

## Production of prosodic phrase boundaries in Dutch

Questions:

phrase (IP) boundaries?

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1. Which cues are used in Dutch to mark non-final intonational

2. What are the relative weights of these cues?



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#### Introduction:

- 3 types of cues for prosodic phrase boundaries:
  - Pitch Change
  - Final Lengthening
  - Pause
- Cues are weighted differently between languages
- It has been claimed that in Dutch, pauses play a major role<sup>1</sup>
- There have been no production studies investigating realization of all cues in Dutch

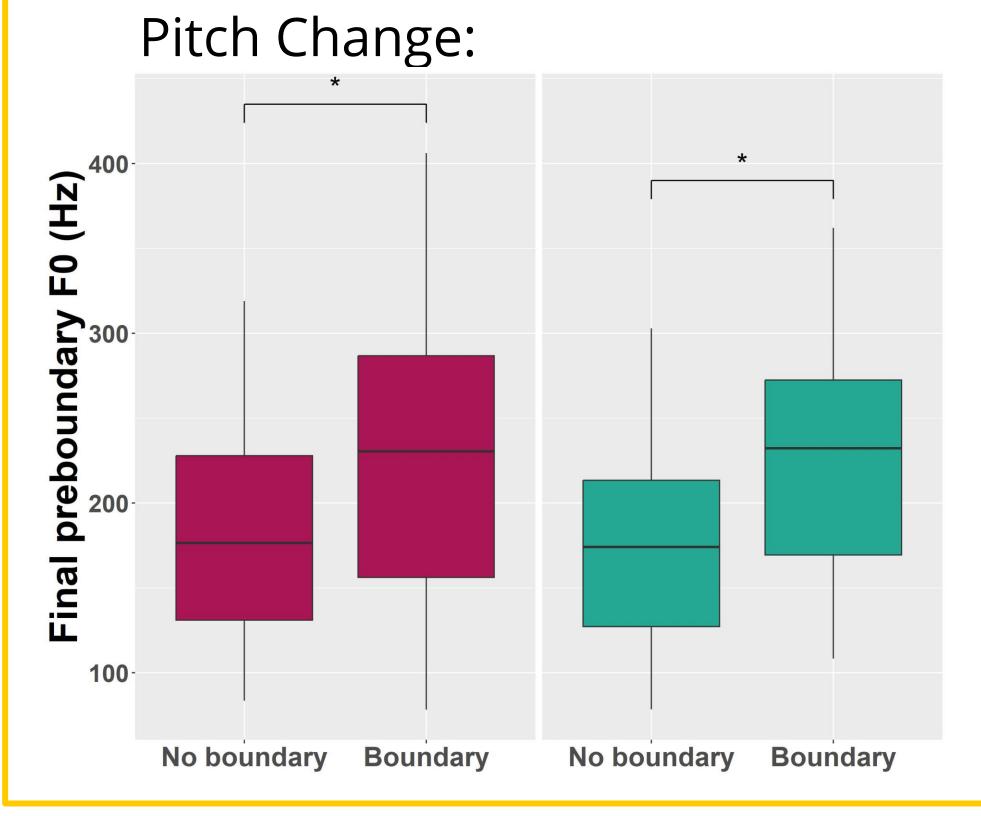
#### Method:

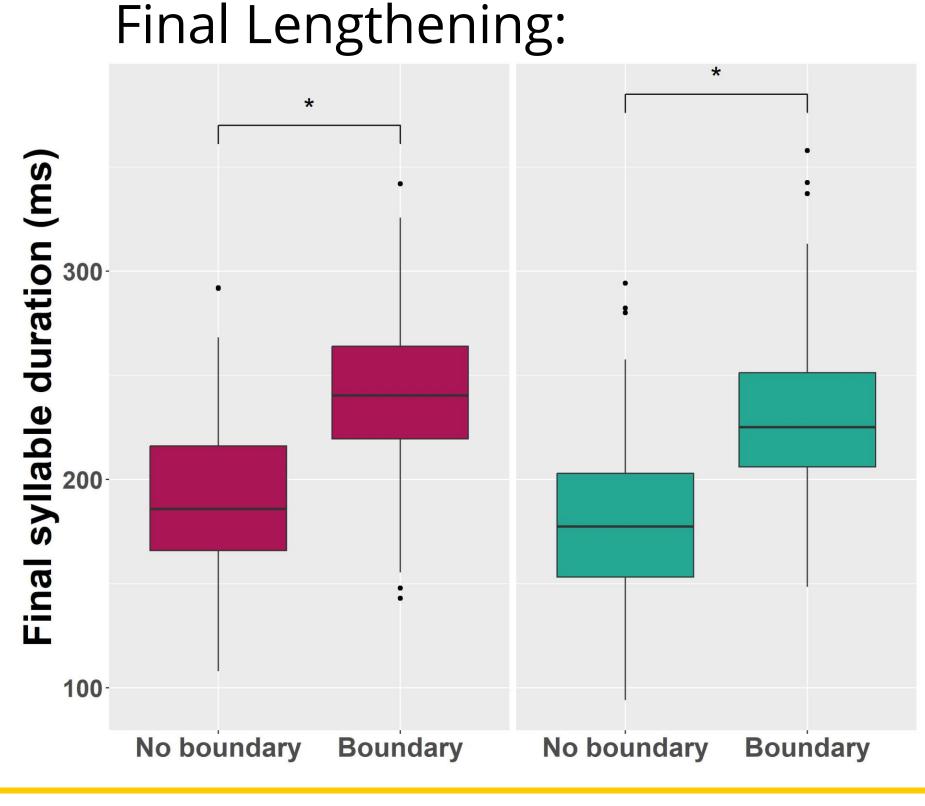
- Elicitation task: *The Teamball Game*
- 16 adult native speakers of Dutch (12 female, 18-29 years)
- 2 types of syntactic constructions, both without and with a boundary: name sequences and compound sentences

