

Chapter 4, Problem 8: Agreement and Case Marking in Wambaya

In Wambaya nouns and determiners must agree in gender and in case (these examples tell us nothing about number, so it's best to leave it out for the moment). This can be dealt with by adding values for case and gender to the lexical entries of the determiners; then the nouns can select for determiners with specific values for gender and case.

- A. The feature CASE should be inside the feature HEAD (e.g., as a feature of *noun* and *det*). This way, the Head Feature Principle will automatically ensure that Ns and the NPs they head bear the same value for the feature CASE.
- B. Our account of determiner-noun agreement required nouns to share AGR features with their determiners. This would cover the Wambaya data if we moved CASE into AGR. Alternatively, we can require that nouns share both AGR and CASE with their determiners in the lexicon. The following lexical entries do this. Of course, rather than make specific stipulations in these lexical entries, we could state general principles like the SHAC governing the identity of feature values.

$$\left\langle \text{bungmanyani} , \begin{bmatrix} \text{word} \\ \text{HEAD} \begin{bmatrix} \text{noun} \\ \text{AGR} \begin{bmatrix} \text{GEN} & \text{fem} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{CASE} & \text{erg} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{VAL} \begin{bmatrix} \text{SPR} & \left\langle \text{HEAD} \begin{bmatrix} \text{det} \\ \text{AGR} \begin{bmatrix} \text{GEN} & \text{fem} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{CASE} & \text{erg} \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \langle \rangle \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \text{ngankiyaga} , \begin{bmatrix} \text{word} \\ \text{HEAD} \begin{bmatrix} \text{det} \\ \text{AGR} \begin{bmatrix} \text{GEN} & \text{fem} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{CASE} & \text{erg} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{VAL} \begin{bmatrix} \text{SPR} & \langle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \langle \rangle \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \text{bungmaji} , \begin{bmatrix} \text{word} \\ \text{HEAD} \begin{bmatrix} \text{noun} \\ \text{AGR} \begin{bmatrix} \text{GEN} & \text{masc} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{CASE} & \text{acc} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{VAL} \begin{bmatrix} \text{SPR} & \left\langle \text{HEAD} \begin{bmatrix} \text{det} \\ \text{AGR} \begin{bmatrix} \text{GEN} & \text{masc} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{CASE} & \text{acc} \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \langle \rangle \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \text{iniyaga} , \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{word} \\ \text{HEAD} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{det} \\ \text{AGR} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{GEN} \quad \text{masc} \end{array} \right] \\ \text{CASE} \quad \text{acc} \end{array} \right] \\ \text{VAL} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{SPR} \quad \langle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS} \quad \langle \rangle \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right] \right\rangle$$