

The effects of type and token frequency on semantic extension

Introduction

Methods

Following Harmon & Kapatsinski (2017), two artificial languages were used: called Dan and Nem (See Figure 1). In each language, the same four suffixes were used: $-sil_{PL}$, $-dan_{PL}$, $-nem_{DIM}$, and $-shoon_{DIM}$. Notably, in our language $-dan$ and $-sil$ overlap in meaning (they both occur in plural contexts), and $-nem$ and $-shoon$ also overlap in meaning (they both occur in diminutive contexts). Since all four suffixes are possible candidates for the diminutive plural meaning, we can examine how properties of the language (mainly type frequency and token frequency) affect which suffixes are extended to express the diminutive plural meaning.



Figure 1: A description of the suffixes in our artificial languages. The thicker lines denote the more frequent form in each language: the plural $-dan_{PL}$ in the Dan language and the diminutive $-nem_{DIM}$ in the Nem language.

During the exposure phase, each suffix was paired with an image. The suffixes $-sil_{PL}$ and $-dan_{PL}$ were always paired with a picture of multiple large pictures. On the other hand, the suffixes $-nem_{DIM}$ and $-shoon_{DIM}$ were always paired with a picture of a single small creature. The design of the

Table 1: Description of each of our conditions. Note that in Condition 1, there are an equal number of tokens between the frequent and infrequent items, however there are a greater number of types in the frequent items. In Condition 2, the opposite is true: the frequent items occur more, but in the same number of types as the infrequent items. Finally, in Condition 3, the frequent items occur both a greater number of times and in a greater number of different contexts.

	Frequent.Token	Frequent.Type	Infrequent.Token	Infrequent.Type
Type Frequency	12	12	12	3
Token Frequency	12	3	3	3
Type-Token Frequency	12	12	3	3

stimuli results in participants being able to learn that *-sil* and *-dan* are either simply plural or simply non-diminutive. Similarly, *-nem* and *-shoon* can be learned as either simply singular or simply diminutive.

Our Experiment comprised of three different conditions (see Table 1), one in which the type frequency of the frequent language’s suffix was manipulated (Type Frequency), one in which the token frequency was manipulated (Token Frequency), and one in which both were manipulated (Type-Token Frequency). In this context, a higher type frequency corresponds to the suffix appearing with a larger number of different stems relative to the competing suffix, while a larger token frequency corresponds to simply appearing a greater number of times relative to the competing suffix, regardless of the number of different stems it occurs with.

Procedure

Each participant was randomly assigned one of the conditions. In each condition, participants were first presented with an exposure phase. After the exposure phase, participants were tested using a production task, a form choice task, and a comprehension task. We describe each of these below.¹

Exposure Phase

¹Additionally, a demo of the experiment can be found at the following link: https://run.pavlovvia.org/znhoughton/generalizability_demo.

Following Harmon & Kapatsinski (2017), each exposure trial consisted of the presentation of a picture on the computer screen which was subsequently followed with a written label for the image as well as an audio presentation of that label. Specifically, the image first appeared on the screen and then 1.25 seconds later was followed by both the label of the creatures on the screen as well as the audio for that creature. Participants were instructed to type the name of the creature and press enter. Participants had 4 seconds to respond after the presentation of the name of the creature and were given feedback as to whether they were correct or not.

Participants saw each trial within the exposure phase 5 times, each in a randomized order.

Production Task

After the exposure phase, participants were presented with a production task. In this task, participants were presented with images and told to produce a label for the image. Specifically, initially the unaffixed form appeared on the screen along with the corresponding image. 2 seconds later, the four different possible images of that creature appeared (a singular big creature, multiple big creatures, a single small creature, and multiple small creatures). Three of these images disappeared after 1.25 seconds, leaving a single image for the participant to produce a label for. Participants had 10 seconds to respond. In the production task, some of the stems were familiar (i.e., seen in training) and others were novel (i.e., not seen in training).

Participants saw each trial within the production task 4 times, each in a randomized order.

Form Choice Task

After the production task, participants were presented with a form choice task. In this task, participants were presented first with the base, unaffixed form and the corresponding image. 2 seconds later four images flashed on the screen, remained on the screen for 1.25 seconds, and disappeared leaving a single image. Along with the single image, participants were also presented with two possible labels for that image, one label on the bottom right of the screen and one label on the bottom left of the

screen. Participants were given four seconds to press either the left arrow or the right arrow to choose the corresponding label. The labels were counterbalanced with respect to which side of the screen they appeared on. In the form choice task, some of the stems were familiar (i.e., seen in training) and others were novel (i.e., not seen in training). The goal of this task was to assess whether type and/or token frequency influence the form choice when accessibility differences between frequent and rare forms have been attenuated.

Participants saw each trial within the form choice task 2 times, each in a randomized order.

Comprehension Task

Finally, participants were presented with a comprehension task. In this task, participants were first given the label and corresponding audio for a given creature. After 0.25 seconds, four images appeared on the screen and participants had 4 seconds to click one of the images on the screen that corresponded to the label. Similar to the before-mentioned tasks, in the comprehension task some of the stems were familiar (i.e., seen in training) and others were novel (i.e., not seen in training).

Participants saw each trial within the comprehension task 2 times, each in a randomized order.

Analyses and Results

Before going into detail about each task, we first present a plot of our overall results (Figure 2)². In order to visualize the results, we subsetting the data by condition (type frequency, token frequency, or type-token frequency), stem (familiar or novel), task (production, form-choice, or comprehension), and meaning (original or novel). We then ran a logistic regression model. For the form-choice and production tasks, the dependent variable was 1 if the participant chose the frequent suffix

²All data and code for the analyses can be found here: <https://github.com/znhoughton/Generalizability-Type-Token>.

for that trial or 0 if they chose the infrequent suffix. The model included an intercept as well as random intercepts for participant and stem identity. The frequent suffix was operationalized differently depending on the meaning of the item. For novel meanings (diminutive plural), the frequent suffix was simply whether they chose *dan* in the Dan language or *nem* in the Nem language. However, for original meanings (big plural and diminutive singular), the frequent suffix was 1 if they chose *dan* for big plural and 0 if they chose *nem* for diminutive singular in the Dan language, and vice versa in the nem language.

For the comprehension task, the dependent variable was 1 if they chose the original meaning for the original meaning portion and 1 if they chose the novel meaning in the novel meaning portion and the independent variable was the intercept with random intercepts for participant and stem identity. For example, the larger estimates for the original meaning in the type frequency condition indicate that participants preferred to select the original meaning for both stem types. As a result, these bars are lower for the novel meaning since the original and novel estimates for a given stem type sum to 1. While this visualization for the comprehension is admittedly a bit awkward, the advantage is it allows us to visualize it alongside the results for production and form-choice tasks.

