

## **Gender and Person Agreement in Cicipu**

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**11am-1pm**

**Room G50**

Cicipu is a Benue-Congo (West Kainji) language spoken in northwest Nigeria. In common with other languages of the group, Cicipu has a robust system of noun class (or gender) affixes with widespread agreement throughout the phrase and clause.

I will give an overview of the gender system and highlight some of the more interesting data. In particular there is an interesting alternation between two types of subject agreement: one kind involves agreement in person only, whereas the other also involves agreement in gender. The choice seems to be conditioned by syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic factors; none of these factors on its own is sufficient to explain the distribution.