Conducting speech perception experiments remotely: Some tools, successes, and challenges

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For more in-depth resources, visit: https://tinyurl.com/2pSCa1-Theodore

- Software to build experiments + server to host web-based studies
- If you can dream it, Gorilla can build it
- Extensive features: collaboration, version control, open materials, support
- Free to build experiments; payment model is based on token currency



- Projects consist of experiments, tasks & questionnaires, and open materials
- Experiments are sequenced tasks & questionnaires
- Open materials are publicly available tasks and questionnaires

VST

Open Materials

Name Description

GORILLA Rachel M. Theodore Home > Projects > PhLex a PhLex Settings Create Experiments Open Archive Name Description **Complete Participants** Three conditions (control, low conflict, high conflict); steps 2 - 11. 30 💌 PhLex-001 40 👻 PhLex-002 Four conditions (control, structured, low conflict, high conflict); steps 4 - 13. Four conditions (control, structured, low conflict, high conflict); steps 3 - 12. 76 💌 PhLex-003 Tasks & Questionnaires Open Archive Name Description Туре NIH reporting information + dialect question. Demographics Headphone-Check Woods et al. (2017) headphone screen; first test. 0 0 -Headphone-Check-Again Woods et al. (2017) headphone screen; second test, if they don't pass the first one. -Woods et al. (2017) headphone screen; third and final test, if they don't pass the second one. Headphone-Check-Final 0 :≣ -Information-Sheet-10 Consent form for 10-minute study; pay == \$1.67. Phonetic identification task for three conditions (control, low conflict, high conflict). Control Ð -PhLex-001 continuum == gixx. Stimuli for all continua use steps 2 - 11. Phonetic identification task for four conditions (control, structured, low conflict, high conflict). PhLex-002 0 -Control/structured continuum == gith. Stimuli for all continua use steps 4 - 13. Phonetic identification task for four conditions (control, structured, low conflict, high conflict). Ø 💌 PhLex-003 Control/structured continuum == gith. Stimuli for all continua use steps 3 - 12.

Vocabulary size test (Nation & Beglar, 2007).

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Type

Open Archive

GORILLA

Home > Projects > PhLex > Information-Sheet-10	0
Information-Sheet-10 Consent form for 10-minute study; pay == \$1.67.	Settings 🖌 Preview Questionnaire
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▲▼ ? Image	Live Preview Page 2 of 2
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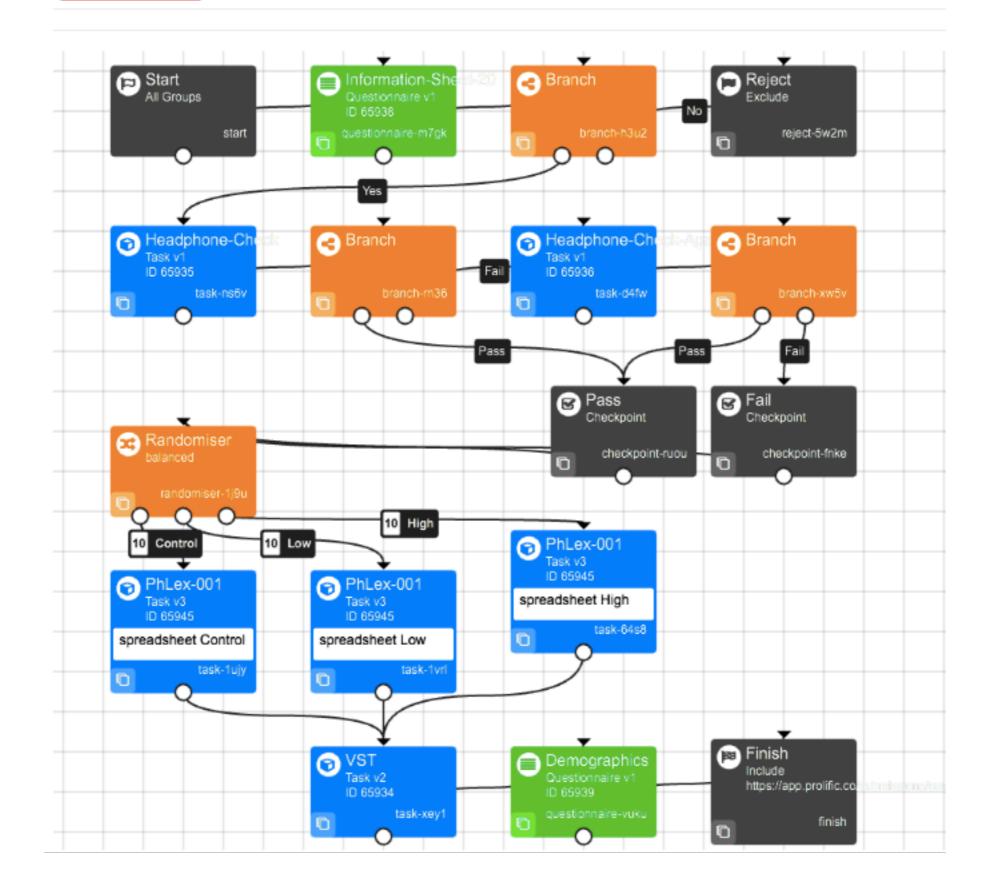
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Home > Projects > PhLex > PhLex-003 PhLex-003 🚀 Preview Task Settings

Phonetic identification task for four conditions (control, structured, low conflict, high conflict). Control/structured continuum == gith. Stimuli for all continua use steps 3 - 12.

You are viewing version 4: Add This is the latest version	maximal spreadsheet.			ာ Version History 🥒 Edit
Task Structure	Spreadsheet	Stimuli	Manipulations	Script
Instructions		Task	: Screen 1	
Screen 1		Screen	Layout	Show Zone Names
		Stim	# Does the item begin with the "g	" sound or
Task			the "k" sound?	
Screen 1	Screen 2		E	
Fin			Progress	
Screen 1		Configu	uration Settings	•





 Seamless integration with Prolific, but can be used for any method of recruitment



Change Recruitment Policy

Disable		Link	Email	Recruitment Service
Prolific	Prolific Recruit yo	ur participants through Prolifi	c.ac	
SONA	Sona Sy: Recruit yo	stems [®] ur participants through Sona S	5ystems®	
amazon mechanical turk		Mechanical Turk ur participants through Amazo	on Mechanical Turk	
EloudResearch	Cloud Recruit yo		Research (formallly TurkPrime)	
qualtrics	Qualtric Recruit yo	s ur participants from Qualtrics		
	Qualtric Recruit yo	s Panel ur participants from a Qualtric	cs Panel	
KANTAR PROFILES	Kantar F Recruit yo	Profiles ur participants through Kanta	r Profiles	
research now		h Now BETA ur participants through Resea	rch Now	
2	Third Pa Recruit yo	<i>y</i>	arty recruitment company (e.g.	marketing agency)

Change Recruitment Policy

Disable	Link	Email	Recruitment Service		
Simple Link Put a URL on a poster or on Facebook, which logs participants in automatically					
Pilot Send a link to people and have them log in using their name as an ID					
Supervised Add a set of PublicIDs up front,	, and then give your participants	their PublicID in person t	o log in with		

ОК

Change Recruitment Policy

Disable	Link	Email	Recruitment Service		
Email Shot Add participants' email addres	ses up front, and send them e	each an email with a personalise	ed link		
Email ID Add participants' email addresses up front and assign them each a PublicID, and send them each an email containing that ID for them to log in with					

ОК

Tools: Gorilla Experiment Builder

- Seamless integration with Prolific, but can be used for any method of recruitment
- Real-time information on participants' progress



Participant Progress

Public ID	
Status	Complete
Start Date	29/03/2020 1
End Date	29/03/2020 1



- Online participant pool with large, diverse sample
- Prolific uses numerous quality control methods to ensure high quality participants
- Prolific aims to provide a more ethical alternative to other platforms (e.g., minimum pay/hour)
- Prolific doesn't host experiments; they route participants to your experiment and handle incentive payments
- Prolific makes money by charging a 30% commission on participant payments

Palan & Schitter, 2017



- Seamless integration with Gorilla, but can be used to distribute any web-based study
- Custom "Allow list" and "Block list" functions
- Extensive participant filters
 - Age
 - Nationality/current residence
 - Language(s)
 - Previous studies
- System fosters efficiency in project administration of and delivers high quality participants

Prolific	STUDIES	MESSAGES Gift \$300. Refer a colleague now → HELP CENTRE
RESEARCHER		STUDY DETAILS
🛨 New study		What is the title of your study?
💉 Drafts		Give your study an internal name (only visible to you)
Scheduled		My ice cream study
Active		Describe what participants will be doing in this study. Read our tips
- Completed		T $H_1 H_2 B / U S = = \Delta$ In this study I will ask you to tell me your favourite ice cream and then ask you how you are feeling.
		Which devices can participants use to take your study? Mobile Tablet Desktop Does your study require any of the following? Audio Camera Camera Microphone Download software The devices and tool options will be displayed to participants on their study preview. These options don't screen participants. To screen participants use the "Prescreen participants" option in the Audience. Read about device compatibility C

