Correlation between Binaural Perception and Brainstem Lesions

Miriam Furst
School of Electrical Engineering
Tel Aviv University



This talk is based on the published chapter:

"Hearing Disorders in Multiple Sclerosis"

In the book:

"The Human Auditory System: Fundamental Organization and Clinical Disorders"

Edited by Celesia G.G. and Hickok G.

As part of the series:

"Handbook of Clinical Neurology"
Volume 129 (2015)

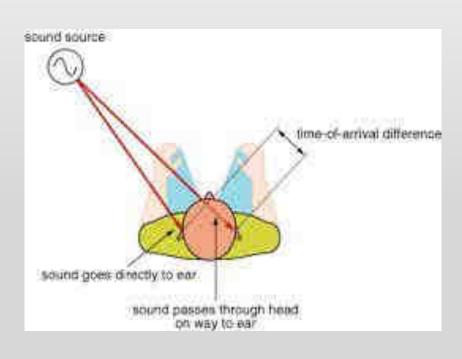
Talk Outline

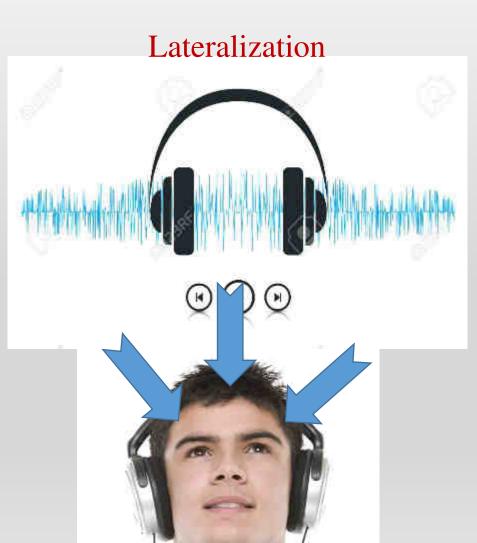
- Binaural Perception in Healthy People
- Binaural Perception in Subjects with brainstem lesions due to either MS or CVA

- Detecting Lesions in the Brainstem Auditory Pathway
- Correlation between the site of the lesions and binaural abilities

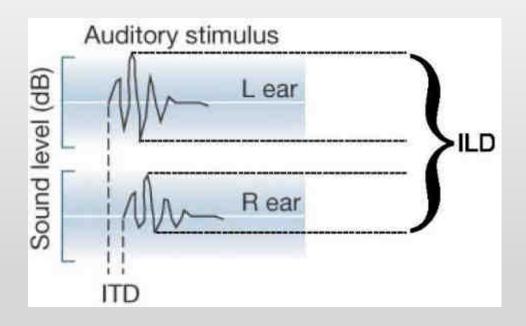
Sound Localization and Lateralization

Localization





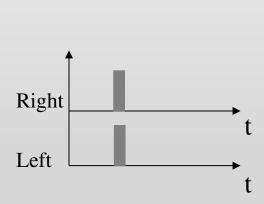
Binaural Cues For Localization and Lateralization

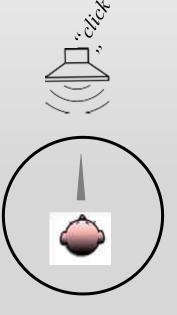


- Interaural Time Delay (ITD)
- Interaural Level Difference (ILD)

