

Tuning of cellular insulin release by music for real-time diabetes control

Presenter: Xiong Xiao

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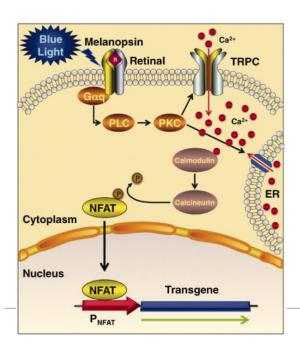
#### **About the Author**

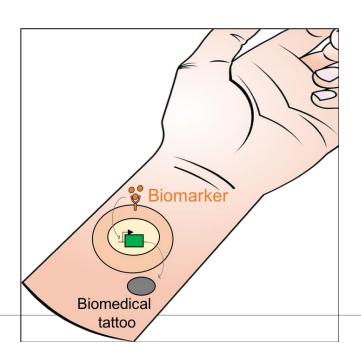


### Prof. Dr. Martin Fussenegger

Full Professor at the Department of Biosystems Science and Engineering, ETH Zürich

#### "Synthetic Biology: From Biotechnology to Human Therapy"







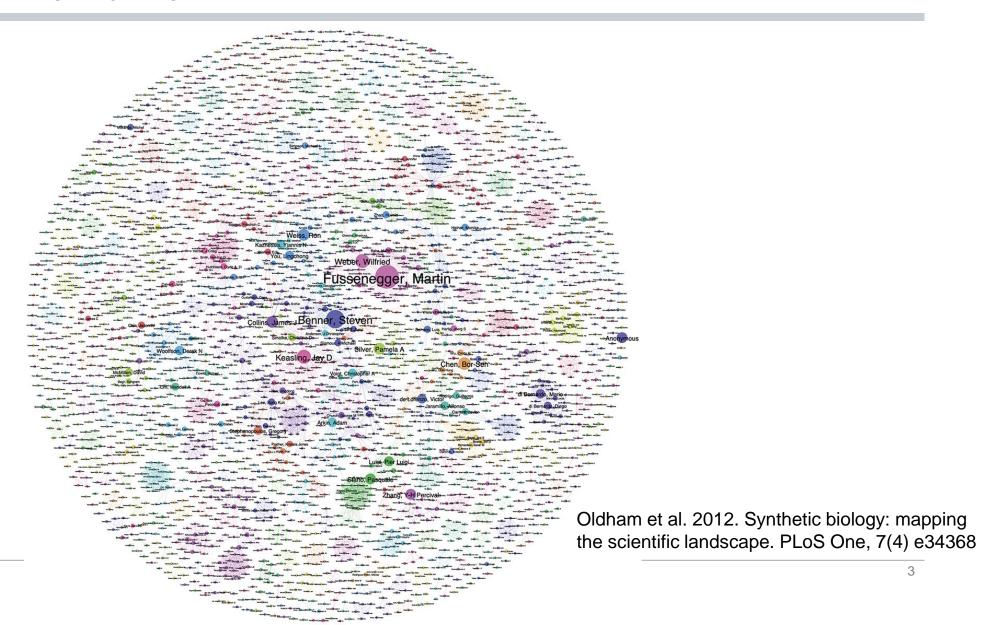
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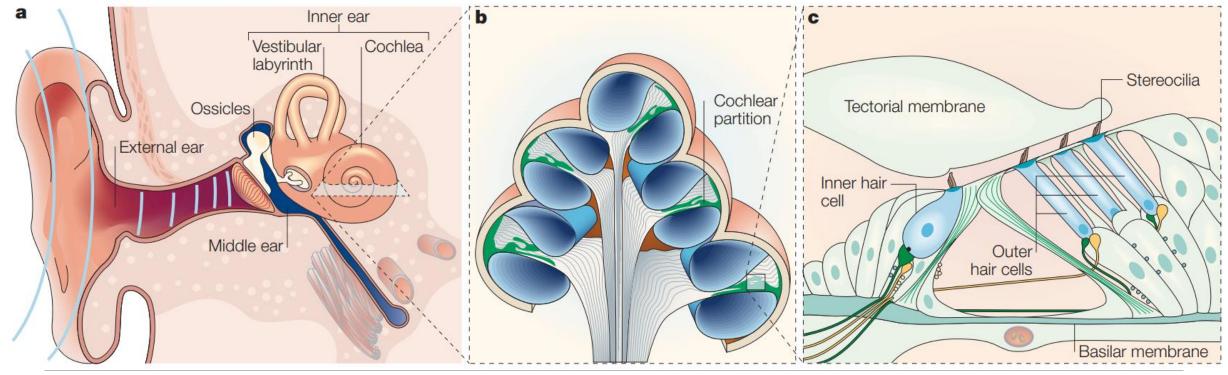
## **About the Author**





