

Optimizing outcomes with electric and acoustic stimulation (EAS): speech understanding, music perception, and auditory cortical activation

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A Sound Foundation Through Early Amplification

Department of Hearing and Speech Science  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



# DISCLOSURES

## Member of Audiology Advisory Board for:

- Advanced Bionics
- Cochlear Americas
- Frequency Therapeutics





Jourdan Holder, AuD



Iliza Butera



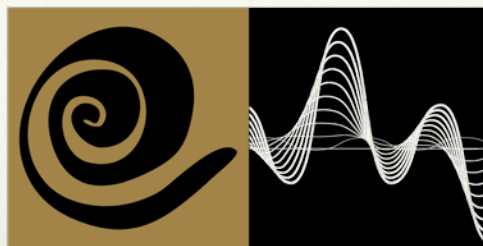
Linsey Sunderhaus, AuD

**NIH NIDCD R01 DC009404**

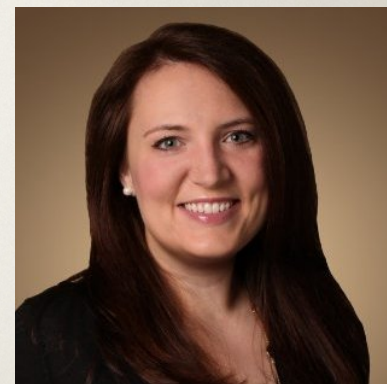


Bob Dwyer, AuD

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER



**COCHLEAR IMPLANT**  
Research Laboratory



Adrian Taylor, AuD



# Bilateral CI = standard of care treatment for bilateral severe-to-profound SNHL

e.g., Balkany et al. 2008; Papsin & Gordon, 2008; Peters et al.,  
2010; Ramsden et al., 2012

What amount of acoustic hearing is beneficial  
in a bimodal hearing configuration?





## 2 primary theories of bimodal benefit:

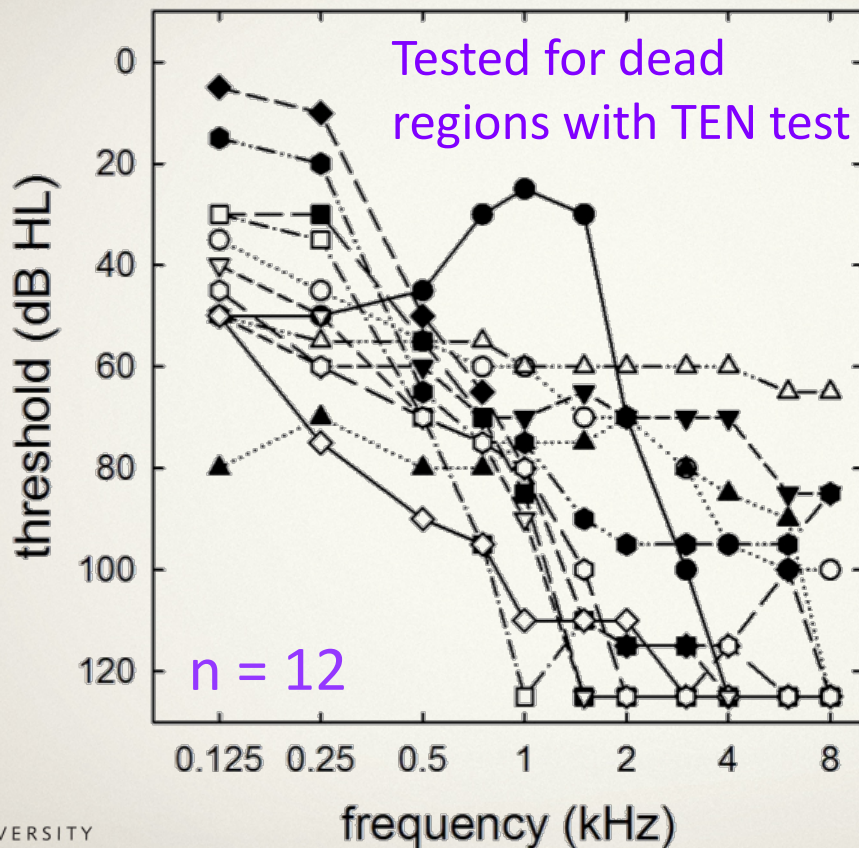
### 1) Segregation

- LF acoustic cues (e.g., F0 periodicity) → allow for comparison across the ears to form perceptual streams to separate the target from the background noise (e.g., Kong *et al.* 2005; Chang *et al.* 2006; Qin & Oxenham 2006)

### 2) Glimpsing

- spectral-dependent SNR varies over time, allowing for target to be “glimpsed” so that SNR modulations over time → better perception LF target (e.g., Kong & Carolyn 2007; Li & Loizou 2008; Brown & Bacon 2009)

# Sheffield & Gifford (2014). *Audiol Neurotol*, 19:151–163

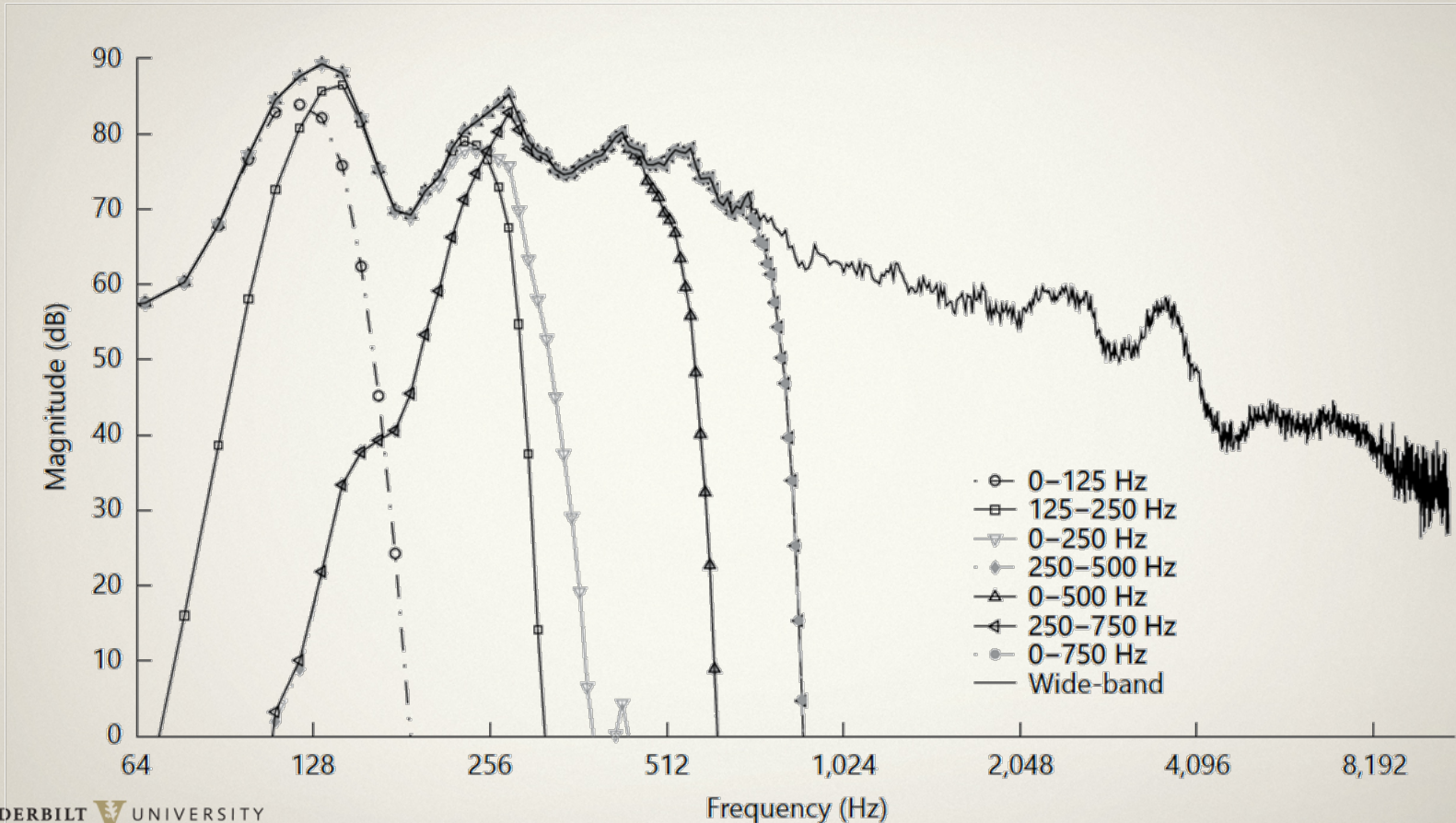


Presentation level  
in non-CI ear →

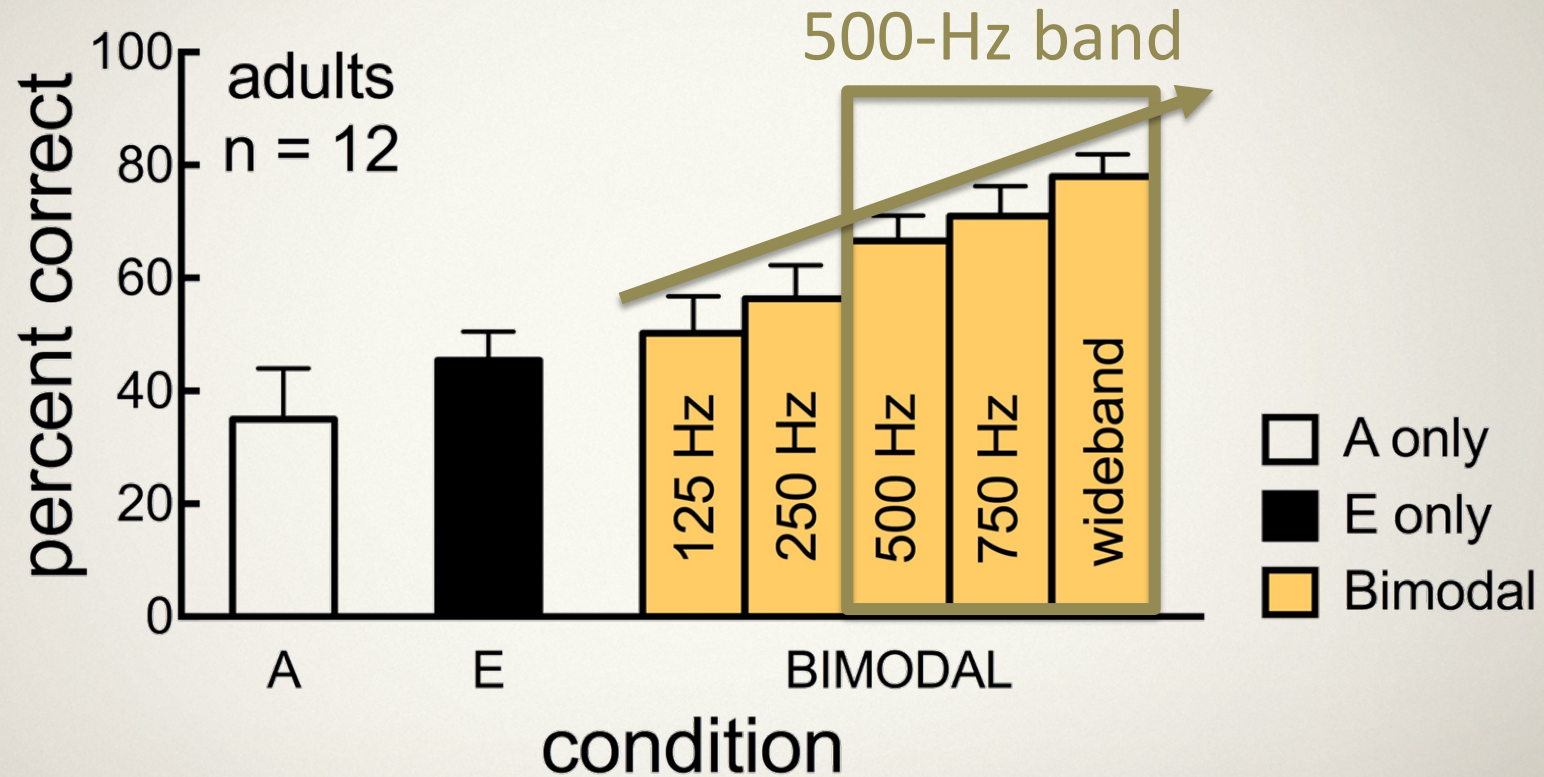
65 dBA signal +  
NAL-NL1  
amplification



