CIPL Travel Grant report Max Bonke (Universität zu Köln) 21st International Congress of Linguists (ICL), Poznań, 8-14 September 2024

Thanks to the generous support of the CIPL travel grant, I had the opportunity to attend the *21st International Congress of Linguists* (ICL) in Poznań (8 to 14 September 2024). As part of the congress, I co-organized the workshop *Experimental and Corpus-Based Approaches to Ellipsis*, which brought together researchers working on empirical, as well as theoretical, perspectives on ellipsis. I presented my own research in this setting, which was a very rewarding experience and provided me with constructive feedback that has helped me refine my analysis and develop my thesis.

ICL was a great opportunity to engage with a broad range of linguistic topics, but the workshop itself was particularly valuable in fostering focused discussions on ellipsis and syntactic theory. The variety of presentations at the workshop showcased different methodologies, from corpus-based approaches to psycholinguistic experiments, highlighting the diverse ways in which elliptical structures may be scrutinized. The thought-provoking talks covered a range of distinct ellipsis phenomena, as well as different language families. The discussions that followed each session were engaging and often continued beyond the official schedule, demonstrating the strong interest in ellipsis amongst the workshop participants. Due to the high-quality contributions of our workshop, my co-organizer and I have decided to compile the contributions from the workshop and publish them as a special issue in an academic journal. We are currently in the process of developing a proposal for such a special issue.

My presentation, *Verb Type Effects on Complementizers in Spanish Embedded Gapping*, examined the constraints on the Spanish complementizer que in gapping, as well as its interaction with interpretation. Drawing on experimental judgment data, I identified nuanced acceptability patterns influenced by the embedding predicate and tried to tie those patterns to the complementizer's interpretative contribution. The response from the audience was encouraging, with several attendees offering insightful questions and suggestions that I had not previously considered. One particularly interesting discussion prompted me to think more critically about how discourse factors might play a larger role in my analysis. I also received useful recommendations for methodological refinements that I plan to incorporate into my ongoing research.

Apart from the workshop, ICL provided me with an opportunity to explore topics beyond my usual scope of work and gain insight into areas with which I had little prior knowledge. I was especially impressed by Frederick J. Newmeyer's plenary talk, which provided a compelling illustration of the core challenges involved in measuring language complexity. The overarching conceptual insights presented during his talk will remain memorable for me. Beyond the academic discussions, attending ICL provided an excellent opportunity to connect with scholars from different institutions and build relationships that have extended beyond the congress itself. I had the chance to meet researchers whose work I have long been familiar with, get to know new inspiring colleagues, and reconnect with people I had not seen in quite some time.

I am very grateful to CIPL for making this experience possible through their travel grant. Attending ICL and co-organizing the *Experimental and Corpus-Based Approaches to Ellipsis* workshop has been instrumental in advancing my research, deepening my engagement with the field, and expanding my professional network. The feedback I received, the discussions I participated in, and the new connections I made will all contribute to the next stages of my work. I also want to extend my thanks to the congress organizers for putting together such a stimulating and well-structured event.

Overall, my experience at ICL was both intellectually enriching and professionally rewarding. The opportunity to present my work, engage with leading researchers, and coorganize a workshop on ellipsis was invaluable in shaping my research trajectory. I look forward to applying the insights I gained to my ongoing studies and continuing the conversations sparked at the congress in future collaborations and publications, first and foremost in the planned special issue for our workshop proceedings.