

Structured Knowledge Accumulation: Real-Time Discovery of the Universal Language Manifold

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Abstract

Human languages differ in vocabulary, syntax, and surface structure, yet they all share an underlying dynamical principle: meaning emerges through the progressive reduction of uncertainty. This paper proposes that the universal structure behind all languages can be revealed through *Structured Knowledge Accumulation* (SKA), a real-time, entropy-based learning framework. While large language models learn static correlations across tokens, SKA follows the physical process that creates meaning by enforcing the *law of entropic least action*, a variational principle governing the flow of information in time. To use a universal and modality-independent input, we take spoken words—the raw acoustic stream that comes out of our mouths—as the fundamental signal driving the real-time learning process. By analyzing this continuous sound flow, SKA reconstructs a latent *language manifold*—a geometry of knowledge states whose evolution is independent of the spoken or written language. This framework reveals English, French, Arabic, Mandarin, and all other languages to be different coordinate projections of the same entropy-evolving informational structure. This framework unifies linguistics, cognition, and real-time learning under a single physical law, offering a new foundation for understanding meaning, translation, and intelligence beyond classical symbolic or neural approaches.

Introduction

Literature

The search for a **Universal Language Manifold** connects four traditionally separate research domains: linguistic theory, self-supervised learning from raw speech, the physics of acoustic signals, and the SKA framework’s entropy-based information geometry. Below we review the relevant work across these domains and show how they converge toward a unified physical foundation for linguistic universality.

1. Linguistics and the Search for Universal Structure

The generative tradition initiated by Chomsky argues that the diversity of human languages is governed by a set of shared underlying principles known as *Universal Grammar*. Classic formulations [24, 25] propose an innate, biologically specified architecture that constrains the space of possible grammars. More recent work explores mathematical and algebraic formulations of linguistic universals, such as the algebraic structure of Merge and its invariants [26]. Crucially, Universal Grammar has remained biologically specified and modality-agnostic in principle, yet has never been derived from the physical signal itself. The present framework closes this gap: the algebraic invariants of Merge and the constraints on possible grammars emerge as geometric consequences of entropic least action on the acoustic manifold, without requiring any innate

symbolic module. Parallel research in historical linguistics documents that writing systems emerged only around 3300–3200 BC [1, 3, 14], while spoken language predates writing by tens of thousands of years. These findings support the view that linguistic structure originates in the acoustic stream and cognitive-perceptual constraints rather than cultural inscription systems.

2. Self-Supervised Learning from Raw Acoustic Streams

Modern self-supervised speech models demonstrate that linguistic structure can be learned directly from the raw audio waveform. Systems such as wav2vec 2.0 [15], HuBERT [16], and RawNet [17] bypass human-designed features (e.g., MFCCs, phonemes), mapping the acoustic waveform into structured latent spaces that encode phonetic, articulatory, and prosodic information. Research on *Acoustic Unit Discovery* shows that meaningful subword units can be extracted without any labels [18], and unsupervised word segmentation from discretized acoustic units [19] demonstrates that lexical structure can emerge from the continuous signal alone. Recent advancements in scaling to multilingual settings, such as Whisper [22] and MMS [23], extend SSL from raw audio to diverse languages, showing emergent structure in multimodal and whispered speech without labels, further supporting the discovery of universal representations across linguistic diversity. These findings empirically support the SKA hypothesis that the acoustic stream contains sufficient structure for real-time discovery of a universal manifold.

3. Acoustic Physics and Information Geometry

Spoken language is not merely a symbolic sequence but a continuous physical signal governed by the laws of acoustics, resonance, and nonlinear dynamics. The patterns formed by formants, harmonics, coarticulation, and prosody embed structural information that constrains how meaning can be encoded. This connects naturally to information geometry, where the evolution of knowledge states is modeled as trajectories on curved manifolds shaped by entropy and variational principles [29]. The SKA framework uses the *law of entropic least action* to define how information flows in time, aligning linguistic universality with physical invariants rather than genetically pre-specified rules.

4. Integration with the SKA Framework

The Structured Knowledge Accumulation (SKA) framework proposes that meaning emerges from the continuous reduction of entropy under a forward-only learning dynamic. When applied to the raw acoustic stream, SKA reconstructs a latent *language manifold*: a Riemannian geometry of knowledge states whose curvature is invariant across all spoken languages. Within this formulation:

- linguistic structure arises from physical constraints in the acoustic-entropy field;
- languages correspond to different coordinate projections of the same manifold;
- no symbolic priors, syntactic templates, or phonetic categories need to be built in;
- the universality of language is explained by geometry, not innate grammatical rules.
- translation between any pair of languages becomes a coordinate transformation on the manifold rather than alignment of discrete symbolic trees.

This positions SKA as a unifying framework that bridges generative linguistics, modern speech self-supervision, and information-theoretic physics, offering a physical basis for linguistic universals grounded in the raw acoustic signal.

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