

1. Introduction

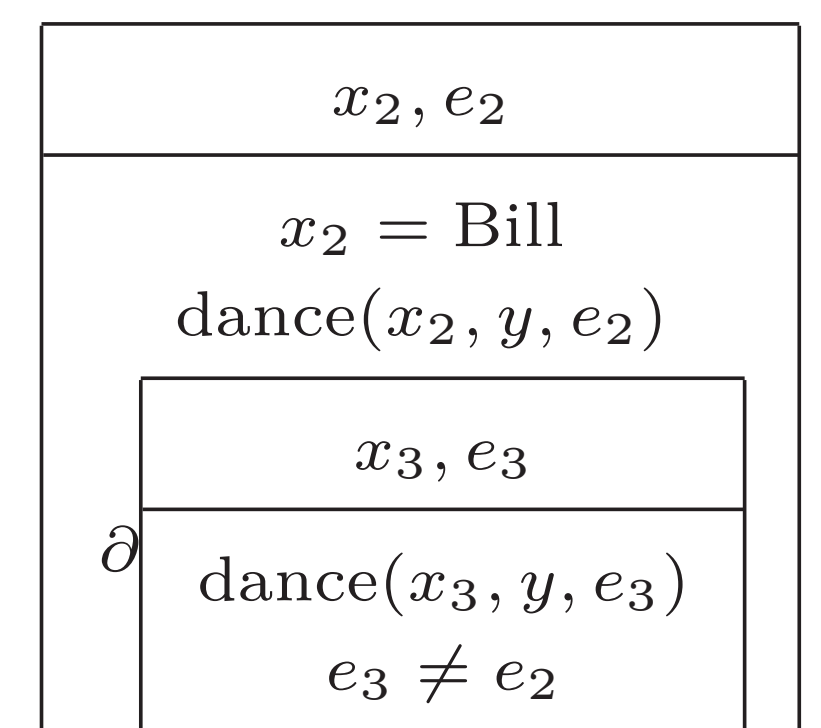
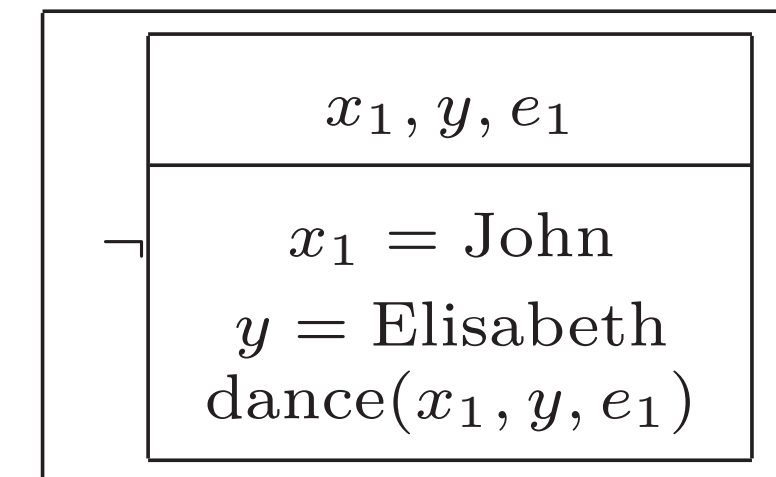
