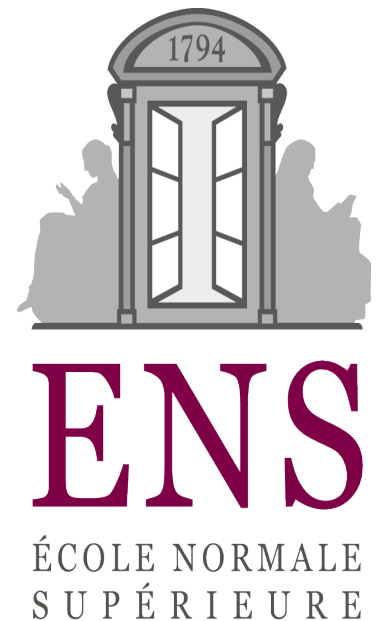
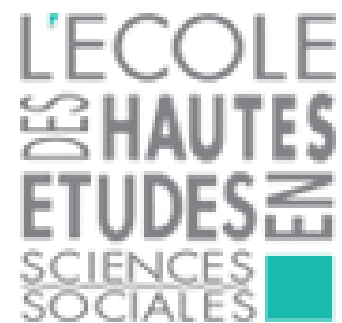


Speaker-specific behavior and acquisition

Alex Cristia
LSCP, CNRS





Roadmap

1. Perceiving
diverse
speakers

a) Linguistic
form

b) Adaptation
mechanisms

c) Social
identity

2. Producing
diverse forms

- Multivariate

- Input

- Ease

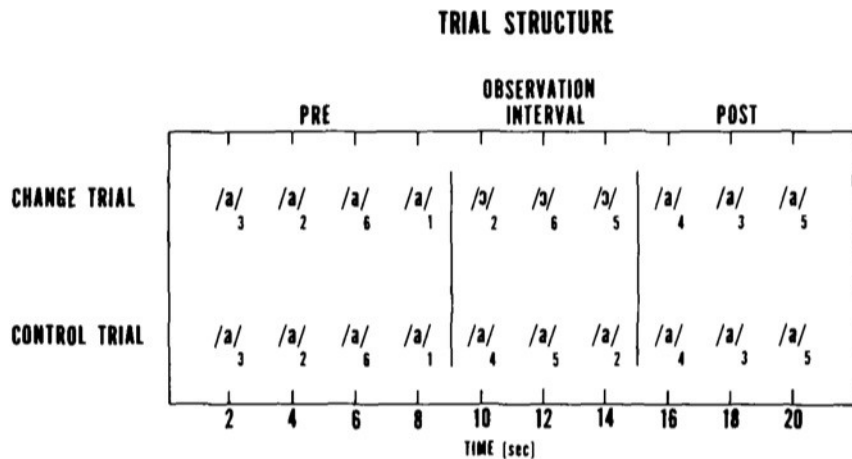
3. Individual
variation in
perception &
production

- Multiple
sources

(input,
cognition)

- Some stability

Babies & indexical cues: The basics



Headturn
yes no

✓ ✗
✗ ✓



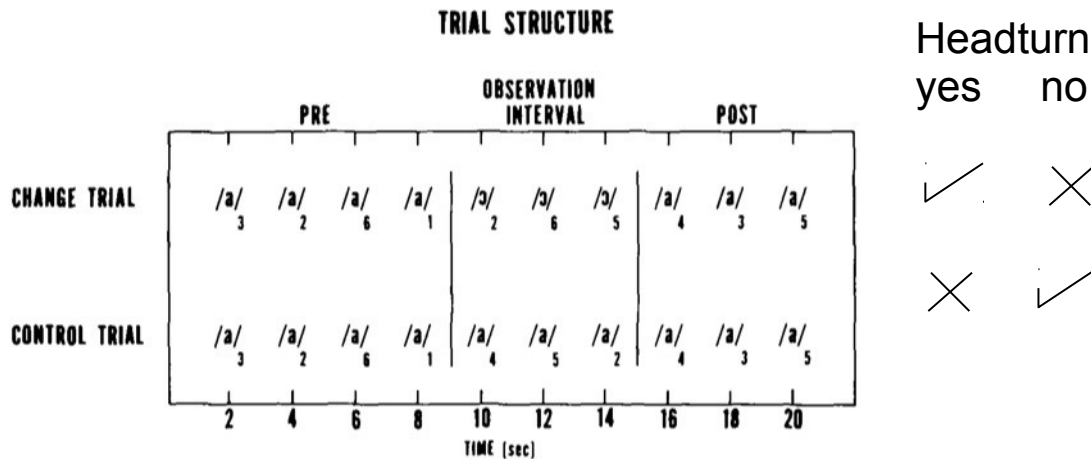
The Stimulus Ensembles for the Background and Comparison Categories for All Stages of the Experiment. The Talker and Pitch-Contour Values for Each Stimulus are Given in Parentheses.

Experimental stages

	<i>Background</i>	<i>Comparison</i>
Conditioning	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
Initial training	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
Pitch variation	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
	/a/ (Male, rise)	/ɔ/ (Male, rise)
Talker variation	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
	/a/ (Female, fall)	/ɔ/ (Female, fall)
Talker × pitch variation	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
	/a/ (Male, rise)	/ɔ/ (Male, rise)
	/a/ (Female, fall)	/ɔ/ (Female, fall)
	/a/ (Female, rise)	/ɔ/ (Female, rise)
Entire ensemble	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
	/a/ (Male, rise)	/ɔ/ (Male, rise)
	/a/ (Female, fall)	/ɔ/ (Female, fall)
	/a/ (Female, rise)	/ɔ/ (Female, rise)
	/a/ (Child, fall)	/ɔ/ (Child, fall)
	/a/ (Child, rise)	/ɔ/ (Child, rise)



Babies & indexical cues: The basics



The Stimulus Ensembles for the Background and Comparison Categories for All Stages of the Experiment. The Talker and Pitch-Contour Values for Each Stimulus are Given in Parentheses.

	Experimental stages	
	Background	Comparison
Conditioning	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
Initial training	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
Pitch variation	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
	/a/ (Male, rise)	/ɔ/ (Male, rise)
Talker variation	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
	/a/ (Female, fall)	/ɔ/ (Female, fall)
Talker × pitch variation	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
	/a/ (Male, rise)	/ɔ/ (Male, rise)
	/a/ (Female, fall)	/ɔ/ (Female, fall)
	/a/ (Female, rise)	/ɔ/ (Female, rise)
Entire ensemble	/a/ (Male, fall)	/ɔ/ (Male, fall)
	/a/ (Male, rise)	/ɔ/ (Male, rise)
	/a/ (Female, fall)	/ɔ/ (Female, fall)
	/a/ (Female, rise)	/ɔ/ (Female, rise)
	/a/ (Child, fall)	/ɔ/ (Child, fall)
	/a/ (Child, rise)	/ɔ/ (Child, rise)

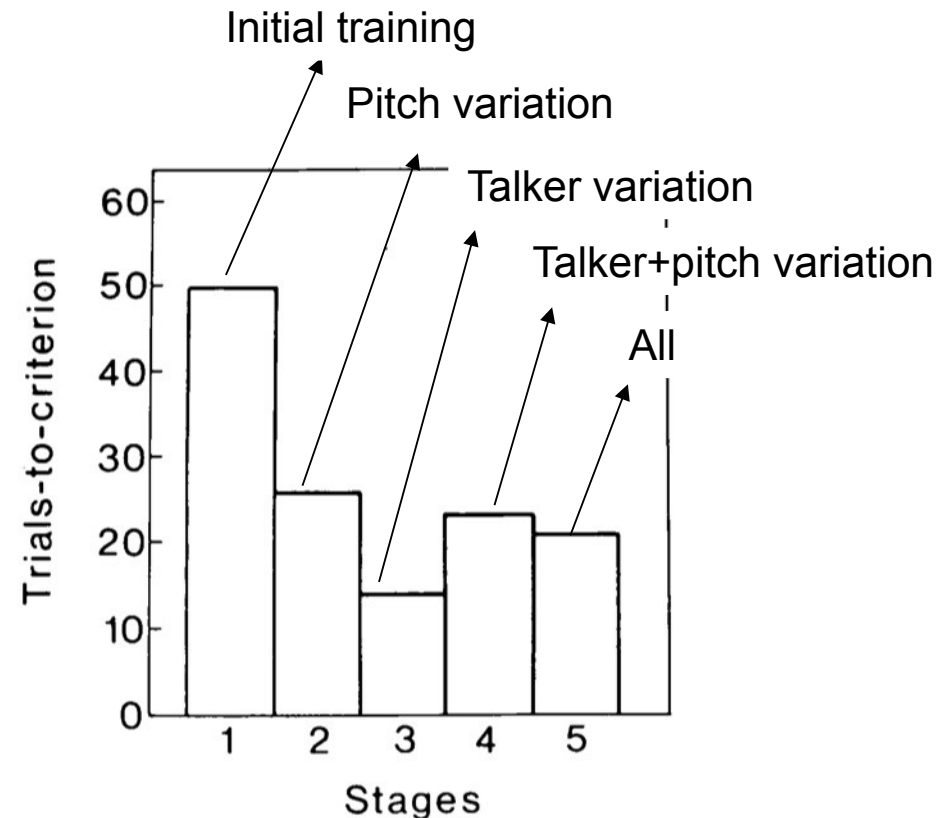
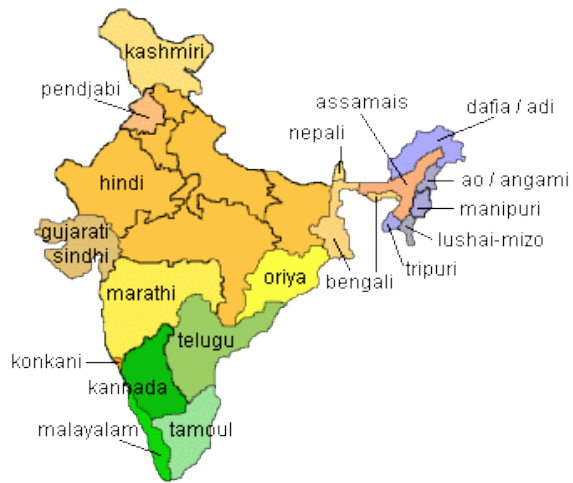


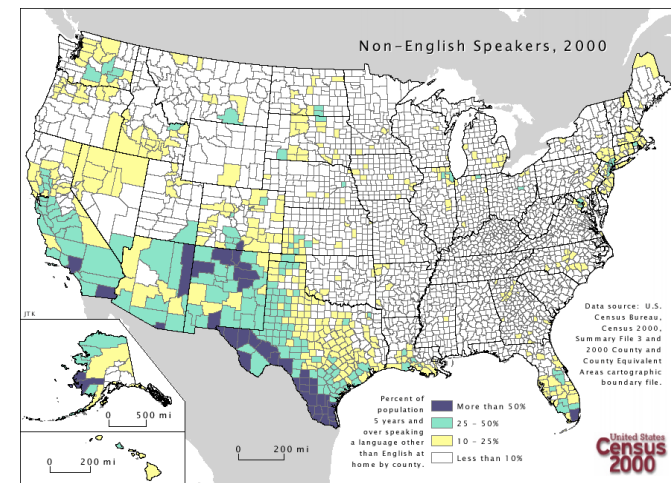
Figure 2. The mean number of trials to meet criterion (9 out of 10 consecutive trials correct) in the five stages of Experiment 1 (Initial Training, Pitch Variation, Talker Variation, Talker × Pitch Variation, and Entire Ensemble). Standard errors were 17.95, 6.16, 1.44, 6.62, and 6.58, respectively.

Criterion 9/10 correct



Signal

'Easy': Sex, age, mood...



Accent* is different

*Sociolect:

young working-class female

College students 20% correct;
63% errors due to sociolect

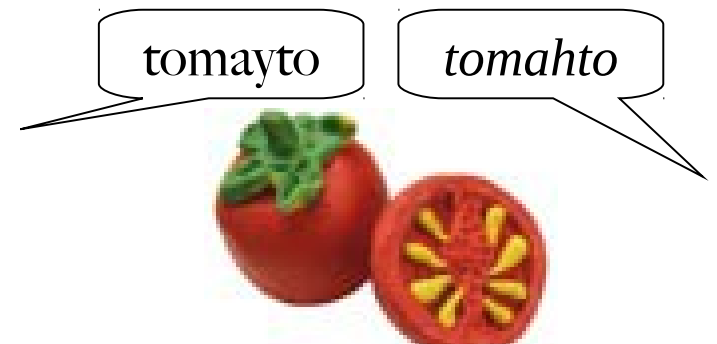
boss ≠ bus

*accent = variation in the phonetic & phonological form driven by the talker's social identity

*Labov 2012 *Principles of language change*

End state: adults

- 1 Retrieve **linguistic** form (with enough context & experience)
with a cost
- 2 Quickly adapt to novel accents
rule-based
- 3 Retrieve **social** identity (with enough context & experience)



1: Brunellière et al. 2011 *Brain Lang*; Floccia et al. 2006 *JEP:HPP* // 2: Norris et al. 2003 *Cog Psy*; Maye et al. 2008 *Cog Sci* // 3: Thomas 2007 *Lang Ling Compass*; van Berkum et al. 2008 *J Cogn Neurosci*

Young children

Limited lexicon & (world) knowledge

Slower speech processors *as is*

Spoken stream affected!

Q: Are 1-3 below evident in infants?

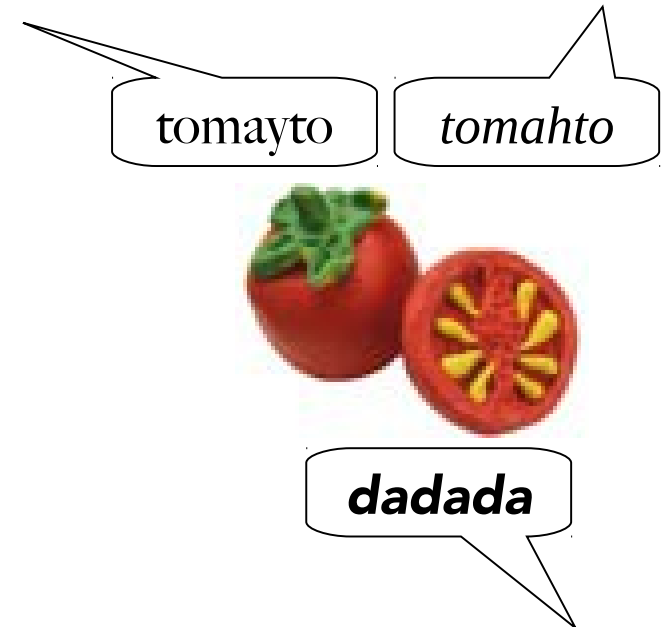
① Retrieve **linguistic** form (with enough context & experience)

with a cost

② Quickly adapt to novel accents

rule-based

③ Retrieve **social** identity (with enough context & experience)



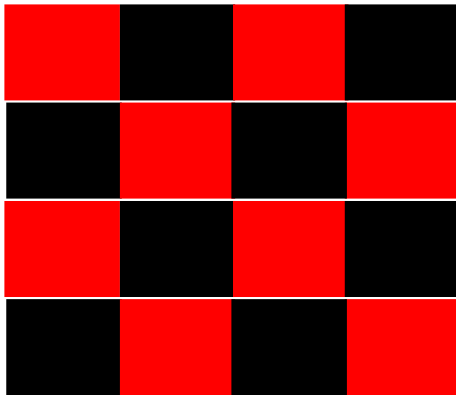
Lexicon → 'phonemic constancy'

1

Can retrieve linguistic form in unfamiliar accents

15 months: n/s

19 months: *



baby bottle nappy ...

lady totter savvy ...



