Structure building in speaking

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Speakers build syntactic structures so they can avoid producing gibberish, at least most of the time. But how speakers build syntactic structures in sentence production remains poorly understood. In this talk, I discuss our recent series of studies on how speakers build structural representations in sentence production, examining the production of various types of structurally complex sentences involving raising, control, tough constructions, and wh-extractions. Building on the experimental results, I introduce a model that aims to explicate the real-time processes involved in planning sentence structures in speaking.