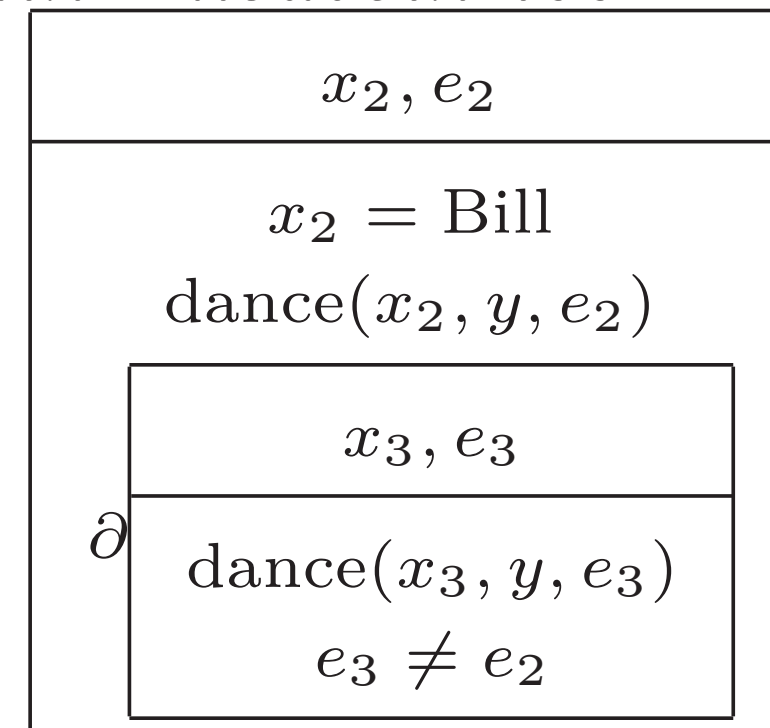
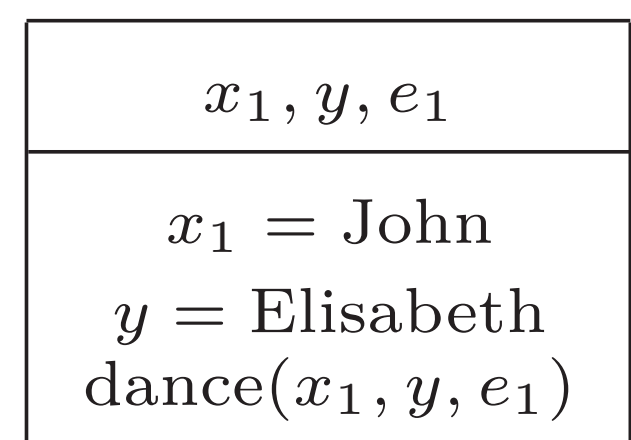
John ate pizza. Jane ate pizza too.

