Program PhD Easter School

Spring Semester 2018, 3rd – 7th April

Introduction

As discussed at our CSLS open general meeting at the beginning of the Autumn semester of 2017, this workshop is our first attempt to break away from the traditional PhD summer or winter school. Generously supported by the MVUB (Mittelbauvereinigung der Universität Bern), the workshop introduces some of the relevant tools used in the everyday life of a linguist. The invited speakers and presented tools are:

Christoph Purschke: Introduction to Statistics for Linguists; Introduction to Python for Linguists

Ludwig Maximilian Breuer: Introduction to Database Creation

Mathieu Avanzi: Introduction to R for Linguists

Lars Bülow: Introduction to AntConc (in German)

Simon Pickl: Intorduction to GeoLing

You will find detailed information about the workshop components on page 3 to 9 of this programme. I'm looking forward to seeing as many as possible of you there!

How to sign in

You can visit the whole workshop or attend individual days. PhD students of the CSLS and its partner programs will get 1ECTS per workshop day. Even though the workshop is announced on KSL you cannot sign in by yourself. **If you want to participate, please write an email to christa.schneider@csls.unibe.ch by March 4th 2018 and specify which parts of the workshop you want to visit.** The maximum number of participants per day is 25, first come, first serve. After March 4th, the workshop will also be announced to our partners and our advanced MA students, so please be quick!

Programme

Introduction to Statistics for Linguists (morning), Introduction to Python for Linguists (afternoon), both parts in English

Introduction to statistics.

The course will introduce basic concepts of statistical analysis. First, it will give a brief overview of the discipline of statistics. Second, it will focus on descriptive statistics by introducing graphical methods of describing data. Participants will learn about different data types, test methods, and heuristics for the optimization and interpretation of descriptive statistics using the example of attitudinal data. By the end of this course participants will be able to apply basic statistical methods to analyse and visualize quantitative data.

Participants will need an installation of SPSS if available.

Python for Linguists

The course will introduce basic concepts of the programming language Python. Building on a goal-oriented approach to coding, we will explore, test, and discuss basic elements of programming languages using Python. We will learn to use Python and useful related tools, cover basic principles of scientific programming, and write three programs to perform simple text statistics. By the end of this course, participants will be able to write small programs on their own and make use of available learning resources to deepen their knowledge.

Participants will need an installation of Anaconda (Python 3.6): https://www.anaconda.com/download/

Instructor: Christoph Purschke, University of Luxemburg

More information:
https://purschke.info

How to set up a database, one day workshop in English

Although the course focuses the practical work with linguistic databases, it will start with a little introduction of the abstract basis of databases. Since data(base) modelling is the first step for a reliable, consistent database, it's fundamental to know the fundamentals. But fear not: it's pretty similar to a structuralistic modelling of the world. Already mastered the basics, we can now see databases everywhere and will start with Excel as a tool for rudimentary database implementation - yes, Excel: especially for small (individual) dissertation projects of non-technical geeks it's an easy tool for implementing a well-formed database, which has also the power of statistical analyses without typing just one line in SQL. After this mind-blowing experience, we will discuss different (real) databasemanagementsystem (DBMS) and again will fall back to a Microsoft solution: Access. With Access we can build a real database in less than one hour (depending on the complexity, but it's enough for a lexical database at least). Please consider bring in your one set of data and installing Microsoft Office (it's for free - at least for educational purposes - in Bern you can find it here: http://www.unibe.ch/universitaet/campus__und__infrastruktur/rund_um_computer/soft_und_hardware/software/microsoft_office/index_ger.html)

Instructor: Mag. Ludwig Maximilian Breuer, University of Vienna

More information:
www.lmbreuer.de/index.php?id=home

R for linguists – A one day introductory workshop in English

In this session, I'll give a practical introduction to the R software. I will start with some very basic functions, i.e. how to import a dataframe and how to manipulate this dataframe: add columns/lines, select observations, calculate means/percentages/etc.). Next, we'll review a few commands for basic statistics (t-test, chi-square, ANOVAs, logistic regressions) and finish with a quick introduction to ggplot2 (a package used for graphics (barplots, boxplots, maps, etc.)

Intructor: Dr. Mathieu Avanzi, Catholic University of Louvain

For more information:
https://sites.google.com/site/mathieuavanzi/

AntConc – Einführender Eintages-Workshop auf Deutsch

Die Konkordanz-Software AntConc eignet sich, um korpuspragmatische Analysen durchzuführen. Unter Korpuspragmatik wird im Workshop mit Felder et al. (2012: 4) ein linguistischer Untersuchungsansatz gefasst „der in digital aufbereiteten Korpora das Wechselverhältnis zwischen sprachlichen Mitteln einerseits und Kontextfaktoren andererseits erforscht und dabei eine Typik von Form-Funktions-Korrelationen herauszuarbeiten beabsichtigt. Solche Kontextfaktoren betreffen potenziell die Dimensionen Handlung, Gesellschaft und Kognition. Die Analyse bedient sich insbesondere einer Kombination qualitativer und quantitativer Verfahren".

Den Workshop-Teilnehmer/innen wird mit Hilfe von AntConc im Sinne der Korpuspragmatik vermittelt, wie dominante Form-Funktions-Zusammenhänge auf den Ebenen von Sprachstruktur, Sprechakten und der Argumentationsmustern herausgearbeitet werden können.

Die Herangehensweise kann sowohl als *corpus based* als auch als *corpus-driven* beschrieben werden. Corpus-based, weil eingeübt wird, wie bestehende Korpora theoriegeleitet (*top-down*)ausgewertet werden, corpus-driven insofern, als gezeigt wird, wie zunächst induktiv mittels softwaregestützter Analyseverfahren nach Strukturen gesucht werde kann, die mehr oder minder explizit vorhanden sind. So können auch *bottum-up* Sprachmuster eruiert werden. Corpus-driven ist die Herangehensweise allerdings nur unter der von Bubenhofer (2009: 102) formulierten Einschränkung, dass Induktion und Deduktion in einem wechselseitigen Spannungsverhältnis stehen.

Der AntConc-Workshop zielt darauf ab, die Methodenkompetenz der Teilnehmer/innen entscheidend zu stärken. Dazu wird zunächst in die wichtigsten Grundlagen und Konzepte der Korpuslinguistik und Korpuspragmatik eingeführt. Anschließend wird AntConc mit seinen Funktionen und Anwendungsmöglichkeiten exemplarisch vorgeführt. Das quantitative und qualitative Arbeiten mit AntConc wird dann von den Kursteilnehmer/innen anhand von Übungskorpora angewendet und eingeübt.

Instuctor: Dr. Lars Bülow, Universität Salzburg und Universität Passau

More information:
http://www.phil.uni-passau.de/deutsche-sprachwissenschaft/lehrstuhlteam/dr-lars-buelow/

or

https://www.uni-salzburg.at/index.php?id=204093

Satuarday 7ᵗʰ April 2018

GeoLing – A way to visualize your data. One day workshop in English

GeoLing (www.geoling.net) is a software tool for the statistical analysis and visualization of spatially distributed data. It was developed primarily for the dialectometric analysis of geolinguistic data. Its features comprise density estimation for smoothing, factor analysis for the detection and synopsis of recurring spatial structures, and cluster analysis for the sorting of similarly distributed variables. In this workshop, we will discuss the methodological foundations for GeoLing and explore the software, its functions and the effects of different settings using sample data. Finally, we will discuss possible ways of interpretating the results and theoretical implications of the findings.

Instructor: Dr. Simon Pickl, University of Cambridge

More information:
https://www.languagesciences.cam.ac.uk/directory/dr-simon-pickl