LING 608 - Presuppositions:
Experimental Perspectives & Theoretical Issues
Fall 2013

1 Logistics

- Introductions
- Class time & place?
  Off-weeks: 9/25, 10/23, 11/13 (Alternative time: Monday or Friday 9:30-12?)
- Zotero: All readings and materials will be on Zotero
  → create account at http://www.zotero.org. Then ask me to send an invitation to that address.
- Canvas:
  if you’re not registered, send me the email address you’d like to be registered under
- Email list: through Canvas
- Calendar: through Canvas

2 Requirements

- Do the readings we focus on and actively participate in discussion
- 1-2 presentations of papers from the selections below
- Class project
  - **goal:** End up with your own experimental study on a related theoretical topic
  - **Components:**
    * **Initial presentation** of ideas, can be combined with presentation of a paper
    * Learning about **experiment design and implementation**, geared towards your topic and planned type of task
    * **Second presentation:** concrete design idea; get feedback for final design and implementation
    * **Implementation** and collecting **pilot data**
    * **Write up** in standard experimental format: background, hypotheses, methods (materials & design, procedure, participants, results as available, discussion)
    * If all goes well, the goal is to move on to collecting a full data set, and end up with a project that can grow into a **conference or journal paper**.
3 List of Topics and Papers

In addition to covering the work from the current literature below, we’ll also introduce experimental methods and techniques as needed - please let me know if you have specific requests!

Introduction - Presuppositions: History and Current Perspectives

- Recent Overviews / general level papers: Beaver and Geurts (2012) Tonhauser et al. (2013)
- Extensive textbook background reading: Kadmon (2001) (Part II)

Truth value judgments - from arm chair to lab chair

- Factors affecting falsity vs. infelicity: Reinhart (1981); Lasersohn (1993); von Fintel (1994); Schoubye (2010)
- Experimental Work Abrusan and Szendroi (forthcoming); Schwarz (2013)

Mostly focused on appositives, but still interesting and relevant: Syrett et al. (2013)

Triggering

- Recent discussions of triggering: Simons (2001), Abusch (2010), Abrusán (2011)
- Presupposition triggering as implicature-like

Differences between Triggers

- Velleman et al. (2011); Smith and Hall (2011); Amaral et al. (2011); Xue and Onea (2011); Jayez and van Tiel (2011)
- Destruel et al. (in progress); Amaral and Cummings (in progress); Jayez and Mongelli (in progress)

Online Processing

- Reading and judgment studies: Schwarz (2007); Tiemann et al. (2011); Schwarz and Tiemann (2012); Tiemann et al. (in progress)
- Visual World studies: Romoli et al. (2013, in progressa); Schwarz (in progressa); Kim et al. (2011); Kim (in progress)
  Also: ongoing labwork: AgainTwiceVW, StopSometimesVW

Projection - Classical and New Accounts

- Dynamic Semantics: Heim (1983); Groenendijk and Stokhof (1990); Chierchia (1995)
- DRT van der Sandt (1992); van der Sandt and Geurts (1991)
- Schlenker's Local Contexts Schlenker (2009, 2010a,b)
- Other recent accounts George, Fox, others?
What projects? Experimental explorations

- Symmetry vs. Incrementality: Chemla and Schlenker (2012); Schwarz (in progress) [also: Elizabeth Shay’s work in lab]
- Proviso Issues: Romoli et al. (2011); Romoli and Sudo (2011); Romoli et al. (in progress)
- Projection from quantifiers: Chemla (2009); Sudo et al. (2012)

Projection and Local Interpretations in Online processing

- Global vs. local interpretations: Chemla and Bott (2013); Schwarz and Romoli (In Progress) [also: StopLocCB; AgainLocCB; other results?]
  Also see Bill et al. (ongoing work) for acquisition data on presuppositions, implicatures, and implicatures under negation
- Projection as costly in processing: Schwarz and Tiemann (2013)

Accommodation

- Recent Survey: Beaver and Zeevat (2012)
- Experimental work: Singh et al. (2013); Frazier (2006); Spenader (2002); Evans (2005)
References

*References


Destruel, Emilie; Edgar Onea; Dan Velleman; Dylan Bumford; and David Beaver. in progress. A cross-linguistic study of the non-at-issueness of exhaustive inferences. In Florian Schwarz, ed., *Experimental Perspectives on Presuppositions*, Under Contract for Studies in Theoretical Psycholinguistics Series. Springer.


Jayez, J. and B. van Tiel. 2011. Is ‘only’ special? Presentation at the XPRAG Workshop, Pisa, Italy.


Kim, Christina; Christine Gunlogson; Mike Tanenhaus; and Jeff Runner. 2011. Presupposition satisfaction preserves discourse constituency. Talk presented at XPRAG 2011, Barcelona.


Romoli, Jacopo. to appear. The presuppositions of soft triggers are obligatory scalar implicatures. *Journal of Semantics* .


Romoli, Jacopo; Manizeh Khan; Yasutada Sudo; and Jesse Snedeker. 2013. Resolving temporary referential ambiguity using presupposed content. Poster presented at the 26th Annual CUNY Sentence Processing Conference.


Romoli, Jacopo; Yasutada Sudo; Martin Hackl; and Danny Fox. in progress. Processing proviso inferences. In Florian Schwarz, ed., *Experimental Perspectives on Presuppositions*, Under Contract for Studies in Theoretical Psycholinguistics Series. Springer.


Schwarz, Florian and Sonja Tiemann. 2012. Presupposition Processing-The case of German *wieder*. In M. Aloni; V. Kimmelman; F. Roelofsen; G. Weidman Sassoon; K. Schulz; and M. Westera, eds., *Proceedings from the 18th Amsterdam Colloquium*, FoLLI. Springer.


Singh, Raj; Evelina Fedorenko; and Edward Gibson. 2013. Presupposition accommodation is costly only in implausible contexts. Manuscript, Carleton University & MIT.


Sudo, Yasutada; Jacopo Romoli; Martin Hackl; and Danny Fox. 2012. Presupposition projection out of quantified sentences: Strengthening, local accommodation and inter-speaker variation. In M. Aloni; V. Kimmelman; F. Roelofsen; G. Weidman Sassoon; K. Schulz; and M. Westera, eds., *Revised and selected papers from the 19th Amsterdam Colloquium*, Lecture Notes in Computer Science Series, 210–219. Springer.

Syrett, Kristen; Todor Koev; Nicholas Angelides; and Maxwell Kramer. 2013. Experimental evidence for the truth conditional contribution and shifting information status of appositives. Ms., Rutgers University.

Tiemann, Sonja; Mareike Kirsten; Sigrid Beck; Ingro Hertrich; and Bettina Rolke. in progress. A processing model for presuppositions. In Florian Schwarz, ed., *Experimental Perspectives on Presuppositions*, Under Contract for Studies in Theoretical Psycholinguistics Series. Springer.


Velleman, Dan; David Beaver; Dylan Bumford; Emilie Destruel; and Edgar Onea. 2011. “yes, but...” – exhaustivity and at-issueness across languages. Poster presented at PEPA 2011.