The plot demonstrates that participants were more likely to produce the frequent suffix with a novel meaning when the frequent suffix had a high type frequency, but were less likely to produce the frequent suffix with a novel meaning when the frequent suffix had a high token frequency. Our results also demonstrate that this effect disappears when both forms are made accessible in the form-choice task. Further, the results also demonstrate that in comprehension, regardless of the condition or stem familiarity, the original meaning is chosen far more than the novel meaning for a given suffix.

We explore the results for each task in depth in the next sections.

Production Task

In order to determine whether the effect of frequency on semantic extension differed between conditions, we ran a Bayesian linear mixed-effects model on the production data. The dependent

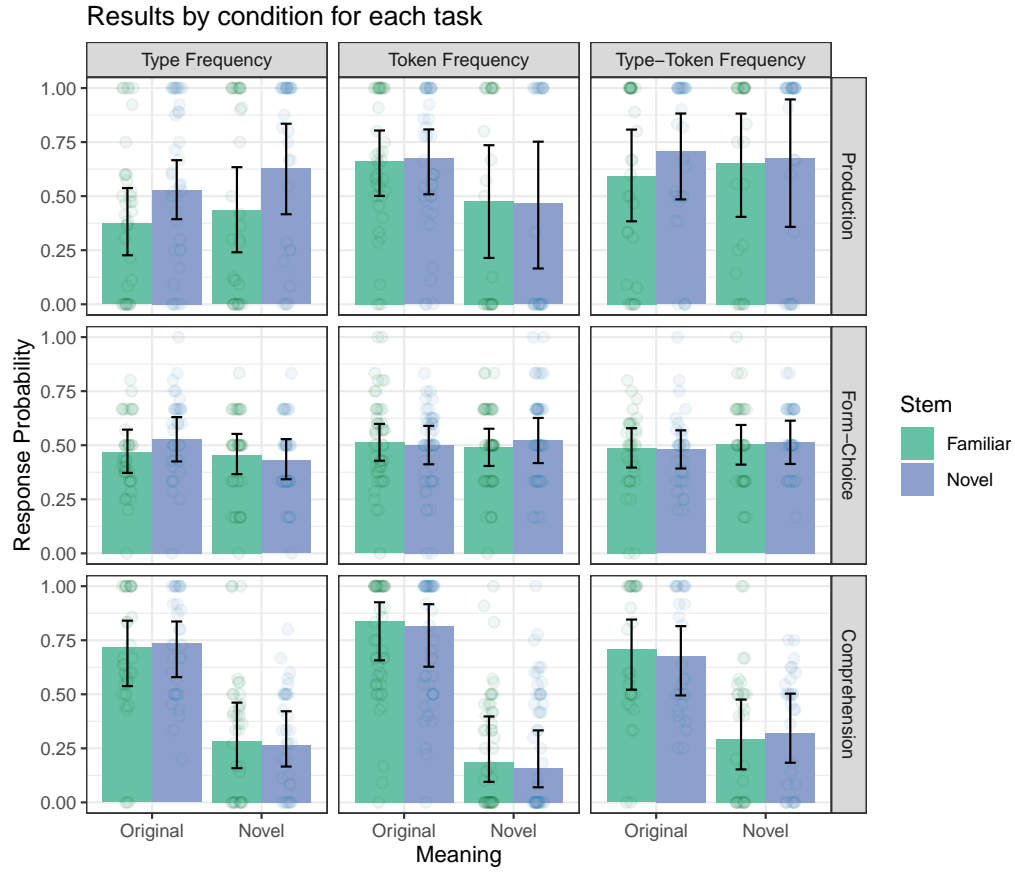


Figure 2: Plot of our results. Points indicate individual subject values. The x-axis indicates whether the meaning was original or novel. Green coloring corresponds to the frequent stem while blue corresponds to the infrequent stem. The y-axis indicates the response probability. For Production and Form-choice, it is the response probability of choosing the frequent form. Thus, a value closer to 1 indicates that participants chose the frequent form more than the infrequent form. For Comprehension, it is the response probability of choosing a given meaning. For example, a value closer to 1 for the original meaning with a novel stem indicates that when participants saw a novel stem with *dan*, they were more likely to select the *big.pl* meaning than the *dim.pl* meaning (as a result, for a given stem familiarity the original and novel bars sum to 1 in the comprehension condition). Facets indicate condition (type frequency, token frequency, or type-token frequency) and task (production, form-choice, comprehension). The results were obtained by running a separate regression model

variable was whether the participant produced the frequent suffix. Similar to before, frequent suffix was coded as 1 if the meaning was diminutive plural and the suffix used was the frequent one (*dan* in the Dan language, *nem* in the Nem language). However, if the meaning was big plural or diminutive singular, the frequent suffix was coded as 1 if the suffix chosen was *dan* for big plural and 0 if the suffix chosen was *nem* for diminutive singular in the Dan language, and vice versa in the Nem language.

We treatment coded condition such that the intercept was the type-token frequency condition. Thus, a larger intercept indicates that the frequent suffix was more likely to be produced than the infrequent suffix when it had a high type and token frequency. A larger coefficient estimate indicates that the frequent form was more likely to be produced than the infrequent form in that condition relative to the type-token frequency condition. We also included meaning as a sum-coded variable. Meaning had two values, either original or novel. An original meaning referred to big plural if the suffix was *dan* or diminutive singular if the suffix was *nem*. A meaning was novel if it was diminutive plural regardless of the suffix. We also included a random intercept for participant and a random slope for meaning by participant. The syntax for our model is included below in Equation 1.

$$\text{frequent_suffix} \sim \text{condition} * \text{meaning} + (1 + \text{meaning} | \text{participant}) \quad (1)$$

The results are shown in Table 2. The results suggest that in general the frequent suffix is preferred when there is a high type and high token frequency, but not when there is only a high type frequency or a high token frequency. Notably however, we find no meaningful interaction effect for type frequency and novel meaning. We do, however, find a negative interaction effect between token frequency and novel meaning, suggesting that the frequent suffix is used less for the novel meaning when it has higher token frequency.

These results suggest that participants are more likely to produce the frequent suffix to convey a novel meaning when the suffix has both high type and token frequency or high type frequency, but not when there is high token frequency alone.

Table 2: Results of the statistical models for the production task.

