**Natural Language Ontology and its Relation to Syntax**

There is a widespread skepticism whether natural language reflects ontology, not at least due to Chomsky's rejection of (external) reference as a notion involved in natural language. At the same time, ontological notions permeate not only semantics, but, in fact, also (generative) syntax. I will argue for an understanding of ontology that allows overcoming such scepticism and permits a new and important research perspective of natural language ontology, as part of both metaphysics and linguistics.