

# Implicative verbs and accomodation

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**The Fifth International Conference on Philosophy of  
Language and Linguistics**

University of Lodz (Poland), 12-14 May 2017

This research is supported by the National Science Centre, Poland under grant  
2015/19/B/HS1/03306.

Presuppositions:

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- Constraints imposed by an utterance on the context in which it may appropriately be uttered.

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- Constraints imposed by an utterance on the context in which it may appropriately be uttered.
- Common ground: the set of beliefs that conversation participants assume to be mutual

Reinforceability: conversational implicatures

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A: Do you have a cigarette?

B: I quit smoking three years ago.

Reinforceability: conversational implicatures

A: Do you have a cigarette?

B: I quit smoking three years ago, I don't have cigarettes.

Reinforceability: conversational implicatures

A: Do you have a cigarette?

B: I quit smoking three years ago, I don't have cigarettes.



## Presupposition triggers, first experiment:

1. Factive verbs.
2. Change of state verbs.
3. Temporal clauses.
4. Implicative verbs.

## Results of the first experiment:

1. Conversational implicatures can be reinforced without producing a sense of anomalous redundancy.
2. Presuppositions cannot be reinforced without producing a sense of anomalous redundancy, with an exception of presuppositions triggered by implicative verbs.

## Implicative verbs (Karttunen, 1971):

1. X managed to Y
2. X forgot Y
3. Y happened to X

## Implicative verbs (Karttunen, 1971):

1. X managed to Y  $\gg$  X tried to Y
2. X forgot Y  $\gg$  X ought to Y
3. Y happened to X  $\gg$  X didn't plan or intend to Y

Accommodation:

## Accommodation:

„Presupposition accommodation is the process by which the context is adjusted quietly and without fuss to accept the utterance of a sentence that puts certain requirements on the context in which it is processed.” (Von Stechow 2008, p. 1)

Accommodation:

A: Can you be at the meeting?

B: I have to pick up my sister at the airport

## Second experiment:

- 36 dialogues.
- 4 triggers: factive verbs, change of state verbs, definite descriptions and implicative verbs.
- Implicative verbs in two contexts: neutral and accommodation facilitating context
- Questions regarding information communicated by different aspects.



## Second experiment:

1. He forgot to close the window.
2. He forgot to visit his sick grandmother at the hospital.

Second experiment:

A: Anna does not regret that she went to the concert.

B: The music was fantastic.

Second experiment:

A: Anna does not regret that she went to the concert.

