



# Any questions?

- Practicalities?
- Any open issues from yesterday?

# Lecture 5: *audiovisual prosody*

Bosker, H. R., & Peeters, D. (2021). Beat gestures influence which speech sounds you hear. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, 288(1943), 1–9.  
doi:[10.1098/rspb.2020.2419](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2020.2419).

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# Listening with your eyes!

- We can ‘see’ speech from articulatory movements alone
  - Lip-reading / speech-reading
- We use visual articulatory signals to inform speech perception
  - Audiovisual enhancement of speech-in-noise
  - Classic McGurk effect



# Listening with your eyes!

- Classic McGurk effect





# Listening with your eyes!

- Classic McGurk effect





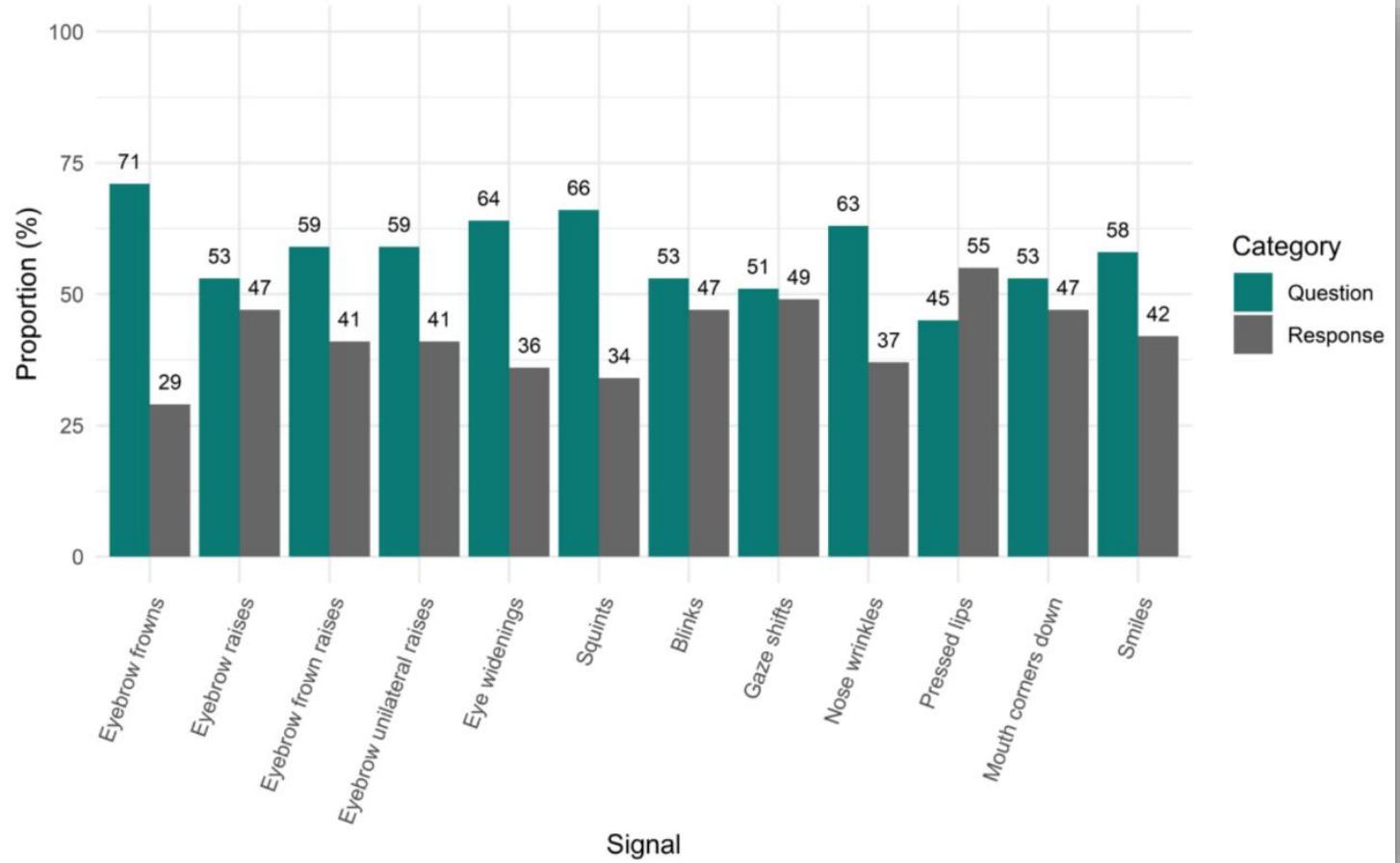
# Listening with your eyes!

- Classic McGurk effect



Can we *see* prosody?

McGurk & MacDonald, 1976





# Can we *lip-read* prosody?

- Speech rate estimates are equally accurate in V-only vs. A-only (Green, 1987)
- ??? intensity ???
- Phonological contrasts that primarily rely on  $f_0$  are much harder to lip-read:
  - Lexical tone
    - Video-only accuracy is at chance (Burnham et al., 2001)
    - ...but V-only training can help (Chen & Massaro, 2008)
  - Lexical stress
    - Video-only accuracy above chance in ...
    - ...and Dutch (less segmental regularity)

Do we use this info?



# Do we *use* visual articulatory cues to prosody in audiovisual speech perception?

- Speech rate
  - A video of a fast /pi/ + /bi-pi/ auditory continuum: +/p/ responses  
Green & Miller, 1985
  - A video of a fast /ti/ + /bi-pi/ auditory continuum: +/p/ responses  
Brancazio & Miller, 2005
  - Rate normalization by visual speech rate?

# Do we in aud

orosody

## CONTEXT SENTENCES

"This time I have the bone, the pipe,  
the fruit, the caterpillar, ..."

## TARGETS

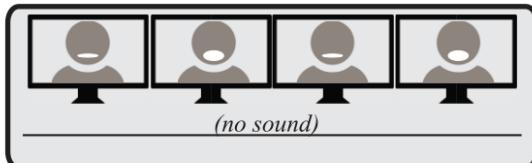
"... and the [?]"

EXP. 1

A-only



V-only



AV



EXP. 2



# Do we in aud



## CONTEXT SENTENCES

"This time I have the bone, the pipe,  
the fruit, the caterpillar, ..."

## TARGETS

"... and the [?]"

