

On Thinking

Neural Correlates of Thinking

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Preface

The idea of the present book emerged on the island of Elba in the summer of 2006 during an enjoyable and very fruitful workshop on thinking with the participation of most of the contributors of the present volume.

The main intention behind the book is to address thinking by surveying the contribution of various functional neuroimaging methods to our understanding of the neural underpinnings of thinking. The major focus is on the methods applicable to the neurobiological study of human thinking, since much of what we consider complex thinking has to be considered as a part of the distinctive features of human nature.

Despite the fact that we are far from a full understanding of the modularity of the human brain, the use of functional imaging techniques is obviously based on the premise that brain functions are modular.

We are grateful to the distinguished authors, coming from different backgrounds, for their commitment to this project, which represents a true interdisciplinary approach, as is mandatory for this fascinating and challenging topic. We are also proud to have been able to recruit an outstanding worldwide team of contributors.

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