

# Linguistics in Potsdam

Series Editors:

Ruben van de Vijver  
Institut für Linguistik Potsdam

Ralf Vogel  
Institut für Linguistik Potsdam



Linguistics in Potsdam | 25

Hans Broekhuis & Ralf Vogel (eds.)

**Optimality Theory and Minimalism:  
A Possible Convergence?**

Universitätsverlag Potsdam 2006

### **Bibliografische Information Der Deutschen Bibliothek**

Die Deutsche Bibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über <http://dnb.ddb.de> abrufbar.

LiP issues do not appear according to strict schedule.

© Copyrights of articles remain with the authors.

Series Editors:        Ruben van de Vijver  
                             Ralf Vogel

Institut für Linguistik  
Universität Potsdam  
Am Neuen Palais 10, D-14469 Potsdam  
{ruben, rvogel}@ling.uni-potsdam.de

Published by        Universitätsverlag Potsdam  
                             Am Neuen Palais 10, 14469 Potsdam  
                             Fon +49 (0) 331 977 4517  
                             Fax +49 (0) 331 977 4625  
                             e-mail: [ubpub@uni-potsdam.de](mailto:ubpub@uni-potsdam.de)  
                             <http://info.ub.uni-potsdam.de/verlag.htm>

Printed by        Audiovisuelles Zentrum der Universität Potsdam  
Published        2006

**ISBN                978-3-939469-54-4**  
**ISSN                1616-7392**

## **Preface**

This issue of *Linguistics in Potsdam* contains a number of papers that grew out of the workshop *Descriptive and Empirical Adequacy in Linguistics* held in Berlin on December 17-19 December, 2005. One of the goals of this meeting was to bring together scholars working in various frameworks (with emphasis on the Minimalist Program and Optimality Theory) and to discuss matters concerning descriptive and empirical adequacy. Another explicit goal was to discuss the question whether Minimalism and Optimality Theory should be considered incompatible and, hence, competing theories, or whether the two frameworks should rather be considered complementary in certain respects (see <http://let.uvt.nl/deal05/call.html> for the call for papers). Five of the seven papers in this volume directly grew out of the oral presentations given at the workshop. Although Vieri Samek-Lodovici's paper was not part of the workshop, it can also be considered a result of the workshop since it pulls together some of his many comments during the discussion time. The paper by Eva Engels and Sten Vikner discusses a phenomenon that received much interest from both minimalist and optimality theoretic syntax in the recent years, Scandinavian object shift. The paper may serve as a practical example for a claim that is repeatedly made in this volume: minimalist and OT analyses, even where they might be competing, can fruitfully inform each other in a constructive manner, leading to a deeper understanding of syntactic phenomena.

Hans Broekhuis

Ralf Vogel

Leiden and Potsdam, Dec 18, 2006



## Contents

Pius ten Hacken:	
The Nature, Use and Origin of Explanatory Adequacy . . . . .	9-32
Jane Grimshaw:	
Last Resorts and Grammaticality . . . . .	33-41
Alona Soschen:	
Natural Law: The Dynamics of Syntactic Representations in MP	43-76
Vieri Samek-Lodovici:	
Optimality Theory and the Minimalist Program . . . . .	77-97
Ralf Vogel:	
The Simple Generator . . . . .	99-136
Hans Broekhuis:	
Derivations (MP) and Evaluations (OT) . . . . .	137-193
Eva Engels and Sten Vikner:	
An Optimality-Theoretic Analysis of Scandinavian Object Shift and Remnant VP-Topicalisation . . . . .	195-231

