

How do deafblind signers feel emotional expression in a tactile way

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DB signers

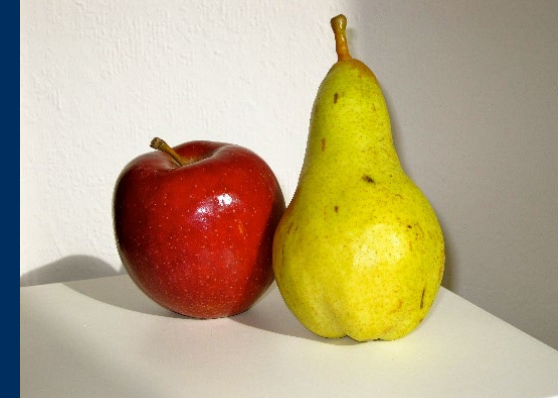


- A diverse community in which every individual may have different types of hearing and sight loss, which may have occurred in different moments of their lives
- Often in physical contact through hands with another person
- Formulate signs and utterances using their own and the other interactant's body to co-form utterances

Tactile Swedish Sign Language corpus

- Funded by Mo Gårds Forskningsfond
- Data 4.30 hours, 8 deafblind signers (5 female, 3 male), aged 38-77
- Four cameras in the studio setting
- Dialogues – Free conversation
- Elicitation task “Touch to explore objects and tell”

The elicitation method for data collection differs from other sign language corpora because of the limited possibilities of using a picture book, cartoons, or video



Parallel tactile sign language corpus

- Funded by the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters [31052018]
- Recordings in three days
- Raw data 50 hours
- 2 Swedish DB and 2 Norwegian DB (3 female and 1 male), age 50+, and 8 interpreters

Conversational data, elicited data, and diverse data collection procedures, such as dinner conversations, museum tours, visits to an old cathedral, interviews, meeting conversations, and cross-signing interactions



Depiction, constructed action, haptic sensations and not least emotional expressions

- Depiction in interaction cross-linguistically
(e.g. Swedish – Norwegian data) > intersubjectivity
- Haptic sensation (by touch on the body)
as part of tactile signing
- Emotional expressions



Video examples

- Video 1 (laughter)
- Video 2 (sorry)
- Video 3 (laughter)
- Video 4 (laughter)

Body and hand movement

A: Are you familiar with the fruit peach? Yes, this fruit. Do you think it can grow in Sweden, right? Or only in warm countries.

B: (laughter) Damn, difficult question. I don't know.



Touch and lexical sign

A: You get it (glove).

B: Now I'm ready. (.) You scratched my finger here, feel. Maybe there's blood on it?

A: Sorry.



Laughter and emphasised signing

B: There is a door to the toilet.

A: Toilet.

B: Yes, further on. I don't know. I think it's that way.

A: Walk there.

B: Yes, ha-ha (spelling, laughter).

A: Cold. Outhouse in winter.

B: Yes that's right.

A: In winter cold.

B: Oh, so cold.



Laughter and haptic sensation

A: 100 m and 50 m long and you don't have to clean.

B: (laughter, haptic)

A: It would be hard to clean.

B: (laughter, haptic) Keep quiet, they will record.

A: (laughter, haptic) Why did you want to say that?

B: I don't know (laughter)



Collaboration/planned application

with colleagues at the following universities

- Trondheim, Melbourne, Paris, London and Zürich

Planned application at SU

- EEG study

Acquisition of Swedish Sign Language by deaf migrants

Ingela Holmström and Krister Schönström
Department of Linguistics

**Deaf people around the world
experience very diverse
language acquisition paths**

A deaf family having a deaf baby



Access to language



Acquiring a sign language from birth

Similar early development and milestones in sign language as hearing children acquiring spoken language (gestures, vocabulary, syntax)

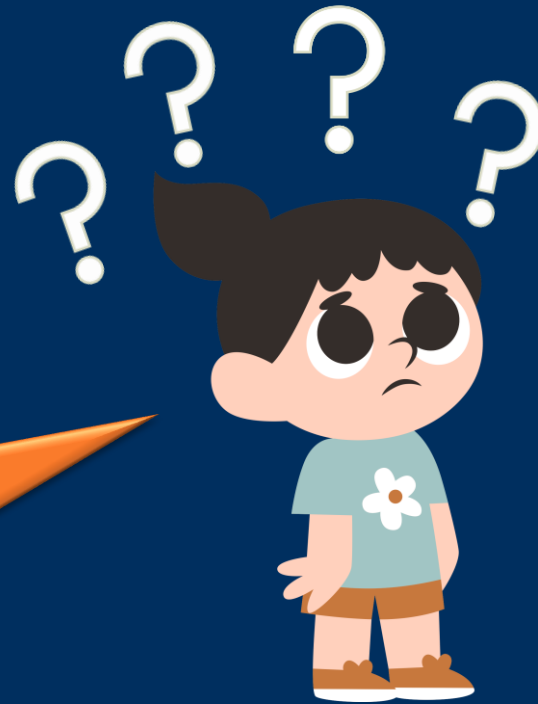
*A hearing family having a **deaf** baby*



