Questions and Findings
(i) Is there any interaction between the Object noun types and the aspectual mismatch costs?
No, we did not find any interaction.
(ii) Is there any correlation between AQ score and reading time data?
Participators with high AQ scores tend to read faster.

Previous Studies
Piñango, et al. (1999)
- Aspectual reinterpretation increases a processing cost.
  1. The girl slept until dawn.
  2. The girl jumped until dawn.

Long, et al. (2010)
- Aspectual mismatch costs at the verb.
  - Telic adv. 10-pun-kan: + Atelic V. rensyusuru ‘exercise’
  - Telic adv. 10-pun-de: + Telic V. soozisuru ‘clean’

Current Study
Tenny (1994)
- Controlled the telicity without changing verbs.
  1. Chuck ate an apple [*for an hour / in an hour].
  2. Chuck ate ice cream [for an hour / in an hour].

Mihara (2004)
- Controlled the telicity by changing Noun Type.
  1. Chuck ate an apple (*for an hour / in an hour).
  2. Chuck ate ice cream [for an hour / in an hour].

Research Questions
- Does the mismatch of aspectual information induce difficulty in sentence processing?
- To what extent do noun types influence the telicity of the sentences?

Current Study
Procedure
- Participants: 54 native speakers of Japanese (students at Tsuda Univ.)
- Task: Self-paced reading task (+ AQ questionnaire)
- Materials: 24 sets of target sentences and 58 filler sentences

Stimuli
- Sample target sentence: ...the painter appreciated a [prize-winning picture / pictures] [in an hour / in an hour] at the art museum.

Prediction
- The reading-time delay should be observed when the telicity of an adverb and a verb is mismatched.
- Specific nouns should fit well with the telic event, because this type of nouns is easy to be counted and this property fixes the event’s delimitedness.

Results and Discussion
Results
- Excluded data: 8 participants and 3 items
- ANOVA with two within-group factors (Adverb Type and Noun Type)

Region6 (appreciated)

- For an hour
- In an hour

Discussion
- Does the mismatch of aspectual information induce difficulty in sentence processing?
  - In the Specific N. (prize-winning picture) condition, the stimuli in Telic adv. (in an hour) condition were read slower.
  - In the General N. (picture) condition, a delay was not observed.
  - Why did these differences arise depending on the Noun Types?
  - To what extent do noun types influence the telicity of the sentences?

- As to the Telic adv. (for an hour) condition, the General N. (picture) condition read slower than the Specific N. (prize-winning picture) condition.
- Compared with General N. (picture), Specific N. (prize-winning picture) narrows the choice of verbs?

AQ Score

Eigsti and Schuh (2016)
- There is a correlation between autism spectrum disorders and pragmatic impairments.

Analysis and Results
- We investigated the correlation between AQ score and reading time data.
- A linear mixed-effects modelling (a word difference was put as a mixed factor, and the AQ score was as a fixed factor).
- Participants with high AQ scores tend to read faster.

Conclusion
This study:
(i) investigated whether aspectual mismatch induces a processing cost.
(ii) controlled the telicity without changing verbs.
(iii) examined the correlation between AQ score and reading time.

The results showed:
(i) the incongruence of telicity between an adverb and a verb increases processing load. (only in Specific N. condition)
(ii) there was no concrete evidence about Noun Type effect.
(iii) as the AQ score becomes high, participators read faster.

References

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