Prolific	STUDIES	Gift \$300. <u>Refer a colleague now</u> → HELP CENTRE S\$\$ \$122.80				
RESEARCHER		STUDY LINK				
🕂 New study		How to record Prolific IDs				
🖋 Drafts		To link answers in your survey tool to participants in Prolific, you'll need to set up your survey tool to record our participants' unique Prolific IDs.				
() Scheduled		This enables you to match our participant <u>demographic data</u> with their answers. If you receive a poor quality submission, you can also reject it in our platform .				
🛃 Active		What is the URL of your study?				
- Completed		552E2ED6059?external_id={{%PROLIFIC_PID%}}&STUDY_ID={{%STUDY_ID%}}&external_session_id={{%SESSION_ID%}}				
		How do you want to record Prolific IDs? <i>(Select an option below for instructions)</i>				
		To link answers in your survey tool to participants in Prolific, you'll need to set up your survey tool to record our participants' unique Prolific IDs. Check out our integration guide instructions for the most commonly used survey tools. Prolific ID external_id Study ID STUDY_ID Session ID external_session_id Configure parameters				

Prolific	STUDIES	MESSAGES	Gift \$300. <u>Refer a colleague now</u> →	HELP CENTRE	\$122.80
RESEARCHER		STUDY COMPLETION			
🕂 New study		How to confirm participants have completed your stu	dy		
💉 Drafts		When participants start your study they will leave the Pro Code to prove they completed your study.	ific app. When they return, we need	to capture a uniqu	le Completion
() Scheduled		Read more about study completion			
Active		How do you want to confirm participants have completed I'll redirect them using a URL I'll give them the		r instructions)	
Completed		Please set up your survey tool to redirect participants bac can capture it automatically. Please note this must be at the very last step of your sur		ides the Completi	on Code so we
		https://app.prolific.co/submissions/complete?cc=32A	6502		Сору

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Prolific	STUDIES	MESSAGES Gift \$300. Refer a colleague now → HELP CENTRE	2 \$122.80]
RESEARCHER		AUDIENCE		
🕂 New study		Who will see your study?		
💉 Drafts		Representative sample Prescreen participants Everyone		
C Scheduled		YOUR CRITERIA	Edit Remov	
Active		Current Country of Residence United States	ean Remov	
Completed		Add another one?		
		We've found 42,899 matching participants who have been active in the past 90 days		

Find the participants you nee	147,137 participants	×	
Q Search for screeners			
Demographics	Current Country of Residence		>
Geographic	Age		>
Languages	Nationality		>
Custom Screener	Nationality (UK)		>
Work	Sex		>
Education	Ethnicity (Simplified)		>
Health	Ethnicity		> '
Beliefs	Gender identity		>
Family & relationships	Sexual Orientation		>
Lifestyle and interests	Relationship/Marital status		>
Technology and online behaviour			

Find the participants you need		42,899 participants	×
Q Search for screeners			
Demographics 1	< Back		
Geographic	Current Country of Residence		0
Languages	Participants were asked the following question: In what country Please note that Prolific is currently only available for participant		
Custom Screener	Read more about this Select the required responses or select all		
Work	Type to search		
Education			
Health	United Kingdom United States		,
Beliefs	Ireland		
Family & relationships	Germany		
Lifestyle and interests	France		
Technology and online behaviour	Remove	A	oply

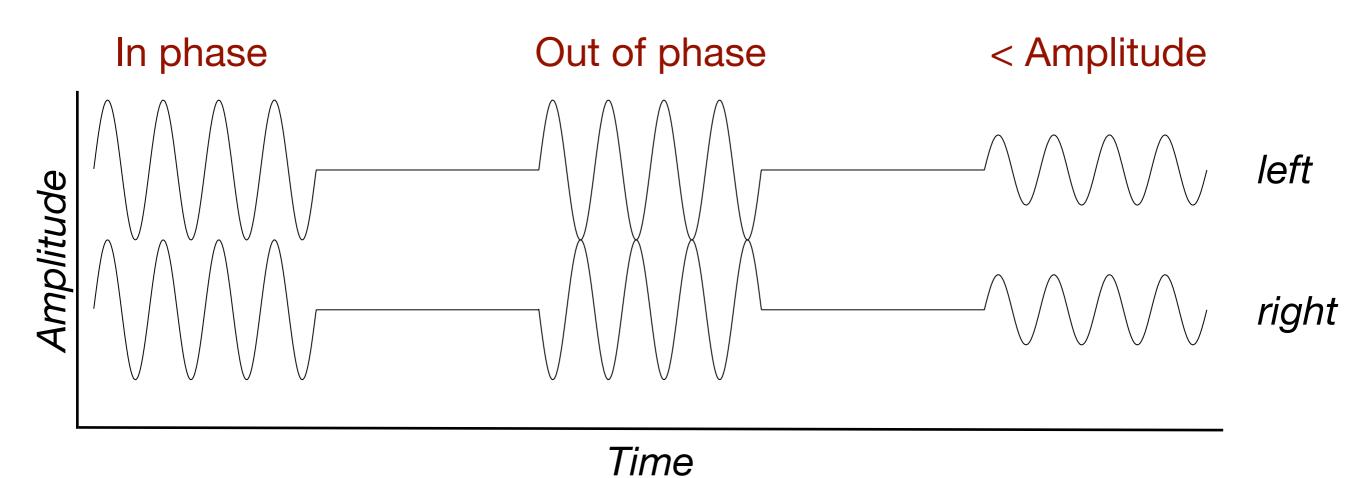
P rolific	STUDIES	MESSAGES		Gift \$300. <u>Refer a colleague now</u> →	HELP CENTRE	RT			
RESEARCHER			Webe found 42 PO0 matching pr	uticipante ulho have boon estivo in the	naat 00 dawa				
🕂 New study			We've found 42,899 matching participants who have been active in the past 90 days						
🔎 Drafts		STUDY COST							
Scheduled		How many participa	nts are you looking to recruit?						
🛃 Active		æ 20							
- Completed		Participants are paid as	nte. Read more about study completion	etion time. If the median completion time exc <u>n time</u>	Max. time: 44 mins eeds your estimate we will ask you to				
		\$6.50 Total cost: \$43.4 Show cost breakdo		\$10.02 Good Save as d	\$12.50 i raft Preview Publish	×			

Prolific STUDIES	MESSAGES	Gift \$3	600. Refer a colleague now → HELP C	ENTRE 😹 \$122.80 RT -
RESEARCHER	LDTN-005-d			COMPLETED ACTION -
+ New study				×00r
🖋 Drafts		\$	***	i=
Scheduled	4 Jun 2021, 15:28 Published	\$9.05/hr Average reward per hour	8,729 of 147,137 Eligible Participants	33/33 Submissions Progress
Active	✓ Approve all S Message all	\$ Bonus payment all	Bulk report Find by ID	More 💌
Completed	PARTICIPANT PROLIFIC ID	STARTED	TIME TAKEN COMPLETION CODE	STATUS ~
		4 Jun 2021, 16:36	00:11:12 3BAD9C35	AFFROVED 🔤 🛩 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 17:30	00:13:57 3BAD9C35	APPROVED 🔤 🛩 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 19:06	N/A	RETURNED 🔤 🖌 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 20:49	00:11:05 3BAD9C35	AFFROVED 🔤 🛹 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 21:25	00:13:06 3BAD9C35	AFFROVED 🔽 🗸 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 21:27	00:11:25 3BAD9C35	AFFROVED 🔽 🛩 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 21:48	00:14:52 3BAD9C35	AFFROVED 🔤 🛩 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 22:14	00:09:14 3BAD9C35	AFFROVED 🔤 🛩 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 22:44	00:11:45 3BAD9C35	AFPROVED 🔤 🛹 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 22:57	00:11:00 3BAD9C35	AFFROVED 🗹 🗸 🗙
		4 Jun 2021, 23:05	00:08:58 3BAD9C35	AFFROVED 🔤 🛩 🗙

- Woods et al. (2017)
- Milne et al. (2020)

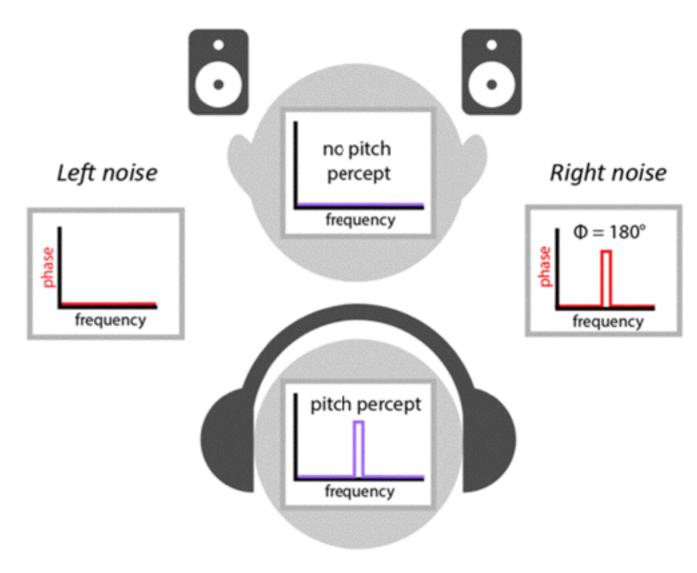
Tools: Headphone compliance (Woods et al., 2017)

- Six-trial, loudness decision task; "pass" is defined as ≥ 5 correct responses
- On each trial, three tones with equal frequency and duration are presented



Tools: Headphone compliance (Milne et al., 2020)

- Six-trial, tone detection task; "pass" is defined as 6 correct responses
- On each trial, three noise bursts are presented
- For one noise burst, noise is presented with a phase shift at 600 Hz
- Over headphones, listeners perceive the Huggins pitch



Adapted from Figure 1 of Milne et al., 2020

- The Huggins pitch task (Milne et al., 2020) shows more reliable detection than the loudness detection task (Woods et al., 2017)
- As reported in Milne et al. (2020), combining the two tasks correctly identified 80% of headphone users with a false positive rate of 7%
- If ear channel matters, be sure to supplement your headphone screens with a simple channel detection task...

