慶應言語学コロキアム

On the Strong Minimalist Thesis（SMT）: is there room for *there* in the Workspace?

講師: **Sandiway Fong** (University of Arizona)
　　　大石　正幸（東北学院大学）

コメンテーター: 豊島 孝之（東北学院大学）、北原 久嗣（慶應義塾大学）

司会・コメンテーター: 内堀 朝子（東京大学）

日時: 2024 年 **12** 月 **14** 日(土) 13:30-17:30

会場: 慶應義塾大学三田キャンパス南校舎3階　437教室
　　　※対面開催のみ（オンライン配信の予定はありません）

使用言語: 日本語・英語

参加申込: 研究所ホームページもしくは右のＱＲコードよりお申込み下さい

　＊ 今回のセミナーは生成文法研究の専門的知識が前提となります。
　＊ 準備の都合により、事前申込をお願いいたします。
　＊ 事前にお申込みいただかない方の当日参加も可能ですが、会場にて参加者カードへの記入が必要となります。

The Strong Minimalist Thesis (SMT) is a design principle for I-Language motivated by evolutionary considerations and Einstein's Miracle Creed (Chomsky, 2024). Pared to the very essentials, Merge is the simplest and only possible encoder for structure (and structural relations) in the Workspace, starting from an initial selection of heads taken from the lexicon. Moderated by Minimal Search, Merge must be able to effectively compute interpretable structure, optionally externalized to various modalities via the sensorimotor interface, despite a slow chemically-based brain. Similarly, upon decoding a speech signal, the brain must be able to engage Merge to assist in re-creating thought, thereby facilitating human-to-human communication via E-Language. In this framework, I-Language computation should be largely invariant, with language variation confined to externalization and the lexicon. *There*-insertion is a well-studied phenomenon. It affects both semantic interpretation and externalization, e.g. it is construed with an indefinite associate, existential constructions and participates in subject-verb agreement. As *there* insertion has rather limited distribution, we ask the question of how and where it fits into I-Language computation. It is present mainly in Germanic languages, but with considerable variation, e.g. with respect to verb types across English, Dutch, Icelandic and Mainland Scandinavian languages. We discuss two possible analyses of the data and their implications for SMT.