Where is the birdy?

Where is the doggy?

Best et al. 2010 *Psyc Sci*

NB: word list hypothesized from methods

Mulak et al. in press *Child Dev*

① *Cost in linguistic processing*

Saliency



Training

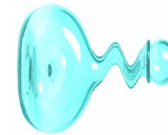
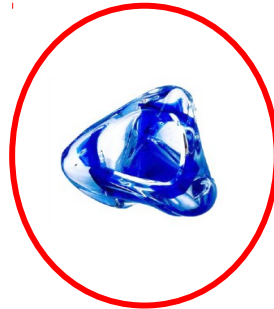


It's a neech!



Test

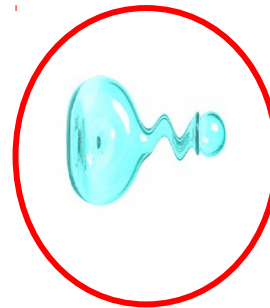
Trained label



Do you see
the neech?



Novel label



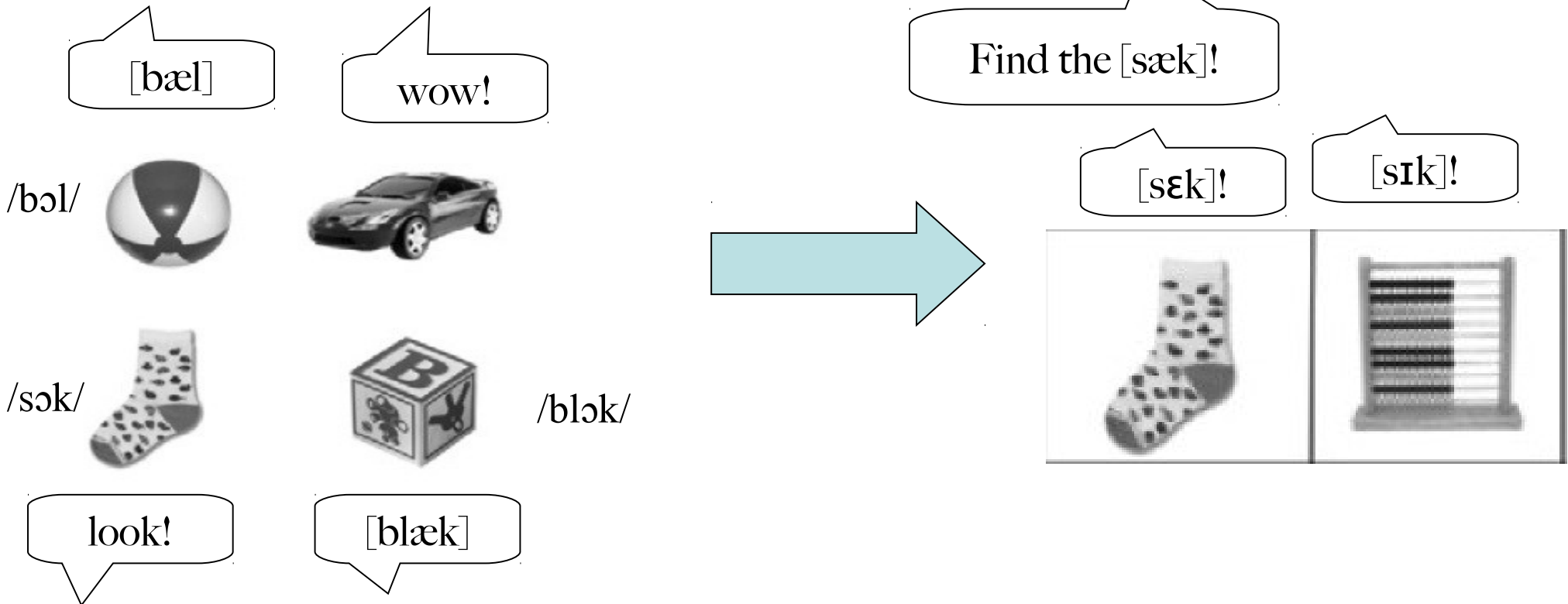
Do you see
the moof?



Lexicon → semantic bootstrapping

2 Can adapt to novel accents, rule-based generalization

18 months

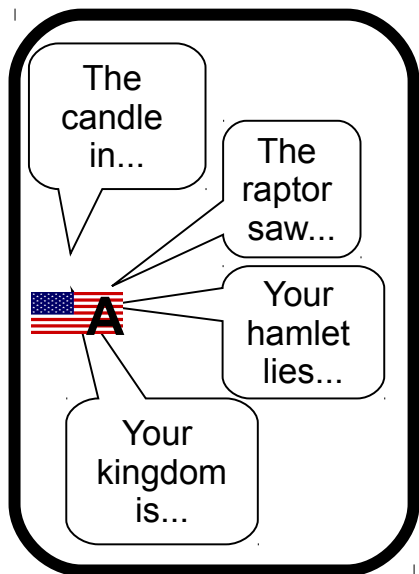


White & Aslin 2011 *Dev Sci*

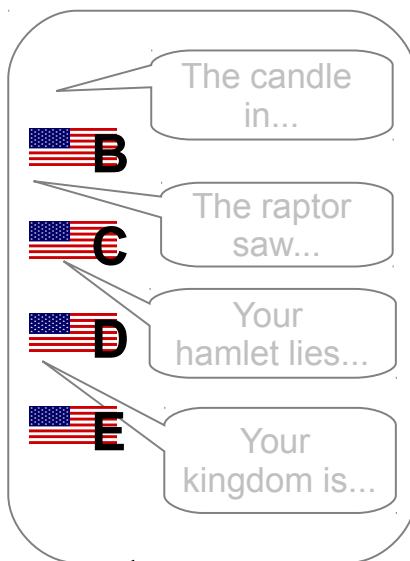
McQueen et al., 2012 *LLD* ; van Linden & Vroomen, 2008, *JCL*

Bootstrapping problem

Child 1:
Single Local



Child 2:
Multiple Local



Child 3:
Single Foreign

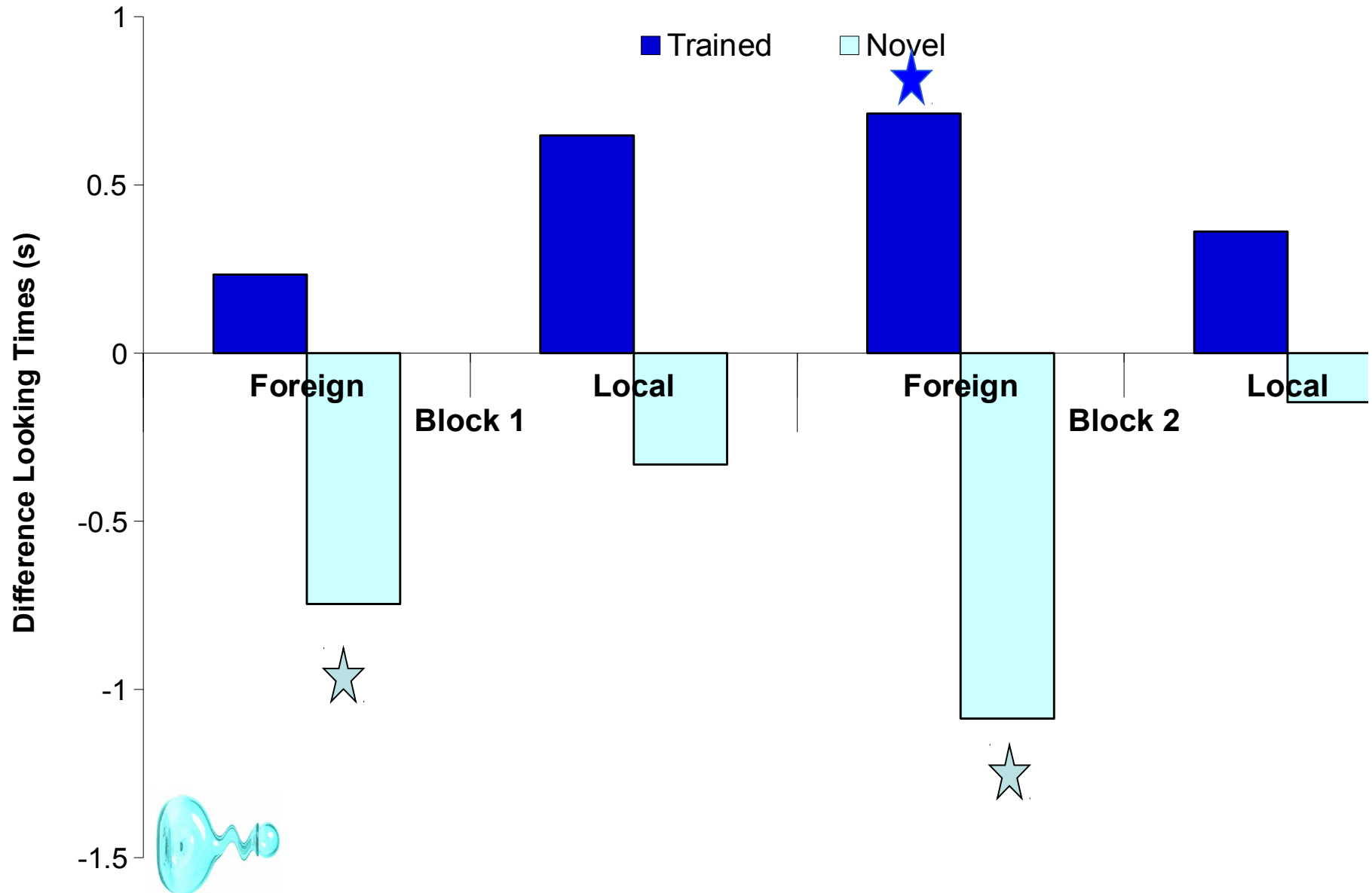


Child 4:
Multiple Foreign



Word-learning task (moof, neech)

A new mechanism: Without semantic bootstrapping



A new mechanism: Without semantic bootstrapping



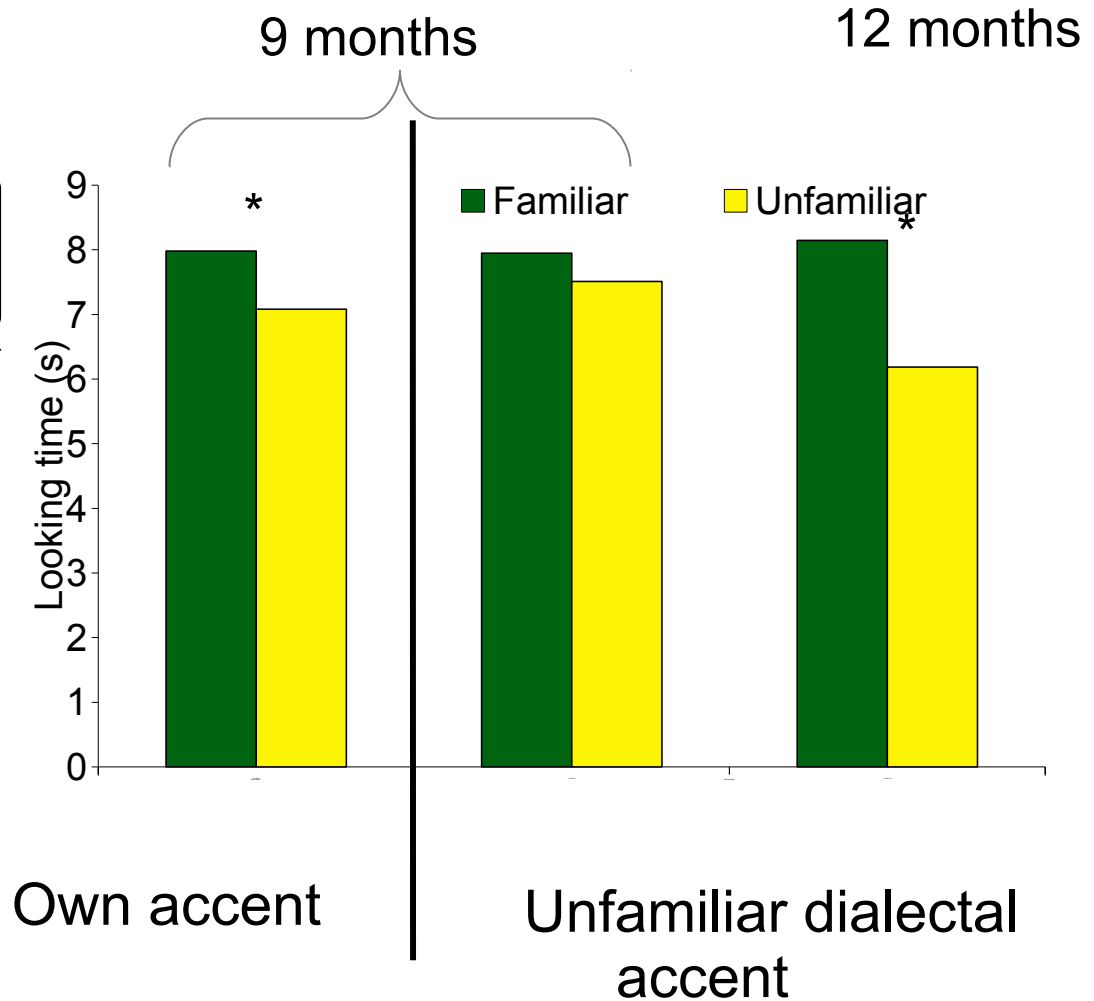
candle ... candle!
candle?

Test



The candle in the ...

Your kingdom is ...



