

**Mismatch and asymmetry in Eleme verbal agreement**  
Oliver Bond (ELAP)

Eleme (Ogonoid, Niger-Congo) exhibits a rich and complex system of participant reference. A considerable number of conjugational patterns are to be found throughout the verbal system, with variation in personal inflection determined by TAM distinctions, as well as by the person and number of predicate arguments.

In this paper, the distribution of Eleme agreement affixes is exemplified with a particular emphasis on controller-target mismatches and paradigmatic asymmetry in Auxiliary Verb Constructions (AVC) and Serial Verb Constructions (SVC). It is demonstrated that affixes that seemingly belong to the same 'default' agreement paradigm exhibit disparate behaviour in terms of their host, and position in relation to that host, reflecting differences in historical development and function.