Access to language

Parents' language knowledge – most only know a spoken language

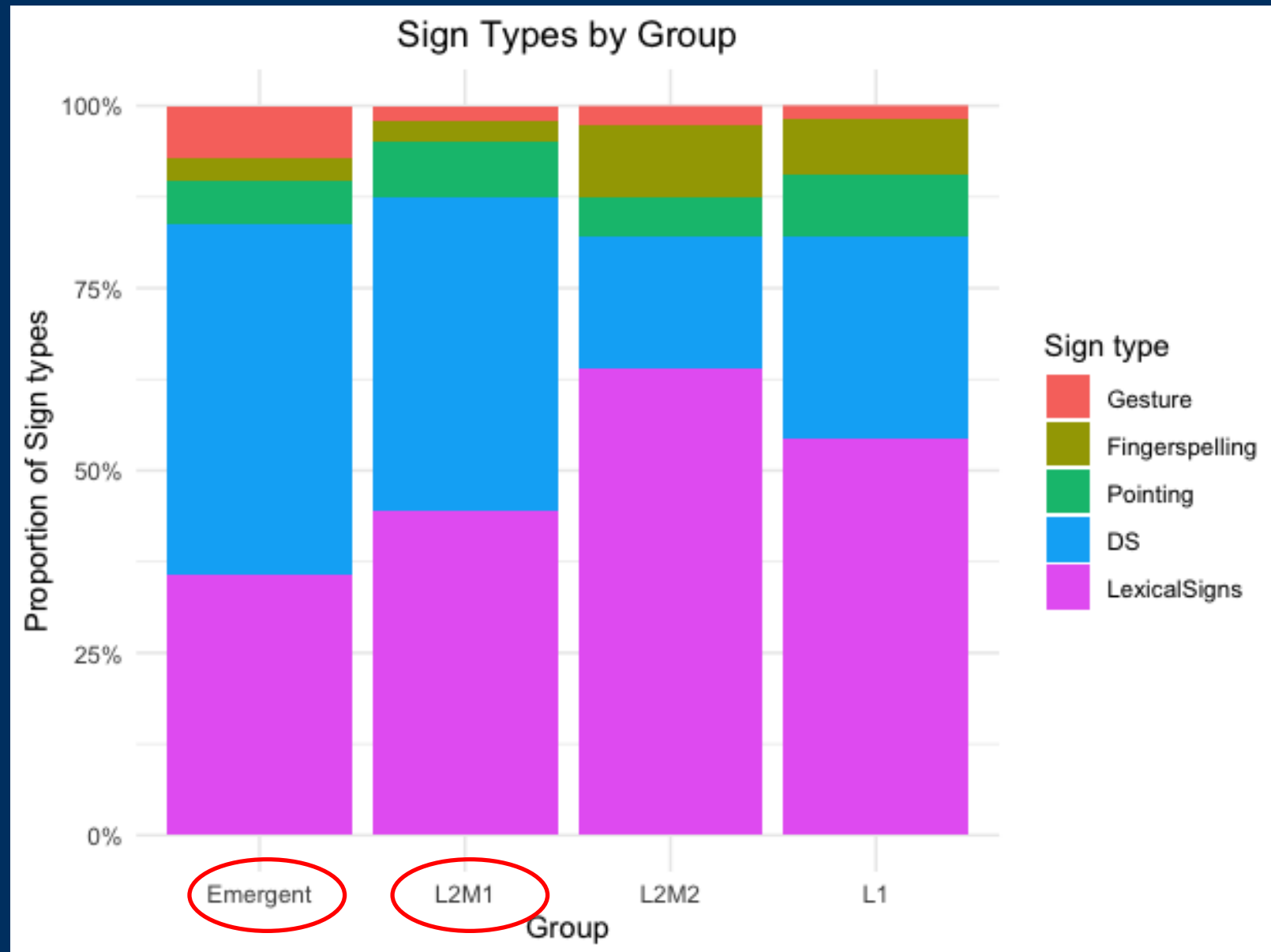
Hard for the child to acquire spoken language – and thus, the child experiences limited language input



