Mechanisms of agreement

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Agreement plays an important role in language comprehension especially in richly inflected languages such as Spanish. Person, number and gender, which can be a conceptual or formal property, are features for agreement. In this talk I will describe behavioral and neuroimaging evidence on the agreement processes in language comprehension with different features mainly in monolinguals, but also in late learners of Spanish that do not have formal gender in their L1. The main addressed questions are a) how the processor solves agreement on-line when semantic or morphosyntactic features are available or absent; b) Is agreement computed similarly for all features; c) do second language learners compute agreement as in their first language; d) what agreement tell us about mechanisms for sentence processing.