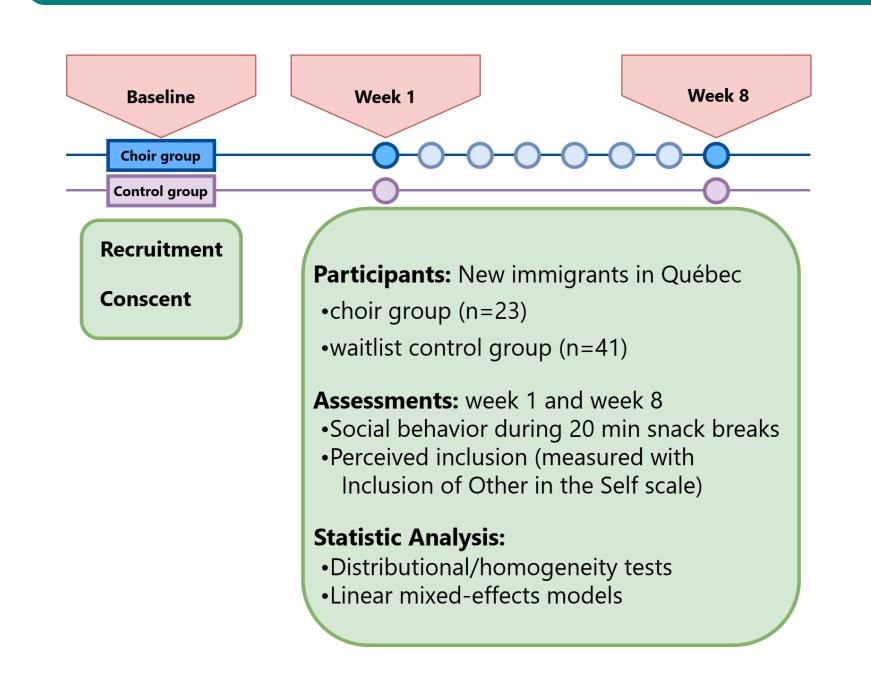
# Interactions In A New Immigrant Choir: A Proof-Of-Concept Study

#### Hsun-Yi Liao, Dawn Merrett, Fidaa Akrout, Isabelle Héroux, and Isabelle Peretz

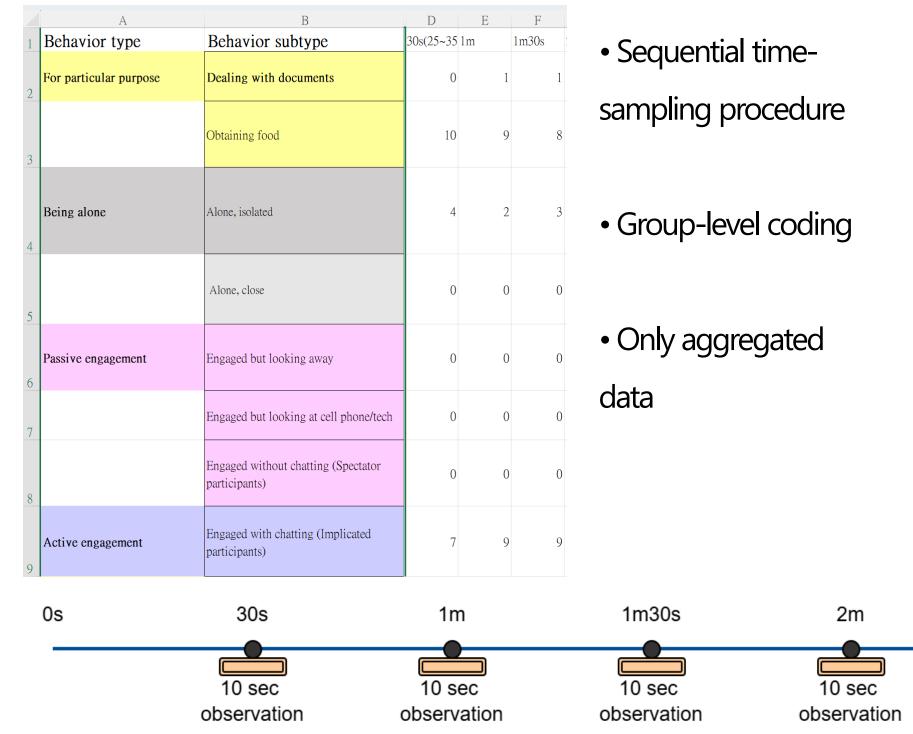
**Background:** Group singing is theorized to rapidly foster social bonding among new immigrants, but whether this translates into observable interaction remains unclear.

