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On the production and perception of syntactical regularities in zebra finches : experimenting with ABBA, ACDC and others

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Curriculum Vitae

- 1980 Born on the 29th of November in Alphen aan den Rijn, the Netherlands
- 1993-1999 VWO, Groene Hart Lyceum, Alphen aan den Rijn
- 1999-2006 MSc Biology, Institute of Biology Leiden (IBL), Leiden University (UL), *cum laude*
Research project on learning-dependent song generalization in zebra finches (*Taeniopygia guttata*), supervised by Machteld Verzijden and Carel ten Cate (Behavioural Biology, IBL, UL)
- 2002-2006 BSc Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences, UL, *cum laude*
Honours Research Project on the influence of competition on the monitoring of internal and external feedback (with EEG), supervised by Katrien van Meel (Developmental and Educational Psychology, FSW, UL)
- 2008-2010 Party leader (one year) and council member for the Young Researchers (two years) in the University Council, the highest body of employee and student representation at Leiden University.
- 2006-2012 PhD project at Behavioural Biology, IBL, UL
Title: On the production and perception of syntactical regularities in zebra finches: Experimenting with ABBA, ACDC and others, supervised by Carel ten Cate (Behavioural Biology, IBL, Leiden University).

During this project I supervised several BSc and MSc students, gave multiple lectures and chaired discussion groups during the Behavioural Biology (IBL) and the Language and Cognition courses (Leiden University Centre for Linguistics, LUCL). I attended and presented posters and/or talks at several conferences: IBAC 2007 in Pavia, Italy; NVG 2007-2010 in Dalfsen, the Netherlands; VCiBM 2008 in St. Andrews, England; IEC 2009 in Rennes, France and Evolang 2010 in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Curriculum vitae

I received funding from LUF to visit Duke University (North Carolina, USA) to collaborate with Rob Lachlan and Sita ter Haar on the zebra finch song database in *Luscinia* (Chapter 2 of this thesis).

Publications

Published

- Van Heijningen CAA**, de Visser J, Zuidema W and ten Cate C. (2009) Simple rules can explain discrimination of putative recursive syntactic structures by a songbird species. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 106 (48), 20538-20543
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- Van Heijningen CAA**, Chen J, van Laatum I, van der Hulst B and ten Cate C. Rule learning by zebra finches in an artificial language learning task: which rule? (Chapter 4 of this thesis)