- Categorical perception/distributional learning
- Lexically guided perceptual learning
- Perceptual learning for noise-vocoded speech
- Talker adaptation

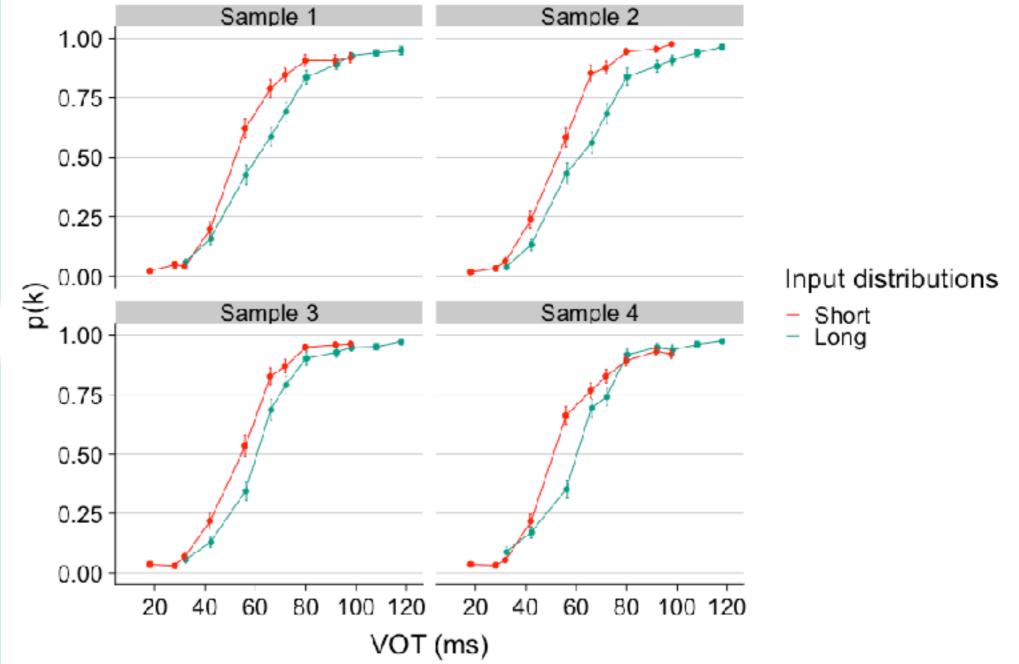
Success 1: Categorical perception/distributional learning

Block 1

 152 trials of phonetic ID for tokens drawn from a VOT continuum to form either short or long VOT input distributions

Block 2

 152 trials of phonetic ID for tokens drawn from a VOT continuum to form either short or long VOT input distributions



To achieve sample (n = 320), we excluded n = 52 due to failure to perform the task and n = 27 due to failure to pass headphone screen; attrition = 20%.

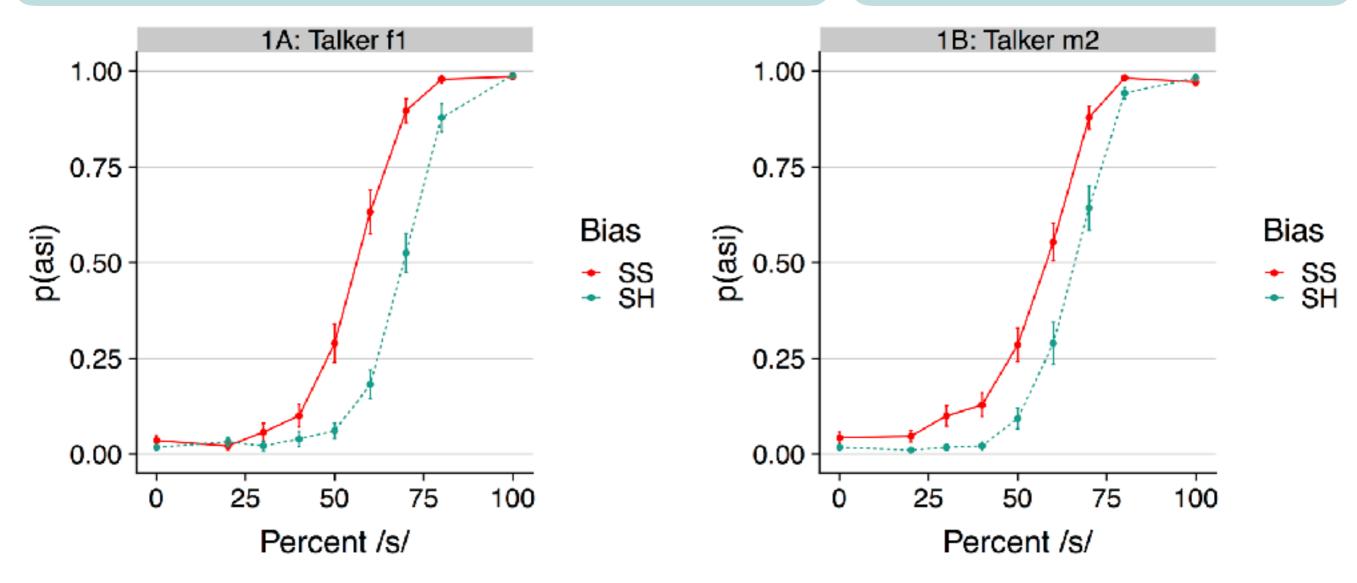
Success 2: Lexically guided perceptual learning

Block: Exposure

 200 trials of a lexical decision task for word and nonword stimuli; critical ambiguous productions embedded in either /s/ or /ʃ/ biasing contexts

Block: Test

 72 trials of phonetic ID for tokens drawn from an /asi/-/a∫i/ continuum



To achieve sample (n = 560), we excluded n = 32 due to failure to perform the task and n = 112 due to failure to pass headphone screen; attrition = 20%.

Success 3: Perceptual learning for vocoded speech

Block: Pre-test

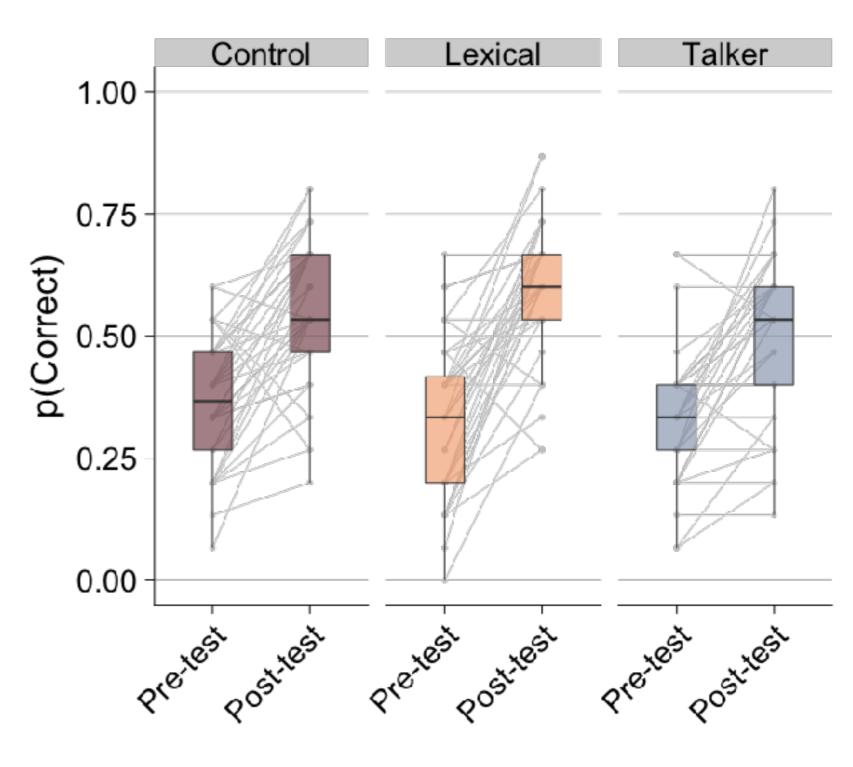
 30 trials of a transcription task for vocoded sentences w/o feedback

Block: Training

- 150 trials with vocoded sentences
 - Control: Sentence transcription w/o feedback
 - Lexical: Sentence transcription w/ feedback
 - Talker: Talker ID w/ feedback

