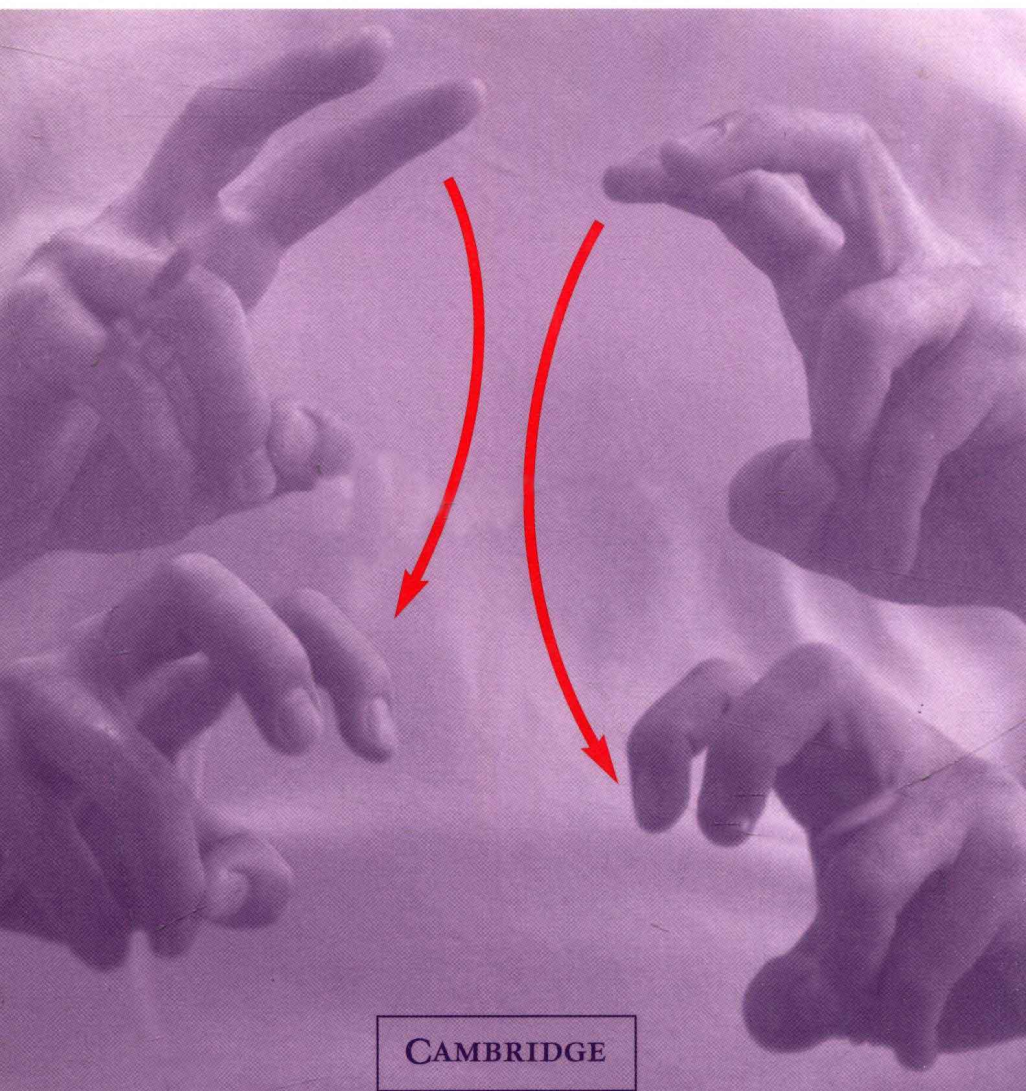


Modality and Structure in Signed and Spoken Languages

Edited by
**Richard P. Meier, Kearsy Cormier,
David Quinto-Pozos**



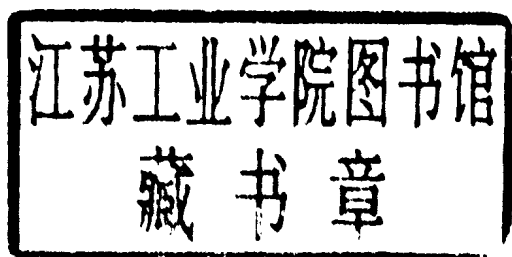
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Richard P. Meier, Kearsy Cormier,
and David Quinto-Pozos

with the assistance of Adrianne Cheek, Heather Knapp,
and Christian Rathmann



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa
<http://www.cambridge.org>

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First published 2002

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeface Times 10/12 pt *System* L^AT_EX 2_ε [TB]

