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**From:** jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 2, 2015 2:02 PM  
**To:** Noam Chomsky  
**Subject:** Re: Re:

you can recognize valerias face in a crowd, and know its=her voice immediately on the phone. I'm not sure if analysis as =pposed to shape recognition ( distance time function) for the face a=d fourier=transform for voice. is rightly considered analysis and parsing. I don'=t think so on another note ,using your right eye and then your=left try to focus for a moment on Valeria's right eye and=then focus on her left.while you are talking to her, . see if=you get different info. the expression "the eyes are the =indows of the soul ", might be wrong, it might only be one eye,=)

On Su=, Aug 2, 2015 at 9:40 AM, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]> wrot=:

The idea of interpreting sensory syst=ms as involving both input and output, and hence presumably accessing a ce=tral system of competence (as distinct from the input-output performance systems) is a very interesting one, particularly =he hints about eyes. I don't see quite how it works, but wor=h pursuing and thinking about.

Very few people I can think of, but w=ll think more.

What sensory systems provide to the b=ain is always interpreted by internal systems, memory included, and the se=sory systems themselves carry out analysis. There's a good deal of detailed work on this, mainly for sound and=vision. Turns out, for example, that chimp auditory system yields so=ething very close to the physical features that enter into the phonologica= systems of human language, but lacking the internal interpretation, for the apes it's noise while for the new=orn infant it's language.

From: jeffrey E. [mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com]  
Sent: Saturday, August 01, 2015 7:33 PM  
To: Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: Re:

is a first step to get a group together of people th=t might add useful insights. . people you respect . though you=might disagree. maybe we pose the question to the group. =C2 re eyes, it seems that each sense should have both a tra=smitter and receiver, . scent. smell., hearing voice. , touch mo=ement, sight -? , I think the eyes transmit info. =C2 my work on placebo showed video did not work, no explanation, =C2 interrogators. use eyes to gauge truthfulness. ( But these are all c=gnitive interpretations of the (internal) output of the visual system. , -- not su=e what input is not- a cognitive interpretation.? why I like t=e music work is that our brain must first deconstruct the chords. Fo=rier transform , or something like, it. then have a memory to know whether the next two or three notes follow grammatic=llly from the past few.

On Sat, Aug 1, 2015 at 6:30 PM, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]> w=ote:

Been on the road all day from the Cap= to Cambridge. Along with every other car in Mass.

Glad you liked the paper. Since=Leonard Bernstein's Charles Eliot Norton lectures at Harvard about 40 years ago there has been interesting work seeking structural similariti=s between language and at least some musical traditions, mostly western to=al. You might want to have a look. One of those doing the best=work is my colleague David Pesetsky, a fine linguist and excellent musician.

You're right that "re=ding the eyes" is a complex and fascinating topic, even extrapolat=ng gaze, the way infants do but probably not other animals. And famously, staring=into someone's eyes is far from neutral: either serious threat or =eal intimacy. But these are all cognitive interpretations of the (in=ernal) output of the visual system.

It could be argued that the computati=ns involved in determining what we see are a central system, not just part of a processing system. Hard to see how to pose that a= a real empirical issue that can be tested.

From: jeffrey E. [mailto:[jeevacation@gmail.com](mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com)]  
Sent: Saturday, August 01, 2015 9:18 AM  
To: Noam Chomsky <[\[REDACTED\]](mailto:[REDACTED])>  
Subject: Re: Re:

" processing" -my use of sloppy language=C2 , sorry, thanks for the great paper. =C2 music and its" understanding", might be a clo=er representation to expressing a formalism that might help describe the events. it is not an either=, or , it is a superposition of melody, prosody, harmony, within cer=ain bounds that differentiate it from noise.

fyi, in the paper it says the vis=on system is only input, .not sure that is corrrect. reading t=e eyes might have more to it than previously thought.

On Sat, Aug 1, 2015 at 6:54 AM, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]>:

There is a view that language is esse=tially a processing system. The arguments against it seem to me very power. I'll attach a recent paper about it, a =ontribution to a volume of essays dedicated to Jerry Fodor and focusing on=his conception of language as processing (input modules). His =ersion is far more sophisticated than the signal processing approaches that were all the rage in the 1950s, drawing from the successes=of wartime technology in signal analysis and Shannon's information=theory.

Noam

From: jeffrey E. [mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com]  
Sent: Saturday, August 01, 2015 7:34 AM  
To: Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: Re:

can it be thought of as no more than signal processi=g. why not use the same technology that attempts to intercept commun=cations and decode the signals and apply it to language. =C2 normally one tries to process the signals. i wonder if they put it i= reverse. and processed the language in an attempt to find coherence=???

On Fri, Jul 31, 2015 at 6:58 PM, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]>  
<mailto:[REDACTED]> =rote:

There is a notion of coherence in bot= cases, but how to unify them, or whether it's possible, I don =80 t really see.

From: jeffrey E. [mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2015 1:33 PM  
To: Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re:

what i have been calling my sense making module. .=C2 visual sense, is the image coherent. / ? =A0 why dont you ask your young friends what they think the cho=sky questions should be. I will provide the reward

On Fri, Jul 31, 2015 at 1:21 PM, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]>  
<mailto:[REDACTED]> =rote:

Marr's group, as you know, st=died edges, rigidity, etc. Those particular phenomena don't =eem relevant to language, except indirectly (as Marr and I in fact discussed often): th=re must be built-in systems that enter into language processing (including=determining grammatical status -- "legitimacy" =80 one property among many). That's what work on UG shoul= be about.

Noam

From: jeffrey E. [mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2015 12:59 PM  
To: Noam Chomsky <[Noam.Chomsky@berkeley.edu](mailto:Noam.Chomsky@berkeley.edu)>  
Subject:

I hope you have fun at the institute. I =m in santa fe. . you and i have discussed vi=ion and edges etc rigidity etc. auto focus on a ca=era looks for the most contrast . is there an equivalent . first step to intuit whether = sentence is legitimate ?

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please no=e

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