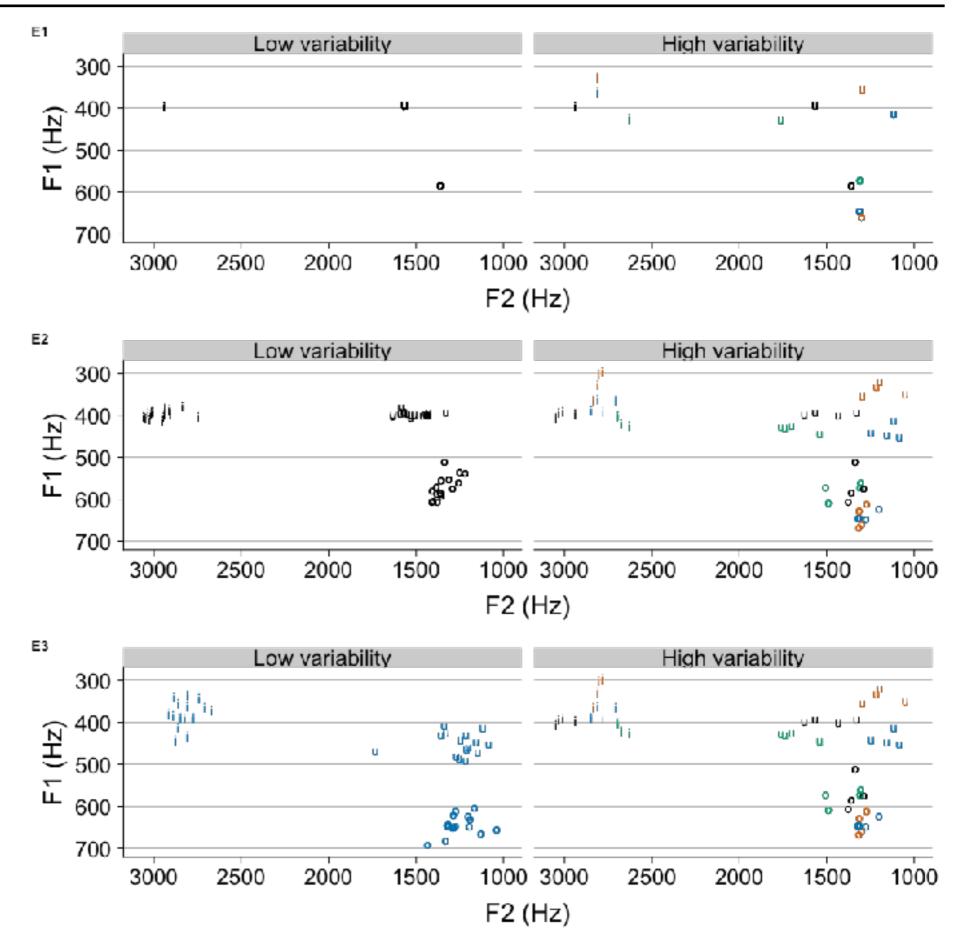
Block: Post-test

 30 trials of a transcription task for vocoded sentences w/o feedback

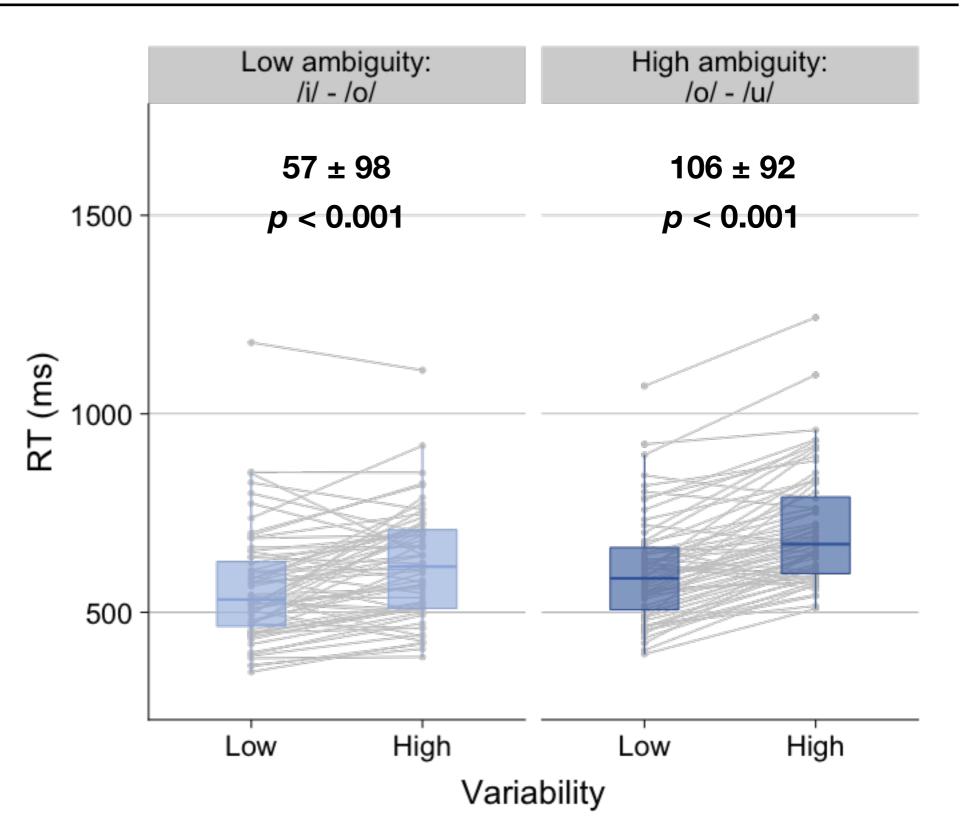


To achieve sample (n = 108), we excluded n = 2 due to failure to perform the task and n = 12 due to failure to pass headphone screen; attrition = 11%.

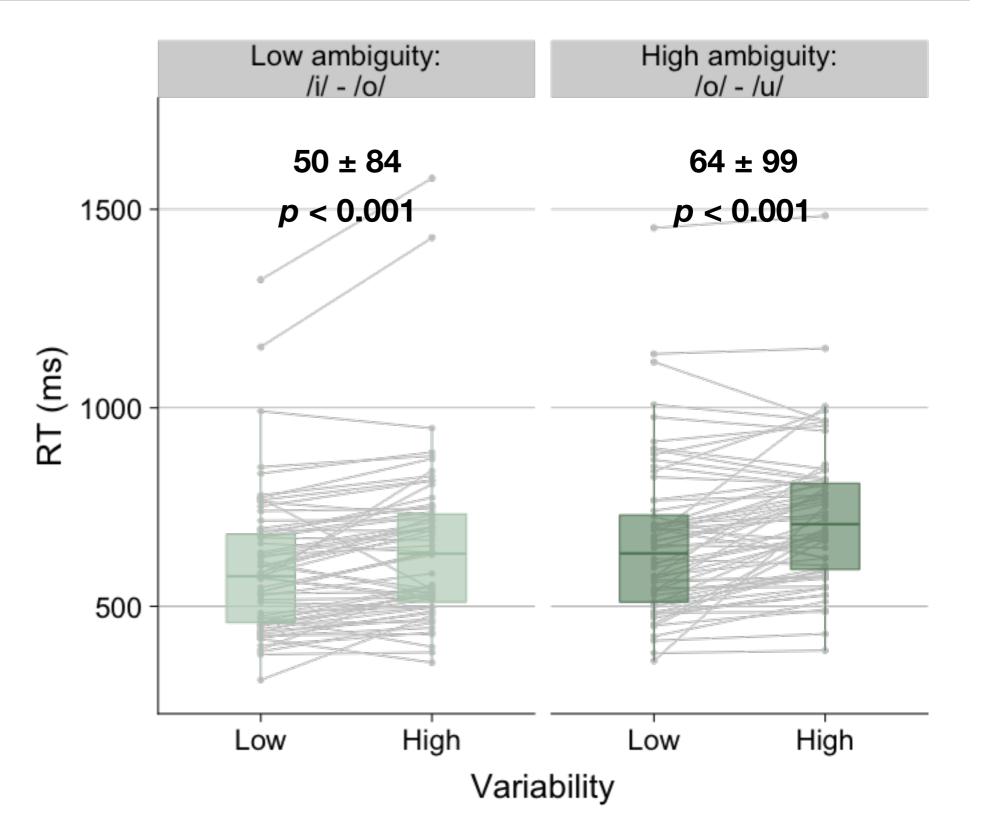
- Four blocks (64 trials/block) of a speeded word ID task
- Blocks crossed talker variability and phonemic ambiguity
- Dependent measure was reaction time
- Can effects < 100
 <p>ms be reliably
 detected in web based protocols?



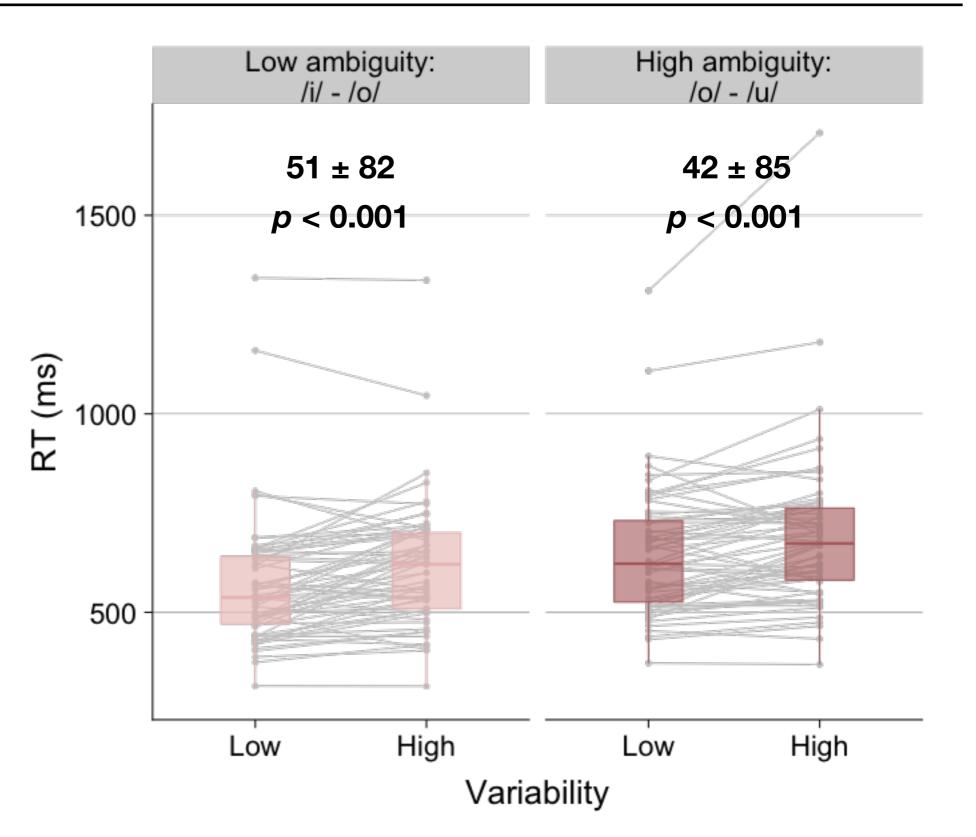
- Four blocks (64 trials/block) of a speeded word ID task
- Blocks crossed talker variability and phonemic ambiguity
- Dependent measure was reaction time
- Can effects < 100
 ms be reliably
 detected in webbased protocols?



