# Contents

## 1 Introduction

1.1 Theoretical background of joint action

1.1.1 The basis of joint action: Ideomotor Theory, Common Coding Theory, and Mirror Neurons

1.1.1.1 Ideomotor Theory

1.1.1.2 Common Coding Theory

1.1.1.3 Mirror Neurons

1.2 The social Simon paradigm

1.2.1 The standard Simon task

1.2.2 The joint go-nogo Simon task

1.2.2.1 Behavioral findings

1.2.2.2 Electrophysiological and neuroimaging findings

1.2.2.3 Patient studies

1.3 Research questions and experimental approach

1.3.1 Study 1: How “social” is the social Simon effect?

1.3.2 Study 2: The (not so) Social Simon effect: A referential coding account

1.3.3 Study 3: Morphometric gray matter differences of the medial frontal cortex influence the social Simon effect

1.4 Summary of main results

1.5 Conclusions

1.6 Shortcomings and future prospects

1.6.1 Arbitrary stimuli

1.6.2 Spatial bias of S-R relations

1.6.3 Inter-individual differences
2 How “social” is the social Simon effect? 39
3 The (not so) Social Simon effect: 61
A referential coding account
4 Morphometric gray matter differences of the medial frontal cortex influence the social Simon effect

References (Chapter 1) 109
List of Figures 125
List of Tables 127
List of Abbreviations 129
Bibliographic Details 131
Summary 133
Zusammenfassung 139
Curriculum Vitae 145
List of publications 147
List of presentations 149
Confirmation of contribution of co-authors 151
Selbständigkeitserklärung 157