

**Title:**

Nominal features in language production: The case of gender and classifier processing

**Abstract:**

When people talk to each other, speakers translate their thoughts into words and utter these words in a grammatically correct form and order. In many languages, words agree with each other on several dimensions, such as number, case, and gender, through agreement features. How do speakers achieve agreement in language production? Morphosyntactic features, such as grammatical number, case, gender, or classifiers have become an area of psycho- and neurolinguistic investigation that has generated much interest. In this talk, I will focus on behavioral, electrophysiological and neuroimaging studies on the processing of gender and classifiers in language production. I will first introduce the most widely accepted views on language production, including the activation, selection, retrieval and encoding of linguistic units from the mental lexicon. Then I will review several classic studies on gender processing and extend this overview with more recent work on classifiers, cross-linguistic evidence, and processing of morphosyntactic features in L2 language production. I will conclude by summarizing the results and interpret their importance for language production models.