From: LAB em@editorialmanager.com

Subject: [LAB] Your submission "School, Age, and Exposure Effects in the Child Heritage Language Acquisition of the Spanish

Volitional Subjunctive" **Date:** April 5, 2024 at 11:24 AM

To: Patrick D. Thane pthane@umass.edu

CC: cabrelli@uic.edu

LAB-23057R1 (Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism)

"School, Age, and Exposure Effects in the Child Heritage Language Acquisition of the Spanish Volitional Subjunctive"

by Patrick D. Thane

Dear Patrick Thane,

We write today with reference to your submission to LAB entitled "School, Age, and Exposure Effects in the Child Heritage Language Acquisition of the Spanish Volitional Subjunctive".

Based on the recommendation of the reviewers (included herein, or, alternatively, available by logging in to the editorial manager, clicking on "action links", then on "view attachments") as well as our own reading of the manuscript, we would like to invite you to make some minor revisions to this manuscript.

In particular, please consider:

- 1. Condensing Figures 1 and 2 into a single figure I think that the boxplots are more informative than the bar graph and would recommend using boxplots with the means rather than counts.
- 2. Briefly incorporating the Lohndal & Putnam (2024) LAB article.

Together with your revised manuscript, please send us a letter copying all the reviewers' comments, followed by an explanation of exactly how you have addressed each comment and suggestion. Please make sure that your manuscript follows the LAB stylesheet (https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?

url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.benjamins.com%2Fseries%2Flab%2Flab_style_sheet.pdf&data=05%7C02%7Cpthane%40umass.edu%7C1ae81f9493a04c6f9d8a08dc55845ffe%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638479274675032378%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCl6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CkD0KIVaQZOXQwfYjt1UIREZ6pGsdMM9HqQkrzF6S5U%3D&reserved=0). Manuscripts which do not adhere to these quidelines will not be accepted for publication.

To submit your revision, please go to https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/? url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.editorialmanager.com%2Flab%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cpthane%40umass.e du%7C1ae81f9493a04c6f9d8a08dc55845ffe%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638479274675032378%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCl6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OFRmzC0Naw%2Fh0DCjEbT%2Fw7Y7CzUcbas2936i0gcM7M8%3D&reserved=0 and log in as an author. There, you can access the menu item 'Submission Needing Revision'.

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Thank you once again for your submission, and we are looking forward to reading your revised manuscript as soon as possible.

Best wishes,

The Editors

Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism

Comments:

Reviewer #1: I appreciate the detail and precision that the author carried out revisions in this second round. In my opinion, I feel that the author sufficiently addressed the principle concerns expressed individually and collectively by the reviewers in this revised version, and I am happy to endorse this version for publication in LAB. My only suggestion for a relatively minor revision/adjustment prior to final submission is to take a close look at a recently published keynote in LAB by Lohndal & Putnam (2024). This manuscript (and the responses to this manuscript) advance the discussion of formal features beyond what these authors initial discuss in their 2021 article that you cite. I don't think this will radically affect your analysis (at all), but this updated reference may provide additional and more detailed insight for your position on features and the role they play in Putnam & Sánchez's (2013) model and related approaches.

Reference

Lohndal, T., and Putnam, M.T. (2024). The importance of features and exponents: Dissolving Feature Reassembly. Linguistics Approaches to Bilingualism, 14(1), 1-36.

Reviewer #2: For the most part, I think that the author has responded well to my comments and those of other reviewers. I like the more extended explanation of Putnam and Sánchez (2013), along with the discussion of lexical frequency. I also appreciate the explanation of why the study focused on the volitional subjunctive.

Specific comments:

- p. 2, section 2, 2nd line: empiricalize > operationalize
- p. 9, 4 lines before the start of section 4: Only previous study > Only one previous study
- p. 11, 1st line of section 4.1: experiment > study

Like I explained in my last review, this study is not an experiment. Please do not call it one. Similarly, I have doubts about using the term on the last line of p. 8: I know you're talking within the context of what has not happened yet, but it still does not sit well with me because no person could conduct a true experiment on this topic (e.g., children cannot be randomly selected into different home environments).

I see "experiment" again throughout the paper (e.g., on p. 12 and p. 13). I recommend conducting a search-and-replace on this term throughout the paper, unless it is in reference to a specific previous study that meets the definition of a true experiment.

Along the same lines, I suggest replacing the term "experimental": e.g., "a trial and 16 experimental items" on p. 15. You can just call them items

nome on p. 10. 100 oan just oan mom nome.

p. 12: "Children in both schools were primarily of Mexican descent...": Do you mean participating children? If you are talking about the school generally you may want to mention that they are predominantly Latinx when you mention the school demographic reports.

pp. 18-19: Perhaps the editor and the other reviewers will disagree, but I see no need for Figure 2 when you already have Figure 1, especially considering the context that you are hitting your readers with 6 figures within 5 pages.

Reviewer #3: Review of the first revision of paper entitled "Home and school exposure and age effects in the heritage language acquisition of Spanish volitional subjunctive", submitted to the journal Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism.

In my opinion, the author has done a great job in implementing the feedback of the three reviewers. Overall, this paper has undergone major changes and I believe it is of interest to the readership of LAB. Nevertheless, there are a few points I still find worthy pointing out and I invite the author to have a look at them and consider revising or implementing some further changes into the final version of the paper.

I appreciate that you have revised the analysis. I found it surprising and also counterintuitive that you have now put the largest focus on your descriptive statistics and only briefly touched upon the inferential statistics. However, the strength of your studies, as I see it, is that you have indeed modeled a regression. This final model, however, was now absent and I strongly encourage adding it to the final version of the manuscript. Moreover, I suggested adding the model fit and you asked what I meant. I referred to the R², which is generally understood as the model fit or predictive probability. It shows how much of the variation in your data is actually explained with the variables in your model and is typically considered a useful measure to assess the power of a regression.

A few other, overall minor, points have been added directly into the PDF file as highlighted comments.

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