July XX, 2019

Dear Editorial Board,

Please find attached a copy of our manuscript, "I know what you're probably going to say: Listener adaptation to variable use of uncertainty expressions." This manuscript is our original work, has not been previously published, and is not currently under consideration elsewhere. We would appreciate your considering it for publication as a research article in Cognition.

This work investigates the cognitive processes of semantic/pragmatic adaptation through a series of experiments and computational modeling. Listener adaptation to differences in their interlocutors’ language is a widely attested phenomenon but at the level of semantics and pragmatics, it remained an open question what kind of representations listeners update when they adapt to a specific speaker. To answer this question, we implemented a model within the Rational Speech Act framework which models production expectations and interpretations of uncertainty expressions. We used this model to simulate the adaptation processes and found that the simulations in which both the semantic representations and production preferences are updated provide qualitatively and quantitatively accurate predictions of participants’ post-adaptation behavior from three experiments, which suggests that adaptation is a result of listeners updating both of these representations. We conclude with a discussion of the implications of our findings for interactive language processing accounts and the accounts of the semantic representation of uncertainty expressions.

TODO have worked on linguistic and/or cognitive universals, and have either used similar methods to ours or have expertise in investigations of adjectives. They are all qualified to review this work.

Please let us know if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Sebastian Schuster Judith Degen

Stanford University Stanford University

Department of Linguistics Department of Linguistics

Margaret Jacks Hall, Building 460 Margaret Jacks Hall, Building 460

450 Serra Mall 450 Serra Mall

Stanford, CA 94305 Stanford, CA 94305

sebschu@stanford.edu jdegen@stanford.edu