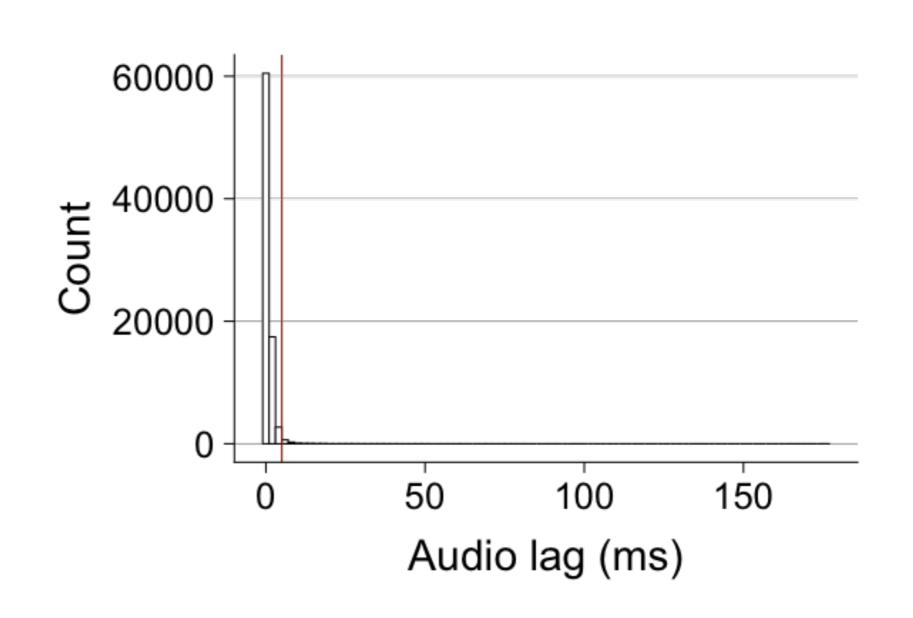
- Four blocks (64 trials/block) of a speeded word ID task
- Blocks crossed talker variability and phonemic ambiguity
- Dependent measure was reaction time
- Can effects < 100
 ms be reliably
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- Four blocks (64 trials/block) of a speeded word ID task
- Blocks crossed talker variability and phonemic ambiguity
- Dependent measure was reaction time
- Can effects < 100
 ms be reliably
 detected in webbased protocols?



- Of 81,920 responses, the audio lag ranged between 0 and 177 ms
- 88% of responses had a lag < 2 ms
- 98% of responses had a lag < 5 ms
- Because Gorilla reports lag time, RTs can be adjusted relative to audio onset



- With the methods I've described, you can't see your participants and (usually) can't answer questions in real time
- You have less control over technology
- You have less control over the listening/testing environment

Challenges



1. Be *exceptionally clear* with your participants in terms of technology requirements and study instructions

LDTN-005-d

Hosted by Rachel Theodore

\$1.67 • 10 minutes • \$10.02/hr • 33 places remaining

The purpose of this study is to examine how listeners comprehend speech. You will be asked to listen to words and sounds and make decisions about what you hear. Then, you will be asked to fill out demographic information.

This study needs to be completed on a desktop or laptop while hearing headphones. Wearing headphones is really important for this task. Any headphones or earbuds are fine so long as they deliver a stereo signal, meaning that different sounds can go to the left and right ears. Participants who do not meet these requirements will be asked to return their submissions.

Auto-play for sound files must be enabled in your browser for the study to run.

You will see a central arrow appear on the screen.

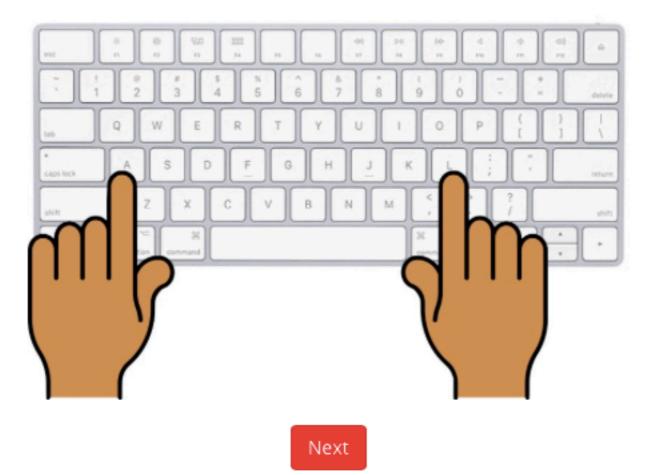
** Press **a** as in *apple* if it is pointing left. **

** Press I as in *lemon* if it is pointing right. **

Ignore the arrows on either side, and just pay attention to the central arrow.

Please respond as quickly and accurately as possible. Keep your index fingers on top of the **a** and **l** keys as shown in the figure below to help make fast responses.

Press "Next" to see an example.



This is the central arrow. It is pointing right, so you should press the "I" key. Press the "I" key now to continue.

In this part, you will hear two tone sequences on each trial. Your job is decide if the two sequences are the same or if they are different.

Let me hear an example.

Here's an example where the two tone sequences are the same. You can listen to this example a few times .



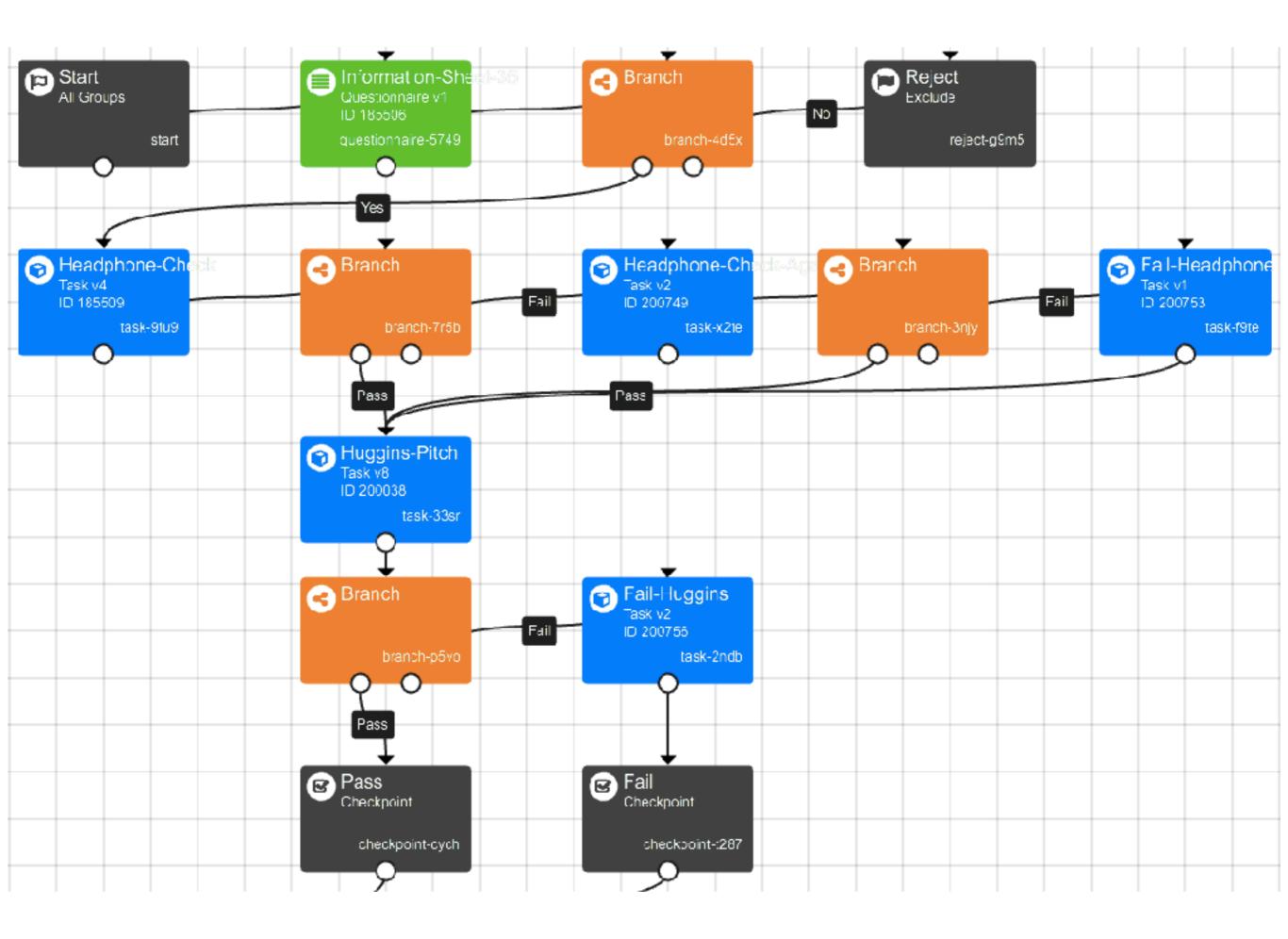
Let me hear another example.

