





2nd SFB-Colloquium, Wednesday, 24 January 2018, 16.15 pm House 14, Room 0.12

At the invitation of project BO4 and the SFB

Prof. Dr. Holger Hopp (TU Braunschweig) will give a talk in the 2nd SFB-colloquium on Wednesday, 24 January 2018 on

L1 effects in L2 sentence processing - Yeti or iceberg?

In this talk, I explore the activation of first-language (L1) syntax in adult L2 sentence production and comprehension. One of the hallmarks of adult L2 acquisition is that learners transfer properties of the L1 grammar, especially in the beginning stages of L2 acquisition. However, the degree of L1 activation in real-time L2 processing is less clear. While L1 effects are well documented for the use of inflection in L2 processing, there is little evidence of L1 activation of syntactic structure in L2 processing. I will present a series of visual-world eye tracking and primed production studies that test the extent to which adult L2 learners license L1 parses or recruit the L1 syntax in production. Across comprehension and production, the findings suggest a limited degree of L1 effects. I will discuss these results in the context of current approaches to L2 processing.

Everyone is cordially invited.