

Spreading Activation, Lexical Priming and the Semantic Web

Michael Pace-Sigge

Spreading Activation, Lexical Priming and the Semantic Web

Early Psycholinguistic Theories, Corpus
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Michael Pace-Sigge
Department of English Language
and Culture
University of Eastern Finland
Joensuu, Finland

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To Mr. "Hops" van Carrot, in memory.

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Languages are complex, random, contingent biological processes that are subject to the whims of evolution and cultural change. What constitutes a language is not an eternal ideal form, represented by the settings of a small number of parameters, but rather is the contingent outcome of complex processes. Since they are contingent, it seems they can only be analyzed with probabilistic models. Since people have to continually understand the uncertain, ambiguous, noisy speech of others, it seems they must be using something like probabilistic reasoning (Norvig 2011).