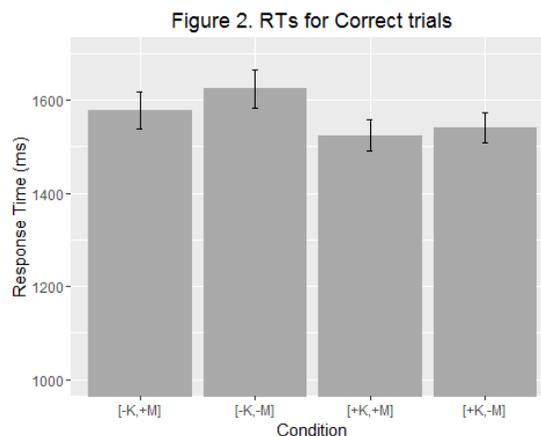
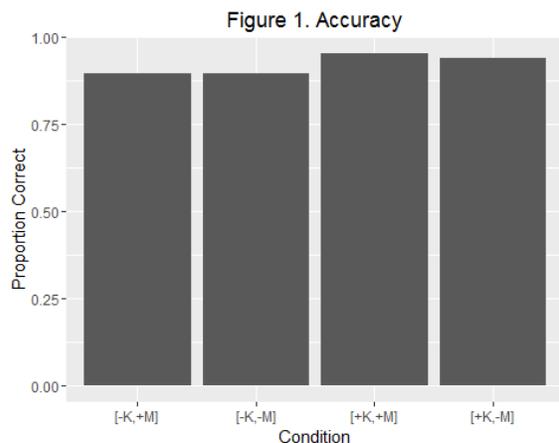


agreement controller (bolded in 6c,d) and the subject was the attractor. The matrix subject was consistently case marked and the matrix verb bore default agreement. 24 items in 4 conditions were presented to Hindi speakers recruited by word of mouth (n=32). All items were presented word by word in centered RSVP format (word time=450ms) based on the methodology in [7]. This was followed by a binary choice decision task where participants selected either a masculine or feminine verb as the appropriate completion within a limited time window (3 seconds). The experiment also included 48 filler sentences.

- (6) **Item template:** matrix-Subject_{+K} matrix-Verb_{DEFAULT-AGR} that **Subject**_{-K/+K} **Object**_{-K} **Adverb** ...
- (a) [-K,+M] John-ne socaa ki **laRkii**- \emptyset kitaab- \emptyset jaldi-se (1)
 John-ERG thought.DEFAULT that girl.F book.F quickly
- (b) [-K,-M] ... **laRkaa**- \emptyset kitaab- \emptyset jaldi-se (2)
- (c) [+K,+M] ... laRkii-ne **kitaab**- \emptyset jaldi-se (3)
- (d) [+K,+M] ... laRke-ne **kitaab**- \emptyset jaldi-se (4)

Results: See Table 1, and Figures 1 and 2, for the mean accuracy proportions and raw response times (for correct responses) in milliseconds with standard error in parentheses. A logistic mixed effects model analysis of the **accuracy data** revealed a **main effect of case** ($z=2.61, p=0.009$). Participants were less accurate in the [-K] conditions relative to the [+K] conditions suggesting that an unmarked attractor leads to interference in computing agreement. No other effects – feature manipulation or the feature*case interaction– were significant ($ps > 0.5$). A linear mixed effects model analysis of log RT did not reveal any significant effects, though the effect of case trends in the expected direction ($t=-1.82$) such that participants were numerically slower to respond in the [-K] conditions, that is, when the attractor was unmarked for case.

TABLE 1		Features on Subject & Object	
		+M	-M
Case (Subj)	-K	0.9 ; 1577(40ms)	0.89; 1624(41ms)
	+K	0.95; 1523(33ms)	0.94; 1541(33ms)



Discussion. In allowing subjects *and* objects to bear unmarked case and control verbal agreement, Hindi grammar allows us to examine the online processing of agreement in grammatical systems where unmarked case determines accessibility for agreement. The current experimental study shows that the presence of an unmarked attractor nouns is associated with lower accuracy in production. This result supports the *unmarked case hypothesis* since having multiple nouns (the grammatical agreement controller and the attractor) be unmarked for case makes the computation of agreement more error-prone. The effect of case is possibly independent of the feature manipulation since no interaction between case and features obtains. Furthermore, this result of an increased error rate due to an unmarked attractor suggests that not only is the human sentence processor sensitive to overt morphological material, as has been argued for in previous work in the field, but also that it exhibits sensitivity to unmarked material which has been grammaticized to be a deterministic cue for a syntactic dependency in the language.

Selected References: [1] Bobaljik 2008. [2] Bhatt 2005. [3] Bock & Miller 1991. [4] Badecker & Kuminiak 2007. [5] Hartsuiker et al 2001. [6] Hartsuiker et al 2003. [7] Staub 2009.