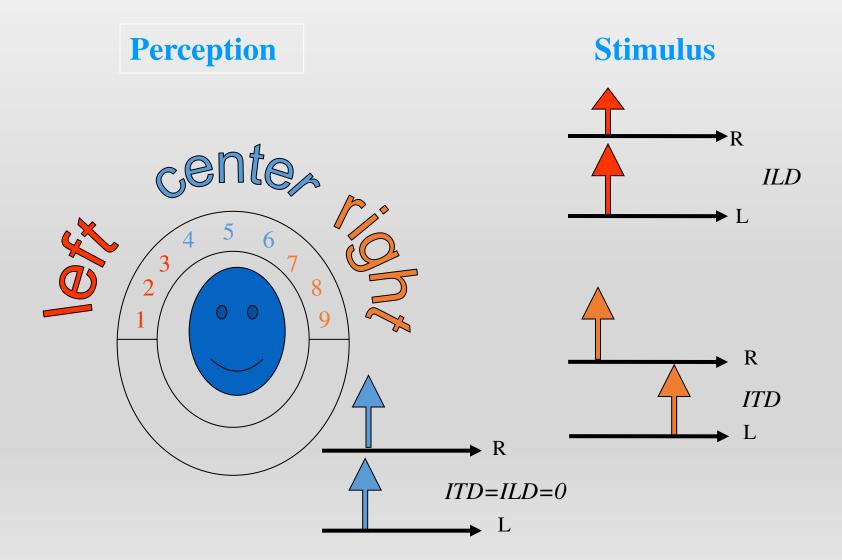
Sound Lateralization with Clicks

The perceived location is by the ITD

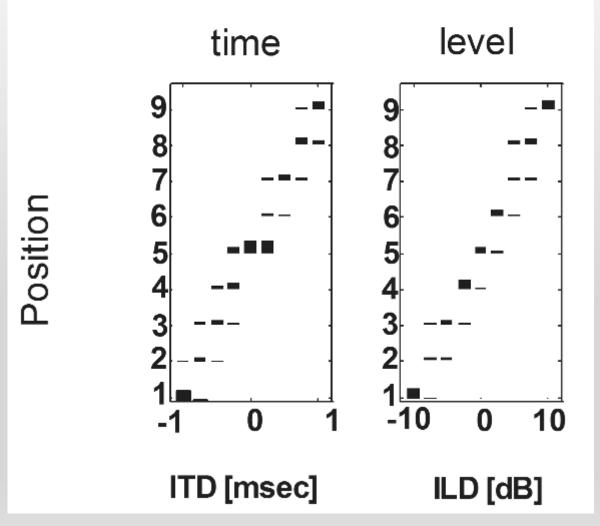




LATERALIZATION EXPERIMENT



Normal Performance



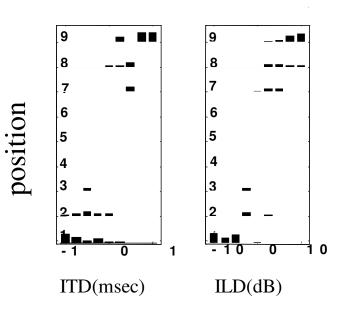
Histograms = number of times a subject reported perceiving a position when ITD or ILD presented

Abnormal Performance

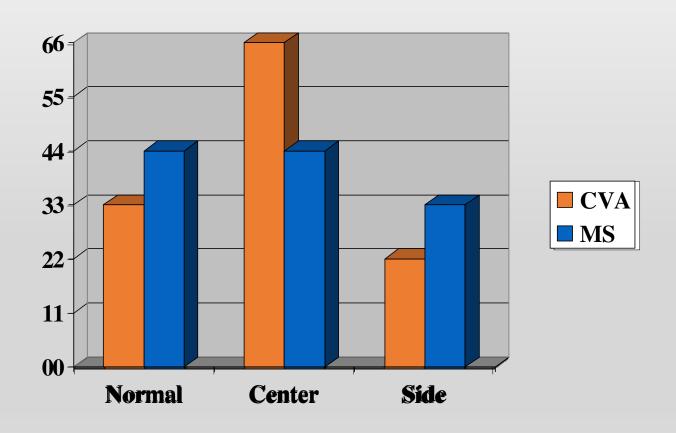
Center-Oriented

9 8 7 --6 ---5 --3 2 1 -1 0 1 -10 0 10 ITD(msec) ILD(dB)

Side --Oriented

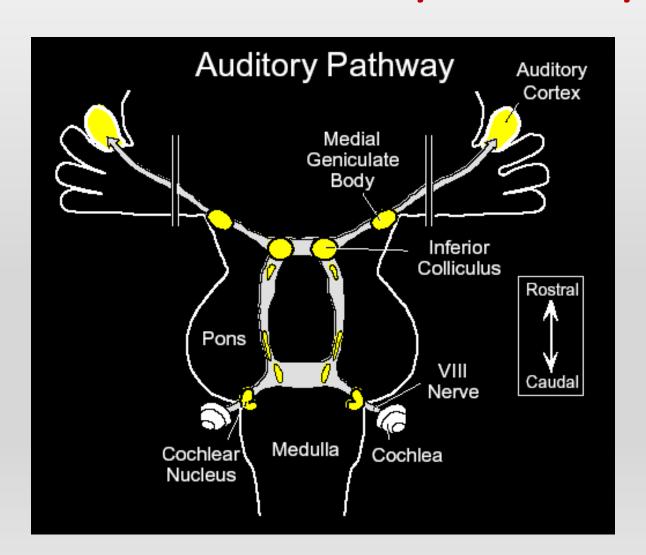


Patients' Performance

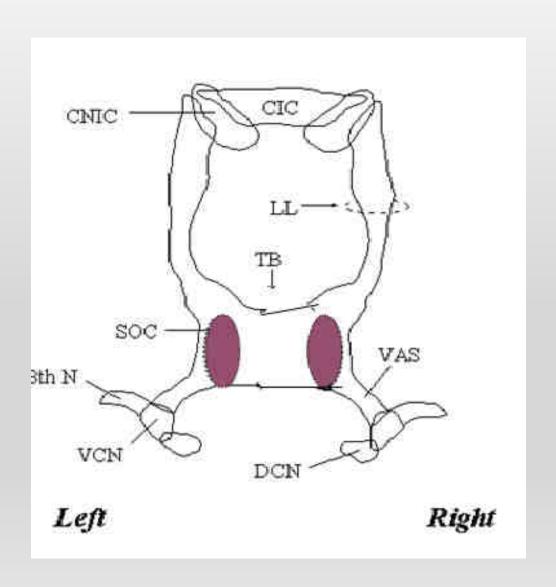


Is Abnormal Performance Correlates to an Existing Lesion in the Auditory Pathway?

