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Nota di contenuto	List of abbreviations -- Contributors -- Introduction / Ursula Stephany and Maria D. Voeikova -- Early nominal morphology in Turkish : emergence of case and number / F. Nihan Ketrez and Ayhan Aksu-Koc -- Acquisition of case and plural in Finnish / Klaus Laalo -- The acquisition of numeral classifiers and optional plural marking in Yucatec Maya / Barbara Pfeiler -- The early development of case and number in Estonian / Reili Argus -- The acquisition of case, number and gender in Croatian / Melita Kovacevic, Marijan Palmovic, and Gordana Hrzica -- Acquisition of case and number in Russian / Natalia Gagarina and Maria D. Voeikova -- The emergence of nominal inflection in Greek / Ursula Stephany and Anastasia Christofidou -- The acquisition of number and case in Austrian German nouns / Katharina Korecky-Kroll and Wolfgang U. Dressler -- The emergence of nominal number in Italian / Sabrina Noccetti -- Number morphology in Spanish

first language acquisition / Carmen Aguirre and Victoria Marrero --
Relations between the development of the category of nominal and
verbal number in two French-speaking children / Marianne Kilani-
Schoch -- Noun plurals in early Palestinian Arabic : a longitudinal case
study / Dorit Ravid and Rola Farah -- Subject index.

Sommario/riassunto

This book deals with the emergence of nominal morphology from a cross-linguistic perspective and is closely related to Development of Verb Inflection in First Language Acquisition (ed. by D. Bittner, W. U. Dressler, M. Kilani-Schoch) both methodologically and theoretically. Each of the fourteen contributions studies the early development of the fundamental inflectionally expressed categories of the noun (number, case, gender) in one of the languages belonging to different morphological types (isolating, fusional-inflecting, agglutinating, root inflecting) and families (Germanic, Romance, Slavic/Baltic, Greek, Finnic, Turc, Semitic, Indian American). The analyses are based on parallel longitudinal observations of children in their second and early third year of life as well as their input. The focus lies on the transition from a pre-morphological to a proto-morphological stage in which grammatical oppositions and so-called "mini-paradigms" begin to develop. The point at which children start to discover the morphological structure of their language and the speed with which they develop inflectional distinctions of lexical items has been found to be dependent on the morphological richness of the input language on the paradigmatic as well as the syntagmatic axis of linguistic structure. The findings are interpreted within non-nativist theoretical frameworks (Natural Morphology, Usage-based theories).
