Language, Culture and Arithmetic

One interest of this group is studying the effects of the transparency of the counting system on numerical abilities. In particular, Ann Dowker is investigating the effects of the regular Welsh counting system versus the less regular English counting system, together with former student Delyth Lloyd and current student Manon Roberts; and collaborating with Prof Hans-Christoph Nuerk of University of Tuebingen, Germany.

Link to Times Educational Supplement report on early stages of project:

http://www.tes.co.uk/article.aspx?storycode=2174403

Link to paper by Dowker, Bala & Lloyd (2008):

http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09515080802285511#.UcDObl1wbIU

Our current research is looking at effects of Welsh versus English on transcoding and number line estimation.

There is also a recent study by Winifred Mark and Ann Dowker of children in Chinese and English medium schools in Hong Kong (to be presented at British Psychological Society Developmental Section Conference, Reading, September 2013).

c