

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page ix</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>	xvii
<i>Foreword by Richard L. Lewis</i>	xx
<i>Preface</i>	xxiii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xxiv
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Working Memory in Theories of Sentence Comprehension	2
1.2 Prediction in Sentence Processing	6
1.3 Working Memory and Prediction as Explanations for Processing Difficulty	7
1.4 Current Beliefs about Constraints on Sentence Comprehension	7
1.5 Some Gaps in the Sentence Processing Literature	8
1.5.1 The Relative Scarcity of Computationally Implemented Models	8
1.5.2 A Focus on Average Behaviour and Neglect of Individual-Level Differences	10
1.5.3 The Absence of High-Precision Studies	11
1.5.4 Unclear Desiderata for a Good Model Fit	11
1.6 The Goals of This Book	16
1.6.1 Providing Open Source Model Code	17
1.6.2 Modelling Average Effects as Well as Individual Differences	17
1.6.3 Developing a Set of Modelling and Empirical Benchmarks for Future Model Comparison	18
1.7 Looking Ahead	19
2 Dependencies in Sentence Comprehension	21
2.1 Memory Processes in Sentence Comprehension	21
2.2 Dependency Completion in Sentence Processing	23
2.3 Subject-Verb Non-Agreement Dependencies	26
2.4 Subject-Verb Number Agreement	31
2.5 Reflexives and Reciprocals	38
2.5.1 Individual-Level Effects in the Dillon et al. Design	44
2.5.2 A Sensitivity Analysis on the Ungrammatical Agreement and Reflexives Conditions Using Informative Priors	44
2.6 Concluding Remarks	47
3 The Core ACT-R-Based Model of Retrieval Processes	49
3.1 ACT-R	49
3.2 The Lewis and Vasishth (2005) Model	52
3.2.1 A Priori Predictions of the Model	54
	v

vi	Contents	
	3.2.2 Comparison of the LV05 Prediction Space with the Results of the Jäger et al. Meta-analysis	60
	3.3 A More Principled Approach to Parameter Estimation	63
	3.3.1 Bayesian Parameter Estimation	64
	3.3.2 Approximate Bayesian Computation	66
	3.4 Concluding Remarks	69
4	An Extension of the Core Model: Modelling Prominence and Multi-associative Cues	71
	4.1 Incorporating Prominence and Multi-associative Cues	72
	4.1.1 Item Prominence	74
	4.1.2 Multi-associative Cues	84
	4.1.3 Implementation of Item Prominence and Multi-associative Cues	89
	4.1.4 Multi-associative Cues	90
	4.1.5 Prominence	93
	4.2 A Simulation of the Meta-analysis Studies	94
	4.2.1 Data	95
	4.2.2 Method	95
	4.2.3 Results	98
	4.3 Discussion	103
	4.3.1 Distractor Prominence	107
	4.3.2 Multi-associative Cues	108
	Appendices	
	4.A Key Terms and Concepts	111
	4.B List of Experiments Included in the Simulations	113
	4.C Model Specifications	114
5	An Extension of the Core Model: Modelling the Interaction of Eye-Movement Control and Parsing	116
	5.1 The EMMA/ACT-R Reading Model	118
	5.2 Replication of Salvucci (2001)	119
	5.2.1 Data	119
	5.2.2 Model	120
	5.2.3 Analysis	120
	5.2.4 Results	122
	5.2.5 Discussion	122
	5.3 The Extended EMMA/ACT-R Model	122
	5.3.1 Surprisal	124
	5.4 Simulations on the Potsdam Sentence Corpus	125
	5.4.1 Data	126
	5.4.2 Model	127
	5.4.3 Results	128
	5.4.4 Discussion	131
	5.5 General Discussion	132
	5.5.1 Comparison with E-Z Reader	132
	5.5.2 Future Prospects	134

Contents	vii
Appendices	
5.A Root-Mean-Square Deviation	136
5.B Linear Regression Analysis	136
6 Reanalysis and Underspecification in Sentence Comprehension: Modelling Eye Movements	140
6.1 Introduction	140
6.2 Modelling Reanalysis: Memory and Expectation Processes in Parsing	141
6.2.1 Memory and Expectation in Relative Clauses	141
6.2.2 Simulation: Modelling the Staub (2010) Data	143
6.2.3 Results	144
6.2.4 Discussion	145
6.3 Modelling Underspecification: The Adaptive Interaction between Parsing, Eye-Movement Control, and Working Memory Capacity	148
6.3.1 Good-Enough Parsing	148
6.3.2 Simulation: Modelling the von der Malsburg and Vasishth (2013) Experiment	153
6.3.3 Results	154
6.3.4 Discussion	157
6.4 General Discussion	160
7 Competing Accounts of Interference in Sentence Processing	161
7.1 The Direct-Access Model	161
7.2 Comparing the Predictive Performance of the Models	164
7.2.1 Inhibitory Interference	164
7.2.2 Relative Clauses in Chinese	167
7.2.3 Discussion	170
7.3 Encoding Interference in Agreement Attraction	171
7.3.1 An Evaluation of the Nairne Proposal	173
7.3.2 Model Comparison	174
7.3.3 Discussion	175
7.4 Summary	176
8 Modelling Sentence Comprehension Deficits in Aphasia	178
8.1 Theories and Models of Sentence Comprehension Deficits	178
8.1.1 Timing Deficit	179
8.1.2 Reduction in Memory	180
8.1.3 Intermittent Deficiency	181
8.1.4 Weakened Syntax	182
8.1.5 Slow Syntax	183
8.1.6 Lexical Integration Deficit	184
8.1.7 Lexical Access Deficits	184
8.1.8 A Comparison of Theories of Impaired Processing, and Their Relation to Theories of Unimpaired Processing	185
8.2 Modelling Individual-Level Differences	187
8.2.1 Mapping ACT-R Parameters to Sources of Deficits	189
8.2.2 Simulations	191
8.2.3 Results	192
8.2.4 Discussion	195

viii	Contents	
	8.3 Competing Models of Retrieval in Aphasia	197
	8.3.1 Materials	197
	8.3.2 Results and Discussion	198
	8.4 Concluding Remarks	198
9	Future Directions	200
	9.1 Developing Implemented Computational Models	200
	9.2 An Excessive Focus on Average Behaviour	200
	9.3 Creating Higher-Precision Benchmark Data-Sets for Model Evaluation and Comparison	201
	9.4 Developing Better Criteria for Evaluating Model Fit	202
	9.5 In Closing	202
	<i>Bibliography</i>	203
	<i>Index</i>	221