# Sheffield & Gifford (2014). Audiol Neurotol, 19:151–163



# Sheffield & Gifford (2014). *Audiol Neurotol*, 19:151–163





## Sheffield et al. (2016). *Ear Hear.* 37: 282–288.

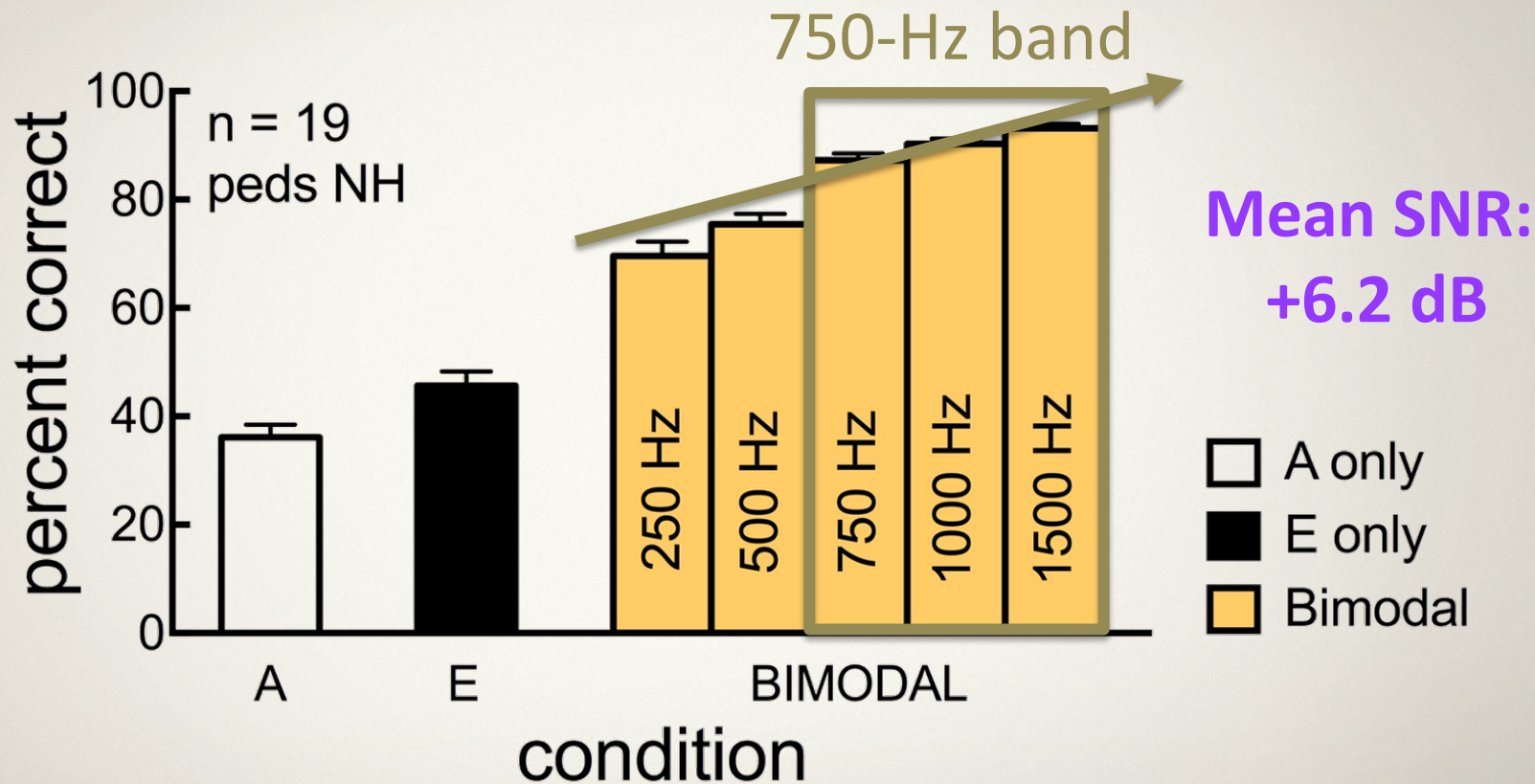
- Children (n = 19) & adults (n = 10) w/ normal hearing
- Mean age = 9.2 years
  - Range 6 to 12 years
- CI simulations (e.g., Litvak et al., 2007)
- Bimodal simulations: 90 dB/oct
  - <250, <500, <750, <1000, and <1500 Hz
- BabyBio sentences at variable SNR
  - SNR → ~50% for “CI-only” condition
  - Mean = 6.6 dB

# Hypotheses

- Children will need a broader acoustic BW for bimodal benefit than adults.
  - Adults are better able to combine top-down and bottom-up processing.
  - Stelmachowicz et al., 2000, 2001, 2004, 2007; Pitmann et al., 2005
- Bimodal benefit will increase with increasing BW for children, as with adults.



# Sheffield et al. (2016). Ear Hear. 37: 282–288.

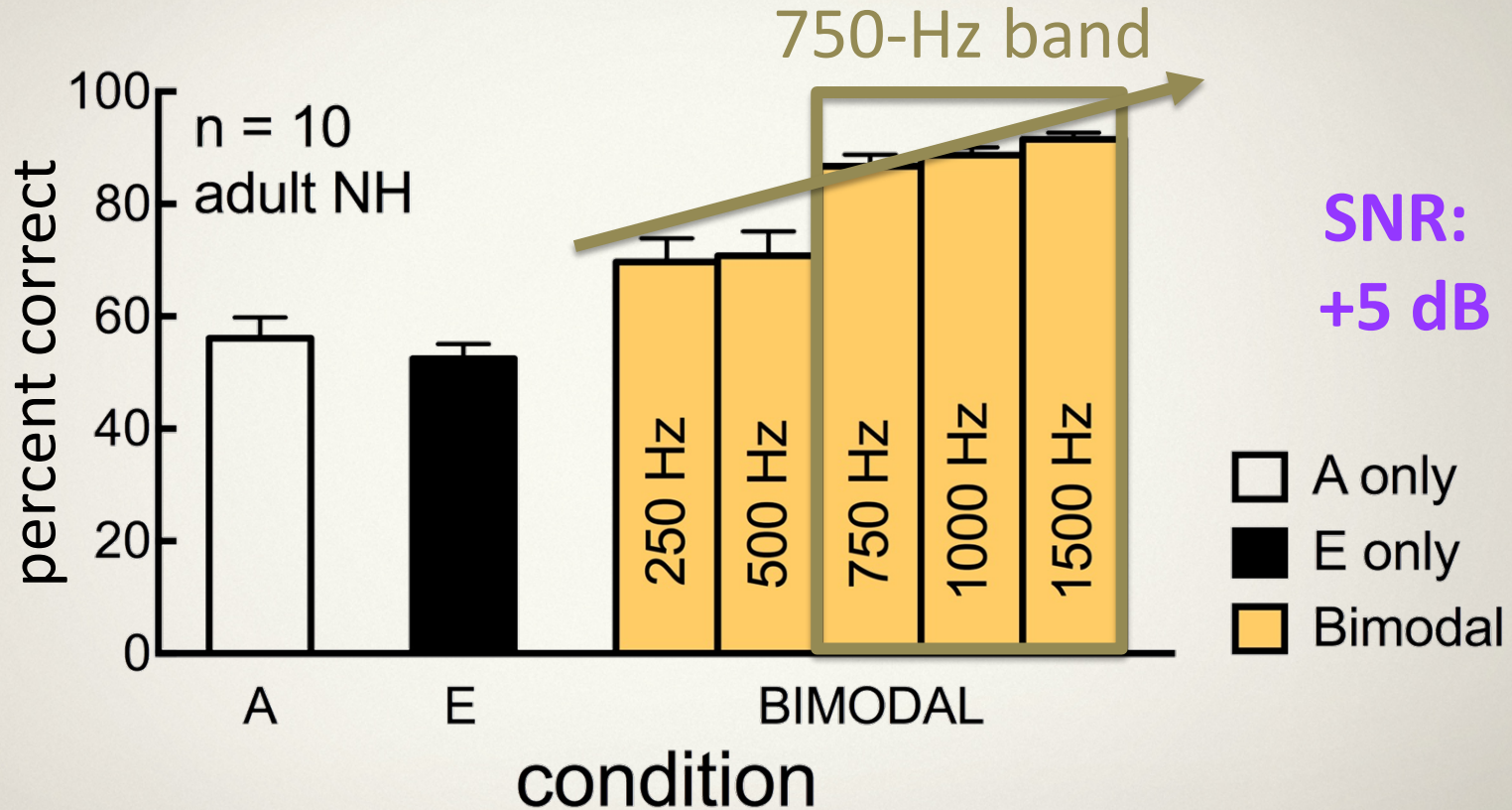


Sheffield et al. (2016). Ear Hear. 37: 282–288.

n = 10  
adult NH



# Sheffield et al. (2016). Ear Hear. 37: 282–288.





# SIMULATIONS



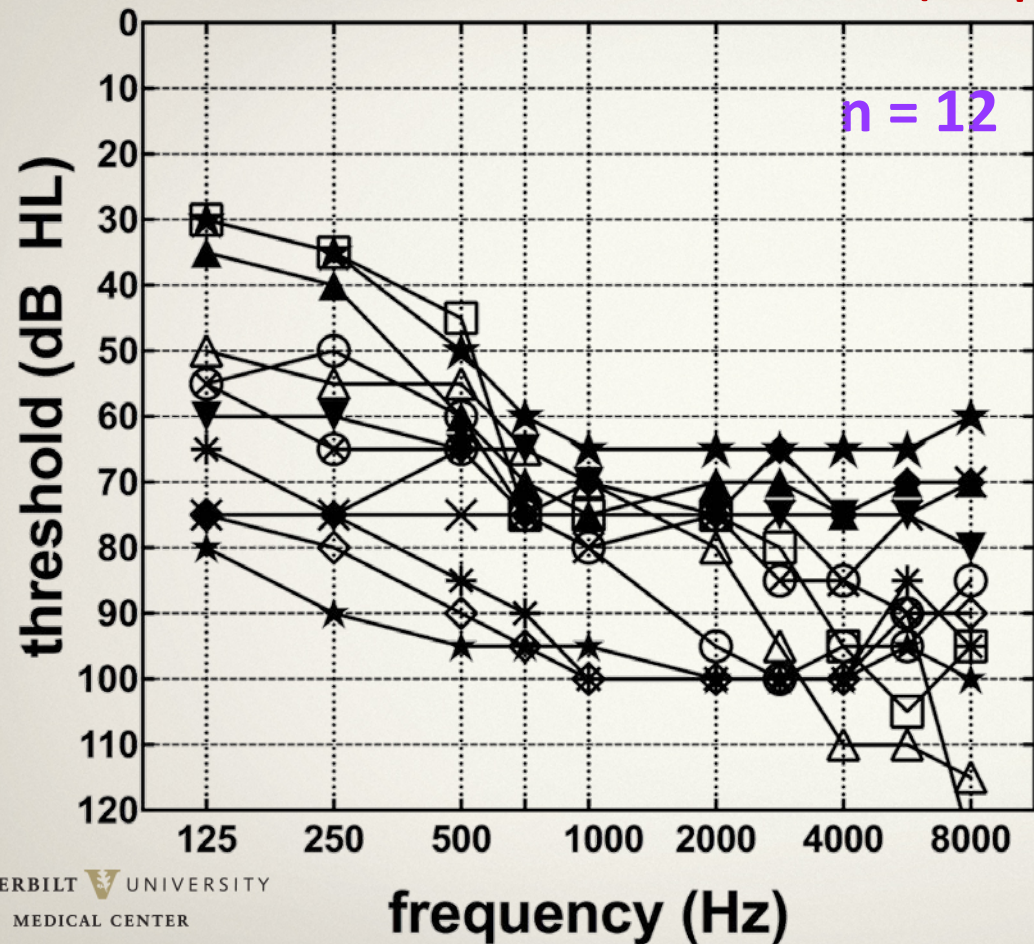




# BIMODAL



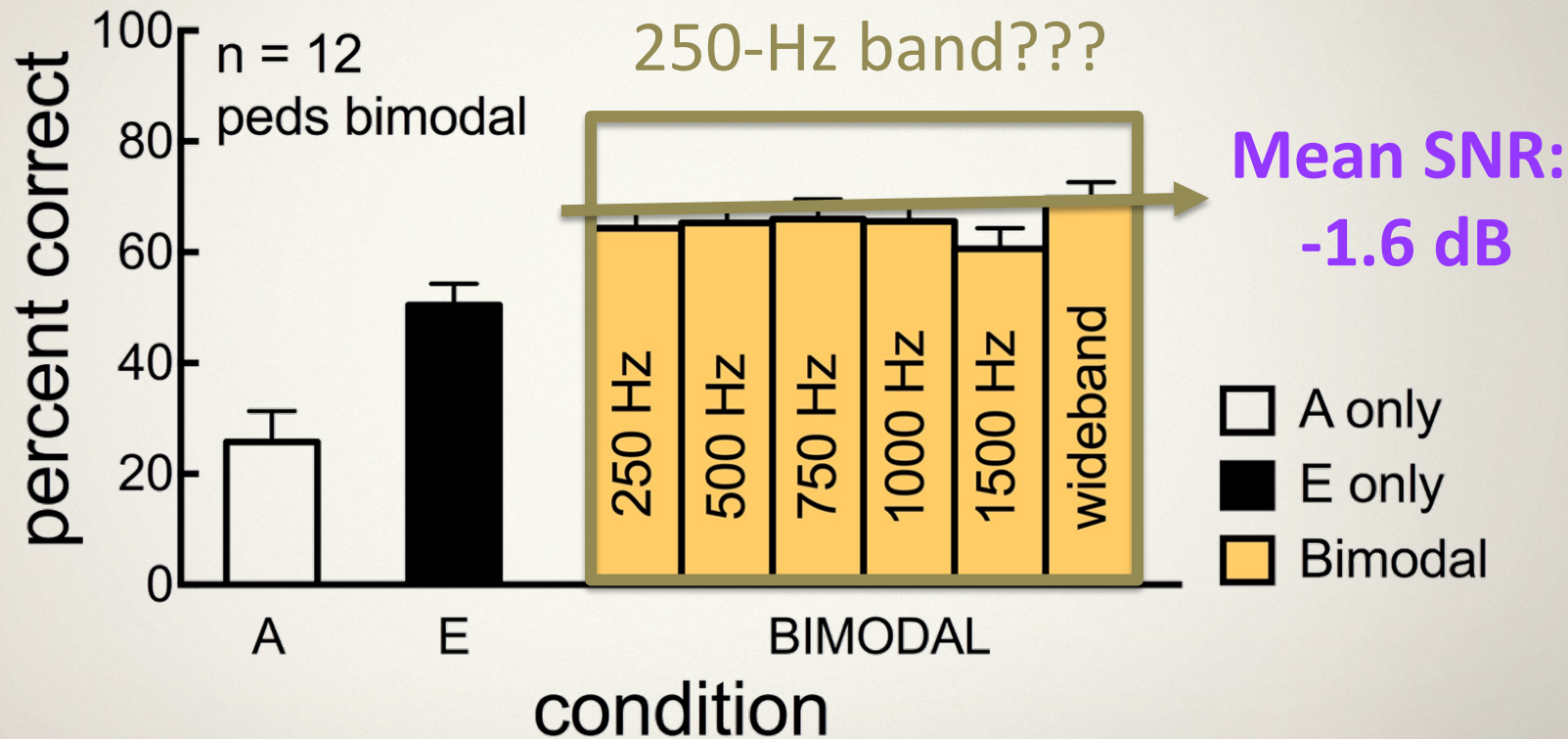
# Gifford et al. (in prep).