Own accent: Schmale & Seidl 2009 *Child Dev*

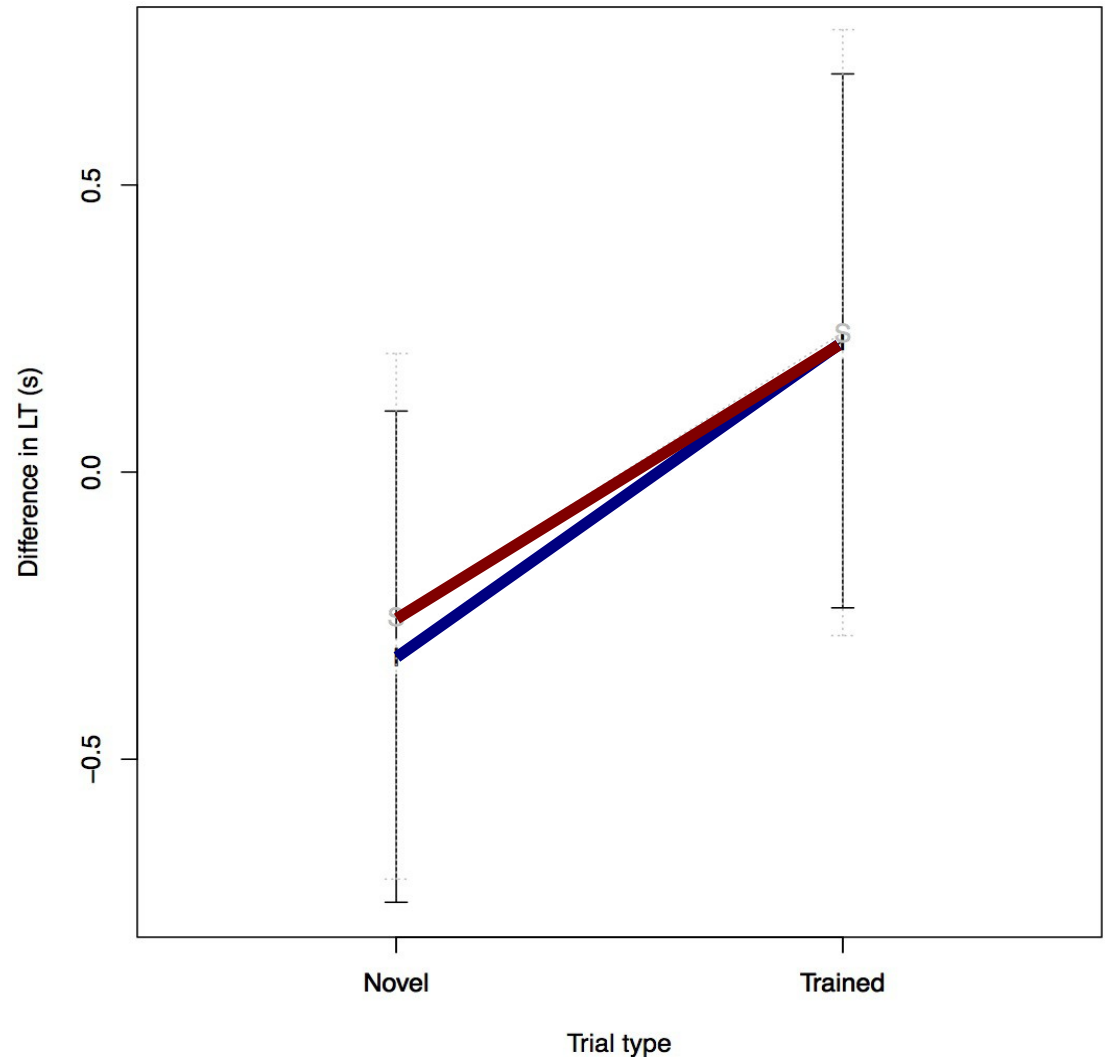
Unfamiliar: Schmale, Cristià, Seidl, & Johnson 2010 *Infancy*

Even without linguistic evidence!

Diverse speakers

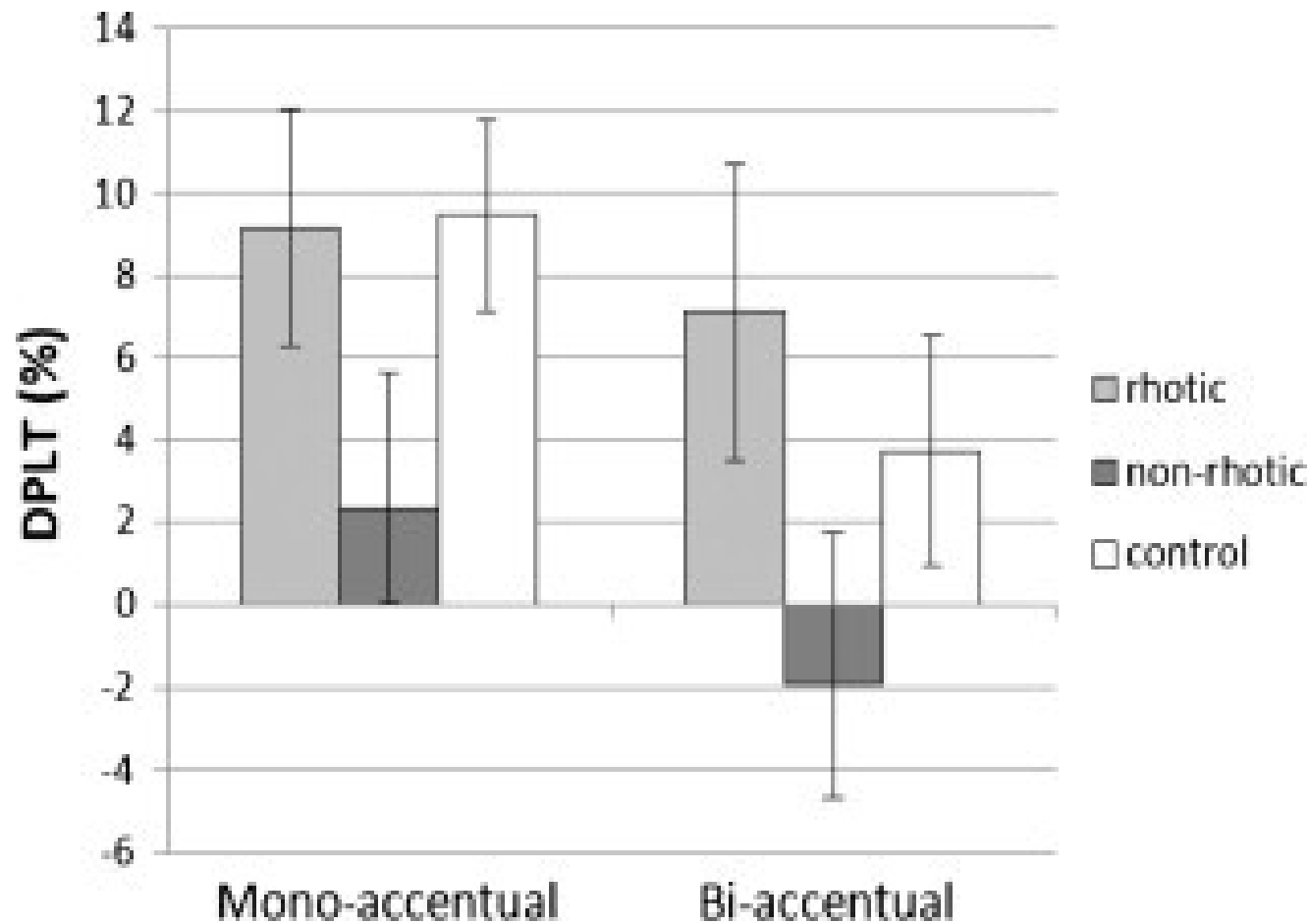
Diverse faces

The candle in...
The raptor saw...
Your hamlet lies...
Your kingdom is...



Schmale, Cristia, & Seidl, submitted

The role of exposure again

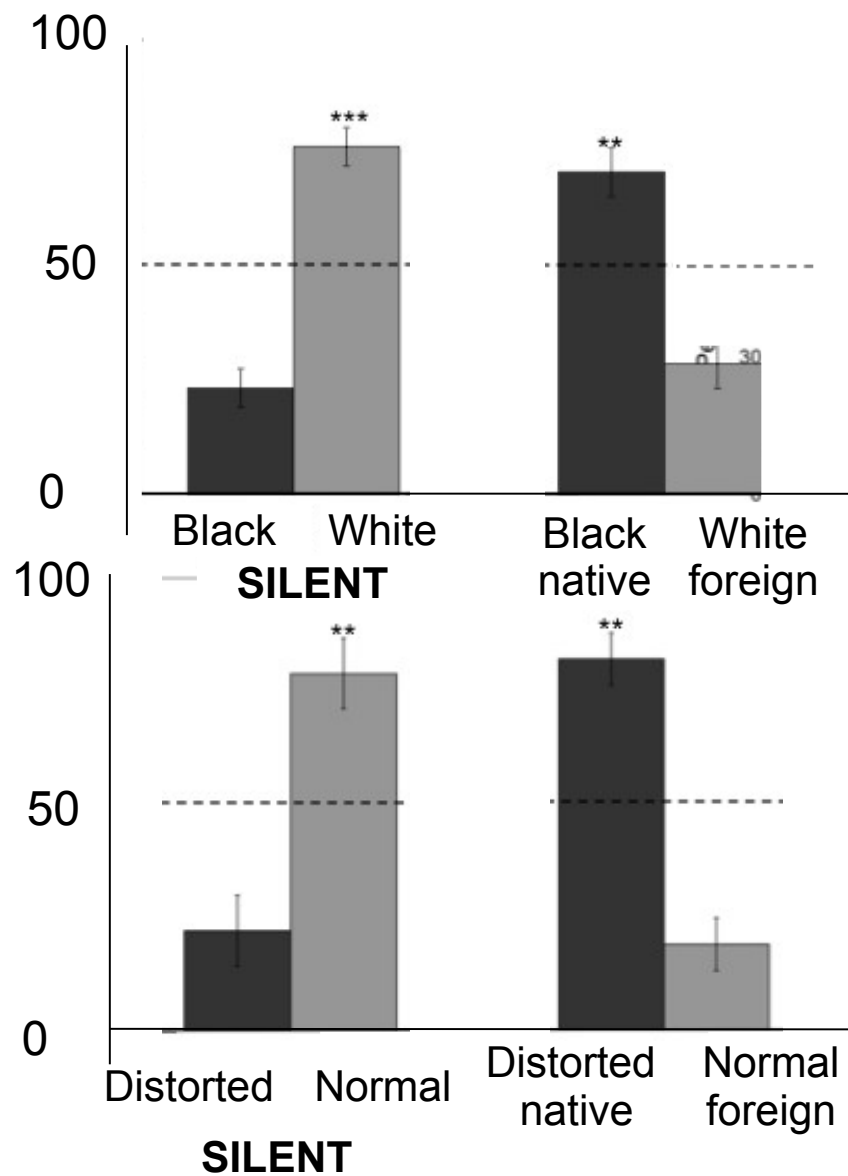
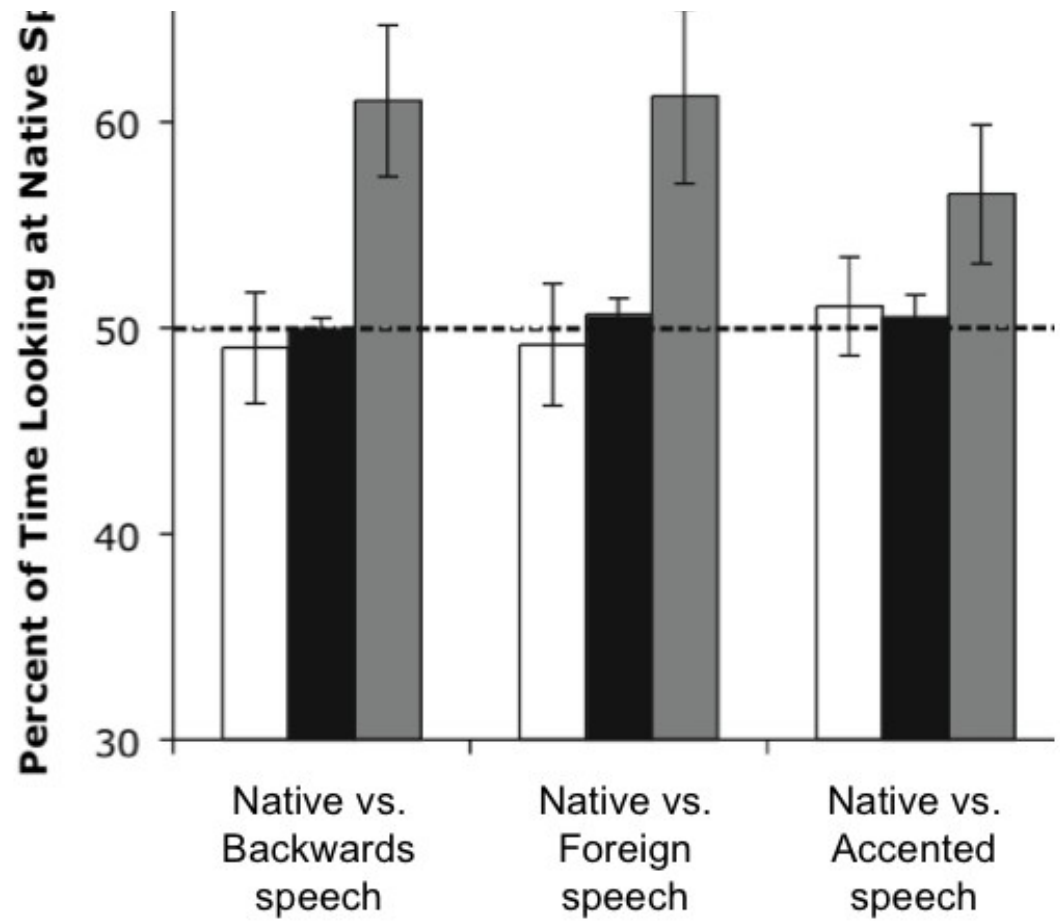
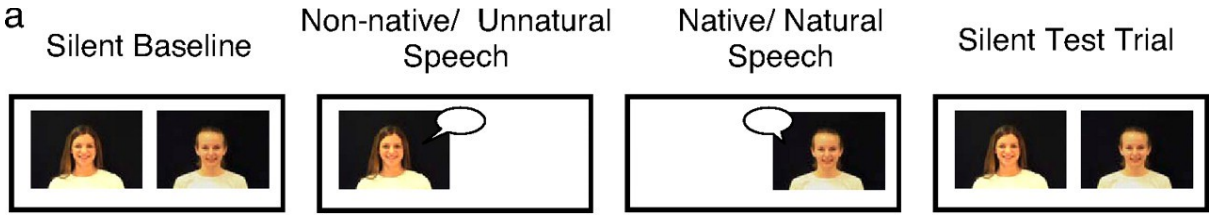