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept (Type-Token Frequency)	1.01	0.56	-0.05	2.13	96.87
Type Frequency	-0.75	0.71	-2.22	0.58	13.79
Token Frequency	-0.20	0.68	-1.57	1.13	38.40
Novel Meaning	0.10	0.32	-0.54	0.74	62.06
Type Frequency:Novel	0.25	0.42	-0.57	1.08	72.89
Token Frequency:Novel	-0.59	0.44	-1.47	0.26	8.69

It is also possible that whether the stem was seen by the participant in training or not also plays a role. As a result, we ran an additional model that included stem familiarity as a fixed-effect. Stem familiarity referred to whether the stem was familiar (occurred in training) or novel (did not occur in training). Similar to the previous model, condition was treatment coded with type-token frequency as the reference level, and meaning as well as stem familiarity were sum-coded. We also included a random intercept for participant and a random slope for meaning by participant and stem familiarity by participant. The model syntax is reported in Equation 2. The results are reported in Table 3 and visualized in Figure 3.

$$\text{frequent_suffix} \sim \text{condition} * \text{meaning} * \text{stem} + (1 + \text{meaning} * \text{stem} | \text{participant}) \quad (2)$$

We find a meaningful effect for the intercept, suggesting that the frequent suffix is chosen more than the infrequent suffix when there is a high type and high token frequency. We also find a meaningful effect for novel stems, suggesting that in general the frequent suffix is produced more than the infrequent suffix when the stem is novel. Perhaps most interestingly, we find a meaningful interaction between the type frequency condition and novel stem, suggesting that in the type frequency condition, there is a preference for the frequent suffix over the infrequent suffix when the stem is novel but not when it is familiar. On the other hand, no such interaction effect is found in the token frequency condition. Further, we find a three-way interaction between type frequency condition,

Table 3: Results of the statistical models for the production task.

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept (Type-Token Frequency)	1.02	0.55	-0.05	2.14	96.91
Type Frequency	-0.74	0.71	-2.20	0.58	14.57
Token Frequency	-0.22	0.68	-1.59	1.12	37.24
Novel Meaning	0.09	0.33	-0.54	0.74	61.03
Novel Stem	0.27	0.14	-0.01	0.56	97.06
Type Frequency:Novel Meaning	0.28	0.42	-0.55	1.12	74.46
Token Frequency:Novel Meaning	-0.61	0.45	-1.51	0.26	8.42
Type Frequency:Novel Stem	0.36	0.17	0.02	0.70	98.11
Token Frequency:Novel Stem	-0.29	0.21	-0.70	0.12	7.86
Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	-0.01	0.13	-0.26	0.25	46.68
Type Frequency:Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	0.36	0.17	0.03	0.68	98.34
Token Frequency:Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	-0.05	0.20	-0.44	0.35	40.76

novel meaning, and novel stem, suggesting that learners are more likely to produce a frequent suffix in the type frequency condition when both the stem and meaning are novel.

Overall, our results suggest that in production, learners generally use the frequent suffix more regardless of meaning or stem familiarity if the suffix has both a high type and high token frequency. Additionally, when the frequent suffix has a higher type frequency than the infrequent suffix, learners are more likely to use it if the stem is novel, but not when the stem is familiar. Finally, in general there is no preference to use the frequent suffix more for novel meanings if the suffix has only a higher token frequency than the infrequent suffix.

Form Choice Task

In order to examine the effects of form-choice, we similarly ran a model analogous to the one we ran for the production task (Equation 1). In the context of the form-choice task, the dependent variable reflects whether participants chose the option with the frequent suffix or the one with the infrequent suffix. Analogous to the first production model, the independent variables were condition and meaning, where condition was treatment coded such that type-token frequency was the reference level and meaning was sum-coded.

