



**HAL**  
open science

# Correspondence and Misattribution in the Truth Effect: Moderator Effects of Attention Division and Source Credibility Manipulation

Jérémy Béna, Ophélie Carreras, Patrice Terrier

► **To cite this version:**

Jérémy Béna, Ophélie Carreras, Patrice Terrier. Correspondence and Misattribution in the Truth Effect: Moderator Effects of Attention Division and Source Credibility Manipulation. International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS 2019), Mar 2019, Paris, France. 2019. hal-01911913

**HAL Id: hal-01911913**

**<https://hal.science/hal-01911913>**

Submitted on 13 Mar 2019

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.



# Correspondence and Misattribution in the Truth Effect: Moderator Effects of Attention Division and Source Credibility Manipulation



Jérémy Béna, Ophélie Carreras, Patrice Temier  
CLLE, Université de Toulouse, CNRS, Toulouse



<https://osf.io/vwth7/>

## 1. Background

- **Repeated statements are judged truer than new ones** (Dechêne, Stahl, Hansen, & Wänke, 2010) presumably because familiarity provided by repeated statements is used as a truth cue.
- Contrary to situations where credibility is manipulated, difficult to predict if and how recollection contributes to the truth effect when credibility is not manipulated.
- \* **Misattribution:** source recollection should prevent the attribution of familiarity to statements' truth.
- \* **Correspondence:** increase in target recollection and/ or familiarity would increase the truth effect.
- Attention division at study (vs full attention) would decrease both source and target recollection, allowing to test the direction of the attention division effect on the truth effect.

Interaction between credibility manipulation and attention division whose simple effects should differ according to the account:

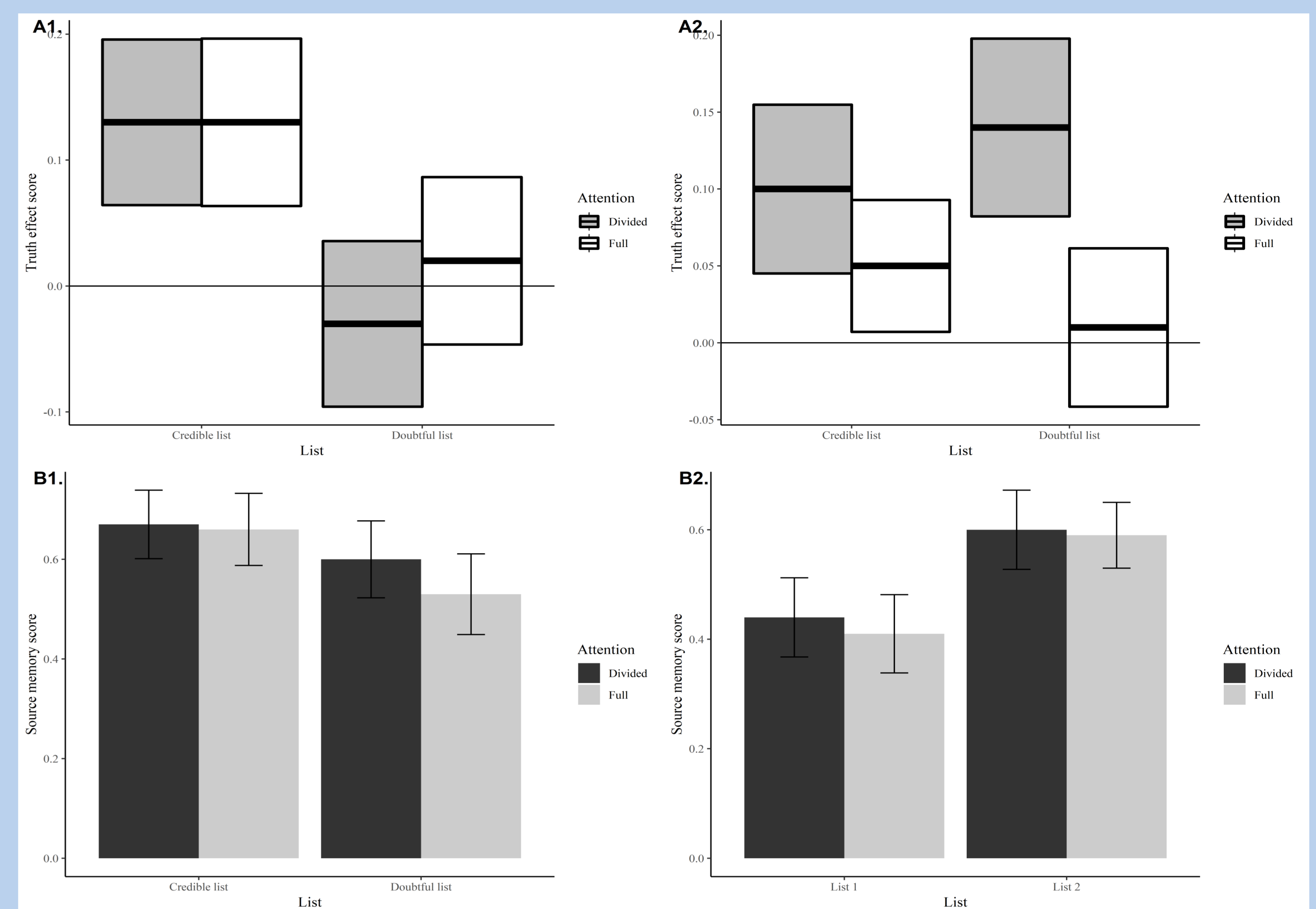
- If misattribution, effect of attention division without credibility mirrors the one on the doubtful statements (division => + TE).
- If correspondence (familiarity+target recollection), attention division (vs full) should increase the truth effect for doubtful statements but decrease it when credibility is not manipulated.

