

## Contrastive approach of the gesture space of French-speaking area and Spanish-speaking area

Our study deals with the multimodal communication in French and Spanish. It is a contrastive approach, so we analyse the gestures of speakers with a common language, either French or Spanish, but a different culture. For the French language, we compare Metropolitan France speakers and Quebec speakers. As for Spanish, we compare the gestures of speakers from Spain and from Argentina. In order to constitute the corpus, we have recorded television programs. Our study is principally aimed to analyse the gesture-space used and its organisation in relation to prosody. To do so, we will base our research essentially on David McNeill's works following his gestural typology. Several previous works have also been taken into account since we will refer to Cornelia Müller, Fernando Poyatos and Lluís Payrato studies on the analysis of the relationship between gesture and voice amongst Spanish speakers. Concerning the prosodic part, we have taken into account Di Cristo's and Guañella's works on the variation of intonation. Referring to McNeill's work (1992) and to the figure "Division of the gesture space for transcription purposes," from Pedelty (1987), we can refine our study by underlining the gestural movement on the vertical and horizontal axis and comparing these analyses of gesture-space used to the variations of the fundamental frequency and intensity. Therefore, the simultaneous observation of speech, gesture and voice, studied in a comparative analysis of a double context (Metropolitan France/Quebec or Spain/Argentina) allows us to draw up hypothesis on communicative paraverbal and nonverbal strategies which are used by different speakers. Thus, we will try to determine, first in each French- or Spanish-speaking area chosen and next between both languages, in which way these strategies differ or on the contrary converge and eventually to bring out the cross-cultural aspects.