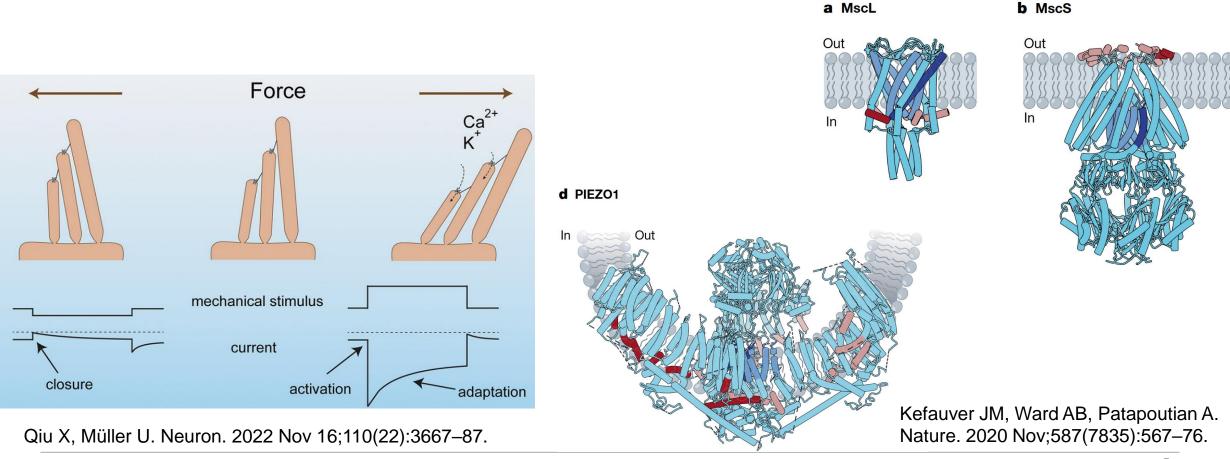


Music consists of acoustic waves that are converted by the bony ossicles in the middle ear into mechanical vibrations.



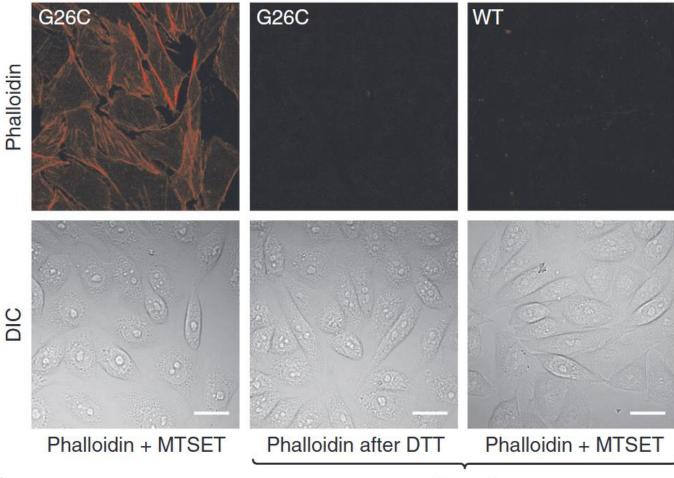


Mechanosensitive ion channels are ubiquitous across all kingdoms.





Modified Escherichia coli MscL has been expressed in mammalian cells.

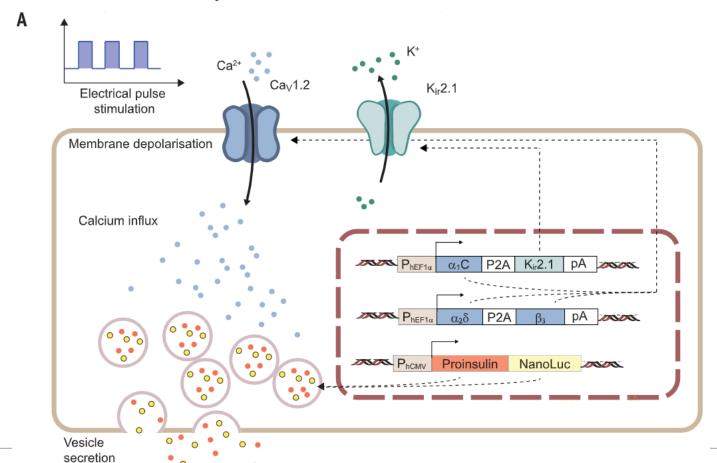


Control

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Many gene switches have been developed for use in next-generation cellbased therapies to treat multiple diseases.



Systemic delivery faces pharmacokinetic challenges.

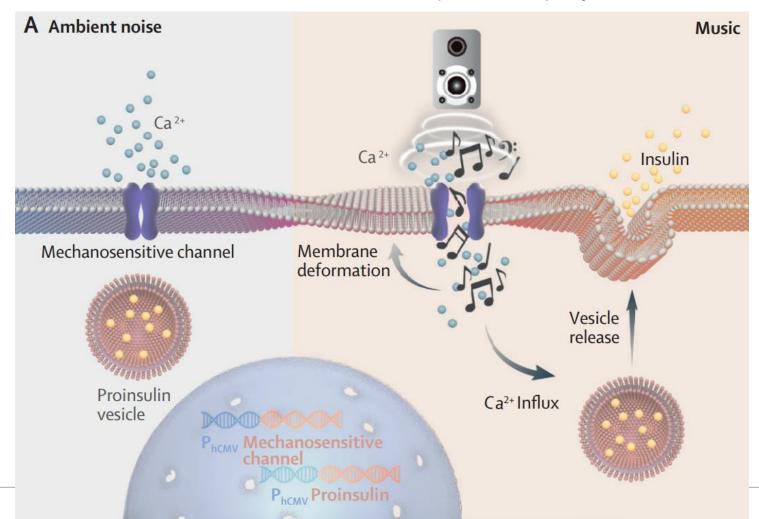
Traceless triggers, such as light, ultrasound, magnetic fields, radio waves, electricity, and heat, also face various challenges.

