



CBS RESEARCH SEMINAR



Friday, 15 Nov, 2024

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM (HKT)

Venue: AG710

Zoom ID: 925 2441 8249

Passcode: 557055



Title: Crosslinguistic Interplay and Cognitive Reserve in Bilinguals

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Abstract: The mechanisms underlying second language learning and use remain at the center 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, the exact neurocognitive mechanisms of this interplay remain unclear.

My talk will, therefore, have two parts. First, I will present behavioral 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.

BIO: Professor 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 knowledge representations. Before University of Macau Andriy worked at Northumbria University Newcastle, University of Edinburgh, University of Dundee, and University of Glasgow.