

## Mismatched Event Interpretations: Evidence from Eye Movements

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Abstract (99 words):

Recent work concerning the semantic processing of modifiers has focused on the relationship between the aspect of VPs and the aspect of adverbials. We report an eye movement experiment resolving tension between studies finding a cost for aspectual coercion (Pinango et al. 1999; Todorova et al 2000a,b) and studies which do not (Pickering et al. 2006). Following work on quantification over events (Rothstein 1995), we argue that unlike durative adverbials, frequentive adverbials are processed compositionally, engendering no coercion cost. This analysis is in accord with eye movement measures. Durative adverbials create a costly mismatch not found in frequentive adverbials.