3

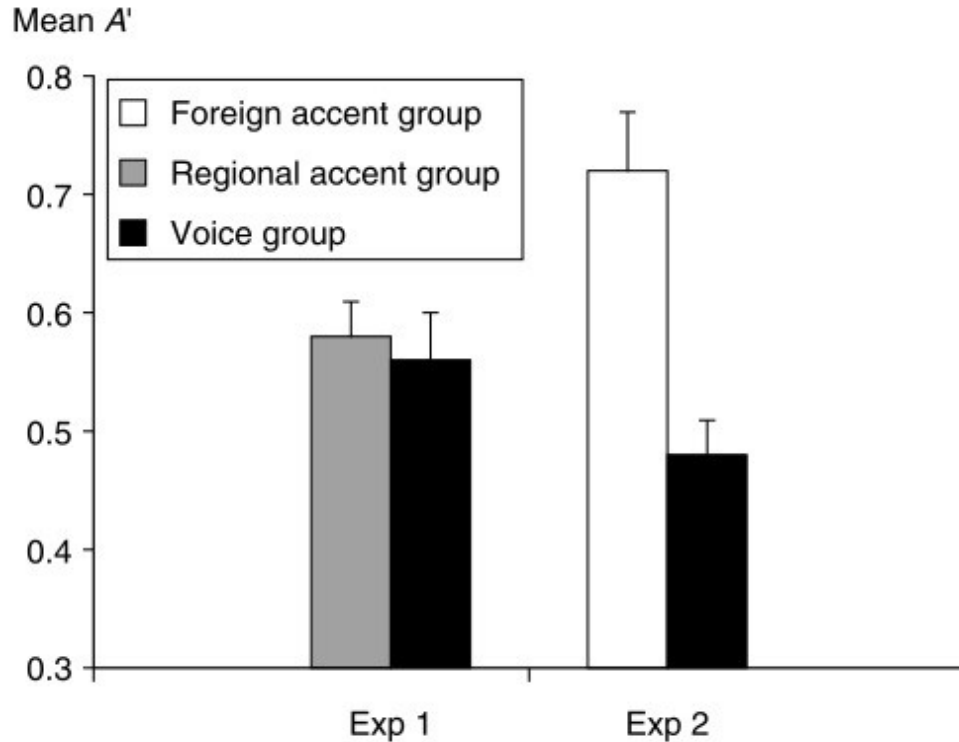
Infants' social judgments

Kinzler et al., 2007, *PNAS*

Kinzler et al., 2009, *Social Cog*

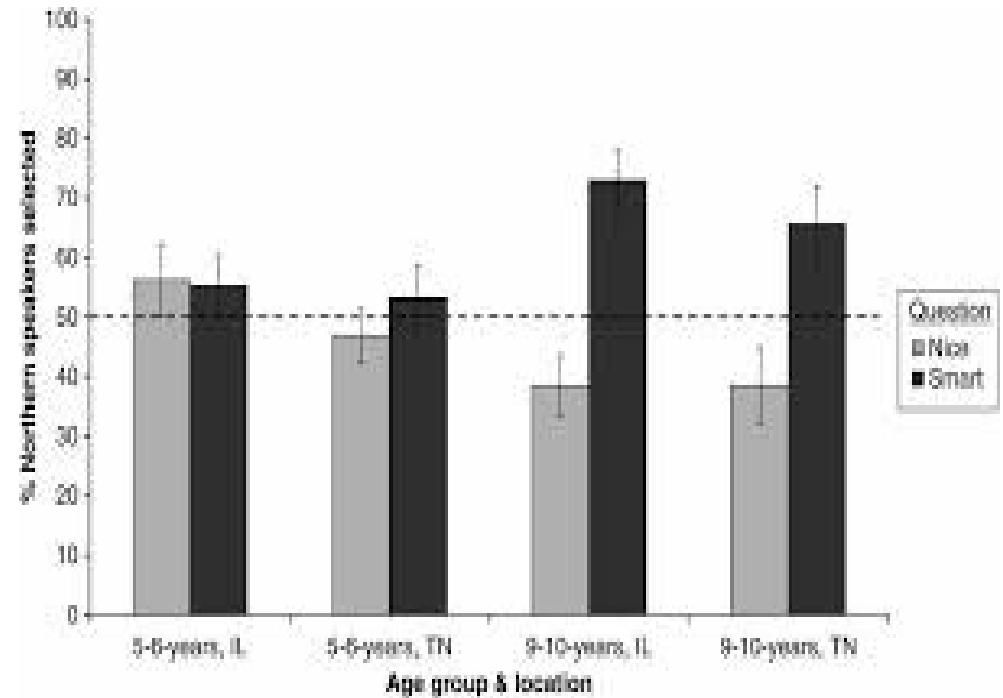


Categorization & attributes



Girard et al., 2008, *British J Dev Psy*

Floccia et al., 2009, *Intnl J Beh Dev*



Kinzler & DeJesus, 2012, *Quarterly J Exptl Psy*

Wagner et al., 2013, *JCL...*

Perceiving diverse speakers

- 1 Retrieve **linguistic** form (with enough context & experience)
with a cost

Success depends on age, precision required in the task,
and task difficulty

- 2 Quickly adapt to novel accents
rule-based

Use of shortcuts
Variety of triggers
Expectations

- 3 Retrieve **social** identity (with enough context & experience)

Meta-linguistic knowledge & expectations evident in
'easy'/natural tasks

Roadmap

1. Perceiving
diverse
speakers

a) Linguistic
form

b) Adaptation
mechanisms

c) Social
identity

2. Producing
diverse forms

- Multivariate

- Input

- Ease

3. Individual
variation in
perception &
production

- Multiple
sources

(input,
cognition)

- Some stability

Early approaches: Labov's 4 stages

Basic grammar (<5y)

The vernacular (5-12y) → Standard variants

Replacement? Addition?

Social perception (early teens)

Stylistic variation (late teens)

Use of standard variants

Main effect: social background

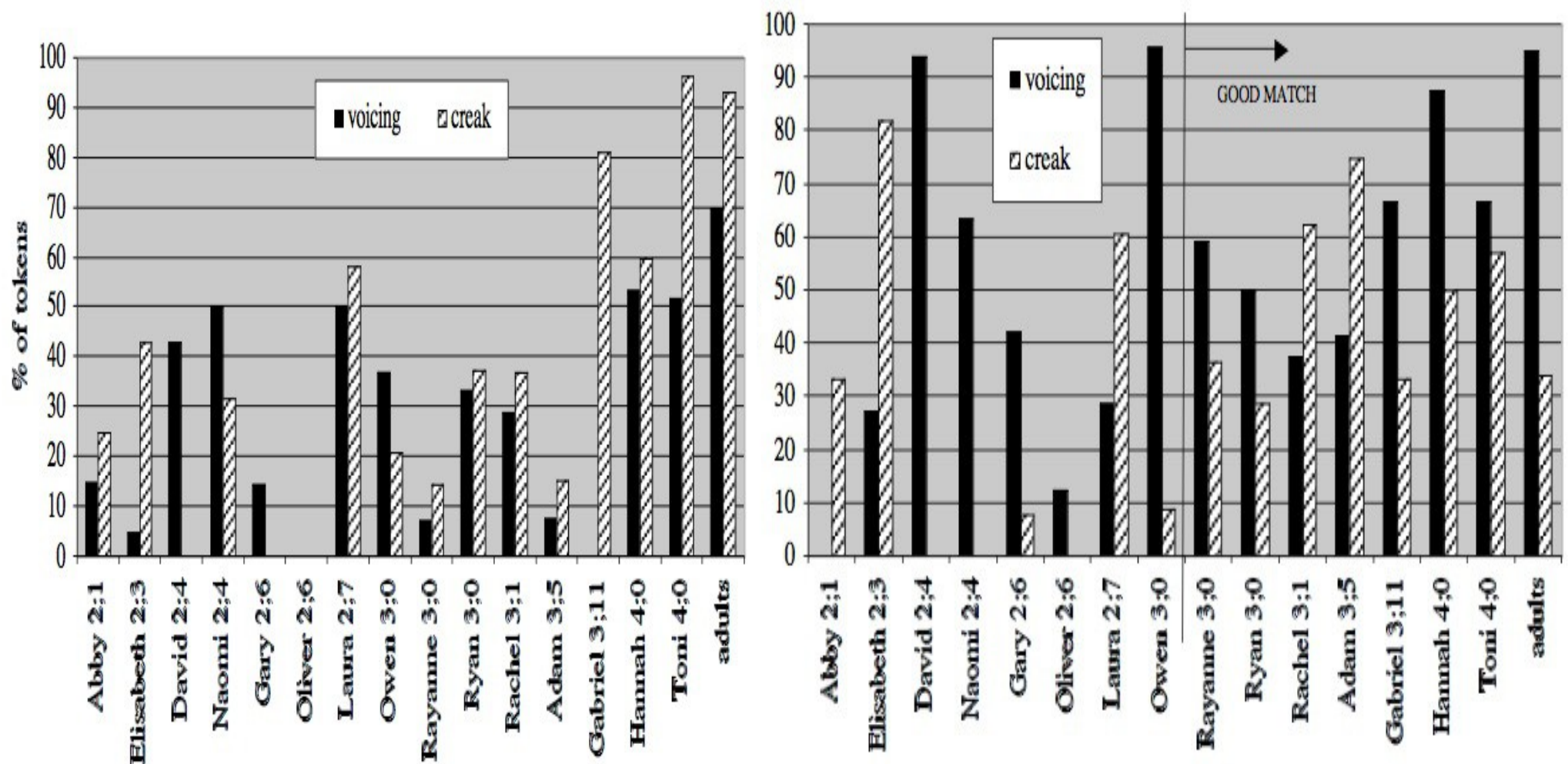
Age interaction: differences between low and high SES increase with age (Chevrot et al. 2011 *Lang Sci*)

Context/register effects even at ~3y (Smith et al. 2011)

Age effects are variable (Smith et al. 2007 *Lang Var Change*; vs. Romaine, 1984)

Acquisition of variable allophones

Foulkes et al. 2001 *Working Paper*



Producing diverse forms

Multivariate approach inescapable

Role of the input

- Itself variable

Difficulty of controlling gestures

- Some features apparent earlier than others

Mechanisms in place?

Roadmap

1. Perceiving diverse speakers

a) Linguistic form

b) Adaptation mechanisms

c) Social identity

2. Producing diverse forms

- Multivariate

- Input

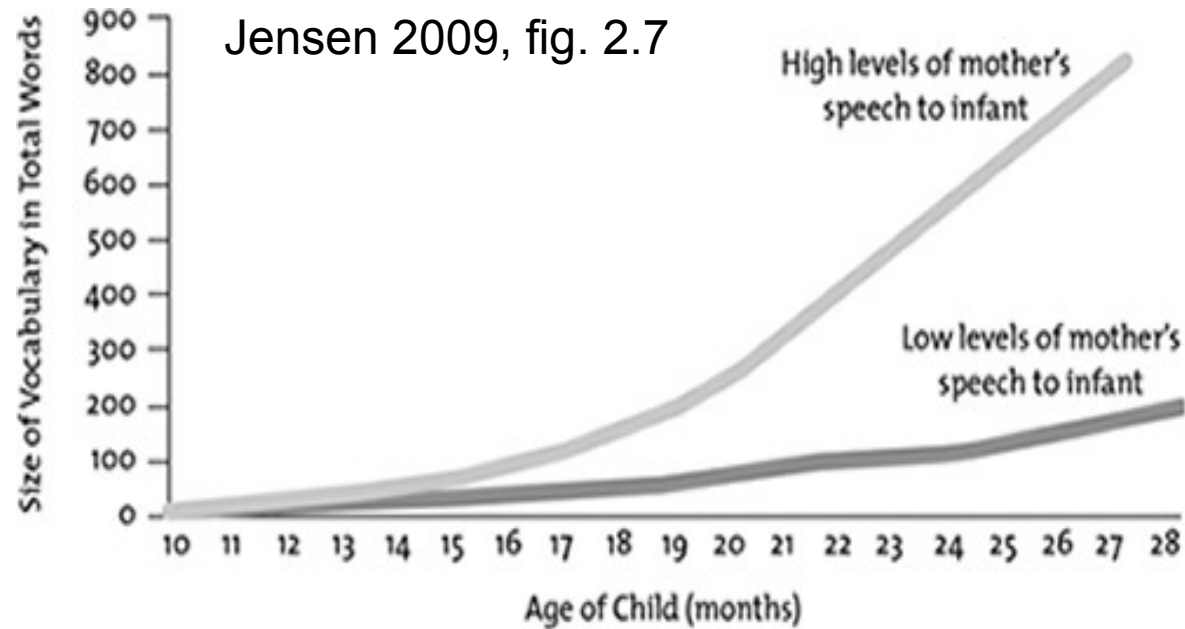
- Ease

3. Individual variation in perception & production

- Multiple sources (input, cognition)

- Some stability

Quantity & quality

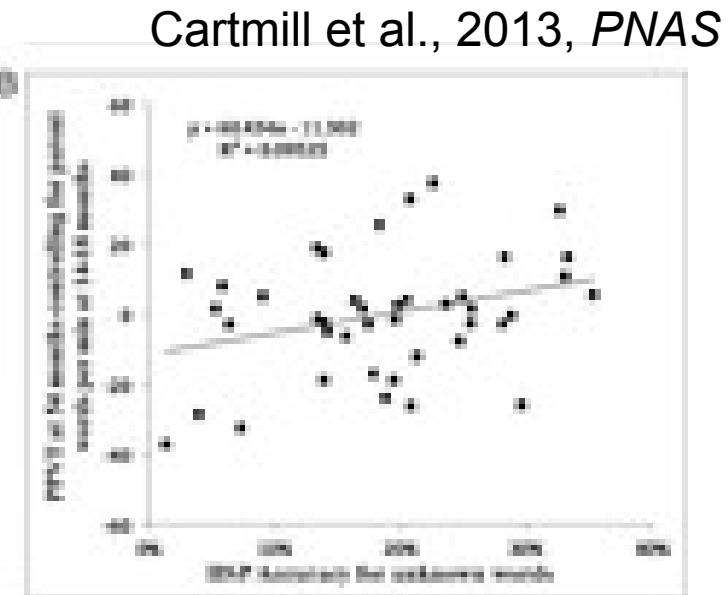


See also:

<http://www.danielwillingham.com/1/post/2013/09/more-on-the-vocabulary-development-of-toddlers.html>

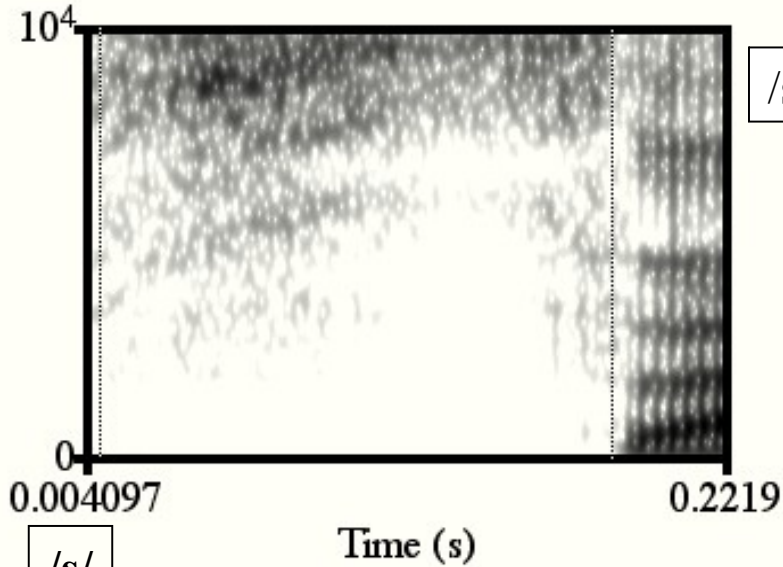
<http://www.cognitionandculture.net/home/blog/75-alexs-blog/2363-whats-the-point-of-talking-to-your-child>