#John ate pizza. Jane went running too.

- **Presupposition:** indication that a part of the information communicated was already established earlier in the discourse (e.g., Beaver & Geurts, 2011; van der Sandt, 1992)
- Recall of information in discourse needed: what role does memory play?
- (In)accessibility of antecedent important for accomodation (e.g., Geurts, 1999)

John danced with Elisabeth. Bill danced with Elisabeth too.

#John didn't dance with Elisabeth. Bill danced with Elisabeth too.



RQ: To what extent is the retrieval process in presupposition resolution subject to interference by inaccessible antecedents?

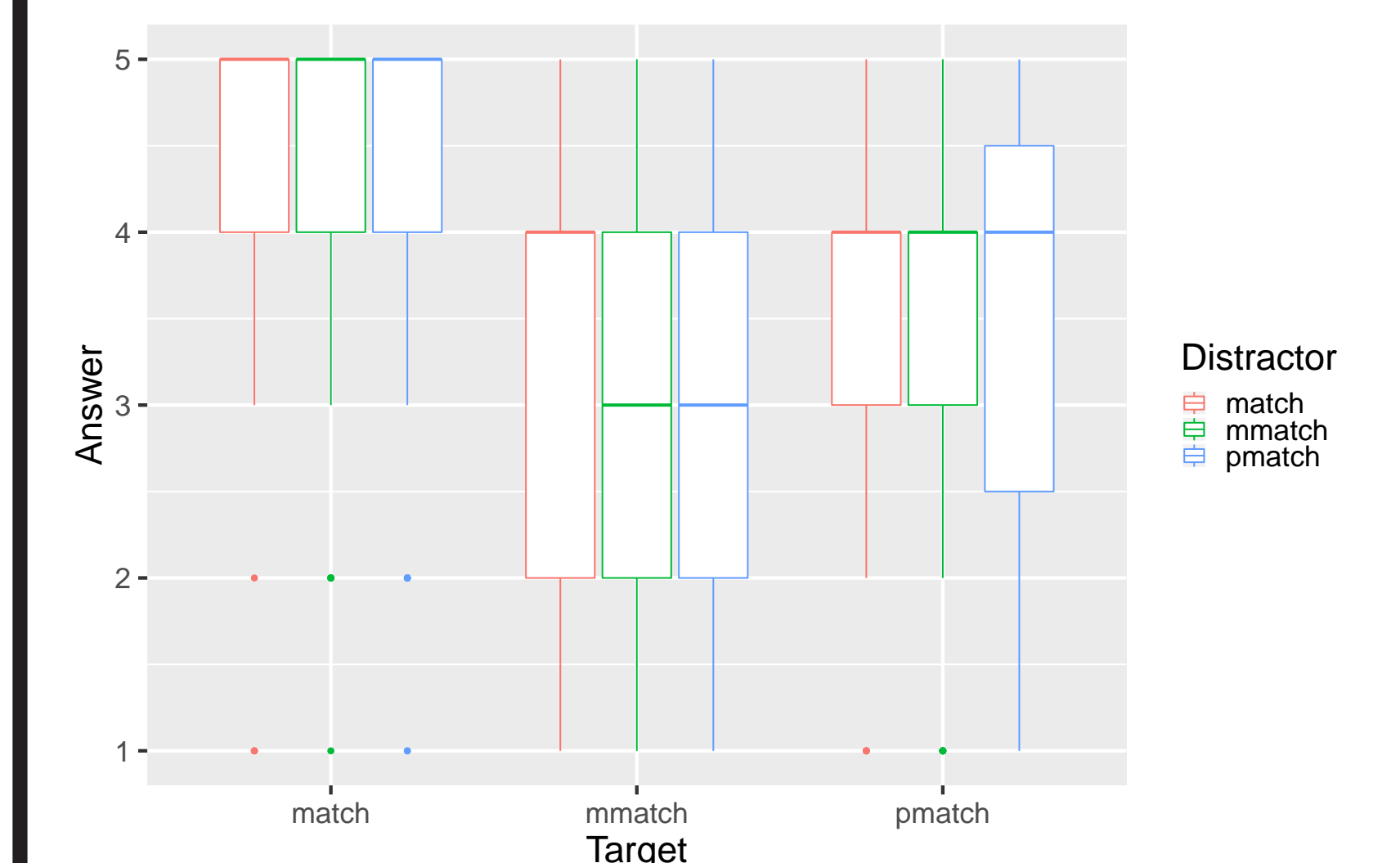
2. Materials and Methods

Sophie ate/peeled/squeezed her orange. Tess didn't eat/peel/squeeze her orange.
That Jill ate her orange too, was a big surprise.