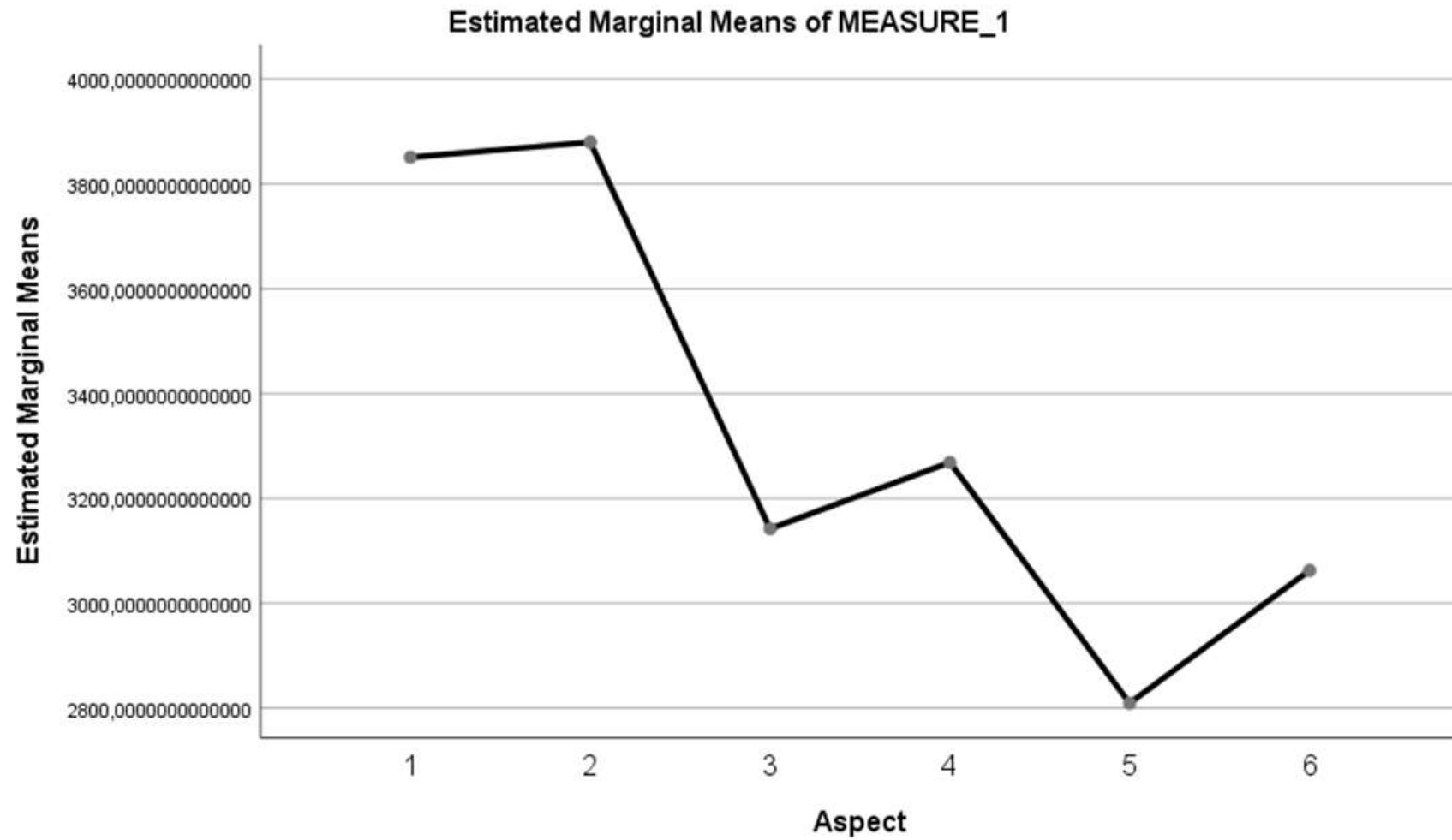
B: The music was fantastic.

*Question: Did Anna went to the concert?*

## Response times: Mean and SD

	Mean	Standard deviation	N
1. Implicative Verbs	3850,88	1886,82	32
2. Implicative Verbs (cont)	3879,65	2138,51	32
3. Factive verbs	3142,11	1440,29	32
4. Change of state verbs	3268,75	1437,76	32
5. Definite descriptions	2809,39	1399,16	32
6. Con. implicatures	3062,53	1407,85	32

# Response times:



## Response times: Tests of Within-Subjects Effects

Source		Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Aspect	Sphericity Assumed	30555932,718	5	6111186,544	5,836	,000	,158
	Greenhouse-Geisser	30555932,718	2,857	10695473,340	5,836	,001	,158
	Huynh-Feldt	30555932,718	3,177	9616750,970	5,836	,001	,158
	Lower-bound	30555932,718	1,000	30555932,718	5,836	,022	,158