PPVT controlling for quantity



“Retrievability” of meaning

Phonetic detail



/s/ pole ~8kHz

42 moms+
babies

4-6m: 18

12-14m: 24

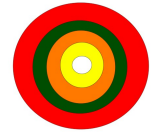
/s/

Mom speech

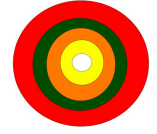
Baby /s-f/
discrimination



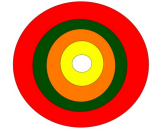
/ʃɔ .. ʃa/



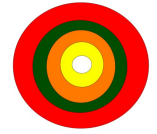
/ʃɔ .. ʃa/



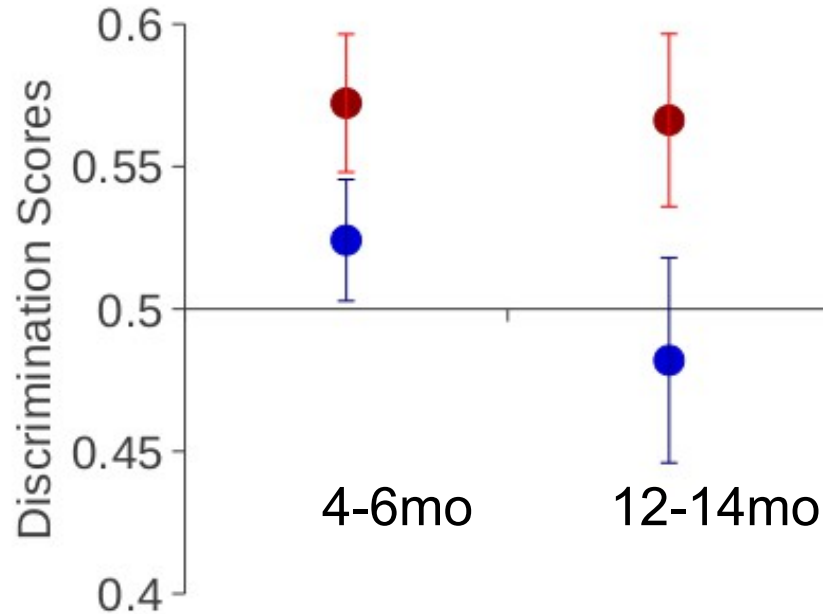
/sɔ .. sa/



/ʃɔ .. ʃa/



● Worse /s/ ● Better /s/



Infant speech & toddler language

Searches in scholar.google.com, Pubmed, Science Direct, and Proquest

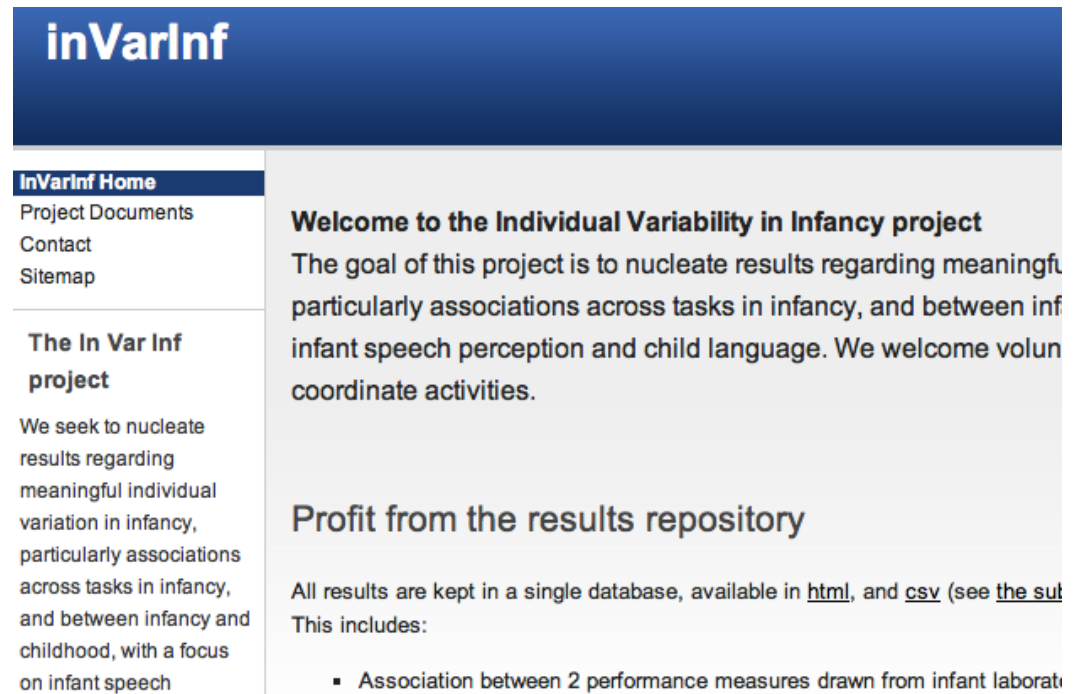
Identified 20 articles and theses

43 effect sizes [r] (+ 8 without comparable ES)

Median r within infant group

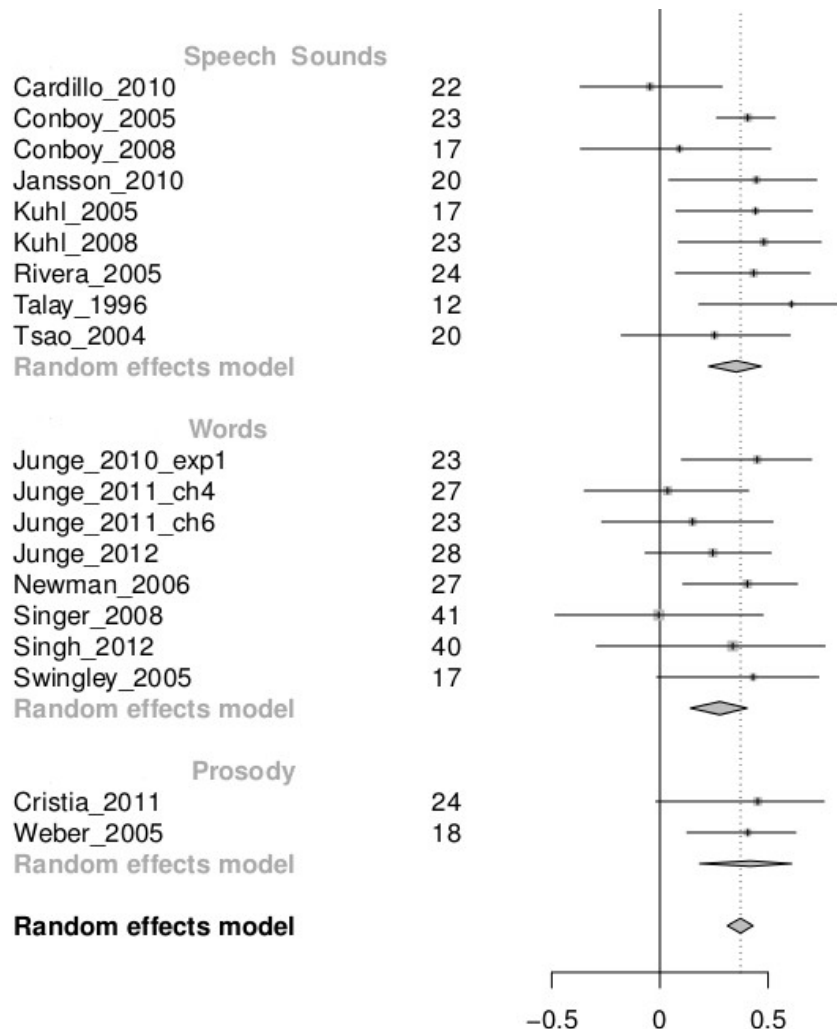
Grouped into:

phones,
words,
prosody



The screenshot shows the homepage of the inVarInf project. The header is a dark blue bar with the text "inVarInf" in white. Below the header is a navigation menu with the following items: "InVarInf Home", "Project Documents", "Contact", and "Sitemap". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains the text "The In Var Inf project" followed by a paragraph: "We seek to nucleate results regarding meaningful individual variation in infancy, particularly associations across tasks in infancy, and between infancy and childhood, with a focus on infant speech". The right column contains the text "Welcome to the Individual Variability in Infancy project" followed by a paragraph: "The goal of this project is to nucleate results regarding meaningful associations across tasks in infancy, and between infant speech perception and child language. We welcome volunteer coordinate activities." Below this is the text "Profit from the results repository" followed by a paragraph: "All results are kept in a single database, available in [html](#), and [csv](#) (see [the summary](#)). This includes:" followed by a bulleted list item: "▪ Association between 2 performance measures drawn from infant laboratory data".

Speech perception measures predict language



$r = .31$ [.22, .4]

Speech perception at 4-12 months explains 5-15% variance in vocabulary size at 11-48 months

Speech sounds $r = .35$ [.22, .47]

Words $r = .28$ [.14, .4]

Prosody $r = .42$ [.18, .61]

Cristia, Seidl, Junge, Soderstrom, & Hagoort, in press, *Dev Sci*

Database available at sites.google.com/site/invarinf (Individual Variation in Infancy)

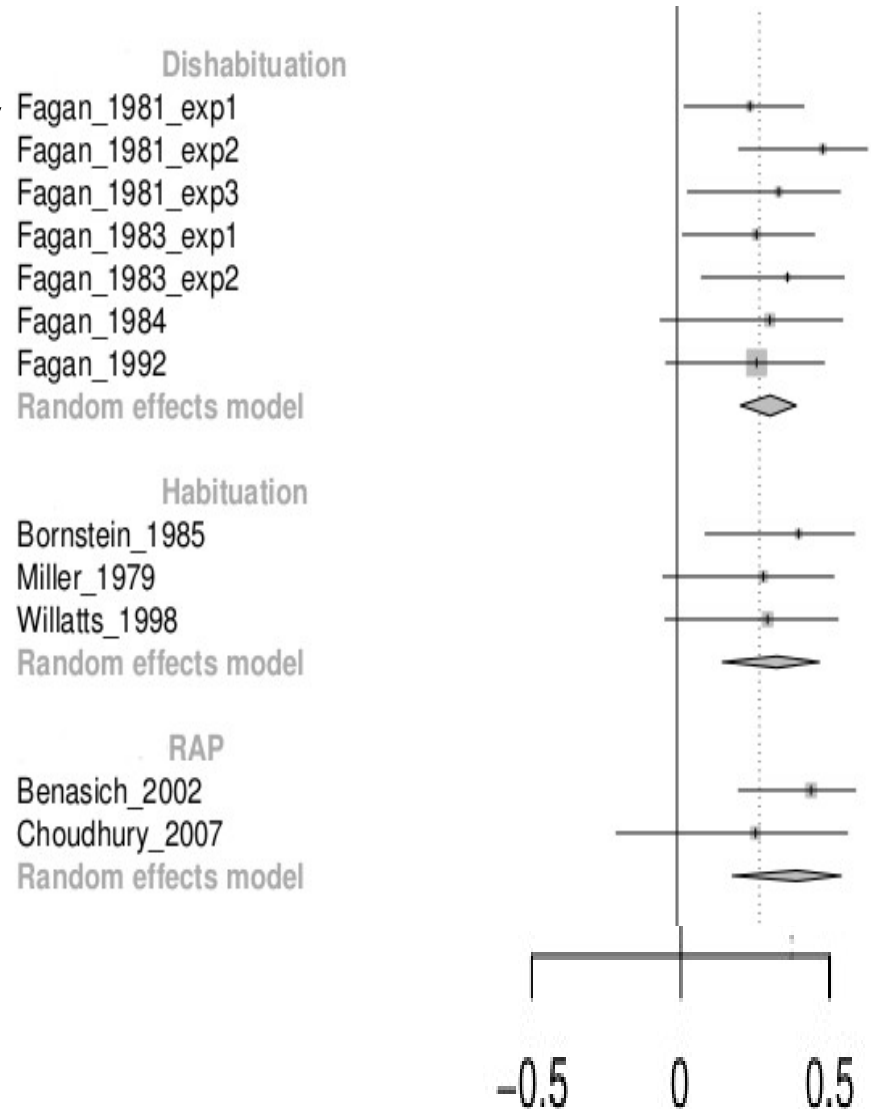
Non-linguistic measures do too

Information/auditory processing measures gathered at 4-12 months explain >15% variance in vocabulary size at 11-48 months!!

Two speech sound tasks $r=.43$ (.22--.6)

Two word processing tasks $r=.29$ (.02--.52)

Speech-non-linguistic task $r=.25$ (.08--.4)



Multivariate studies

N=45

5-6.5 months

6.5-8.4 months

Speech

Prosody (Preference trochees>iamb- cf. Herold et al. 2008)

Sounds (Discrimination 'ship'-'sheep' – cf. Kuhl et al., 2008)

Non-linguistic

Dishabituation (Visual Recognition Memory – cf. Rose, Feldman, & Jankowski, 2009)

Cognitive control (A-not-B – cf. Lalonde & Werker, 1995; Conboy et al., 2008)

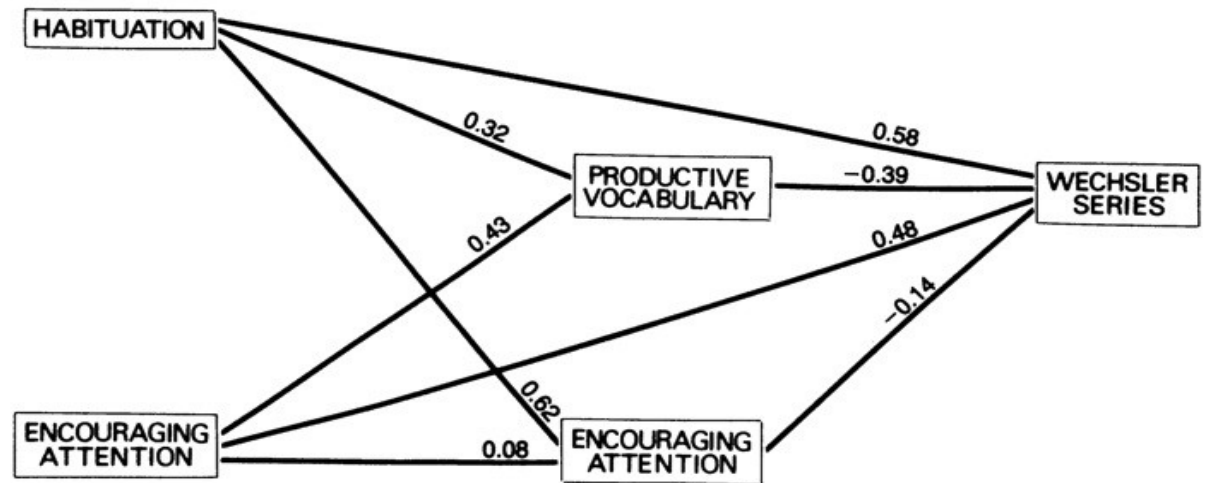
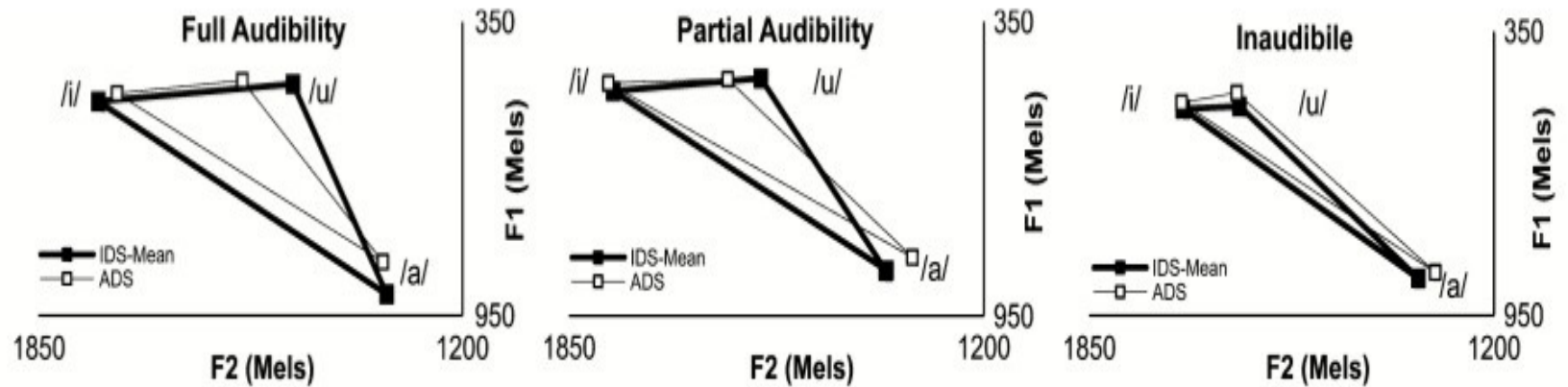
	Trochees	Vowels	VRM
Vowels	0.30*		
VRM	0.05	-0.07	
A/B	0.1	-0.2	0.09

N=26 CDI at 24 months
Trochees-Vocab size $r=.56$
All other n/s

Seidl, Cristia, Wang, & French (in progress)

Multivariate studies (cont.)

