

BÁLINT FORGÁCS

Fyssen postdoctoral fellow

Université Paris Descartes, Laboratoire Psychologie de la Perception (LPP)

45, rue des Saints-Pères, 75006 Paris, France

+33 7 83 43 34 03

balint.forgacs@parisdescartes.fr

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/balintforgacs>

Education & academic background

2008-2014

Ph. D. in Psycholinguistics

Supervisor: Professor Csaba Pléh

Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME)

Department of Cognitive Science

www.cogsci.bme.hu/eng

2002-2008

MA in Psychology

ELTE University of Sciences, Faculty of Education and Psychology

<http://www.eng.ppk.elte.hu>

Fulbright Scholarship: Visiting student researcher at the Kutas Lab, University of California, San Diego (UCSD), USA, September 2011 – March 2012

DAAD Scholarship: Visiting student researcher at the Berlin School of Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and at the DINE lab, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, Sept. 2010 – Dec. 2010 (extended to April 2011 by the FU Berlin)

Symposium organization: “Interpreting agency and intentionality in typical and atypical development” at the XXIIIrd Annual Meeting of the Hungarian Psychological Association, Marosvásárhely / Targu Mures, Romania, 15-17th May, 2014

Marie Curie fMRI master class by Professor Marty Sereno and Dr. Fred Dick at Birkbeck/BUCNI, University College London, UK, 4-6th December, 2013

Experimental pragmatics master class of the Euro XPrag group by Professors Jesse Snedeker & Dan Grodner at University College London, UK, 28-29th May, 2013

Master class of Professor Dan Sperber “Communication, culture, and cognition” at the Institute Jean Nicod, Paris, France, 10-11th December, 2012

Research interests

Cognitive neuroscience, language acquisition, developmental experimental pragmatics, social cognition, conceptual development, metaphor comprehension, neuroscience of figurative language, right hemispherical language functions, EEG, fMRI, eye-tracking

Prominent publication: Forgács, B., Bardolph, M., Amsel, B. D., DeLong, K. A., & Kutas, M. (2015). Metaphors are physical and abstract: ERPs to metaphorically modified nouns resemble ERPs to abstract language. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, 9(28).

Research experience

Since Jan. 2017

Postdoctoral fellow, funded by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA)

Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE), Budapest, Hungary
Department of Cognitive Psychology

Supervisor: Prof. Ildikó Király

Research area: Neural mechanisms of early language abilities and Theory of Mind capacities in infancy, developmental experimental pragmatics, electroencephalography (EEG)

Nov. 2014 – Dec 2016

Postdoctoral fellow, funded by the Fyssen Foundation

Université Paris Descartes, France

Laboratoire Psychologie de la Perception (LPP)

<http://lpp.psych.univ-paris5.fr>

Supervisor: Judit Gervain, PhD

Research areas: Infant language comprehension and Theory of Mind functions investigated using (EEG) & functional near infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS)

Dec. 2012 – Nov. 2014

Postdoctoral fellow

Central European University (CEU), Budapest, Hungary

Cognitive Development Center (CDC)

<https://cognitivescience.ceu.hu/cogdev>

Supervisor: Professor György Gergely

Research areas: Contingency detection in early infancy (using eye-tracking), and developmental experimental pragmatics (using EEG)

Sept-Dec. 2012

Research Assistant

Central European University (CEU), Budapest, Hungary

Cognitive Developmental Center (CDC)

<https://cognitivescience.ceu.hu/cogdev>

Sept. 2011 – Mar. 2012

Fulbright visiting student researcher

Kutas Lab, University of California, San Diego (UCSD), USA

<http://kutaslab.ucsd.edu>

Supervisor: Professor Marta Kutas

Research area: Metaphor comprehension using event-related potentials (ERPs)

Sept. 2010 – Apr. 2011 DAAD visiting student researcher at the Berlin School of Mind and Brain, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin & the DINE lab, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
Funded by Freie Universität Berlin between January-April 2011
<http://www.ewi-psy.fu-berlin.de/en/einrichtungen/arbeitsbereiche/allgpsy/index.html>

Supervisor: Professor Arthur M. Jacobs
Research area: Metaphor comprehension using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI)

Teaching & administrative experience

2013-2014 Teaching the language related sections of an introduction to cognitive science doctoral course at the CEU

2009-2010 Organizer at the DUCOG (Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science: http://www.cecog.eu/ducog/page_home_03.php)

Sept. 2008 – Apr. 2011 Teaching and administrative activities during PhD studies

- BME: teaching and evaluating two courses of 120 students including all administrative responsibilities; regular substitution in English language; supervision of BA theses from formulation to evaluation.
- Freie Universität Berlin: teaching a psycholinguistics seminar together with my host, Professor Arthur M. Jacobs.

Mar. 2006 – Nov. 2006 TOEIC Language Exam Assistant
Institute of International Education (IIE) – European Office
www.iie.eu

Internship position in the TOEIC English language exam program at IIE's European office. Responsibilities included the management of relations with a broad range of international partners; promotion, preparation and supervision of TOEIC exams; maintenance of large-scale digital and paper based databases.

