

D as a feature in the nominal bundle: A unifying approach to the NP/DP-dispute

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Giusti (2015, 2018) attempts a unification of the NP/DP debate based along the following lines:

- Heads are hierarchical bundles of features.
- The head N, bundled with its features, reemerges as many times as necessary in order to
 - saturate open positions of N (its arguments);
 - externally agree with a possessor (if present);
 - internally agree with an indexical (cf. Arsenijević 2007, 2015);
 - value an uninterpretable Case feature at the phasal level.

The structure in (4) captures Italian (1) or English (3):

(2) *le sue tre simpatiche amiche americane*

(3) her/Mary's three nice American friends

(4) $[_{NP_6} \text{indP } N_6 [_{NP_5} \text{Card } N_5 [_{NP_4} \text{NP}_{\text{poss}} N_4 [_{NP_3} \text{AP } N_3 [_{NP_2} \text{AP } N_2 [_{NP_1} \text{NP}_{\text{poss}} N_1]]]]]]]]]$

In (4) N1, N2, etc. are identical segments of the same head N. Parametric variation regards which segment(s) is/are realized. Economy prohibits to realize more than one identical segments (cf. Nunes 2004).

- English realizes N1 and no other segment.
- Italian realizes the definite article (N5) with Case features, and the lexical N in N3. Number and gender overlap on both.

In both languages, IndP is covert. In both languages, N4 activates a probe feature that assigns case to NP_{poss}.

- In English NP_{poss} reemerges in SpecNP4, irrespective of whether it is a pronoun or a full NP.
- In Italian NP_{poss} only reemerges if it is a pronoun. If it is a full NP, it remains in place and possessive case is realized as *di* (a segment of the possessive NP).

The contribution provides an answer to many research questions, a.o.:

- Are nominal functional categories justified? → Yes, but they are not independent heads. They are bundled with N.
- Are determiners phrasal? → articles are high segments of N, demonstratives and cardinal adjectives are phrasal.

References: Arsenijević, M. 2007. Arsenijević, M. 2015. • Giusti, G. 2015. *Nominal syntax at the interfaces*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. • Giusti, G. 2018. Demonstratives as modifiers and arguments of N. In M. Coniglio, A. Murphy, E. Schlachter & T. Veenstra (eds.), *Atypical demonstratives*, 23–55. Berlin & Boston: De Gruyter Mouton