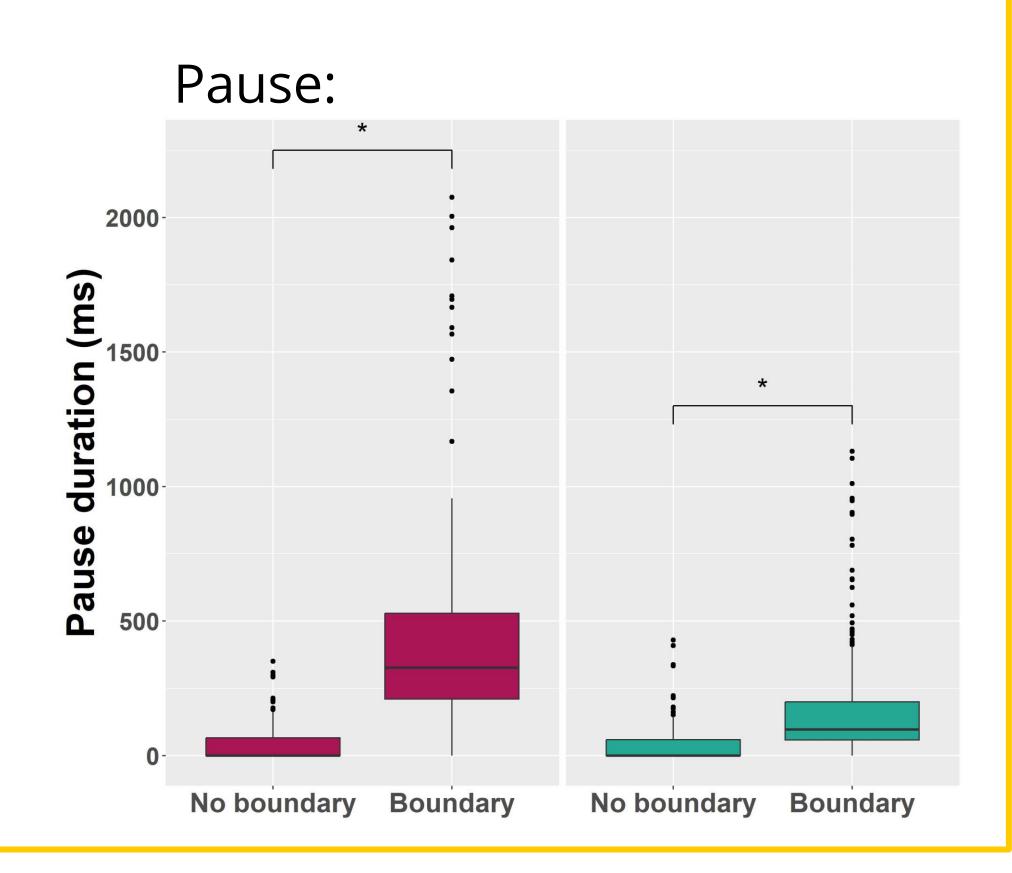
	No boundary			Boundary		
Picture	Bella	Demi	Vera	Bella	Demi	Vera
Name	Q: Wie vormen hier een team?			Q: Wie vormen hier de teams?		
sequences	"Who ma	ake up a team her	e?"	"Who make up the teams here?"		
	_	n <b>Demi en Ver</b> d Demi and Vera"	<b>—</b>	A: [Bella en <b>Demi]</b> [en Vera] "Bella and Demi, and Vera"		
Compound	Q: Wat gebeurt er hier?			Q: Wat gebeurt er hier?		
sentences	• •			"What happens here?"		
				A: [Bella speelt met <b>Demi</b> ] [ <b>en Vera</b>		
				zit in het andere team]  "Bella plays with Demi, and Vera is on the other team"		

#### **Results:**

• Analysis: linear mixed-effects models







### Cue Weighting:

- Relative importance of cues in predicting prosodic boundaries
- 1. Final lengthening (52,1%)
- 2. Pause (30%)
- 3. Pitch Change (16,7%)

#### **Conclusions:**

- Dutch speakers consistently use all 3 cues to mark prosodic boundaries
- Final lengthening is the most pronounced boundary cue in the production of Dutch intonational phrases, contra earlier claims<sup>1</sup>.

#### Future research:

- What is the relationship between production and perception of prosodic phrase boundaries in Dutch-speaking adults?
- Are newborn infants sensitive to prosodic boundary cues?
- Are boundary cues used similarly in infant-directed speech (IDS)?