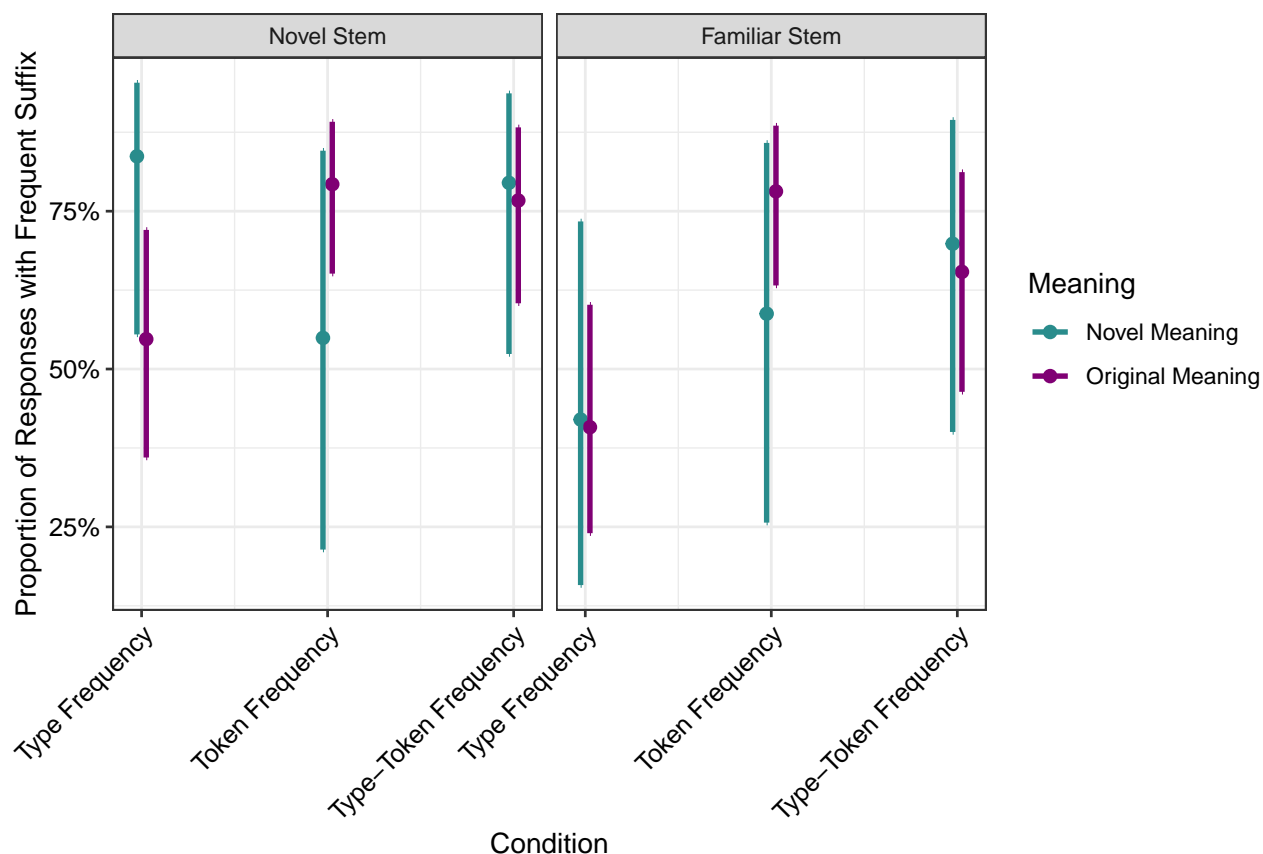


Figure 3: Plot of the statistical model estimates for the production task. The x-axis indicates the condition (type frequency, token frequency, or type-token frequency). The y-axis corresponds to the proportion of responses with a frequent suffix. Blue points indicate that the meaning was novel while purple points corresponds to the original meaning. The facet indicates whether the stem was novel or familiar.

Table 4: Results of the statistical models for the 2afc task.

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept (Type-Token Frequency)	-0.01	0.07	-0.15	0.12	40.99
Type Frequency	-0.12	0.10	-0.31	0.07	10.31
Token Frequency	0.05	0.09	-0.13	0.22	70.61
Novel Meaning	0.06	0.07	-0.08	0.19	79.22
Type Frequency:Novel	-0.18	0.09	-0.36	0.00	2.50
Token Frequency:Novel	-0.05	0.09	-0.22	0.12	30.24

In general we find no meaningful effects except for a small interaction effect between type frequency and novel meaning, suggesting that there may be a slight preference for the familiar suffix when the frequent suffix has a higher type frequency than the infrequent suffix. However, the lack of any other meaningful effects suggests that when participants are presented with both possible options, for all conditions (except when there is a novel meaning in the type frequency condition), participants are equally likely to choose the frequent suffix as the infrequent suffix (i.e., token and type frequency don't matter).

Similar to the production task, we also hypothesized that stem familiarity may also play a role. As a result, we also ran an additional model analogous to the model we ran in the production task. The dependent variable was whether participants chose the option with the frequent suffix, and the dependent variables were stem familiarity, meaning, condition, each two-way interaction effect, and their three-way interaction. We also included a random intercept for participant and random slopes for meaning by participant and stem familiarity by participant.

The model results are presented in Table 5. Overall we find no effect of stem familiarity.

Comprehension Task

In order to examine the results for the comprehension task, similar to the previous tasks we ran a mixed-effects regression model. The dependent variable was whether the meaning that participants selected was novel or original. A positive estimate indicates that participants chose the novel

Table 5: Results of the statistical models for the form-choice task.

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept (Type-Token Frequency)	-0.01	0.07	-0.15	0.12	41.23
Type Frequency	-0.12	0.10	-0.30	0.06	10.50
Token Frequency	0.05	0.09	-0.13	0.22	70.71
Novel Meaning	0.05	0.07	-0.08	0.19	78.69
Novel Stem	-0.01	0.07	-0.14	0.12	45.84
Type Frequency:Novel Meaning	-0.18	0.09	-0.36	0.00	2.81
Token Frequency:Novel Meaning	-0.05	0.09	-0.22	0.13	30.07
Type Frequency:Novel Stem	-0.03	0.09	-0.21	0.15	37.80
Token Frequency:Novel Stem	-0.02	0.09	-0.19	0.15	41.59
Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	-0.02	0.07	-0.15	0.11	38.23
Type Frequency:Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	0.12	0.09	-0.07	0.30	89.33
Token Frequency:Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	-0.03	0.09	-0.20	0.14	35.20

meaning while a negative estimate indicates that participants were more likely to choose the original meaning. Unlike the other tasks, our independent variable was coded quite differently. Specifically, our conditions varied in what the token-to-type frequency was. For example, in the Type Frequency condition, while the frequent suffix occurs 12 times with 12 different types, the infrequent occurs 12 times in only 3 different types. Thus, instead of dividing by condition, we included the token-to-type ratio as a fixed-effect. Since this approach maximizes our power, we divided the data up based on whether the token-to-type ratio for the form presented on a given trial was 12-12, 12-3, or 3-3. By comparing the 12-3 condition to the 12-12 and 3-3 conditions, we can see how an increase in type frequency and a decrease in token frequency affect participants' choice of the novel vs. original meaning.

We treatment coded condition (referred to as `condition_numeric`) such that the intercept was the 12-3 condition. As a result, for each condition, a positive coefficient indicates that participants are more likely to choose a novel meaning (relative to the 12-3 condition/intercept). The model syntax is included below in Equation 3. Our results for the comprehension task are included in Table 6 and visualized in Figure 4.

$$\text{meaning} \sim \text{condition_numeric} + (1|\text{participant}) \quad (3)$$

Table 6: Results of the statistical model for the comprehension task.

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept (12-3)	-2.80	0.27	-3.35	-2.28	0
12-12	1.46	0.19	1.09	1.84	100
3-3	1.98	0.18	1.62	2.34	100

First, we find a meaningful effect for the intercept (12-3 condition), suggesting that participants are more likely to select the original meaning when there is a high token-to-type ratio. Additionally, we find positive coefficient estimates for both 12-12 and 3-3 suggesting that when there is an equal number of tokens as types, participants are more likely to select the novel meaning. In other words, entrenchment seems to be driven not simply by the raw value of token or type frequency, but rather the proportion of tokens to types. That is, it is the relationship between type frequency and token frequency that is relevant for semantic entrenchment in comprehension.

