Statistical Learning and language acquisition

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This course will introduce students to the field of statistical learning (SL), with a focus on how SL could be useful for language acquisition and processing. Students will first be given an overview of the field, covering the main issues and controversies. The neural bases of SL will then be discussed, followed by a discussion of individual differences in SL and how they relate to language.

Starter readings

Aslin, R. N. (2017). Statistical learning: a powerful mechanism that operates by mere exposure. *WIREs Cognitive Science,* 8:e1373.

Batterink, L. J., Paller, K. A., & Reber, P. J. (2019). Understanding the neural bases of implicit and statistical learning. *Topics in Cognitive Science.* doi: 10.1111/tops.12420.

Siegelman, N., Bogaerts, L., Christiansen, M. H., & Frost, R. (2019). Towards a theory of individual differences in statistical learning. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B, 372*: 20160059.