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A view from the North: Genders and classi ers in Arawak languages of north-west Amazonia
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Possessive classi ers in Zamucoan
Luca Ciucci and Pier Marco Bertinetto

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Preface

Every language has some means of categorizing objects into humans, or animates, or by their shape, form, size, and function. e most wide-spread are linguistic genders„ grammatical classes of nouns based on core semantic properties such as sex (female and male), animacy, humanness, and also shape and size. Classi ers of several types also serve to categorize entities. Numeral classi ers occur with number words, possessive classi ers appear in the expressions of possession, and verbal classi ers are used on a verb, categorizing its argument. Genders and classi ers of varied types can occur together. eir meanings re ect beliefs and traditions, and in many respects mirror the ways in which speakers view the ever-changing reality. is volume elaborates on the expression, usage, history, and meanings of noun categorization devices of di erent kinds, exploring their various facets across the languages of South America and Asia, known for the diversity of their noun categorization.

 e volume starts with a typological introduction outlining the types of noun categorization devices, their expression, scope, and functions, in addition to the socio-cultural aspects of their use, and their development. It is followed by revised versions of papers originally presented at the International Workshop •Genders and classi ers in Amazonia and beyond• organized by the editors and held at the Language and Culture Research Centre, James Cook University, …   August   . An earlier version of Chapter   was circulated to the conttibrs, with a list of issues to be addressed, so as to ensure that the studies of individual languages within this volume were cast in terms of a common set of parameters. is is the ninth monograph in the series *Explorations in Linguistic Typology*, devoted to volumes from International Workshops organized by the Language and Culture Research Centre and its predecessors.

 e Workshop, and subsequent discussions between the editors and the authors, were intellectually stimulating, with cross-fertilization of ideas and scholarly debates. Each author has undertaken intensive eldwork and has rsthand in-depth knowledge of their languages, in addition to experience of working on linguistic typology, historical and comparative linguistics, and language contact and areal di usion. e analysis is uniformly cast in terms of basic linguistic theory„the cumulative typological framework which provides the foundation for sound empirically-based descriptive and analytic works. We avoid formalisms (which provide reinterpretations rather than explanations, and come and go with such frequency that any statement made in terms of them is likely to soon become inaccessible).

It is our hope that this volume will further contribute to a consolidated conceptual and analytic framework, primarily established in the previous work by Aikhenvald.

Notes on the contributors

A Y. A is Distinguished Professor, Australian Laureate Fellow, and Director of the Language and Culture Research Centre at James Cook University. She is a major authority on languages of the Arawak family, from northern Amazonia, and has written grammars of *Bare* ( ) and *Warekena* ( ), plus *A Grammar of Tariana, from Northwest Amazonia* (CUP,), and *e Manambu language of East Sepik, Papua New Guinea* (OUP,) in addition to essays on various typological and areal topics. She is the editor of *Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality* (OUP,) and co-editor, with R. M. W. Dixon, of *e Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Typology* (CUP,). Her other major publications include *Classi ers: a typology of noun categorization devices* (OUP,), *Evidentiality* (OUP,), *Imperatives and Commands* (OUP,), *Languages of the Amazon* (OUP,), *e Art of Grammar* (OUP,), *How Gender Shapes the World* (OUP,), and *Serial Verbs* (OUP,). *Address:* Language and Culture Research Centre, James Cook University, PO Box , Cairns, N Qld , Australia; *e-mail:* Alexandra.Aikhenvald@jcu.edu.au

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Abbreviations

2   rst person

2   one-dimensional

Abbreviations xv

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xvi   *Abbreviations*

"	conditional
" 1	conjunction
"	connective
" #	continuative
" # *#	contrast
"	copula
"	completive marker
"*	copula subject
"#*	close to speaker
D	possessed
#	dative case
"	deictic classi er
" 7	deictic classi er
7	de nite
	delimitative
'	demonstrative
':	inanimate demonstrative
'.	demonstrative identi er
"	deprecatory
*	desiderative
'	diminutive
	directional
. *	away-from-speaker direction
. !	downward direction
. *	downstream direction
. *	nonspeci c direction
.	upward direction
*#	distal
*#	distributive
'	discourse marker
	discourse particle
	•derivational•
	durative
	event nominalizer
3	egophoric

xviii *Abbreviations*

'   imperative

3		negative
3. *#		negative existential
neuter		neuter gender (no abbreviation)
#		neutral (classi er)
nf		non-feminine
nfem		non-feminine
7		non-future indicative
'		non-human
NJ		Native Japanese
NK		Northern Kampa
'		non-masculine
' 0		nominalization
'0		nominalizer
No		Nomatsiguenga
'		nominative
7 '		non-feminine
"		noun classi er
		noun phrase
*#		non-past
*3		nonsingular
*		non-speci c
'."		numeral classi er
		object of transitive verb
61		object
P		patient
Paj		Pajonal Ashéninka
**		passive
*#		past (no abbreviation)
		paucal
" 7		possessive classi er
Pe		Perené Alto
7		perfective
Pi		Pichis Ashéninka
, pl		plural
. "		plural exclusive

xx   *Abbreviations*

. "	plural inclusive
	personal name
	polite
*.	positive polarity
**	possessive, possessor
#	potential
	plural participants
	•pronominal•
	predicative
	preposition
*	presential
*. *	present visual
3	progressive
	personal pronoun
	proximal
#"	participle
	purposive
9	question marker
9 #	quanti er
	possessor
"	relative clause

*/ .#	topical S/A subject
* 9	sequential
*7	sentence- nal particle
*3, sg	singular
sgf	singular feminine
sgnf	singular non-feminine
* '	similative
SJ	Sino-Japanese
SK	Southern Kampa
*	subject honori c
*	speci c
Sp	Spanish
SS	same subject
*##	stative
* 6	subordinator
* 61	subjunctive
* 6*	substance (classi er)
T	eme
# '	terminative
#	thematic
#	topic
trid	tridimensional
##	title
" #	uncertainty
""	verbless clause complement
"	verbal classi er; verbal action classi er in Chapter 2<
"*	verbless clause subject
6."	verbal classi er
#	vertical
'	valency modi er