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Some reflections on the link between psycho-neurolinguistic methodologies and linguistic structures

In this talk, I will reflect on the competing theoretical and methodological tensions in the structural study of code-switching, that is, when multilingual speech speakers “go back and forth” between the languages they speak within a conversation, or even within a sentence (Deuchar 2012). Determining the grammatical constraints that may predict code-switching patterns has been the focus of attention of many recent studies (cf. Backus 2014, Toribio 2017, Munarriz Ibarrola et al. 2018, López 2020, among many others). I will discuss methodological considerations relating to the psycho-/neurolinguistic study of structural aspects of code-switching (Parafita Couto et al. 2017, Pablos et al. 2018, Vauhan-Evans et al. 2020), and the extent to which existing results shed light on grammaticality in code-switching beyond findings from production and experimental-behavioural studies. I will discuss how extending multilingual processing research to include different language combinations as well as different switch points promises to refine our theoretical understanding of the rules governing intra-sentential code-switching.