Evolinguistics

科研費 KAKENHI

新学術領域「共創的コミュニケーションのための言語進化学」主催

A Special Lecture by Ljiljana Progovac

Ljiljana Progovac 教授 講演会

Gradual evolution of some key postulates of syntax: Making sense of small clauses, middles, islands, exocentrics, and other syntactic shortcomings

3 月 10 日（日）15:00〜17:00

東京大学駒場 I キャンパス 21KOMCEE East K211

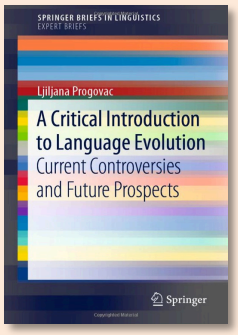
事前参加登録不要・参加費無料

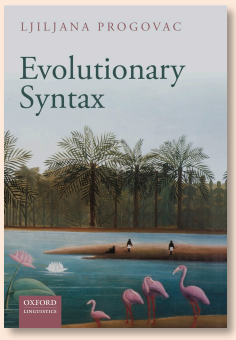
使用言語：英語

Ljiljana Progovac:
Professor and Director of the Linguistics Program,
Wayne State University, and visiting scholar at MIT

Author of

A Critical Introduction to Language Evolution (Springer 2019)
Evolutionary Syntax (OUP 2015)
A Syntax of Serbian (Slavica 2005)
Negative and Positive Polarity (CUP 1994)





文科省科研費 新学術領域研究「共創言語進化」
事務局　東京大学大学院総合文化研究科 進化認知科学研究センター内 http://evolinguistics.net/

問い合わせ：藤田耕司（京都大学，A01 計画班代表）fujita.koji.3x@kyoto-u.ac.jp

Gradual evolution of some key postulates of syntax:

Making sense of small clauses, middles, islands, exocentrics, and other syntactic shortcomings

Ljiljana Progovac

Abstract

Challenging the view that syntax is one (optimal) undecomposable block, in this lecture I will present a theoretically grounded syntactic reconstruction that decomposes syntax into (evolutionary) primitives, which can be combined and recombined to yield cross-linguistic variation. This is where formal, typological, and evolutionary considerations come together. This syntactic reconstruction also sheds direct light on some deep properties of the syntax design itself. Defending the notion of "syntactic fossils," I will present arguments that present-day approximations of this reconstructed proto-grammar include various "defective/deficient" phenomena (e.g. small clauses, middles, islands, exocentrics), which just seem to fall short of the modern syntactic theoretical desiderata. Dealing with tangible and specific linguistic postulates, and tying them directly to the possibility of natural selection, this approach lends itself to empirical testing and cross-fertilization, including with the fields of neuroscience and genetics, as supported by the results of fMRI experiments which tested some predictions of this proposal. There are various ways in which evolutionary proposals can be tested, but they will ultimately need to shed specific light on how biological evolution shapes the genetic make-up that supports human language. A specific natural/sexual selection scenario will be considered.

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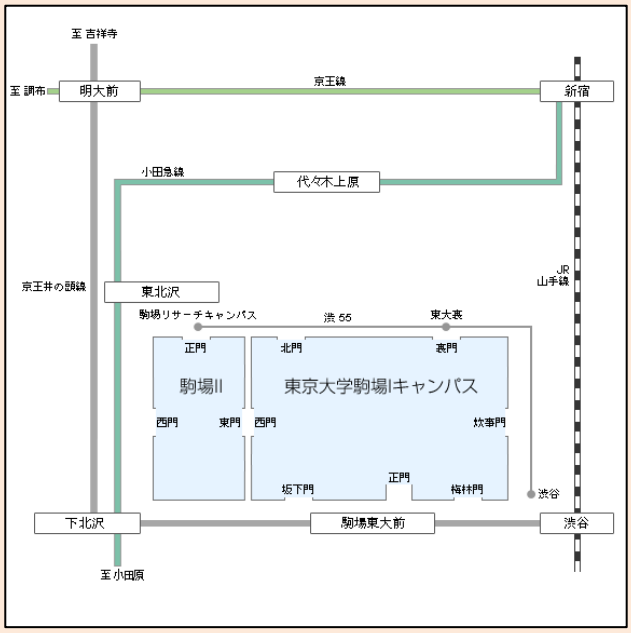
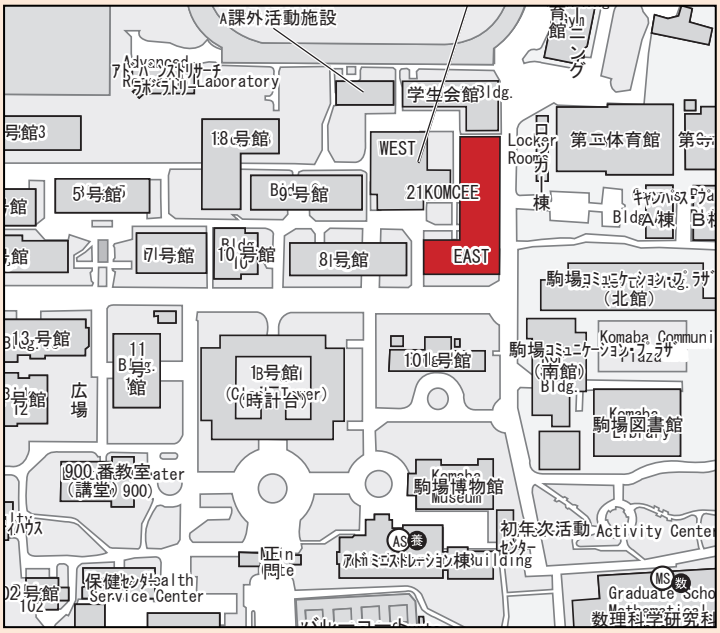
駒場 I キャンパス アクセスマップ・キャンパスマップ





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