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**The chameleon nature of evaluative adjectives**

Evaluative adjectives such as stupid, smart, lucky, sweet, and cruel can take propositional complements as in (1):

(1)  John was smart to leave early.

In this construction they are generally considered to be factive, i.e.:

(2)  John was not smart to leave early.

is supposed to mean that John did leave early and that it was not a good idea.

When one looks at the web, however, one finds easily examples where the intended meaning is not factive, as in the following:

(3)  Luckily, I was not stupid to send them any money

Amazon Mechanical Turk experiments and corpus studies confirm the existence of this pattern. We will discuss whether it should be seen as a performance error or whether there seems to be a real 'dialect' split among speakers of (American) English. Whatever the analysis, it seems that the pattern is prevalent enough for NLP applications that assign factuality judgments to events to need to take such variations into account.