SCREENING AND DIAGNOSTIC

Behavioral tasks to probe listening difficulties (LiD) in children

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Background

Children with LiD experience difficulties in various domains. Comprehensive assessment including behavioral tasks is key, however there is **no gold standard to diagnose LiD**. A systematic review aims to determine which tasks best differentiate children with LiD from children without LiD.

Research question

Which behavioral tasks are desirable to probe listening difficulties in normal or near-to-normal hearing children up to fourteen years old?

Method

Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses guidelines (PRISMA 2020; Page et al., 2021)

Covidence • two reviewers per study • conflicts resolved through discussion Study protocol: PROSPERO CRD42024521055

Eligibility criteria

- 6 14 year old children with normal or near-to-normal hearing
- Listening difficulties [LiD], (central) auditory processing [(C)APD]
- With and without comorbid developmental disorders

- Auditory processing
- Speech processing
- Language processing
- Cognitive tasks

IDENTIFICATION

n = 11.000

9 databases: Pubmed, Embase,

Scopus, Web of Science, etc.

Removed: n = 5.895

SCREENING TITLE / ABSTRACT

n = 5.105

Removed: n = 4.908

SCREENING FULL TEXT

n = 197

Removed: n = 149

Exclusion reasons: questionnaire, main

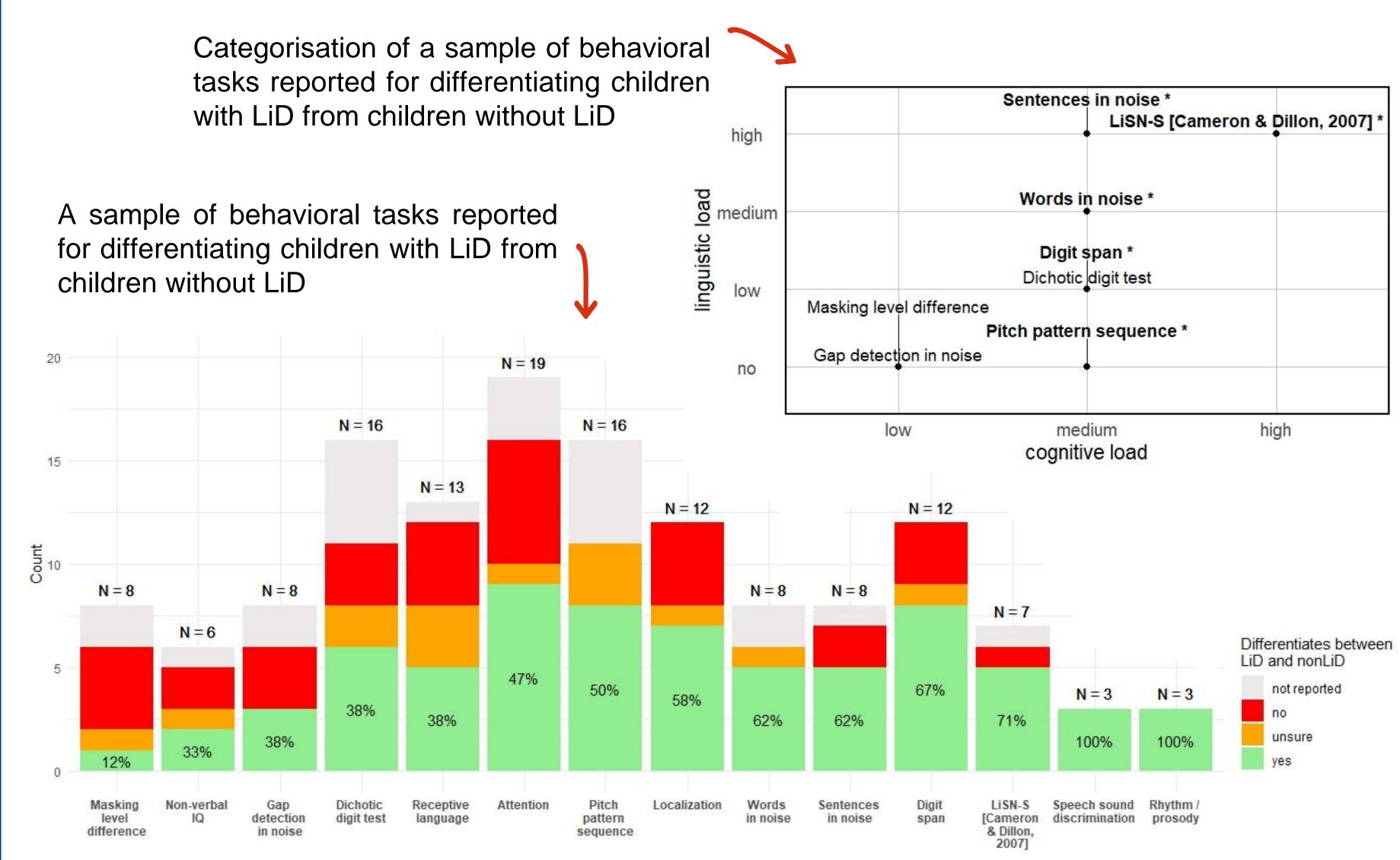
diagnosis not LiD, no LiD vs nonLiD, etc.

STUDIES INCLUDED

n = 48

Preliminary results

- In total 238 behavioral tasks in 48 included papers
- ASHA's levels of evidence (Mullen, 2007): 90% of included papers had a poor quality of evidence



Conclusion

- Studies report a heterogeneous pool of behavioral tasks used to probe LiD
- Confirmed complexity of LiD: auditory, memory, attention, spatial, and language tasks contribute to framing LiD.



References

