1/3 语言学范畴研究丛书

Number

数量范畴

Greville G. Corbett
UNIVERSITY OF SURREY





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For Judith, David, Ian and Peter

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## **PREFACE**

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And now a Jakobson story. Haugen (1975: 326) recalls that Jakobson told him that Tesnière's book on number Les formes du duel en slovène, published in Paris in 1925, was made a best-seller by potential readers who assumed it was about duelling in Slovenia. The present book may not be snapped up by a public mistakenly eager for the latest contribution to number theory. But if a few stray mathematicians read it, I hope they will find that the linguistic number systems analysed here show the elegance and complexity they are accustomed to in their area of enquiry.

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

ABL ablative

ACC accusative

AG agreement marker

AGT agent

AOR aorist

ART article

ASSOC associative

AUG augmented

AUX auxiliary

BENEF benefactive

CAUS causative

CERT certain

COND conditional

DAT dative

DIM diminutive

DIR directional

DU dual

EFF effector

ERG ergative

EXCL exclusive

FEM feminine

FUT future

GEN genitive

IMMED immediate

IMP imperative

IMPERFV imperfective

INCL inclusive

INDEF indefinite

INDIC indicative

INST instrumental

#### List of abbreviations

INTRAN intransitive IRR irrealis LOC locative MASC masculine NEG negative NEUT neuter NOM nominative NOW 'now' discourse clitic OBJ object OBL oblique PARTIC participle PASS passive PAT patient PERFV perfective PERSE personal experience PL plural POSS possessive PRES present PRET preterite PROX proximate PRV preverb PST past Q question QM quantity marker REDUP reduplication REFL reflexive REL relative pronoun SBST substantivizer SG singular SUBJ subject 1 first person 2 second person 3 third person I gender I II gender II

> III gender III IV gender IV

# **CONTENTS**

	List of figures	page xii
	List of tables	xiv
	Preface	xvii
	List of abbreviations	xix
1	Introduction	1
1.1	The special interest of number	1
1.2	Comparing like with like	3
1.3	Structure of the book	6
1.4	Presentation	7
2	Meaning distinctions	9
2.1	General number	9
2.2	Number values	19
2.3	Number systems (the Number Hierarchy and associated	
	problems)	38
2.4	Languages without number	50
2.5	Approaches in formal semantics	51
2.6	Conclusion	52
3	Items involved in the nominal number system	54
3.1	The Animacy Hierarchy	55
3.2	The hierarchy positions	56
3.3	Marking and agreement	66
3.4	Optionality	70
3.5	Morphological effects	75
3.6	Count and mass	78
3.7	Semantic effects	83
3.8	Conclusion	87

#### Contents

4	Integrating number values and the Animacy Hierarchy	89
4.1	Extending the Animacy Hierarchy to other number values	90
4.2	Minor numbers	95
4.3	Associatives	101
4.4	Distributives and collectives	111
4.5	Top and second systems	120
4.6	Conclusion	132
5	The expression of number	133
5.1	Number words	133
5.2	Syntax	136
5.3	Morphology	138
5.4	Lexical means	155
5.5	Inverse number (and polarity)	159
5.6	Minimal-augmented systems	166
5.7	'Constructed' numbers	169
5.8	Reduced expression of number	171
5.9	Conclusion	177
	The syntax of number	178
	Controller versus target number	178
	The Agreement Hierarchy and 'corporate' nouns in English	188
	Associatives (syntactic)	191
	Honorifics (in Slavonic)	193
	Conjoined noun phrases	195
	Arabic (agreement with plural noun phrases)	207
	Agreement with quantified expressions (mainly in Slavonic)	211
	Constraints on agreement systems	216
6.9	Conclusion	218
-		210
	Other uses of number Honorifics and related uses	219 220
		228
	Unexpected feature values in coordination	
	Special uses	234
1.4	Conclusion	242
0	Verbal number	243
	The geographical extent of verbal number	245
	The meaning of verbal number	245
	Locus appropriate the meaning of verbal number	251
0 7	LABAIS TOTAL	431

