

MaLT 2015

Methods and Linguistic Theories Symposium
November 27th-28th, University of Bamberg, Germany

Workshop description

How to collect (and combine) linguistic and non-linguistic data – a practical workshop on experiments in linguistics

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This workshop is open to all linguists interested in experimental methods, independently of their specific field of research. It will consist of two parts, a more theoretical and a more practical one. Its main focus will be on the use of experiments for language data elicitation and on how to jointly collect and usefully combine elicited linguistic data and non-linguistic behavioural measures (reaction times, memory performance, eye-movements, etc.). The research examples I will provide for illustrating particular methods, as well as as a basis for discussion, are projects from the fields of usage-based cognitive linguistics and language-and-thought/linguistic relativity research. The workshop is, however, not restricted to these theoretical perspectives.

In the first, more theoretical part, we will cover the basics of experimental data collection in a linguistic context and will discuss the Do's and Don'ts in planning and conducting experiments, as well as the possible benefits and limits of experimental work.

In the second, more practical part, we will apply this knowledge to concrete examples. Participants are invited to bring along their own (experimental) work-in-progress, which we will be happy to try out (if possible) and discuss in the group (Those participants who intend to do so: please contact me – franziska.guenther@anglistik.uni-muenchen.de – so that I can adjust the plan for the workshop to your needs.)