Thus, there is still a need for new switching modalities. . .



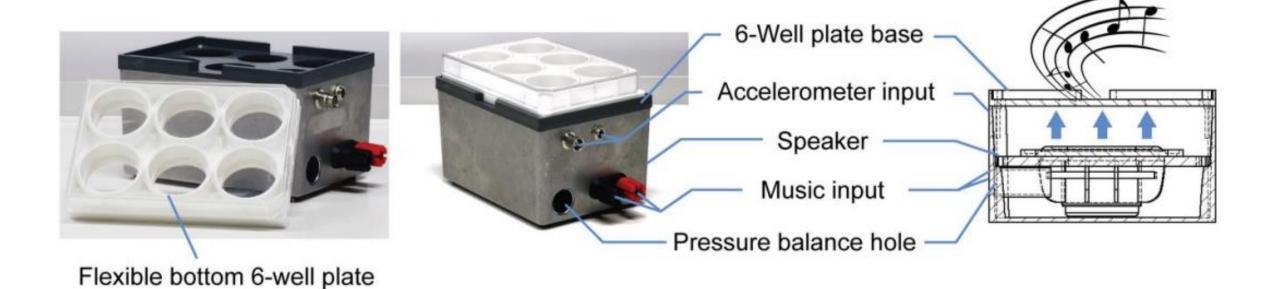


#### Design of Music-Inducible Cellular Control (MUSIC) system



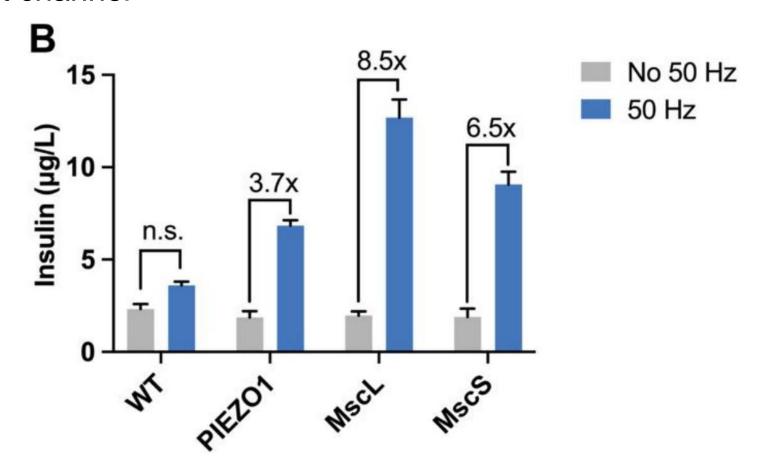


#### Hardware & Devices



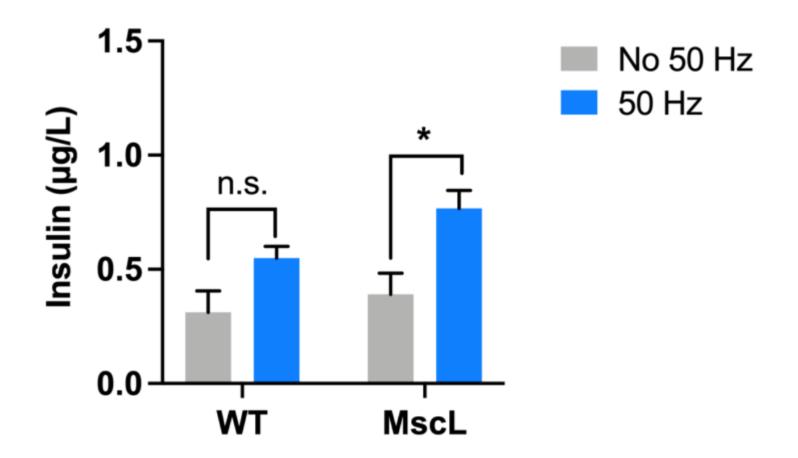


#### Find the best channel



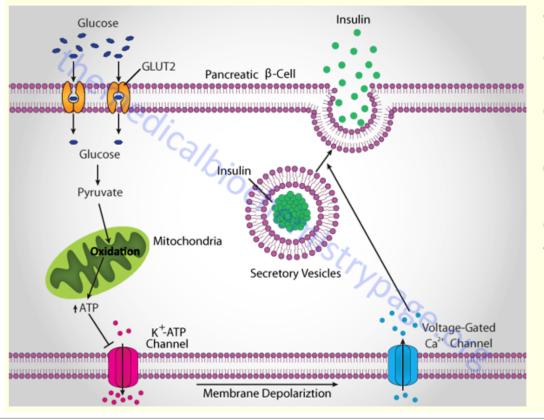


Music-responsive cells need to be immobilised on the surface





The mechanistic connection between sound stimulation and insulin release by MUSIC<sub>INS</sub> is likely to be mediated by **calcium** 

