A replication of Tieu et al. (2016)

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Abstract

Two recent studies report children interpreting disjunction words similar to conjunction words. Tieu et al. (2016) Singh et al. (2016) Here we replicate Tieu et al. (2016). The results show that X!

The key statistical test that will be a mixed-effects logistic regression with disjunction type as a fixed effect and with the random effects of subject and items. The DV has the two levels of Right and Wrong.

Introduction

Tieu et al. (2016) investigated children's interpretation of the french simple and complex disjunction words *ou/soit . . . soit* as well as the Japanese ones *ka/ka. . . ka*. Their claims hold for disjunction words crosslinguistically so in this project I investigate English speaking children's interpretation of *or/either . . . or*. The authors used a Truth Value Judgement Task (Crain and Thornton 1998) in the form of a guessing game. Videos of a puppet giraffe making predictions about a story were recorded. In each trial, participants saw a picture and heard a story. Then the pre-recorded videos were played: the puppet appeared on the laptop screen and made a guess about what happens next in the story. Then participants saw the rest of the story and had to decide whether the puppet's guess was correct or not by stamping under a happy or sad face on a scorecard.

Experiment

Method

Participants

Table X summarizes the participant information for both the original study and the replication reported here.

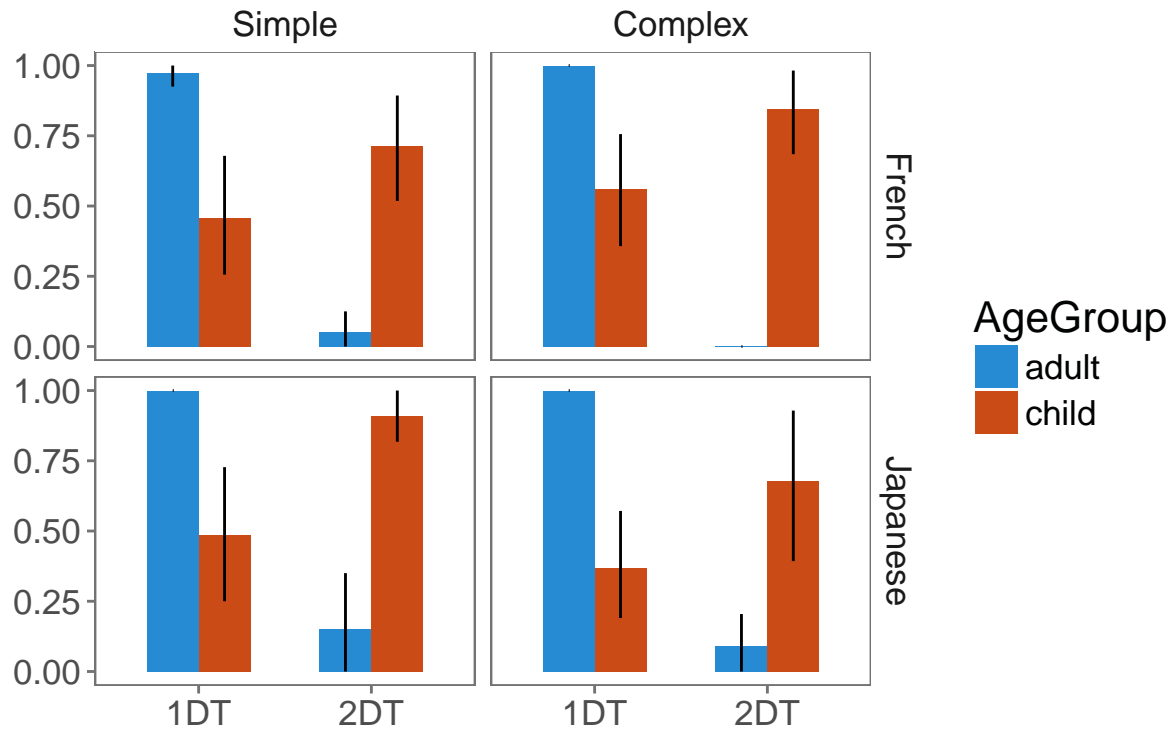|	Lang	AgeGroup	Complex	N
1	French	adult	FALSE	10
2	French	adult	TRUE	10
3	French	child	FALSE	14
4	French	child	TRUE	14
5	Japanese	adult	FALSE	10
6	Japanese	adult	TRUE	11
7	Japanese	child	FALSE	11
8	Japanese	child	TRUE	7

Table 1: The number of participants and the age ranges.

Procedure

Tieu et al. (2016) used a modified version of the Truth Value Judgement Task (TVJT) in Prediction Mode. TVJTs can be designed in two general modes: Description and Prediction (Crain and Thornton 1998). Both modes involve a short story. In description mode, participants are asked to assess whether a target sentence is a right description for a story. In prediction mode, the target sentence is produced mid-story as a prediction of how the story will unfold. Participants are asked to judge whether the prediction was right.

Materials

Results

References

Crain, Stephen, and Rosalind Thornton. 1998. *Investigations in Universal Grammar: A Guide to Experiments on the Acquisition of Syntax and Semantics*. MIT Press.

Singh, Raj, Ken Wexler, Andrea Astle-Rahim, Deepthi Kamawar, and Danny Fox. 2016. "Children Interpret Disjunction as Conjunction: Consequences for Theories of Implicature and Child Development." *Natural Language Semantics* 24 (4): 305–52. doi:10.1007/s11050-016-9126-3.

Tieu, L., K. Yatsushiro, A. Cremers, J. Romoli, U. Sauerland, and E. Chemla. 2016. "On the Role of Alternatives in the Acquisition of Simple and Complex Disjunctions in French and Japanese." *Journal of Semantics*.