		Conte	nts
8.4	Diagnostics for verbal number		252
8.5	Items involved in the verbal number system	2	257
8.6	Expression of verbal number		258
8.7	Other uses	2	260
8.8	Motivation for the asymmetries	2	261
8.9	Conclusion	1	264
9	Conclusion and new challenges		265
9.1	Diachrony	2	265
9.2	Interactions	2	271
9.3	Use of number		280
9.4	The acquisition of number		294
9.5	The psycholinguistics of number		295
9.6	The final note		298
	References		299
	Author index		343
	Language index		351
	Subject index		356

# **FIGURES**

2.1	System with separate general number	page 11
2.2	System with general/singular versus plural	13
2.3	System with general/plural versus singular	16
2.4	System with singular versus plural	19
2.5	Illustration of possible number systems	40
2.6	Possible number systems including an indeterminate value	41
2.7	Number systems with two indeterminate values	42
2.8	The facultative trial of Ngan'gityemerri	44
2.9	The facultative dual of Slovene	45
2.10	The facultative numbers of Larike	45
2.11	The facultative numbers of Longgu	47
2.12	The facultative numbers of Marshallese	47
2.13	System with separate general number (Bayso)	48
2.14	System with shared general number (Kaytetye)	49
2.15	General number (first attempt)	49
2.16	System with general/singular versus plural	50
3.1	The Animacy Hierarchy	56
3.2	The effect of the Animacy Hierarchy on number systems	57
3.3	Different uses of the plural in English	86
4.1	The Animacy Hierarchy	90
4.2	Range of plural and dual in Mansi	90
4.3	Range of plural and dual in Arapesh	91
4.4	Ranges of plural and dual in Maori	91
4.5	Impossible pattern of ranges of number values	92
4.6	Ranges of number values in Yimas	93
4.7	Ranges of number values in Manam	93
4.8	Range of plural and dual in Slovene	94
4.9	Range of minor numbers	98
4.10	Impossible range for a minor number	99
4.11	Minor number systems	100

## List of figures

4.12	Associative plurals in Hungarian: first analysis	103
4.13	Associative plurals in Hungarian: second analysis	104
4.14	Number value systems of Yimas	120
4.15	Top and second systems in Pame	122
4.16	Top and second systems in Tuyuca	123
4.17	Top and second systems in dialects of north-west Spain	126
4.18	Top and second systems in Qafar	127
4.19	Top and second systems in Kaytetye	127
4.20	Top and second systems in Bayso	128
5.1	Potential distinctions for number marking	139
5.2	Possible stems and inflections	140
5.3	Singular stem matches the base	141
5.4	Plural stem matches the base	141
5.5	Both stems match the base	142
5.6	Inflections not sensitive to number	142
6.1	Framework of terms	179
6.2	The Agreement Hierarchy	190
6.3	The Predicate Hierarchy	195
6.4	Agreement with the nearest conjunct	196
6.5	Agreement with the first, most distant conjunct (rare)	197
6.6	Agreement with all conjuncts (resolution)	197
9 1	Irregularity type and plural anomaly	292

# **TABLES**

2.1	The dual in Upper Sorbian p	age 20
2.2	Independent pronouns in Lihir	25
2.3	Lihir number markers	26
2.4	Emphatic pronouns in Sursurunga	27
2.5	Plural forms in Fula	31
2.6	Number forms in Hamer	33
2.7	Mokilese personal pronouns	34
2.8	Number contrasts in Mele-Fila	35
2.9	Personal pronouns in Pirahã	50
3.1	Complete list of nouns with plural form in Maori	61
3.2	Personal pronouns in Igbo	63
3.3	Personal pronouns in Asmat	64
3.4	Personal pronouns in Kuman	66
3.5	The demonstrative 'this' in Miya	72
3.6	Number marking and agreement in Miya	73
3.7	The use of plural markers in Japanese	74
3.8	Pronouns of Mandarin Chinese	76
3.9	Pronominal prefixes of Barbareño Chumash	77
3.10	Plural forms in Eastern Huasteca Nahuatl	78
3.11	Semantic categories of noun phrase	80
4.1	Examples of the paucal in Avar	97
4.2	Personal pronouns in Hungarian	103
4.3	Personal pronouns in Central Pomo	106
4.4	Associative and number morphology in Central Alaskan Yup'il	109
4.5	Number distinctions of inanimate nouns in Pame	121
4.6	Number distinctions of animate nouns in Pame	122
5.1	Number marking in Akhvakh	143
5.2	Major noun inflectional classes of Russian	144
5.3	Membership of the inflectional classes of Russian	145
5.4	Number and case in Uzbek	145