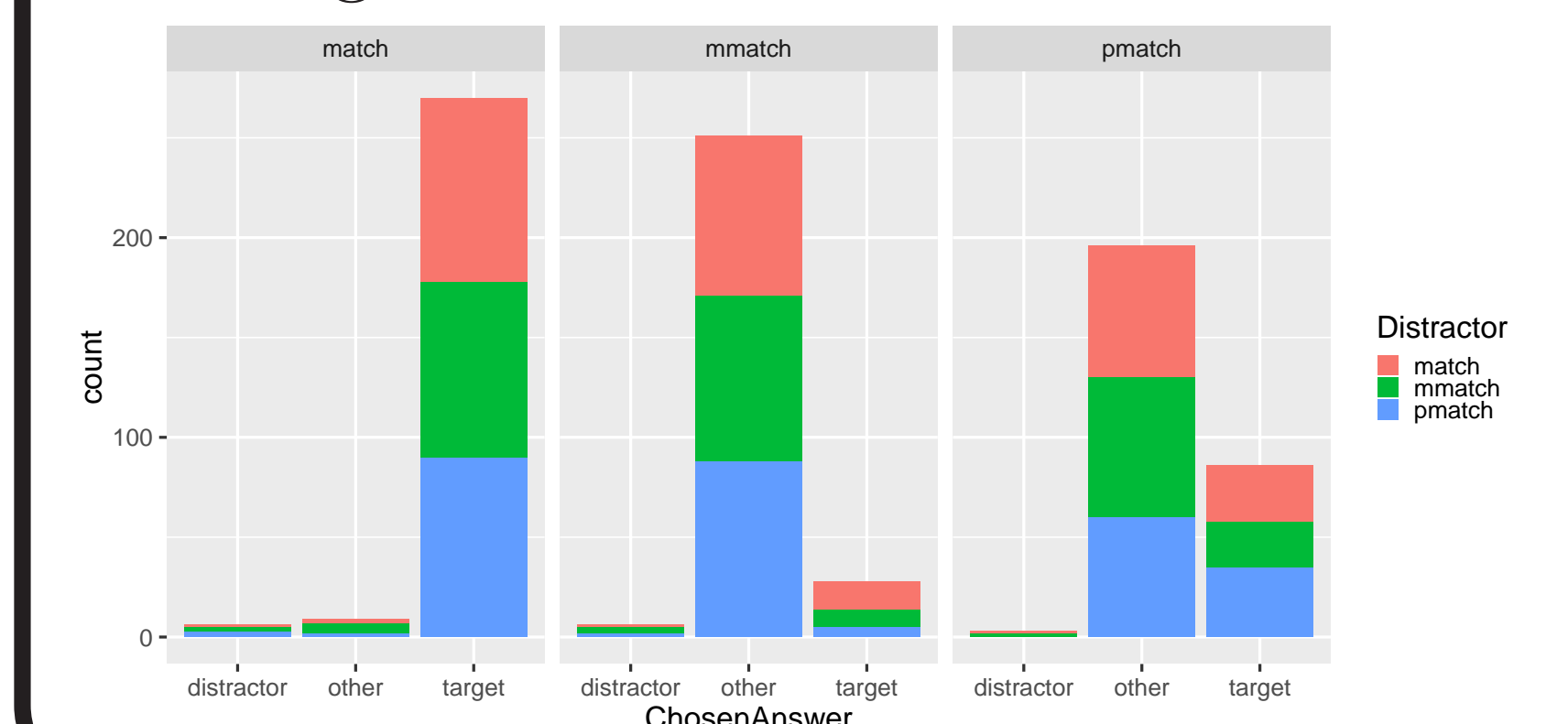
| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| eat - eat: Match eat - peel: Partial match eat - squeeze: Mismatch | | INACCESSIBLE ANTECEDENT | | | |
| | | eat | peel | squeeze | |
| | ACCESSIBLE ANTECEDENT | eat | M-M | M-PM | M-MM |
| | | peel | PM-M | PM-PM | PM-MM |
| | squeeze | MM-M | MM-PM | MM-MM | |

3. Acceptability judgements

Accomodation is easier when verb (partially) matches the presupposition:



Ultimate interpretation is not influenced by interfering inaccessible referent:



