Effects of familiarity, iconicity and phonological density* in the LSE lexicon

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BASQUE CENTER ON COGNITION, BRAIN AND LANGUAGE

Stimuli:

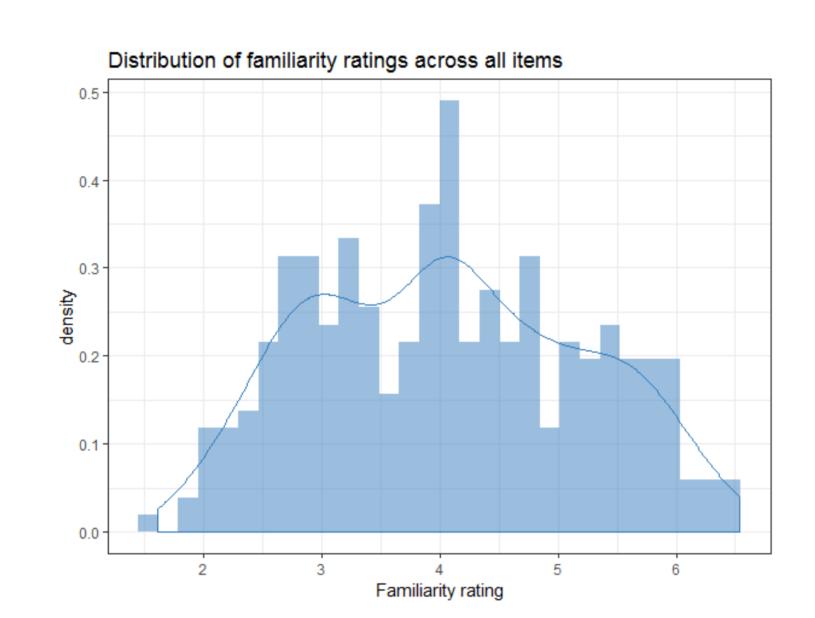
200 LSE signs with ratings

200 unrelated pseudosigns