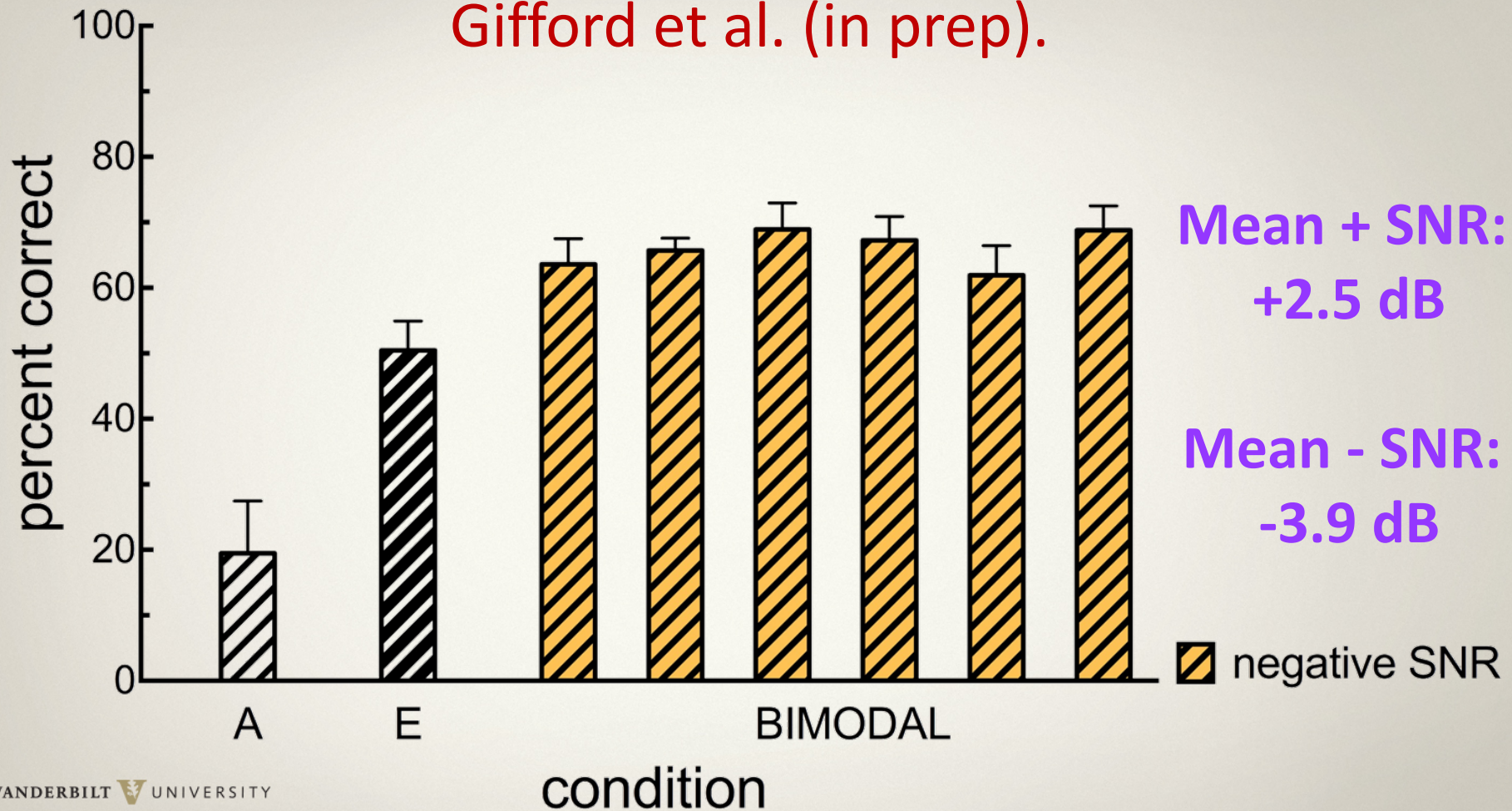
- Mean age: 9.5 yrs
  - range: 6.8 to 13.3 yrs
- 3 male, 9 female
- Mean age at CI: 6.5 yrs
  - range 1.3 to 10.7 yrs
- 65 dBA signal + DSL v5 amplification



# Gifford et al. (in prep).

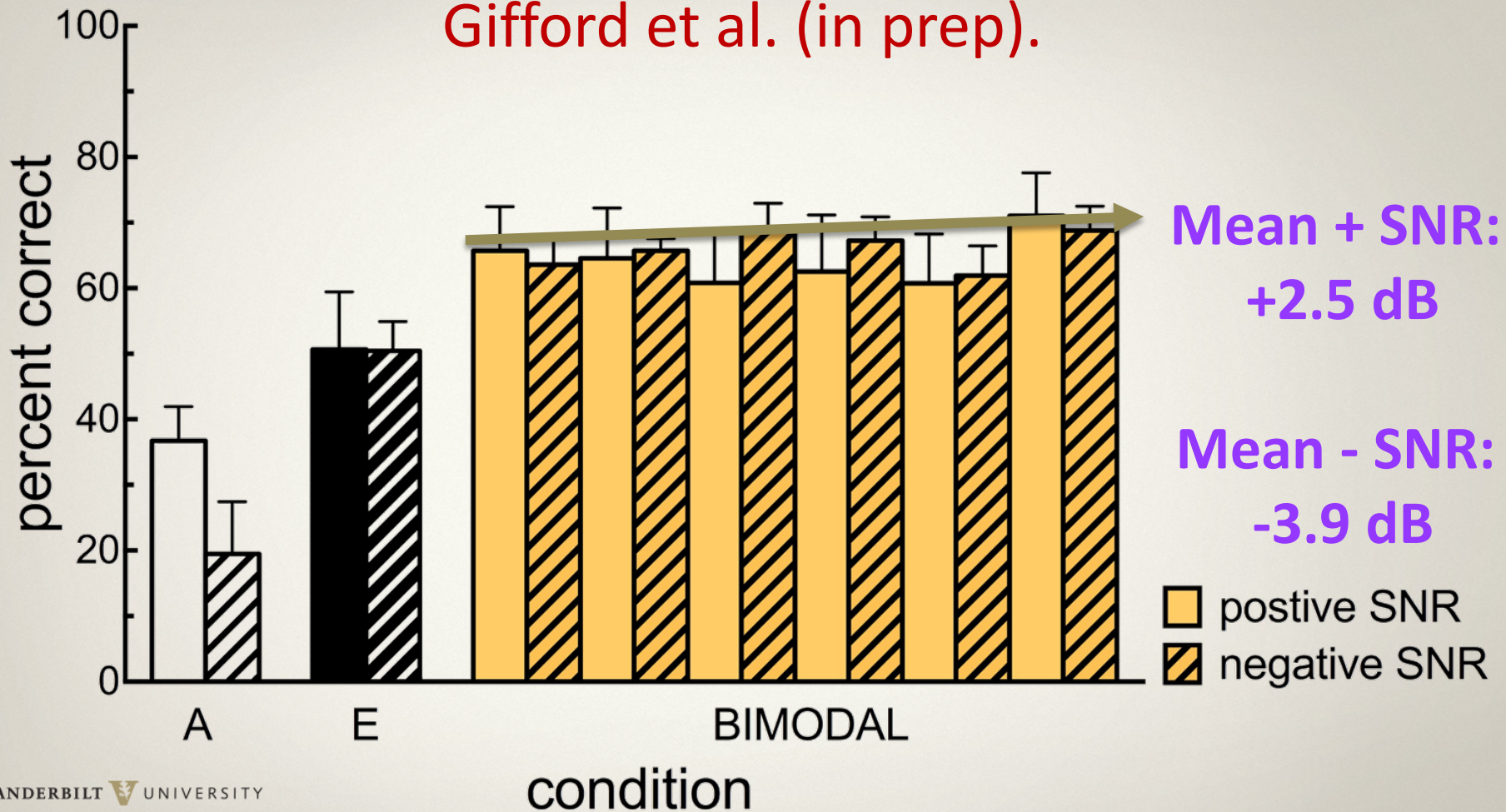


Gifford et al. (in prep).






Gifford et al. (in prep).



# Summary

- Significant bimodal benefit observed with acoustic hearing  $< 250$  Hz
- Children may be using *different cues* for bimodal listening (streaming  $>$  glimpsing?)
  - But, broader BW did not impair performance
- Clinical Rec: Aid that non-CI ear!





We spend a great deal of time talking  
about speech understanding.

