

Irena Lovcevic

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Education & Qualifications

PhD Candidate (Psychology) The MARCS Institute Western Sydney University	2016 – 2020¹
Master of Psychology University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Psychology Average score 9.67 (out of 10)	2010 – 2012
Bachelor of Psychology University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Psychology Average Score 9.16 (out of 10)	2007 – 2010

Employment:

Postdoctoral Researcher IRCN BabyLab, University of Tokyo	July 2020-up to date
The MARCS Institute BabyLab Coordinator Western Sydney University	November 2019-April 2020

Publications:

- Lovcevic, I.**, Kammermeier, M., Kanero, J., Fang, Y., Dong, Y., Tsuji, S., & Paulus, M. (2024). Infants' use of the index finger for social and non-social purposes during the first two years of life: A cross-cultural study. *Infant Behavior and Development*, 75, 101953. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infbeh.2024.101953>
- Lovcevic, I.**, Burnham, D., & Kalashnikova, M. (2024). Infants' lexical processing: Independent contributions of attentional and clarity cues. *Language Learning and Development*, 20(1), 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15475441.2022.2149402>
- Lovcevic, I.** (2023). Associations of Breastfeeding Duration and Cognitive Development from

¹ Thesis submitted for examination on 25-11-2019, officially graduated in September 2020

Childhood to Middle Adolescence. *Acta Paediatrica*, 112(8), 1696-1705.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/apa.16837>

Lovcevic, I. (2023). Maternal media device use during breastfeeding and infants' social and emotional development. *Breastfeeding Review*, 31(3), 28-34.

Havron*, N., **Lovcevic***, I., Kee, M. Z. L., Chen, H., Chong, Y. S., Daniel, M., Broekman, B. F. P., & Tsuji, S. (2022). The effect of older sibling, postnatal maternal stress, and household factors on language development in two- to four-year-old children. *Developmental Psychology*, 58(11), 2096–2113. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0001417> *joint first authors

Lovcevic, I., Burnham, D., & Kalashnikova, M. (2022). Language development in infants with hearing loss: Benefits of infant-directed speech. *Infant Behavior and Development*, 67, 101699. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infbeh.2022.101699>

Lovcevic, I., Kalashnikova, M., & Burnham, D. (2020). Acoustic features of infant-directed speech to infants with hearing loss. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 148(6), 3399-3416. <https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0002641>

Lovcevic, I., Benders, T., Tsuji, S., Fusaroli, R. (*under review*). Vowel hyperarticulation in infant-directed speech: a multi-method meta-analysis. [Preprint](#)

Lovcevic I., Kammermeier M., Kanero J., Fang Y., Dong Y., Tsuji S., (*under review*). Infants' use of the index finger for social and non-social purposes during the first two years of life: a cross-cultural study. [OSF preregistration](#)

Lovcevic, I., Tsuji, S. (*under review*). The developmental pattern of native and non-native speech perception during the 1st year of life in Japanese infants. [Preprint](#)

Lovcevic, I., Brookman, R. (*under review*). Extra-Curricular Activities Mediate Relation between Screen Time and Executive Functions.

Lovcevic, I. (*under review*). Early Home Learning Environment and Children's Concurrent and Longitudinal Language Development.

Teaching:

/L+/ International Summer/Winter School
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

August 2023

Global Unit Courses (GUC) Summer School
University of Tokyo

July 2022

/L+/ International Summer/Winter School
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

August 2021

Global Unit Courses (GUC) Summer School University of Tokyo	July 2021
Developmental Psychology Western Sydney University, School of Social Science and Psychology	February-June 2020
Cognitive Processes Western Sydney University, School of Social Science and Psychology	July-November 2019
Second Language Acquisition Western Sydney University, School of Humanities and Communication Arts	July-November 2019
Developmental Psychology Western Sydney University, School of Social Science and Psychology	February-June 2019
Developmental Psychology Western Sydney University, School of Social Science and Psychology	February-June 2018

Grants & Awards:

Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists, JSPS JPY 2 700 000 for research project	April 2024– April 2026
CODER, Center for Developmental Science Research and Education JPY 500 000 for research project	Nov 2023 – Nov 2024
World Premier Research International Research Center Initiative, Mext Japan JPY 3 000 000 for research project	July 2020-July 2023
The MARCS Writing Fellowship AUD\$7000 for publishing research papers from PhD thesis	March-May 2020
The HEARing CRC Travel Grant AUD\$5000 for attending the Workshop on Infant Language Development (WILD) 2019, Potsdam, Germany	June 2019
The MARCS Institute Travel Grant AUD\$3000 travel grant for visiting Basque Center on Cognition, Brain, and Language (BCBL), Spain	June 2019
The MARCS Institute Travel Grant AUD\$2000 travel grant for attending ABC 2018 Singapore	October 2018
The MARCS Institute Travel Grant AUD\$4000 travel grant for attending ICIS 2018 Philadelphia, USA	June/July 2018
WSU Postgraduate Research Award Western Sydney University	2016 – 2019
HEARing CRC Top-Up Award HEARing CRC	2016 – 2019
"D. Smith Foods" AUD\$5000 relocation scholarship	2016

