

Hello everyone!

CI Music Hour Recap 11/2

We began the Music Hour with some music and listened to the new Beatles song, "Now and Then." You can listen to the song [here](#) and learn more about the production of the song [here](#).

Then, the Bionic Ear Lab's postdoctoral scholar, Dr. Sam O'Connell, presented a study that is in the works for publication. The study investigated rhythm perception among cochlear implant users and normal hearing listeners. Both groups were required to complete simple finger tapping task along to a beat. While completing the task, we used a functional near infrared spectroscopy system (fNIRS) to measure cortical activation in the motor and auditory cortices of the participants. Behavioral results showed that cochlear implant users and normal hearing listeners performed with similar levels of accuracy on the finger tapping tasks. However, fNIRS results showed more overall cortical activation in cochlear implant users in comparison to normal hearing listeners. This lead to a group discussion of how cochlear implant users or those with hearing loss often have to spend more mental energy communicating and completing daily tasks which can lead to increased levels of fatigue.

If you'd like to watch the research presentation, you can do so [here](#).