An Asymmetry between Multi-Valued Ns and Ts

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1. Introduction

(1) Nominal Concord
(2) Predicate-Argument Agreement

a. This student is tall.
b. John runs.

A novel asymmetry between nominal concord and argument-predicate agreement involving multi-valuation.

(3) Goal [Goal2] Probe

An analysis showing that the asymmetry can be accounted for under a unified Agree approach to agreement and concord.

2. Multi-Valuation in DP

Nominal Raising Node Raising (Shen 2016)

(4) a. This tail and that short student are a couple.
b. *This tall and that short student are a couple.

(5) a. John’s tall and Mary’s short student are a couple.
b. *John’s tall and Mary’s short student are a couple.

tabular data

(6) a. One tall and one short student are a couple.
b. *One tall and one short student are a couple.

Also found in German, Dutch, Icelandic, Slovenian, Serbo-Croatian, Polish, Spanish, Greek, Bulgarian, etc.

3. Multi-Valuation in TP

(8) Summative Agreement in RNR (Grosz 2015)

Sue’s proud that Bill[SG] and Mary’s glad that John[SG] have[PL] traveled.

Also found in Western Armenian, Standard Gujarati, Hebrew, Italian, Austrian German, Czech.

4. Proposal and Derivation

Proposal: N = [uNum:___] T = [uNum:___] uNum:

Summative Agreement

Sue’s proud that Bill[SG] and Mary’s glad that John[SG] have[PL] traveled.

Composed Plurality in Nocte (Glickman 2015)

Sue’s proud that Bill[SG] and Mary’s glad that John[SG] have[SG,SG].

5. Mismatch

Mismatch in Multi-Valued N: Closest Conjunct Agreement

(29) a. One tall and ten short students know each other.
b. *One tall and ten short student know each other.
c. Ten tall and one short student know each other.
d. *Ten tall and one short student know each other.

(30) Ten tall[SG] and one short[SG] student[SG] know each other.

Mismatch in Multi-Valued T: Plural

(31)a. Sue’s proud that the twins and Mary’s glad that John have traveled.
b. Mary’s glad that John and Sue’s proud that the twins have traveled.

(32) Sue’s proud that the twins[SG] and Mary’s glad that John[SG] have[SG,SG].

6. Conclusions

• This study made a novel observation of an asymmetry in multi-valuation between DPS and TPs;
• This study proposed an account for the asymmetry compatible with a unified analysis of nominal concord and predicate-argument agreement.

7. Outlooks

Multi-valued Adjective/Demonstratives