In this example, the two tone sequences are different. You can listen to this example a few times to hear the difference.



I'm ready to begin.

- 1. Be *exceptionally clear* with your participants in terms of technology requirements and study instructions
- 2. Give people multiple chances to pass the headphone screen, *along with reminders* of the headphones requirement



Stereo headphones were not detected.

As stated in the study description, you must be wearing headphones that deliver a stereo signal to do this study. This means that your headphones need to be able to send different sounds to your left and right ears.

If you have started this study by accident, then you are welcome to return your submission on Prolific without penalty.

- 1. Be *exceptionally clear* with your participants in terms of technology requirements and study instructions
- 2. Give people multiple chances to pass the headphone screen, *along with reminders* of the headphones requirement
- 3. Make sure any constraints set in Prolific and Gorilla are *mirrored* across systems



STUDY DETAILS

a

What is the title of your study?

Ľ A study about ice cream

Give your study an internal name (only visible to you)

My ice cream study

Describe what participants will be doing in this study. Read ou

¶ H₁ H₂ B / U S 🗄 🗮 🕭

In this study I will ask you to tell me your favourite ice crear are feeling.

Which devices can participants use to take your study?





Time Limit

(no time limit set)

Change Time Limit

Requirements

Device Types

Phones Tablets

Computers

Browser Types

(no restrictions)

Location

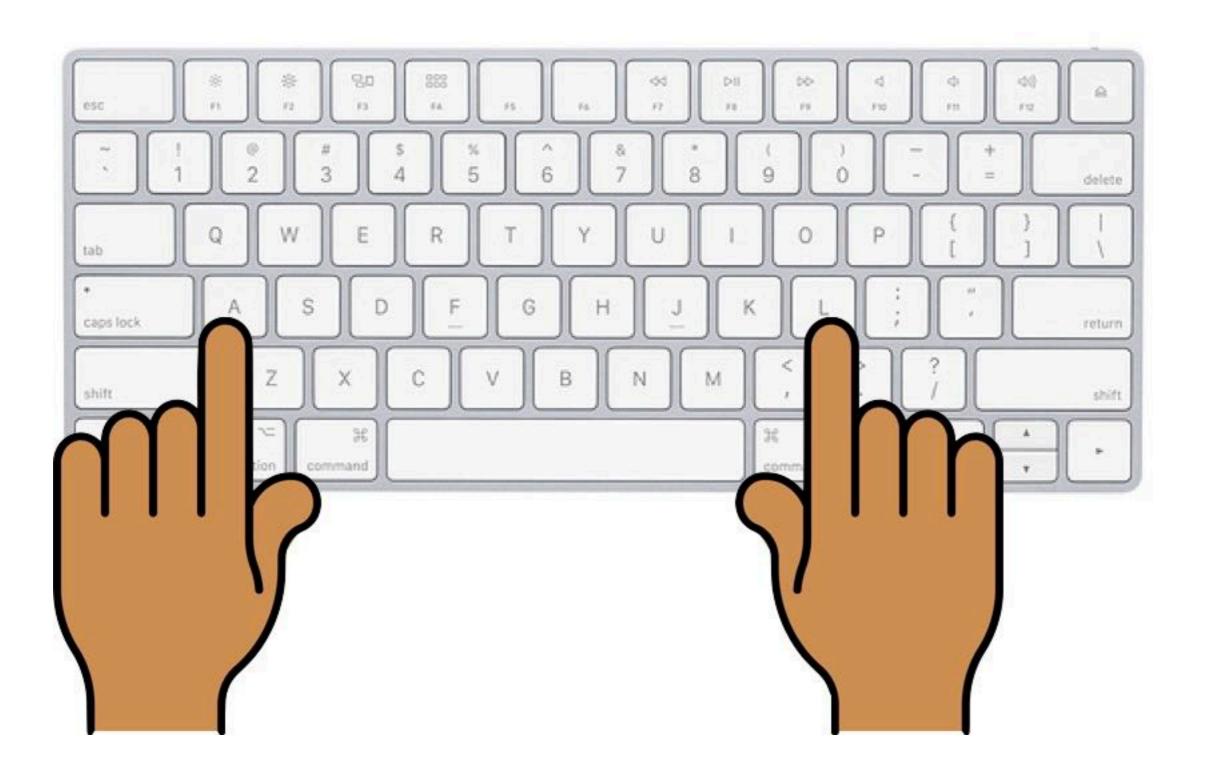
(no restrictions)

Connection Speed

(no restrictions)

Change Requirements

- 1. Be *exceptionally clear* with your participants in terms of technology requirements and study instructions
- 2. Give people multiple chances to pass the headphone screen, *along with reminders* of the headphones requirement
- 3. Make sure any constraints set in Prolific and Gorilla are *mirrored* across systems
- To decrease variability in reaction times, provide a visual cue for hand placement and use withinsubjects designs



5. Sign up to be a participant on Prolific

Quickly find research participants you can trust.

Launch your study to tens of thousands of trusted participants in minutes. Recruit niche or representative samples on-demand. Prolific builds the most powerful and flexible tools for online research. Sign up for free.

Research

Collect high quality responses from people around the world within minutes. Learn more

SIGN UP TO RESEARCH

Participate

Take part in engaging research, earn cash, and help improve human knowledge. Learn more

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE



SIGN UP

- 5. Sign up to be a participant on Prolific
- 6. Monitor and contribute to the Prolific subreddit: <u>https://www.reddit.com/r/ProlificAc/new/</u>
- 7. Stay on top of your Prolific messages in real time

Just wanted to let you know that the audio did not work when I used Google Chrome, but it worked on another browser (Mozilla). Not sure if that was an issue just related to me/my computer, but I figured I would let you know, in case it's a problem for other people as well. Everything went well on Mozilla and was able to complete it.

11 Apr 2020, 12:02

Thanks so much for letting me know! We've vetted in on multiple browsers (including Chrome), but it could be a version issue. Or it could be that autoplay is not set-up in your Chrome browser but is in your Mozilla browser. Either way, I'm so glad that you could complete it, and am very grateful that you took the time to reach out to me. Thanks again for participating in our research! -Rachel That test made me question my hearing lol. I swear it sounded like goat was being said for most of the test. I was trying to ignore the effect the statement leading up to the word was. Naturally whenever it said something like "For it's safety, I caged the...." my brain wanted to automatically assume goat since caging a goat doesn't make any sense. The same with "I ironed the...". You'd naturally assumed you ironed a coat and not a goat.

2 May 2021, 14:59

...

What you experienced is exactly what we're trying to learn more about in this study! We're studing how listeners integrate the meaning of a person's message with how words are pronounced. Some participants get the meaning before the target word (e.g., For it's safety, she caged the ---) , and others get the meaning after the target word (e.g., The --- was caged for it's safety). Our prediction is that the meaning part will be more important than the actual pronunciation when the meaning comes before instead of after the target word.

Thanks for reaching out - and thanks so much for participating in our study. We couldn't do our research without you!

Rachel

- 5. Sign up to be a participant on Prolific
- 6. Monitor and contribute to the Prolific subreddit: <u>https://www.reddit.com/r/ProlificAc/new/</u>
- 7. Stay on top of your Prolific messages in real time
- 8. Run a small sample through your experiment and *check everything* before running your full sample
- Keep your tasks as quick and as engaging as you can; I highly recommend the simr package in R for power analyses
- 10. Use MP3 format instead of WAV for sound files

Concerned scientist #1

- We use the MP3
 conversion algorithm in
 iTunes version 12.8.2.3
- The conversion yields perceptually indistinguishable variants and is sufficient for our work; it may not be for yours
- Listen and look for yourself at: <u>https://</u> <u>tinyurl.com/2pSCa1-</u> <u>Theodore</u>

"I haven't found distortion in the spectra, yet..."

Concerned scientist #2

"I have to say, I was pleasantly surprised at the fidelity of your MP3 files. I did various comparisons in Praat and was amazed that the details held up."

