

SAAcqET

Spring 2014

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1 General Idea

RELATED PAPER: [Florian Schwarz, Jacopo Romoli, and Cory Bill] [Reluctant acceptance of the literal truth: Eye tracking in the Covered Box Paradigm](#). Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 20.

- When are scalar implicatures available in online processing?

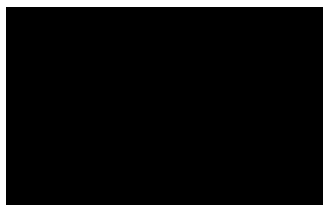
- **Literal First** - Literal meaning is accessed first, and implicature is derived in a second step through effortful reasoning (Huang and Snedeker 2009).
- **Default** - Implicatures arise by default. Literal interpretations, if accessed, are accessed through cancellation in a subsequent step (see Levinson 2000).
- Literature is divided on which model is true.
- Could delays be associated with conflict, rather than cost of implicature calculation?
 - Romoli and Schwarz (2015) and Schwarz et al. (2015)
 - * **Rejection RT** - Rejection on literal meaning alone < rejections needing implicature
 - * **Acceptance RT** - Acceptance of picture consistent with implicature < acceptances of pictures only compatible with literal interpretation
 - * **Competition** - Implicatures strongly, if not absolutely, preferred vs. Charity principle: speaker is assumed to be speaking the truth
 - Four conditions to capture reaction effects on interpretations as a prompt unfolds. Use of Visual World (Tanenhaus et al. 1995) and Covered Box (Huang et al. 2013) paradigms.
 - * **Literal Global** - Target picture is acceptable using a literal interpretation throughout the whole prompt.
 - * **Implicature Global** - Target picture is acceptable using an implicature interpretation throughout the prompt.
 - * **Literal Temporary** - Target picture is acceptable using a literal interpretation until the last word of the prompt, when it must be rejected.
 - * **Implicature Temporary** - Target picture is acceptable using an implicature interpretation until the last word of the prompt, when it must be rejected.

2 Design Notes

- **Condition Names:** The associated paper Schwarz et al. (2015) has different names for conditions than the experimental datasource. In addition, fillers are given different condition names than the main experiment. The correspondence between these names is as follows:

Paper	Experiment	Filler
Literal	Literal	All
Implicature	Pragmatic	Some

- **Fillers:** For organizational and experimental blocking purposes fillers are given a Global vs. Temporary distinction, even though there is no actual difference between them in the fillers.
- **Covered Box:** This experiment uses a Covered Box paradigm (Huang et al. 2013). In each condition, three pictures are presented: two overt and one covert. The covert picture always appears as follows beneath the overt pictures:



The subject is informed that if the sentence does not match the overt pictures, then to select the covert picture. In other words, the covert picture represents whatever plausible alternatives the subject can imagine.

3 Datasource

[SAAcqET_datasource.xlsx](#)

4 SomeCB

(1) Literal Global

Target: *Some of the giraffes have scarves.*

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor:



(2) Pragmatic Global

Target: Identical to (1) LITERAL GLOBAL.

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor: Identical to (1) LITERAL GLOBAL.

(3) Literal Temporary

Target: Identical to (1) LITERAL GLOBAL.

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor: Identical to (1) LITERAL GLOBAL.

(4) Pragmatic Temporary

Target: Identical to (1) LITERAL GLOBAL.

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor: Identical to (1) LITERAL GLOBAL.

5 None Filler

(1) Some Global

Target: *None of the ducks have books.*

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor:



(2) All Global

Target: Identical to (1) SOME GLOBAL.

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor: Identical to (1) SOME GLOBAL.

(3) Some Temporary

Identical to (1) SOME GLOBAL.

(4) All Temporary

Identical to (2) ALL GLOBAL.

6 Some Filler

(1) Some Global

Target: *Some of the zebras have screwdrivers.*

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor:



(2) Some Temporary

Target: Identical to (1) SOME GLOBAL.

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor: Identical to (1) SOME GLOBAL.

7 PI True Filler

(1) All Global

Target: *The giraffes have hats.*

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor:



(2) All Temporary

Identical to (1) ALL GLOBAL.

8 PI False Filler

(1) All Global

Target: *The frogs have apples.*

Pictures:

1. Target:



2. Distractor:



(2) All Temporary

Identical to (1) ALL GLOBAL.

9 Predictions

(1) Global Conditions

1. Picture selection: Target Picture > Closed Box (CB).
2. Reaction time: Literal Global > Pragmatic Global condition (and perhaps the Temp-conditions), as a result of conflict between the Scalar Implicature (SI) and Literal interpretations.
3. Eye tracking: Fixation fluctuation in Literal Global > Pragmatic Global.

(2) Temporary Conditions

1. Picture selection: CB > Target Picture.
2. Reaction time: Pragmatic Temporary > Literal Temporary.
3. Eye tracking: Fixation fluctuation in Pragmatic Temporary > Literal Temporary.