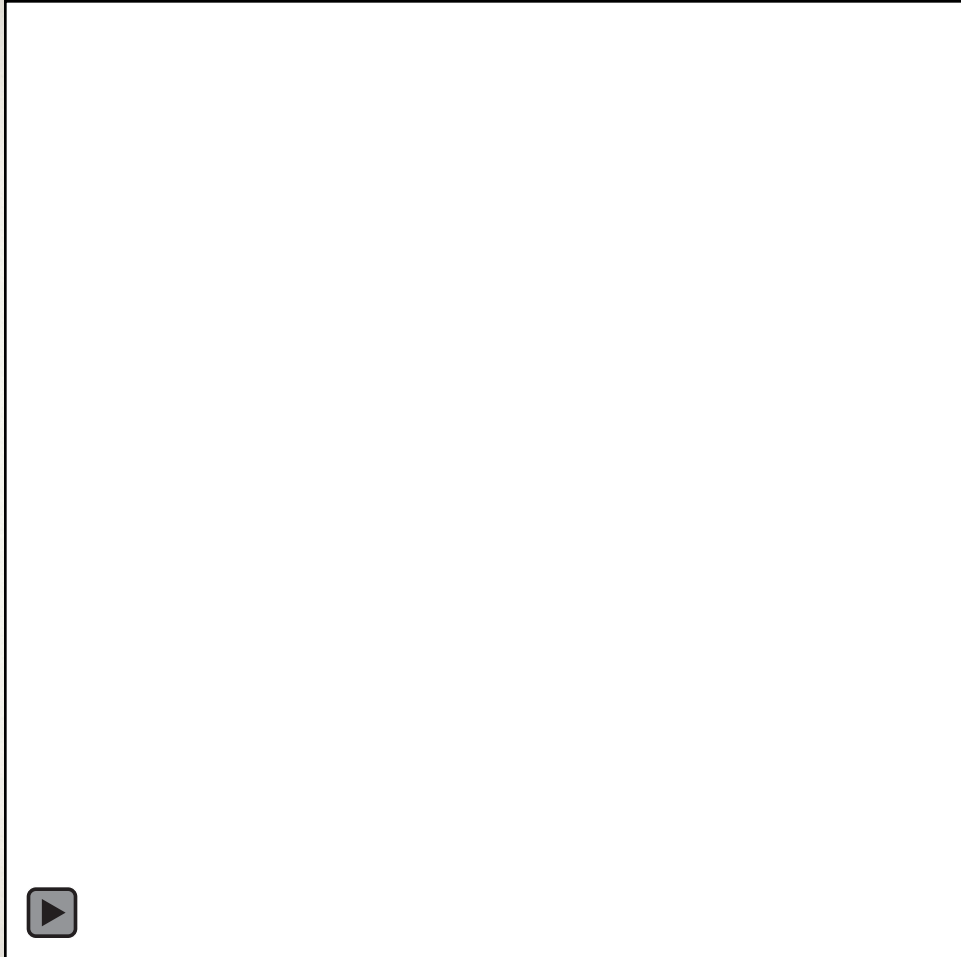


**What about music?**

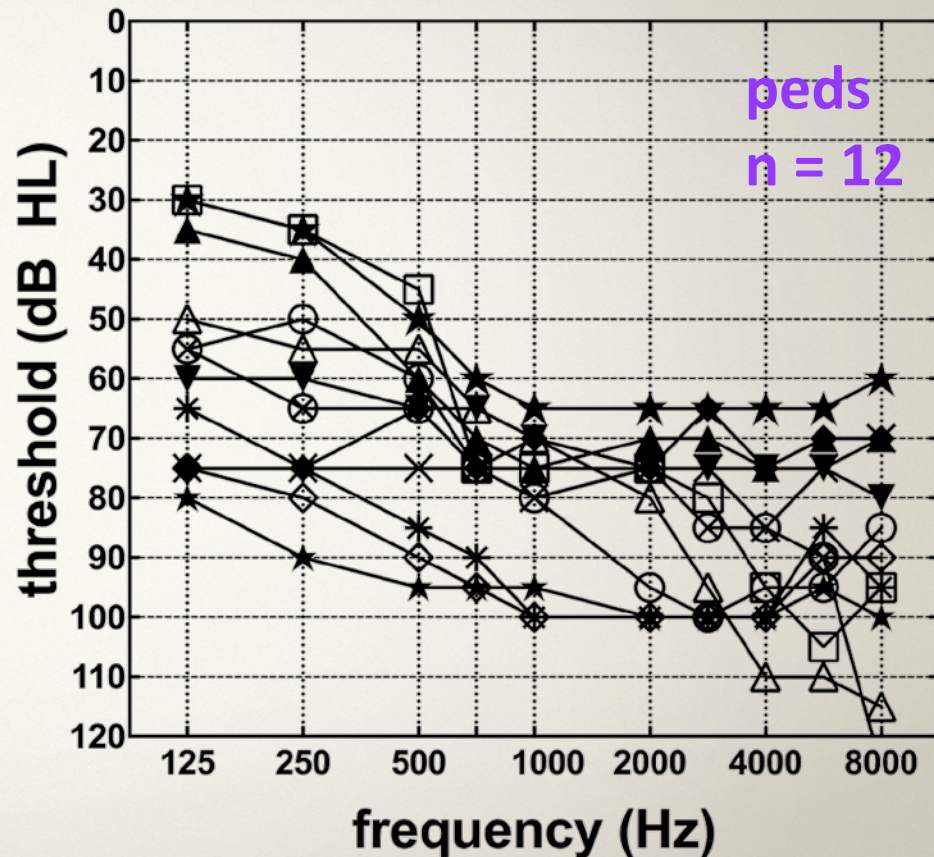
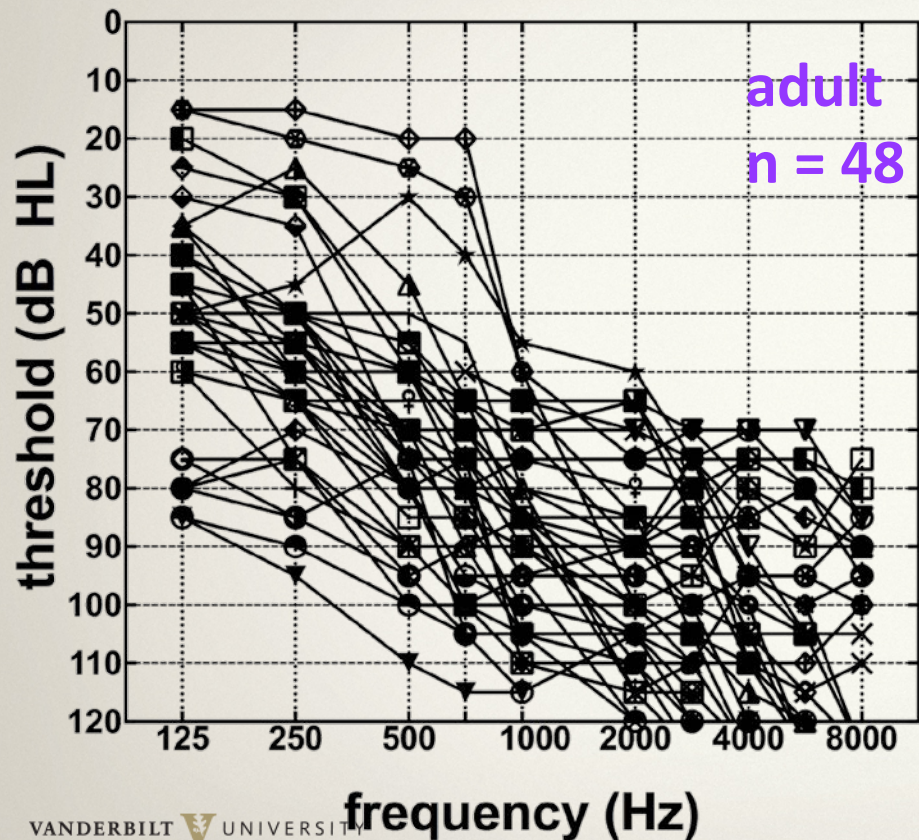
*...and might  
children be  
different?*





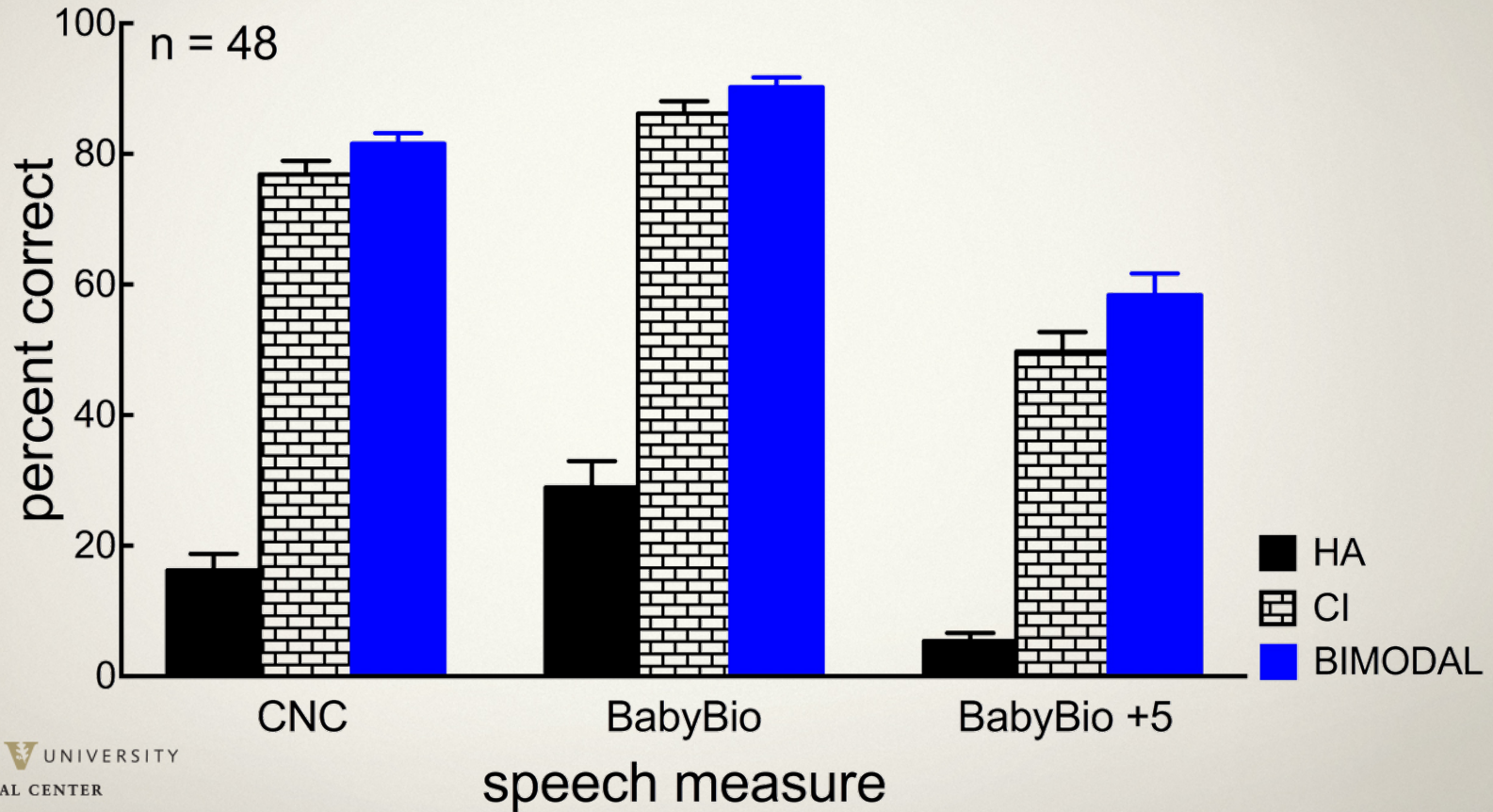


# Review: bimodal benefit for speech understanding

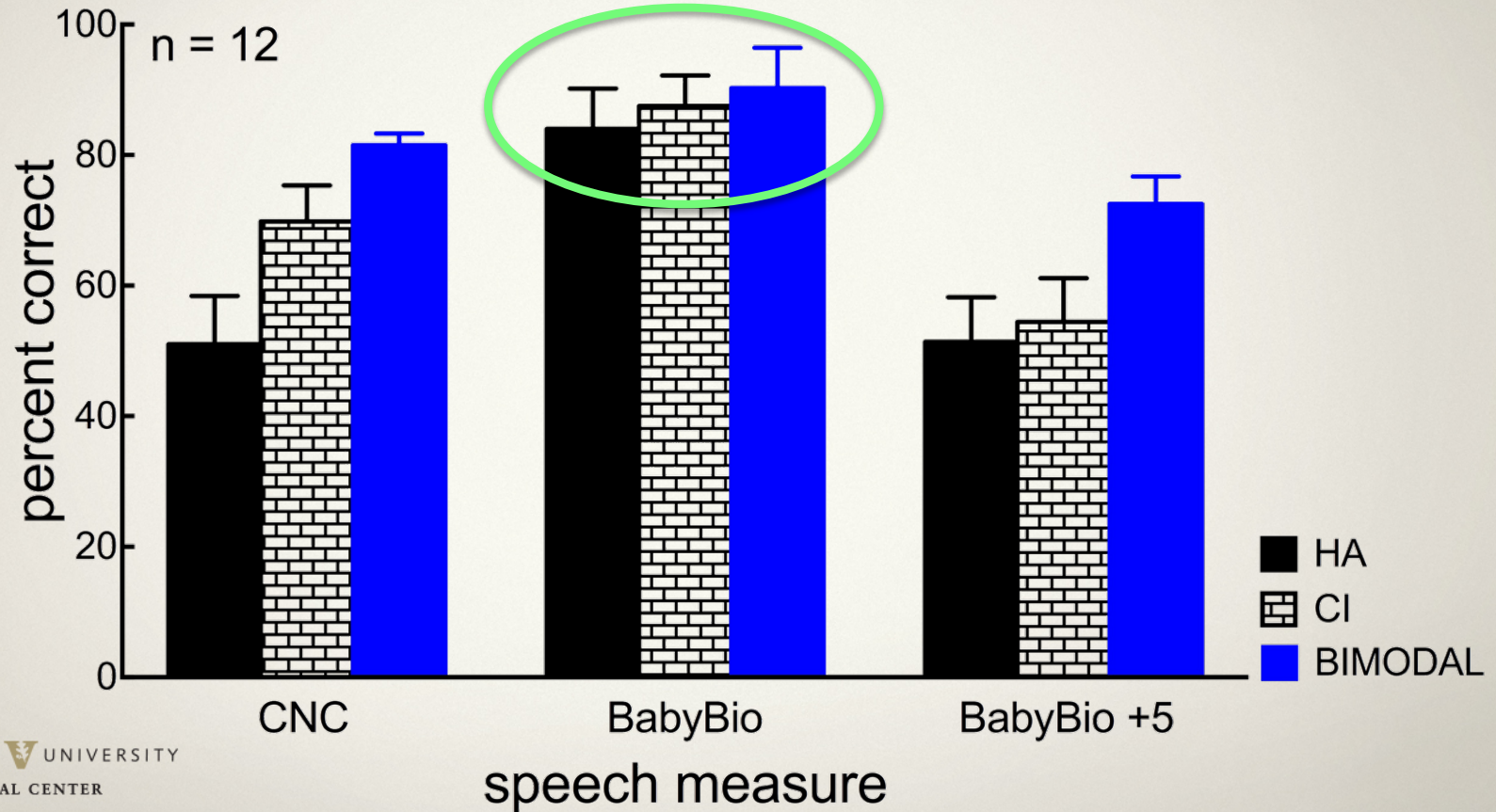




# Adult bimodal listeners



# Pediatric bimodal listeners







# Speech & music perception: bimodal adults and children

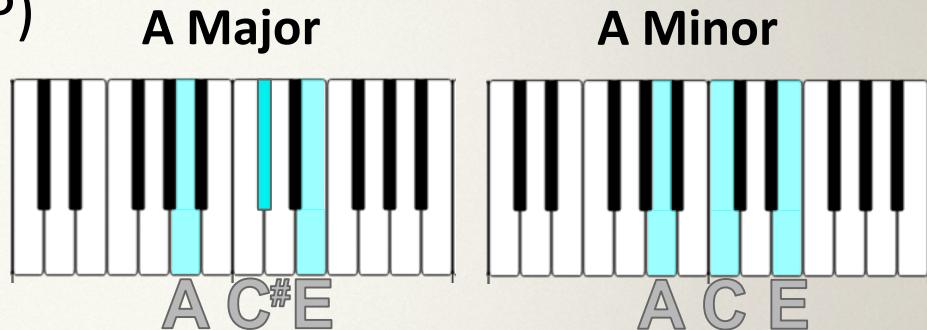
## Behavioral measures:

- isochronous melody recognition
  - ABC song, Old MacDonal, Yankee Doodle, London Bridge, This Old Man, BINGO, Frere Jacques
- pitch discrimination (UW-CAMP)
- chord discrimination



## Subjective qualitative judgments:

- visual analog scale (VAS)
- favorite music



## Neuroimaging

- Functional near infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS)