- Calibrate expectations; technological glitches will occur, people will fail your headphone screen, you will get a low effort participant
- 12. Apply everything else you know about running great experiments to web-based testing; in-lab and web-based methods are more similar than different

Acknowledgements



Nikole Giovannone



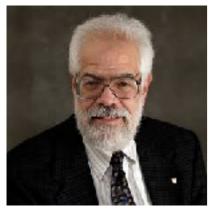
Lee Drown



Julia Drouin



Nick Monto



David Pisoni



Lynne Nygaard



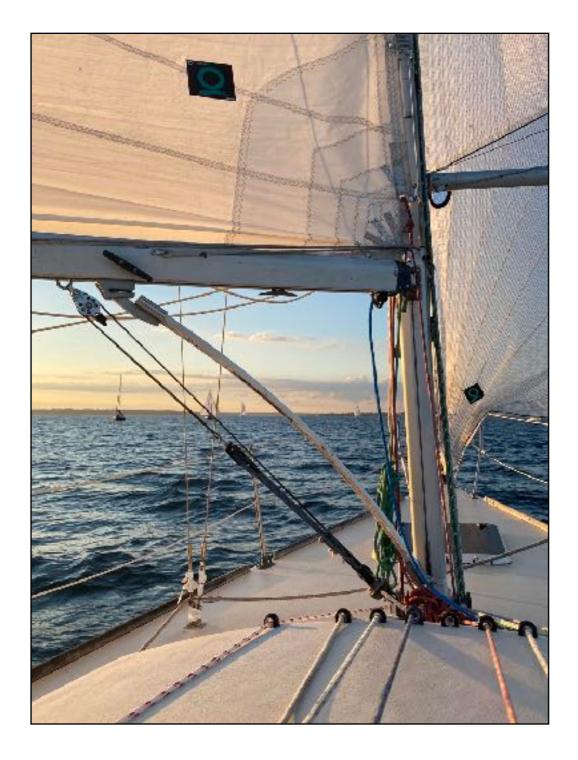
Christian Stilp



Christina Tzeng











slaplab.uconn.edu

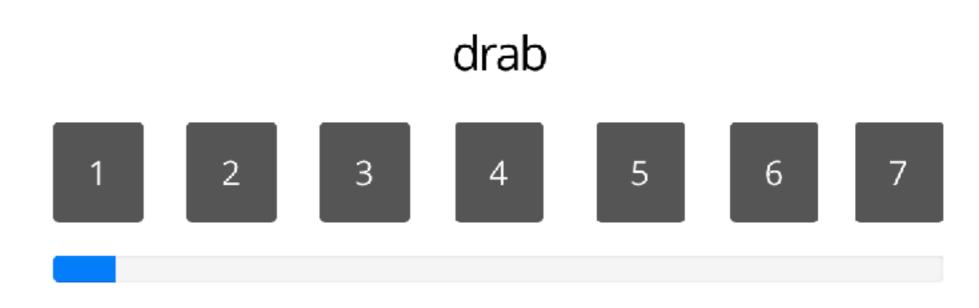




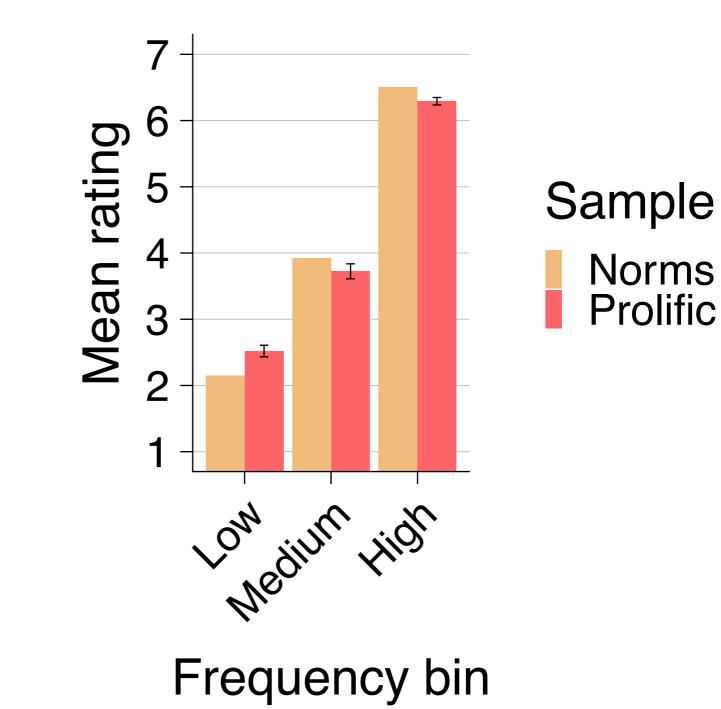
For more in-depth resources, visit: https://tinyurl.com/2pSCa1-Theodore

- Web-based administration of the Word Familiarity Test (WordFAM)
- Rating task for 150 items; 50 items from each of 3 frequency categories
- Adapted from Lewellen et al. (1993) and Pisoni (2007)

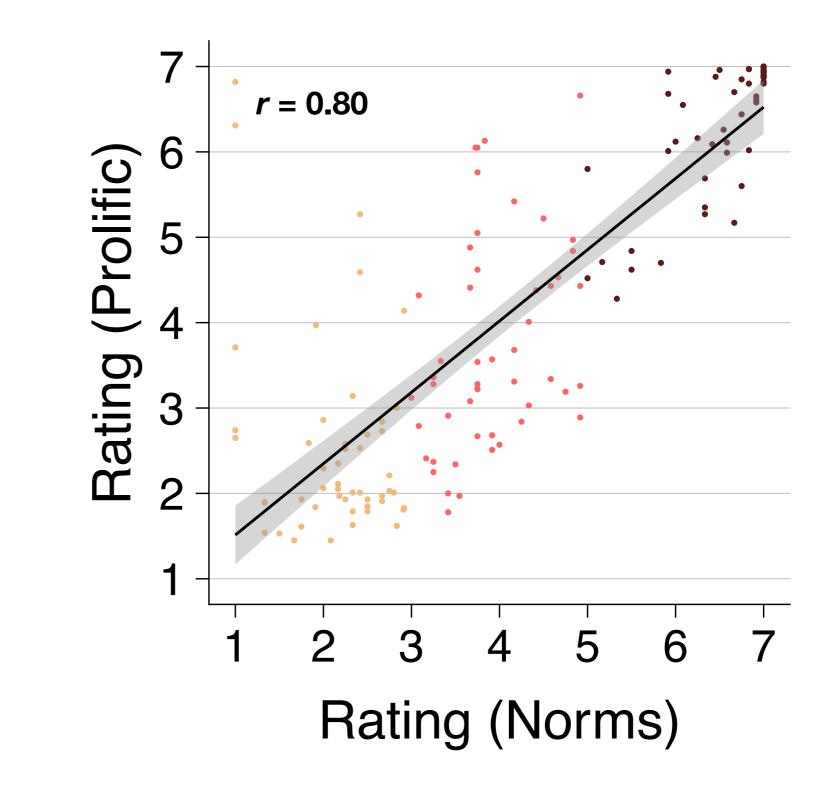
- 1 You have never seen or heard the word before.
- 2 You think that you might have seen or heard the word before.
- 3 You are pretty sure that you have seen or heard the word but you are not positive.
- 4 You recognize the word as one you have seen or heard before, but you don't know the meaning of the word.
- 5 You are certain that you have seen the word but you only have a vague idea of its meaning.
- 6 You think you know the meaning of the word but are not certain that the meaning you know is correct.
- 7 You recognize the word and are confident that you know the meaning of the word.