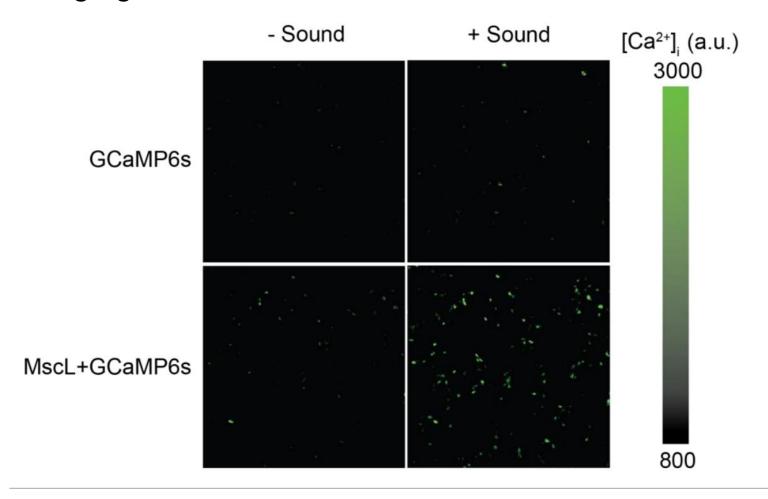


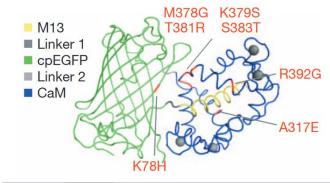
The beta cells take up and catabolize glucose

↑ → ATP levels ↑ → closure of ATP-gated K+ channels and depolarization of the plasma membrane ↑ → cytosolic [Ca²+] ↑ → triggers exocytosis of insulin granules ↑.



#### Imaging with fluorescent calcium indicator GCaMP6s





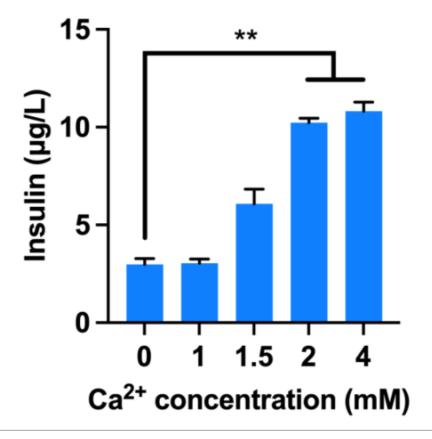
	cpEGFP	CaM					
GCaMP5G		A317	M378	K379	T381	S383	R392
GCaMP6s	K78H				T381R	S383T	R392G
GCaMP6m			M378G	K379S	T381R	S383T	R392G
GCaMP6f		A317E			T381R	S383T	R392G

Chen TW et al. Nature. 2013 Jul 18;499(7458):295–300.





Sound-stimulated MUSIC<sub>INS</sub> cells showed increased insulin release when incubated in higher calcium chloride concentrations



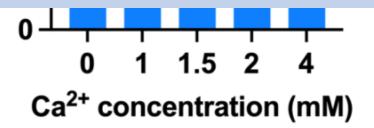


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## Part 1: Construction of MUSIC system

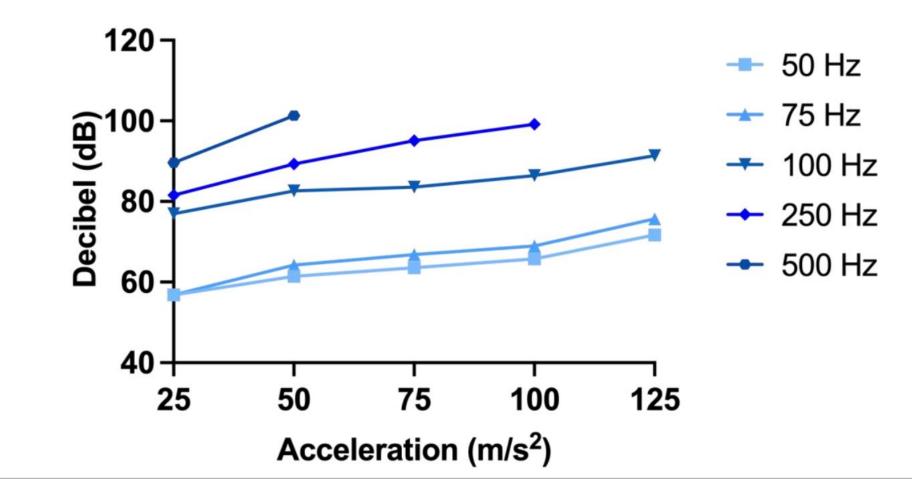
Sound-stimulated MUSIC<sub>INS</sub> cells showed increased insulin release when incubated in higher calcium chloride concentrations

Taken together, these results support the idea that the sound waves act as mechanical forces to **open the MscL channels** and **initiate calcium influx**.