# Speech & music perception: bimodal adults and children

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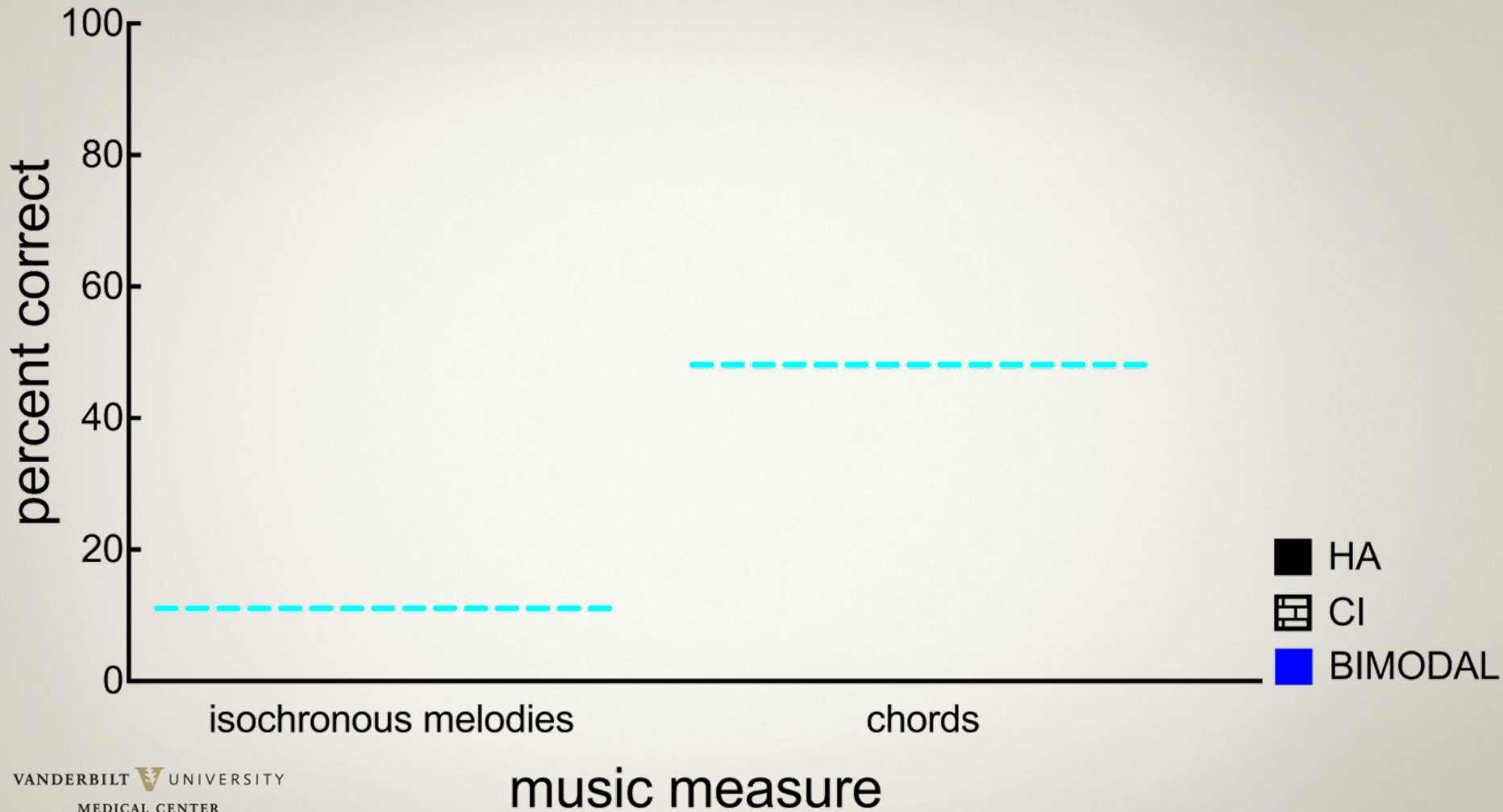
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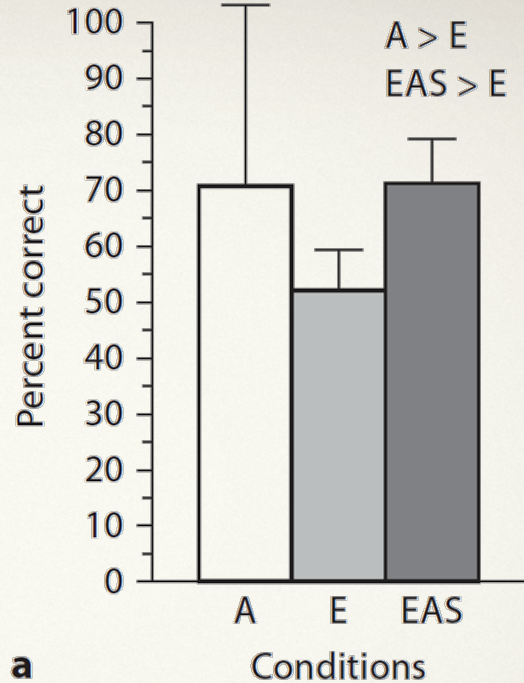
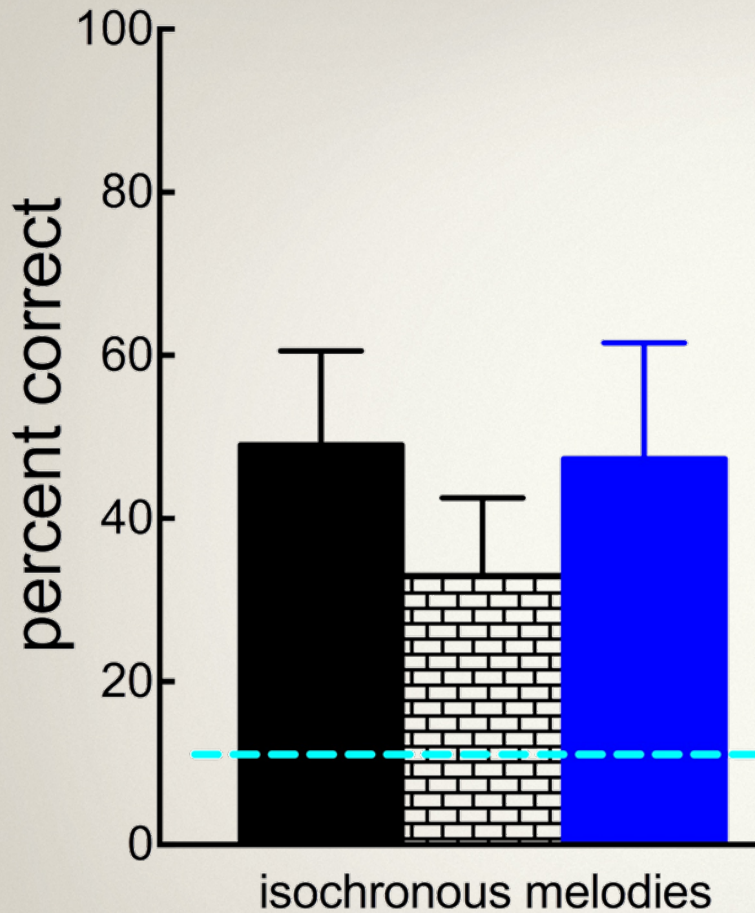
## Neuroimaging

- Functional near infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) → More later!

- HA alone
  - DSL v5
- CI alone
  - 20-25 dB HL
- BIMODAL
  
- n = 4
- 10, 12, 15, & 17 years



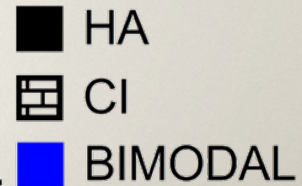




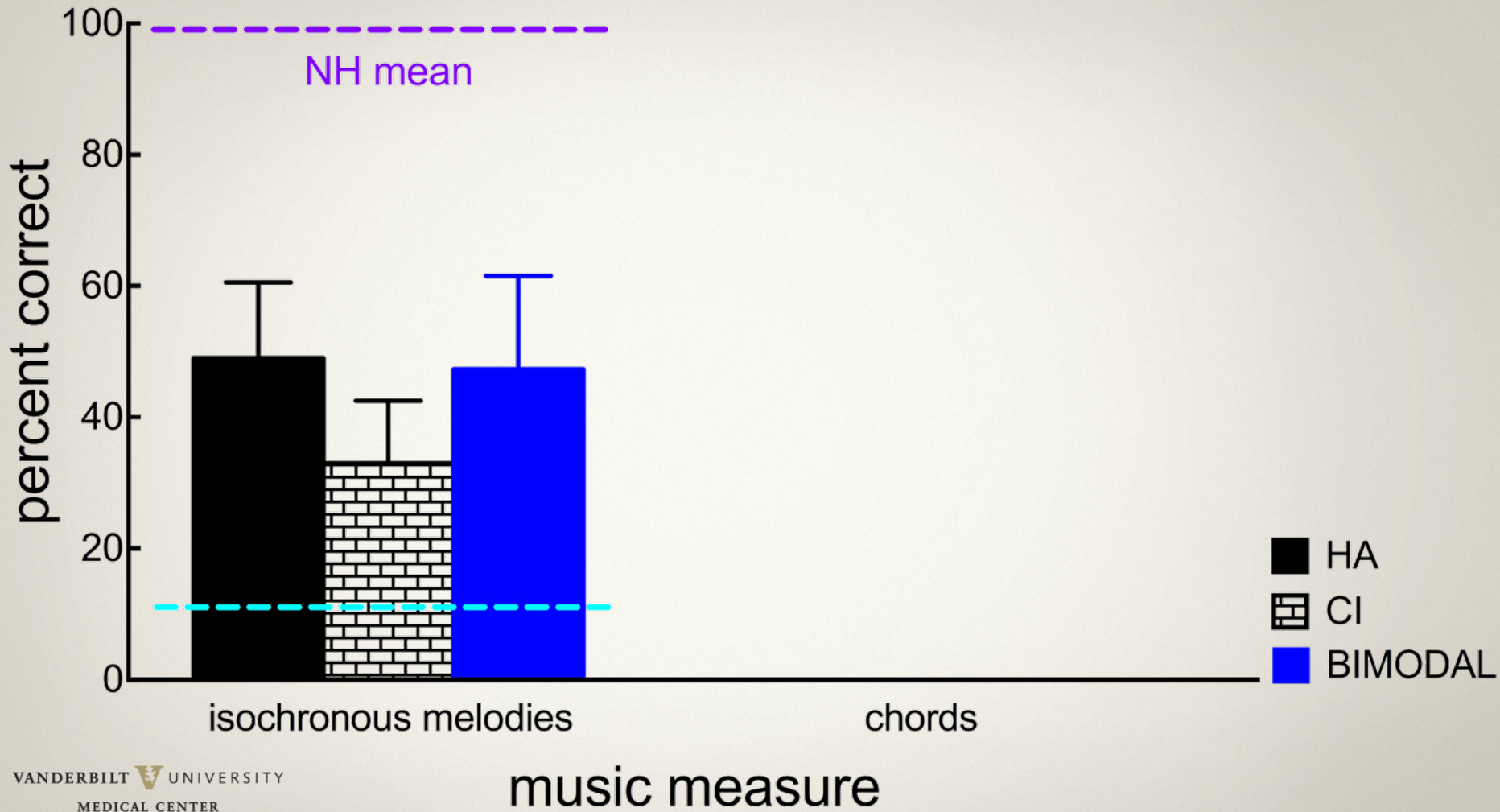
Dorman et al. (2008).  
Audiol Neurotol,  
13:105–112

