Kolloquium Slawistische Linguistik Institut für Slawistik der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

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Spell out Algorithm in Nanosyntax and the Third Type of Last-Resort Movement: Deriving portmanteau morphology in Slavic verb stems

Wann? 29.05.2017, 16.15-17.45 Uhr Wo? Dorotheenstr. 65, Raum 5.57

Abstract

In this talk I will address Starke's (to appear) recent spell out algorithm, which states that once 'spec-to-spec' and snowball movements fail to derive a syntactic representation that can be spelled out, the derivation is undone and a subderivation is spawned. I will argue, instead, that before that happens, spell out is attempted by a last-resort movement of a third type. This last-resort operation is going to explain how portmanteau morphology is derived in alternations between certain verb stem classes in Czech and Polish.