Lam & Kitamura 2012 *Dev Sci*



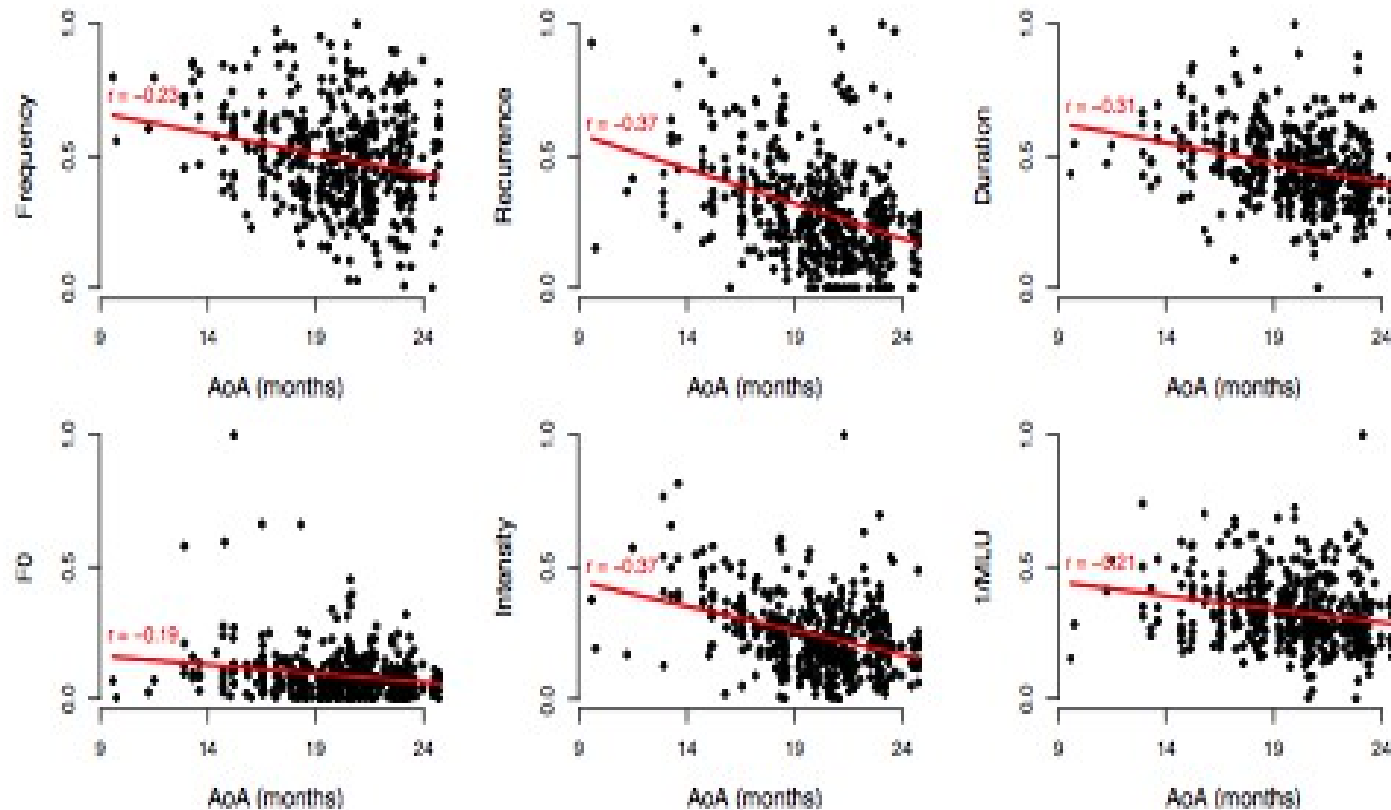
Bornstein 1985 *PNAS*

4 MONTHS

1 YEAR

4 YEARS

New methods: Speechome project



Vosoughi et al. 2010 *Proc Cog Sci*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6hxpzGHObc>

http://www.media.mit.edu/cogmac/videos/feb16_20s_medium.mov

New methods: LENA

Segment ID Code	Segment Description
MAN / MAF	Male Adult / Male Adult - Faint
FAN / FAF	Female Adult / Female Adult - Faint
CHN / CHF	Key Child / Key Child - Faint
CXN / CXF	Other Child / Other Child - Faint
NON / NOF	Noise / Noise - Faint
OLN / OLF	Overlap / Overlap - Faint
TVN / TVF	Electronic / Electronic - Faint
SIL	Silence



<http://www.lenafoundation.org/Research/TechnicalReports.aspx>

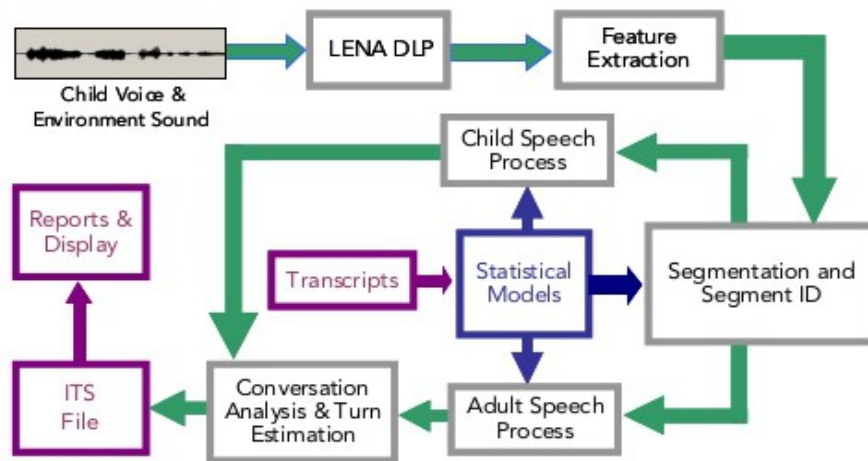
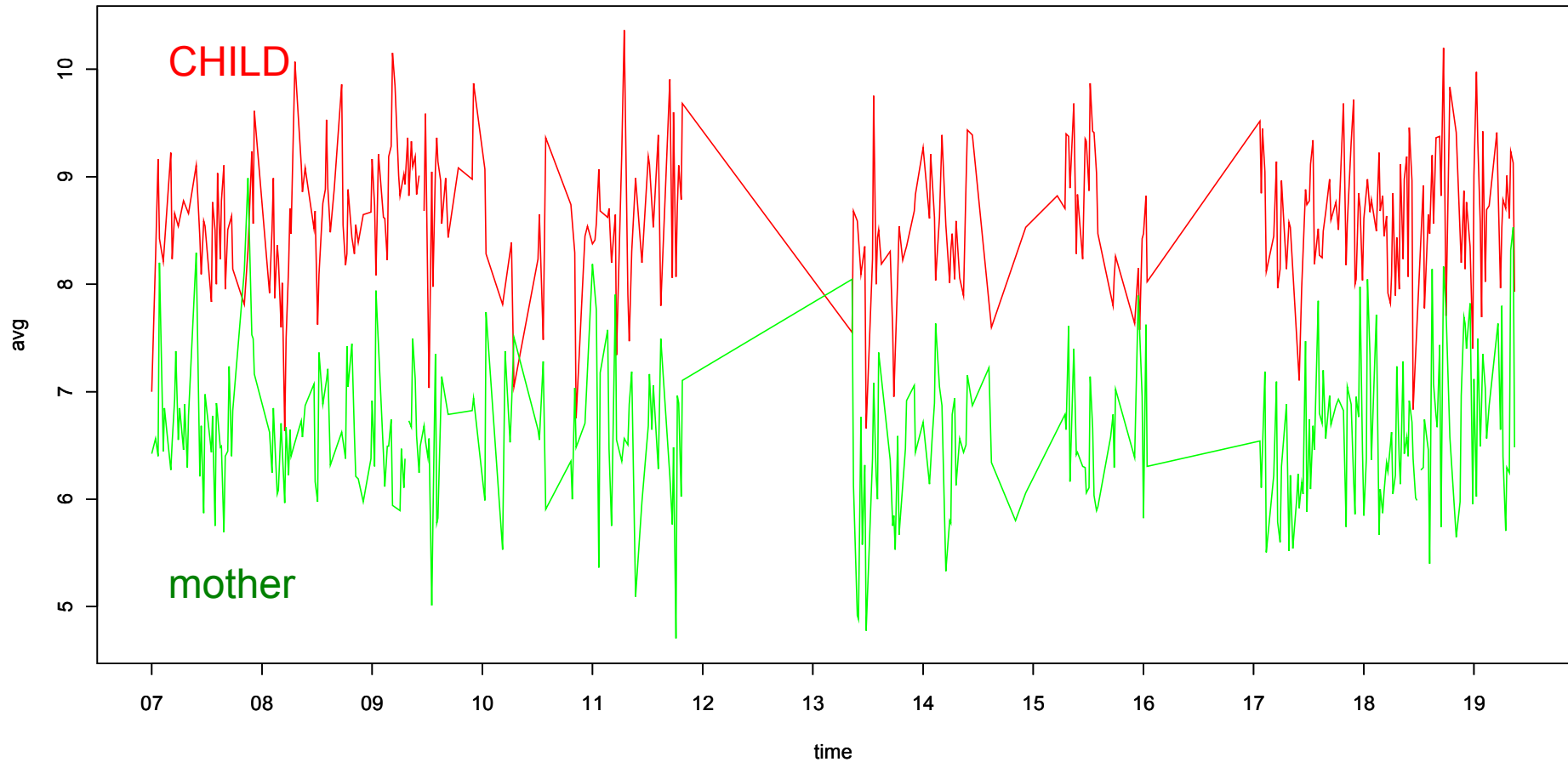


Figure 1. LENA Language Environmental Analysis Audio Processing System

Quantity
 Rough quality (acoustic diversity)
 Interaction parameters
 Can be coupled with e.g. Praat

Mean pitch across segment by minute



x axis: time of day; y axis average pitch of each vocalization

Ko, Reimchen, Cristia, Seidl, & Soderstrom, in preparation

Many thanks to Eon-Suk Ko for sharing this slide!

Individual variation in perception & production

- Stability
- Multivariate approaches necessary
- Complex causality

Open question:

Measures' sensitivity

- Cumulative dev sci
- Novel methods
- Quantity to increase precision

"Thank You"



The following slides were not discussed, but remain
here for curious souls

on the meta-analysis

each study reports multiple correlations

Author	Year	Infant speech perception measure			Vocabulary measure			E	r
		Design	Age	Speech sounds	N	Age			
Talay	1996	Contrast	8 to 18	CHT: several native consonants	6 & 6	55 to 62	PPVT	+	0.66
Tsao	2004	Correlation	6	CHT: Trials to criterion /u-y/	20	13	U	-	-0.7
				CHT: Percent correct /u-y/	16	16	U	-	-0.47
					13	24	P	-	-0.48
					20	13	U	+	-0.05
					16	16	U	+	-0.17
					13	24	P	+	0.05
Conboy	2005	Correlation	11	CHT: d' non-native /t-d/	23	11	U	+	-0.37
				CHT: d' native /t-th/ minus d' non-native /d-t/	10	11	U	+	-0.37
Kuhl	2005	Correlation	7	CHT: d' native /ta-pa/	17	18	P	+	0.49
					16	24	P	+	0.49
				CHT: d' non-native /?i-t?i/	17	18	P	-	0.5
					16	24	P	-	0.22
Rivera	2005	Contrast	11	ERP: non-native /t-d/	13 & 11	18 to 30	P	+	-0.53
Kuhl	2008	Correlation	7.5	ERP: MMN native /ta-pa/	21	18	P	-	0.43
					23	24	P		-0.43
				ERP: MMN non-native /?i-t?i/ or /ta-da/	21	24	P	+	-0.61
Conboy	2008	Correlation	11	CHT: Number of conditioning trials	17	11	U	-	0.39
				CHT: d' native /ta-tha/	17	11	U	+	0.05
				CHT: d' non-native /ta-da/	17	11	U	-	0.43
Cardillo	2010	Contrast	7 to 11	CHT: d' /u-y/	9 & 8	60	PPVT	+	0.23
		Correlation	7	CHT: Trials to criterion /u-y/	22	18	P	-	0.26
					20	24	P		0.37
				CHT: Percent correct /u-y/	22	18	P	+	0.05
					20	24	P		0.18
Jansson	2010	Correlation	12	ERP: MMN non-native vowels	20	24	P	+	0.45

