Participant Consent
Contextual effects on processing tonal and segmental information in Mandarin (**Study#2018s0455**)

Who is conducting the study? The principal investigator (PI), Xizi Deng, her supervisor, Dr. Henny Yeung, and the research assistants and volunteers in the Language Development Lab at the Department of Linguistics at Simon Fraser University. Questions about the study can be sent to xizi_deng@sfu.ca.

Who is funding this study? This study is funded by a Grant awarded to Henny Yeung by NSERC.

Who can you contact with ethical concerns? Concerns and/or complaints should be directed to Dr. Jeff Toward, Director, Office of Research Ethics (jtoward@sfu.ca, or 778-782-6593).

Why are we doing this study? We want to study how people perceive lexical tones and segments in different contexts. Specifically, we will use the data we collect to figure out how speakers of Mandarin perceive Mandarin tones and segments in high-constraining and low-constraining contexts.

Eligibility. Individuals with normal hearing, aged between 19-30 years old who are native Mandarin speakers are considered eligible. In addition, eligible participants should NOT be those who
- Were born outside of Mainland China, and speak a different variety of Mandarin
- Were exposed to another language before the age of 5
- Have a hearing impairment or any auditory-related medical issue
- Have studied other Chinese languages (such as Cantonese, Shanghainese, Taiwanese) or speak those languages as your first language.
- Have any significant learning or language-related pathologies, like dyslexia or specific language-impairment.

You may decide your eligibility based on the standards stated above and may quit the experiment at this point if you are not eligible.

Your participation is voluntary. You have the right to refuse to participate in this study. Refusal to participate or withdrawal/drop out after agreeing to participate will not have any adverse effects or consequences

How is this study done? If you agree to participate, this study will take about 20 minutes.

- You will be asked to fill out a short questionnaire asking for demographic information.

- You will be given a rating task, where you will be asked to rate your familiarity with the classifiers given and try to think of as many nouns as you can that can grammatically go after these classifiers.

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What are the risks of participating?

This study poses minimal risk because none of the tasks involved in the experiment will have any direct or lasting impacts on participants, except perhaps boredom. However, there will be frequent breaks to minimize this. Since the experiment does not require you to give responses as fast as possible, you may take as many breaks as you need at any point between the questions.

What are the benefits of participating?

We do not think taking part in this study will directly benefit you. However, in the future, others may benefit from what we learn in this study. In particular, we think that this study will help us understand the contextual effect on people's perception of segmental and suprasegmental information in natural speech processing.

Will you be paid for taking part in this research study?

You will receive CAD $5 for your participation or 1 course credit if you are taking any SFU undergraduate courses. If you choose to receive monetary compensation, please enter the completion code generated at the end of the experiment into the bar on MTurk page. If you choose to obtain course credit, please send an email to langdev@sfu.ca to request an empty RPS form. Send it back to us after filling it in. You may also come to our lab at RCB7410 on SFU Burnaby campus to obtain the form.

How will your privacy be maintained?

Your confidentiality will be respected. Information that discloses your identity will not be released without your consent. In addition,

- You will not be identified by name in any completed study report.

- Access to the identifying information will be limited to only the PI and her collaborator. Electronic data derived from the experiment will be stored in password-protected servers in a locked SFU laboratory room, where access will be restricted to only the PI, the collaborator and the collaborator's research team. All these data and the information will be destroyed once the study is published, or after a maximum of 7 years.

- Any identifying information (i.e., the names, email addresses, language background, etc.) will be stored on a database separately from the study data and will be linked only by subject ID to the study data.

What if you decided to withdraw your consent to participate?

You may withdraw from her study at any time without giving any reasons. If you choose to enter the study then decide to withdraw after submitting your responses, you may email us at langdev@sfu.ca providing your subject ID (generated at the end of the experiment) to request this. We will destroy all your data (both identifying information and online responses) immediately. There will be no negative effects on your grades or employment.

Study results

The main study findings will be published in academic journal articles or presented at academic conferences. Study results in non-technical language will be available on the department website **http://www.sfu.ca/langdev.html** In addition, you may email us at langdev@sfu.ca to request a summary of the study results in non-technical language if you so wish.

Future use of participant data

All data that we collect will be used for research purposes only. While study data may be accessible to others once published (e.g., measures or performance in these tasks, age, gender, language background), we will not share any identifying or confidential information (e.g., names, email addresses, etc.).

Participant consent

Taking part in this study is entirely up to you: You have the right to refuse to participate. If you decide to take part, you may pull out of the study at any time without giving a reason and without any negative impact by sending an e-mail to xizi_deng@sfu.ca By clicking on the "Next" button on the screen, you indicate that you have received a copy of this consent form for your own records, and that you consent to participate in the study.