Grammatical markers of Norwegian DLD – the shape of things to come

Jan de Jong, university of Bergen, Norway

Information about grammatical markers of Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) in Norwegian is limited. To a lesser extent this can also be said about the acquisition of morphosyntax by typically developing (TD) children. In my contribution I will take stock of the available evidence, and describe a roadmap for how we may identify hallmarks of DLD in Norwegian in the future. I will report on the outcomes of an elaborate master project, based on spontaneous language data, for which constituent structure and phrase structure were studied in (West-)Norwegian children between 2 and 6 years of age. The study did not address DLD directly, but it will be argued – and demonstrated – that data on early acquisition (and the obstacles that TD children face in acquiring the language) inform us about the areas that are vulnerable to language impairment.