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All you need is Merge:

Biology, computation, and language from the bottom-up

The Strong Minimalist Thesis (SMT) asks how little can be attributed to UG while still accounting for the variety of I-languages attained, relying on third factor principles. It has recently been argued that interface conditions at the conceptual-intentional (CI) side may largely fix the design properties of UG. In this talk we show that these design properties also dovetail nearly perfectly with constraints on the sensori-motor side, with, for example, the no-tampering condition (NTC), Edge labels, binary Merge, and the like all meshing with a computational model that imposes the minimal possible cost for SM. In this restricted sense, then, the entire system, from SM through to CI, is optimal.