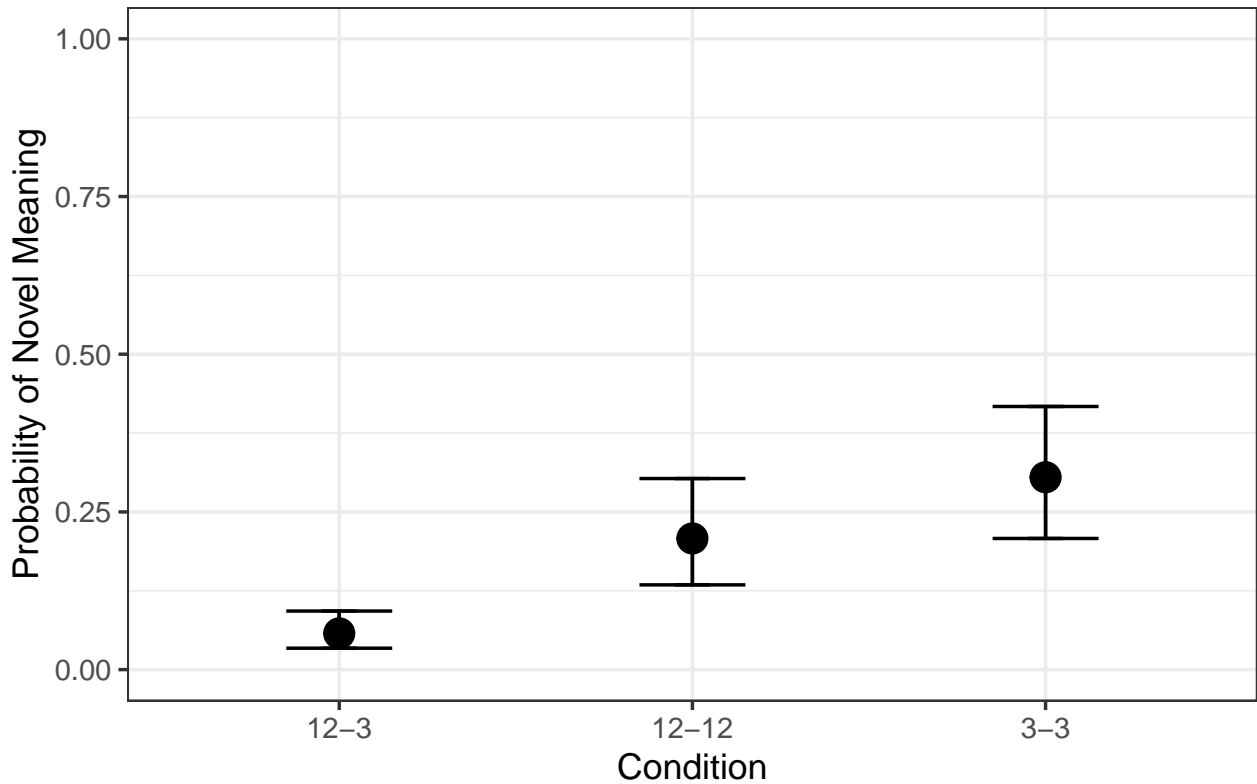


Figure 4: Plot of the model estimates for the comprehension task.

Similar to the form-choice task, we also ran a model with stem familiarity as a fixed-effect.

Table 7: Results of the statistical model for the comprehension task with stem as a fixed-effect.

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept	-2.81	0.28	-3.38	-2.28	0.00
12-12	1.47	0.19	1.09	1.84	100.00
3-3	1.98	0.18	1.62	2.35	100.00
Novel Stem	0.02	0.12	-0.21	0.25	57.66
12-12:Novel Stem	-0.03	0.16	-0.34	0.28	43.70
3-3:Novel Stem	-0.11	0.16	-0.41	0.20	25.02

The dependent variable remained the same (whether participants chose the original or novel meaning), however in addition to condition, we also included stem condition (familiar or novel) as a fixed-effect, along with its interaction with condition. A random intercept for participant was also included.

The results of the model are presented in Table 7. Our results show no effect of stem familiarity on comprehension.

Overall, the comprehension results demonstrate that participants are more likely to select the original meaning when there is a high token-to-type ratio. However, when the token-to-type ratio is equivalent (either 12-12 or 3-3) then participants are more likely to select the novel meaning than when there is a high token-to-type ratio. One caveat is that participants still prefer the original meaning over the novel meaning in general (this is evident because adding the upper CI estimate to the intercept for both conditions still results in a negative estimate). In other words, while decreasing the type-to-token ratio decreases the preference for the original meaning, it does not eliminate it.

Rescorla-Wagner Model

In this section we examine whether the Rescorla-Wagner model (Rescorla, 1972), an associative learning model, can accurately predict our data or not.

The Rescorla-Wagner model is an associative learning model that has gained a great deal of popularity. Despite its simplicity, it has been shown to account for many phenomena in language learning and processing (Baayen, 2012; Ellis, 2006; Olejarczuk et al., 2018; Ramscar et al., 2013).

Specifically, the Rescorla-Wagner model is a two-layer feedforward neural network. It takes as its input a set of cues and predicts an outcome (Kapatsinski, 2021; Rescorla, 1972). The Rescorla-Wagner model is defined below in Equation 4 and Equation 5, which differ in whether the predicted outcome is present or not. The model learns the weight of an association between a present cue and a present outcome. In the equation, α_C denotes the salience of the cue, β_O^P denotes the salience of an outcome when it is present, and β_O^A denotes the salience of an outcome when it is absent (Kapatsinski, 2021). λ_{max} is the learning rate.

$$\Delta V_{C \rightarrow O} = \alpha_C \beta_O^P (\lambda_{max} - \alpha_O) \quad (4)$$

$$\Delta V_{C \rightarrow O} = \alpha_C \beta_O^A (\lambda_{min} - \alpha_O) \quad (5)$$

While the Rescorla-Wagner model is often used with a linear activation function, in the present simulations we use a logistic activation instead (Equation 6). The motivation behind this decision is that the Rescorla-Wagner model with a logistic activation function is more sensitive to type frequency than the Rescorla-Wagner model with a linear activation function (Caballero & Kapatsinski, 2022).

$$\alpha_O = \text{logit}^{-1} \left(\sum_c V_{C \rightarrow O} \right) \quad (6)$$

Given the Rescorla-Wagner model's success on a wide variety of linguistic phenomena, it's possible that it is also able to predict the results we see in this paper. Thus in this section we simulate the Rescorla-Wagner predictions for our production data in each exposure condition and compare it to the human data.

For the simulations in this section, α and β were set to 0.1, λ_{min} was set to 0, and λ_{max} was set to 2. Our simulation process was as follows: First, for each of the different exposure conditions,

we obtained a matrix of predicted cue-outcome associations using the Rescorla-Wagner model. This was done by feeding the model each trial of the exposure phase in a random order. The cues were the stem identity along with the meaning (e.g., *bal_dim_pl*) and the outcome was the suffix that the stem occurred with on that trial (i.e., *dan*, *nem*, *sil*, or *shoon*). The model then learned associations between each cue and each outcome.

Next, for each of the items in the production task, we summed the associations for each cue-outcome present in that trial. For example, given the item *baldan* and the meaning big plural, we consulted the matrix of cue-outcome associations for *bal* and *dan*, *big* and *dan*, and *plural* and *dan*. We then summed these to get the predicted associations for *bal* with the *big.pl* meaning and *dan*. This resulted in a matrix that included the model’s learned association strength for any given cue with each of the four suffixes.

