

Dr. MacKay's published research combines human experimentation with theoretical analysis in the areas of neuropsychology, psycholinguistics and cognitive psychology, especially language comprehension as revealed by studies of ambiguity and very short term memory, language production as revealed by studies of naturally occurring and experimentally induced speech errors, encoding under time pressure, and relations between language perception and production, together with relations between language and other aspects of cognition such as everyday actions, and sequencing and timing in skilled behavior.

Memory and Language

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2. MacKay, D.G. (1982). The problem of flexibility, fluency and speed-accuracy trade-off in skilled behavior. Psychological Review, 89(5), 483-506. (24)
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5. MacKay, D.G., & Miller, M.D. (1994). Semantic blindness: Repeated concepts are difficult to encode and recall under time pressure. Psychological Science, 5, 52-55. (4)
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11. MacKay, D.G., Burke, D.M., & Stewart, R. (1998). H.M. revisited: Relations between language comprehension, memory, and the hippocampal system. Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, 10, 377-394.
12. MacKay, D.G., and James, L.E. (2001). The binding problem for syntax, semantics, and prosody: H.M.'s selective sentence-reading deficits under the theoretical-syndrome approach. Language and Cognitive Processes, 16, 419-460.
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15. James, L.E. & MacKay, D.G. (2001). H.M., Word knowledge and aging: Support for a new theory of long-term retrograde amnesia. Psychological Science, 12, 485-492.

16. MacKay, D.G., & James, L.E. (2001). The binding problem for syntax, semantics, and prosody: H.M.'s selective sentence-reading deficits under the theoretical-syndrome approach. Language and Cognitive Processes, in press.
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19. MacKay, D.G., Shafto, M., Jennifer K. Taylor, Diane E. Marion, Abrams, L., & Dyer, J. (2002). New Dimensions for Theories of Emotion, Memory and Attention: The Taboo Stroop and Related Effects. Manuscript under Review.
20. MacKay, D. G. & James, L.E. (2002). Selective Effects of Aging on Morphological and Phonological Speech Errors: Support for the Transmission Deficit hypothesis. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Language Comprehension: Syntax and Semantics

1. MacKay, D.G. (1966). To end ambiguous sentences. Perception and Psychophysics, 1, 426-436.
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Cognitive Skills

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Language Production

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Relations between Language Perception and Production

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Language and Other Cognitive Processes: Thought, Metaphor, Emotion, Visual Cognition

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Professional Background

Dr. MacKay received his PhD in psychology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his BA from the University of Toronto. From 1967 to the present, he has taught psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles where he was chair of the Cognitive Area from 1989-1991.

Academic History

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ph.D., 1967
