g: (a) %V, the proportion of a given utterance that is vocalic, (b) ΔV, the standard deviation of vocalic intervals, and (c) ΔC, the standard deviation of consonantal intervals (Ramus et al., 1999, p. 272). As a result of measuring vocalic and consonantal intervals independent from their relationship to one another (see the Pairwise Variability Indexes below), it can be said that these three metrics—%V, ΔV, and ΔC—measure rhythm patterns globally.

Considering that stress-rhythm languages tend to exhibit greater consonantal complexity—allowing for, and leading to, greater variability among consonantal intervals— and, similarly, have a tendency toward vowel reduction—leading to greater variability among vocalic intervals—it is expected that languages such as English would have relatively high V and C scores. Conversely, syllable-rhythm languages, which have simpler syllable structure and often lack vowel reduction, are expected to have relatively low V and C scores. In terms of %V, it is hypothesized that syllable-rhythm languages would have higher overall vowel proportions than stress-rhythm languages due to their general lack of vowel reduction

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(Ramus et al., 1999).

**Prosodic bootstrapping** (also known as **phonological bootstrapping**) in [linguistics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linguistics) refers to the hypothesis that learners of a primary language [(L1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_language)) use [prosodic features](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prosody_(linguistics)) such as [pitch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pitch_accent), [tempo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speech_tempo), [rhythm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhythm_(linguistics)), amplitude, and other auditory aspects from the speech signal as a cue to identify other properties of grammar, such as [syntactic structure](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syntactic_structure).

**iamb** if it consists of one unstressed syllable followed by a stressed syllable: destroy. French

trochaic stressed syllable followed by an unstressed one:

Isochrony is the postulated rhythmic division of time into equal portions by a language

Isochrony is one of the three aspects of prosody, the others being intonation and stress. Three alternative ways in which a language can divide time are postulated: ⁕The duration of every syllable is equal; ⁕The duration of every mora is equal. ⁕The temporal duration between two stressed syllables is equal; The idea as such was first expressed by Kenneth L. Pike in 1945; though the concept of language naturally occurring in chronologically and rhythmically equal measures is found at least as early as 1775. While many linguists find the idea of different rhythm types appealing, empirical studies have not been able to find acoustic correlates of the postulated types, calling into question the validity of these types.