Reviewer for

Memory & Cognition
Brain & Language
Frontiers in Human Neuroscience
Frontiers in Psychology
Language, Cognition and Neuroscience
American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology

Languages

Hungarian – native language
English – C2 academic level in writing and speaking
German – B1 level in writing and speaking
French – B1 level in writing and speaking

Programming and software skills

Matlab, Python, SPSS, JMP, Presentation, E-Prime; Adobe Photoshop & Premier Pro

Non-professional activities

I play the clarinet and like to play soccer.

I was involved in preserving the socialist neon advertisement relics of Budapest.

List of publications

Peer reviewed, impact factor papers

Forgács, B., Bardolph, M., Amsel, B. D., DeLong, K. A., & Kutas, M. (2015). Metaphors are physical and abstract: ERPs to metaphorically modified nouns resemble ERPs to abstract language. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, 9(28).

DOI:10.3389/fnhum.2015.00028

Forgács, B., Lukács, Á., & Pléh, Cs. (2014). Lateralized processing of novel metaphors: disentangling figurativeness and novelty. *Neuropsychologia*, 56, 101-109.

DOI:10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2014.01.003

Forgács, B., Bohrn, I., Baudewig, J., Hofmann, M. J., Pléh, Cs., & Jacobs, A. M. (2012). Neural correlates of combinatorial semantic processing of literal and figurative noun compound words. *Neuroimage*, 63(3), 1432-1442.

DOI:10.1016/j.neuroimage.2012.07.029

Peer-reviewed, non-impact factor papers, book chapters, book reviews, etc.

Pléh, Cs., Forgács, B., & Fekete, I. (2017). Nemi sztereotípiák hatásai magyar egyetemistáknál: egy empirikus elővizsgálat adatai. In: M. Kovács (Ed.), *Társadalmi nemek* (pp. 103-115). Budapest: ELTE Eötvös Kiadó.

Forgács, B. (2016). Book Review: Réka Szabó: *Metaforák és szimbólumok*. Oriold és Társai, Budapest, 2015 (In Hungarian). *Magyar Tudomány*, 177(5), 636-639.

Forgács, B. (2015). The metaphors of cognitive science and the brain (In Hungarian). *Hungarian Psychological Review*, 70(2), 395-404. DOI: 10.1556/0016.2015.70.2.6.

Forgács, B. (2015). Book Review: Csaba Pléh, Ágnes Lukács (eds.): *Pszicholingvisztika 1-2*. Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 2014 (In Hungarian). *Magyar Tudomány*, 176(6), 763-765.

Forgács, B. (2014). *Figures of Language in Cognitive Science in the Light of Figurative Language Processing in the Brain*. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Budapest. Available from:

http://www.cogsci.bme.hu/~ktkuser/PHD_iskola/dissertations/20140630_Forgacs_Balin/ertekezes.pdf

- Forgács, B. (2013). Brain and cognition in figurative language processing (In Hungarian). In: Pléh, Cs. (Ed.), *General Linguistics Studies XXV* (pp. 383-410). Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó.
- Forgács, B. (2013). The right hemisphere of cognitive science. In: Cs. Pléh, L. Gurova, and L. Ropolyi (Eds.), *New Perspectives on the History of Cognitive Science* (pp. 129-141). Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó.
- Forgács, B. (2010). Book Review: Jerry A. Fodor: LOT 2: The Language of Thought Revisited, Oxford University Press US, 2008 (In Hungarian). *Hungarian Psychological Review*, 65(3), 555-563. DOI: 10.1556/MPSzle.65.2010.3.5
- Forgács, B. (2009). Verbal metacommunication – Why a metaphorical mapping can be relevant? (In Hungarian) *Hungarian Psychological Review*, 64(3), 593-605. DOI:10.1556/MPSzle.64.2009.3.8
- Forgács, B. (2009). Book Review: Tamás Demeter: Mentális fikcionalizmus. Gondolat Kiadó, Budapest, 2008 (In Hungarian). *Hungarian Psychological Review*, 64(4), 753–763. DOI: 10.1556/MPSzle.64.2009.4.7

Invited & conference talks

- Forgács, B. (2016). *Babies' understanding of understanding: ERPs at the intersection of social cognition & language comprehension*. Invited talk at the Cognitive Psychology Department of Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE), Budapest, Hungary, 14th Sept.
- Forgács, B. (2016). *Figures of Speech in the Brain: The Role of Metaphoricity, Familiarity, Concreteness, and Lateralization in Language Comprehension*. Invited talk at the Brain & Language Research Institute (BLRI), LPL - CNRS & Université d'Aix-Marseille (BLRI), Aix-en-Provence, France, 9th December.
- Forgács, B. (2015). *What is the "point" in figures of speech? New perspectives on the neuroscience of metaphor*. Invited talk at the L2C2 CNRS Université Lyon 1 UMR5304 - Institut des Sciences Cognitives, Lyon, France, 19th May.
- Forgács, B. (2013). *Talkative ERPs – Abstract or Concrete is the Metaphor?* Invited talk at the Psychological Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, 8th March.
- Forgács, B., Parise, E., Csibra, G., & Gervain, J. (2016). *Baby steps in pragmatic inferences: neural markers of comprehending others*. Paper presented at the XPrag Berlin "Workshop on the role of pragmatic factors in child language processing". Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany, May 19-20.
- Forgács, B., Téglás E., Frankenhuis, W. E., Watson, J. S., & Gergely, Gy. (2014). *Early sensitivity to social contingencies in infancy* (In Hungarian). Paper presented at the XXIIIrd Annual Meeting of the Hungarian Psychological Association. Marosvásárhely / Targu Mures, Romania, May 15-17.

