## **Title**

## Judith Degen (Stanford U) & Judith Tonhauser (OSU / Stuttgart U)

Projection analyses have largely limited their attention to 'factive' predicates, like *know* and *discover*, to the exclusion of 'non-factive' ones, like *think* and *announce* (see, e.g., Heim 1983, van der Sandt 1992, Abrusán 2011, 2016, Romoli 2015 and Simons et al. 2017). This limitation is motiva-

ted by the long-standing and widely-assumed assumption that 'factive' predicates are empirically distinguished from 'non-factive' ones (see, e.g.,Karttunen 1971, Kiparsky and Kiparsky 1971 and much literature thereafter): as shown in Fig. 1, the content of the complement of a 'factive' predicate is taken to be both projective and entailed, whereas it is not both projective and entailed for a 'non-factive' one (e.g., Gazdar 1979, Chierchia and McConnell-Ginet 1990, van der Sandt 1992, Schlenker 2010, Anand and Hacquard 2014, Spector and Egré 2015).

This paper investigates the empirical support for the distinction between 'factive' and 'non-factive' predicates by measuring projectivity and entailment for the complements of the 20 predicates in Fig. 1. Projectivity was measured with the 'certain that' diagnostic: following Tonhauser, Beaver, and Degen 2018, we assume that projectivity is a gradient property of content. For

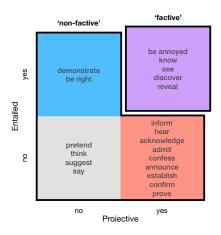
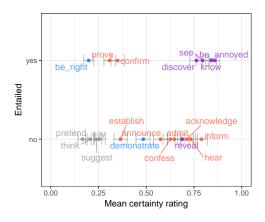
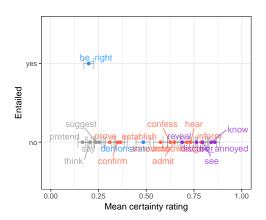


Figure 1: Standard classification of 20 English predicates

entailment, we applied two standard diagnostics: under the 'inference' diagnostic, p entails q iff q follows from the truth of p; under the 'contradictoriness' diagnostic, p entails q iff p but not q is contradictory. As shown in Fig. 2, the content of the complement of 'factive' predicates (given in purple) is overall more projective than that of 'non-factive' ones. However, the content of the complement of many 'non-factive' predicates is projective, too. We argue that these contents constitute an exciting challenge for future projection analyses. Furthermore, we found that the entailment diagnostics do not both support an analysis of the content of the complement of the 'factive' predicates as entailed; neither diagnostic provides such support for reveal. We suggest that research on entailment needs to take the pragmatics of entailment judgments more seriously (see also de Marneffe et al. 2012). BUT WHAT DO WE CONCLUDE ABOUT FACTIVE PREDS?





- (a) Inference diagnostic for entailment
- (b) Contradictoriness diagnostic for entailment

Figure 2: Mean certainty rating (with 95% CIs) of the content of the complement of 20 predicates by whether the content is entailed under the (a) inference or (b) contradictoriness diagnostic.

## References

- Abrusán, Márta. 2011. Predicting the presuppositions of soft triggers. *Linguistics & Philosophy* 34:491–535.
- Abrusán, Márta. 2016. Presupposition cancellation: Explaining the 'soft-hard' trigger distinction. *Natural Language Semantics* 24:165–202.
- Anand, Pranav and Valentine Hacquard. 2014. Factivity, belief and discourse. In *The Art and Craft of Semantics: A Festschrift for Irene Heim*, pages 69–90. MIT Working Papers in Linguistics.
- Chierchia, Gennaro and Sally McConnell-Ginet. 1990. *Meaning and Grammar*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- de Marneffe, Marie-Catherine, Christopher D. Manning, and Christopher Potts. 2012. Did it happen? The pragmatic complexity of veridicality assessment. *Computational Linguistics* 38:301–333.
- Gazdar, Gerald. 1979. *Pragmatics: Implicature, Presuppositions, and Logical Form.* New York: Academic Press.
- Heim, Irene. 1983. On the projection problem for presuppositions. In M. Barlow, D. Flickinger, and M. Westcoat, eds., *West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL)* 2, pages 114–125.
- Karttunen, Lauri. 1971. Some observations on factivity. *Papers in Linguistics* 4:55–69.
- Kiparsky, Paul and Carol Kiparsky. 1971. Fact. In D. Steinberg and L. Jakobovits, eds., *Semantics. An Interdisciplinary Reader in Philosophy, Linguistics and Psychology*, pages 345–369. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Romoli, Jacopo. 2015. The presuppositions of soft triggers are obligatory scalar implicatures. *Journal of Semantics* 32:173–291.
- Schlenker, Philippe. 2010. Local contexts and local meanings. *Philosophical Studies* 151:115–142.
- Simons, Mandy, David Beaver, Craige Roberts, and Judith Tonhauser. 2017. The Best Question: Explaining the projection behavior of factive verbs. *Discourse Processes* 3:187–206.
- Spector, Benjamin and Paul Egré. 2015. A uniform semantics for embedding interrogatives: *An* answer, not necessarily *the* answer. *Synthese* 192:1729–1784.
- Tonhauser, Judith, David Beaver, and Judith Degen. 2018. How projective is projective content? Gradience in projectivity and at-issueness. *Journal of Semantics* 35:495–542.
- van der Sandt, Rob. 1992. Presupposition projection as anaphora resolution. *Journal of Semantics* 9:333–377.