



# ***Why a Structural Complexity in Natural Language (SCNL) meeting?***

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Linguistic systems in all their dimensions (from phonetics to semantics) show that they are made of many dimensions (biological, physical, cognitive, psychological and social).

The understanding of their interactions and their integration is still quite limited if we want to understand the complexity of linguistic systems.

Linguistics alone cannot build this picture .

We need physicists, mathematical models and more linguistic data.

## Phonetics

**Adyge** is a language described with one! phonological vowel (or three but in the vertical dimension, i.e. not with [i] and [u]).

What does it tell us about the phonological complexity of this phonological system that has many consonants?

Some languages have many vowels (up to 30).

How do we integrate dialectological dimensions (i.e. variation) in the evaluation of linguistic complexity?

## Syntax and morphosyntax

Recursion the case of Pirahã and of Walpiri.

The morphological complexity of Bantu languages: between several hundreds and hundreds of thousand potential combinations.

Structural complexity : e.g. Basque

**How do we evaluate the complexity of a linguistic system?**