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN 0 521 80385 3 hardback

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Acknowledgments

Few readers will be surprised to learn that this volume is the fruit of a conference. That conference – one of an annual series sponsored by the Texas Linguistics Society – was held at the University of Texas at Austin on February 25–27, 2000; the topic was “The effects of modality on language and linguistic theory.” It was, we believe, a very successful meeting, one marked by the high quality of the papers and of the ensuing discussions. There are many people and organizations to whom we are indebted for their financial support of the conference and for their hard work toward its realization. Here there are two sets of friends and colleagues whom we especially want to thank: Adrienne Cheek, Heather Knapp, and Christian Rathmann were our co-organizers of the conference. We owe a particular debt to the interpreters who enabled effective conversation between the Deaf and hearing conferees. The skill and dedication of these interpreters – Kristen Schwall-Hoyt, Katie LaSalle, and Shirley Gerhardt – were a foundation of the conference’s success.

This book brings together many of the papers from that conference. All are now much updated and much revised. The quality of the revisions is due not only to the hard work of the authors but also to the peer-review process. To every extent possible, we obtained two reviews for each chapter, one from a scholar who works on signed languages and one from a scholar who, while expert in linguistics or psycholinguistics, works primarily on spoken languages. There were two reasons for this: first we sought to make sure that the chapters would be of the highest possible quality. And, second, we sought to ensure that the chapters would be accessible to the widest possible audience of researchers in linguistics and related fields.

To obtain these reviews, we abused many of our colleagues here at the University of Texas at Austin, including Ralph Blight, Megan Crowhurst, Lisa Green, Scott Myers, Carlota Smith, Steve Wechsler, and Tony Woodbury from the Department of Linguistics and Randy Diehl, Cathy Echols, and Peter MacNeilage from the Department of Psychology. We, and our authors, also benefited from the substantive and insightful reviews provided by Diane Brentari (Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN), Karen Emmorey (The Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA), Elisabeth Engberg-Pedersen (University of Copenhagen,

Denmark), Susan Fischer (National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester, NY), Harry van der Hulst (University of Connecticut), Manfred Krifka (Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany), Cecile McKee (University of Arizona), David McKee (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand), Irit Meir (University of Haifa, Israel), Jill Morford (University of New Mexico), Carol Neidle (Boston University), Carol Padden (University of California, San Diego), Karen Petronio (Eastern Kentucky University), Claire Ramsey (University of Nebraska), Wendy Sandler (University of Haifa, Israel), and Sherman Wilcox (University of New Mexico). We thank all of these colleagues for the time that they gave to this volume.

Christine Bartels, who at the outset was our acquisitions editor at Cambridge University Press, shaped our thinking about how to put this book together. We are greatly indebted to her. The Children's Research Laboratory of the Department of Psychology of the University of Texas at Austin provided the physical infrastructure for our work on this book. During the preparation of this book, David Quinto-Pozos was supported by a predoctoral fellowship from the National Institutes of Health (F31 DC00352). Last – but certainly not least – we thank the friends and spouses who have seen us through this process, in particular Madeline Sutherland-Meier and Mannie Quinto-Pozos. Their patience and support have been unstinting.

RICHARD P. MEIER, KEARSY CORMIER,
AND DAVID QUINTO-POZOS
Austin, Texas

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	page viii
<i>List of tables</i>	xi
<i>List of contributors</i>	xiii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xvii

- 1 Why different, why the same? Explaining effects and non-effects of modality upon linguistic structure in sign and speech 1
RICHARD P. MEIER

Part I Phonological structure in signed languages 27

- 2 Modality differences in sign language phonology and morphophonemics 35
DIANE BRENTARI
- 3 Beads on a string? Representations of repetition in spoken and signed languages 65
RACHEL CHANNON
- 4 Psycholinguistic investigations of phonological structure in ASL 88
DAVID P. CORINA AND URSULA C. HILDEBRANDT
- 5 Modality-dependent aspects of sign language production: Evidence from slips of the hands and their repairs in German Sign Language 112
ANNETTE HOHENBERGER, DANIELA HAPP,
AND HELEN LEUNINGER
- 6 The role of Manually Coded English in language development of deaf children 143
SAMUEL J. SUPALLA AND CECILE McKEE

Part II Gesture and iconicity in sign and speech	167
7 A modality-free notion of gesture and how it can help us with the morpheme vs. gesture question in sign language linguistics (Or at least give us some criteria to work with)	175
ARIKA OKRENT	
8 Gesture as the substrate in the process of ASL grammaticization	199
TERRY JANZEN AND BARBARA SHAFFER	
9 A crosslinguistic examination of the lexicons of four signed languages	224
ANNE-MARIE P. GUERRA CURRIE, RICHARD P. MEIER, AND KEITH WALTERS	
Part III Syntax in sign: Few or no effects of modality	237
10 Where are all the modality effects?	241
DIANE LILLO-MARTIN	
11 Applying morphosyntactic and phonological readjustment rules in natural language negation	263
ROLAND PFAU	
12 Nominal expressions in Hong Kong Sign Language: Does modality make a difference?	296
GLADYS TANG AND FELIX Y. B. SZE	
Part IV Using space and describing space: Pronouns, classifiers, and verb agreement	321
13 Pronominal reference in signed and spoken language: Are grammatical categories modality-dependent?	329
SUSAN LLOYD MCBURNEY	
14 Is verb agreement the same crossmodally?	370
CHRISTIAN RATHMANN AND GAURAV MATHUR	
15 The effects of modality on spatial language: How signers and speakers talk about space	405
KAREN EMMOREY	