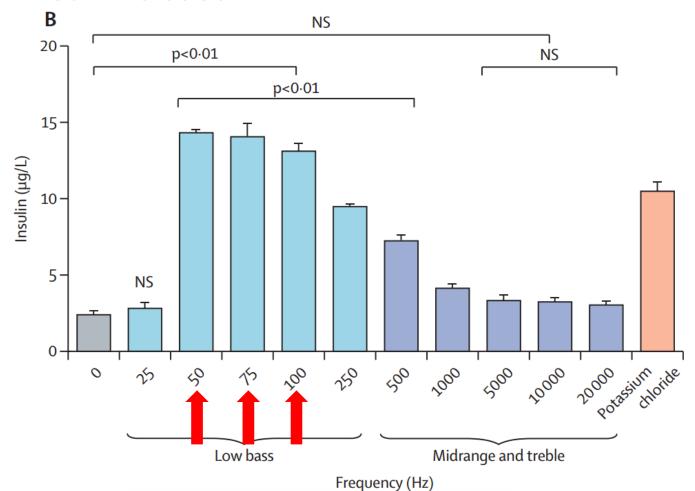


Correlation of sound intensity and acceleration generated by the speaker setup



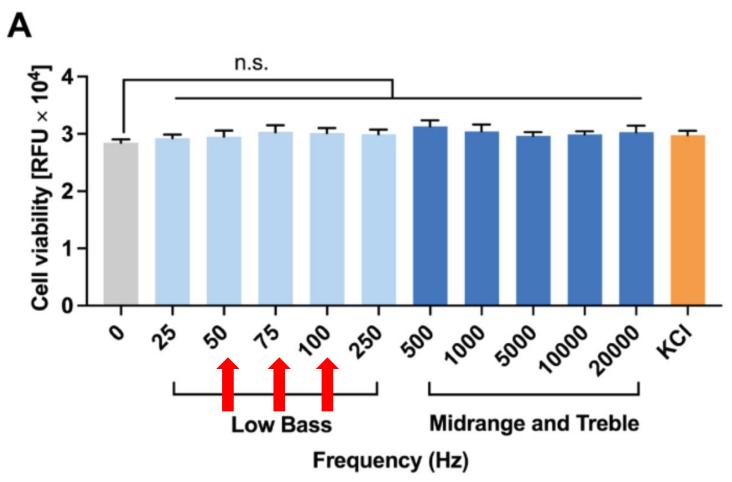


#### Profile vesicular insulin release



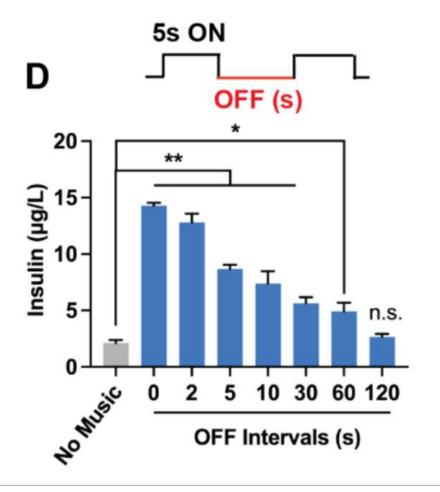


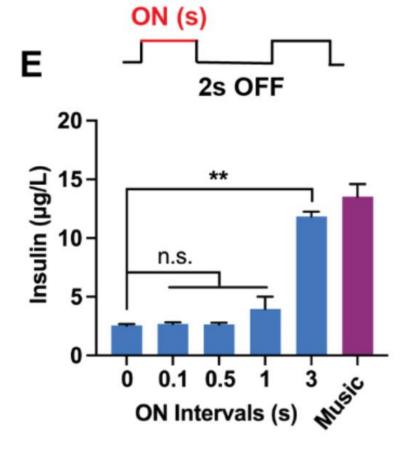
Viability is not affected





#### Different sound programs



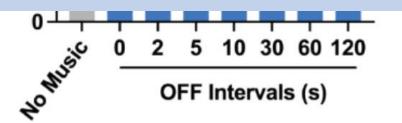


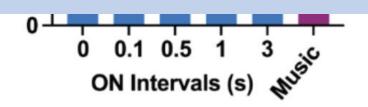


Different sound programs



- MUSIC<sub>INS</sub> cells showed maximum viability while providing the highest insulin release at 50 Hz & 60 dB.
- 2. MUSIC activation requires at least 3 s of continuous music.



