**Background**

- **Two-step process**: Match-effect differs in affirmative versus negated statements (e.g., Kaup et al., 2006, Journal of Pragmatics).
- **Inference towards the antonym (ITA)** depends on adjective-type (e.g., Ruytenbeek 2020, XPrag; Ruytenbeek et al., 2017, Glossa).

**Method & Analysis**

- 37 native German speakers saw **affirmations** or **negations**.
- They performed a speeded go-nogo task (respond if true).
- Centrally delivered target numbers and responses removed spatial biases.
- Blocked design with **simple context** (2 levels: black; white) / **complex context** (8 levels: red, green, yellow, blue, orange, brown, pink, purple).
- **2x2rmANOVA** of sentence type (affirmative, negated) x context (simple, complex).

**Experimental Procedure**

Die Zahl ist nicht gelb.

1500ms 2000ms 300ms

Go-trial: button-press response (spacebar) / nogo-trial: no response

**Hypothesis**

Selective processing advantage for negated sentences in simple contexts → ANOVA interaction effect of sentence type x context

**Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANOVA main-effects</th>
<th>ANOVA interaction-effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main effect of context: F(1,36) = 203.225, p &lt; .001, η² = .552</td>
<td>Context * Sentence type: F(1,36) = 35.884, p &lt; .001, η² = .042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main effect of sentence type: F(1,36) = 111.550, p &lt; .001, η² = .201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion**

- Hypothesis was confirmed (ANOVA interaction effect of sentence type x context).
- Cognitive inference towards the antonym in binary context (ITA); Actual state of affairs represented?

**References**


**Contact**: Melinda A. Mende, Potsdam Embodied Cognition Group, University of Potsdam, mamende@uni-potsdam.de

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