$F(5,155) = 5,836; p < 0.02; \eta^2 = 0,158$

## Response times: Tests of Within-Subjects Contrasts

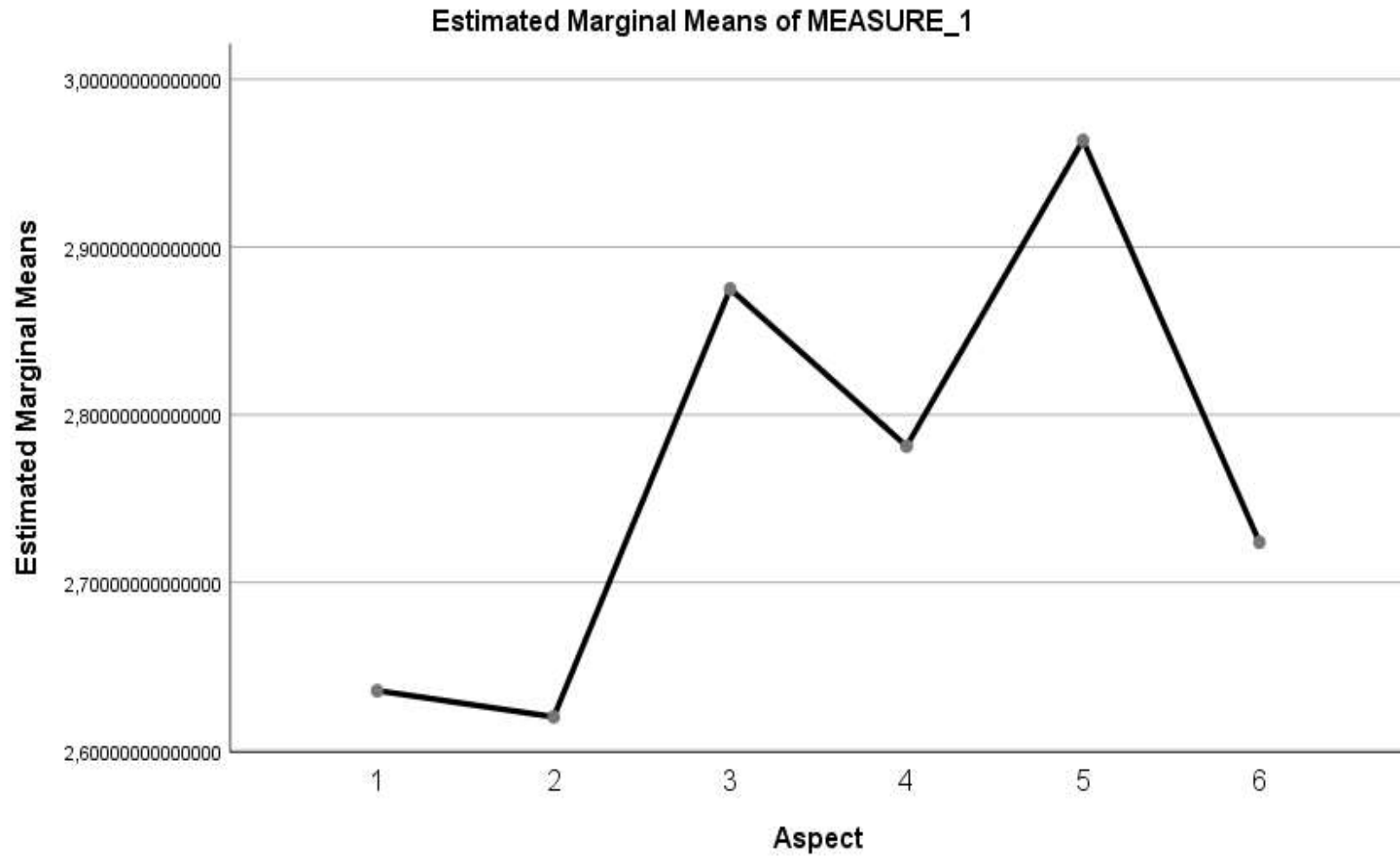
Source	Aspect	Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Aspect	Level 2 vs. Level 1	26488,347	1	26488,347	,010	,920	,000
	Level 3 vs. Level 1	16075158,758	1	16075158,758	8,231	,007	,210
	Level 4 vs. Level 1	10843824,500	1	10843824,500	6,178	,019	,166
	Level 5 vs. Level 1	34710417,670	1	34710417,670	13,995	,001	,311
	Level 6 vs. Level 1	19887810,563	1	19887810,563	10,611	,003	,255