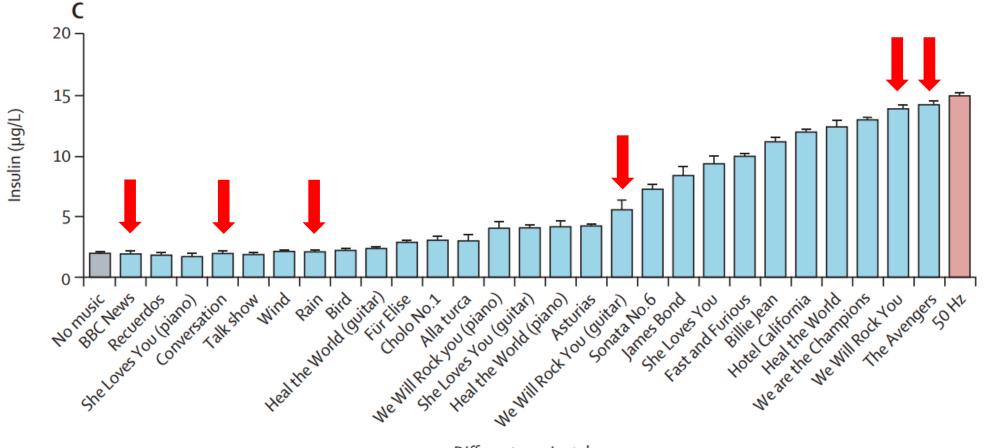




# Part 3: Validation of insulin release performance to different musical genres



#### Different kinds of music

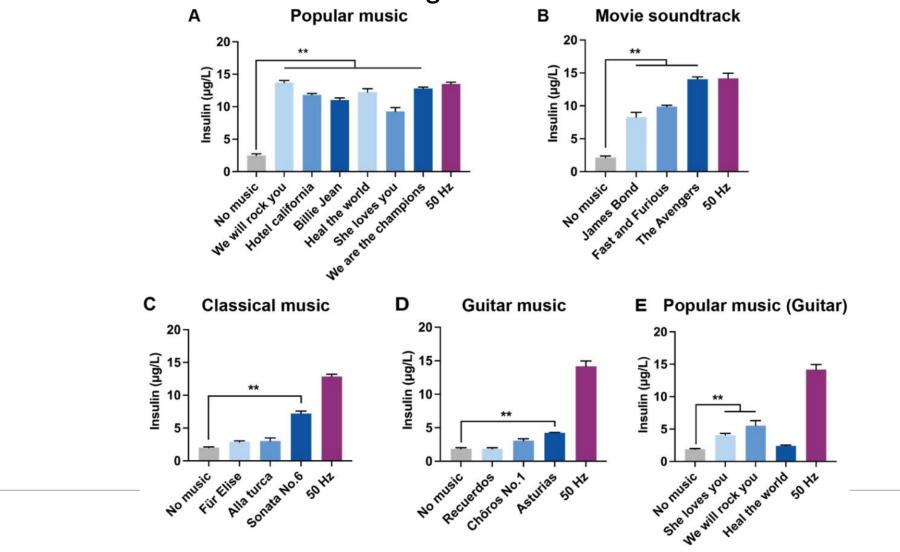




# Part 3: Validation of insulin release performance to different musical genres



Responses to classical music and guitar music were more diverse

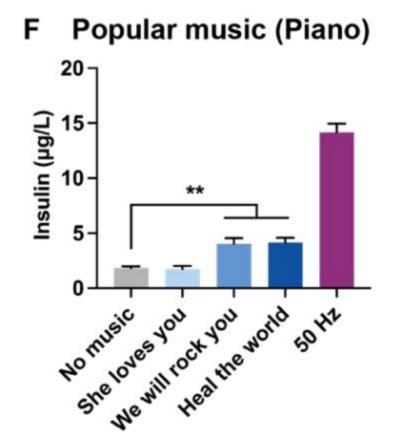


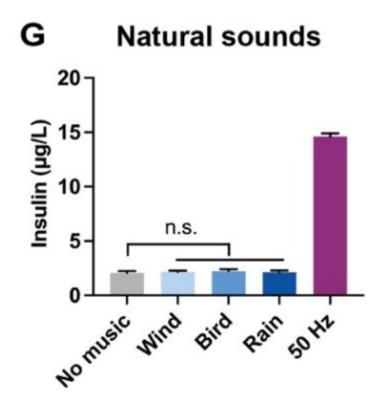


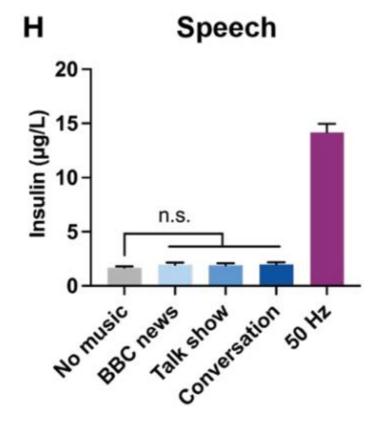
# Part 3: Validation of insulin release performance to different musical genres



