OT Check List

1 ☐ The System
2 ☐ The Typology
3 ☐ Technique
4 Beyond correctness

1 The System S

☐ **S.GEN** Do we know exactly what counts as a candidate / candidate set (*cset*) for system S?
☐ **S.CON** Do we know how to map every candidate to its violation profile in system S?

2 The Typology of S

☐ **Internal cset sufficiency**. Does each cset contain all possible optima? (is it optimum-complete?)
☐ **Aggregate cset sufficiency**. Do we have a valid universal support for the typology T_S?
☐ **The Languages of T_S**. Have the languages (of interest, if not all) been obtained and represented?
☐ **The Grammars of T_S**. Have the grammars (of interest, if not all) been obtained and represented?

3 Technique

☐ **Ranking**. Is every ranking claim justified (correctly) over the entirety of S.CON?
☐ **Optimality**. Are claims of optimality established wrt all competing possible optima?
☐ **Representation**. Are the grammars represented in a sound and unambiguous way?
☐ **Encoding**. Does the encoding of forms indicate all evaluated substructures?
☐ **Tableaux**. Are all relevant properties & distinctions present in the tableaux?
☐ **Support**. Is the relation between a grammar and its support made clear?

4 Beyond Correctness

What do we know about how the system works?

- IO mappings
- distribution of traits across languages
- patterns of harmonic bounding and consistency of optima across csets
- emergent classification of grammars
- etc.

Terminology

S. An OT system defined by specification of S.GEN and S.CON.
Language. Given a linear order on S.CON, the optima it delivers from every candidate set.
Grammar. The set of all linear orders on S.CON that deliver the same language.
An ERC set that represents this set of linear orders.
Typology T_S. The set of grammars admitted by S.
Cset. Candidate set.
Optimum-complete. Of a cset: contains all possible optima.
Support. The collection of csets from which a grammar is derived.
(Valid) Universal support. A collection of csets that delivers (all) the grammars of the typology.
CROT. Casual Rendering of OT. What you have left behind when you check off this list.