Following this, in order to compare the simulations with the human data, we calculated association strengths depending on whether the meaning was original or familiar. For the original meanings, we subtracted the activation strengths between the original meaning and the appropriate suffix. Specifically, this is the activation strength between the meaning cue big plural and the outcome *dan*, and the meaning cue diminutive singular and the outcome *nem*. If the language was *dan* (i.e., *dan* was the frequent suffix), then the activation strength between diminutive singular and *nem* was subtracted from the activation strength between big plural and *dan*. If the language was *nem* (i.e., *nem* was the frequent suffix), then the subtraction was in the opposite direction. To calculate the association strengths for novel meanings, if the frequent suffix was *dan* then the activation strength between diminutive plural and *nem* was subtracted from the activation strength between diminutive plural and *dan*. If the frequent suffix was *nem* then the opposite was done. This results in a single value for each trial that is the model’s predicted activation of the frequent suffix relative to the infrequent suffix.

In order to test our model, we evaluated whether the model is a good predictor of the human data. Thus, we ran five Bayesian logistic regression models. In each model, the dependent variable was whether the human learner, for a given trial, selected the frequent suffix or the infrequent suffix. The

first model was a simple model that modeled the human data as a function of the Rescorla-Wagner activation strength (referred to as `freq_minus_infreq` in the model syntax), with random intercepts for participant and stem identity, and a random slope for the Rescorla-Wagner model prediction by participant (Equation 7). The second model was analogous, except that instead of only using the suffix activations, we included the stem activations as well. For example, instead of having a single activation for `bal.dim.pl` (which was the association between those cues and the frequent suffix minus the association between those cues and the infrequent suffix) we instead calculated the activations separately for the stem, *bal*, and the meaning, *dim.sg* (Equation 8). Our third model was identical to the second model except that we included a fixed-effect for condition as well as each interaction between the stem activations, the meaning activations, and condition (Equation 9). In our fourth model, we included the original predictors (stem, condition, and meaning) along with the Rescorla-Wagner predictions from the first model (Equation 10). Finally, in our fifth model we included the original predictors in the human model as well as the RW activations separated into stem and meaning activations (Equation 11).

As a brief reminder of the variables, in all of our models, frequency is whether the frequent or infrequent suffix was chosen in the human data, meaning is whether the meaning was familiar or novel, `stem_condition` was whether the stem was familiar or novel, `freq_minus_infreq` was the difference in predicted associations between the frequent and infrequent suffixes, and `resp_stem` was the individual stem (e.g., *bal*).

$$\text{frequency} \sim \text{freq_minus_infreq} + (1|\text{participant}) + (1|\text{resp_stem}) \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{frequency} \sim & \text{freq_minus_infreq_stem} * \text{freq_minus_infreq_meaning} \\ & + (1|\text{participant}) + (1|\text{resp_stem}) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Table 8: Results of the statistical model with only the RW predictions (Equation 7).

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5
Intercept	0.34	0.31	-0.28	0.96
RW Predictions	0.38	0.09	0.20	0.56

Table 9: Results of the statistical analysis containing the predictions from the Rescorla-Wagner logistic model separated into stem activations and meaning activations. The results demonstrate that the human data is predicted well by suffix activations but not by stem activations (eq-rwmodel2).

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept	-0.24	0.37	-0.96	0.48	25.78
Stem Activations	0.29	0.10	0.10	0.47	99.89
Meaning Activations	1.37	0.35	0.71	2.06	100.00

$$\begin{aligned} \text{frequency} \sim & \text{freq_minus_infreq_stem} * \text{freq_minus_infreq_meaning} * \text{condition} \\ & + (1|\text{participant}) + (1|\text{resp_stem}) \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{frequency} \sim & \text{condition} * \text{meaning} * \text{stem_condition} + \text{freq_minus_infreq} \\ & + (1|\text{participant}) + (1|\text{resp_stem}) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{frequency} \sim & \text{condition} * \text{meaning} * \text{stem_condition} \\ & + \text{freq_minus_infreq_stem} * \text{freq_minus_infreq_meaning} * \text{condition} \\ & + (1|\text{participant}) + (1|\text{resp_stem}) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

The results of each model are presented in Table 8, Table 9, Table 10, Table 11, and Table 12.

Overall we find that the general RW activations for both stem and suffix are able to account

Table 10: Results of the statistical analysis containing the separated stem and meaning activations and condition as a fixed-effect (eq-rwmodel3).

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept	0.38	0.62	-0.83	1.60	73.10
Stem Activations	0.60	0.45	-0.26	1.51	91.60
Meaning Activations	0.33	0.48	-0.61	1.28	75.04
Type Frequency	-0.28	0.66	-1.61	0.99	33.54
Token Frequency	-1.80	0.92	-3.72	-0.16	1.45
Stem Activations:Type Frequency	0.01	0.46	-0.92	0.89	51.56
Stem Activations:Token Frequency	-0.66	0.47	-1.61	0.25	7.88
Meaning Activations:Type Frequency	-0.40	1.50	-3.79	2.22	40.20
Meaning Activations:Token Frequency	2.75	0.77	1.30	4.29	99.99

Table 11: Results of the statistical model with the RW predictions alongside the predictors from the human model (Equation 10).

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept	1.26	0.59	0.14	2.48	98.64
Type Frequency	-1.28	0.77	-2.88	0.11	3.65
Token Frequency	-0.16	0.59	-1.34	0.98	38.81
Novel Meaning	-0.01	0.12	-0.24	0.22	47.34
Novel Stem	0.21	0.11	0.00	0.43	97.20
Frequent - Infrequent (RW)	-0.27	0.31	-0.90	0.32	19.00
Type Frequency:Novel Meaning	0.16	0.14	-0.12	0.44	86.21
Token Frequency:Novel Meaning	-0.72	0.15	-1.01	-0.42	0.00
Type Frequency:Novel Stem	0.38	0.20	0.00	0.77	97.53
Token Frequency:Novel Stem	-0.41	0.21	-0.82	0.00	2.48
Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	-0.05	0.10	-0.24	0.14	29.24
Type Frequency:Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	0.21	0.12	-0.03	0.45	95.69
Token Frequency:Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	-0.08	0.14	-0.35	0.18	27.62

Table 12: Results of the statistical model with the RW predictions separated into stem and meaning activations alongside the predictors from the human model (Equation 11).