Environmental noises and speech did not trigger insulin release





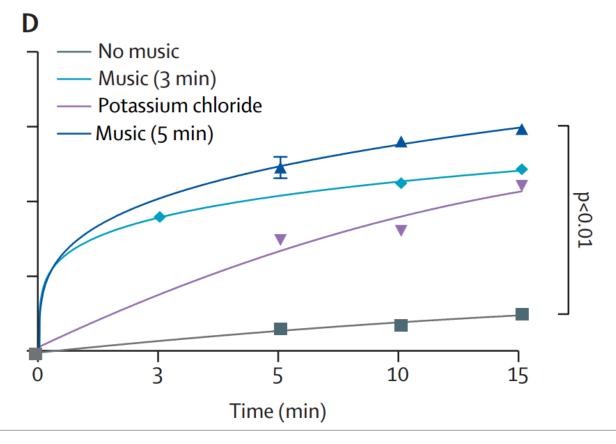




# Part 4: Dynamics of insulin release and refill

The dynamics of music-triggered insulin release by

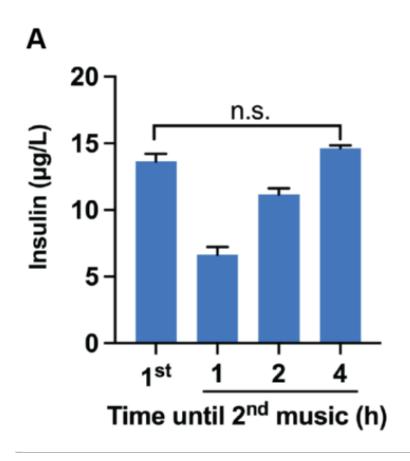
Queen's song, We Will Rock You

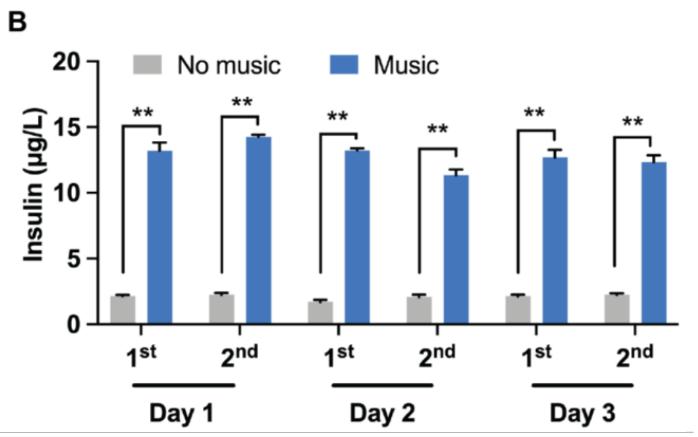




# Part 4: Dynamics of insulin release and refill

The cells reached a full insulin refill within 4 h consistently over several days

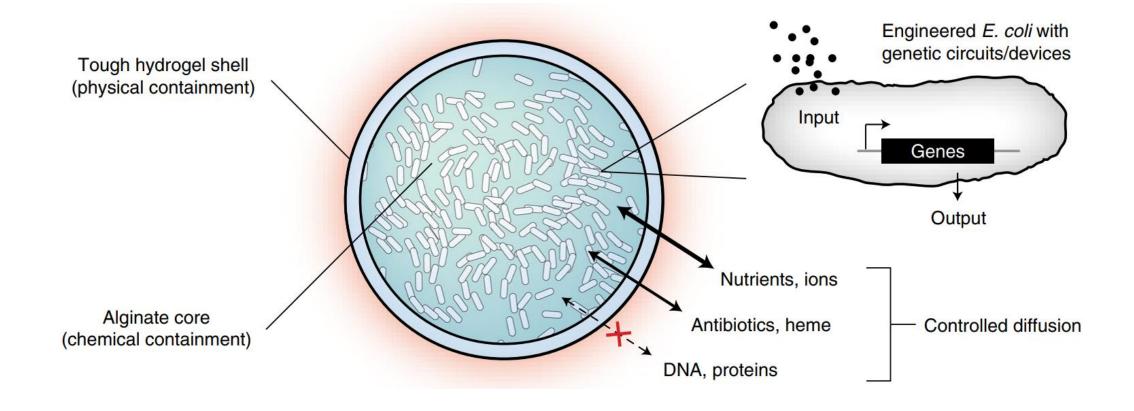




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# Part 5: In vivo test of MUSIC<sub>INS</sub> cells

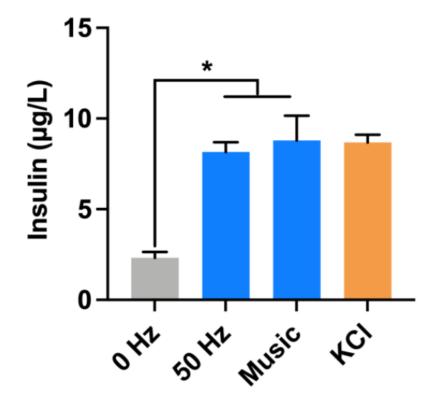
#### Coherent hydrogel microcontainers







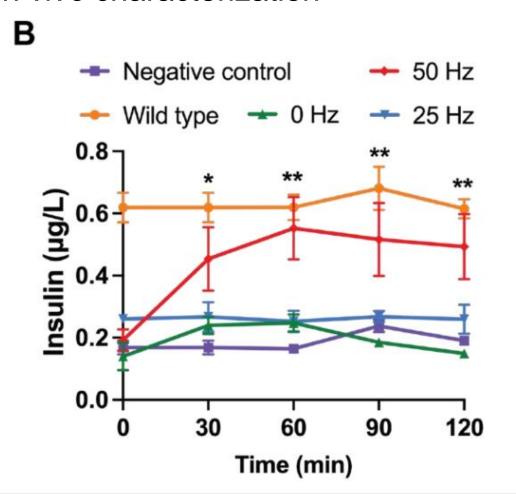
We confirmed music-sensitive insulin release by the microencapsulated cells

