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The use of experimental methods in linguistic research:
advantages, problems and possible pitfalls

In this talk I will present and discuss several experimental methods used inside and outside of psycholinguistic research. The main focus will be on speech production. The methods presented include eye tracking, measurements of speech onset times as well as (grammatical) judgment tasks and different questionnaire types. On the basis of my own experimental data I will describe the main features of the selected methods, and will have a closer look at their suitability for various linguistic research questions. Finally, I will explore the advantages, shortcomings and limitations of the methods. Additionally, I will make some remarks about the use of inferential statistics and about the presentation of data in linguistic research.