

# Looking for the Phonological Mapping Negativity (in all the wrong places)

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# Section 1

## Introduction

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Experiment 2

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# Introduction

Four years ago...

# Introduction

Can event-related potential data inform information flow order in speech perception?

# Introduction

Can event-related potential data inform information flow order in speech perception? i.e. what the extent of top-down mediation is during speech perception.

# Introductin

- Interactive models of speech perception (e.g. TRACE)
- Feed-forward / modular models of speech perception (e.g. Cohort model)

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# Introduction

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- Magnuson et al. (2003). Lexical effects on compensation for coarticulation: **The ghost of Christmash past**. *Cognitive Science*, 27(2), 285-298.

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- McQueen, et al. (2009). No lexical–prelexical feedback during speech perception or: **Is it time to stop playing those Christmas tapes?**. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 61(1), 1-18.

# Elman & McClelland (1988)

Compensation for coarticulation: (Mann & Repp 1981)

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- /t-k/ perceived more often as /k/ following /s/

Ganong effect (Ganong 1980)

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- e.g. Christma/s-ʃ/ more often solved as Christma/s/.

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- Ambiguous phonemes are solved more often with the choice that makes a word vs. a non-word
- e.g. Christma/s-ʃ/ more often solved as Christma/s/.
- Effect stronger at phoneme boundary.

# Elman & McClelland (1988)

Christma/s-f/ /t-k/capes

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Christma/s-f/ /t-k/capes

Cool, huh?

# Introduction

Can event-related potential data inform information flow order in speech perception?

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Can event-related potential data inform information flow order in speech perception? i.e. what the extent of top-down mediation is during speech perception.

# Event-related potentials

Event-related potentials (**ERP**) are measured brain responses that are direct result of a **sensory, cognitive** or motor event (**Luck 2005**)

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Event-related potential components are measured with electro-encephalography (**EEG**) equipment.



# Event-related potentials

**ERP** (and EEG) offer unparalleled temporal resolution,

# Event-related potentials

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The original goal of my thesis was that to **design** a handful of **ERP experiments to investigate lexical feedback** and top-down processes of speech perception. But how?

# Event-related potentials

- Mismatch Negativity (**MMN**)

\* Originanly named Phonological Mismatch Negativity

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- Mismatch Negativity (**MMN**)
- Phonological Mapping\* Negativity (**PMN**)

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- Mismatch Negativity (**MMN**)
- Phonological Mapping\* Negativity (**PMN**)
- **N400**
- **P600**

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# MMN

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The mismatch negativity reflects the perception of a deviant stimulus in a sequence of standard stimuli (e.g. Garrido et al., 2009)

In the auditory domain, a deviant stimulus can be identified by differences in pitch, duration, stress and frequency range (Erlbeck et al., 2014)

# N400

The N400 (Kutas & Hillyard 1980) is part of the normal brain response to words and other meaningful stimuli.

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nurse

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nurse doctor | pizza pineapple

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nurse doctor | pizza pineapple

- Other paradigms include cloze-probability mismatch (e.g. Connolly and Phillips 1994)

# Phonological Mapping Negativity

The Phonological Mapping (or Mismatch) Negativity, **PMN** is an event-related potential component hypothesized to index phonological mismatch and mapping

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# Phonological Mapping Negativity

However, while some studies (e.g. Connolly and Phillips 1994) have linked the PMN to phonological mapping during the lexical selection stage of speech perception..

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However, while some studies (e.g. Connolly and Phillips 1994) have linked the PMN to phonological mapping during the lexical selection stage of speech perception..

Others (e.g. Newman & Connolly) report that the PMN is a **marker of acoustic and pre-lexical information.**

# Connolly and Phillips (1994)

Event-Related Potential Components Reflect Phonological and Semantic Processing of the Terminal Word of Spoken Sentences:

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- The piano is out of



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- The piano is out of tune

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- The piano is out of tune (no mismatch)

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- The piano is out of pizza (N400 and PMN)



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Event-Related Potential Components Reflect Phonological and Semantic Processing of the Terminal Word of Spoken Sentences:

- The piano is out of tune (no mismatch)
- The piano is out of tuna (N400)
- The piano is out of pizza (N400 and PMN)
- ...

