



## CBS Research Seminar

# Crosslinguistic Interplay and Cognitive Reserve in Bilinguals

Date: 31 Jan 2024 (Wed)  
Time: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm (HKT)  
Venue: Online via Zoom

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Presented by

**Dr Andriy MYACHYKOV**

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### Abstract:

The mechanisms underlying second language learning and use remain at the centre of research in psychology, linguistics, and neuroscience. On the one hand, research continues to elucidate the interplay between the co-existing linguistic codes in a bilingual mind. On the other hand, it has been shown that speaking more than one language leads to potential advantages related to cognitive control, memory, and healthy ageing. However, the exact neurocognitive mechanisms of this interplay remain unclear.

My talk will, therefore, have two parts. First, I will present behavioural and neurophysiological data demonstrating a rapid cross-linguistic interplay in bilinguals and, therefore, the notion of a shared storage for L1 and L2 lexicons. Second, I will discuss several studies documenting the effect of L2 proficiency on cognitive control in bilinguals. Most importantly, I will argue that bilingualism, operationalized as a continuous factor, can be viewed as an important contributor among other proxies of neurocognitive reserve - an individual's ability to compensate for age-related neural deterioration and optimize cognitive performance.

### Speaker Bio:

Dr Andriy Myachykov received his PhD in Psychology from University of Glasgow in 2007. His research covers aspects of language comprehension and production, bilingualism, number processing, and embodied approaches to how we acquire, store, and access knowledge representations. At Northumbria, Andriy acts as Deputy Director of Research and Knowledge Exchange as well as the Leader of the Cognition and Neuroscience Research Group. Before Northumbria, Andriy worked at University of Edinburgh, University of Dundee, and University of Glasgow.