Schematic Representation of the Brainstem Auditory Pathway



Human Brainstem Auditory Pathway Atlas

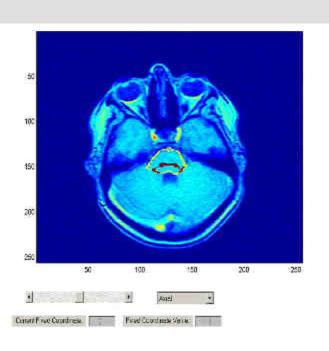


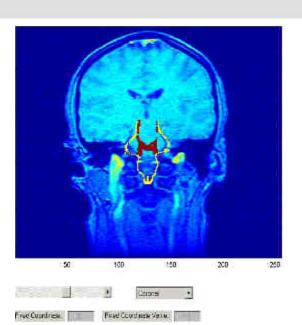
The MRI Protocol

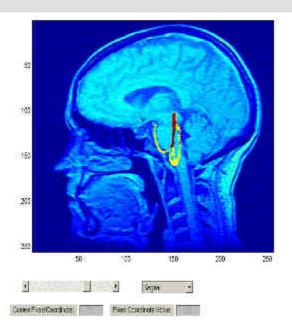
Contiguous 5mm sections were obtained using T2 spinecho sequences from three orthogonal planes of the brainstem:

- axial: perpendicular to the long axis of the brainstem
- coronal: parallel to the plane of the floor of the fourth ventricle
- sagittal: perpendicular to the plane of the floor of the fourth ventricle and in the plane of the long axis of the brainstem.

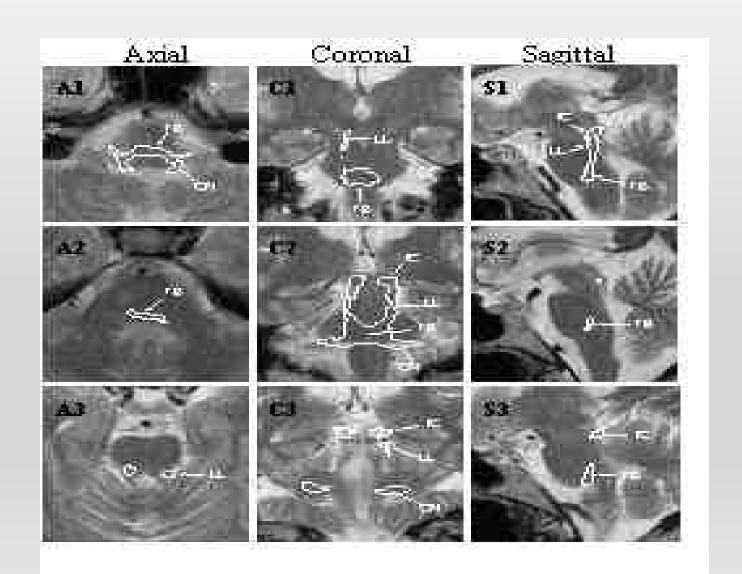
Superimposing the Human Auditory Pathway on MRI Scans