# Newman et al. (2003)

Phoneme deletion task to study the PMN:

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Delete /k/ from the word “clap”

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Phoneme deletion task to study the PMN:

Delete /k/ from the word “clap”

- lap
- aap

# Newman et al. (2003)

Phoneme deletion task to study the PMN:

Delete /k/ from the word “clap”

- lap
- aap
- dog

# Phonological Mapping Negativity

**Lewendon et. al (2020)** suggest that the possibility exists that the PMN is an extension of either the Mismatch Negativity (**MMN**) or **N400** components

# Phonological Mapping Negativity

**Lewendon et. al (2020)** also report that the majority of the literature on the PMN is characterized by contradictory findings and methodological limitations, e.g.

- Contrasting theories of the PMN



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- Mixed topographical locations:

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- Mixed topographical locations:
  - Some studies report discovering the PMN in frontal and central sites, others in parietal / mid-line / evenly spread across the scalp.

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- Methodological limitations:

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- Methodological limitations:
  - Few participants (usually < 10)

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  - Few trials (usually < 40)

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- Mixed topographical locations:
  - Some studies report discovering the PMN in frontal and central sites, others in parietal / mid-line / evenly spread across the scalp.
- Methodological limitations:
  - Few participants (usually  $< 10$ )
  - Few trials (usually  $< 40$ )
  - Confounding variables

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# Research questions

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- Is the PMN in response to acoustic, phonetic, phonological, lexical mapping and mismatch, none or a combination of all?



# Research questions

- Is the PMN in response to acoustic, phonetic, phonological, lexical mapping and mismatch, none or a combination of all?
- Is any other ERP component found in response to acoustic, phonetic and phonological mismatch in place of / together with the PMN?

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# Research questions

Why the PMN..

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# Research questions

Why the PMN.. and why now?

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- The PMN might play an important role in future investigations of architectures of grammar (placed in between acoustic and lexical processing)

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## Why the PMN.. and why now?

- The PMN might play an important role in future investigations of architectures of grammar (placed in between acoustic and lexical processing)
- Clinical studies have used the PMN as a marker of phonological processing abilities (Robson et al. 2017). However, it is not clear what processes sexactly the PMN stands for.

## Section 2

## Methods

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# Experimental design

# Experimental design

**Three neuro-imaging experiments** designed to introduce new contexts in which to probe the elicitation of the PMN ERP component.



# Experimental design

**Three neuro-imaging experiments** designed to introduce new contexts in which to probe the elicitation of the PMN ERP component.

Experiments **1**, **2** (and **3**) were designed to simultaneously work independently while also being fully comparable.

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# Equipment & Processing

Hardware:

# Equipment & Processing

## Hardware:

- 64 active pin-type **BioSemi** electrodes

# Equipment & Processing

## Hardware:

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- 6 (EX1 to EX6) face electrodes

# Equipment & Processing

## Hardware:

- 64 active pin-type **BioSemi** electrodes
- 6 (EX1 to EX6) face electrodes
- BioSemi hardware (e.g. receiver)

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# Equipment & Processing

Software:

# Equipment & Processing

## Software:

- BioSemi Actiview

# Equipment & Processing

## Software:

- BioSemi Actview
- Neurobehavioral Systems' **Presentation**



# Equipment & Processing

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## Software:

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- MATLAB (2018b; 2019a; 2019b)
- EEGLAB (Delorme & Makeig 2004)
- ERPLAB (Lopez-Calderon & Luck, 2014)

