A Comparison of LFG and HPSG (Advanced Course)

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Course Description

Kaplan and Bresnan's LFG (Lexical Functional Grammar) and Pollard and Sag's HPSG (Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar) are widely perceived as closely related paradigms, but both have changed much since their inception, and there is significant evidence that they may now differ more than they agree.

The course will discuss both paradigms from ontological presuppositions through formal mechanisms to linguistic analyses, and emphasize their similarities, their differences, and the consequences for pursuing various linguistic aims (cf., recommended reading list (Bibliography)).

The aim of the course is to give timely and objective information about the comparative strengths and weaknesses of LFG and HPSG in various areas of linguistic research, and thereby indicate which (if either) would best tackle a given linguistic problem. The course is intended for students with a basic knowledge of both paradigms, and forms a natural successor to earlier ESSLLI courses and workshops dedicated to LFG or HPSG individually.

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