EXP. 1



A-only

V-only

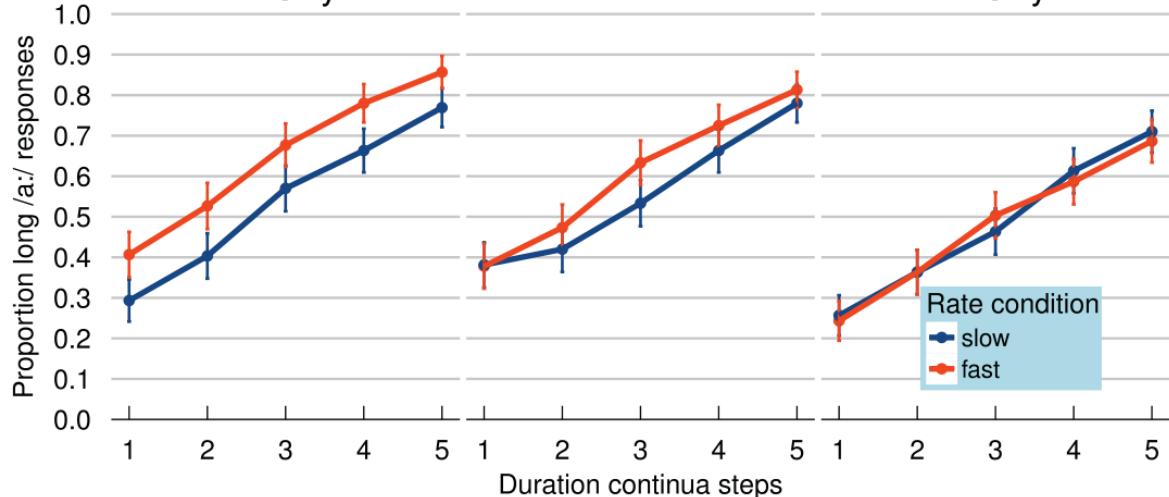
AV

### Experiment 1

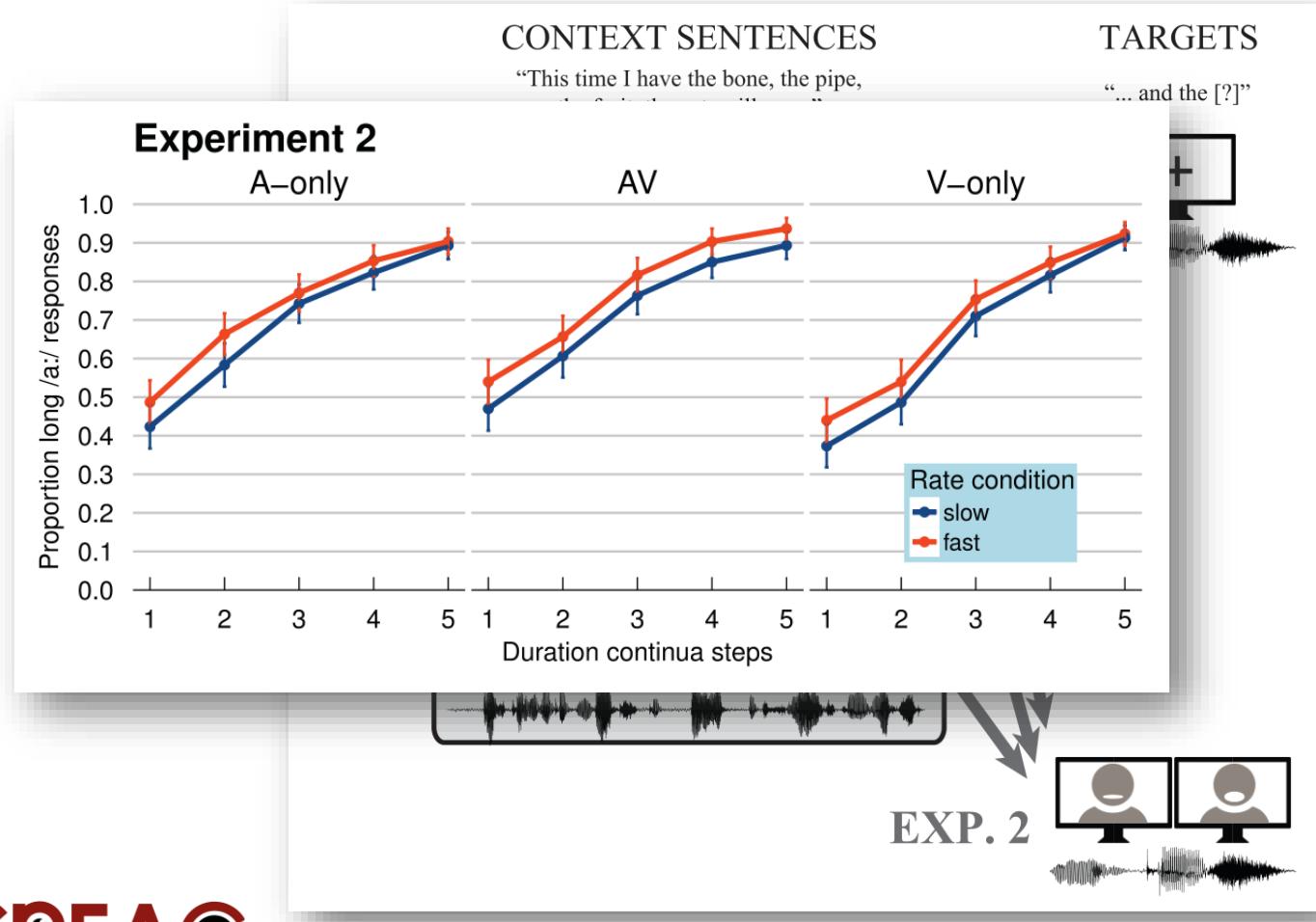
A-only

AV

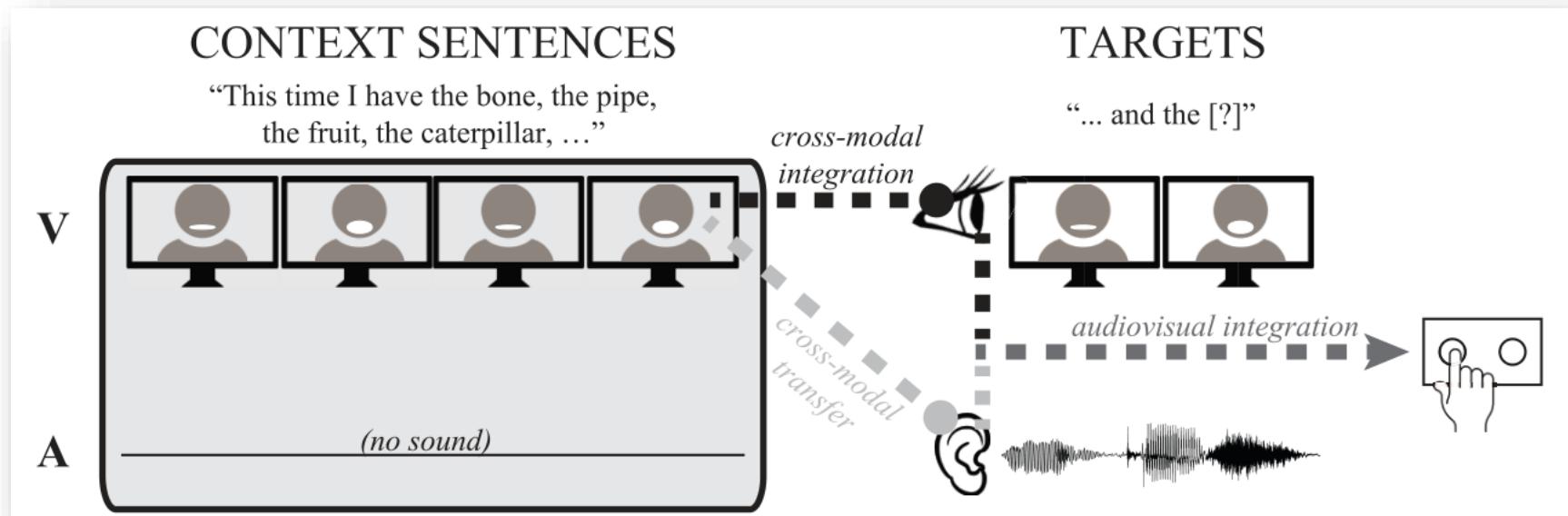
V-only

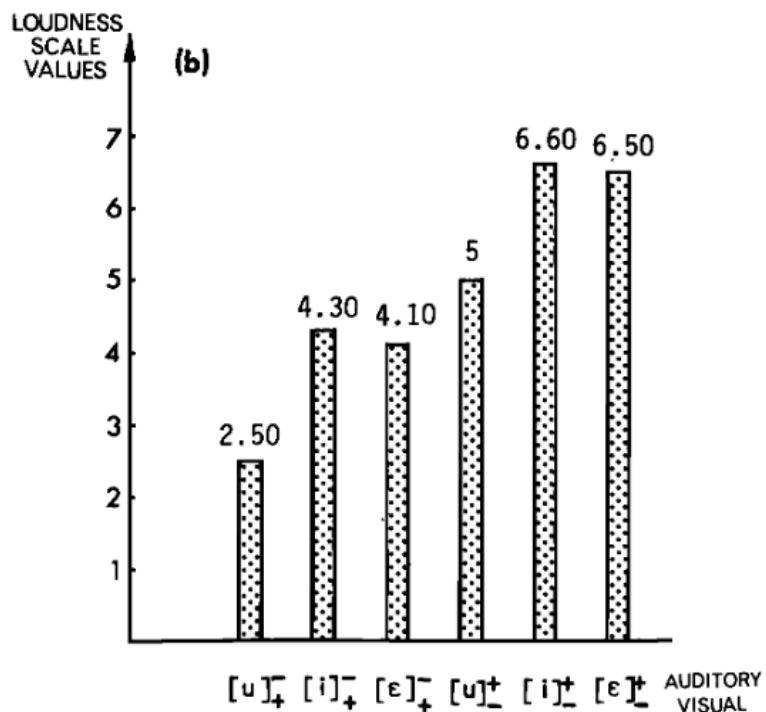
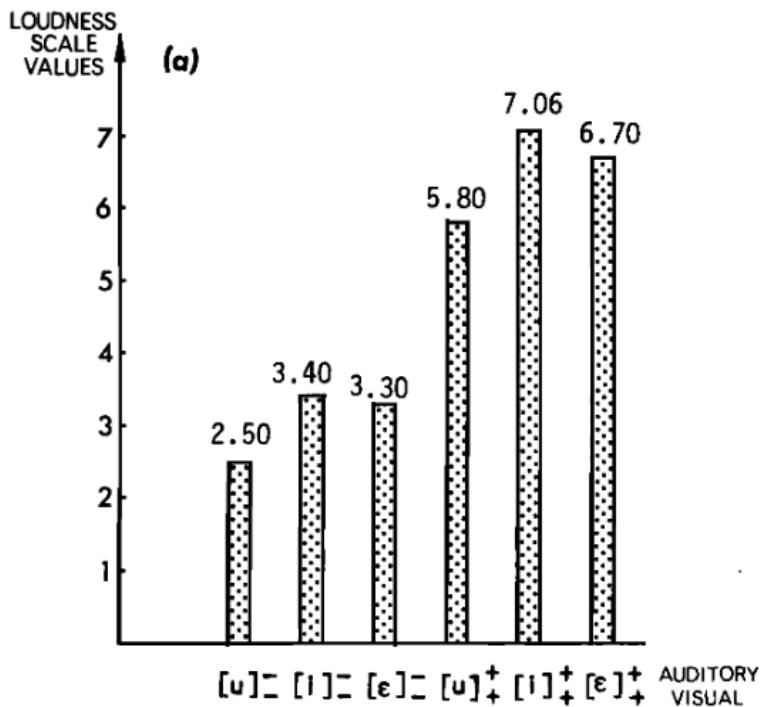


## Prosody



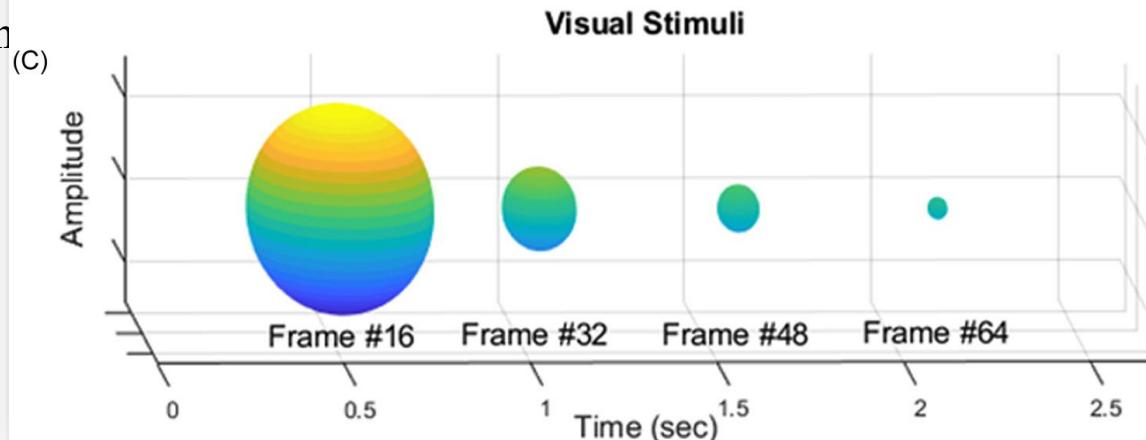
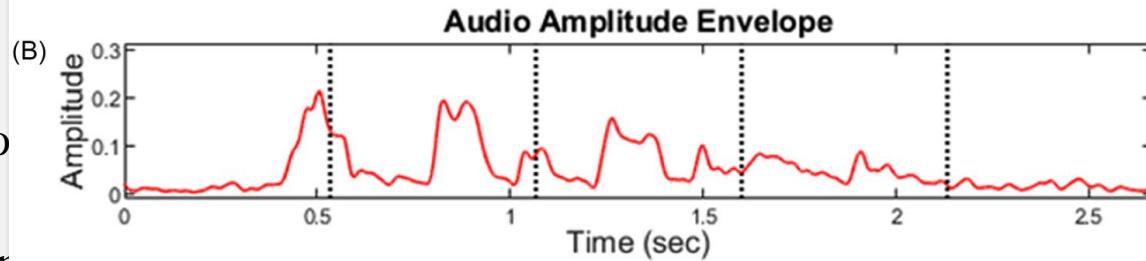
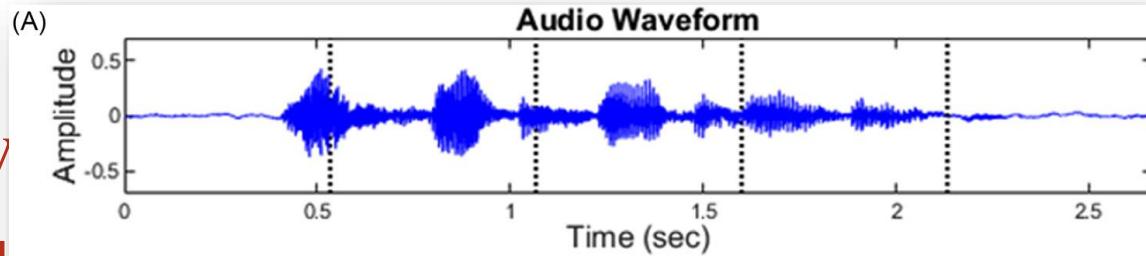
# Do we *use* visual articulatory cues to prosody in audiovisual speech perception?





# Do we *use* vision in audiovisual

- Intensity
  - Seeing voice
  - Seeing a range of speech





# Do we *use* visual articulatory cues to prosody in audiovisual speech perception?

- Intensity
  - Seeing vocal effort boosts perceived loudness  
Glave & Rietveld, 1979; Rosenblum & Fowler, 1991
  - Seeing a modulating circle in sync with the amplitude envelope (rhythm) of speech boosts its intelligibility... (...link to neural ‘speech tracking’?)  
Yuan et al., 2020
  - ...or does it?  
Strand et al., 2020

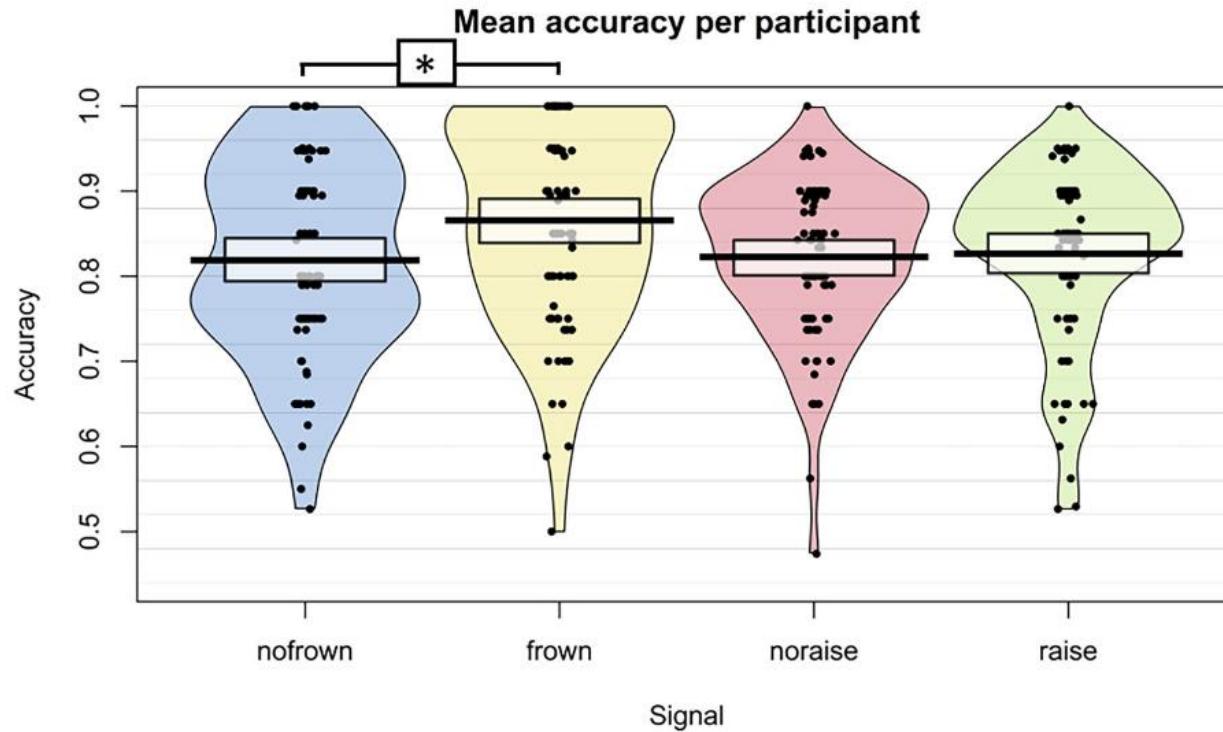


# Do we *use* visual articulatory cues to prosody in audiovisual speech perception?

- $f_0$ 
  - Sentence accent
    - Which word in this sentence is the most prominent?
    - Slow down in RTs when V is incongruent with A

Swerts & Krahmer, 2008

prosody



verts & Krahmer, 2008

Nota et al., 2022



# Do we *use* visual articulatory cues to prosody in audiovisual speech perception?

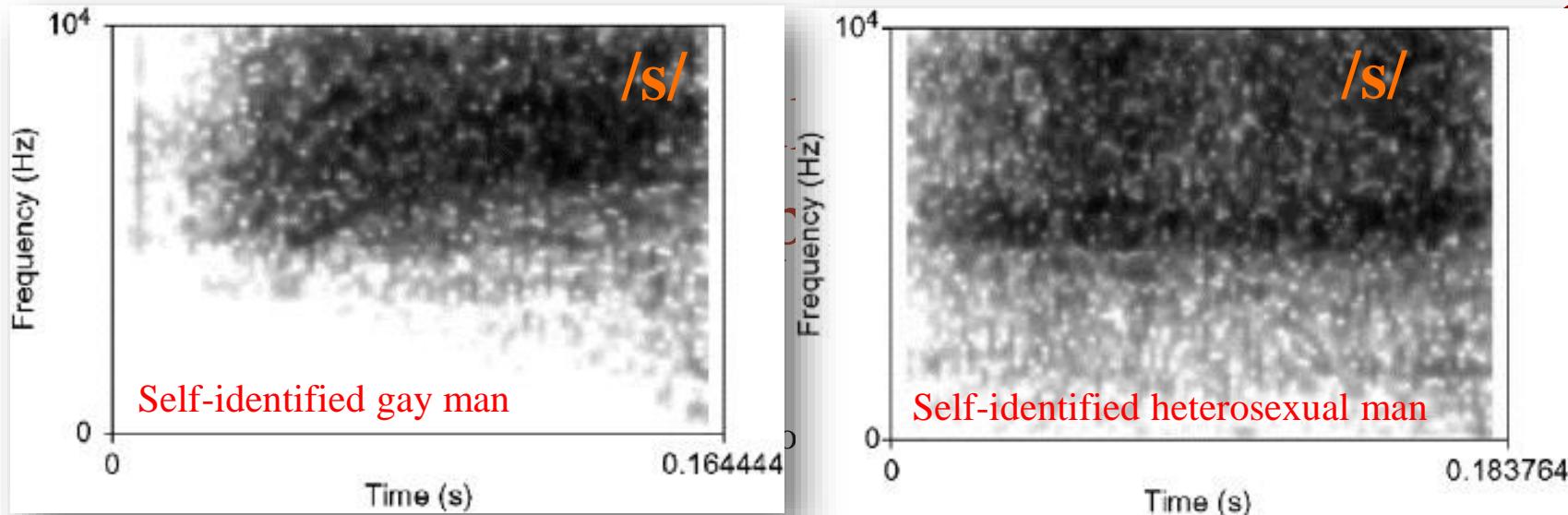
- $f_0$

Other visual cues to  $f_0$ ?

more spectral energy in female talkers

Jongman et al., 2000

- Same fricative on /ʃ-s/ continuum more /ʃ/-like if female speech  
Mann & Repp, 1980
- Just **seeing** a female face also leads to more /ʃ/-responses  
Strand et al., 1996
- Even **imagining** listening to a female talker induces normalization  
~ prior knowledge?  
Johnson et al., 1999