# Equipment & Processing

## Software:

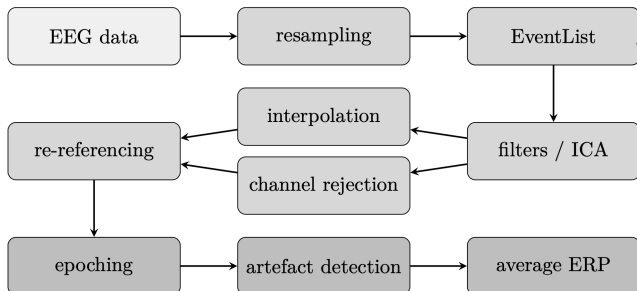
- BioSemi ActiView
- Neurobehavioral Systems' **Presentation**
- MATLAB (2018b; 2019a; 2019b)
- EEGLAB (Delorme & Makeig 2004)
- ERPLAB (Lopez-Calderon & Luck, 2014)
- R (4.1) (R Core Team 2021)

# Equipment & Processing

EEG pre-processing:

# Equipment & Processing

EEG pre-processing:



# Equipment & Processing

EEG pre-processing:

# Equipment & Processing

EEG pre-processing:

- Offline average reference



# Equipment & Processing

EEG pre-processing:

- Offline average reference
- 512 Hz sampling frequency

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# Equipment & Processing

Statistical analyses:

# Equipment & Processing

Statistical analyses:

- Exploratory channel-level multivariate testing with package ERP (Causeur et al. 2020) and the Adaptive Factor Adjustment (AFA) procedure (Sheu et al. 2016)

# Equipment & Processing

## Statistical analyses:

- Exploratory channel-level multivariate testing with package ERP (Causeur et al. 2020) and the Adaptive Factor Adjustment (AFA) procedure (Sheu et al. 2016)
- Mean amplitude modelling with mixed-effect models & package lme4 (Bates et al. 2015)

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# Equipment

Data visualisation:

# Equipment

## Data visualisation:

- Grand-Average / difference ERP plots with `ggplot2` (Wickham 2016)

# Equipment

## Data visualisation:

- Grand-Average / difference ERP plots with **ggplot2** (Wickham 2016)
- Cubic spline interpolation scalp maps with package **akima** (Akima and Gebhardt 2020)

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# Reproducibility





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Data, code and model summaries are freely available on GitHub at the repository `mcanzi/phd_codedata`

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Data, code and model summaries are freely available on GitHub at the repository `mcanzi/phd_codedata`

PhD thesis has been submitted and will be available through open access following thesis defense (in August) and corrections.

## Section 3

### Experiment 1

# Procedure

- Participants were trained to learn three pairs of tri-syllabic nonce words in a computerized training phase (e.g. pitabu dipida)

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- During EEG data collection, stimuli were played back to participants during a passive listening task, however..

# Procedure

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  - Transitional probabilities within the two items of each nonce-word pair was 1.0
- Participants were tested on their knowledge of the experimental stimuli in a computerized task
- During EEG data collection, stimuli were played back to participants during a passive listening task, however..
  - In 33% of total trials (400 total trials), the first syllable of the second nonce-word of each pair would be manipulated to break expectations



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Stimuli

pitabu

# Stimuli

pitabu dipida

# Stimuli

pitabu dipida

pitabu

# Stimuli

pitabu dipida

pitabu **b**apida

# Stimuli

pitabu dipida

pitabu **b**apida

pitabu

# Stimuli

pitabu dipida

pitabu **b**apida

pitabu **b**upida

# Stimuli

pitabu dipida

pitabu **b**apida

pitabu **b**upida

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# Stimuli

pitabu dipida

pitabu **b**apida

pitabu **b**upida

- Stimuli were synthesized using Mac OS Text-to-Speech
- Vowel, syllable and word length were controlled for (each syllable was 200 ms long)



# Stimuli

pitabu dipida

pitabu **b**apida

pitabu **b**upida

- Stimuli were synthesized using Mac OS Text-to-Speech
- Vowel, syllable and word length were controlled for (each syllable was 200 ms long)
- Speaker and pitch contours were the same for all stimuli.

