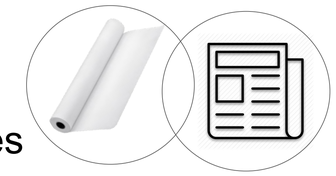
# The Number of Senses Effect in Polysemous Adjective Recognition

[1]Sara Anđelić, [1]Lenka Ilić, [1]Ksenija Mišić, [1,2,3]Dušica Filipović Đurđević
[1]Laboratory for Experimental Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade
[2]Laboratory for Experimental Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad
[3]Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade

## 1 Polysemy – faster recognition

polysemy: related senses
↘
higher number of senses (NoS)
↘
stronger facilitation among related senses
↘
stronger semantic activation
↘
faster recognition in lexical decistion time task
(Armstrong & Plaut, 2016; Rodd et al., 2002)

paper



**NoS effect in:**

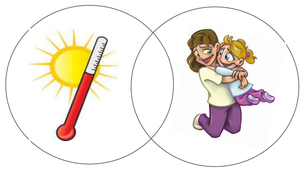
nouns ✔
verbs ✔
adjectives ?

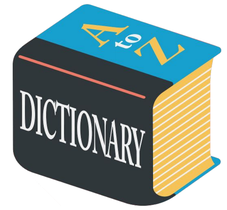
(Filipović Đurđević & Kostić, 2021; Mišić & Filipović Đurđević, 2020)

**Higher NoS -- faster adjective processing?**

## 2 Counting the adjectival senses (NoS)

topao
(warm)






} senses obtained from **the dictionary** } NoS

(Rečnik Matice Srpske, 2007)

1. "high temperature"
2. "showing affection"
3. ...

} senses obtained from **native speakers** } NoS

(36 volunteers)

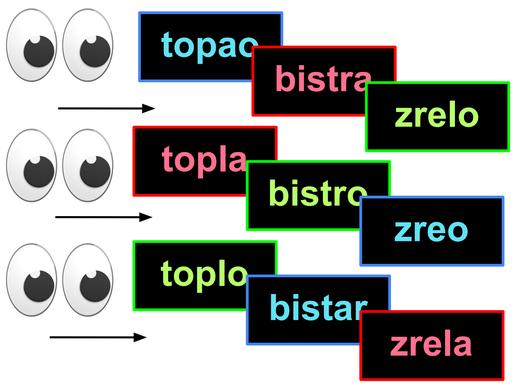
**to be included in future analysis**

## 3 Timing adjective recognition

48 participants

107 polysemous Serbian adjectives in visual lexical decision task

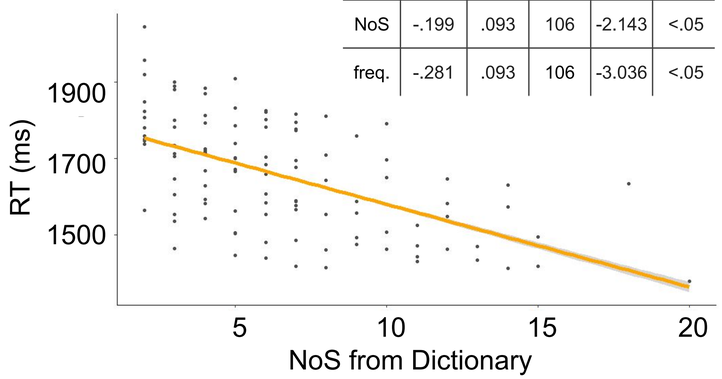
Latin square design




| words | pseudowords |
|---|---|
| topao | tokao |
| topla | tokla |
| toplo | toklo |

## 4 NoS effect across parts of speech

| | β | S.E. | df | t | p |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NoS | -.199 | .093 | 106 | -2.143 | <.05 |
| freq. | -.281 | .093 | 106 | -3.036 | <.05 |




Next steps:
including other covariates
comparing grammatical genders
including NoS from native speakers

**NoS effect in:**

nouns ✔
verbs ✔
adjectives ✔

**Higher NoS -- faster adjective processing!** ✔

References:
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saraandjelic98@gmail.com
lenkailic1@gmail.com