Overlap of Auditory Pathway on MRI Scans

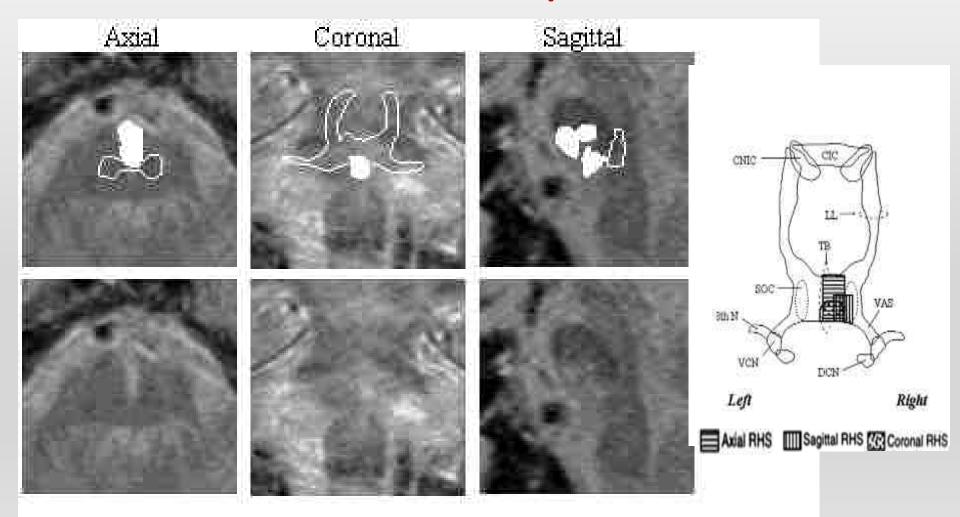


Lesion is defined as overlapping the auditory pathway

if and only if

it overlaps the auditory pathway in at least 2 orthogonal planes.

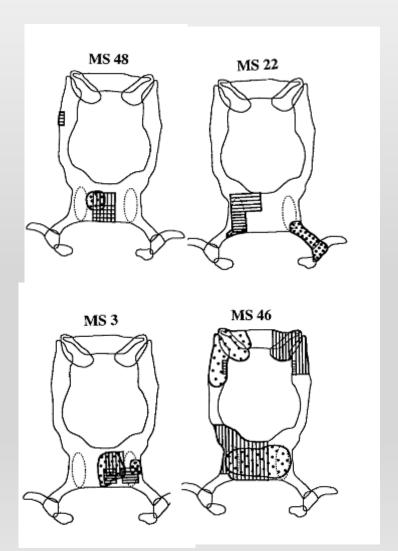
Lesion Detection Example

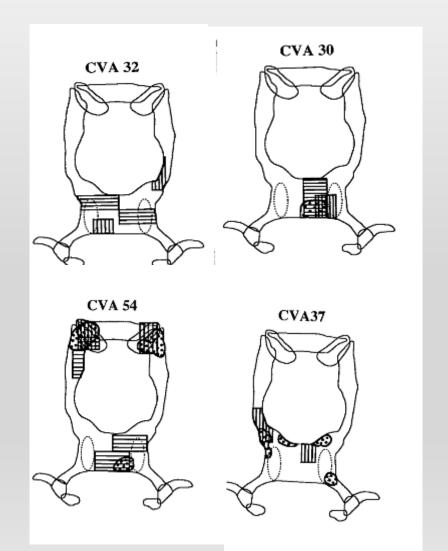


Results

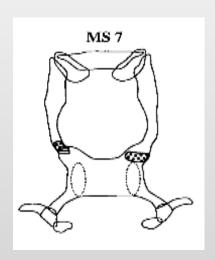
- ➤ All the Patients that performed abnormally in the lateralization experiment had lesions that overlapped the brainstem auditory pathway
- ➤ All the Patients that performed normally in the lateralization experiment did not have lesions that overlapped the brainstem auditory pathway

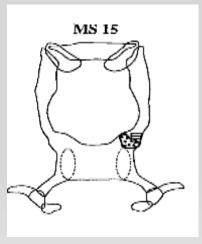
Samples of Center-Oriented Lateralization

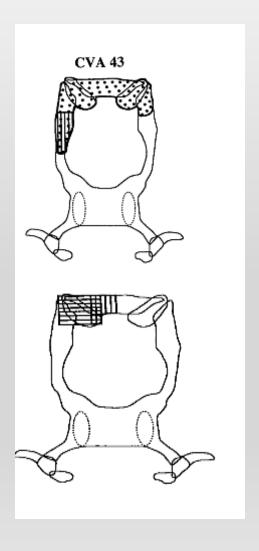




Samples of Side-Oriented Lateralization







Correlation between MRI and Lateralization

MRI	NO	TB	TB&LL	LL
	LESIONS	LESIONS	LESIONS	LESIONS
LATERALIZATION				
NORMAL	30%			
PERFORMANCE				
CENTER-		25%	20%	
ORIENTED				
SIDE-ORIENTED				25%

Experimental Summary and Conclusions

- Two types of abnormal lateralization performance were found: center-oriented and side-oriented.
- Both types of abnormalities were found in patients with either MS or Stroke

Center-oriented lateralization is correlated with TB/SOC lesions

Side-oriented lateralization is correlated with LL/IC lesions

Our Suggestion:

Use the Lateralization Experiment to detect lesions in the brainstem auditory pathway

Acknowledgments

Thanks to all the colleagues and students who took part in the project:

- Robert A. Levine
- Amos D. Korczyn
- Barbara C. Fullerton
- Rina Tadmor
- Hillel Pratt
- Vered Aharonson
- Roy Tenny



• The study was supported by BSF Grant 89-00447 and ISF 563/12