## 2. Method

- N = 188 (46 to 47 in each between ppts condition).
- Study phase: read 2\*14 statements (half true each).
- \* With or without truth labels ("these statements are true"; "these statements are false", no label).
- \* With full or divided attention (intertwining of a subtraction task).
- 5-minute filler, then binary truth judgement task of 56 statements (half seen in study, half new) and source memory task ("list 1"/ "list 2"/ "new").

## 3. Results

- The truth effect was replicated and its magnitude was moderated,  $F(1, 182) = 4.56, p = .034, \eta^2_G = .006$  (Fig. A1. & A2.).
- No main effect of attention division on the truth effect (Fig. A1. & A2.) or on source memory (Fig. B1. & B2.).
- Truth effect credible list > doubtful,  $F(1, 91) = 29.81, p < .001, \eta^2_G = .085$  (Fig. A1.).
- Without credibility:
  - \* Truth effect divided attention > full,  $F(1, 91) = 7.13, p = .009, \eta^2_G = .058$ , especially for List 2,  $F(1, 91) = 5.16, p = .026, \eta^2_G = .011$  (Fig. A2.).
  - \* Source memory List 2 > List 1,  $t(182) = -4.03, p_{Bonf} < .001, d = .41, 95\%CI_d = [.12, .70]$  (Fig. B2.).



**Fig.** Truth effect scores (A1. & A2.) and source memory scores (B1. & B2.) as a function of list and attention division with (1.) and without (2.) credibility manipulation. Boxes limits (truth effect) and error bars (source memory) are the 95% confidence intervals. Source memory scores are the conditional source identification measures and are unaffected by the overall recognition score.

## 4. Discussion

- No replication of Begg et al. (1992) of the attention division effect on truth effect in the doubtful list.
- Effect without credibility: better accounted by the familiarity hypothesis than by the correspondence (familiarity+target recollection) hypothesis, but no independent evidence for a source memory explanation.

Results add up to the literature supporting the familiarity hypothesis in the truth effect without credibility, but no evidence was gathered about the source memory explanation of the attention division effect on the truth effect.

## References

- Dechêne, A., Stahl, C., Hansen, J., & Wänke, M. (2010). The truth about the truth: A meta-analytic review of the truth effect. *Personality and Social Psychology Review, 14*(2), 238–257. doi:10.1177/1088868309352251
- Begg, I. M., Anas, A., & Farinacci, S. (1992). Dissociation of processes in belief: Source recollection, statement familiarity, and the illusion of truth. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, 121*(4), 446–458. doi:10.1037/0096-3445.121.4.446