

How do language(s) we know influence how we learn a new language?

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Background

- When adults learn a language, the language(s) that they know could influence how they perceive or learn the new language.
- Sounds in a new language are often challenging and based on the well-built and solid structure of sounds from the language(s) we already know.

Methods

- N=12
 - Chinese-English bilinguals (relatively high proficiency) - no knowledge of Spanish
 - transcribing Spanish nonwords containing /r/ (e.g., /mera/)

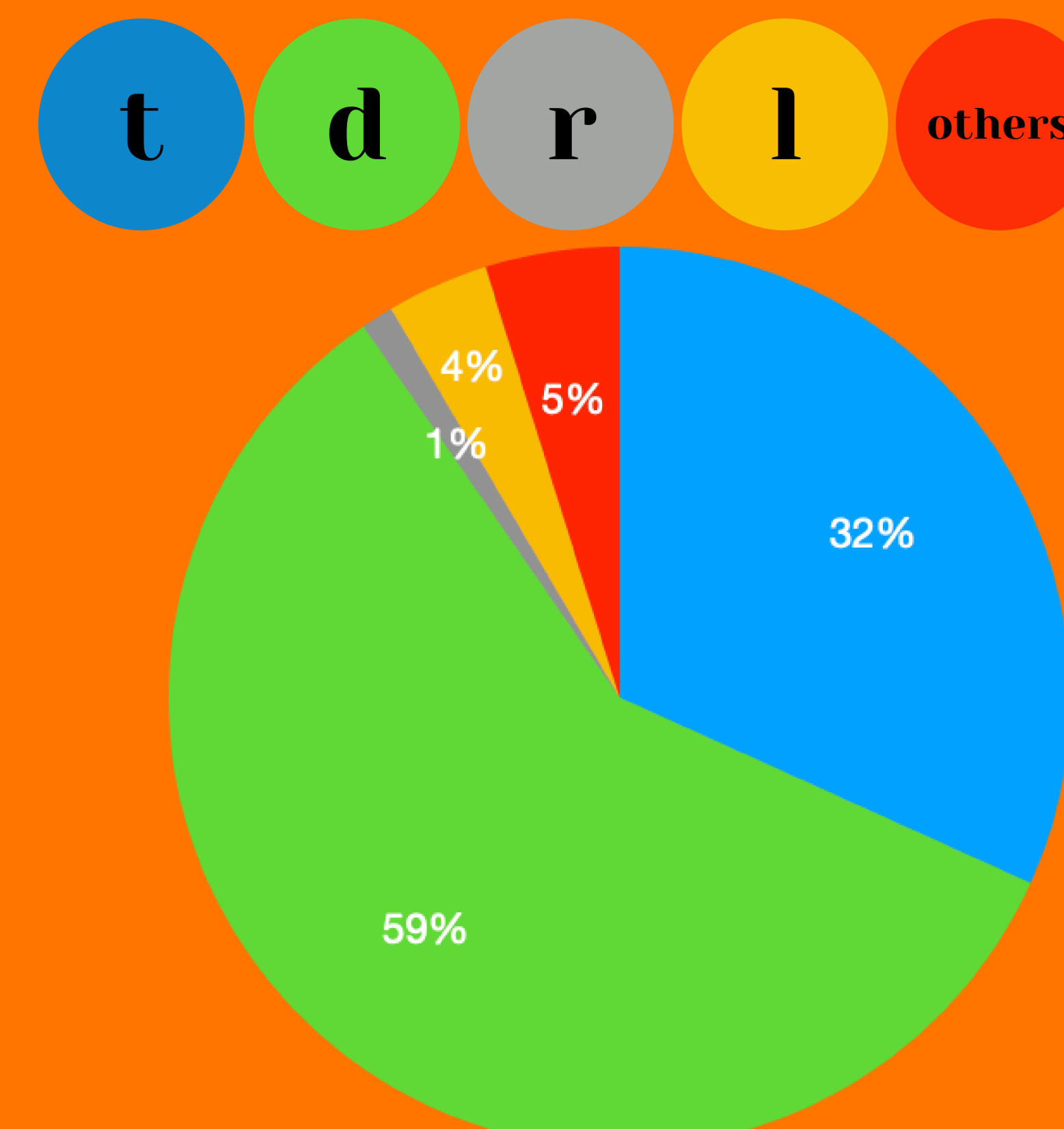
- N=36
 - Chinese-English bilinguals (relatively low proficiency) - no knowledge of Spanish
 - transcribing English nonwords containing /r/ (e.g., /fotor/)



Our 1st language, but NOT necessarily 2nd language, affects our perception of 3rd language sounds.