16	The effects of modality on BSL development in an exceptional learner	422
	GARY MORGAN, NEIL SMITH, IANTHI TSIMPLI, AND BENCIE WOLL	
17	Deictic points in the visual–gestural and tactile–gestural modalities	442
	DAVID QUINTO-POZOS	
	<i>Index</i>	469

Figures

2.1	2.1a The handshape parameter used as an articulator in THINK; 2.1b as a place of articulation in TOUCH; 2.1c as a movement in UNDERSTAND	<i>page 41</i>
2.2	ASL signs showing different timing patterns of handshape and path movement	42
2.3	Nominalization via reduplication	49
2.4	Nominalization via trilled movement affixation	50
2.5	2.5a UNDERSTAND (simple movement sign); 2.5b ACCOMPLISH-EASILY (complex movement sign)	53
2.6	Polymorphemic form	58
2.7	2.7a Handshape used in AIRPLANE with a thumb specification; 2.7b Handshape used in MOCK with no thumb specification	59
4.1	Reaction times for the two versions of the experiment	90
4.2	Reaction times for detection of handshapes in ASL signs	96
4.3	Word–picture interference and facilitation	99
4.4	Comparisons of sign–picture and word–picture interference effects	101
4.5	Results from Experiment 1: Two-shared parameter condition	105
4.6	Results from Experiment 2: Single parameter condition	106
5.1	Levelt's (1989: 9) model of language production	116
5.2	Picture story of the elicitation task	118
5.3	5.3a SEINE [Y-hand]; 5.3b ELTERN [Y-hand]; 5.3c correct: SEINE [B-hand]	119
5.4	5.4a substitution: VA(TER); 5.4b conduite: SOHN; 5.4c target/correction: BUB	122
5.5	5.5a VATER [B-hand]; 5.5b slip: MOTHER [B-hand]; 5.5c correct: MOTHER [G-hand]	123
5.6	5.6a MANN [forehead]; 5.6b slip: FRAU [forehead]; 5.6c correct: FRAU [breast]	124
5.7	5.7a slip: HEIRAT/HOCHZEIT; 5.7b correction: HEIRAT; 5.7c correct: HOCHZEIT	126

5.8	A polymorphemic form in ASL (Brentari 1998:21)	130
6.1	6.1a The SEE 2 sign -ING; 6.1b The SEE 2 sign -MENT	149
6.2	The SEE 2 sign -S	150
6.3	Three forms of the ASL sign IMPROVE: 6.3a the citation form; 6.3b the form inflected for continuative aspect; 6.3c a derived noun	152
6.4	The SEE 2 signs: 6.4a IMPROVING; 6.4b IMPROVEMENT	153
6.5	The SEE 2 sign KNOWING: 6.5a prior to assimilation; 6.5b after assimilation	155
7.1	Video stills of speaker telling the story of a cartoon he has just watched	181
7.2	Illustration of (2)	183
7.3	Illustration of (3)	184
7.4	Spectrogram of English utterance with gestural intonation	192
7.5	Spectrogram of Chinese utterance with neutral intonation	193
7.6	Spectrogram of Chinese utterance with gestural intonation	194
8.1	8.1a 1855 LSF PARTIR ('to leave'); 8.1b 1855 LSF FUTUR ('future') (Brouland 1855); 8.1c 1913 ASL FUTURE (McGregor, in 1997 Sign Media Inc.); 8.1d Modern ASL FUTURE (Humphries <i>et al.</i> 1980)	204
8.2	On se tire ('go') (Wylie 1977)	206
8.3	8.3a 1855 LSF POUVOIR (Brouland 1855); 8.3b 1913 ASL CAN (Hotchkiss in 1997 Sign Media Inc.); 8.3c Modern ASL CAN (Humphries <i>et al.</i> 1980)	209
8.4	8.4a 1855 LSF IL-FAUT ('it is necessary') (Brouland 1855); 8.4b 1913 ASL OWE (Hotchkiss in 1997 Sign Media Inc.); 8.4c Modern ASL MUST (Humphries <i>et al.</i> 1980)	211
9.1	Decision tree for classification of sign tokens in corpus	227
10.1	ASL verb agreement: 10.1a 'I ask her'; 10.1b 'He asks me'	246
10.2	Verb agreement template (after Sandler 1989)	247
11.1	Five-level conception of grammar	265
12.1	INDEX _{det i}	298
12.2	'That man eats rice'	299
12.3	'Those men are reading'	300
12.4	12.4a ONE _{det/num} ; 12.4b ONE _{num}	301
12.5	'A female stole a dog'	302
12.6	12.6a–b ONE _{det-path} ; 12.6c PERSON	304
12.7	12.7a POSS _{det i} ; 12.7b POSS _{neu}	306
12.8	'That dog is his'	307
13.1	ASL signing space as used for pronominal reference	334
13.2	Continuum of referential specificity	345
14.1	ASK 'You ask me' in ASL	374

