Michif has been characterized as having French DPs and Cree VPs, each with their own grammatical system stemming from their source language (Bakker 1997). However, the situation is more complicated than that: the DP domain is not strictly French. There are some elements (demonstratives, some quantifiers, etc.) that are derived from Algonquian. Despite having elements from two very different systems within the DP, we argue that Michif is ultimately an Algonquian language.

Within the DP, Michif looks like a mixed language, with grammatical pieces from both French and Cree: (i) two types of gender marking (animacy and sex; Bakker & Papen 1997; Bakker 1997), (ii) two types of plural marking (French-derived *lii* and Algonquian-derived 

However, despite these mixed properties, we argue that Michif is an Algonquian language. Like (most) other Algonquian languages, Michif doesn’t have real determiners (contra Rosen 2003). Instead, the French-derived articles have been reanalyzed as exponents of n or Num (see Strader 2014 for a similar proposal). In particular, the singular ‘definite’ articles have been co-opted to Algonquianize non-Algonquian lexical items. Thus, despite its appearance, Michif is Algonquian with heavy French borrowing, rather than a mixed language with two intertwined grammars, as argued in Bakker (1997).

References