Background

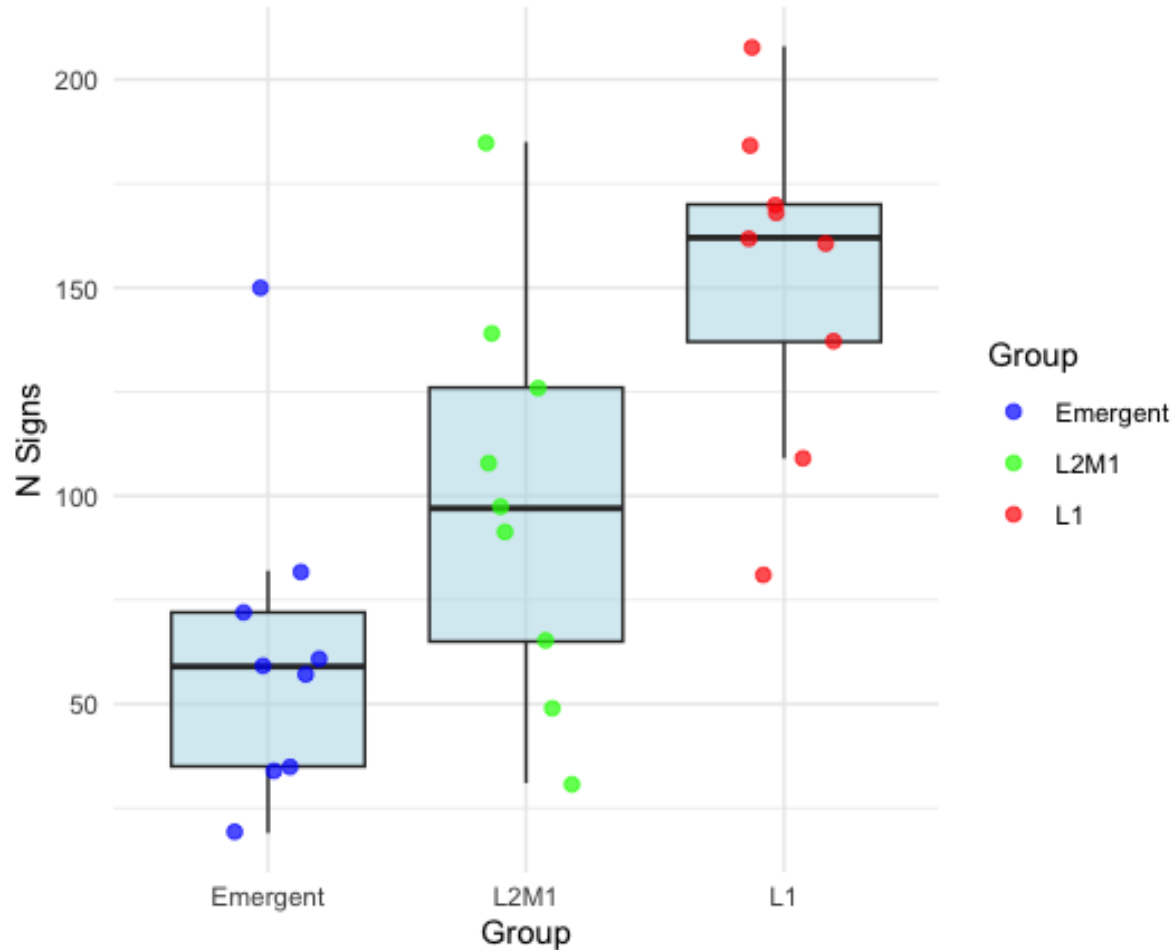
- This study is part of the Mulder project, The Multilingual Situation of Deaf Refugees in Sweden, financed by the Swedish Research Council.
- Two sub-studies:
 - Language use in social interaction
 - Language acquisition and development of STS and Swedish
- Analysis of STS language production data, e.g.:
 - Vocabulary (frequency and distribution of sign categories)
 - Syntactic structure (basic clauses including syntactic arguments and word order patterns)

