Rhythms of Speech and Language

This book showcases the current state-of-the-art research on rhythm in speech and language. Decades of study have revealed that bodily rhythms are crucial for producing and understanding speech and language, and for understanding their evolution and variability across populations – not only adults, but also developmental and clinical populations. It is also clear that there is perplexing dimensionality and variability of rhythm within and across languages. The book offers the scientific foundation for harmonizing physiological universality and cultural diversity, fostering collaborative breakthroughs across research domains. Its 47 chapters cover physiology, cognition, and culture, presenting knowledge from neuroscience, cognitive science, psychology, phonetics, and communication research. It is ideal for academics, researchers, and professionals seeking interdisciplinary insights into the essence of human communication. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

Lars Meyer investigates the neurobiology of language. He is a group leader at the Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences in Leipzig, and a researcher at the Clinic for Phoniatrics and Pedaudiology, University Hospital Münster. His doctoral work received the Otto Hahn Medal by the Max Planck Society.

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Published online by Cambridge University Press

Published online by Cambridge University Press

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Physiology, Cognition, Culture

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Published online by Cambridge University Press



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

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www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009295840

DOI: 10.1017/9781009295888

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Open Access funding provided by Max Planck Society.

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009295888

First published 2026

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

A Cataloging-in-Publication data record for this book is available from the Library of Congress

ISBN 978-1-009-29584-0 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-009-29585-7 Paperback

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