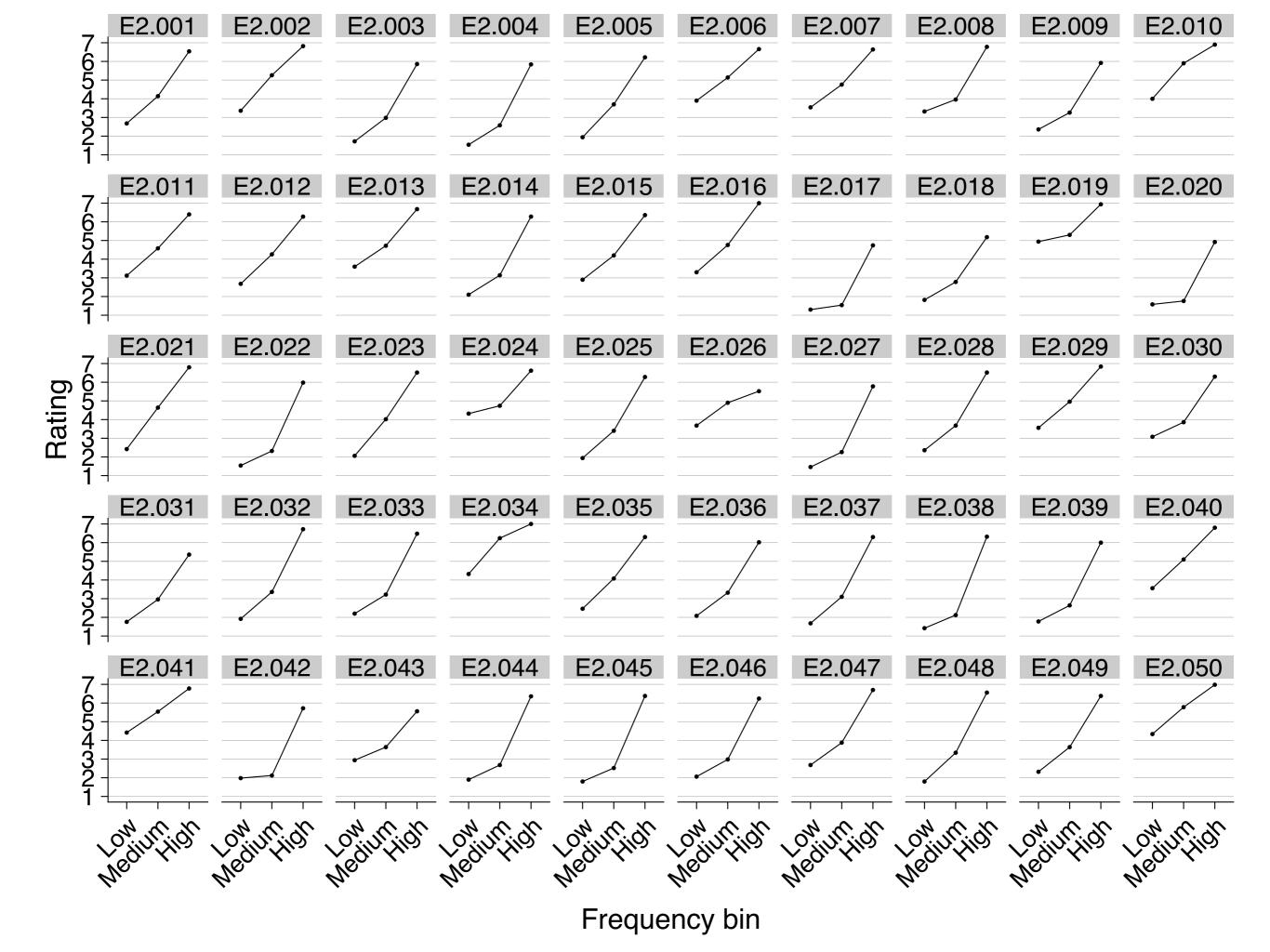


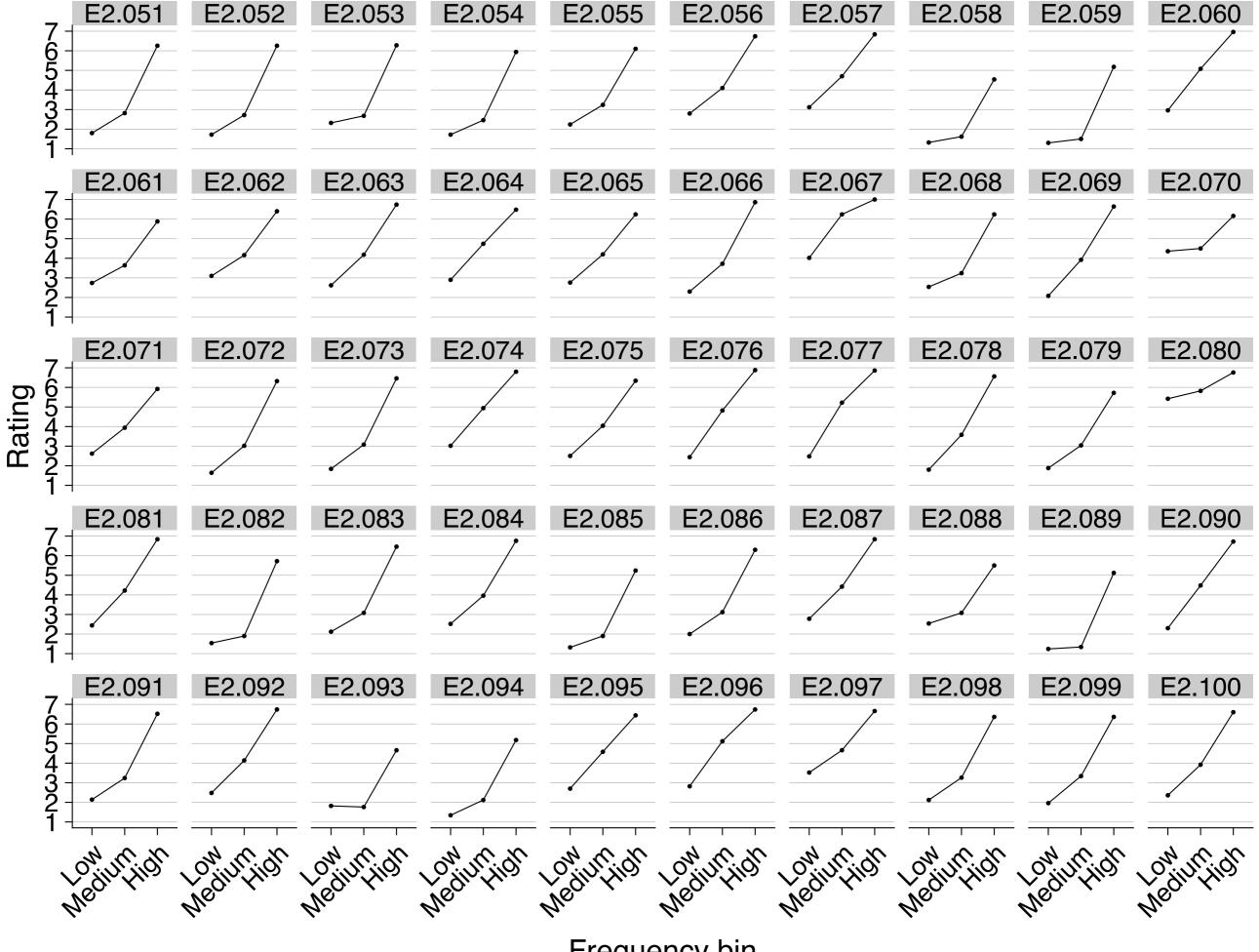
 Mean ratings by frequency category for the Prolific sample were very similar to existing norms, both by subjects and by items



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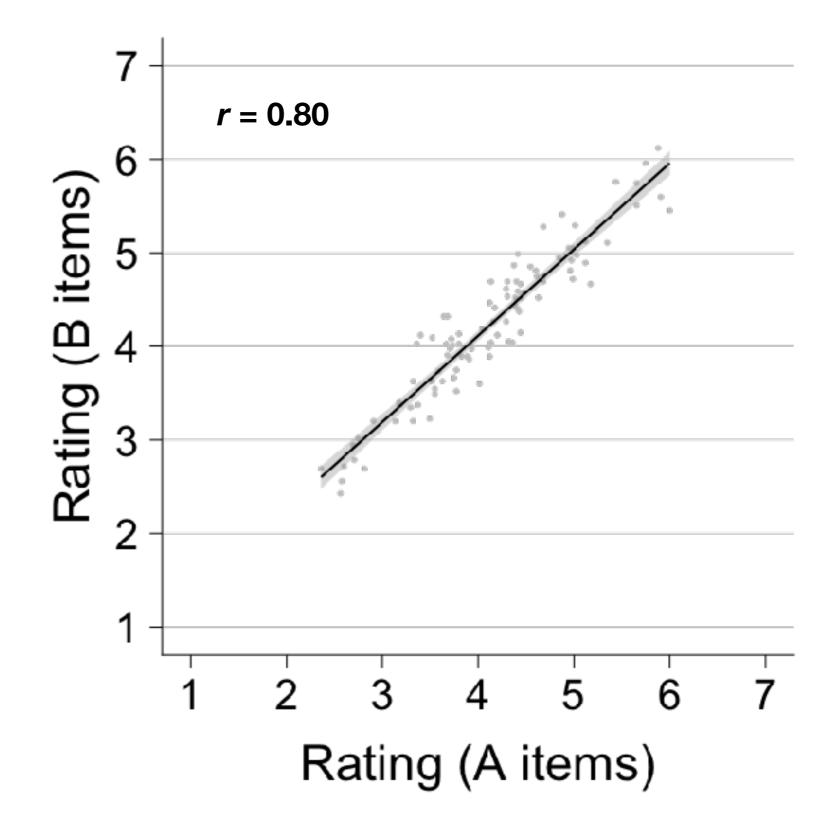




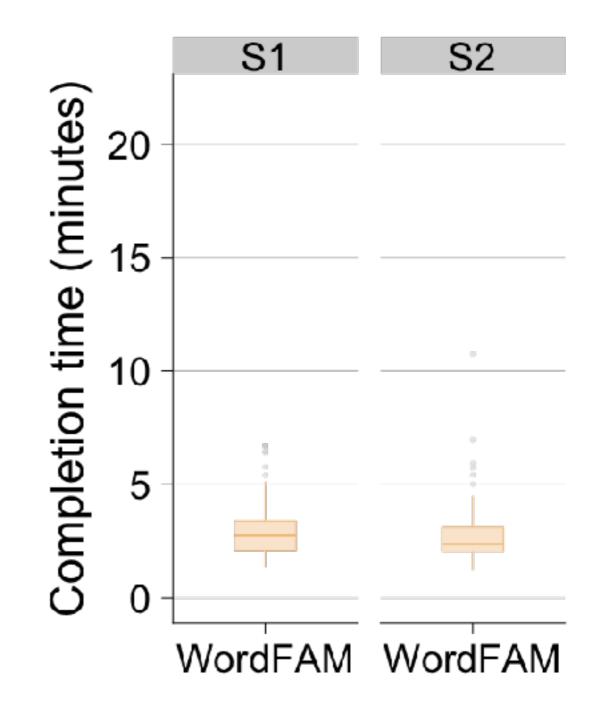


Frequency bin

- Mean ratings by frequency category for the Prolific sample were very similar to existing norms, both by subjects and by items
- Ratings showed high split-half reliability



- A second experiment was conducted to examine testretest reliability
- 100 participants were tested in session 1; 85 returned for session 2
- Mean completion time for the brief WordFAM versions was very quick



- A second experiment was conducted to examine testretest reliability
- 100 participants were tested in session 1; 85 returned for session 2
- Mean completion time for the brief WordFAM versions was very quick
- Test-retest reliability was very high in the aggregate and by category