- Common societal impression: higher-frequency spectral energy in gay talkers + lower-frequency spectral energy in lesbian talkers

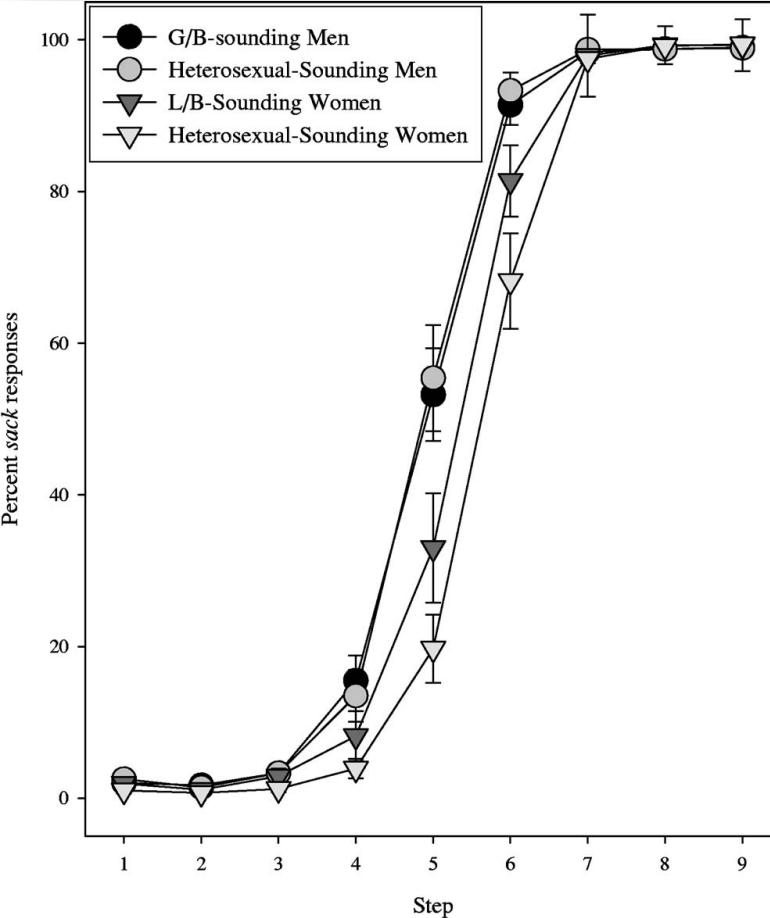
Munson et al., 2006, *JPhon*

- Lesbian/bisexual-sounding talkers elicit more /s/-responses

Munson et al., 2006, *JASA*

# Do we *use* visual in audiovisual

- $f_0$ 
  - Spectral noisiness
  - Visually guided
  - Commonalities + lower  $f_0$
  - Lesbian



to prosody

users

Winn et al., 2013

oral energy in gay talkers

Munson et al., 2006, *JPhon*

responses

Munson et al., 2006, *JASA*



# Do we *use* visual articulatory cues to prosody in audiovisual speech perception?

- $f_0$ 
  - Lexical tone
    - AV accuracy = A accuracy in Mandarin  
Burnham et al., 2001
    - A ye1 + V ye2 = A ye1 (incongruent AV stimuli)  
Hannah et al., 2017
    - AV advantage only surfaces when is degraded (noise/vocoded speech)  
Mixdorff et al., 2005; Burnham et al., 2015
    - Perhaps no surprise because hardly any visual cues to lexical tone (V-only)  
Burnham et al., 2001



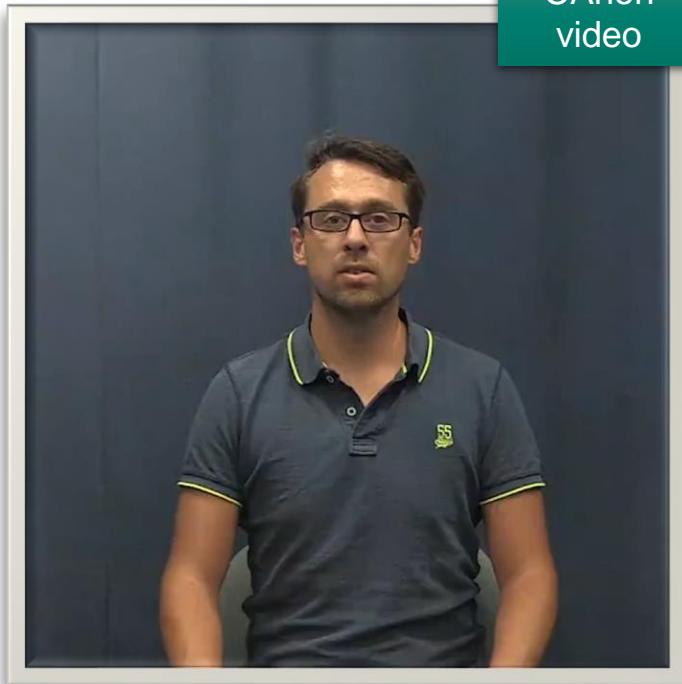
# Do we *use* visual articulatory cues to prosody in audiovisual speech perception?

- $f_0$ 
  - Lexical stress
    - Visual cues to stress are detectable in production...  
Scarborough et al., 2009
    - ...and people can ‘lip-read’ stress from V-only videos...  
Scarborough et al., 2009; Jesse & McQueen, 2014
    - ...so surely people should use these cues in AV speech perception, right?

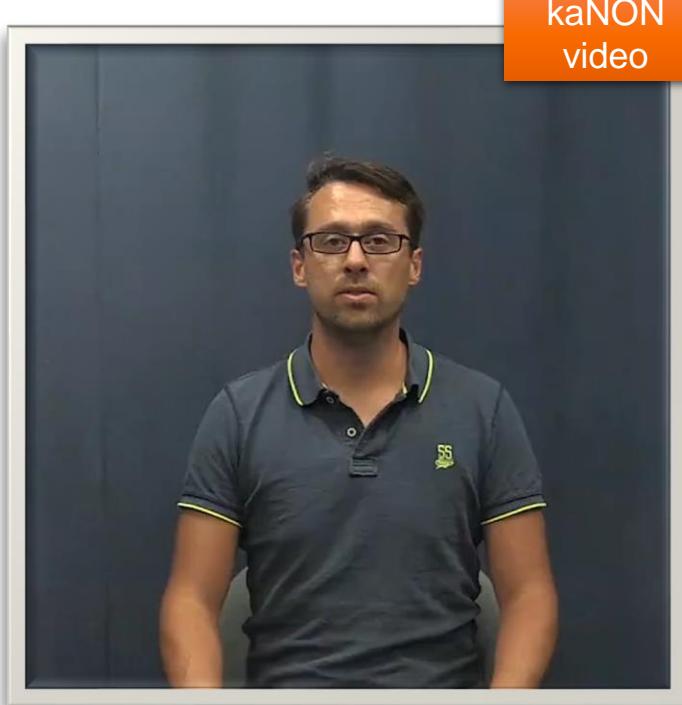


# Prosody on the face

# Prosody on the face

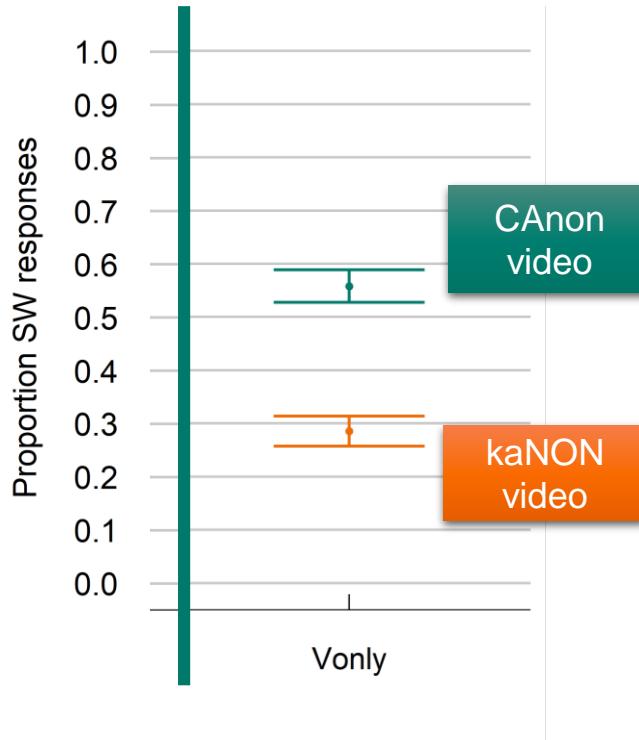


CAnon  
video

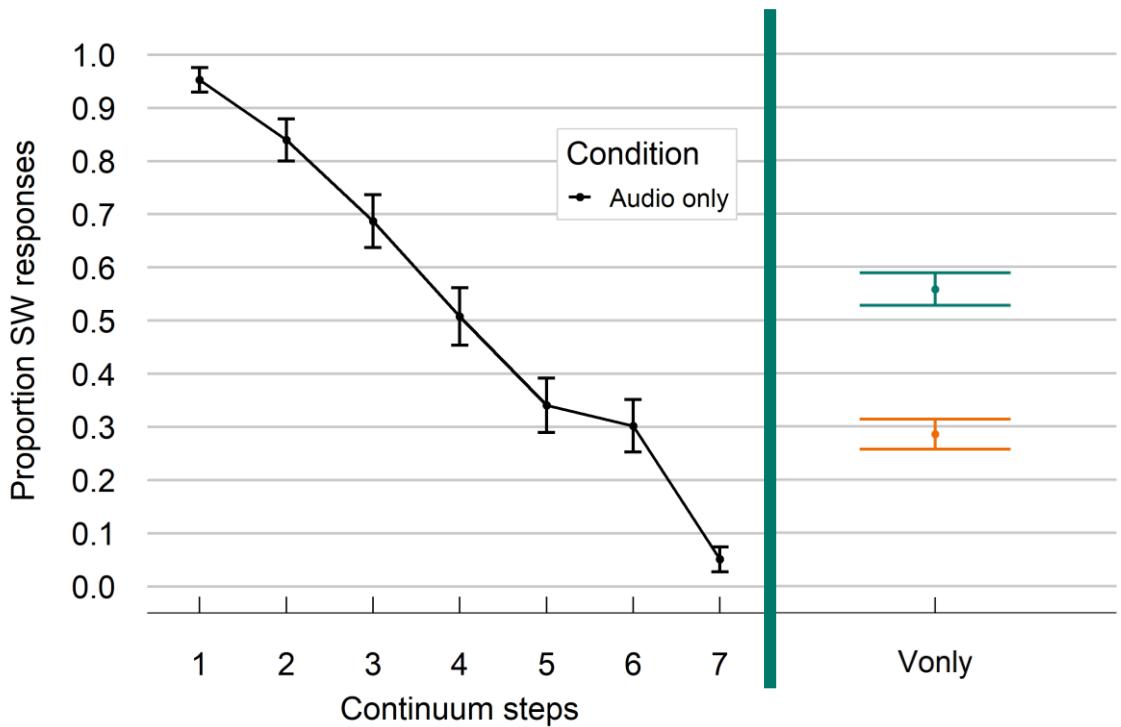


kaNON  
video

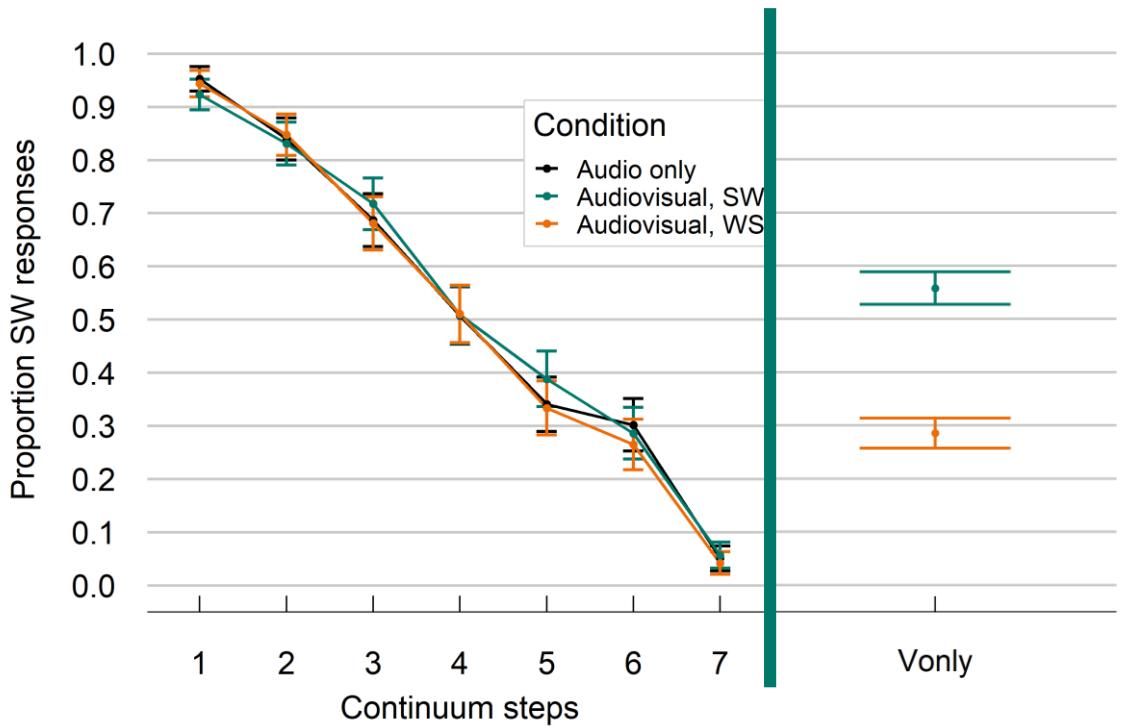
# Prosody on the face



# Prosody on the face



# Prosody on the face





# Prosody on the face

Proportion SW responses



Audio step



Mok, Bujok, & Bosker, *in prep.*



# Do we *use* visual articulatory cues to prosody in audiovisual speech perception?

- $f_0$ 
  - Lexical stress
    - Visual articulatory cues on the face hardly contribute to AV speech perception  
Bujok et al., 2024, *L&S*
    - This is in stark contrast to how people use visual segmental cues (McGurk)
    - Low reliability of visual prosody cues leads people to down-weight these cues in quiet...
    - ...but up-weigh their contribution when listening is hard.