Distribution of the groups' STS production – Sign types

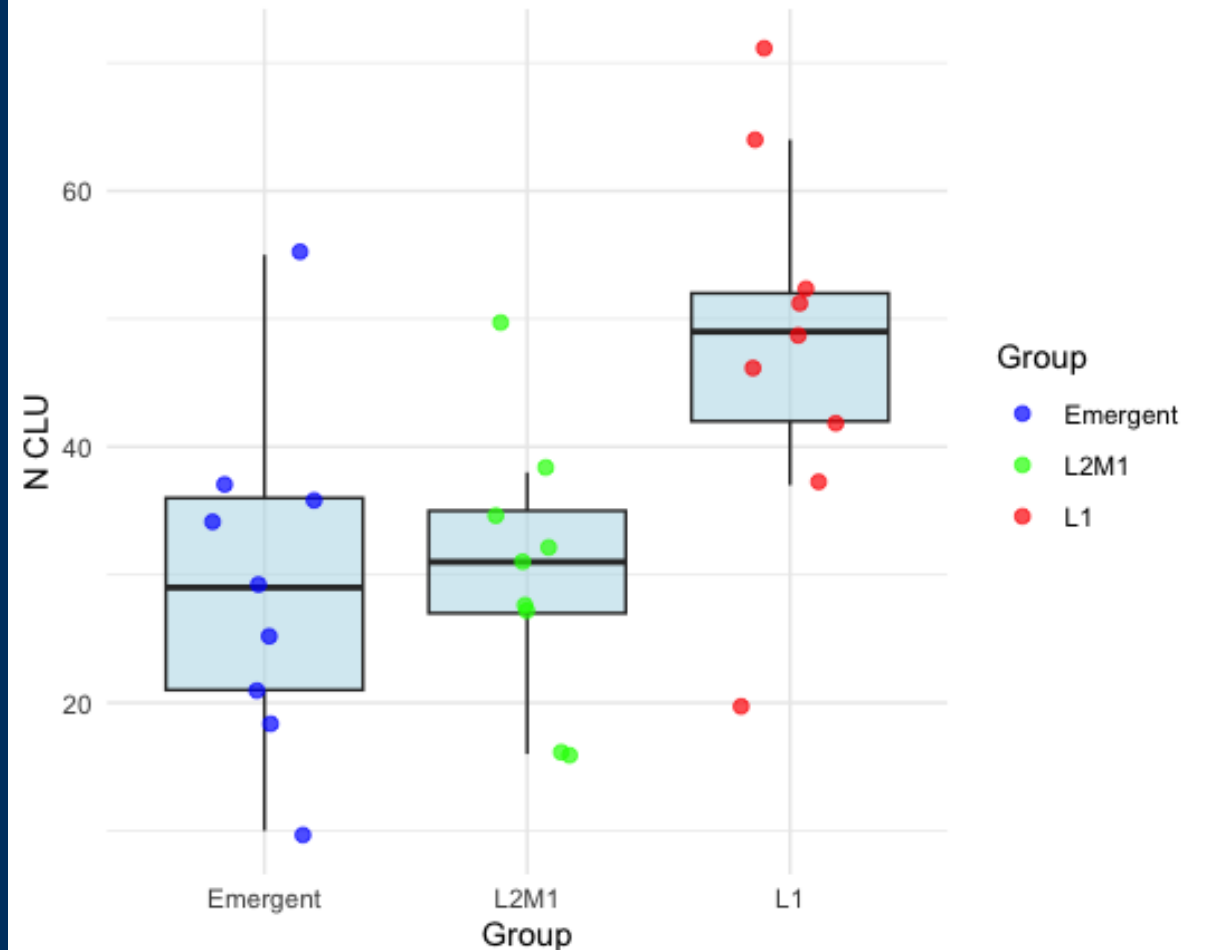


Syntactic structures – descriptive statistics

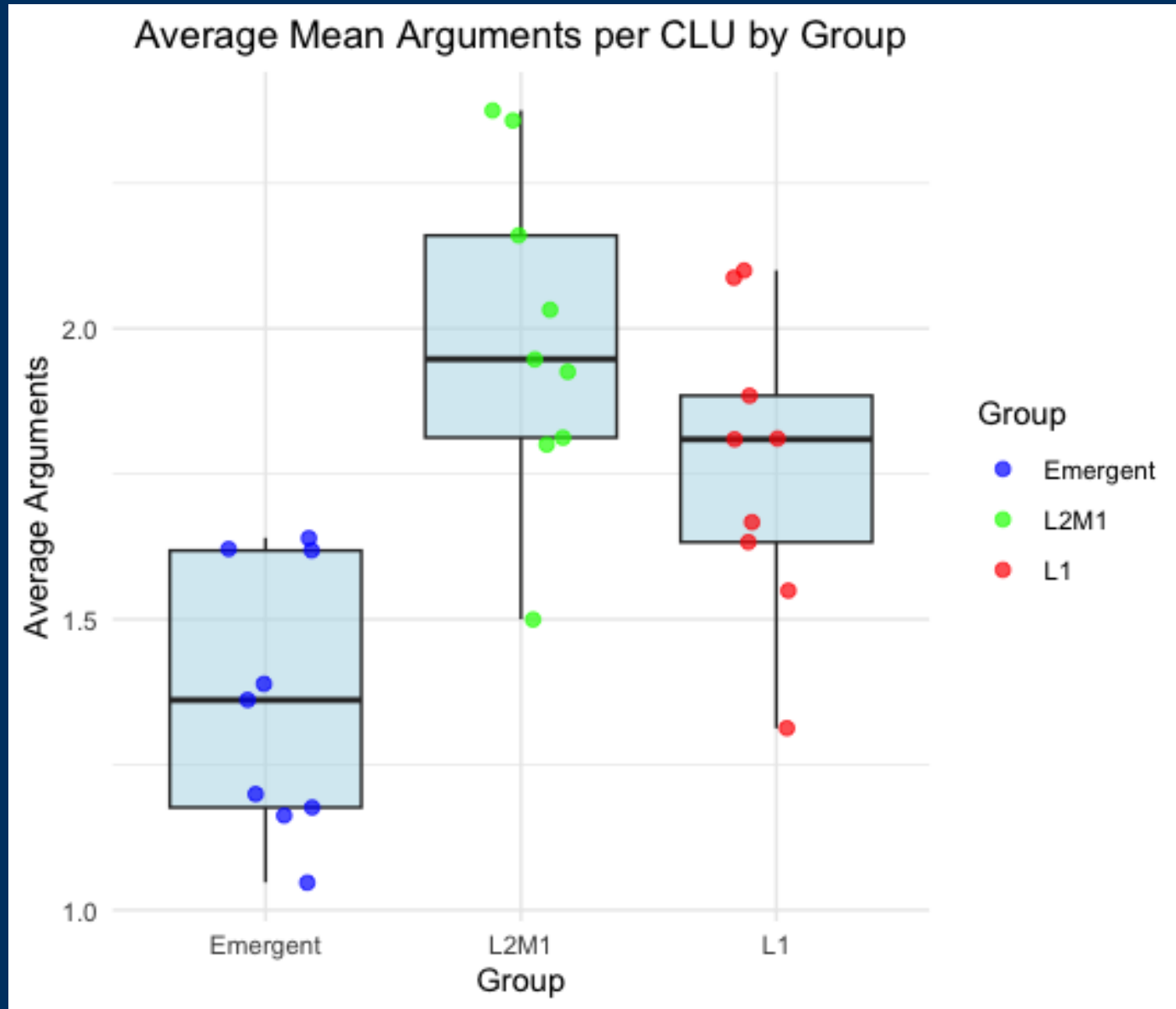
Text Length by Group



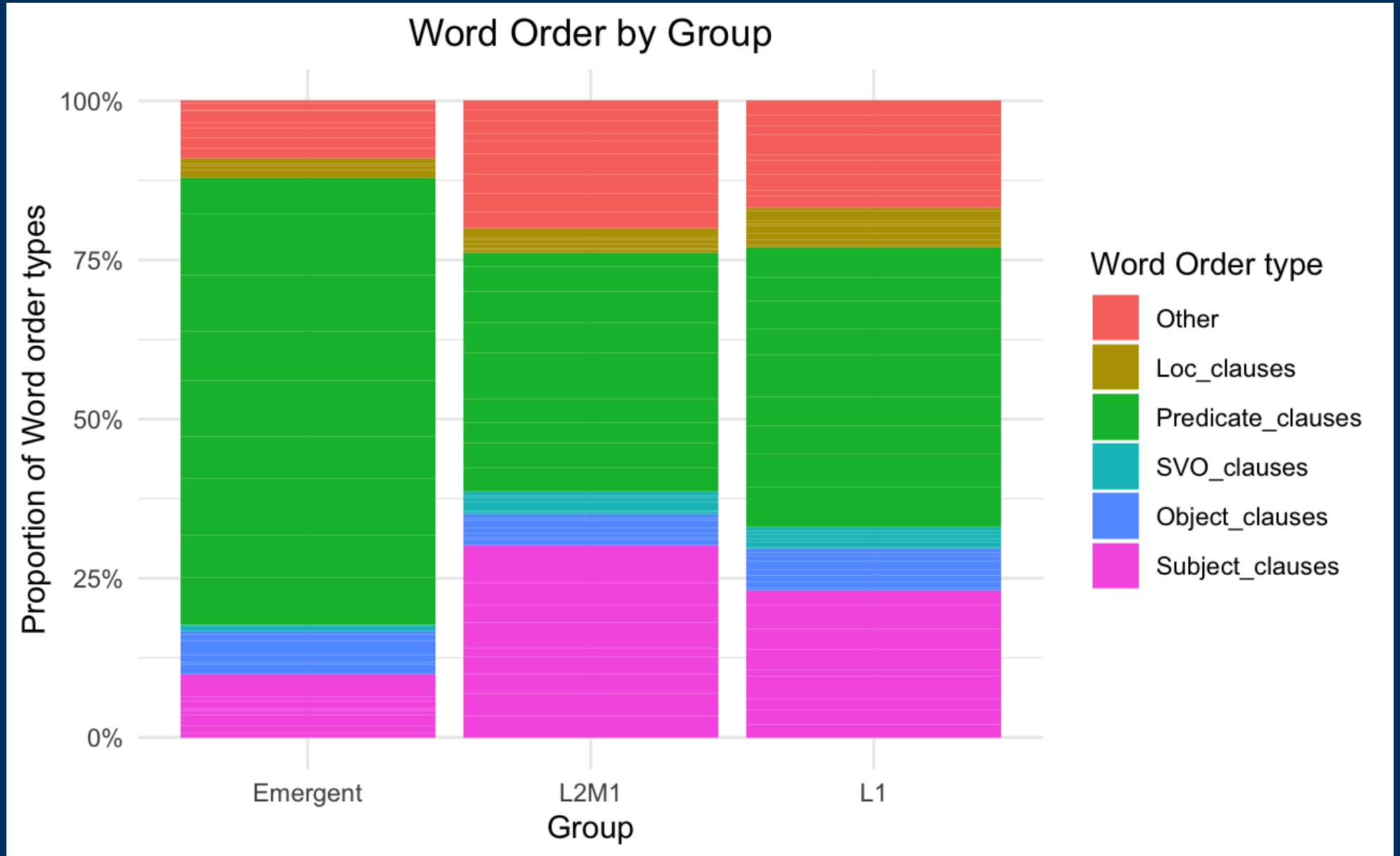
CLU by Group



Syntactic structures – descriptive statistics



Word order types by group





Thank you for your attention

