B. BICKEL

Cause and Effect in the Evolution of Grammar: Theories and Methods

In this course we will discuss recent work that answers the question of what's where why in grammar.

We will focus on explicit causal theories that predict diachronic trends in grammar, globally or regionally. We will also specifically address the methodological challenges that arise when such predictions are tested against linguistic data.

The course builds on the analytical framework described in Bickel (2015, in the Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Analysis).