Are there any other visual cues to prosody?

# Prosody in the hands

- We move to the rhythm of our speech



“... and when and how  
and on – what – ba sis...”

# Prosody in the hands

- We move to the rhythm of our speech
- Relatively simple up-and-down hand movements make up over 90% of our everyday gestures

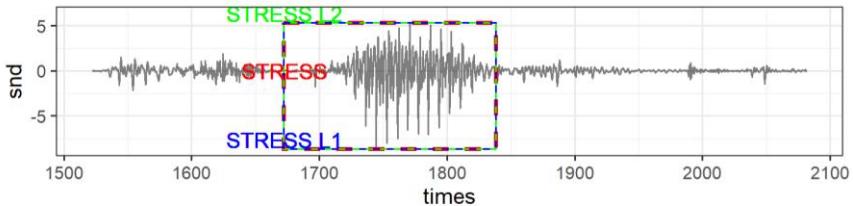
Shattuck-Hufnagel & Ren, 2018

- Closely coupled to speech prosody, typically falling on stressed syllables
- Gesture's apex time-locked to pitch peak in stressed syllable.

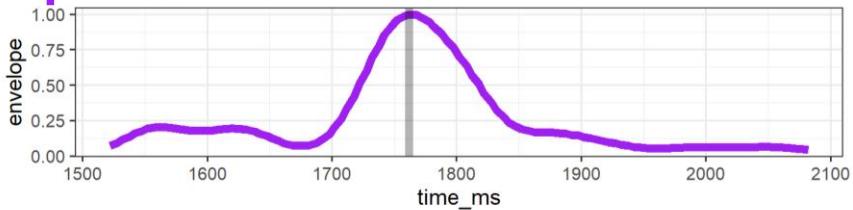


# Prosody in the hands

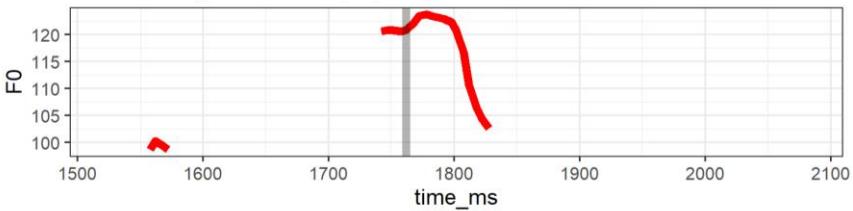
Spanish: “his.TÓ.ri.co”



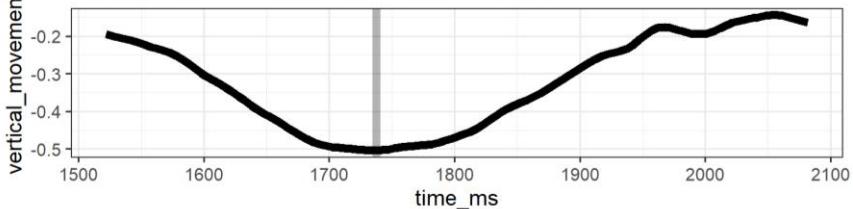
amplitude



f0



hand trajectory





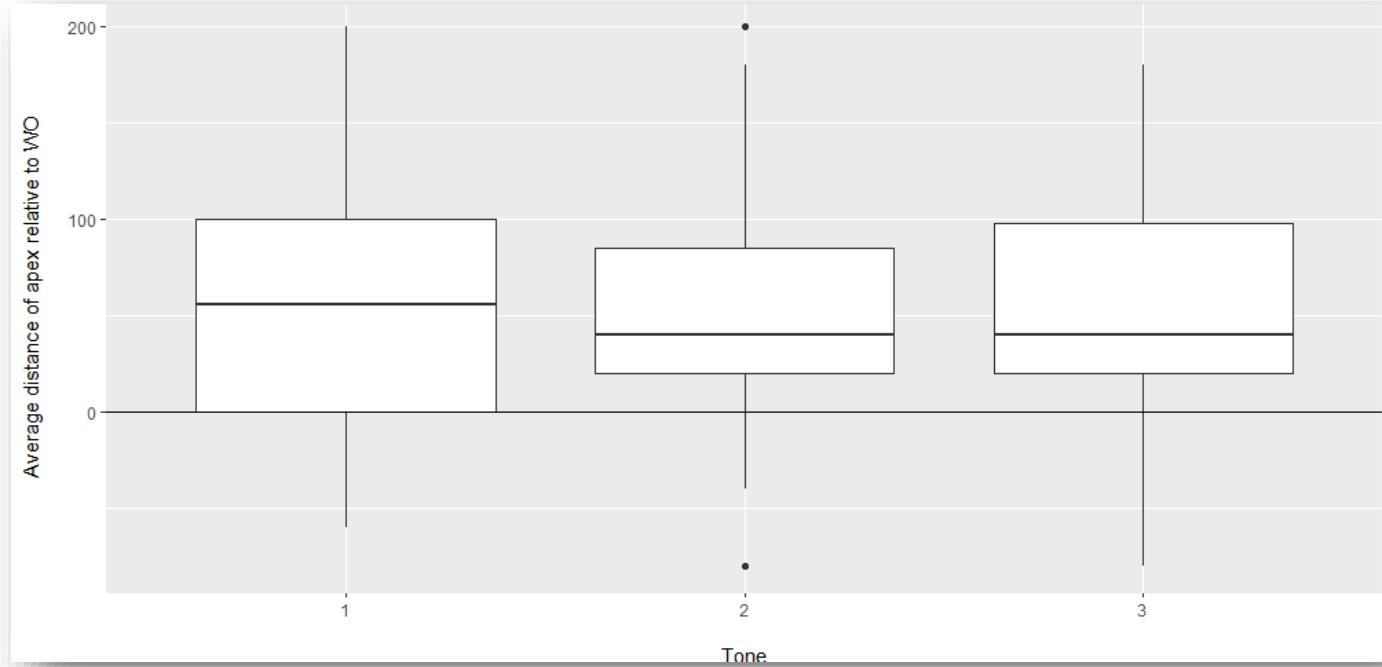
# Prosody in the hands

- Why do we beat on the stressed syllable?
  1. Universal biomechanics:  
moving your limbs raises your voice (amplitude,  $f_0$ )
  2. Language-specific multimodal phonology:  
no evidence for coupling to  $f_0$  contour in tone languages

Pouw et al., 2020

Rohrer et al., 2024

# Prosody in the hands



Pouw et al., 2020

Rohrer et al., 2024



# Prosody in the hands

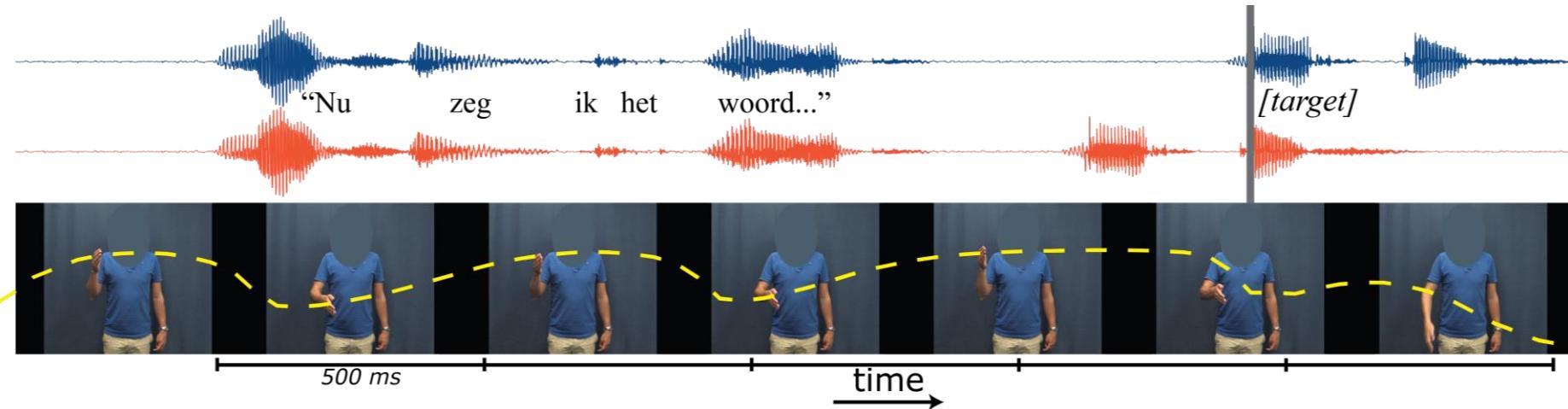
- If talkers tend to gesture on stressed syllables...
- ...can listeners use this visual temporal cue to perceive lexical stress?

# Prosody in the hands

*Nu zeg ik het woord... [PLAtO/plaTEAU]*

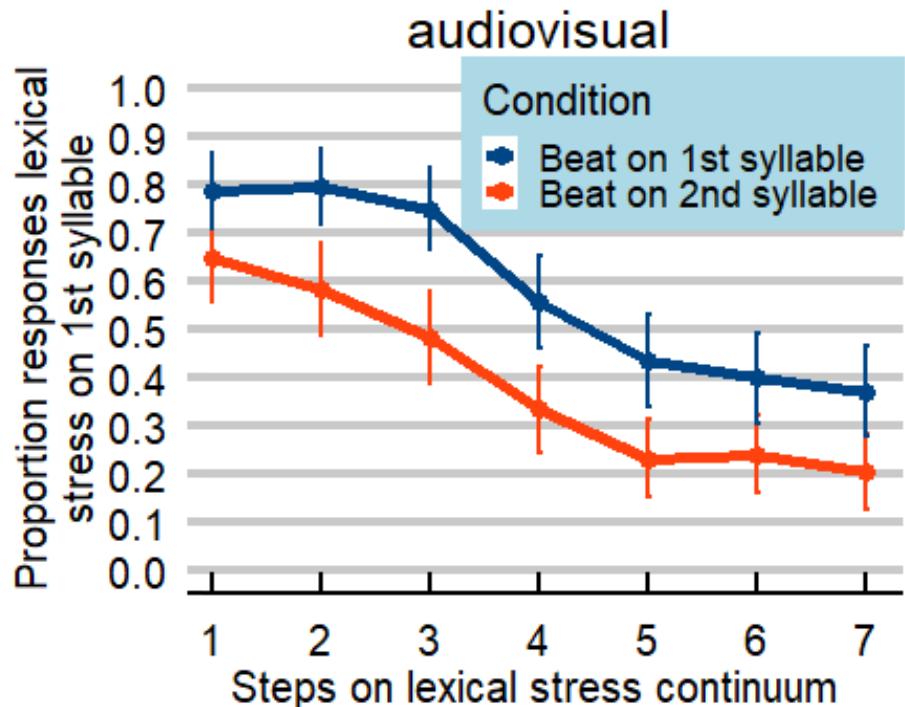


# Prosody in the hands



# Prosody in the hands

- ‘manual McGurk effect’





# Prosody in the hands

*nonwords*

*real words*

*shadowing*

*vowel length*

Condition

- Beat on 1st syllable
- Beat on 2nd syllable

A beat gesture on the first syllable of /b?x.pif/ will bias towards: short /bax.pif/ or long /ba:x.pif/

