INTRODUCTION
Polysemous words have multiple related meanings, often related through regular processes of meaning transfer. Producer-for-product metonymies require interpreting the name of a producer (e.g., author) in terms of the product (e.g., literature): The students read Kafka.

UNDESPECIFICATION MODEL
Upon encountering a metonym, the processor activates an underspecified representation consistent with all its senses, then homes in on a specific sense if required by contextual or lexical constraints (e.g., Frisson & Pickering, 1999).

RESEARCH QUESTION
Can structural heuristics force the processor to commit to a specific sense of a metonym?

Exp 1a: Syntactic Voice (SPR)
**Design:** 2x2, crossing Voice (Active vs. Passive) and Verb (Literal vs. Figurative-selecting) in self-paced reading task; 24 quartets & 48 subjects. Exit questionnaire confirming familiarity with famous names after online items completed.

(1) **Active:** As planned, the publisher forged Kafka shortly after | the revisions were in.

(2) **Passive:** As planned, Kafka was forged by the publisher shortly after | the revisions were in.

**Results:** Verb condition examines only within Voice factor. Penalty on post-verbal region for processing Figurative-selecting verbs when the sentence was Passive (d=98), t = 2.97, but no penalty for Active counterparts anywhere.

CONCLUSIONS
- A general structural heuristic guides early assignment of agent thematic roles.
- Penalty for violating this heuristic (Exp 1 and Exp 2).
- General context failed to entice parser away from early sense commitment (Exp 3).
- Structural heuristics, not just lexical or contextual constraints, may lead to immediate sense selection.

Exp 1b: Syntactic voice (Eye Tracking)
**Design:** Same as E1a; 36 participants.

**Results:** Effect of Verb examined only within Voice factor. Numerous processing penalties after Figurative-selecting verb for Passive, but not Active:

Effects of Figurative-selecting verbs in Passive
- Increased go-past times on R4 (post-verb)
- Increased regressions out after R4
- Increased regressions in to R3 (verb)
- Increased second pass times R3 and R4
- Increased total times in R4 and R5 (spillover)

Effects of Figurative-selecting verbs in Active
- Marginally more regressions out of R5, t = 1.78

Exp 2: Syntactic Voice (Completion)
**Design:** Verbs from E1 replaced with blanks; 24 participants from AMT provided verbs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analysis 1</th>
<th>Analysis 2</th>
<th>Analysis 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passive</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Passive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32% (3)</td>
<td>59% (3)</td>
<td>59% (3)</td>
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**Results:** Fewer verbs supporting a Figurative interpretation of the metonym were supplied for Passive sentences.

Exp 3: Role of Context (SPR)
**Design:** 2x2, crossing Context (Metonymic vs. Neutral) and Verb (Literal-selecting vs. Figurative-selecting) in self-paced reading.

(5) **Metonymic:** In 1781, Vienna hosted a music festival where many popular orchestral pieces were played.

Neutral: In the spring of 1781, a wonderful gala was held at the palace in Vienna.

**Target:** Mozart was invited / conducted by Vienna’s orchestra conductor, | which was | a great honor.

**Results:** Penalty for Neutral contexts (d=82), t = 4.02. Independent of context, penalty for processing Figurative-selecting verbs (d=116), t=2.71.

REFERENCES

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