The relationships between recursivity and prosody

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This course, designed for participants with some background in syntax and limited background in phonology, will explore answers to the following three questions:
1. Is recursion limited to syntactic representations, or can it truly be found in phonology (particularly in the domain of intonational and prosodic constituents)?
2. How can we distinguish what seems to be an instance of a prosodic level L inside another instance of L from simply invoking a newer unit, L’, distinct from L?
3. How can prosodic evidence be used to disambiguate between competing hypotheses about the syntax of a particular construction?

Readings will include the following representative sample of recent viewpoints on these issues. Students will be invited to think and respond critically to the empirical and conceptual arguments in the assigned readings.

References