# Prosody in the hands

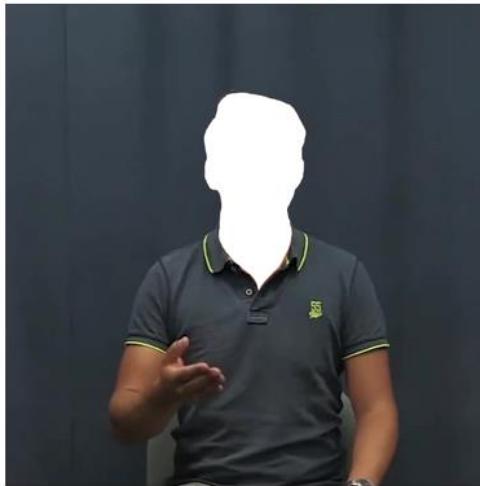
*head from no-gesture  
condition*

+

*gesturing body*

=

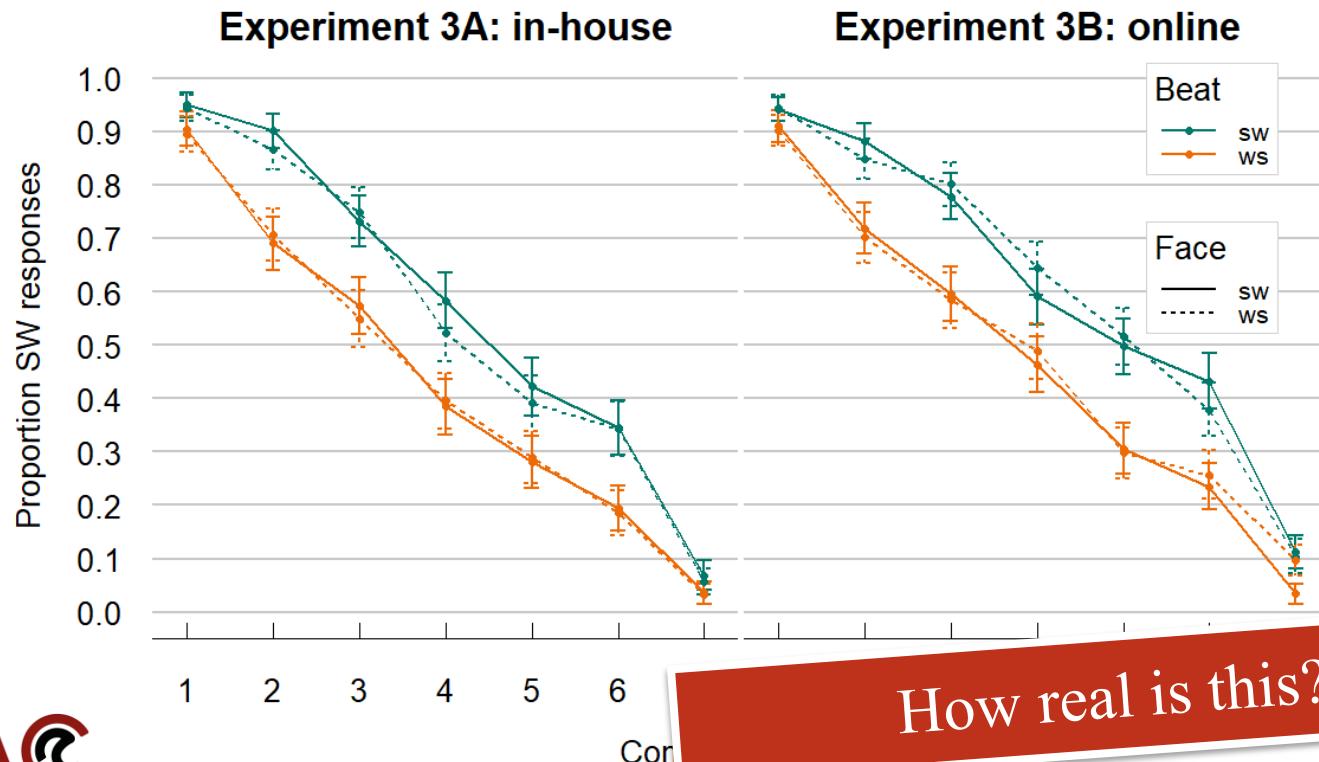
*new fully-crossed  
stimuli*



# Prosody in the hands

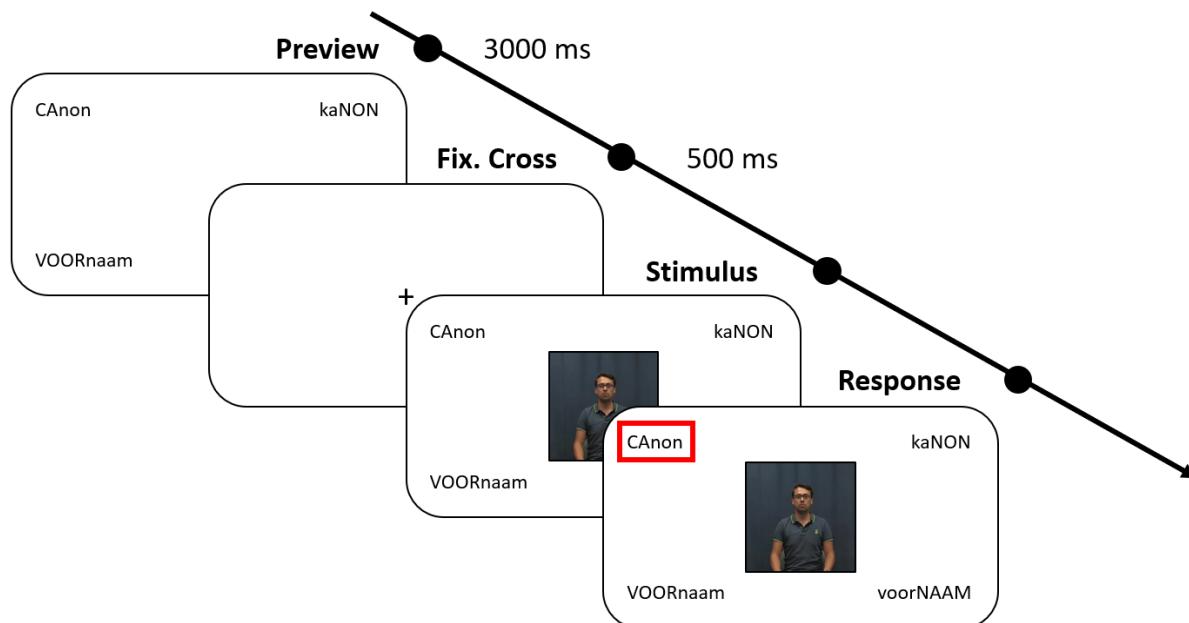


# Prosody in the hands



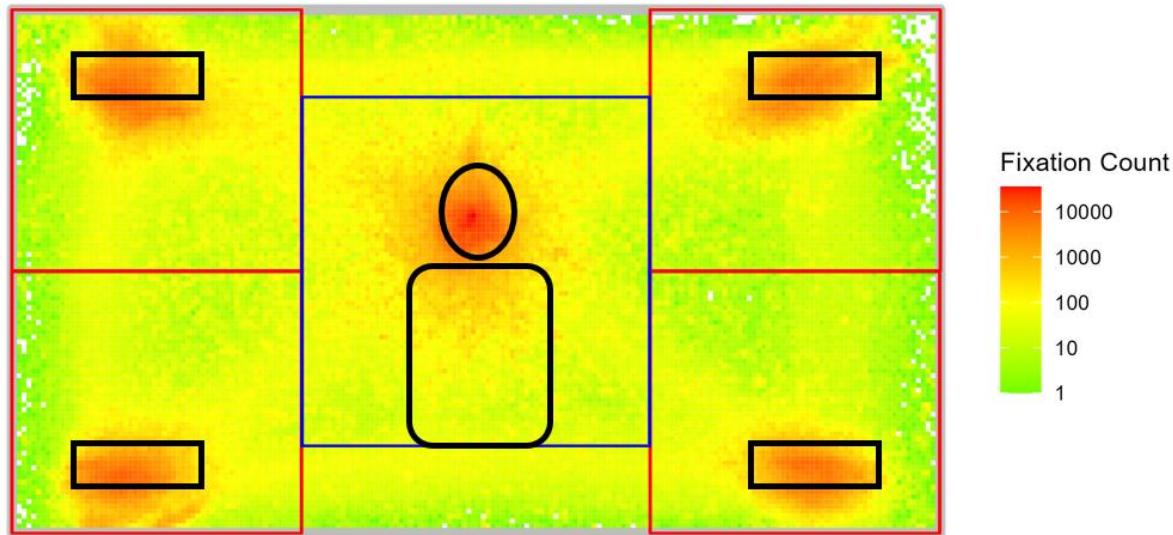
# Prosody in the hands: immediate impact

- Eye-tracking: visual world paradigm



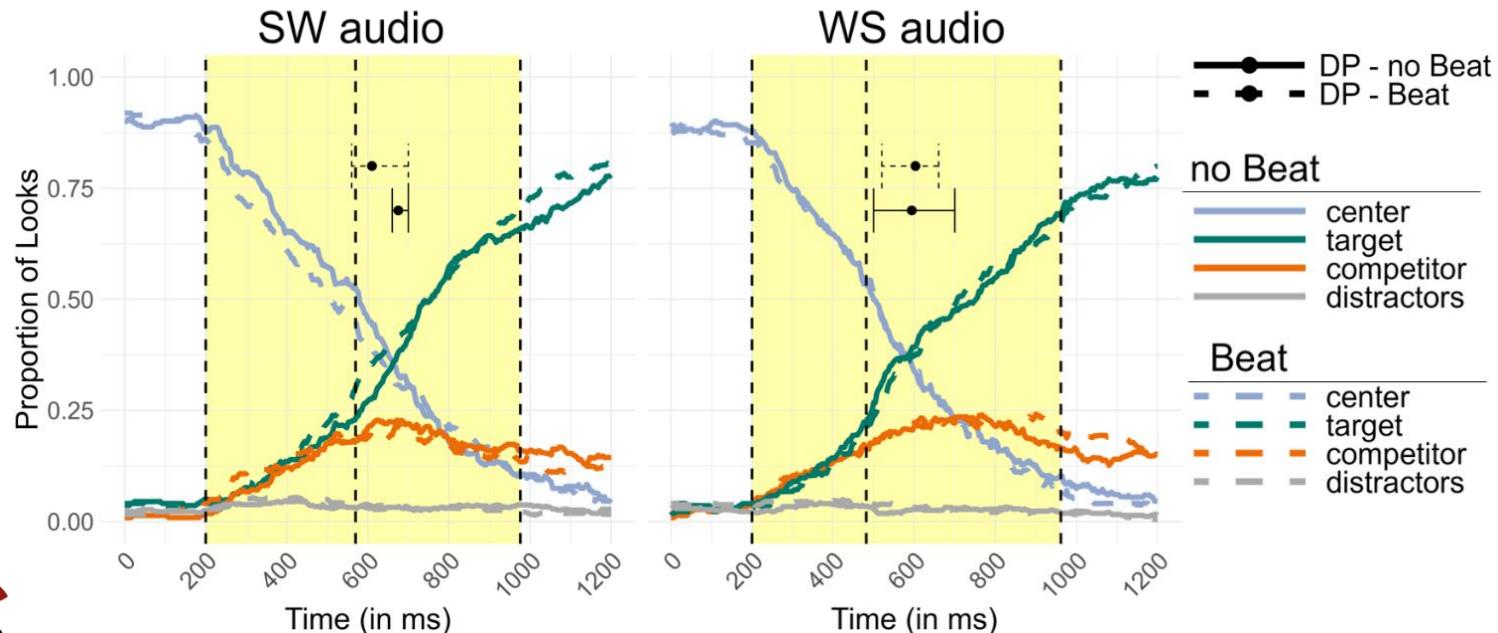
# Prosody in the hands: immediate impact

- Hardly any fixations on the gesture



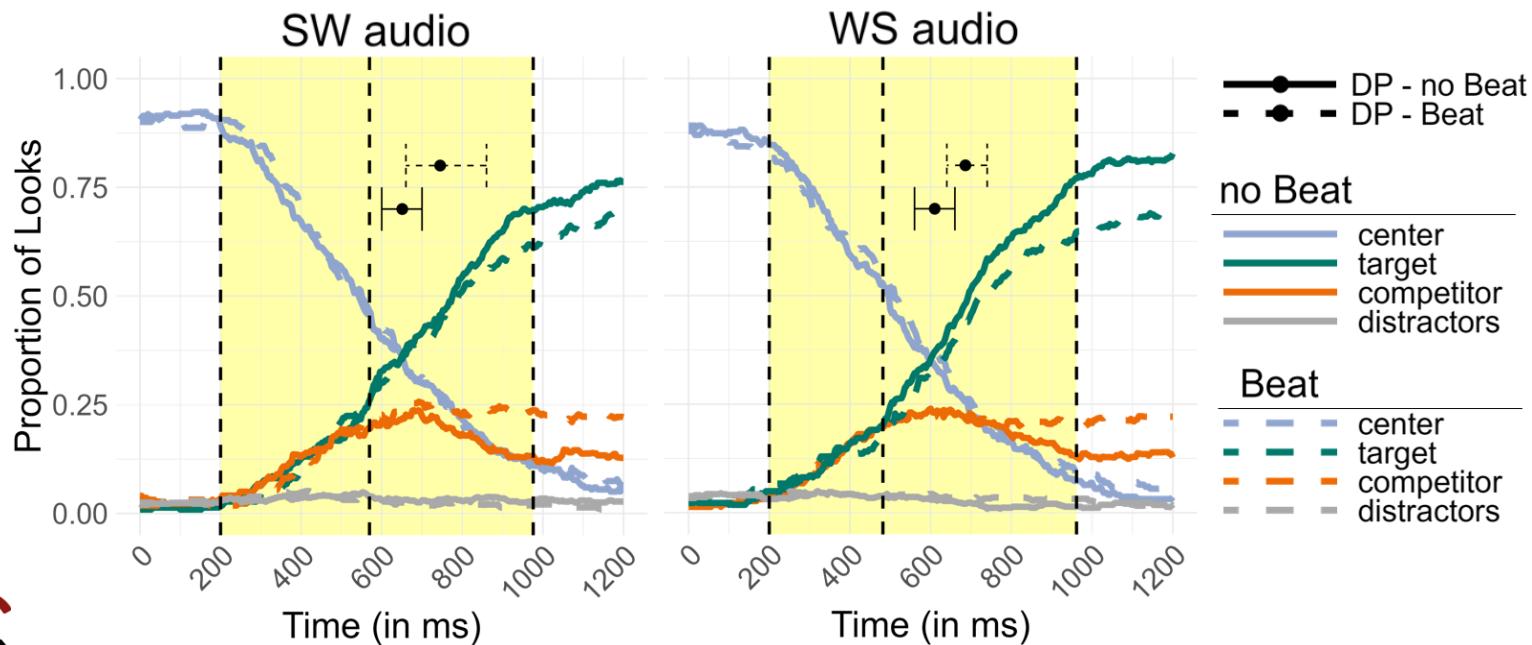
# Prosody in the hands: immediate impact

- When audio clear, no (reliable) beneficial effect of stress-congruent beat.



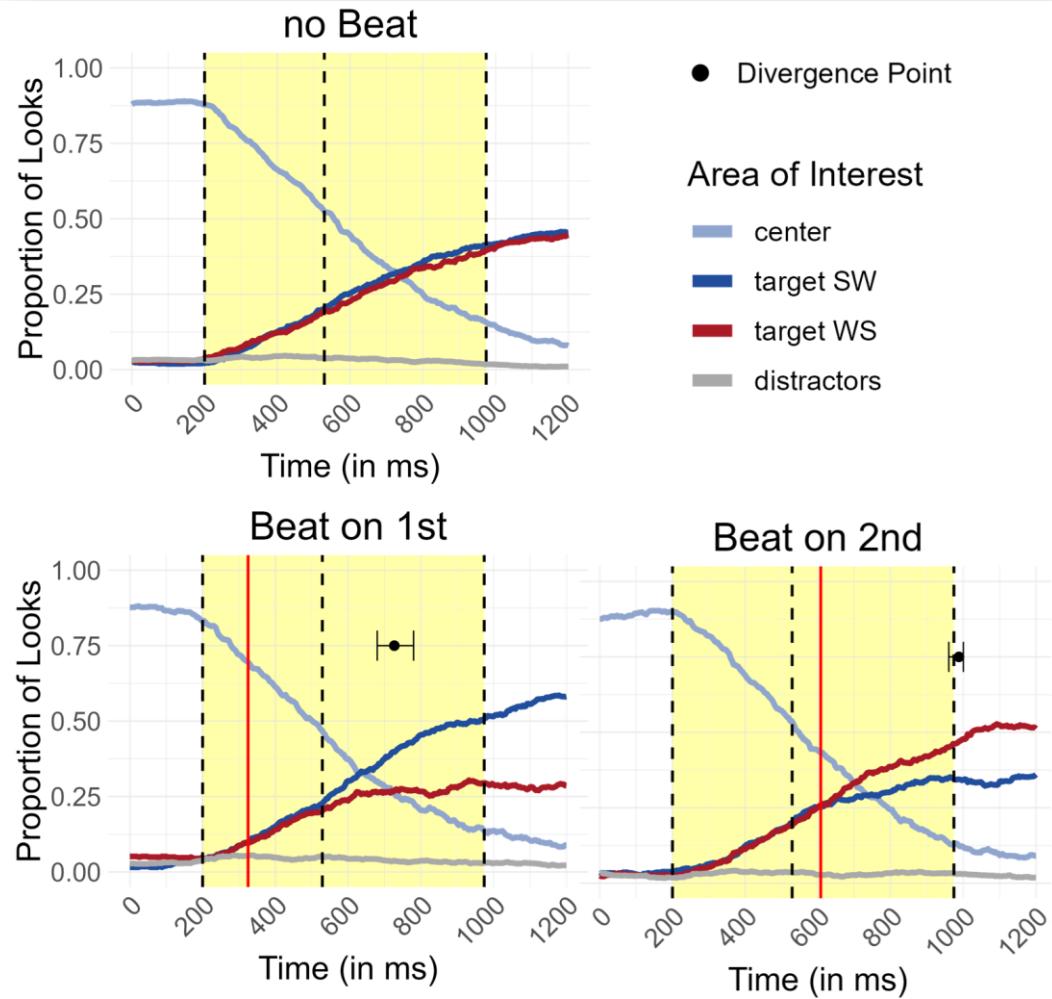
# Prosody in the hands: immediate impact

- When audio clear, reliable interfering effect of stress-**incongruent** beat.