	Estimate	Est.Error	Q2.5	Q97.5	% Samples > 0
Intercept	0.61	0.92	-1.22	2.44	75.90
Type Frequency	-0.70	0.89	-2.56	0.96	20.72
Token Frequency	-0.22	0.83	-1.96	1.33	39.49
Novel Meaning	0.13	0.21	-0.27	0.56	73.04
Novel Stem	0.20	0.12	-0.03	0.43	95.81
Stem Activations	0.06	0.48	-0.88	1.04	54.42
Meaning Activations	0.46	0.99	-1.41	2.54	53.55
Type Frequency:Novel Meaning	0.01	0.22	-0.43	0.43	0.92
Token Frequency:Novel Meaning	-0.64	0.25	-1.11	-0.13	93.22
Type Frequency:Novel Stem	0.51	0.35	-0.15	1.23	2.30
Token Frequency:Novel Stem	-0.48	0.24	-0.95	-0.01	28.91
Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	-0.05	0.10	-0.25	0.14	21.49
Type Frequency:Stem Activations	-0.55	0.71	-2.03	0.77	17.83
Token Frequency:Stem Activations	-0.51	0.56	-1.65	0.56	27.63
Type Frequency:Suffix Activations	-1.75	3.82	-13.65	1.68	65.01
Token Frequency:Suffix Activations	0.40	1.02	-1.45	2.65	95.71
Type Frequency:Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	0.21	0.12	-0.03	0.46	27.86
Token Frequency:Novel Meaning:Novel Stem	-0.08	0.14	-0.35	0.19	68.62

Table 13: Results of our leave-one-out cross-validation.

	elpd_diff	se_diff	elpd_loo	se_elpd_loo
Original Predictors Plus RW Activations	0.00	0.00	-1564.67	26.02
Original Statistical Predictors	-0.26	0.77	-1564.93	26.05
Stem and Meaning Activations by Condition Plus Original Predictors	-0.38	0.77	-1565.05	26.02
Stem and Meaning Activations by Condition	-2.80	3.96	-1567.47	25.58
Stem and Meaning Activations as Separate Predictors	-13.27	5.67	-1577.94	25.19
Only RW Activation	-18.47	6.41	-1583.14	24.93

for the human data. Further, we find that when token frequency is high, meaning activations are a better predictor (evident by the interaction effect between Meaning Activations and Token Frequency in Table 10).

In order to compare which model best fits the data, we performed leave-one-out cross-validation using the R package `loo` (Vehtari et al., 2017). Leave-one-out cross-validation refits the model for each observation in the dataset, leaving out that observation.³ For each data point, the expected log predictive density is calculated. Expected log predictive density is the log-likelihood of the held-out observation given the model’s parameters (trained without the observation). Each model receives a single expected log predictive density value by summing the log-likelihood of each observation using leave-one-out cross-validation. A higher value indicates the model performs better than the other models. Thus, we compared the expected log predictive density value for each of these three models, along with the model of the human data that does not contain the Rescorla-Wagner predictions.

The results of our leave-one-out cross-validation are included in Table 13. When using leave-one-out cross-validation, a model can be considered as outperforming another model if the difference in elpd is greater than the standard error of the elpd. In the case of our models, because all of the elpd differences are less than the standard error of the elpd, it is difficult to draw conclusions about which model fits the data best.

³More accurately, Bayesian models are computationally expensive to fit many times, so this is approximated using Pareto-smoothed importance sampling instead.

Additional Simulations

There is evidence that humans learn associations for configural cues that their parts do not have (Kapatsinski, 2009). For example, in English syllables, rimes are treated as a single constituent (Figure 5) and Kapatsinski (2009) demonstrated that native English speakers can learn to associate rimes with an outcome even in cases when the onset and nucleus are associated with different outcomes.

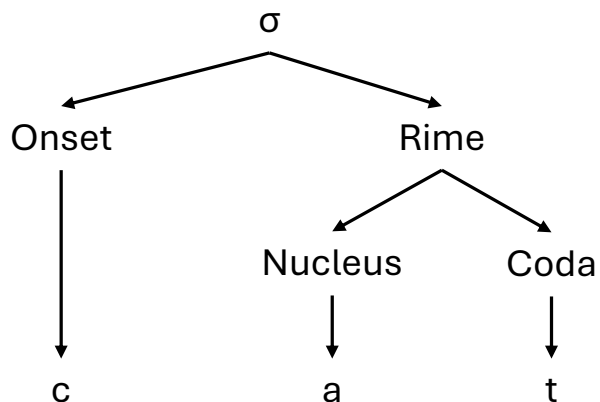


Figure 5: A visualization of English syllable structure.

There is also evidence that adult native English speakers show greater reliance on semantic cues than phonological cues in production (Culbertson et al., 2018). For example, Culbertson et al. (2018) demonstrated that in learning an artificial noun class adults rely more on semantic cues than phonological cues (whereas interestingly children rely more on phonological cues than semantic cues).

Thus, in order to further examine the differences between the human and model predictions we made two modifications to the simulations. First, instead of modeling the suffix meanings (diminutive plural, diminutive singular, big plural, big singular) as two separate cues, we also included a configural cue (analogous to an interaction effect in linear regression) that could be associated with the outcome. This configural cue was simply a combination of the two meanings. For example, given the meaning “big plural”, the cues comprised “big”, “plural”, and “big.plural”. Similar to the previous simulations, the model was presented with these cues paired with one of the four suffixes. The model

Table 14: Results of the leave-one-out cross-validation for the additional simulation. ‘Modified RW’ corresponds to the model with configural cues and increased saliency for semantic cues. ‘RW Model’ refers to the RW logistic model. ‘Statistical Predictors’ refers to the original statistical analysis that contains no RW model predictions.

	elpd_diff	se_diff	elpd_loo	se_elpd_loo
Configural Cues and Increased Saliency of Semantic Cues	0.00	0.00	-285.61	19.26
Original Predictors Plus RW Activations	-1279.06	28.09	-1564.67	26.02
Original Statistical Predictors	-1279.31	28.16	-1564.93	26.05
Stem and Meaning Activations by Condition Plus Original Predictors	-1279.44	28.05	-1565.05	26.02
Stem and Meaning Activations by Condition	-1281.86	27.85	-1567.47	25.58
Stem and Meaning Activations as Separate Predictors	-1292.32	27.51	-1577.94	25.19
Only RW Activation	-1297.53	27.22	-1583.14	24.93

was trained on the same data that the humans were trained on.

