Zurich, Switzerland, 7-9 September 2023*
- 2023 **van Ommen, S.** Phan, T., Marchesotti, S., Torres Orjuela, C., Giraud, A-L and Bickel, B. Chunking syllables in an isolating language. A neurocognitive view on phrasal constituents in Vietnamese *Invited Talk at ISVL3, Hybrid conference, Kobe, Japan, 17-19 March 2023*

- 2022 **van Ommen, S.** EEG Signal Processing in Linguistic Research; Introduction and Theory *Invited Talk at Workshop Language ontogeny and processing in Vietnamese: A cross-cultural experimental approach. University of Languages and International Studies (VNU, Hanoi), Vietnam, 16 June 2022*
- 2022 **van Ommen, S.** Introduction to Electroencephalography (EEG) in linguistics *Invited Talk at Workshop A Structured Approach to Linguistic Data Collection: Methods in Language Acquisition and Processing; 2021 International Graduate Research Symposium (IGRS), e-conference University of Languages and International Studies, Vietnam National University, 30 Oct 2021*
- 2021 **van Ommen, S.** Introduction to linguistic typology as a method *Invited talk at Metheore, NCCR (e-seminar), 17 February 2021*
- 2016 **van Ommen, S..** German and French ADS and IDS phrase boundaries in production and perception. *Invited talk at MAMPF, LMU München, Germany*
- 2013 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. The results of a cross-linguistic metrical segmentation experiment and some thoughts on modeling, *Invited talk at PEP, NYU, New York City, New York, USA November 22, 2013*
- 2013 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Metrical segmentation: Optimization in perception. *Invited talk at Phonology Circle MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, December 13, 2013.*
- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** Metrical segmentation in a cross-linguistic perspective. *Invited talk at Uiltjesdagen, Utrecht, the Netherlands, November 20-22, 2012.*
- 2011 **van Ommen, S.** Segmentation to the beat - into the task, *Invited talk at Uiltjesdagen, UiL OTS, Utrecht, the Netherlands, November 23, 2011.*
- 2011 **van Ommen, S.** and B. Keij. Acquisition and use of metrical cues: a cross-linguistic study. *Invited talk at the International workshop on suprasegmentals in acquisition and processing, University of Konstanz, Germany, June 1, 2011.*

## PRESENTATIONS

---

- 2021 **van Ommen, S.** A. van der Kant, I. de la Cruz-Pavia, S. Schmandt, T. Nazzi, J. Gervain. Vowel bias in French-learning 8-month-olds: measuring repetition perception with fNIRS *Poster at SRCD 2021 (e-conference), 9 April 2021*
- 2021 **van Ommen, S.,** Boll-Avetisyan, N., Höhle, B and T. Nazzi. Prosodic boundaries in phrase processing, a click detection study *Talk at Prosodic boundary phenomena, DGfS 2021 (e-conference), 25 February 2021*
- 2020 **van Ommen, S.** A. van der Kant, I. de la Cruz-Pavia, S. Schmandt, T. Nazzi, J. Gervain. Comparing vowels and consonants using fNIRS - Neural responses to repetition-based regularities in French-learning 8-month-olds. *Poster at ICIS Glasgow (e-conference), 6-9 July 2020*
- 2018 Boll-Avetisyan, N., **van Ommen, S.,** Höhle, B and T. Nazzi. Categorical perception of lexical stress in French L2 learners of German: Effects of musical acuity. *Talk at BUCLD, Boston, USA, November 2018*
- 2018 Boll-Avetisyan, N., **van Ommen, S.,** Höhle, B and T. Nazzi. Stress “deafness” can be overcome : Evidence from Second language learners. *Talk at EUROSLA, Münster, Germany, September 2018*
- 2018 Boll-Avetisyan, N., Nixon, J., Lentz, T., Liu, L., **van Ommen, S.,** Cöltekin, C., and van Rij, J. Neural response development during distributional learning, *Talk at Interspeech 2018, Iderabad, India.*