# Prosody in the har...

- When audio ambiguous, beat-on-1 biases to SW, beat-on-2 biases to WS.
- Divergence point lies before word offset.
- Manual McGurk effect is an early perceptual bias, not only a decision-making effect.

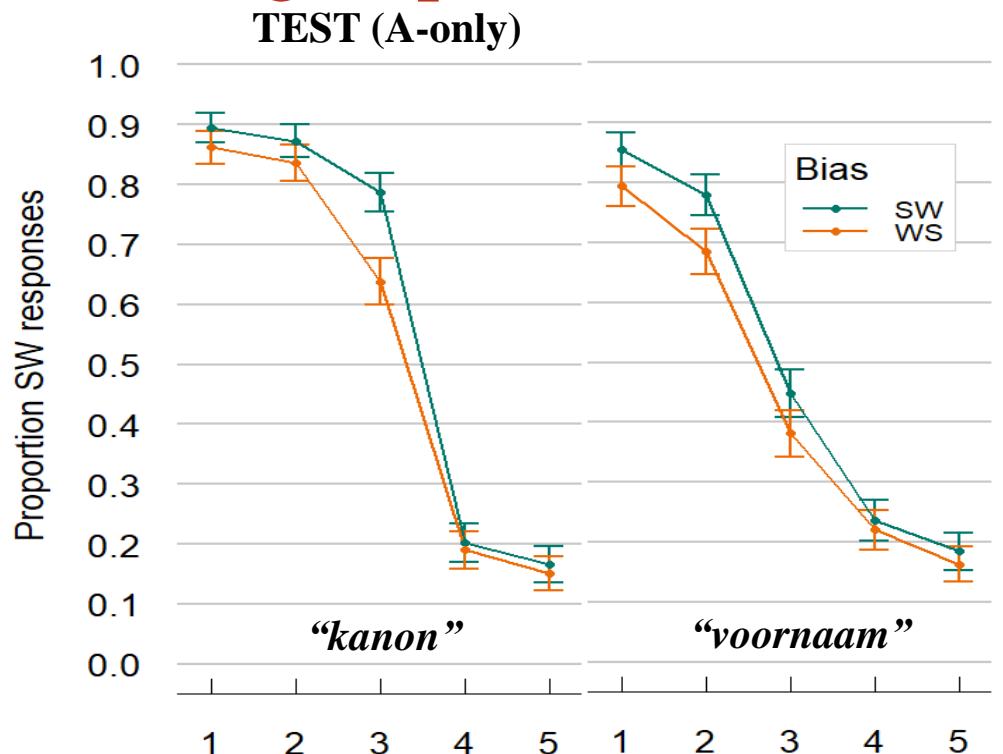


# Prosody in the hands: lasting impact

- Audiovisual recalibration of lexical stress

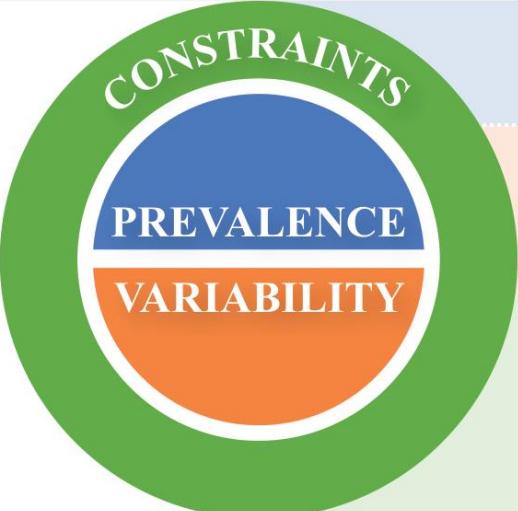
## EXPOSURE (AV)

- Group 1: /ka.nɔn/?  
+ beat on syllable 1
- Group 2: /ka.nɔn/?  
+ beat on syllable 2

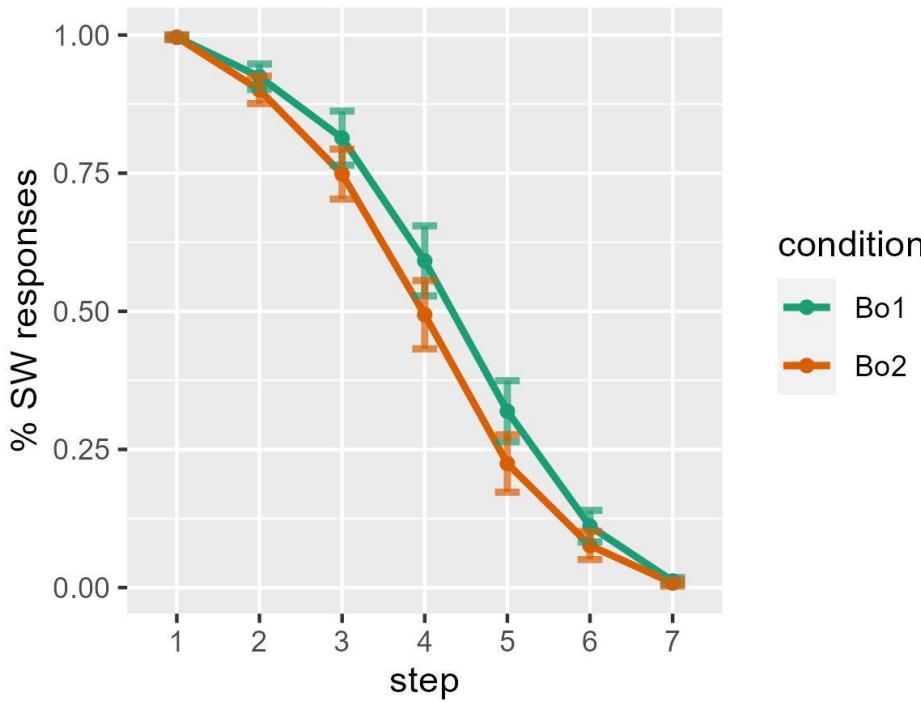




# ERC StG HearingHands

	<b>WP1 (PD)</b> Gesture-speech synchrony in production & perception in free-stress, fixed stress, and tonal languages
	<b>WP2 (PD)</b> Neurobiology of gesture-speech synchrony integration and individual differences in the neurotypical and autistic population
	<b>WP3 (PHD)</b> Communicative, situational, and cognitive constraints on the effects of gesture-speech synchrony on spoken word recognition in eye-tracking and VR

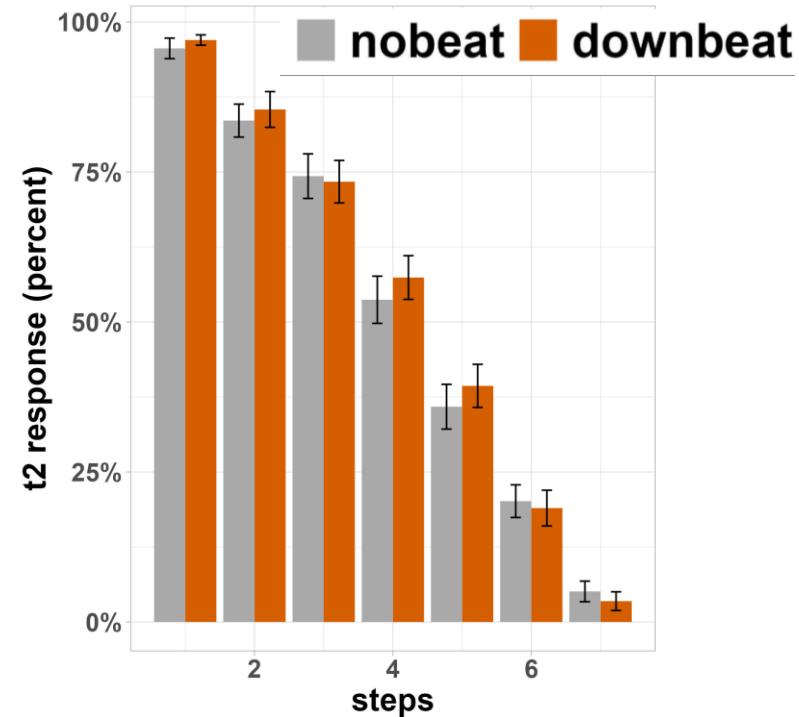
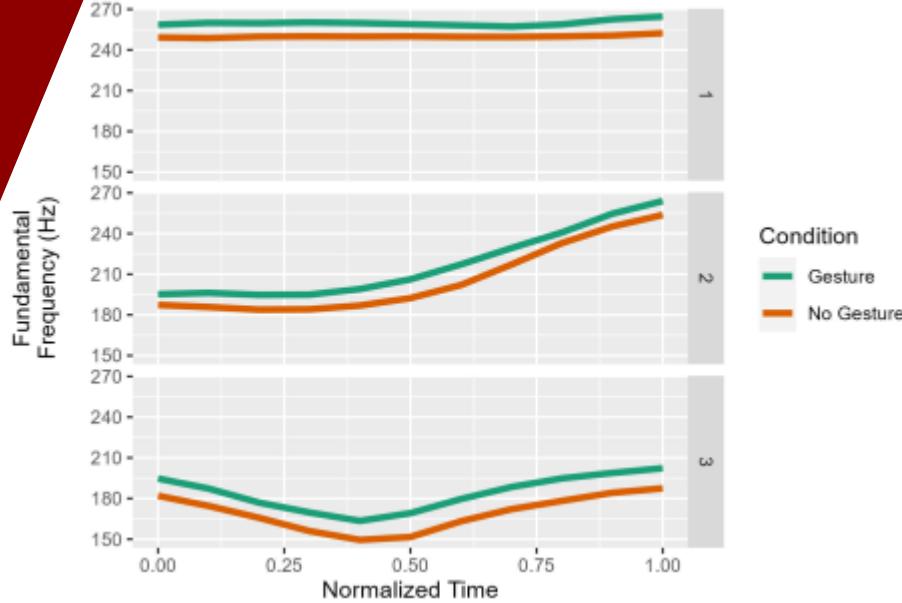
# **ONGOING: “Efecto McGurk manual”**



## *canto*

*cantó*

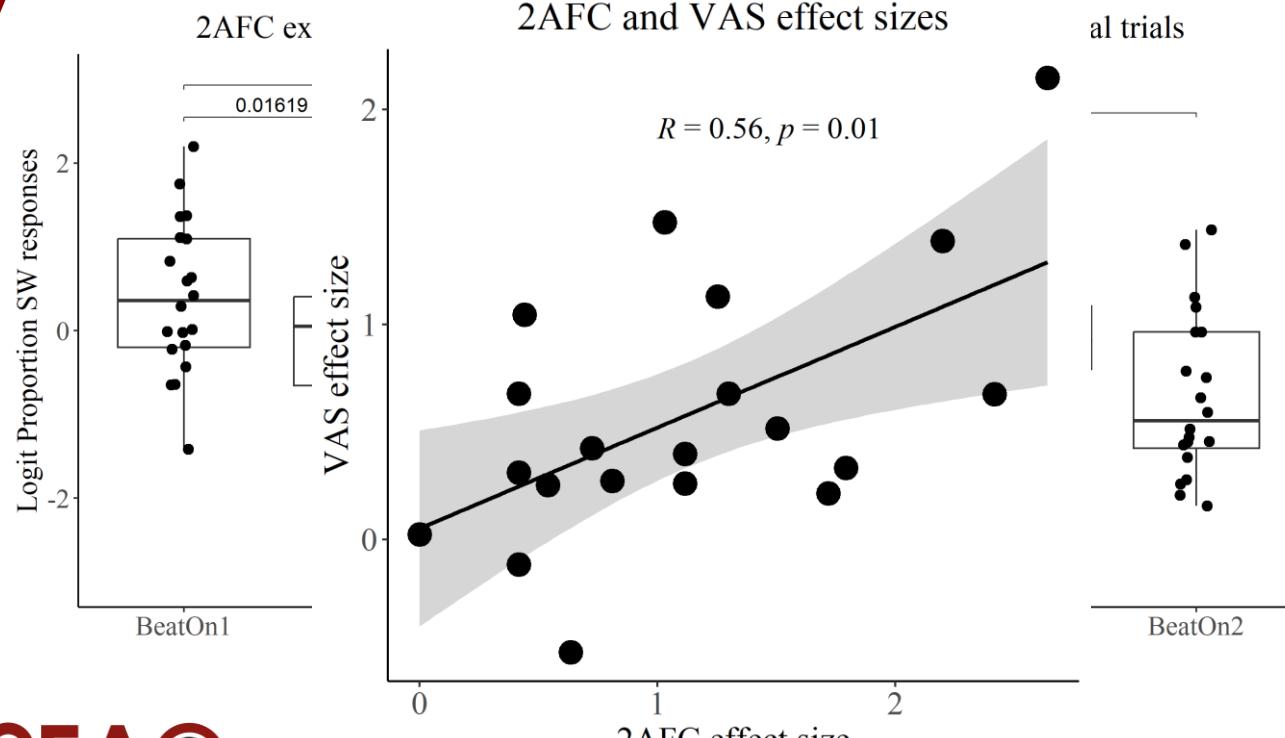
# ONGOING: Gesture-speech perception in Mandarin