Second, in addition to configural cues, we also increased the alpha value for semantic cues relative to the phonological cues. This results in semantic cues being more associable with outcomes than phonological cues. Specifically, alpha was 0.05 for phonological cues and 0.25 for semantic cues. All other variables remained unchanged.

Analogous to the previous simulations, we then calculated the model’s predicted activation for the frequent suffix. If the meaning was novel, this was simply the difference between the activation strength for the frequent suffix and the activation strength for the infrequent suffix. If the meaning was original, then it was the difference between activation strength of big plural with *dan* and the activation strength of diminutive singular and *nem* if *dan* was the frequent suffix and vice versa if *nem* was the frequent suffix.

In order to evaluate this simulation, we ran a Bayesian logistic regression model with the human response as the dependent variable (1 if they chose the frequent suffix and 0 if they chose the infrequent suffix) and the model’s prediction as the independent variable with random intercepts for participant and stem. We then examined whether this model was a better fit to the data than the other model predictions using leave-one-out-cross-validation (Table 14).

The results of leave-one-out cross-validation suggest that the model that includes configural cues along with an increased sensitivity to semantic cues outperforms every other model by a landslide. In order to visualize this, we also included a side-by-side plot of the human data with the RW activations from this modified simulation (Figure 6), as well as the original RW suffix activations (without configural cues or modified salience of semantic cues).

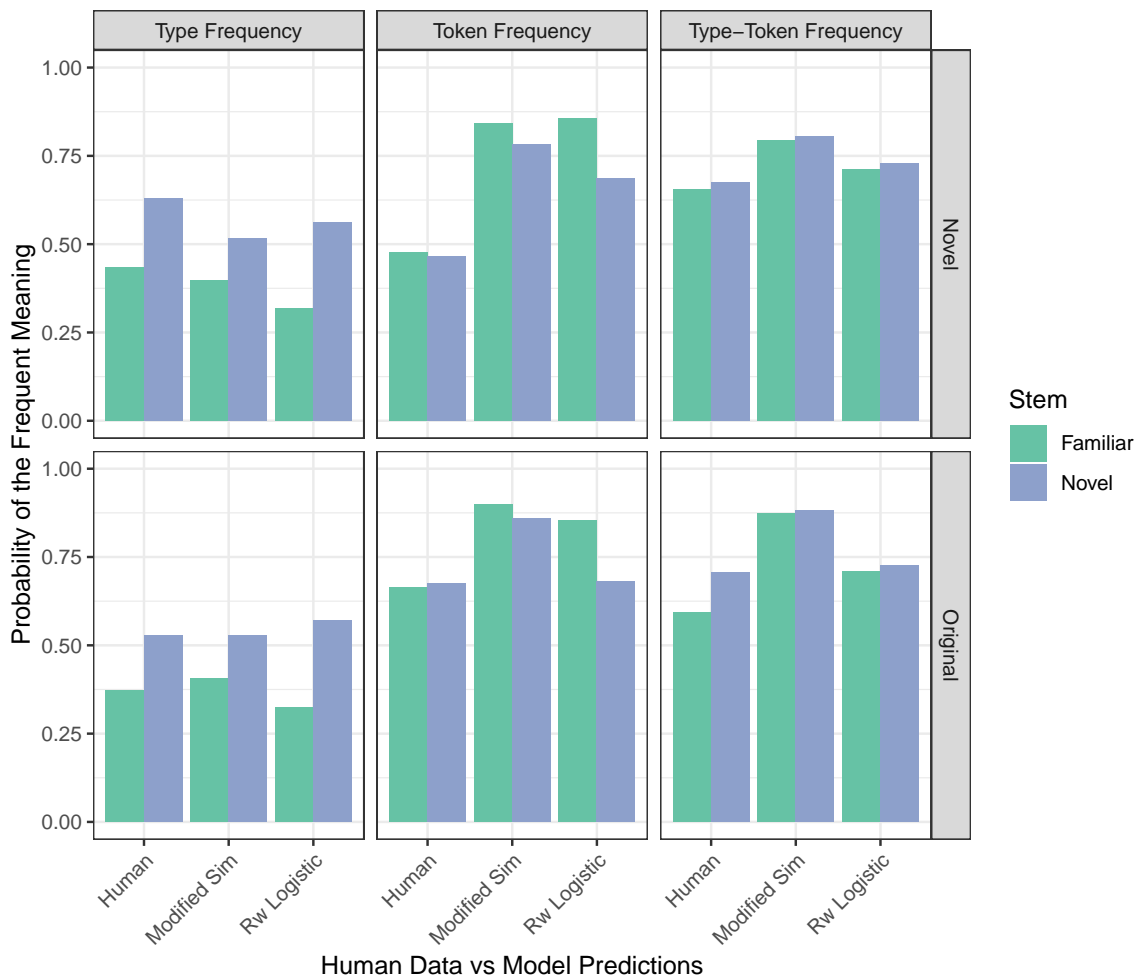


Figure 6: Plot of the original RW suffix activations and the modified RW activations (configural cues plus modified salience of semantic cues) versus the human results. The y-axis is the probability of producing the frequent meaning. The top facet is original meanings and the bottom axis is novel meanings. Along the x-axis, ‘Modified Sim’ corresponds to the RW simulations with configural cues and increased semantic saliency. ‘RW Logistic’ corresponds to our original suffix activations. ‘Human’ corresponds to the original human data. The visualization shows that the original RW suffix activations seem to fall short in predicting the human data for the token frequency condition.

Overall, the results of our simulations suggest that an error-driven associative learning

model, specifically the Rescorla-Wagner model, fits the human data well. Further, a model with configural cues and an increased salience of semantic cues fits the human data better than even the original statistical predictors. This parallels previous findings in demonstrating that humans learn associations for configural cues and that humans are more sensitive to semantic cues than phonological cues.

Discussion

Our results suggest that in production, having a high type and high token frequency (relative to the competitor), along with simply having a high type but equal token frequency (relative to the competitor), leads to semantic extension, while having a high type frequency but low token frequency leads to entrenchment (i.e., using the suffix more with the original meaning than novel meanings). Further, this mirrors what we see in comprehension where participants are more likely to choose the novel meaning when the type and token frequencies are matched, but less likely when the suffix has high token frequency but low type frequency. Further, when both forms are made accessible as in the form choice task, the preference for the frequent suffix over the infrequent suffix disappears for all conditions.

Our results also demonstrate that the Rescorla-Wagner model with a logistic activation function is able to capture a good amount of the human results, however predicts an effect of stem familiarity where we do not see it in humans (in the token frequency condition).

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