14.2	'You ask me' in DGS, NS, and Auslan	375
14.3	An adaptation of Jackendoff's (1992) model	387
14.4	Making the conceptualization of referents visible	389
14.5	Affixation in spoken languages	394
14.6	Readjustment in signed languages	395
15.1	Illustration of ASL descriptions of the location of a table within a room	406
15.2	Illustration of a speaker: 15.2a Using shared space; 15.2b Using the addressee's spatial viewpoint to indicate the location of the box marked with an "X"	408
15.3	Map of the town (from Tversky and Taylor 1992)	413
15.4	Illustration: 15.4a of reversed space; 15.4b of mirrored space; 15.4c of two examples of the use of shared space for non-present referents	415
16.1	Assessments of comprehension across BSL grammar tests: Christopher and mean comparator scores	432
16.2	'(He) asks (her)'	433
16.3	*'I like (her)'	434
17.1	Total use of indexation by each subject	455

Tables

1.1	Non-effects of modality: Some shared properties between signed and spoken languages	<i>page 2</i>
1.2	Possible sources of modality effects on linguistic structure	6
1.3	Some properties of the articulators	7
1.4	Some properties of the sensory and perceptual systems subserving sign vs. speech	10
1.5	Possible outcomes of studies of modality effects	13
2.1	Differences between vision and audition	37
2.2	Traditional “parameters” in sign language phonological structure and one representative feature	38
2.3	Canonical word shape according to the number of syllables and morphemes per word	57
3.1	Words: Irregular and rhythmic repetition as percentages of all repetition	70
3.2	Signs: Irregular and rhythmic repetition as percentages of all repetition	71
4.1	Instruction to subjects: “Press the button when you see a ‘1’ handshake”	95
5.1	DGS slip categories, cross-classified with affected entity	120
5.2	Frequency of phonological errors by parameter in ASL and in DGS	127
5.3	Slip categories/affected entities for the German slip corpus	128
5.4	Locus of repair (number and percentage) in DGS vs. Dutch	136
9.1	Summary of similarly-articulated signs for the three crosslinguistic studies	229
11.1	Negation: A comparative chart	284
13.1	English personal pronouns (nominative case)	331
13.2	Asheninca personal pronouns	331
13.3	Nagala personal pronouns	332
13.4	Nogogu personal pronouns	332
13.5	Aranda personal pronouns	333
13.6	ASL personal pronouns	335

13.7	Person distinctions across signed languages	339
13.8	Number distinctions across signed languages	340
13.9	Gender distinctions across signed languages	340
13.10	Possible analogously structured system of pronominal reference	343
13.11	English demonstrative pronouns	346
13.12	Quechua demonstrative pronouns	347
13.13	Pangasinan demonstrative pronouns	347
13.14	Khasi demonstrative pronouns	348
13.15	Lak demonstrative base forms	348
13.16	Lak personal pronouns	349
13.17	Bella Bella third person pronouns	349
14.1	Null agreement system: Yoruba and Japanese	371
14.2	Weak agreement system: Brazilian Portuguese and English	372
14.3	Strong agreement system: Spanish and German	373
14.4	Verb classes according to the phonological manifestation of agreement	376
14.5	Verb types according to whether they accept (in)animate arguments	381
15.1	Properties associated with spatial formats in ASL	411
16.1	Christopher's performance in five nonverbal (performance) intelligence tests	425
16.2	Christopher's performance in two face recognition tests	426
16.3	Test of identification of iconic vs. semi-iconic and non-iconic signs	430
16.4	Use of negation markers across learning period: Types, tokens, and ungrammatical use	433
17.1	Narrative and subject order for data collection	450
17.2	Signed narratives: Length (in seconds) and number of signs	451
17.3	Use of indexation in the narratives	454
17.4	The use of proper names realized by fingerspelling the name of the character being referred to	456
17.5	The use of GIRL and SHE by DB2	457
17.6	English features in each narrative	458