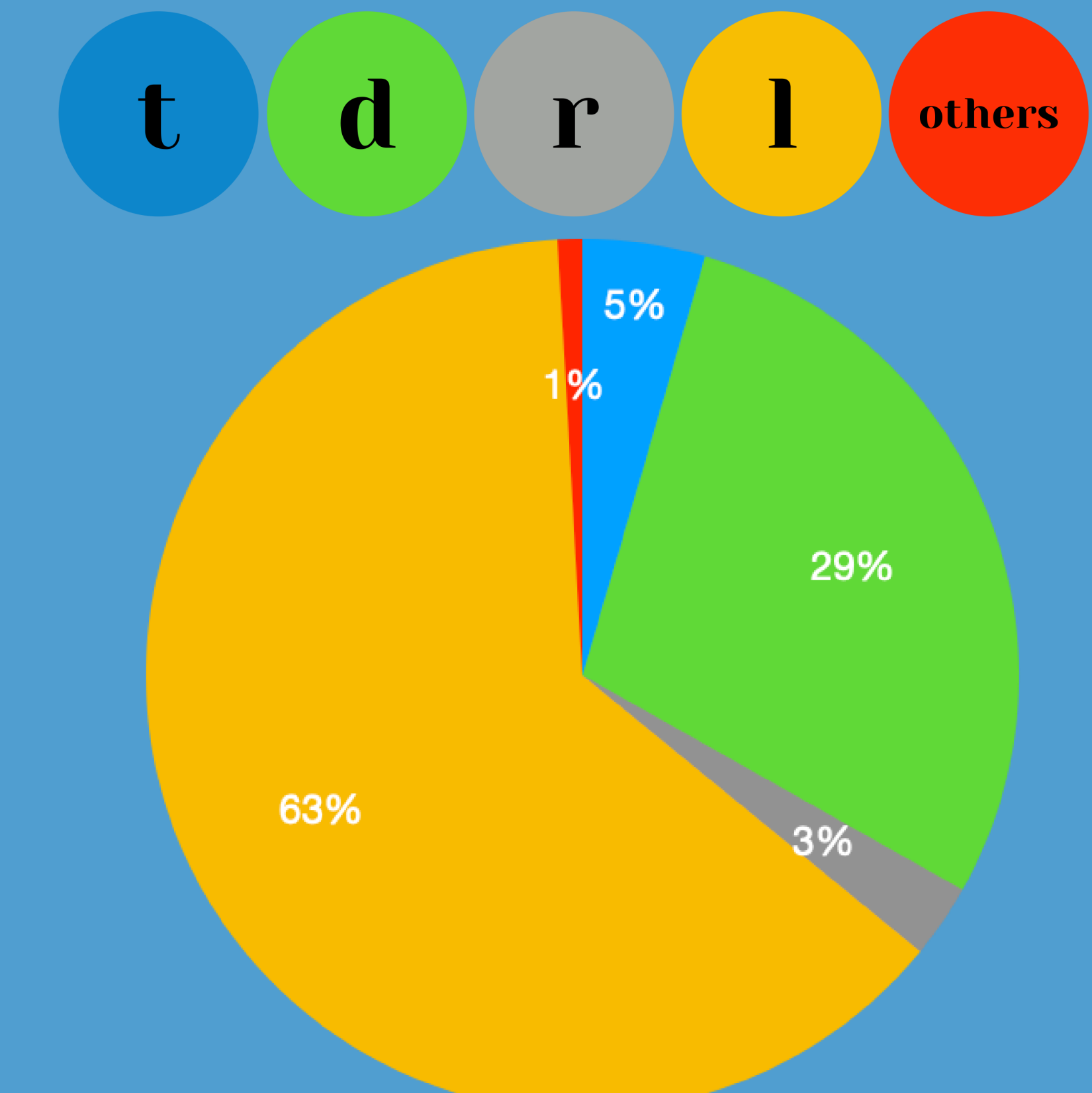
Transcribing English nonwords

Mostly influenced by 2nd language

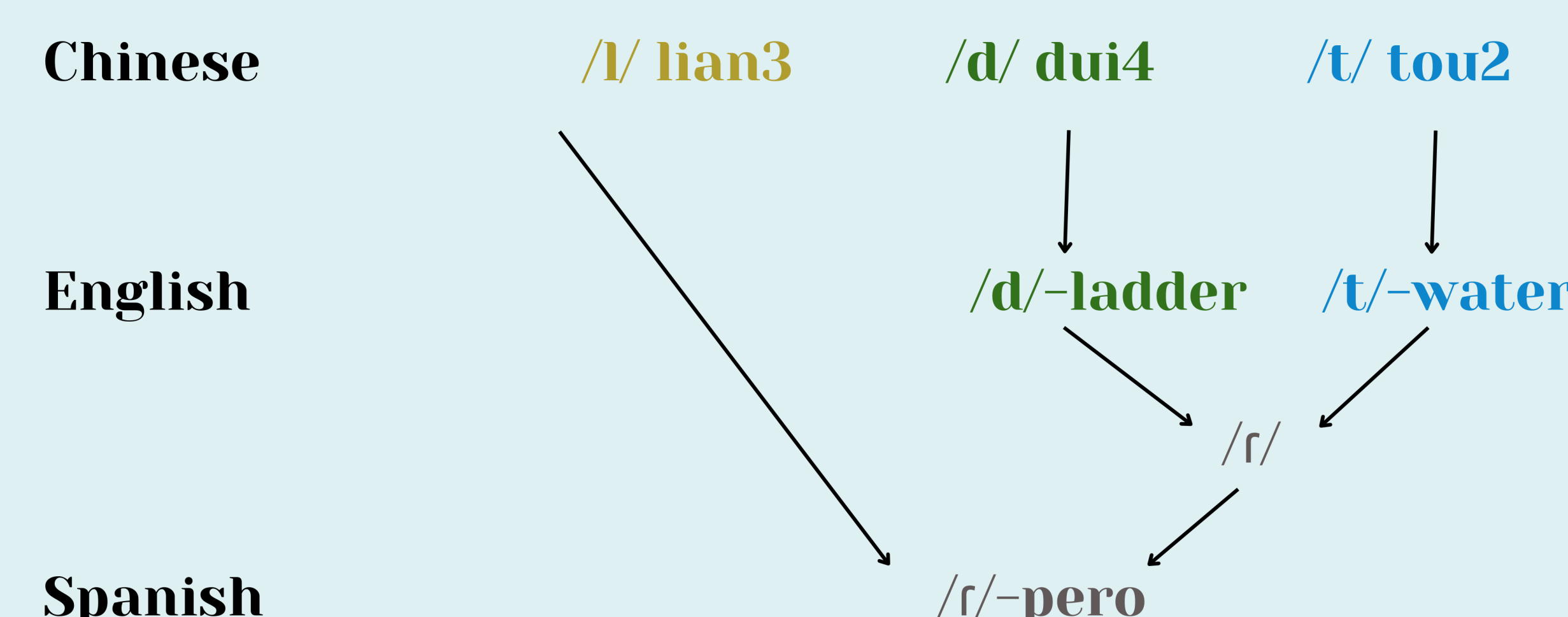


Transcribing Spanish nonwords

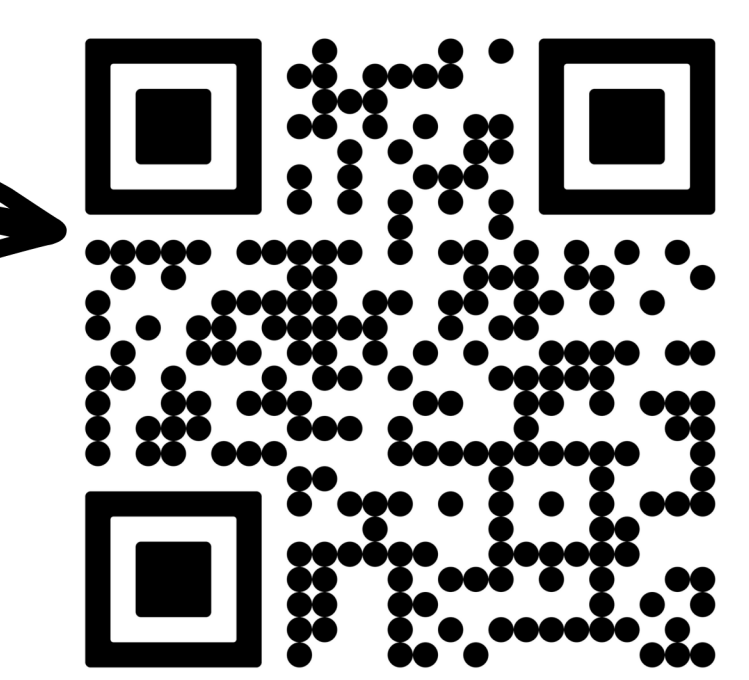
Mostly influenced by 1st language



Chinese-English-Spanish



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SCAN ME

Second Language Acquisition
Zhiyi Wu, Mireia Toda Cosi,
Kira Gor