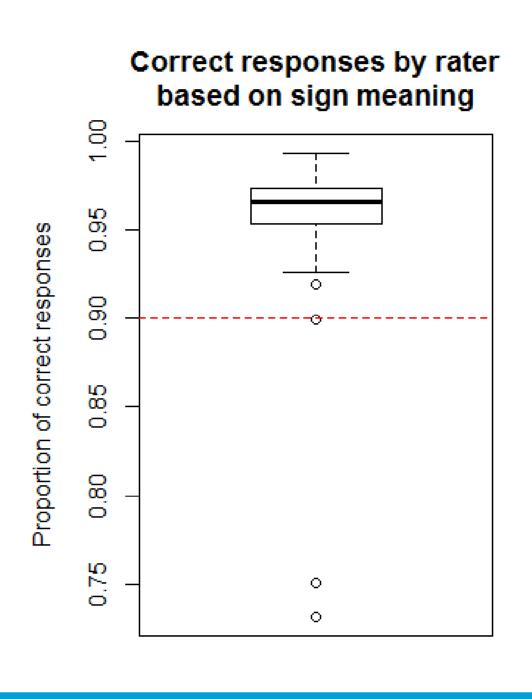
LEXICAL RATINGS

91 Deaf Spanish Sign Language (LSE) users provided ratings on 300 signs using on-line surveys:

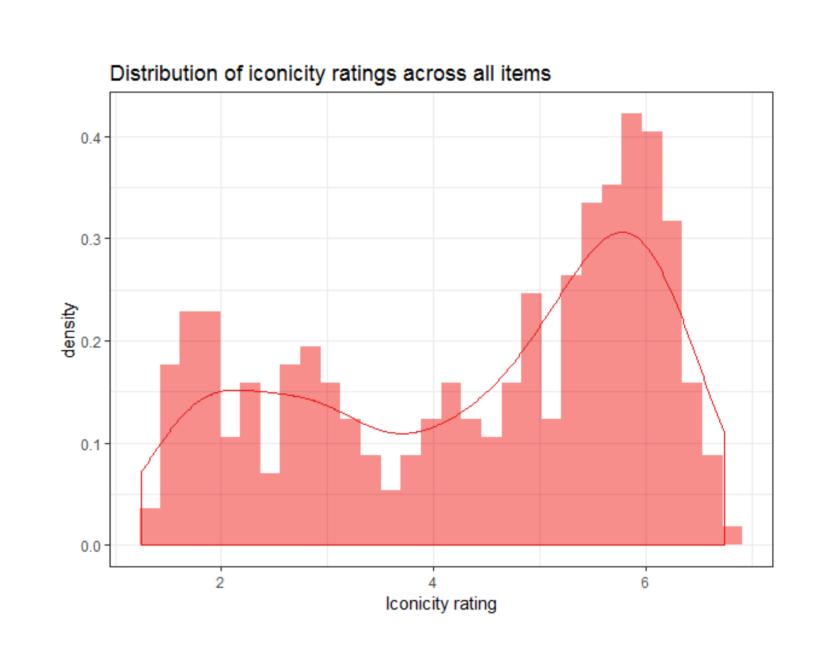
Familiarity (85 raters)



Meaning of sign (as Spanish gloss)



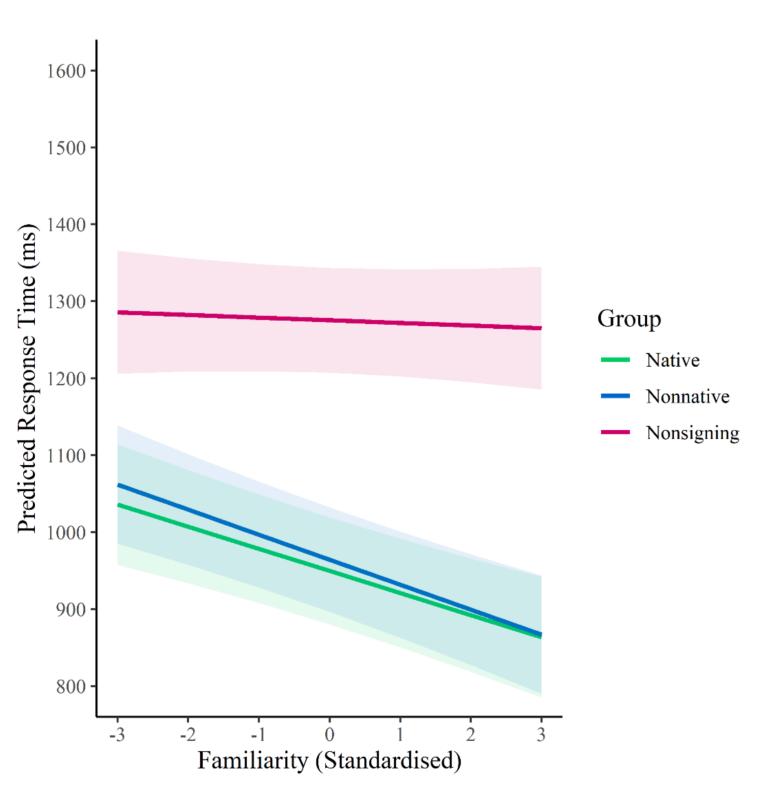
Iconicity (80 raters)



