

Systematic Uses of Context in the On-Line Interpretation of Adjectives

Julie C. Sedivy[†] (sedivy@ling.rochester.edu)

Craig G. Chambers[‡] (chambers@bcs.rochester.edu)

Michael K. Tanenhaus[‡] (mtan@bcs.rochester.edu)

Gregory N. Carlson[†] (carlson@ling.rochester.edu)

[†]Department of Linguistics / [‡]Department of Brain & Cognitive Sciences
University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627 USA

Abstract

We take as a starting point for this investigation the observation that adjectives (as well as other noun modifiers such as relative clauses and prepositional phrases)

Three measures were of interest: 1) the nature of the subjects' responses, that is, whether they accepted or rejected the modified expression as a description of any of the objects present, 2) the speed with which they provided their responses and 3) what objects they looked at in the course of making their decision.

Figure 2 shows the proportion of trials in which the subject accepted the modified description ~~ac~~

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