Hong, Rohrer, & Bosker, *in prep.*

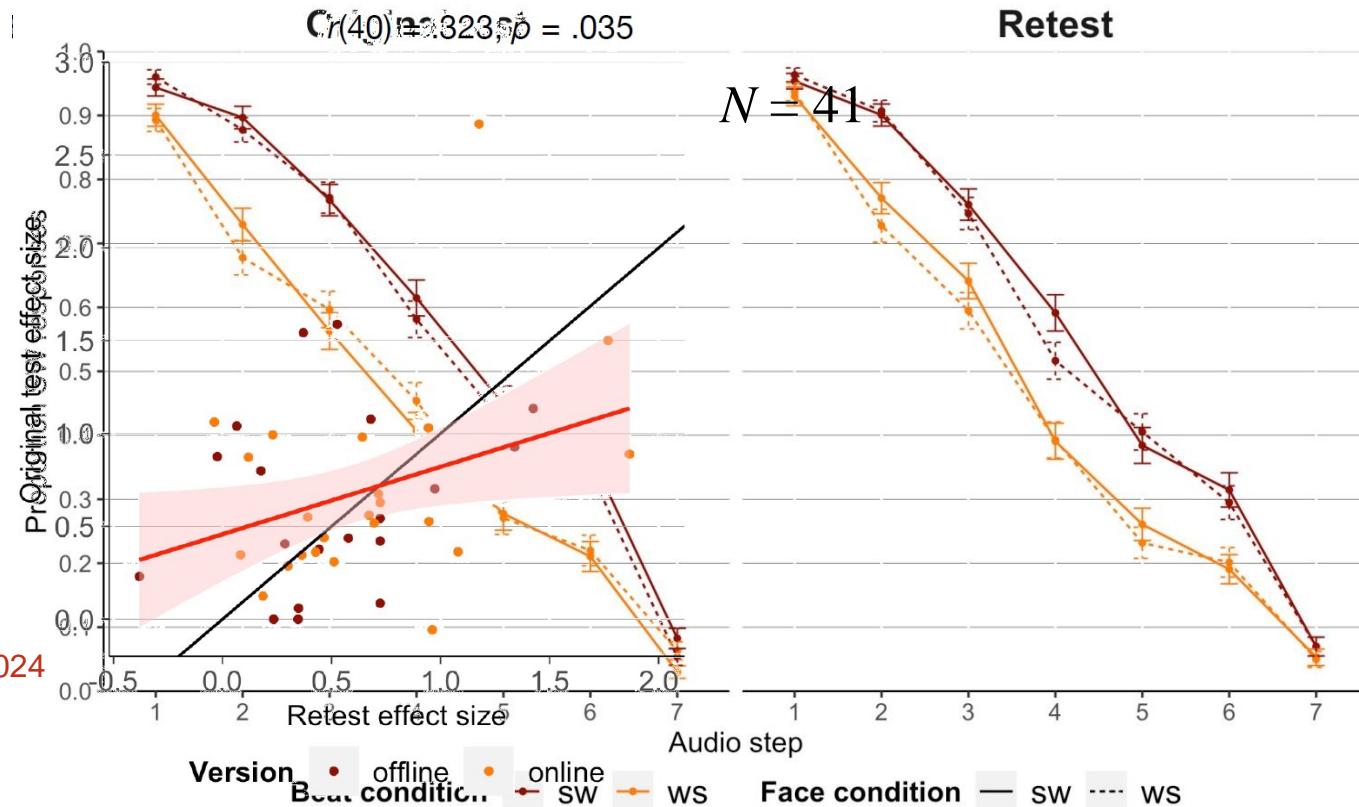
# ONGOING:

## Minitest for inclusion in test batteries



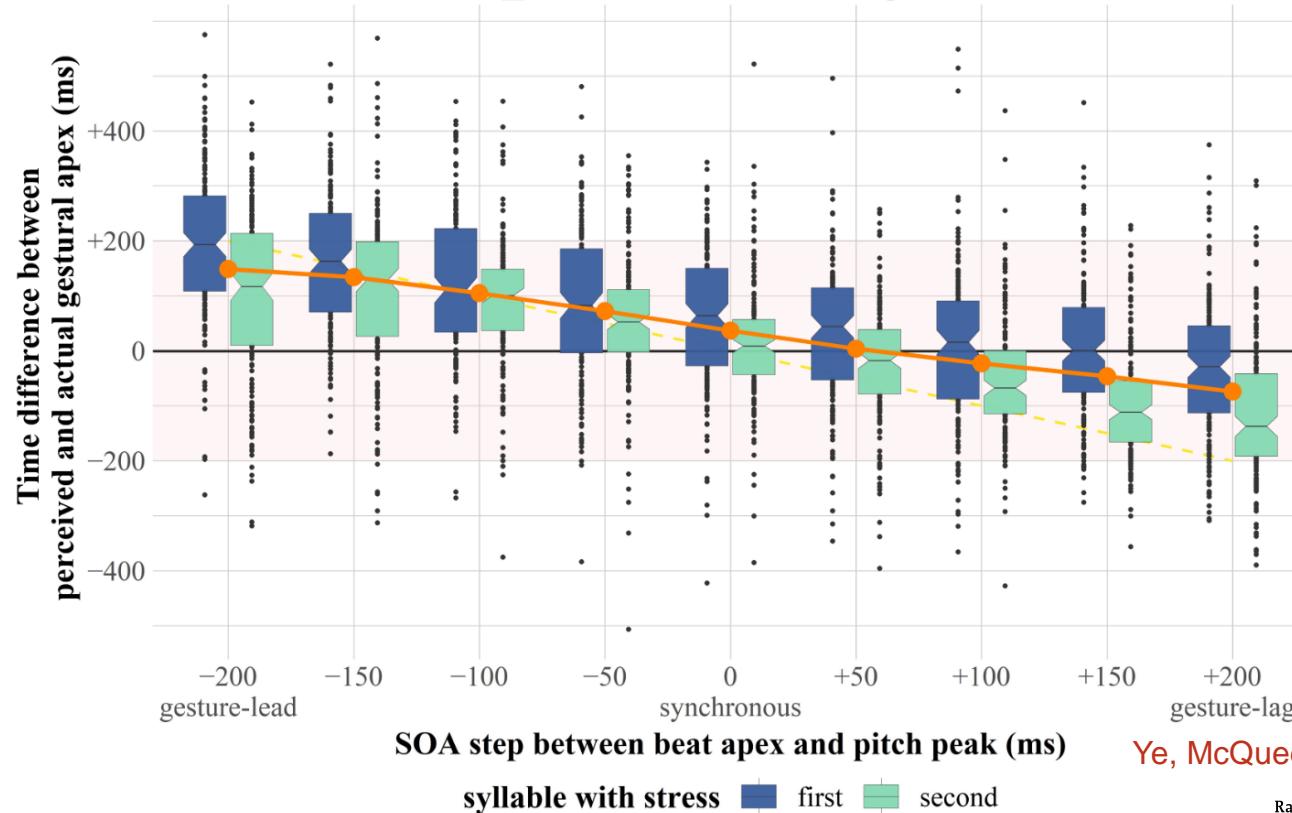
# ONGOING:

# Test-retest reliability after >1.5 years

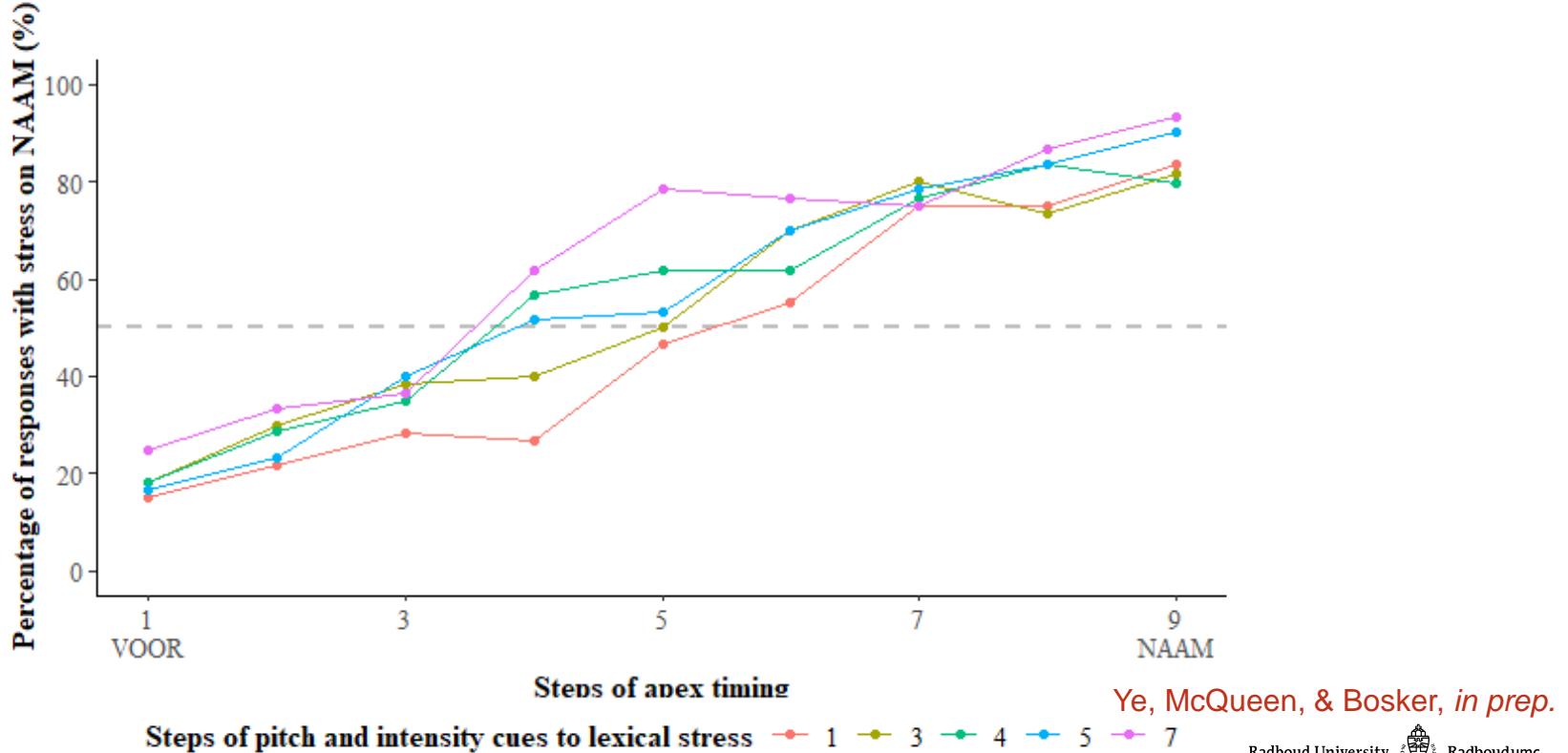


Cos, Bujok, & Bosker, 2024

# stress attracts perceived gestural timing



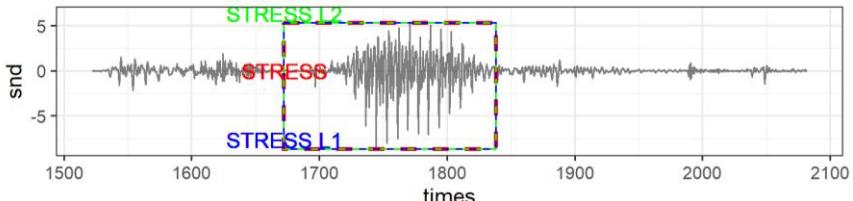
# stress attracts perceived gestural timing



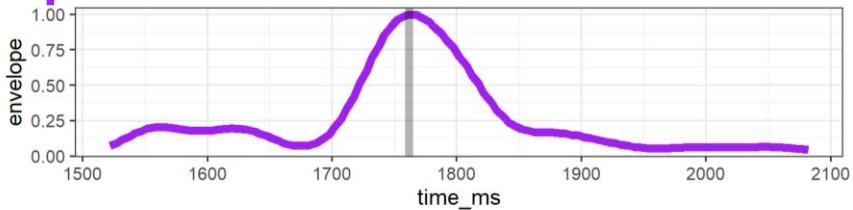
# ONGOING: gesture-speech synchrony in L2

Spanish: “his.TÓ.ri.co”

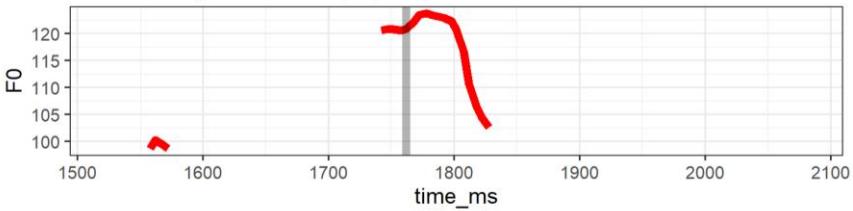
- How do L2 learners acquire L2 prosody in the auditory and gestural systems?