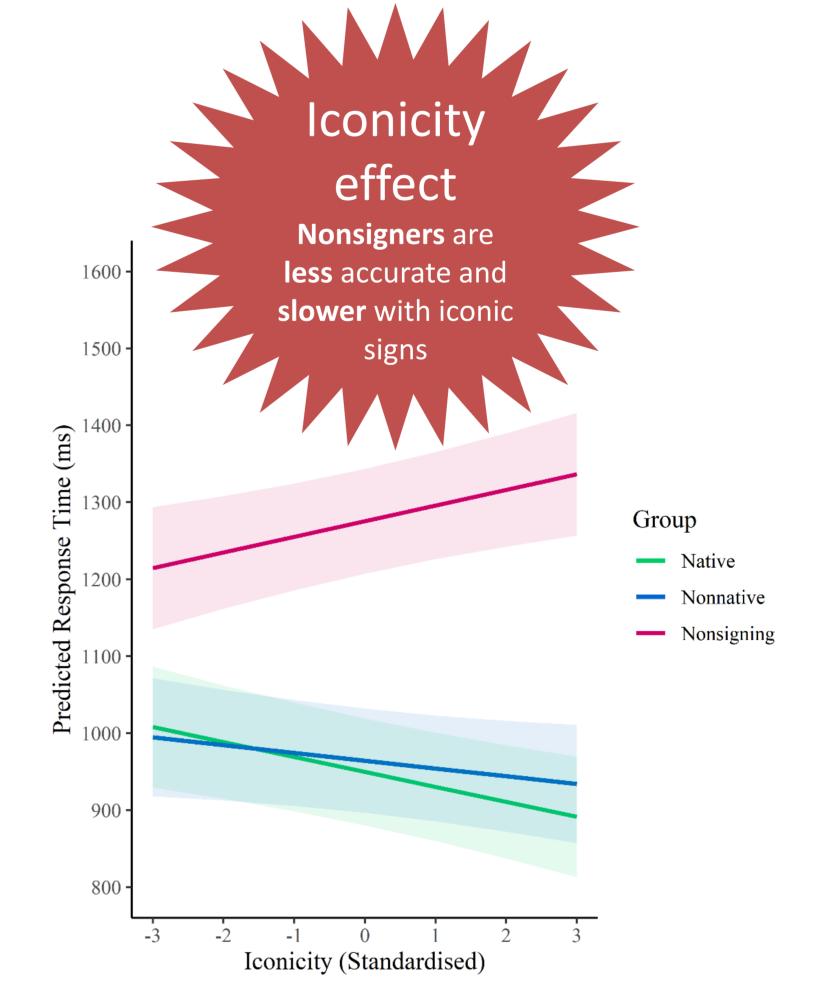
LEXICAL DECISION TASK

Participants:

- 21 Deaf native signers (learned LSE from birth from a family member)
- 21 Deaf nonnative signers (mean LSE AoA = 7.5 years; range 3-23)
- 21 hearing nonsigners (no knowledge of LSE)

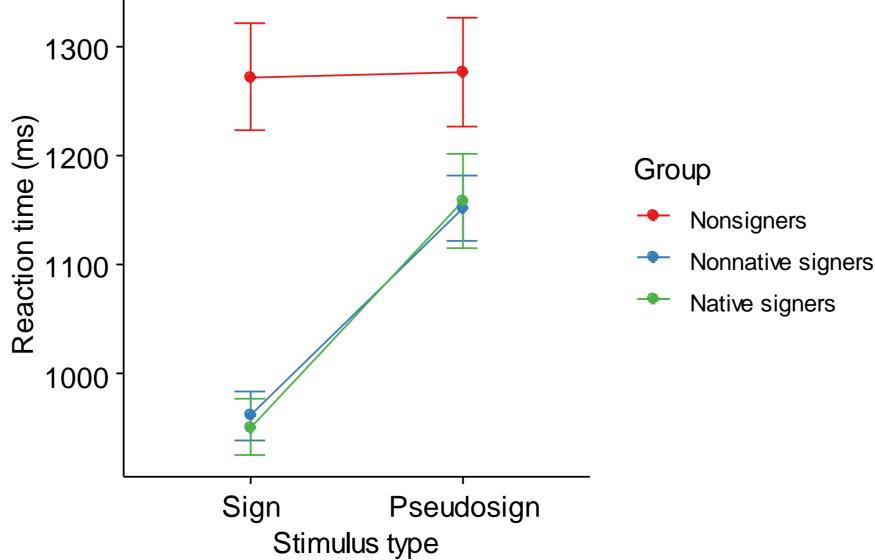


Lexicality
effect
Signers are more accurate and faster with real signs



Familiarity effect

Signers are more accurate and faster with familiar signs



RT for signs and pseudosigns by group

Iconicity
effect
Signers are more
accurate and faster
with iconic signs