

A formal perspective on edge developments: recycling at the edge

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In work on emergent systems, the *edge of chaos* designates a ‘progress niche’ or ‘creativity zone’: this is a transition space between order and disorder where we might expect new developments which can then be integrated into an existing system. My purpose in this talk is two-fold: firstly, to demonstrate that a Three Factors-oriented minimalist perspective on syntax, how it is acquired and how it varies and changes over time – particularly also in interactional and contact situations – naturally leads to the expectation that structural edges will be significant; and, secondly, to discuss some case studies considering different types of edge-oriented “recycling” that raise questions about various formal aspects of the recycling process.