

I'm sticking with you: What phonology can tell us about the syntax of multiple agree

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I look at cross-linguistic variation in agreement paradigms, specifically when and how subject and object agreement are expressed as a single morpheme, or portmanteaux agreement, and under what conditions they are expressed as separate morphemes. I show that by carefully considering language-specific phonological factors, it is possible to isolate separate subject and object agreement markers in the languages that have been argued to have unanalyzable portmanteaux agreement. This eliminates the motivation for forming the portmanteau marker in the syntax, which has implications for Multiple Agree analyses of the phenomenon.