- Forgács, B., Bardolph, M. D., Amsel, B. D., DeLong, K. A., & Kutas, M. (2013). *ERPs Talk: Are Metaphors Abstract or Concrete?* Paper presented at ESCOP (18th Meeting of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology). Budapest, Hungary, August 29 - September 1.
- Forgács, B. (2012). *How embodied are metaphors?* Paper presented at the conference “The embodied foundation of human communicative skills”. University of Copenhagen, Faculty of the Humanities, Denmark, November 21-23.
- Forgács, B., Bohrn, I., Baudewig, J., Hofmann, M. J., Pléh, Cs., & Jacobs, A. M. (2012). *Which hemisphere is the right one for metaphor comprehension? The right hemisphere theory of metaphor brought into question by neuroimaging results.* Paper presented at UK-CLC (4th UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference). London, England, United Kingdom, July 10-12.
- Forgács, B. (2010). *Is it really semantic distance that turns the right hemisphere on?* Paper presented at RaAM (8th International Conference on Researching and Applying Metaphor). Amsterdam, The Netherlands, June 30 - July 3.
- Forgács, B. (2010). *The crosstalk of psychology's metaphors* (In Hungarian). Paper presented at the XIXth Annual Meeting of the Hungarian Psychological Association. Pécs, Hungary, May 27-29.
- Forgács, B. (2009). *The Right Hemisphere of Cognitive Science.* Paper presented at ICHST (XXIII International Congress of History of Science and Technology). Budapest, Hungary, July 28 - August 2.
- Forgács, B. (2009). *A neural perspective on the history of psychology: do shifts of approach reflect shifts of neural dispositions?* Paper presented at ESHHS (28th Annual Conference of European Society of the History of Human Sciences). Budapest, Hungary, July 21-25.

Conference poster presentations

- Forgács, B., Parise, E., Csibra, G., & Gervain, J. (2016). *Understanding others' (mis)understanding by 14-month-olds.* Poster presented at ICIS 2016 (International Conference on Infant Studies). New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, May 26-28.
- Forgács, B., Parise, E., Csibra, G., & Gervain, J. (2016). *The role of Theory of Mind functions in language comprehension in infancy.* Poster presented at DUCOG (VIII Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science). Dubrovnik, Croatia, April 28 - May 1.
- Forgács, B., Parise, E., Csibra, G., & Gervain, J. (2016). *Can a False Belief evoke an N400?* Poster presented at BCCCD 2016 (Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development). Budapest, Hungary, January 7-9.
- Forgács, B., Parise, E., & Csibra, G. (2015). *The unsmart infant: language comprehension depends on contextual and situational cues in 9-month-old infants.* Poster presented at

- DUCOG (VII Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science). Dubrovnik, Croatia, May 21-23.
- Forgács, B., Csibra, G., & Gergely, Gy. (2015). *Electrophysiological indicators of word recognition of 9-month-old infants*. Poster presented at BCCCD 2015 (Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development). Budapest, Hungary, January 8-10.
- Forgács, B., Téglás E., Frankenhuys, W. E., Watson, J. S., & Gergely, Gy. (2014). *Infants' detection of perfectly and socially contingent reactivity*. Poster presented at DUCOG (VI Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science). Dubrovnik, Croatia, May 22-24.
- Forgács, B., Téglás E., Frankenhuys, W. E., Watson, J. S., & Gergely, Gy. (2014). *Perception of social contingency in early infancy*. Poster presented at BCCCD 2014 (Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development). Budapest, Hungary, January 9-11.
- Bardolph, M. D., Forgács, B., DeLong, K. A., Amsel, B. D., & Kutas, M. (2013). *Metaphor and Concreteness: an ERP Study*. Poster presented at CNS (The 20th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society). San Francisco, California, USA, April 13-16.
- Forgács, B., Bohrn, I., Pléh, Cs., Jacobs, A. M. (2011). *Long distances within single words: bridging the metaphor gap*. Poster presented at the workshop "Processing and appreciating creative figurative language". Heidelberg University, Germany, May 11-12.
- Forgács, B. (2010). *Metaphors in conversations: a conceptual or a pragmatic trick?* Poster presented at DUCOG (2nd Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science). Dubrovnik, Croatia, May 6-9.
- Forgács, B. (2009). *Scientific and Everyday Metaphors of Psychology*. Poster presented at DUCOG (1st Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science). Dubrovnik, Croatia, May 22-24.