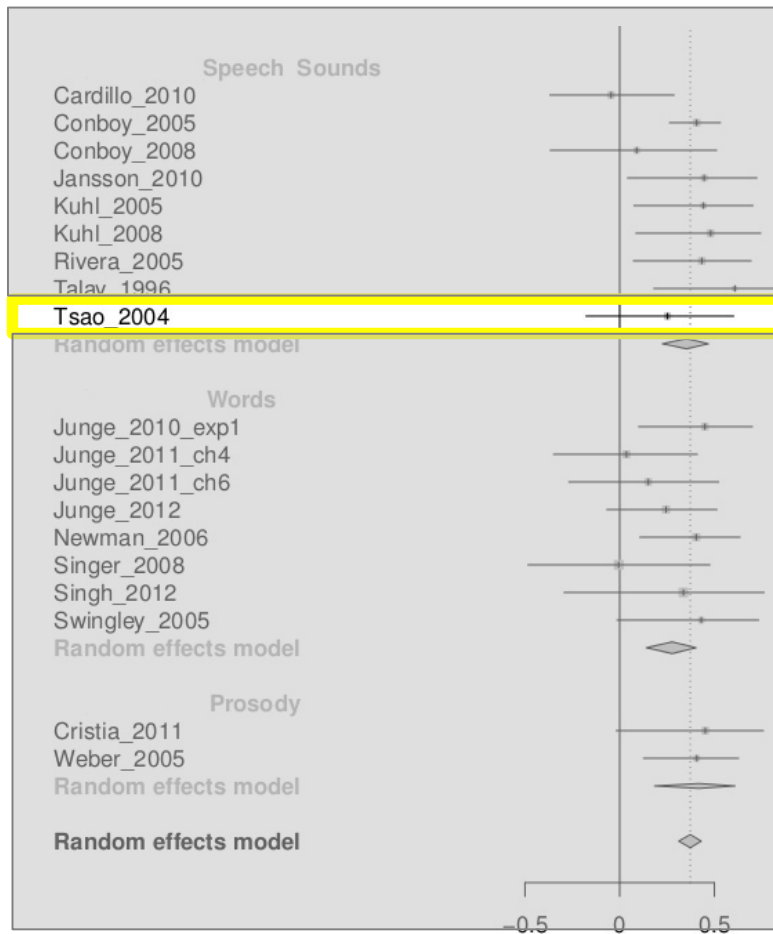
so I coded expected direction of relationship for each

Author	Year	Infant speech perception measure			Vocabulary measure			E	r
		Design	Age	Speech sounds	N	Age			
Talay	1996	Contrast	8 to 18	CHT: several native consonants	6 & 6	55 to 62	PPVT	+	0.66
Tsao	2004	Correlation	6	CHT: Trials to criterion /u-y/ CHT: Percent correct /u-y/	20	13	U	-	-0.7
					16	16	U	-	-0.47
					13	24	P	-	-0.48
					20	13	U	+	-0.05
					16	16	U	+	-0.17
					13	24	P	+	0.05
Conboy	2005	Correlation	11	CHT: d' non-native /t-d/ CHT: d' native /t-th/ minus d' non-native /d-t/	23	11	U	+	-0.37
					10	11	U	+	-0.37
Kuhl	2005	Correlation	7	CHT: d' native /ta-pa/ CHT: d' non-native /?i-t?i/	17	18	P	+	0.49
					16	24	P	+	0.49
					17	18	P	-	0.5
					16	24	P	-	0.22
Rivera	2005	Contrast	11	ERP: non-native /t-d/	13 & 11	18 to 30	P	+	-0.53
Kuhl	2008	Correlation	7.5	ERP: MMN native /ta-pa/ ERP: MMN non-native /?i-t?i/ or /ta-da/	21	18	P	-	0.43
					23	24	P		-0.43
					21	24	P	+	-0.61
Conboy	2008	Correlation	11	CHT: Number of conditioning trials CHT: d' native /ta-tha/ CHT: d' non-native /ta-da/	17	11	U	-	0.39
					17	11	U	+	0.05
					17	11	U	-	0.43
Cardillo	2010	Contrast	7 to 11	CHT: d' /u-y/	9 & 8	60	PPVT	+	0.23
		Correlation	7	CHT: Trials to criterion /u-y/ CHT: Percent correct /u-y/	22	18	P	-	0.26
					20	24	P		0.37
					22	18	P	+	0.05
				CHT: Percent correct /u-y/	22	18	P	+	0.05
Jansson	2010	Correlation	12	ERP: MMN non-native vowels	20	24	P	+	0.45

and calculated a weighted median within that study

Author	Year	Infant speech perception measure			Vocabulary measure			E	r
		Design	Age	Speech sounds	N	Age			
Talay	1996	Contrast	8 to 18	CHT: several native consonants	6 & 6	55 to 62	PPVT	+	0.66
Tsao	2004	Correlation	6	CHT: Trials to criterion /u-y/ CHT: Percent correct /u-y/	20	13	U	-	-0.7
					16	16	U	-	-0.47
					13	24	P	-	-0.48
					20	13	U	+	-0.05
					16	16	U	+	-0.17
					13	24	P	+	0.05
Conboy	2005	Correlation	11	CHT: d' non-native /t-d/ CHT: d' native /t-th/ minus d' non-native /d-t/	23	11	U	+	-0.37
					10	11	U	+	-0.37
Kuhl	2005	Correlation	7	CHT: d' native /ta-pa/ CHT: d' non-native /?i-t?i/	17	18	P	+	0.49
					16	24	P	+	0.49
					17	18	P	-	0.5
					16	24	P	-	0.22
Rivera	2005	Contrast	11	ERP: non-native /t-d/	13 & 11	18 to 30	P	+	-0.53
Kuhl	2008	Correlation	7.5	ERP: MMN native /ta-pa/ ERP: MMN non-native /?i-t?i/ or /ta-da/	21	18	P	-	0.43
					23	24	P		-0.43
					21	24	P	+	-0.61
Conboy	2008	Correlation	11	CHT: Number of conditioning trials CHT: d' native /ta-tha/ CHT: d' non-native /ta-da/	17	11	U	-	0.39
					17	11	U	+	0.05
					17	11	U	-	0.43
Cardillo	2010	Contrast	7 to 11	CHT: d' /u-y/	9 & 8	60	PPVT	+	0.23
					22	18	P	-	0.26
		Correlation	7	CHT: Trials to criterion /u-y/ CHT: Percent correct /u-y/	20	24	P		0.37
					22	18	P	+	0.05
Jansson	2010	Correlation	12	ERP: MMN non-native vowels	20	24	P		0.18
					20	24	P	+	0.45

then one can calculate median effect size and weight per infant group, using those independent points

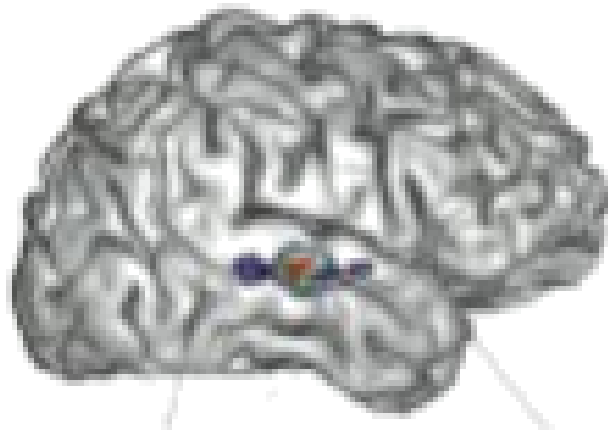


The neural bases of accent perception

The “interpretation” of accent

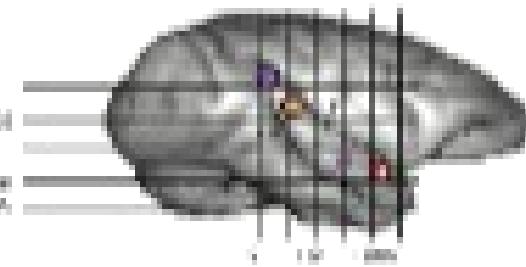
Voice perception

Right Hemisphere Humans



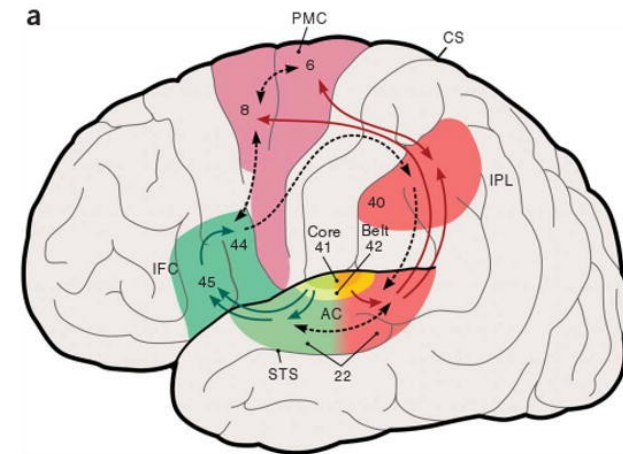
Belin & Grosbras 2010 Neuron

Right Hemisphere Macaques



Adult brain networks involved in **speech perception**

Left Hemisphere Humans



Rauschecker & Scott 2009
Nature Neuroscience

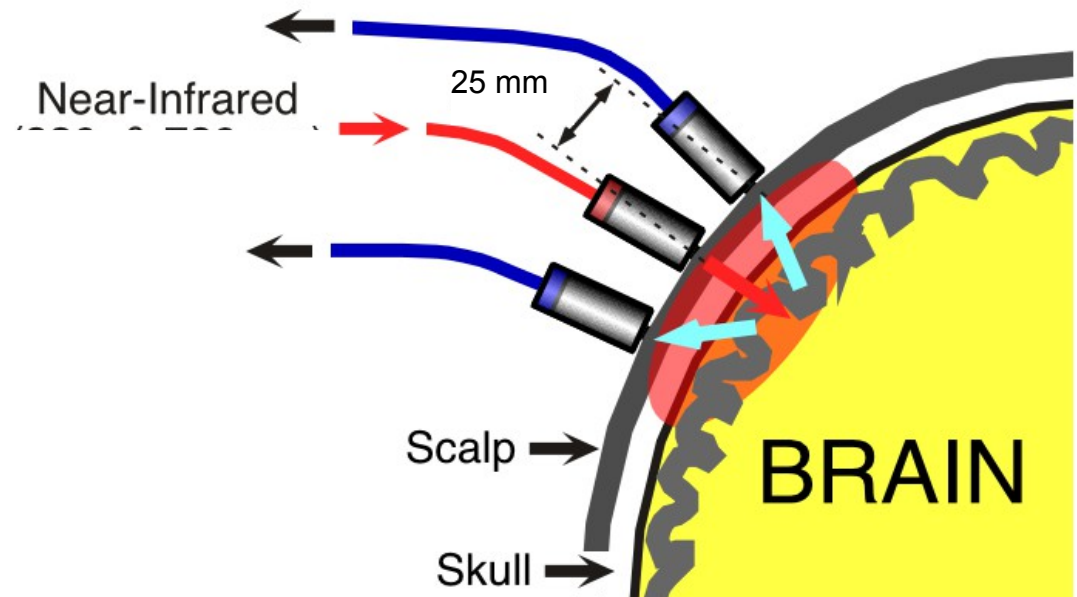
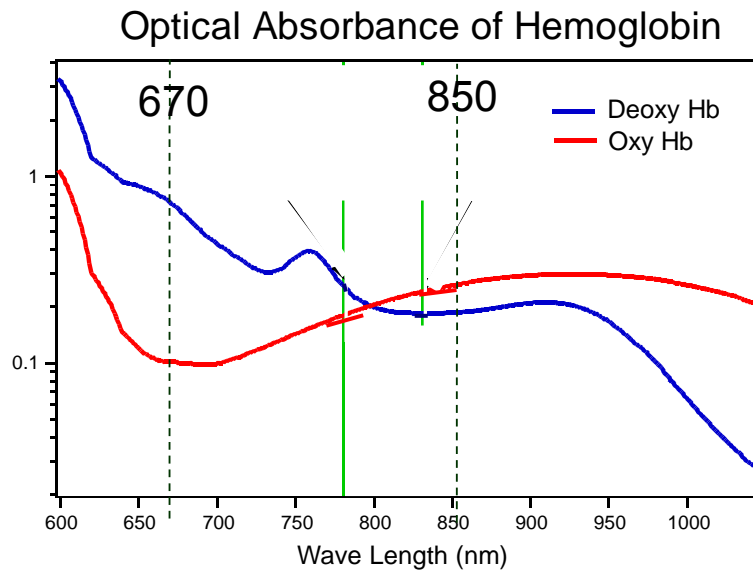
NIRS (Near Infra-red Spectroscopy)

+ **Non-invasive, silent, portable:** perfect for babies & speech!

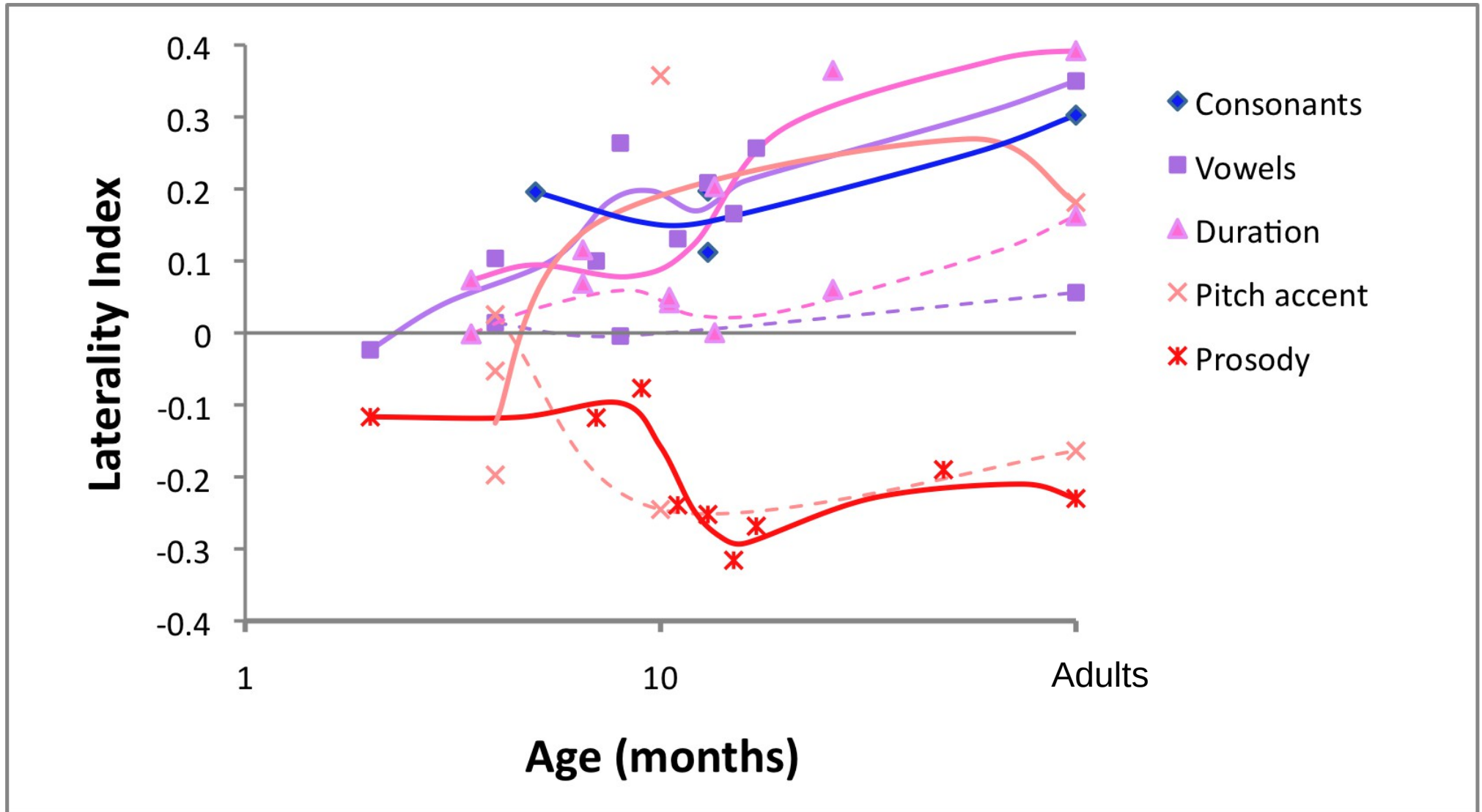
Local changes of hemoglobin concentration