List	of	tab	les
LINDE	U	ino	CU

5.5	Basic types of nominal stress in Russian	147
5.6	Examples of stem alternations in Macedonian	147
5.7	Lak mulh 'sickle'	148
5.8	Partial reduplication in Ilocano	149
5.9	Stem internal modification in Germanic languages	149
5.10	Examples of broken plurals in Arabic	150
5.11	Formation of diminutive plurals in Breton	153
5.12	Double plurals in Dutch	154
5:13	Noun number markers in Kiowa	159
5.14	Classes of noun and their semantics in Teop	164
5.15	Articles taken by different noun types in Teop	165
5.16	The definite article in Somali (basic forms)	166
5.17	Rembarrnga dative pronoun forms: traditional categories	167
5.18	Rembarrnga dative pronoun forms: minimal-augmented analysis	167
5.19	Traditional analysis of Ilocano pronominal forms	168
5.20	Minimal-augmented analysis of Ilocano pronominal forms	168
5.21	Different indicators of number-differentiability	172
5.22	Main noun types in Central Alaskan Yup'ik	174
6.1	Place where nominal number is primarily expressed	180
6.2	Number forms of Bayso nouns	181
6.3	Forms of the predicate verb in Bayso	182
6.4	Third person pronouns in Bayso	183
6.5	Consistent agreement patterns in Bayso	183
6.6	Third person pronouns in Qafar	184
6.7	Perfect tense forms in Qafar	184
6.8	Personal pronouns in Godié	186
6.9	Types of controllers which induce agreement mismatches	188
6.10	Judgements on agreement with 'corporate' nouns in three	
	varieties of English	189
6.11	Agreement with honorific vy 'you' in the Slavonic languages	194
6.12	Agreement with conjoined noun phrases in Russian	
	(target factors)	199
6.13	Agreement with conjoined noun phrases (controller factors)	201
6.14	Agreement with conjoined and comitative phrases in Russian	207
6.15	Consistent agreement patterns in Cairene Arabic	208
6.16	Agreement with plural noun phrases in Cairene Arabic	209
6.17	Effect of distance of target from controller in Cairene Arabic	210
6.18	Predicate agreement with quantified expressions in Russian	214
6.19	Predicate agreement with numeral phrases in Slavonic	215
7.1	Forms of address in Boumaa Fijian	225

## List of tables

7.2	Number and politeness markers in Muna	228
8.1	Verbal number in Slave	249
8.2	Examples of verbal number in three Papuan languages	250
8.3	Place where number is primarily expressed	251
8.4	Examples of verbal number in Tonkawa	259
9.1	Mokilese personal pronouns	268
9.2	Percentage distribution of count and plural forms in Serbo-Croat $$	271
9.3	Forms of Russian byl 'was'	272
9.4	Forms of Slovene bil 'was'	273
9.5	Taiap demonstratives	273
9.6	Paradigm of Slovene k ót 'corner'	275
9.7	Slovene člóvek 'man, person'	276
9.8	Forms of Cree sīsīp 'duck'	277
9.9	Forms of Cree mīnis 'berry'	277
9.10	Free pronouns in Hua	278
9.11	Noun forms in Aari (tiilé 'water pot')	278
9.12	Frequency of different number values (of nouns) in texts	281
9.13	Frequency of different number values in Slovene prose texts	282
9.14	Alternations between singular and plural in Frisian	283
9.15	Regularization of Frisian nouns with stem alternations	
	(normal case)	284
9.16	Regularization of Frisian nouns with stem alternations	
	(special case)	284
9.17	Use of number values with nouns locally unmarked in the plural	285
9.18	Absolute Plural Anomaly in eight groups of nouns	290
9.19	Relative Plural Anomaly in eight groups of nouns	291

xvi