Viktor Kewenig

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Education

University College London   2020 – 2024
PhD Cognitive Neuroscience, Leverhulme Doctoral Training Programme
Thesis: Natural Language Comprehension in Humans and Multimodal Computational Models

University College London   2019 – 2020
MPhil, Cognitive Neuroscience
Focus: Naturalistic Language Processing

University College London   2018 – 2019
MSc, Cognitive and Decision Sciences
Focus: Multimodal Communication

University of Cambridge, Fitzwilliam College   2014 – 2017
BA, Philosophy
Focus: Logic, Philosophy of Mind, & Philosophy of Science

Research Positions

Microsoft Research Europe Cambridge   2023 – present
Researcher (part-time)
Collaborative Intelligence Lab

University of Oxford   2018
Research Assistant
Prof. Zeldin

Free University Berlin   2018
Research Assistant
Prof. Pulvermüller

University of Potsdam   2017 – 2018
Research Assistant
Prof. Fischer

Heurolabs (Blue Factory ESCP Europe)   2015 – 2017
Researcher
Honda Research Europe

Current Research

Metacognitive Interventions for Efficient Prompting of Generative AI Systems
Building a metacognitive interface for improving generative AI interaction modes.

Evolving Norms Around the Use of Generative AI in Higher Education
Qualitative study on the changing perceptions and ethical considerations surrounding AI usage in academic settings.

Effect of LLMs vs. Note Taking on Memory and Comprehension in A-Level History Students
Comparing the impact of AI-assisted learning and traditional note-taking on student retention and understanding.

Fine-tuning CLIP for Concrete and Abstract Word Ratings
Adapting an emotionally finetuned CLIP to automate abstract and concrete word ratings

Encoding and Decoding Brain Activation During Naturalistic Story Listening with Unimodal and Multimodal Large Language Models: A Comparison
Comparing the performance of unimodal and multimodal large language models in predicting brain activation patterns and reconstructing semantic content during story listening.

Publications

Tankelevitch, L.*, **Kewenig, V.***, Simkute, A., Scott, E.A., Sarkar, A., Sellen, A., Rintel, S. (2024)
"The Metacognitive Demands and Opportunities of Generative AI." *Proceedings of CHI. Best paper award.*
`https://doi.org/10.1145/3613904.3642902`

Simkute, A., Tankelevitch, L., **Kewenig, V.**, Scott, A.E., Sellen, A., Rintel, S. (2024)
"Ironies of Generative AI: Understanding and mitigating productivity loss in human-AI interactions." *arXiv preprint, Accepted at International Journal of Human–Computer Interaction* `https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.11364`

Kewenig, V.*, Lampinen, A., Nastase, S., Edwards, C., D'Estelanx, Q.L., Rechardt, A., Vigliocco, G., Skipper, J. (2023)
"Multimodality and Attention Increase Alignment in Natural Language Prediction Between Humans and Computational Models." *arXiv.* `https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.09.08.506944` *Under Review*

Aliko, S., Wang, B., **Kewenig, V.**, Small, S.L., Skipper, J. (2023)
"The entire brain, more or less is at work: 'Language regions' are artefacts of averaging." *bioRxiv.* `https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.09.01.555886` *Under Review at Nature*

Vigliocco, G., Conventino, L., De Felice, S., Gregorians, L., **Kewenig, V.**, Musolesi, M., Hudson-Smith, A., Tyler, N., Fluori, E., Spiers, H. (2023)
"The Ecological Brain: Reframing the Study of Human Behaviour and Cognition." *Accepted at Royal Society Open Science*

Kewenig, V.*, Vigliocco, G., Skipper, J. (2022)
"When abstract becomes concrete: naturalistic encoding of concepts in the brain." *bioRxiv.* `https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.09.08.506944` *Accepted at Elife*

Motamedi, Y.*, Murgiano, M.*, **Kewenig, V.***, Grzyb, B., Gu, Y., Brieke, Marshall, C., Wonnacott, E., Perniss, P., Vigliocco, G. (2022)
"More than Words: Caregivers Selectively Use Iconic and Indexical Cues in Communication with Children." *Published in Child Development*

Kewenig, V.* (2019)
"Intentionality But Not Consciousness: Re-Considering Robot-Love." *AI Love You*, eds. Fischer, Zhou. ISBN: 978-3-030-19734-6

Kewenig, V.*, Zhou, Y., Fisher, M. (2018)
"Robots As Intentional Agents: Using Neuroscientific Methods To Make Robots Appear More Social." *Published in Frontiers Psychology* `https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.01131`

Kewenig, V.*, Sayed, M. (2016)
"AI Safety: Comments, Questions and Concerns." `https://heurolabs.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/AIS/overview`

Awards

Best Paper, CHI (2024)

Accelerate Foundation Models Research, Microsoft (2024)

SMLS Award, UCL Life and Medical Sciences Conference Fund (2022)

Merit Award, Society for the Neurobiology of Language (2022)

Dean's List, Top 5% Performing Students, UCL Brain-Sciences Faculty (2019)

Full Funding for MPhil and MSc, German Academic Scholarship Foundation (2018, 2019)

Full Funding for BA, German Academic Scholarship Foundation (2014)