4. Eye-tracking experiment

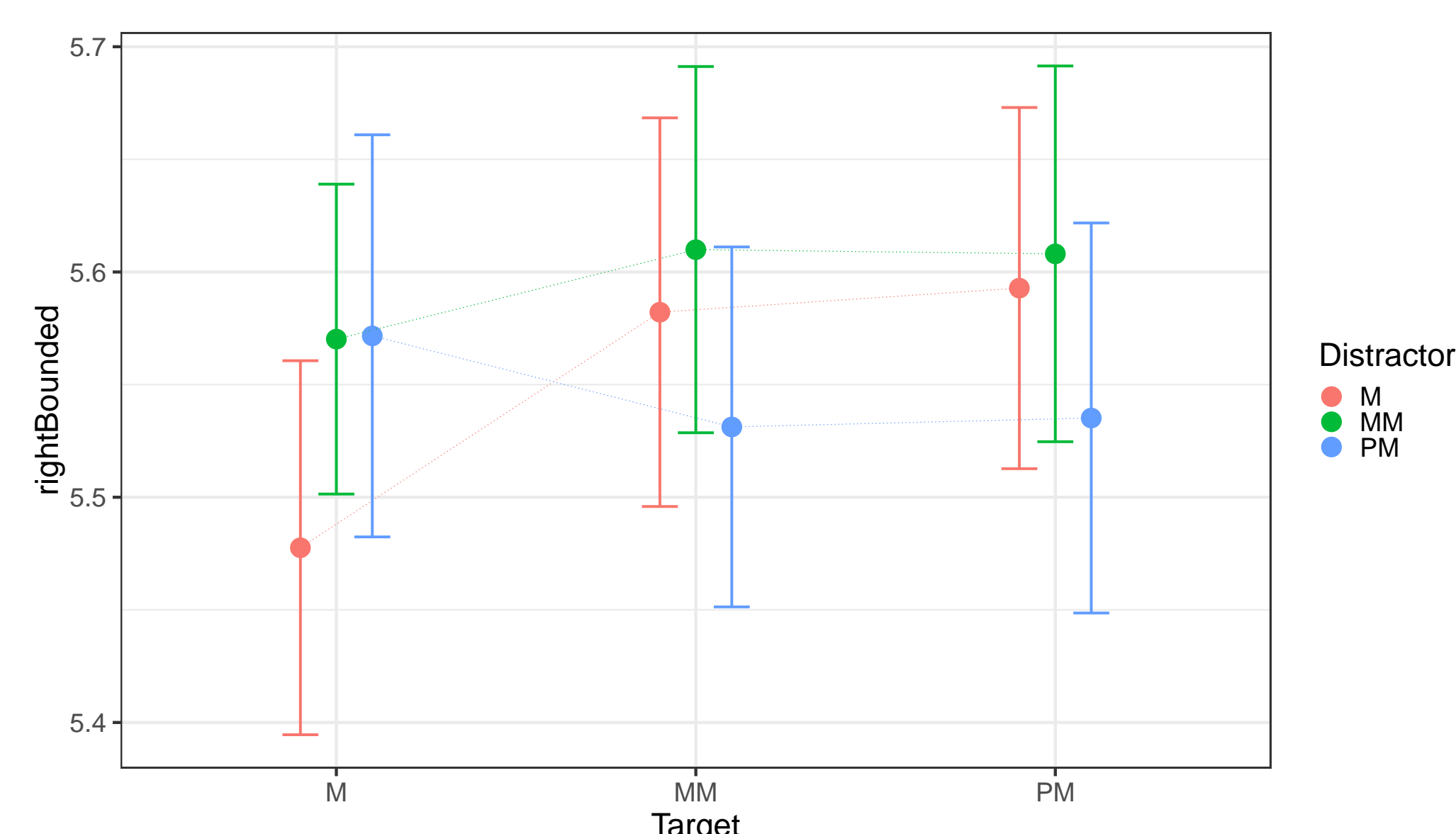
Measure on last sentence of discourse (identical over the 9 conditions)

That Jill her orange too eaten has was a big surprise (pseudoDutch)
clause too verb aux 3 following words wrap-up

45 participants
45 items, 45 fillers (50% followed by a comprehension question)

Expectation: If search is cue-based: interference effects of matching inaccessible antecedent

5. Results



1. IA 3/4 (Inaccessible antecedent/clause up to *ook*): Fewer and shorter fixations for MM-MM
2. IA 6 (Verb): Total reading time longer for MM and PM
 - Accessible antecedent (MM: B=0.17, SE=0.05, t=3.40; PM: B=0.17, SE=0.05, t=3.50)
 - Inaccessible antecedent (MM: B=0.14, SE=0.05, t=2.85; PM: B=0.13, SE=0.05, t=2.71)
 - More regressions when accessible antecedent is MM (B=0.56, SE=0.26, t=2.14)
3. IA 8 (3 words after *aux*): First pass/First Fixation: shorter fixations for accessible MM

6. Discussion

–(Partial) mismatching information influences retrieval, independent of (in)accessibility
–Slowdown on verb due to mismatching inaccessible antecedent; opposite direction than predicted by cue-based retrieval

1. During processing, inaccessible antecedents are temporarily accessible; considered as possible antecedents to resolve presupposition
 - Accessibility ignored during presupposition processing
 - Accessibility is a grammatical constraint
2. Priming effect
 - No information about accessibility and processing

Selected references

Beaver, D. & Geurts, B. (2011). *Presupposition*. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. Geurts, B. (1999). *Presuppositions and Pronouns*. Leiden: Brill. van der Sandt, R. (1992). Presupposition projection as anaphora resolution. *Journal of semantics*, 9(4), 333-377.

Contact

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