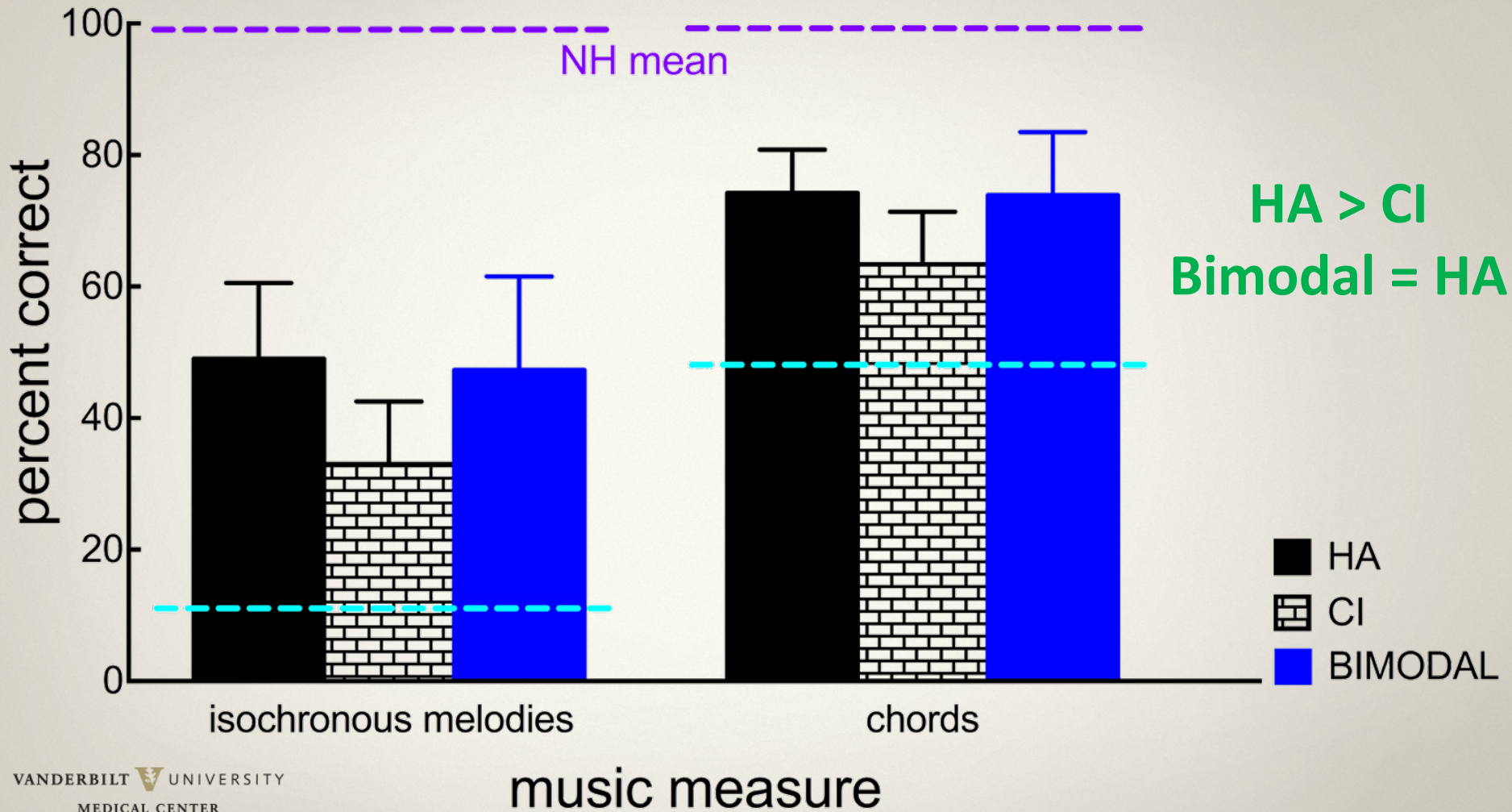
a

chords

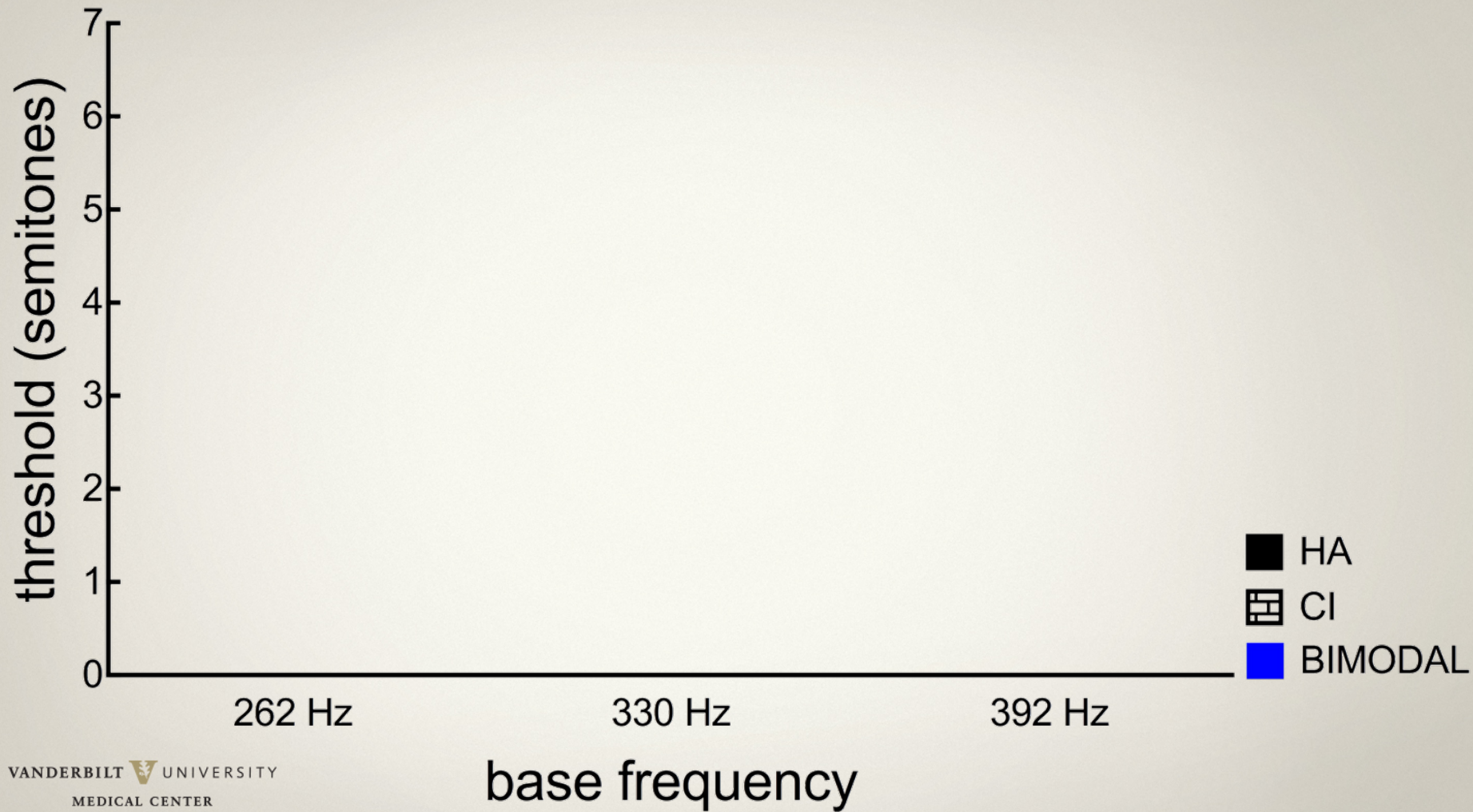


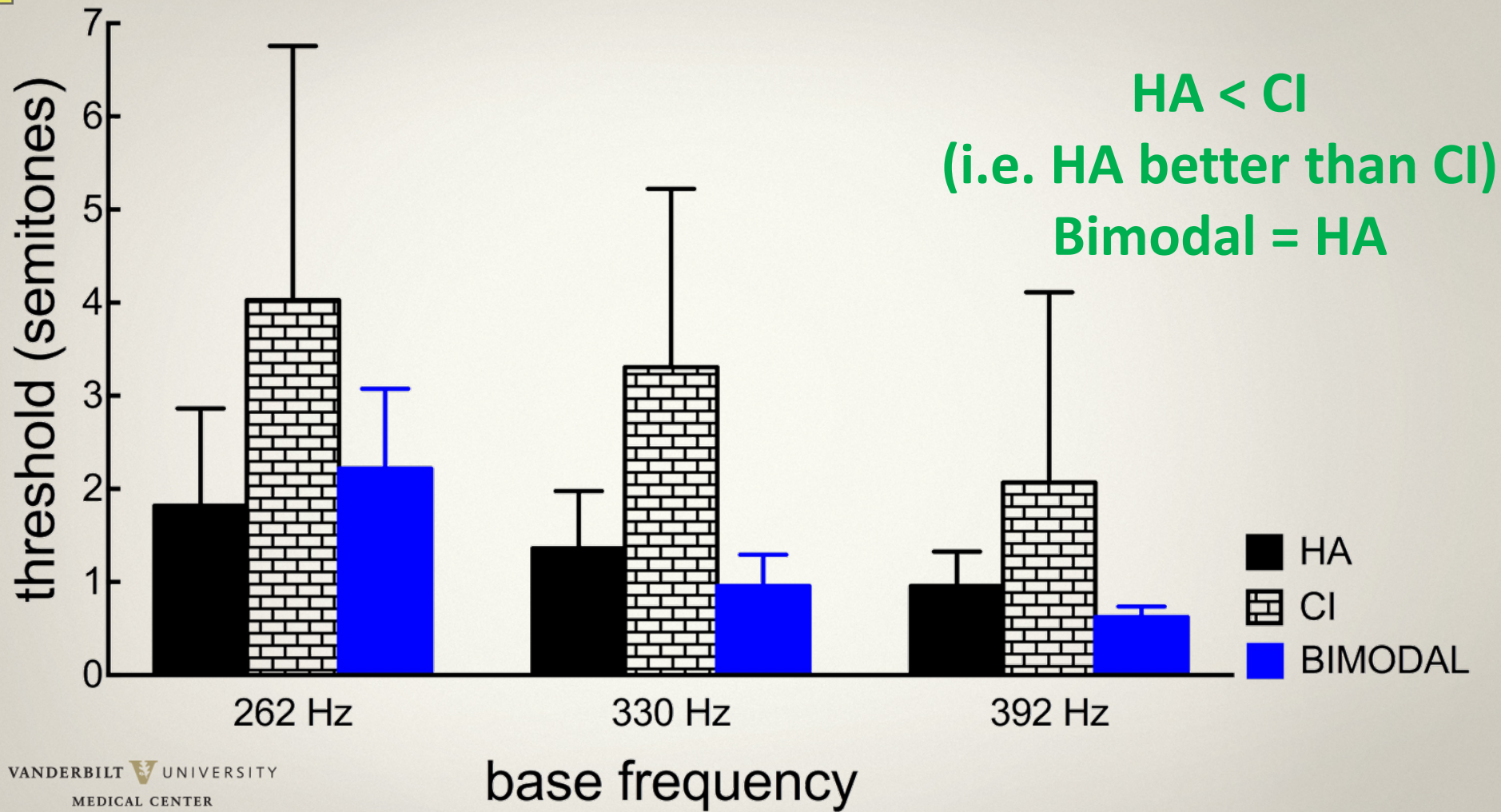








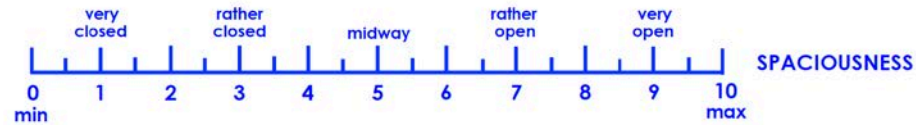
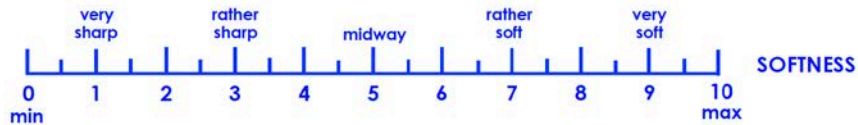
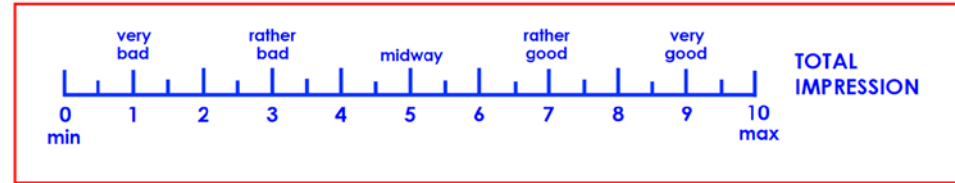
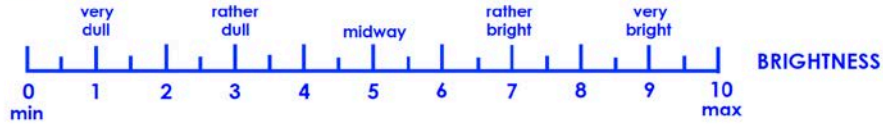
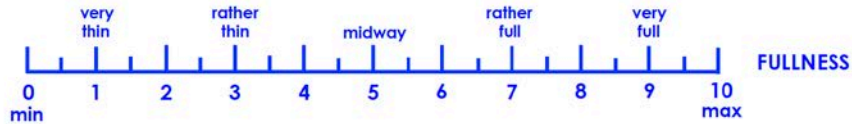
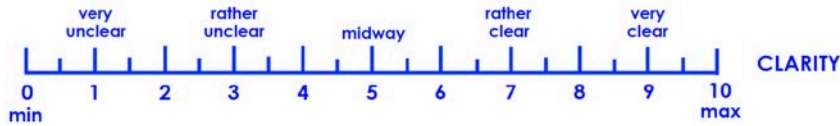




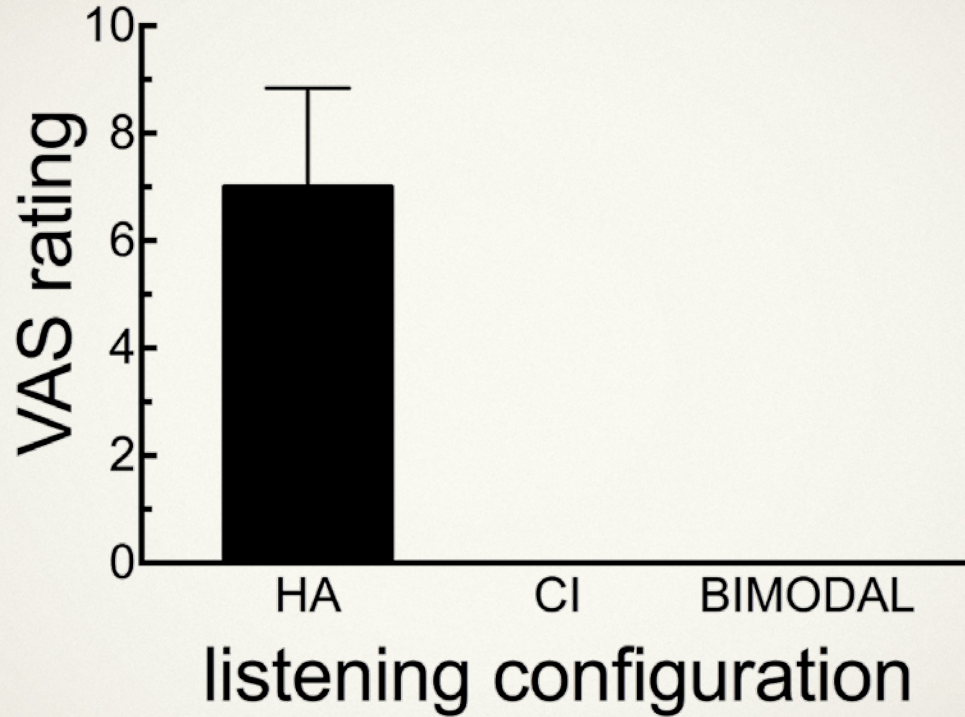


# Subjective ratings: Judgment of sound quality

Gabrielsson et al., 1988. JSLHR. 31:166-177.