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Turn-taking in Kata Kolok - use and acquisition

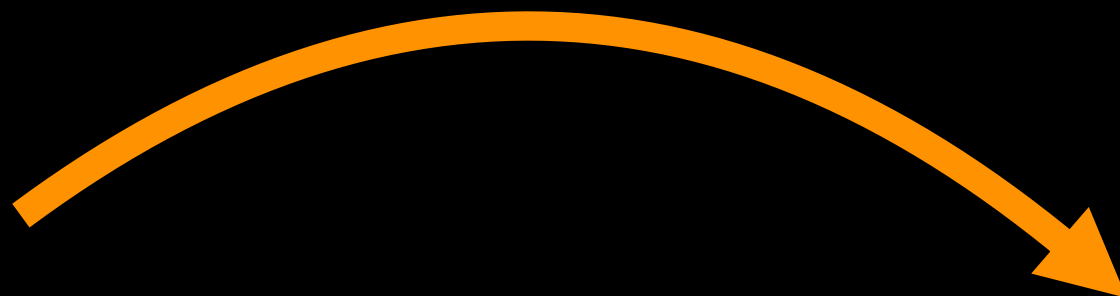
Hannah Lutzenberger



Modality



Ecology



Turn-taking: Modality & ecology



Kata Kolok

A sign language used by six generations of deaf signers



Kata Kolok Child Signing Corpus

Naturalistic, longitudinal data from deaf and hearing children



How does a signing-rich environment shape turn-taking development?



What are the characteristics of turn-taking among adult and child signers?

Conversation Analysis
Kata Kolok Child Signing Corpus

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How do conversational settings modulate the turn-taking skills?

Quasi-Experiment
Age of interlocutor (child vs adult)
Number of interlocutors (2 vs. 2+)



Thank you