

## **Janus-headed agreement in Ikaan compound numerals**

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*"Janus-headed" systems allow for two governing elements within a phrase. Ikaan, a variety of Ukaan (Benue-Congo, Ondo State, Nigeria), marks agreement between nouns and numeral modifiers by noun class markers. However, agreement marking in compound numerals is based on grammatical as well as on semantic features. This agreement system is undescribed in the literature on Ukaan and its neighbouring languages, therefore very little is known about this phenomenon.*

*According to the system of six noun classes the numeral takes the same agreement prefix as its head noun, and each numeric element in a number requires its own class marker. However, in some compound numerals the last numeric element seems not to agree with the noun it refers to, but triggers a default-marker depending on the semantics of its number.*

*The root i "one" as final element in a compound cardinal number does not take its noun's class marker, but û:- as default marker indicating singularity, even though one might expect it to be identical with the noun's singular noun class marker.*

*Hence, agreement occurs both between the first numeric element and the preceding noun (anaphorically) and between the second numeric element and its underlying semantics of singularity (cataphorically). In this paper I present this system of grammatical vs. semantic agreement in more detail on the basis of selected examples.*