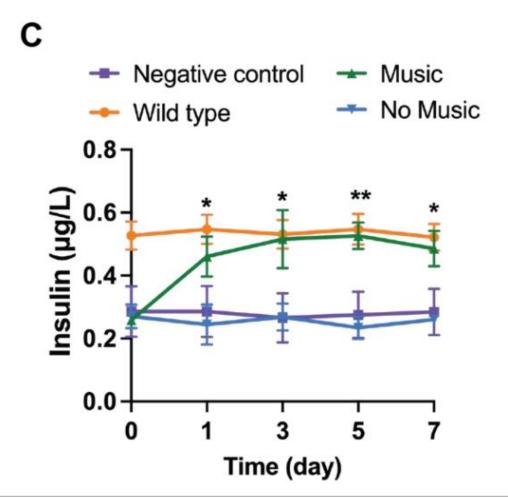






#### In vivo characterization

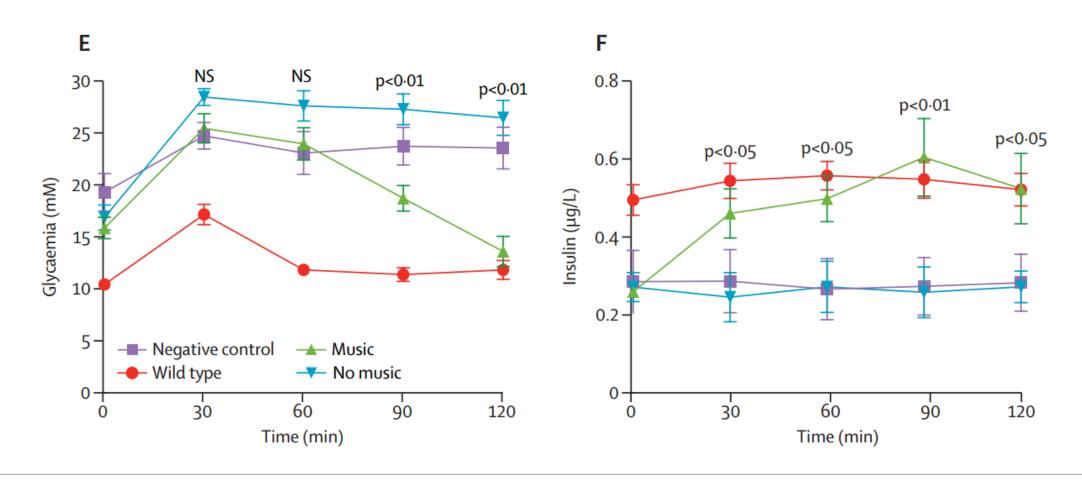








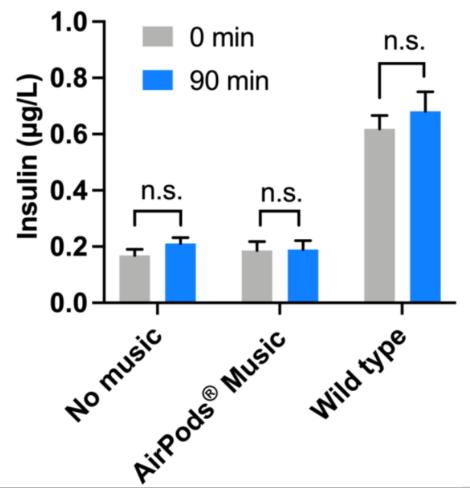
#### Attenuation of postprandial glycaemic excursions







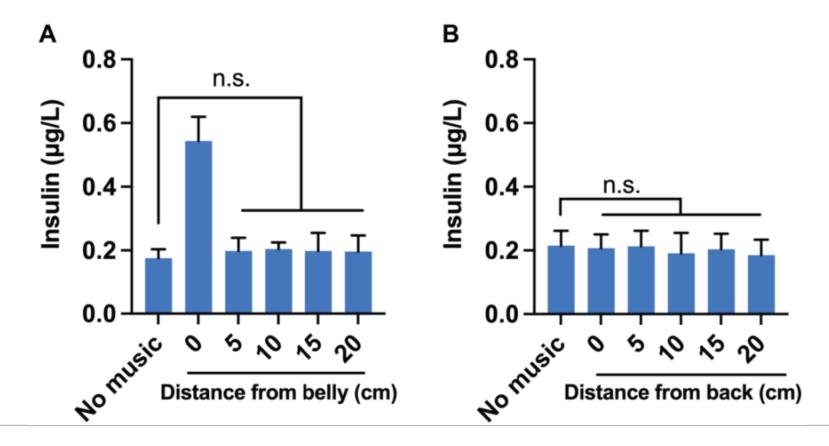
Commercial headphones or ear plugs did not trigger MUSIC<sub>INS</sub>







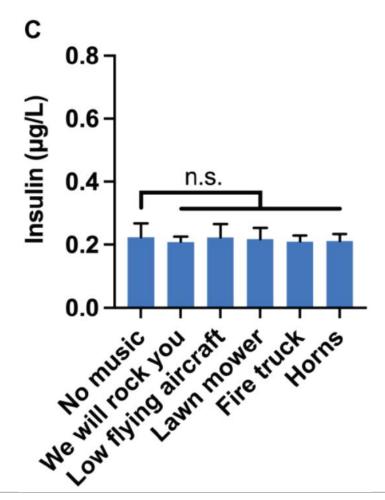
MUSIC<sub>INS</sub> cells are triggered only if the sound waves **directly impinge on the skin** just above the implantation site for at least 15 min







Various loud environmental noises did not result in undesired insulin secretion





# **Compliments & Critics**



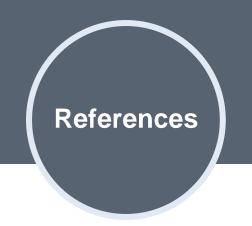
- 1. MUSIC's vesicular secretion is much faster, and also enables a discontinuous peak delivery of protein therapeutics.
- 2. With only 4 h required for a full refill, MUSIC can provide several therapeutic doses a day.
- 3. MUSIC-transgenic cells can be stimulated by portable battery-powered commercial loudspeakers, with their bellies facing the speaker.

# **Compliments & Critics**



- 4. Its stimulation suffers from distance limitation.
- 5. How long can the cells live in vivo?
- 6. Safety concerns.
  - 1.1E7 is a hybrid cell line formed by the electrofusion of a primary culture of human pancreatic islets with PANC-1, a human pancreatic ductal carcinoma cell line (ECACC catalogue number 87092802). 1.1E7 has been shown to be tumourigenic when transplanted into a SCID mouse





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# **THANK YOU**