# Participants

22 Participants ( $F = 13$ ) took part to the experiment.

- 22 right-handed adults

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- 22 right-handed adults
- 22 BrE speakers

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- Normal or corrected to normal vision and hearing

# Participants

22 Participants ( $F = 13$ ) took part to the experiment.

- 22 right-handed adults
- 22 BrE speakers
- Age ( $M = 22$ , 18-25)
- Normal or corrected to normal vision and hearing
- No reported use of psychoactive medications

# Results

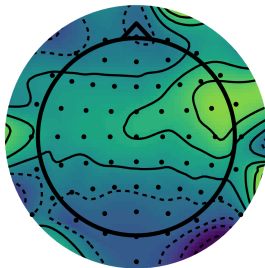
Cubic-spline interpolation scalp maps. Mean amplitude between 280 and 320 ms post-stimulus onset.

# Results

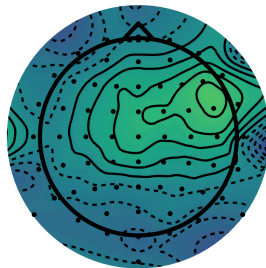
Cubic-spline interpolation scalp maps. Mean amplitude between 280 and 320 ms post-stimulus onset.



Mismatch



Match





# Other effects

- Small negative effect between 150-200 ms for mismatch condition (fronto-central)

# Other effects

- Small negative effect between 150-200 ms for mismatch condition (fronto-central) (**MMN?**)
- Bigger positive effect between 500-700 ms for mismatch condition (centro-parietal)

# Other effects

- Small negative effect between 150-200 ms for mismatch condition (fronto-central) (**MMN?**)
- Bigger positive effect between 500-700 ms for mismatch condition (centro-parietal) (**P600?**)

# Discussion

No instance of **PMN** (in any of its expected forms) was found)

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# Discussion

Possible explanations:

# Discussion

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- PMN is more "higher-level" than previously theorized

# Discussion

Possible explanations:

- PMN is more "higher-level" than previously theorized
- Methodological limitations of Exp. 1

## Section 4

### Experiment 2



# Stimuli

Same nonce words as **Experiment 1**

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# Procedure

di +

# Procedure

di + (500 ms pause) +

# Procedure

di + (500 ms pause) + pi +

# Procedure

di + (500 ms pause) + pi + (500 ms pause) +

# Procedure

di + (500 ms pause) + pi + (500 ms pause) + da

# Procedure

di + (500 ms pause) + pi + (500 ms pause) + da  
(4 s pause)

# Procedure

di + (500 ms pause) + pi + (500 ms pause) + da  
(4 s pause)  
dipida



# Procedure

However, in 33% of total trials

di

# Procedure

However, in 33% of total trials

di pi

# Procedure

However, in 33% of total trials

di pi da

# Procedure

However, in 33% of total trials

di pi da

**b**apida

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Experiment 1

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**Experiment 2**

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# Results

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# Results

# Discussion

No instance of **PMN** (in any of its expected forms) was found)

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# Discussion

Possible explanations:



# Discussion

Possible explanations:

- PMN is more "higher-level" than previously theorized

# Discussion

Possible explanations:

- PMN is more "higher-level" than previously theorized
- ~~Methodological limitations of Exp. 1~~

## Section 5

# General Discussion

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## Experiment 1

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## General Discussion

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## Introduction

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## Methods

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## Experiment 1

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## Introduction

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# Thank you!

Special thanks to my supervisors **Dr Wendell Kimper, Dr Patrycja Strycharczuk** and to all the RAs: Hui Chen, Lauren Forrest, Chloe Gornall, Tristan Hill, Yuerong Shen, Ellen Symonds, Xinrong Wang, Ziyun Zhang



# References



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Questions?