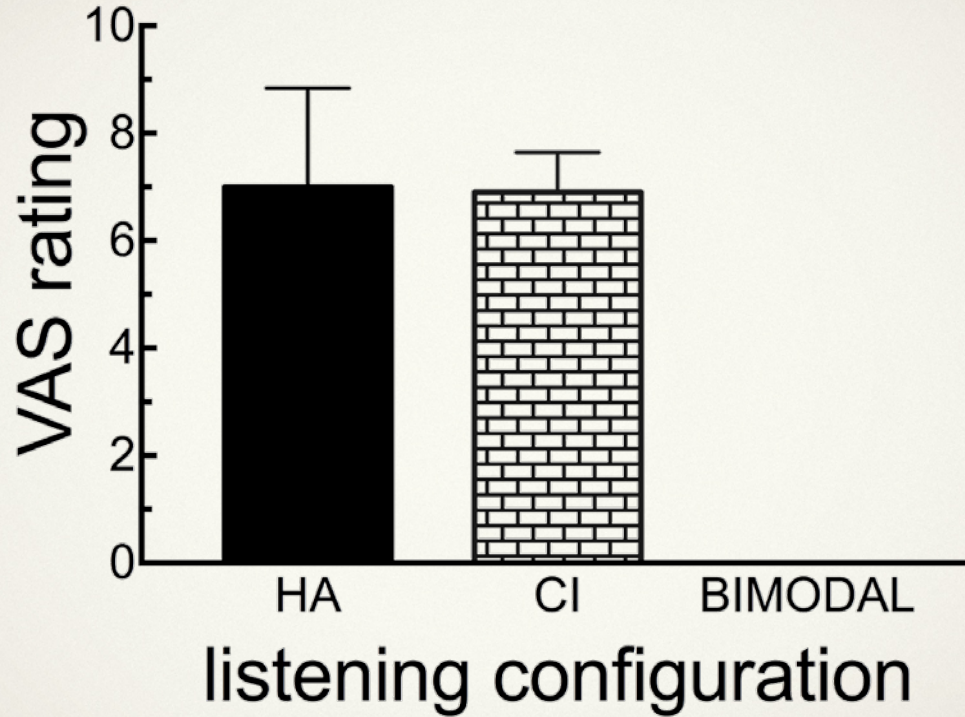


# Subjective ratings

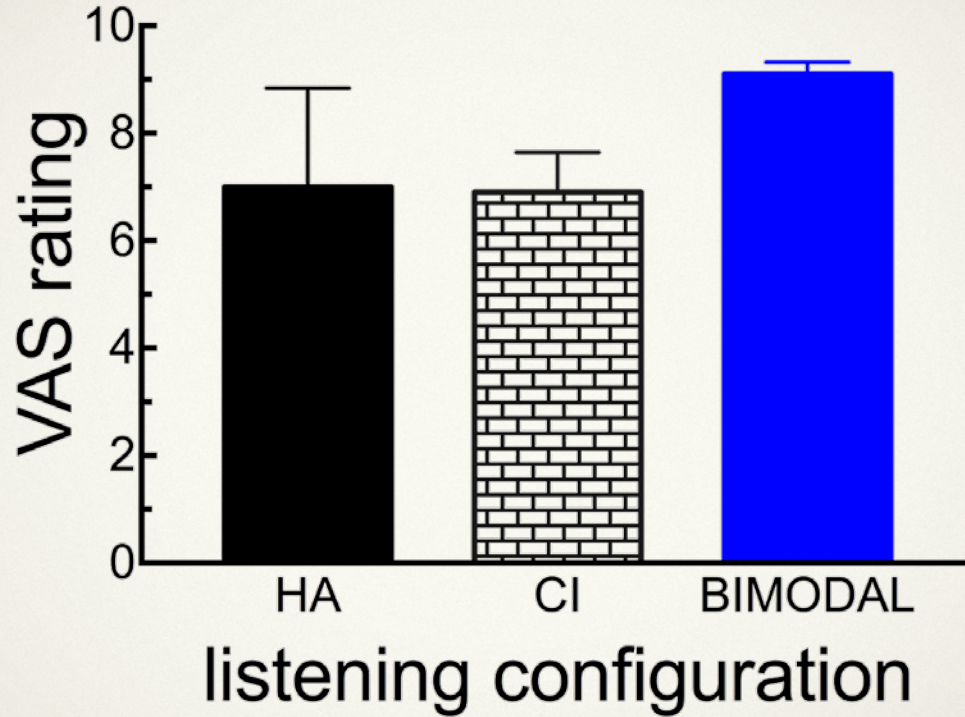




# Subjective ratings



# Subjective ratings





# Functional neuroimaging

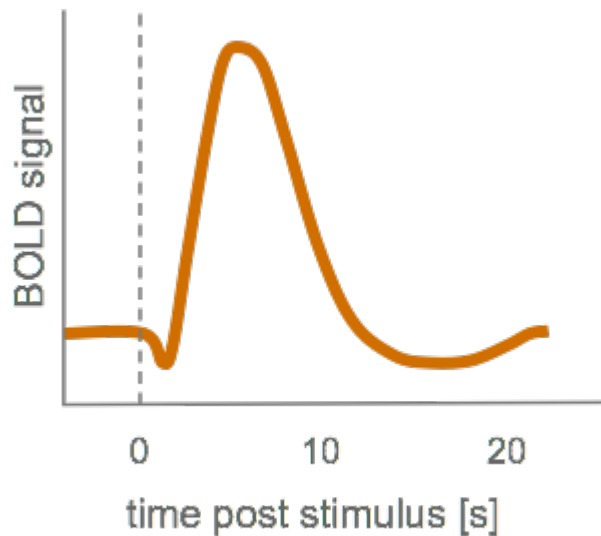
# Functional neuroimaging for speech & music perception

- Could be beneficial to guide clinical decisions and counseling, particularly in young children
  - Candidacy recommendations (re: 2<sup>nd</sup> CI)
  - Therapy recommendations
  - Counseling for expectations
  - Programming strategies



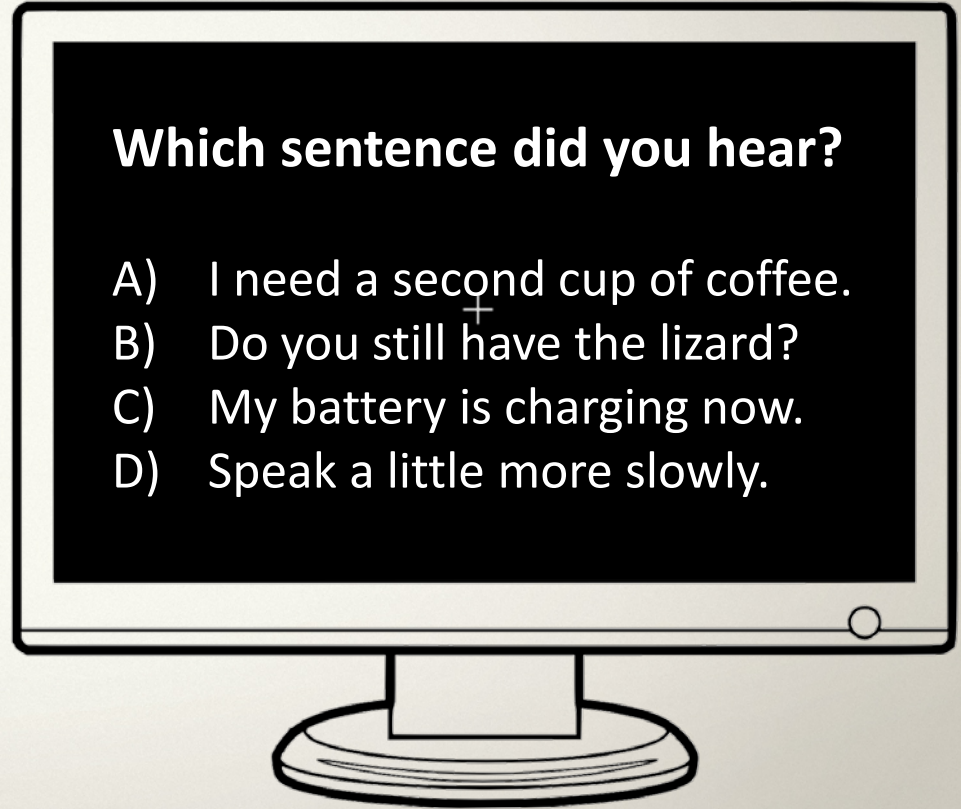
# Functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS)

- BOLD signal
- Safe with CIs
- No electrical artifact
- Pediatric friendly

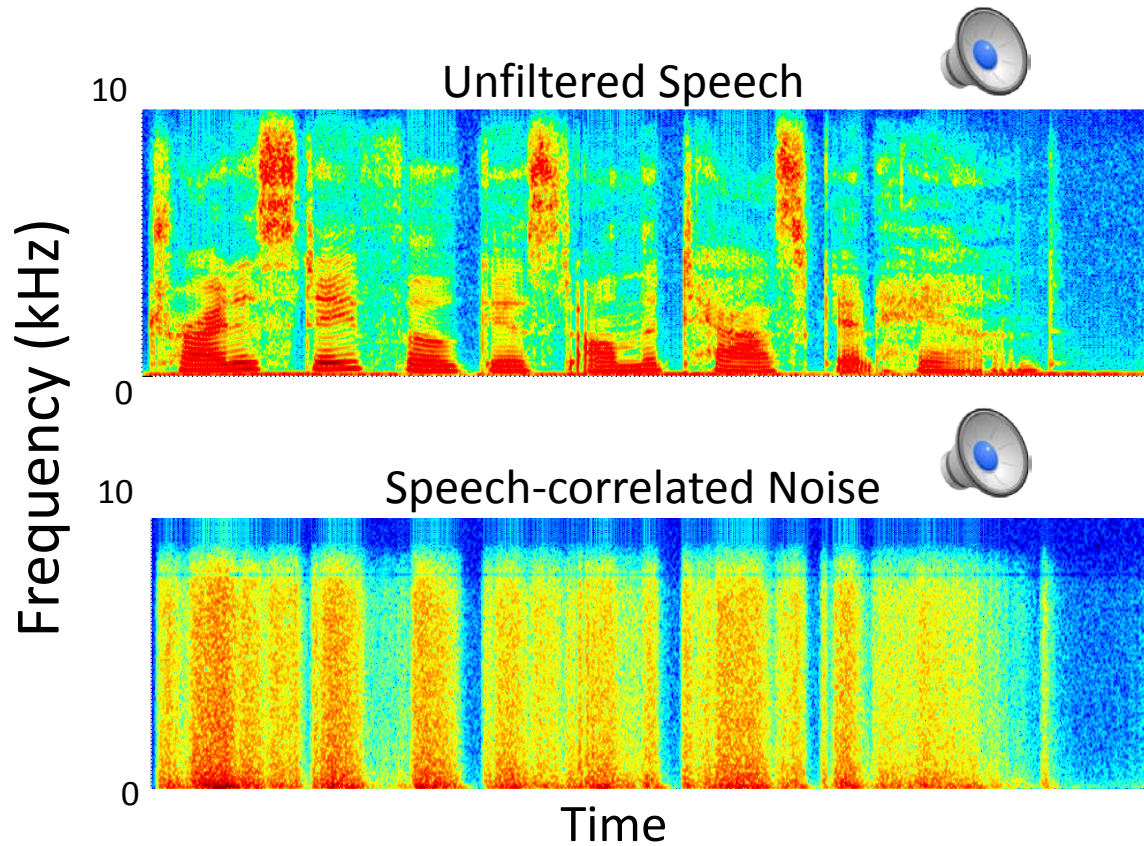


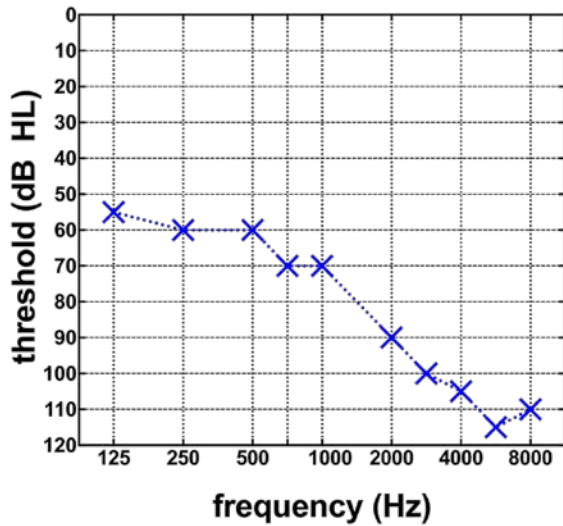
# Methods

- Passive listening task
- 9 sentences per 20s block
- Multiple-choice question after each block (to maintain attention)

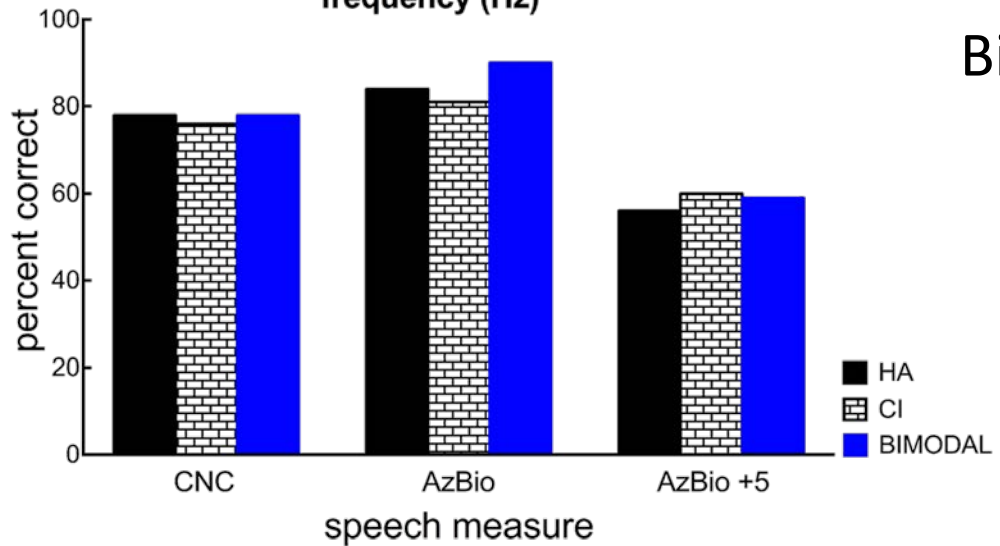
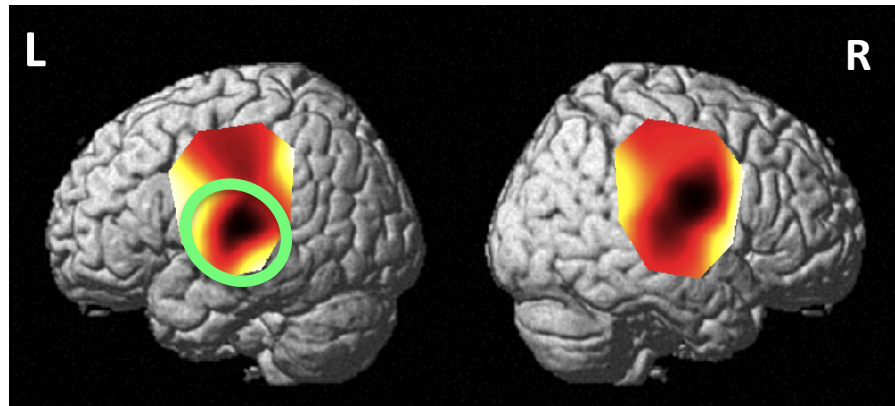