## Answers: Mean and SD

	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
1. Implicative verbs	2,63	,306	32
2. Implicative verbs (cont)	2,61	,268	32
3. Factive verbs	2,87	,235	32
4. Change of state verbs	2,78	,279	32
5. Definite descriptions	2,96	,109	32
6. Con. implicatures	2,72	,263	32



Answers:



## Answers: Tests of Within-Subjects Effects

Source		Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Aspect	Sphericity Assumed	2,923	5	,585	9,303	,000	,231
	Greenhouse-Geisser	2,923	4,026	,726	9,303	,000	,231
	Huynh-Feldt	2,923	4,702	,622	9,303	,000	,231
	Lower-bound	2,923	1,000	2,923	9,303	,005	,231

$F(5,155) = 9,303; p < 0.001; \eta^2 = 0,231$

## Answers: Tests of Within-Subjects Contrasts

Source	Aspect	Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Aspect	Level 2 vs. Level 1	,008	1	,008	,058	,812	,002
	Level 3 vs. Level 1	1,837	1	1,837	11,656	,002	,273
	Level 4 vs. Level 1	,681	1	,681	3,661	,065	,106
	Level 5 vs. Level 1	3,446	1	3,446	31,785	,000	,506
	Level 6 vs. Level 1	,251	1	,251	1,459	,236	,045

Simons, M. (2013). On the conversational basis of some presuppositions. In *Perspectives on linguistic pragmatics* (pp. 329-348). Springer International Publishing.

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

“inferences which are licensed by general conversational principles, in combination with the truth conditions of the presupposing utterances”  
(Simons, 2013, s. 1).

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Explicit ignorance contexts:

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Explicit ignorance contexts:

1. I notice that you keep chewing on your pencil.  
Have you recently stopped smoking?

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Nondetachability:



*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Nondetachability:

A: Do you want to go out for a drink?

B: I have to finish writing my SALT paper.

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Nondetachability:

A: Do you want to go out for a drink?

B: I have to finish writing my SALT paper.

a. ... I need to finish my SALT paper.

b. ... My SALT paper needs to get finished tonight.

c. ... I have to work on my SALT paper.

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Nondetachability – presuppositions:

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Nondetachability – presuppositions:

- a. Jane didn't stop laughing.
- b. Jane didn't quit laughing.
- c. Jane didn't cease laughing.
- d. Jane did not discontinue her laughter.

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

„The propositions that P and that Q may be related to each other, and to common beliefs and intentions, in such a way that it is hard to think of a reason that anyone would raise the question whether P, or care about its answer, unless he already believed that Q”  
(Stalnaker, 1974)

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

P: Jane didn't stop smoking ->

Raises question: Did Jane stop smoking? ->

Q: Jane was smoker (presupposition)

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Interpretation Principle

„Suppose that P entails but is not entailed by Q. A speaker who raises the question whether P indicates a belief that Q is true” (Simons 2013, p. 13)

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

P: Jane didn't stop smoking ->

Raises question: Did Jane stop smoking? ->

Questioned proposition: Jane stopped smoking.

Entailments (some):

1. Jane exists (presupposition)
2. Jane was smoker (presupposition)



*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Implicative verbs

P: John didn't manage to stop before intersection.->

Raises question: Did John manage to stop before intersection? ->

Q: John was trying to stop (presupposition) -> do we have to believe in that to raise the question whether P?

*On the conversational basis of some presuppositions:*

Implicative verbs

P: John didn't manage to stop before intersection.->

Raises question: Did John manage to stop before intersection? ->

Entailments (some):

1. John exists (presupposition)
2. (?) John was trying to stop (presupposition)

Von Stechow, P. (2008). What is presupposition accommodation, again?. *Philosophical perspectives*, 22(1), 137-170.

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