MA Scholarship 2010 – 2012
Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia

Bachelor Scholarship 2007 – 2010
Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia

Supervision:

Master's thesis student 2021 - 2023
University of Amsterdam

IRCN Global Director's Award intern 2021 - 2022
Many Babies at Home project

IRCN Baby Lab research interns 2021 - 2024

Workshops:

Effective Academic Writing 2023
Nature Research Academies

Giving High Quality Presentations at a Distance 2021
IRCN, University of Tokyo

Functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) 2018
Western Sydney University

Data Analysis and Visualization with R 2017
Western Sydney University

R workshop 2017
ICIS 2017 pre-conference workshop

The Developing Lexicon: Representations and Processing Workshop 2017
Macquarie University

MARCS Stats Workshop 2016
Western Sydney University

Resilient Researcher Workshop 2016
Western Sydney University

Presenting Your Research with Confidence 2016
Western Sydney University

Literature Review Skills 2016
Western Sydney University

Social Media, Doctoral Studies and wider community 2016
Western Sydney University

Conference Presentations:

Lovcevic I., Kammermeier M., Kanero J., Fang Y., Dong Y., Tsuji S., (2023). Development of Pointing during the First Two Years of Life and across Different Cultures. Oral Presentation at “The 52nd Annual Meeting of the Jean Piaget Society”. Madrid, Spain, June 2023.

Lovcevic I., (2022). Infants’ Lexical Processing: Independent Contributions of Attentional and Clarity Cues. Poster Presentation at “The 22nd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society of Baby Science”. Jichi Medical University, Japan, July 2022.

Lovcevic I., Benders T., Tsuji S., Fusaroli R., (2022). Vowel Hyperarticulation in Infant-Directed Speech. Oral Presentation at “Workshop on Infant Language Development (WILD)”. San Sebastian, Spain, June 2022.

Lovcevic I., Kalashnikova M., Burnham, D., (2020). Acoustic Features of Infant-directed Speech to Infants with Hearing Loss. Oral Presentation at “Perspectives on Language in Children with Hearing Loss Workshop”, online, August 2020.

Lovcevic I., Kalashnikova M., Burnham, D., (2020). Acoustic Features of Infant-directed Speech to Infants with Hearing Loss and Infants with Normal Hearing – longitudinal study”. Poster presented at “International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS) 2020), online, July 2020.

Lovcevic I., Soderstrom, P., Kalashnikova M., Mahajan Y., Burnham, D., (2019). Neural Processing of *Hyper-* and *Hypo-*Articulated Vowels in Infant-Directed Speech. Oral Presentation at “Workshop on Infant Language Development (WILD). Potsdam, Germany, June 2019.

Lovcevic I., Kalashnikova M., Burnham, D., (2018). The Role of Vowel Hyperarticulation in Infant-Directed Speech in Infants’ Lexical Processing. Oral Presentation at “Asian-Pacific Baby Lab Constellation Conference (ABC), Singapore, October 2018.

Lovcevic I., Kalashnikova M., Burnham, D., (2018). Acoustic features of Infant-Directed Speech to Infants with Hearing Impairment and Infants with Normal Hearing. Poster presented at “International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS) 2018), Philadelphia, USA, June 2018.

Lovcevic I., Kalashnikova M., Burnham, D., Mahajan Y., (2017). Role of Infant-Directed Speech in Language Development of Babies with Hearing-Impairment. Poster presented at “MARCS BabyLab: Developmental Speech and Language Research at Western Sydney University” , July 2017.

Lovcevic I., Kalashnikova M., Burnham, D., Mahajan Y., (2016). Language Development in Babies with Hearing-Impairment. Poster presented at HEARing CRC Symposium, Macquarie University, October 2016.

Lovcevic I. (2013). Simultaneous Effects of inflectional Paradigms and Classes on Processing of Adjectives in Serbian Language. Oral Presentation at „Empirical studies in psychology 2013 – EIP13“, Belgrade, Serbia.

Community Engagement:

“Women in Academia” podcast Producer and host	2020-
I-PAC team member Professional Academic Development	2020-
Pregnancy, Babies & Children’s Expo Research Promotion and Participant Recruitment	2019
BabyTime talk- Oral Presentation on Importance of Infant-Directed Speech Penrith City Library, Sydney	2018
Coordinator of the SLAM (Speech and Language Group at the MARCS) meetings	2018
Organiser of New South Wales (NSW) Baby Circle Academic Meeting Western Sydney University	2017
The Child and Family Hub, Bankstown, Sydney Community visit and talk on bilingualism	2017
Science in the Wild-Sydney Science Festival 2017 Science Promotion	2017
BabyTime talk- Oral Presentation on Importance of Infant-Directed Speech Penrith City Library, Sydney	2017
The Essential Baby & Toddler Show Research Promotion and Participant Recruitment	2017
Pregnancy, Babies & Children’s Expo Research Promotion and Participant Recruitment	2017
The Essential Baby & Toddler Show Research Promotion and Participant Recruitment	2016