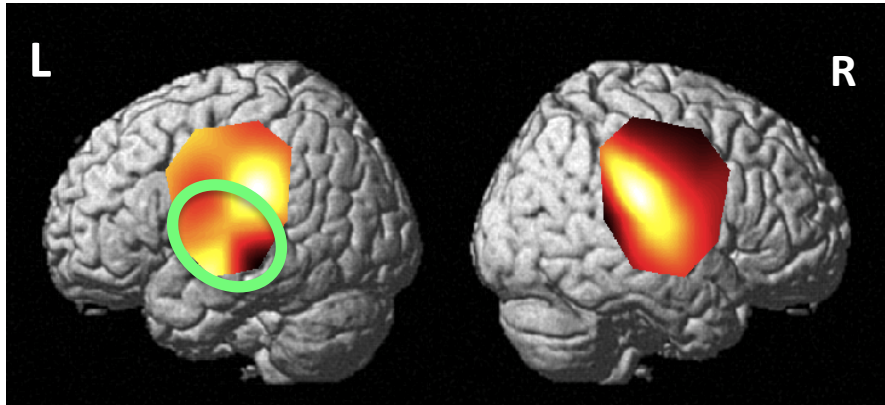




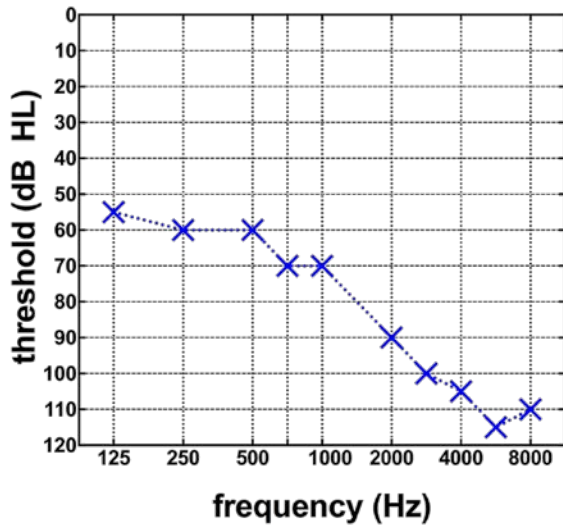
### CI only – Speech



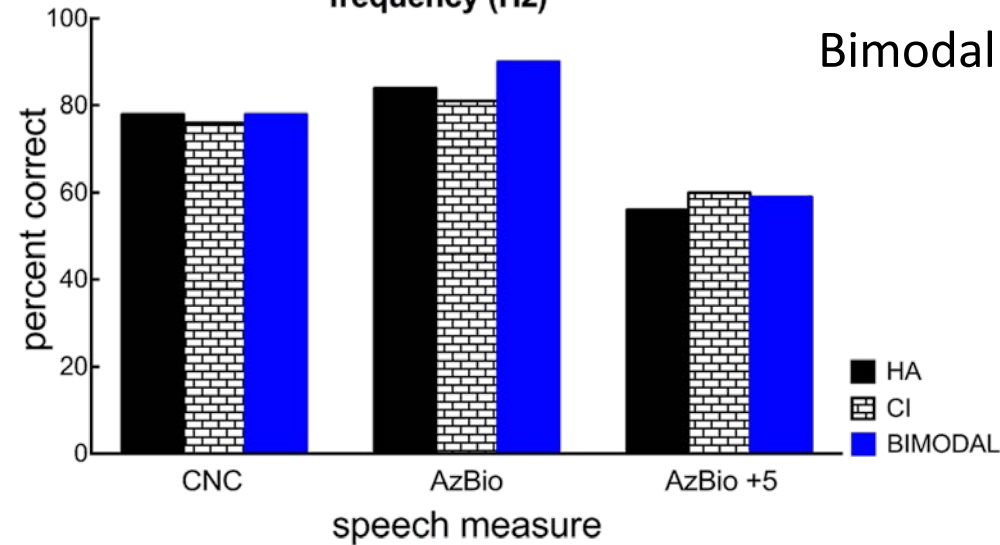
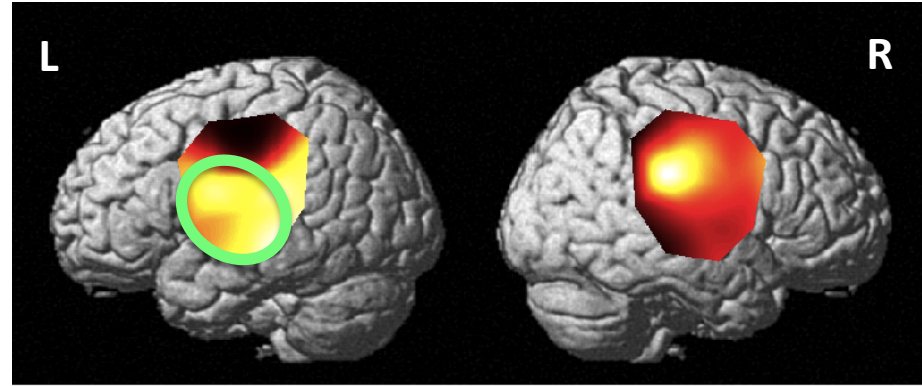
### Bimodal – Speech



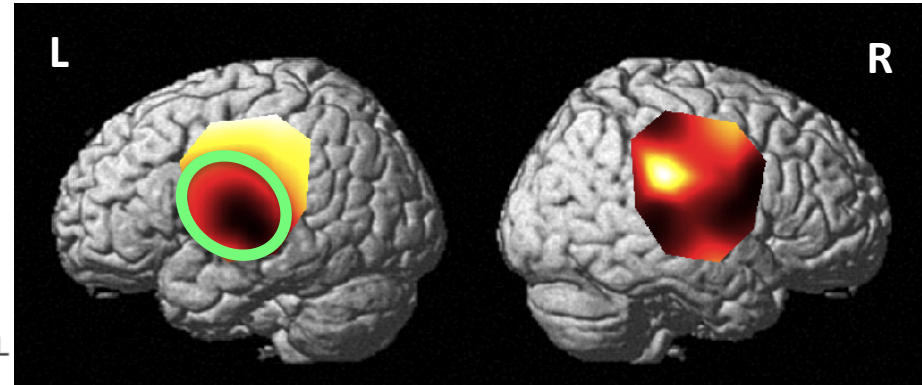


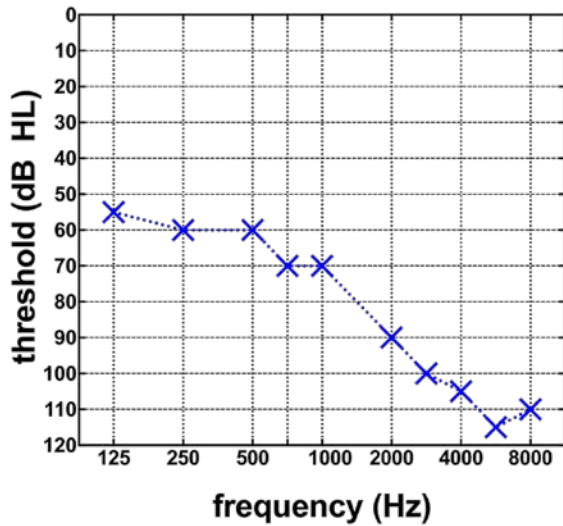


## CI only – Unintelligible Speech-correlated Noise

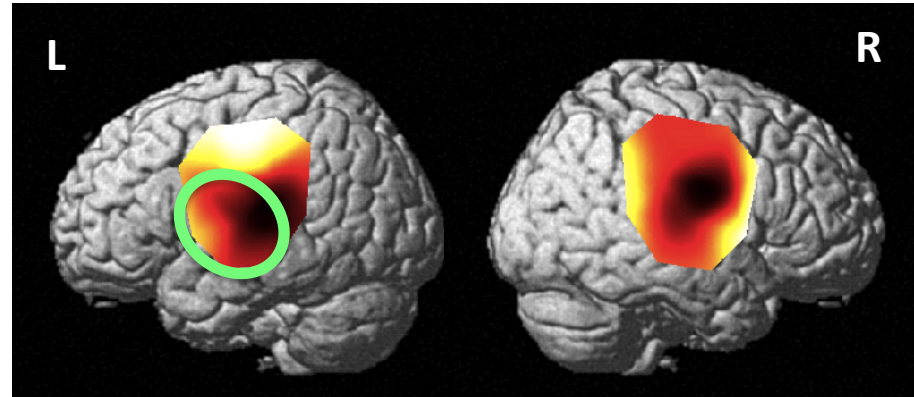


## Bimodal – Unintelligible Speech-correlated Noise

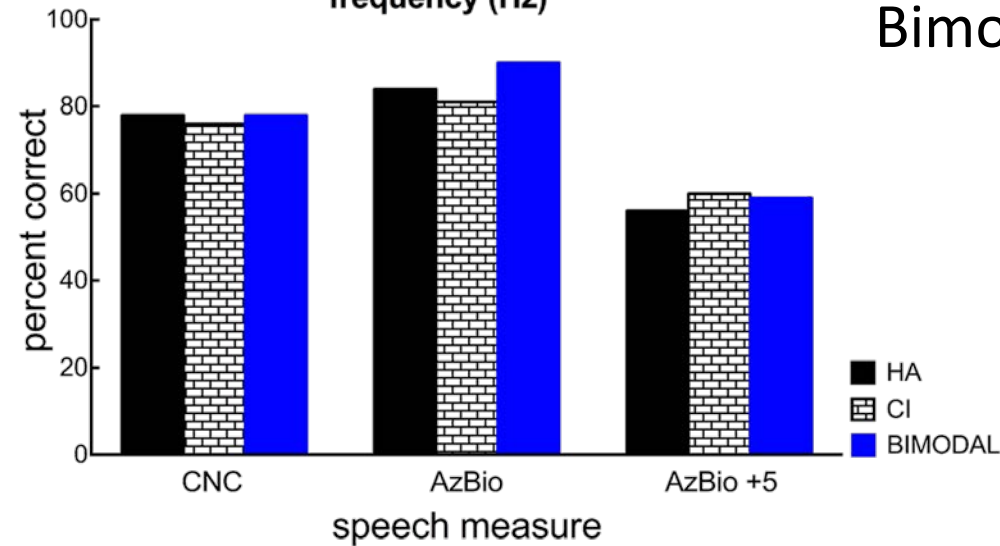
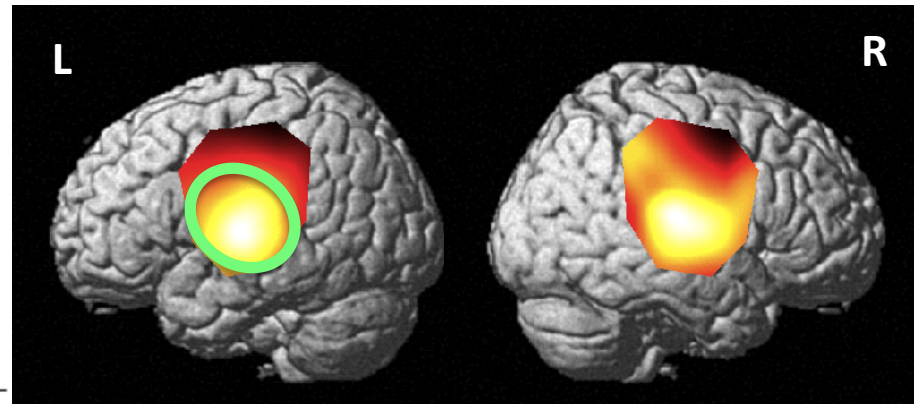




## CI only – Speech > Noise



## Bimodal – Speech > Noise



# Summary

Bimodal hearing → significant benefit over CI alone

- Speech understanding in quiet & noise
- Music perception tasks
- Subjective ratings of music sound quality
- Auditory cortical activation

Significant bimodal benefit can be obtained with *very little acoustic hearing*

- 250 to 500 Hz
- Increases in acoustic BW → increased performance



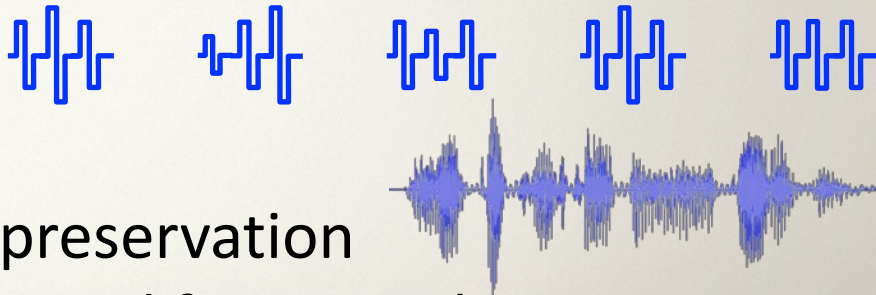
# Summary

## Functional neuroimaging:

- Greater understanding re: neural integration of electric & acoustic stimuli
- Guidance for clinical decision making?
- Outcomes?

## What might the future hold?

- Music coding strategies for CI
- Bilateral CI + acoustic hearing preservation
- HAs & prescriptive fittings designed for *music listening*



**Thank you for your attention.  
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# Zhang et al. (2014). Ear Hear, 35:410–417.