- 2018 Nixon, J.S, Boll-Avetisyan, N. Lentz, T. O., **van Ommen, S.**, Keij, B., Óltekin, Ó, Liu, L., and van Rij, J. Short-term exposure enhances perception of both between-and within-category acoustic information. *Talk at Speech Prosody 2018*.
- 2018 Von Holzen, K., **van Ommen, S.**, White, K. and Nazzi, T. French learning infants' adaptation to a novel accent: the role of consonant/vowel asymmetry. *Poster at ICIS 2018, Philadelphia, USA*.
- 2018 Helo, A., Oytun, A., **van Ommen, S.**, Pannasch, S., Rämä, P. What attracts the gaze of 18- and 24-month-olds during screen viewing? *Talk at ICIS, Philadelphia, USA*.
- 2017 **van Ommen, S.**, Boll-Avetisyan, N., Larraza, S., Wellmann, C., Bijeljac-Babic, R., Höhle, B and T. Nazzi. Prosodic boundary perception in French: infant data and analysis of acoustic cues. *Poster at IASCL 2017, Lyon, France*.
- 2017 **van Ommen, S.**, Boll-Avetisyan, N., Larraza, S., Wellmann, C., Bijeljac-Babic, R., Höhle, B and T. Nazzi. Phonetic cues in French prosodic boundaries and infant prosodic processing. *Talk at PaPE 2017, Cologne, Germany*.
- 2016 Larraza, S., **van Ommen, S.**, Abboub, N., Wellmann, C., Boll-Avetisyan, N., Bijeljac- Babic, R., Höhle, B and T. Nazzi. How does prosodic boundary processing develop? Evidence from French-learning infants. *Poster at ICIS 2016, New Orleans, USA*.
- 2015 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Metrical optimization in segmentation. *Talk at XII International Symposium Of Psycholinguistics, Valencia, Spain, July 4, 2015*.
- 2015 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Metrical optimization in segmentation. *Talk at Phonetics and Phonology in Europe, University of Cambridge, UK, June 29, 2015*
- 2014 **van Ommen, S.** Metrical segmentation: Optimization in perception. *Talk at Miniconference metrical structure: acquisition and processing. Utrecht, the Netherlands, April 15-17, 2014*.
- 2013 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Processing to the beat: metrical segmentation in Dutch, Turkish, Polish and Hungarian. *Talk at Phonology 2013, Amherst, Massachusetts, USA. November 9-10, 2013*.
- 2013 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Segmentation to the beat, a cross-linguistic perspective. *Talk at 19th International Congress of Linguists, 2013, Geneva, Switzerland, July 21-27, 2013*.
- 2013 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Metrical segmentation in a cross-linguistic perspective. *Poster at the 11th International Symposium of Psycholinguistics, Tenerife, Spain, March 20-23, 2013*.
- 2013 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Metrical segmentation in a cross-linguistic perspective. *Talk at 14th Tokyo Conference on Psycholinguistics, Tokyo, Japan, March 8-9, 2013*
- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Metrical segmentation in a cross-linguistic perspective. *Talk at UD conference on stress and accent, Newark, Delaware, USA, November 29- Dec. 1, 2012*.
- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Progressive use of metrical cues. *Poster at Phonotactic grammar: theories and models, Cortona Italy, September 28-29, 2012*.
- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Progressive use of metrical cues. *Poster at Cognitive Modules and Interfaces, Trieste, Italy, September 18-19, 2012*.
- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Progressive use of metrical cues, A cross-linguistic study. *Talk at Poznań Linguistic meeting, Poznań, Poland, September 9-10, 2012*.
- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Progressive use of metrical cues: a cross-linguistic study, *Talk at NLPCS, Wroclaw, Poland, June 29, 2012*.

- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Progressive use of metrical cues: Results of Dutch and Turkish, *Talk at TABU-dag, Groningen, The Netherlands, June 19, 2012.*
- 2012 **van Ommen, S.** and R.W.J. Kager. Progressive use of metrical cues, *Poster at Psycholinguistics in Flanders (goes Dutch), Nijmegen, the Netherlands, June 7, 2012.*
- 2010 **van Ommen, S.** Lenition and the asymmetry in mutual intelligibility between Danish and Swedish, *Talk at TIN-dag, Utrecht 2010.*
- 2009 Dijkmeijer, N., der Ham, S. van, **van Ommen, S.**, Rij, J. van, Zuidhof, M-A. Koster, C., Hendriks, P. Do Dutch adults display a pronoun interpretation problem, too? *Poster at Rascal Conference, Groningen 2009.*

