

The MIT Press

N e w B o o k s

## OPTIMALITY-THEORETIC SYNTAX

Edited by Géraldine Legendre, Jane Grimshaw, and Sten Vikner

Recent work in theoretical syntax has revealed the strong explanatory power of the notions of economy, competition, and optimization. Building grammars entirely upon these elements, Optimality Theory syntax provides a theory of universal grammar with a formally precise and strongly restricted theory of universal typology: cross-linguistic variation arises exclusively from the conflict among universal principles.

Beginning with a general introduction to Optimality Theory syntax, this volume provides a comprehensive overview of the state of the art, as represented by the work of the leading developers of the theory. The broad range of topics treated includes morphosyntax (case, inflection, voice, and cliticization), the syntax of reference (control, anaphora, and pronominalization), the grammar of clauses (complementizers and their absence), and grammatical and discourse effects in word order. Among the theoretical themes running throughout are the interplay between faithfulness and markedness, and various questions of typology and of inventory.

Géraldine Legendre is Professor of Cognitive Science at Johns Hopkins University. Jane Grimshaw is Professor of Linguistics and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Rutgers University. Sten Vikner is Assistant Professor of Linguistics and of German Linguistics at the University of Stuttgart.

### *Contributors*

*Peter Ackema, Judith Aissen, Eric Bakovic, Joan Bresnan, Hye-Won Choi, João Costa, Jane Grimshaw, Edward Keer, Géraldine Legendre, Gereon Müller, Ad Neeleman, Vieri Samek-Lodovici, Peter Sells, Margaret Speas, Sten Vikner, Colin Wilson, Ellen Woolford*

**20% Conference Discount**

**NELS 31 October 6-8, 2000 Georgetown University**

March 2001 • 555 pp. • 7 x 9

\$33.60 paper • 0-262-62138-X • LEGOP

\$84.00 cloth • 0-262-12235-9 • LEGOH

Language, Speech, and Communication series

A Bradford Book