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## **Adnominal possession in Spanish:**

### **Regional variation and the adjectival/determinative status of the possessor**

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Prenominal possessors in Spanish are generally considered to occur in complementary distribution with other determiners, suggesting that Spanish ranks among the class of ‘determiner-genitive’ languages (Lyons 1999). This analysis is challenged by article-possessor combinations in certain regional Spanish varieties. Thus, the possessor may cooccur with the indefinite article in Central America (*un mi hermano* ‘a my brother’) and with the definite one in Northern Spain (*el mi hermano* ‘the my brother’).

Evidence stemming from an analysis of the PRESEEA Guatemala (PRESEEA 2014-2017) and the COSER corpora (Fernández-Ordóñez 2005) suggests that these combinations are contingent on an emphatic or contrastive interpretation of the possessor’s referent. At the same time, the possessive itself appears to be a fully grammaticalized determiner.

I propose that a split-DP analysis accounts best for the observed patterns and accommodates the fact that article-possessor combinability does not require the possessor to be analyzed as an adjective.

**References:** • Fernández-Ordóñez, I. (dir.) (2005-2017): *Corpus Oral y Sonoro del Español Rural*. <[www.corpusrural.es](http://www.corpusrural.es)> [June 14th, 2017] ISBN 978-84-616-4937-2. • Lyons, C. (1999): *Definiteness*. Cambridge: CUP. • PRESEEA (2014-2017): *Corpus del Proyecto para el estudio sociolingüístico del español de España y de América*. Alcalá de Henares: Universidad de Alcalá. <<http://preseea.linguas.net>> [June 14th, 2017].