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

---

|                  |   |                |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| <b>Reviewer</b>  |   | 2014 - Present |
| Journals         | □ Language & Speech   |                |
|                  | □ Frontiers in Communication (Language Sciences)                                |                |
| Conferences      | □ Workshop on Infant Language Development                                       |                |
|                  | □ Phonetics and Phonology in Europe   |                |
|                  | □ Miniconference Metrical structure: acquisition and processing                 |                |
|                  |   |                |
| <b>Organizer</b> |   | 2011 - Present |
| Circles          | □ Paris Babylab Meetings (quarterly - 2 years)                                  |                |
|                  | □ Experimental Linguistics Talks Utrecht (weekly - 2 years)                     |                |
| Events           | □ Uiltjesdagen 2011   |                |
|                  | □ Landelijke Onderzoeksschool Taalwetenschap Summerschool 2012                  |                |
|                  | □ EMLAR IX Utrecht 2013   |                |
|                  | □ Miniconference 'Metrical Structure: Acquisition and Processing' Utrecht 2014. |                |
|                  | □ International workshop 'Topics in Vietnamese Linguistics'. Zurich 2023.       |                |

## TEACHING

---

|                   |  |                |
|-------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Teacher</b>    |  | 2014 - Present |
| Bachelor level    | □ Psychology of Language <i>with Shalom Zuckerman, Utrecht University</i>  |                |
|                   | □ Experimental Psycholinguistics <i>with Shalom Zuckerman, Utrecht University</i>  |                |
| Master level      | □ Production and Perception in Second Language Acquisition <i>with Aoju Chen, Utrecht University</i>   |                |
|                   | □ Phonetics and Phonology for Language Teaching <i>University of Languages and International Studies, Vietnam National University</i>  |                |
| PhD level         | □ Introduction into Praat <i>University of Geneva</i>  |                |
|                   | □ Introduction into mixed models analyses <i>INCC, Université Paris Descartes</i>  |                |
| <b>Supervisor</b> |  | 2013 - Present |
| Master level      | □ Maud Verlinde, Iris Menu, Sofia Linda Carrion-Falgarona, Camille Martinsky, Mathilde Strassel, Hélène Monvert-Combe, Alice Bourbon, Anaëlle Alouit, Inès Paic, Leonardo Piot |                |
| PhD level         | □ Théophane Piette, Alec Shaw  |                |

## RESEARCH VISITS

---

### External data collection

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| □ Hanoi, Vietnam - Speech production data                             | November - December 2023 |
| □ Locarno, Switzerland - EEG data, natural speech perception          | October 2023             |
| □ Zurich, Switzerland - EEG data, natural speech perception           | June and September 2023  |
| □ Hanoi, Vietnam - EEG data, Hyperscanning: production and perception | April - May 2023         |



- *Hanoi, Vietnam - EEG data, perceptual chunking* *June 2022*
- *Barcelona, Spain - behavioral data, speech segmentation* *May - June 2013*
- *Budapest, Hungary - behavioral data, speech segmentation* *February 2013*
- *Wrocław, Poland - behavioral data, speech segmentation* *May 2012*
- *Adana, Turkey - behavioral data, speech segmentation* *April 2012*
- *Kungälv, Sweden - behavioral data, speech identification* *March 2010*

### **Visiting Researcher**

- *Dr. Trang Phan, University of Languages and International Studies, VNU, Hanoi, Vietnam, November 2022*
- *Dr. F. Adriaans, New York University, USA, November - December 2013*
- *Dr. J.M. Toro-Soto, Prof. Dr. L.L. Bonatti, Prof. Dr. N. Sebastián Gallés, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, May - June 2013*

### **Intern**

- *Prof. Dr. D Geeraerts, Dr. D. Speelman, Dr. L. Impe, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, September - December 2008*

## **PUBLIC DISSEMINATION**

---

- Article** General interest article in Paris Descartes Babylab Newsletter
- Interview** Live interview on Dutch national radio (Radio 1)
- Interview** Featuring in SRF 'Einstein' (Documentary): 'Wunder der Sprache: Ursprung und Zukunft der Menschlichen Sprache' <https://tinyurl.com/vs4u8xkf>