

Clitic doubling in Brazilian Portuguese as a DOM strategy

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This article shows that clitic doubling in Brazilian Portuguese is possible if the direct and indirect objects correspond to a first or a second person pronoun. We posit that the clitics are required whenever the doubled object carries a familiar [topic] feature, whose presence depends on the semantic properties of the nominal item. We postulate that the clitics are merged in the head D^0 to value the uninterpretable ϕ -feature of the head D^0 and the uninterpretable topic feature of the object. This proposal entails that there is a transfer of the topic feature from K^0 to D^0 , which explains why the clitic is spelled out on the head of DP. We claim that the phenomenon of clitic doubling can be viewed as a side effect of differential object marking. This mechanism contrasts with typical DOM in Romance languages in the sense that it does not licence a preposition in a prenominal position.

Keywords: **clitic doubling, DOM, person feature, topic and case**

▼ ARTICLE OUTLINE

1. Introduction
2. Empirical data: Clitic doubling of direct and indirect objects
 - 2.1 Summary of the section
3. Theoretical assumptions
4. The syntactic and semantic effects of clitic doubling
5. The syntactic derivation of clitic doubling in BP
 - 5.1 Derivation of the indirect object constructions
6. Final remarks

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Notes

References

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