

Versatility of phonemic pitch in affective iconicity and perceptual reorganisation Zheng, T.

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Stellingen

Behorende bij het proefschrift

Versatility of phonemic pitch

In affective iconicity and perceptual reorganisation

te verdedigen op woensdag 19 november 2025 aan de Universiteit Leiden door Tingting Zheng

- Lexical tone in Standard Chinese iconically influences emotional arousal and valence ratings through distinct pitch variations. (Chapter 2-4, this dissertation)
- 2. Lexical tone exerts a stronger influence than phonemes on affective ratings. (Chapter 3, this dissertation)
- 3. Affective iconicity functions as an adaptive mechanism that enhances communicative efficiency. (Chapter 4, this dissertation)
- 4. Developmental hemispheric lateralisation in pitch perception during the perceptual reorganisation process is shaped by perceptual properties and linguistic function. (Chapter 5, this dissertation)
- 5. The lack of standardised data processing in infant fNIRS research limits cross-study comparability.
- 6. Perceptual properties alone cannot determine the communicative role of pitch.
- Affective meaning is encoded in pitch: rises signal positivity, falls signal negativity.
- 8. Language-specific experience in the first months of life determines where acoustic information will be processed in the brain.
- 9. Growing enthusiasm for new technologies in research must be matched by rigorous training in their proper application.
- Embracing unexpected challenges and diverse perspectives enriches research, expanding its scope and impact.