+/- **temporal resolution** 10 Hz

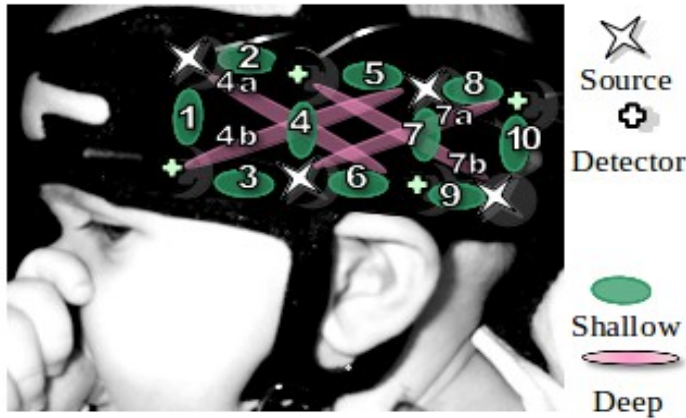
- **spatial resolution** ~25 mm



Lateralization phonetic contrasts



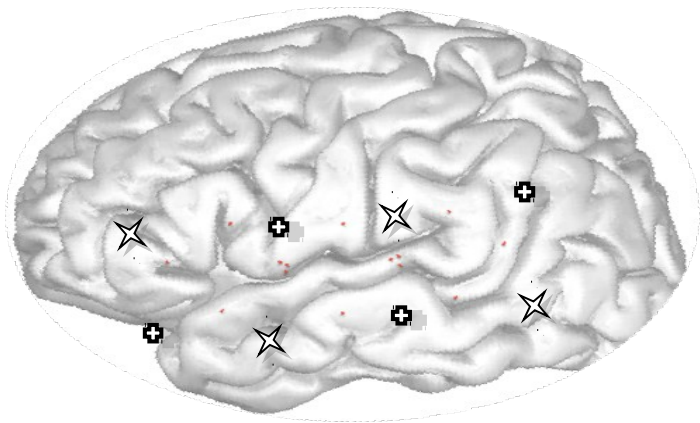
Predictions & instruments



Since accent discrimination relies on *language-specific* knowledge...

Accent alternation will elicit higher activation in left perisylvian cortices

Difference greater for older infants*
3.5-4mo versus 5mo

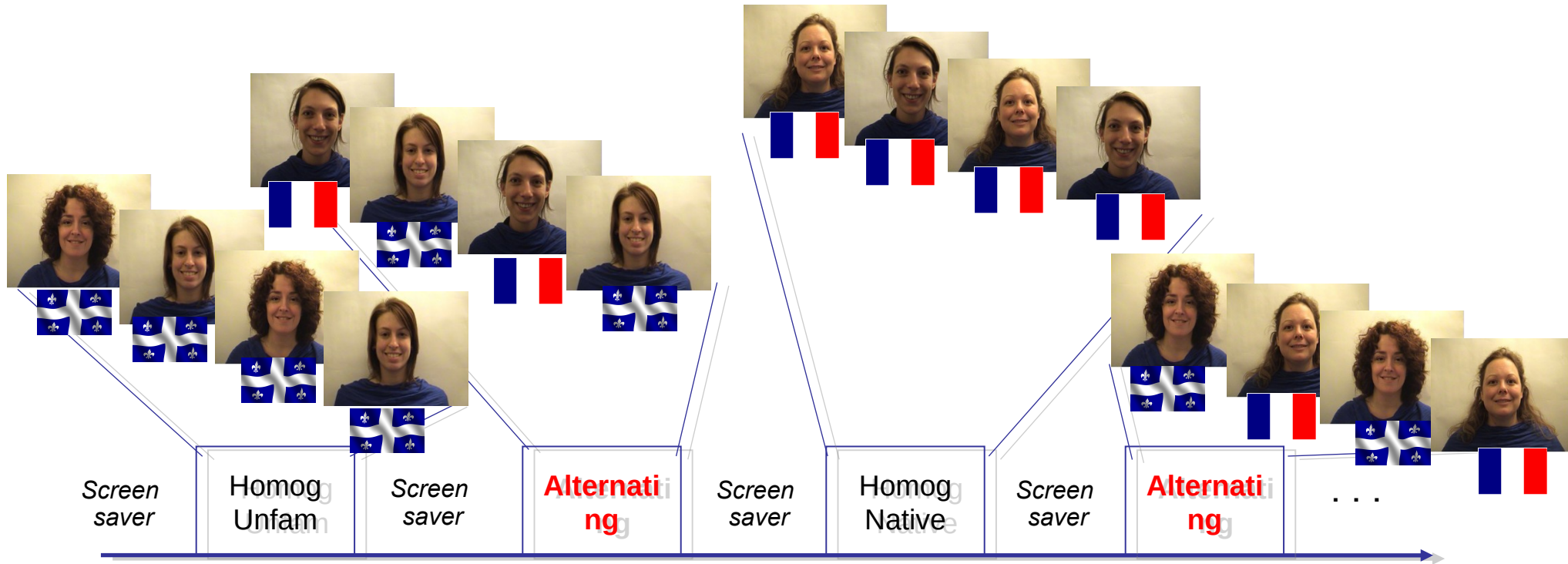


*cf. Butler et al. 2011 & Kitamura et al. in press

Accent discrimination: paradigm



Accent discrimination: paradigm



Change in:

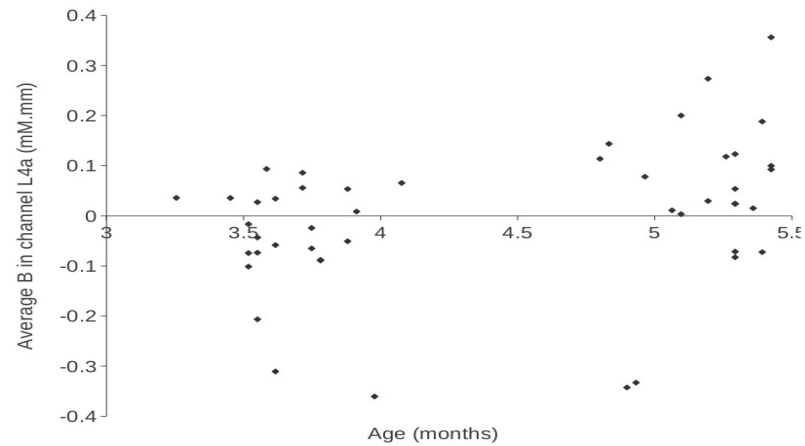
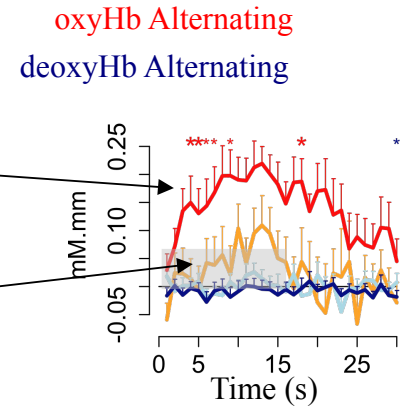
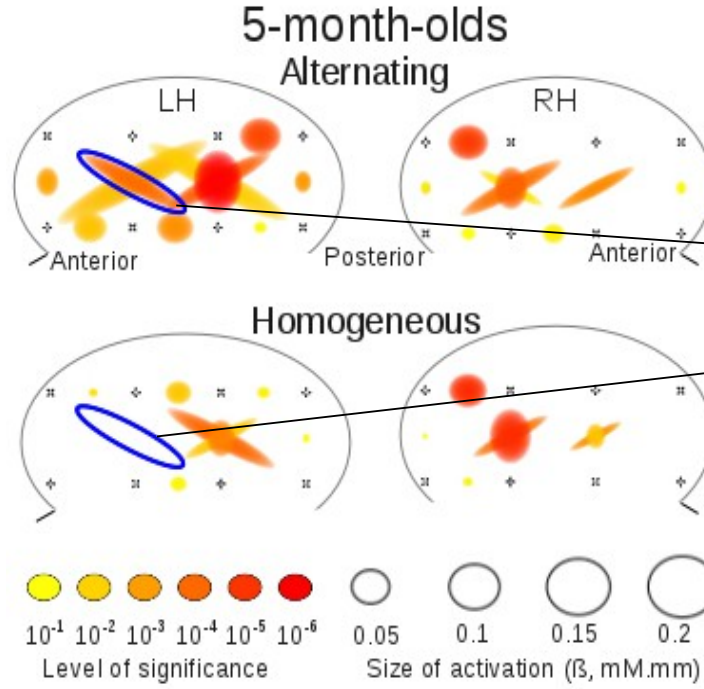
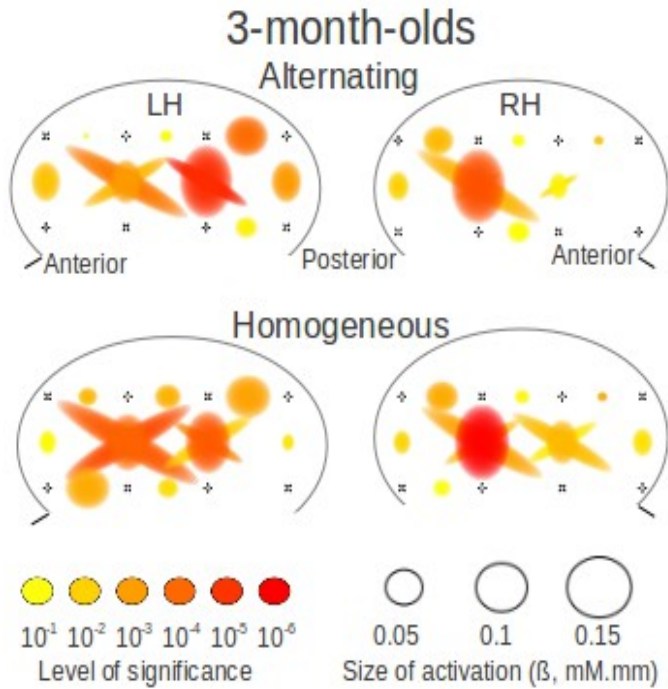
Talker

+ + + +

Language

- + - +

Results



Open questions

Variation with task?

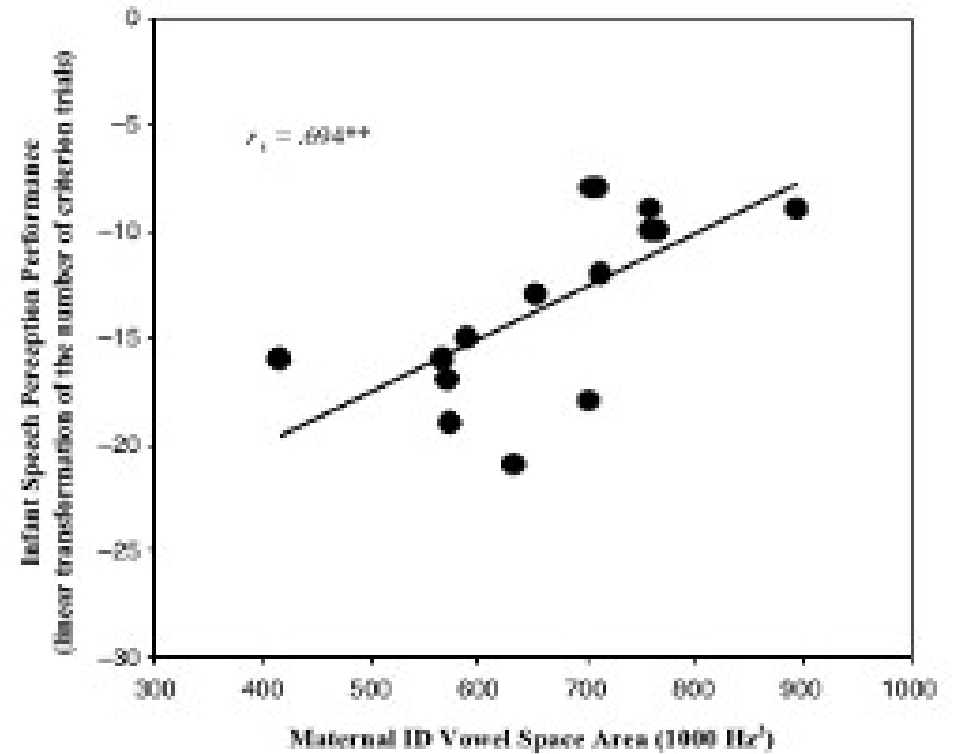
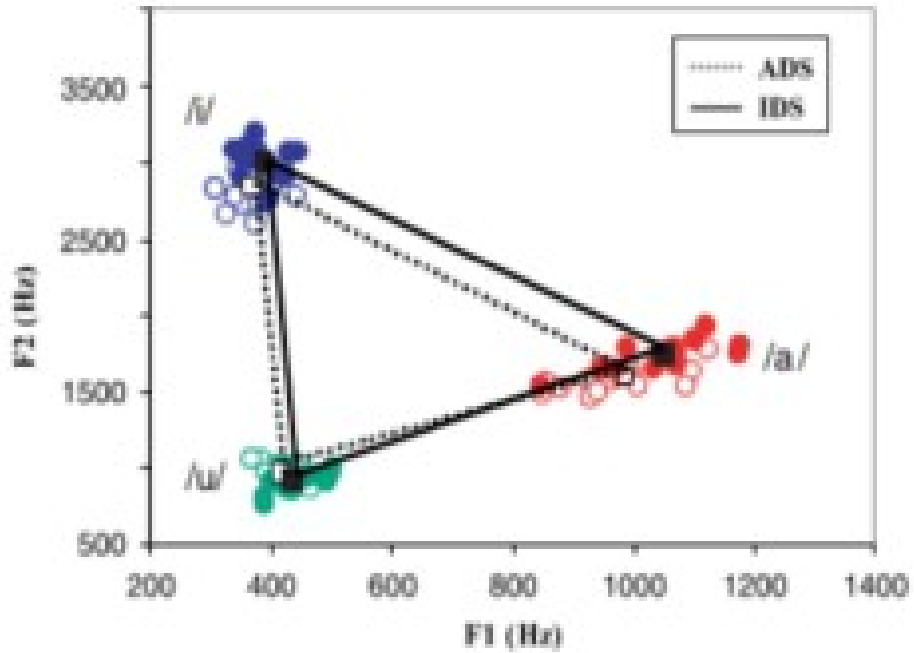
e.g. Social “judgments”?

Changes with age?

i.e. accent becomes a “talker” feature?

extra slides on multivariate studies

Phonetic detail*



Liu, Tsao & Kuhl 2003 *Dev Sci*

Multivariate studies (cont.)

