Sexless animates?

*Gender agreement in superlative partitives in French*

Westveer, T.J.T.; Sleeman, A.P.; Aboh, E.O.

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1. Introduction
Sexless animates?

2. Sleeman & Ihsane (2016)
Gender agreement in (superlative) partitives in French:
- Class D nouns: only grammatical agreement (not verified by them!)
- Class B/C nouns: semantic agreement possible (gender mismatch between set noun and subset noun accepted)

3. Aims & methods
Sleeman & Ihsane’s results only based on a limited number of informants’ judgements

4. Results

5. Towards an analysis
Theoretical analysis should explain:
- General differences between the noun classes
- Variation within the results

6. An analysis that seems to work...

7. Conclusion
1. Replication of Sleeman & Ihsane’s experiment on a larger scale:
- Semantic agreement is preferred with class B and class C nouns
- Grammatical agreement is preferred with class D nouns

Future research (i) Investigate quantified partitives (one of the X) & (ii) investigate same phenomena in German

References