



8th SFB-Colloquium, Wednesday, 17 October 2018, 4 pm

University of Potsdam, Campus Neues Palais, Building 9, Room 1.12

At the invitation of projects A01, A02, A03, C01 and C02

Prof. Ray Jackendoff (Tufts University/MIT) will give a talk on

Extending the Parallel Architecture

Ray Jackendoff & Jenny Audring (Leiden University)

The Parallel Architecture (Jackendoff 1997, 2002; Culicover and Jackendoff 2005) factors knowledge of language into the three domains of phonological, syntactic, and semantic/conceptual structure, linked together by non-homomorphic interfaces. A fundamental aspect of the theory is to reject the traditional sharp divide between “lexicon” and “rules of grammar”: much like HPSG and Construction Grammar, the PA replaces traditional generative rules with declarative templates or *schemas*. Schemas are encoded as lexical items, in the same format as words, namely as pieces of linguistic structure. They differ from words only in that they contain variables.

The Parallel Architecture was developed primarily on the basis of the relation between syntax and semantics. Our recent work has been devoted to extending the theory to morphology, which turns out to motivate a number of extensions of the PA framework in general. Among these are:

- A treatment of relations between lexical items: word to schema, word, and schema to schema
- A treatment of nonproductive patterns, in which they are not so different from productive patterns
- An extension to nonproductive patterns in phrasal syntax, which have typically been neglected
- A treatment of syntactic alternations in terms of relations among schemas rather than movement
- The addition of phonetics as its own level of representation, distinct from phonology
- The addition of orthography as a level of representation, with interfaces to phonology and morphology
- The addition of a level of representation in which lexical items are classified by register, language, and dialect

I will discuss as many of these as time permits.

The fact that the Parallel Architecture extends so readily to such a variety of phenomena is, we believe, strong evidence for the correctness of the approach.

Everyone is cordially invited.