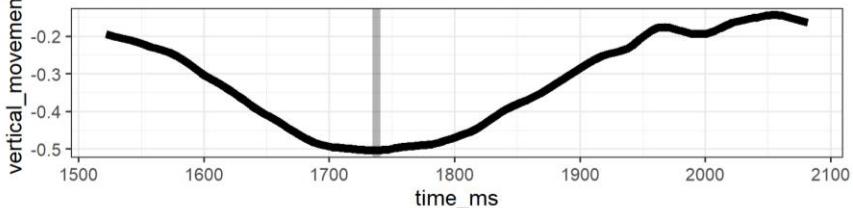
amplitude



f0



hand trajectory

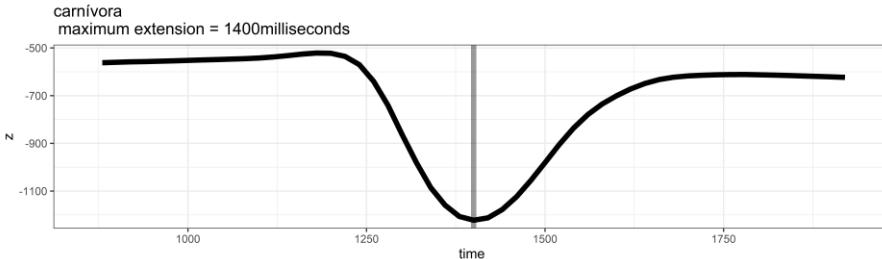
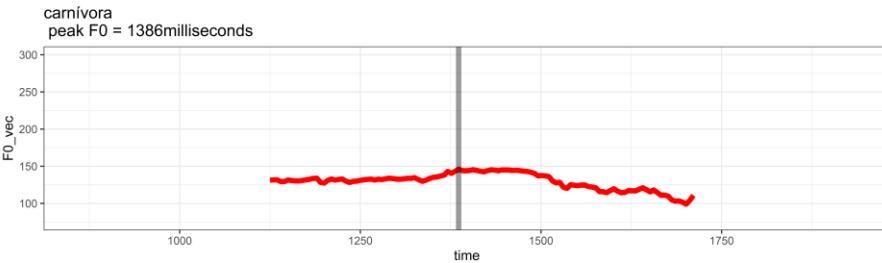
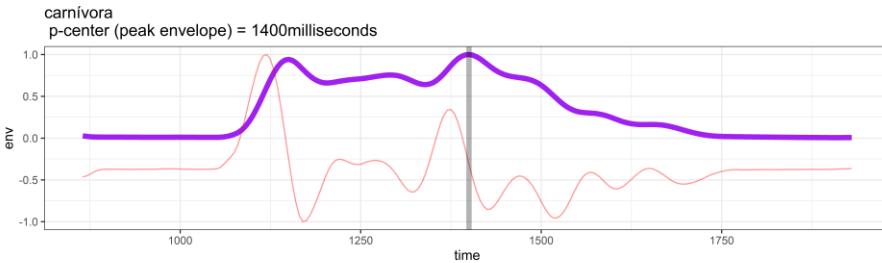
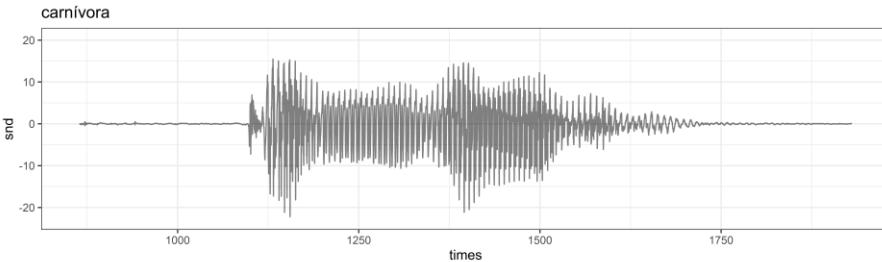


# Example data

## stress-mismatch

Dutch: *car.ni.VOOR*

Spanish: *car.NÍ.vo.ra*

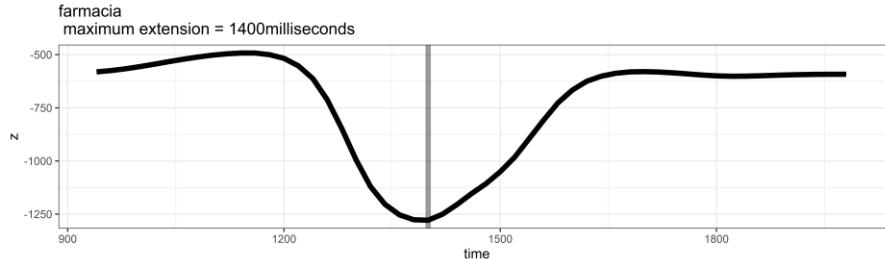
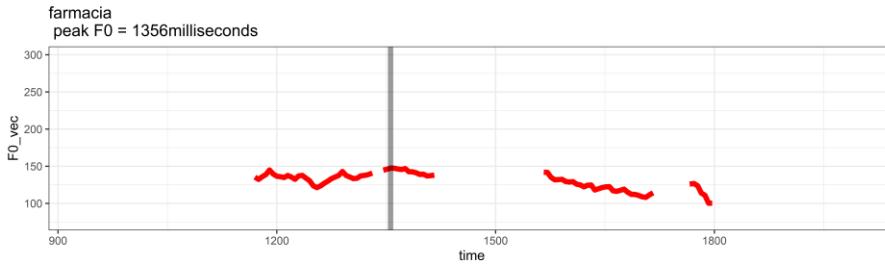
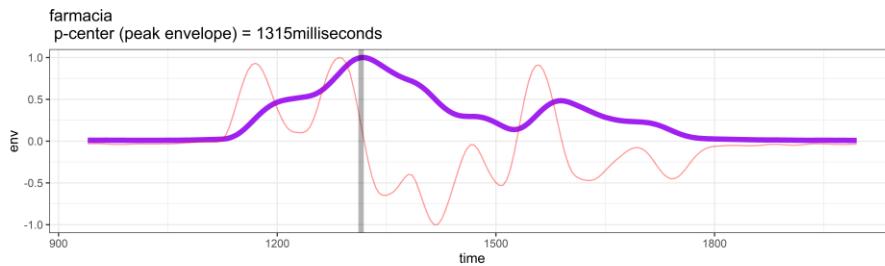
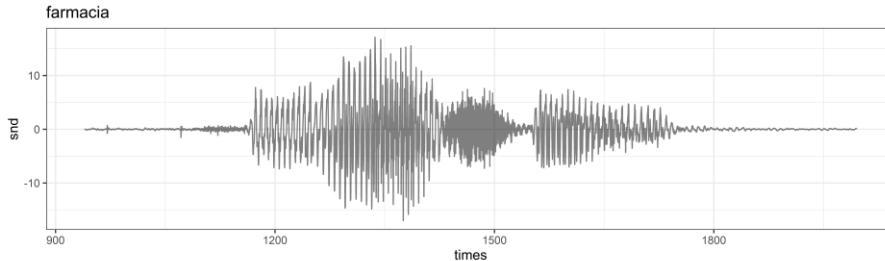


# Example data

## stress-mismatch

Dutch: *far.ma.CIE*

Spanish: *far.MA.cia*



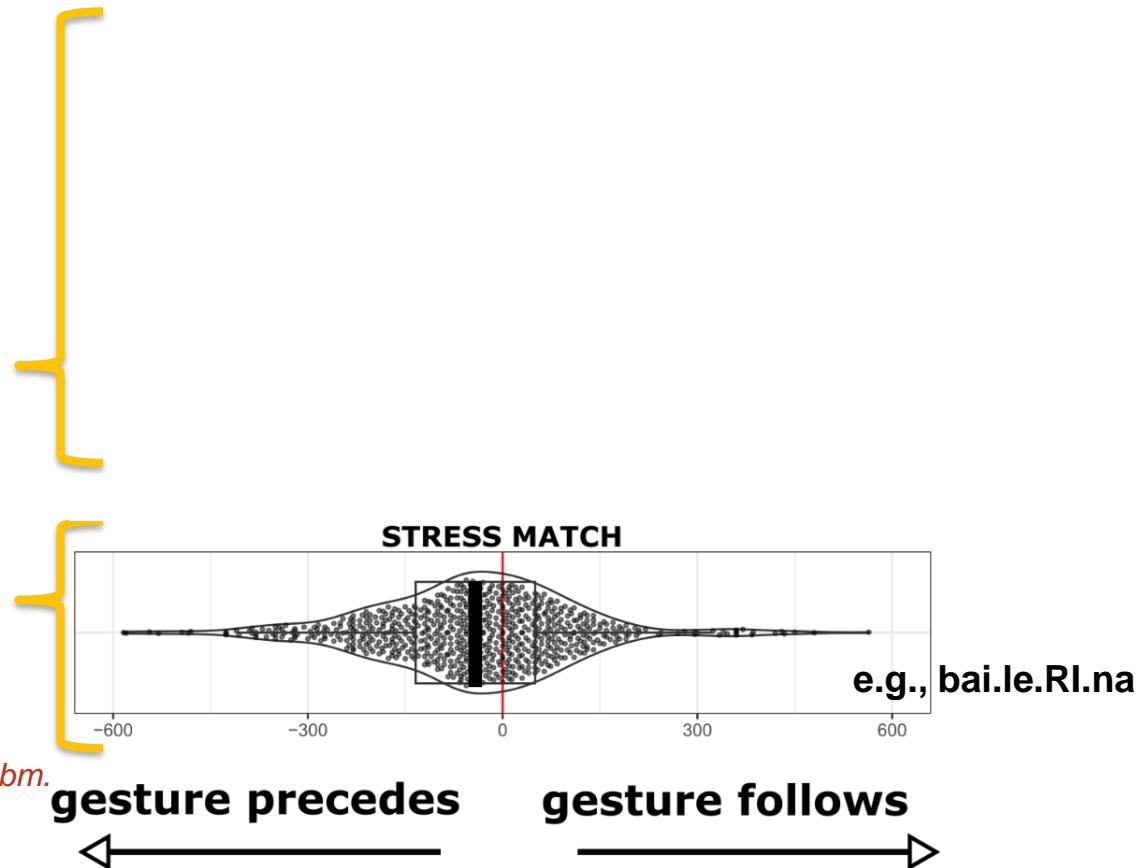
# Results: gesture-speech synchrony



## L1 attraction

stress-mismatching cognates,  
but correct L2 stress placement

stress-matching cognates  
with correct L2 stress placement



TEAM SCIENCE:

Bosker, Hoetjes, Pouw, Van Maastricht, *subm.*

<https://osf.io/w2ezs>,

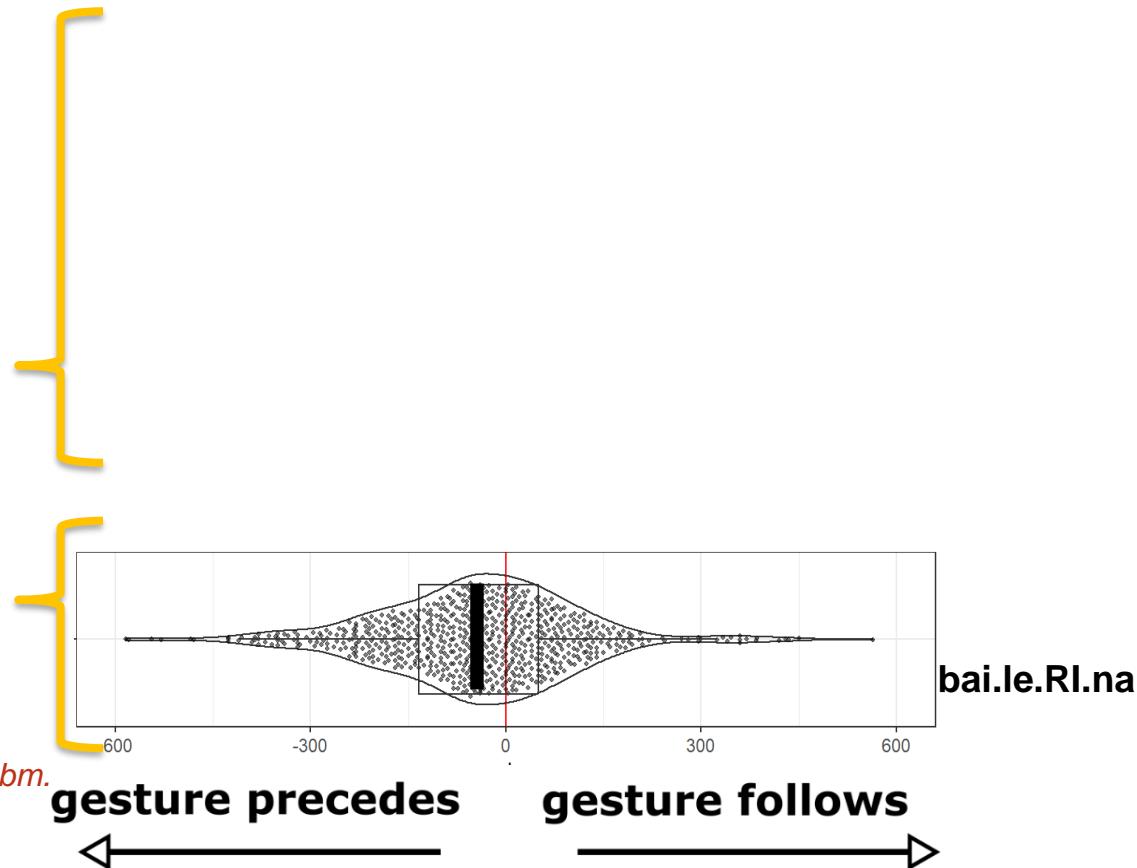
# Results: gesture-speech synchrony



## L2 attraction

stress-mismatching cognates,  
but **\*incorrect\*** L2 stress placement  
(i.e., on L1 target syllable)

stress-matching cognates  
with correct L2 stress placement





# Prosody in the hands: L2

- When L2 stress placement was **correct**,  
the hands showed **L1 attraction**
  - ‘kinematic accent’
- When L2 stress placement was **incorrect**,  
erroneously stressing the L1 target,  
the hands showed **L2 attraction**

TEAM SCIENCE:

Bosker, Hoetjes, Pouw, Van Maastricht, *subm.*

<https://osf.io/w2ezs>,



# Prosody in the hands: L2

- Snapshot of an unstable, developing, multimodal prosody system
- Overall strong evidence for multimodal gesture-speech coupling
- Yet separate unimodal L1/L2 attraction is reliably detectable
- Unique timing regimes for gestures vs. spoken prosody?
- Does a ‘kinematic accent’ of an L2 talker influence lexical stress perception in L1 listeners?

TEAM SCIENCE:

Bosker, Hoetjes, Pouw, Van Maastricht, *subm.*

<https://osf.io/w2ezs>,



# Wrap-up of today

- Prosody is visible in articulatory movements, facial cues and expressions, and in the body.
- Multisensory cue weighting in audiovisual prosody perception, depending on the listening conditions
- Simple up-and-down hand gestures can influence what you hear.



# Wrap-up of the course

- Prosody in Speech Perception
- Course aim: to reveal the central role that prosody plays in low-level speech perception and spoken word recognition.
- Course objectives:
  - to be familiar with key concepts in the area of speech prosody and speech perception
  - to be familiar with recent advances and paradigms in the speech perception literature
  - to understand how prosody influences the perception of vowels, consonants, and words
  - to understand the different processing mechanisms that underlie these influences
  - to understand the open issues and debates in the field of speech perception



# Wrap-up of the course

- Normalization, neural speech tracking, prediction, talker-specific learning, audiovisual integration...
  - ...are tightly interconnected.
  - ...are not exclusive
  - ...showcase the ‘cognitive toolkit’ listeners have at their disposal

Prosody matters!

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