#### Methods

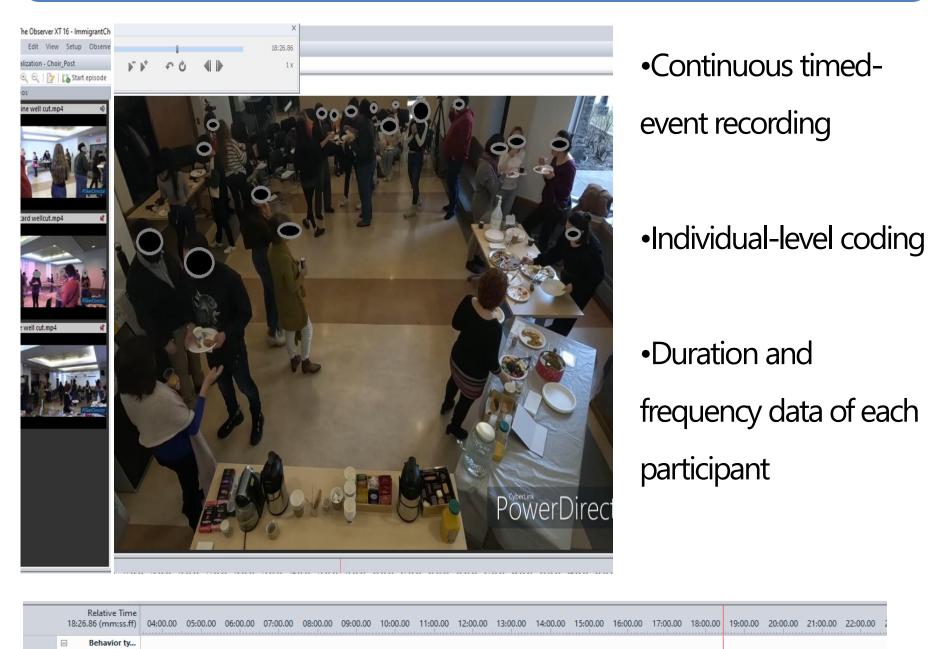
#### **Group Interaction Video Analysis**



#### Time-sampling grid coding



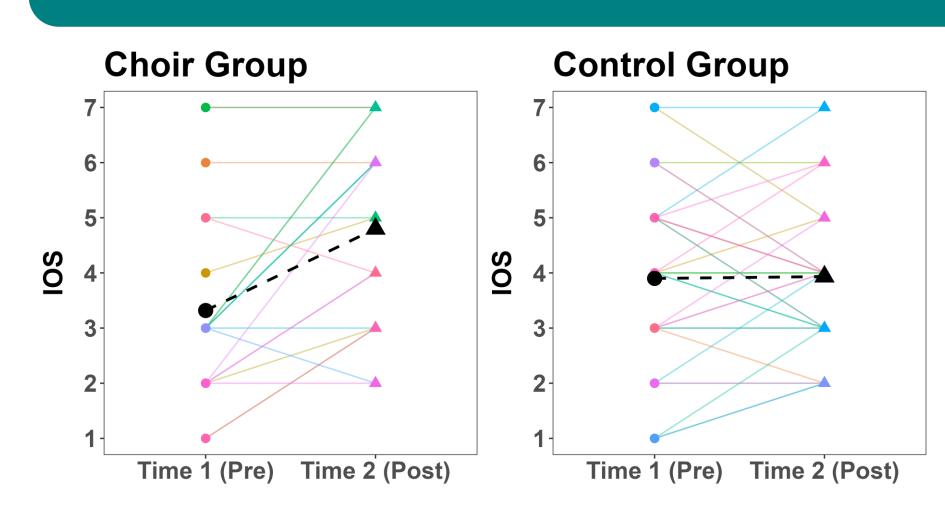
#### Software-assisted coding (ObserverXT™)



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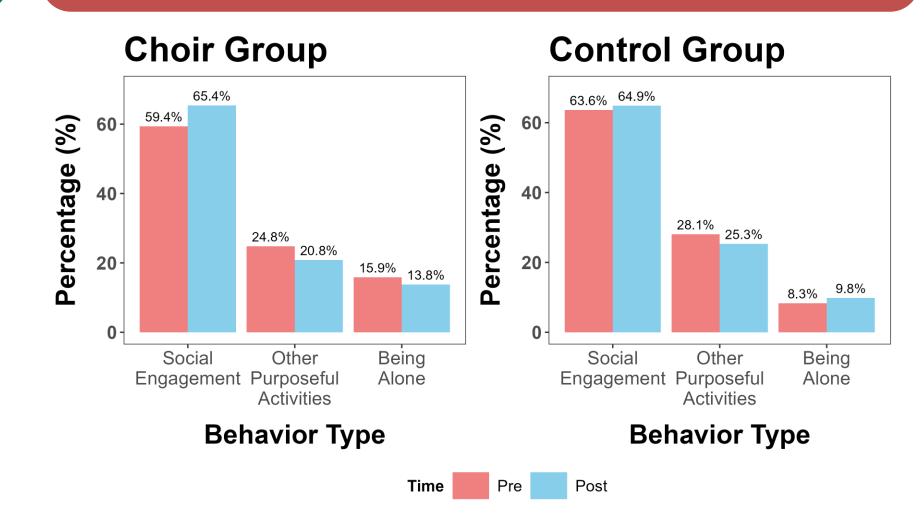
#### Results

### Perceived inclusion: increased significantly only in the choir group



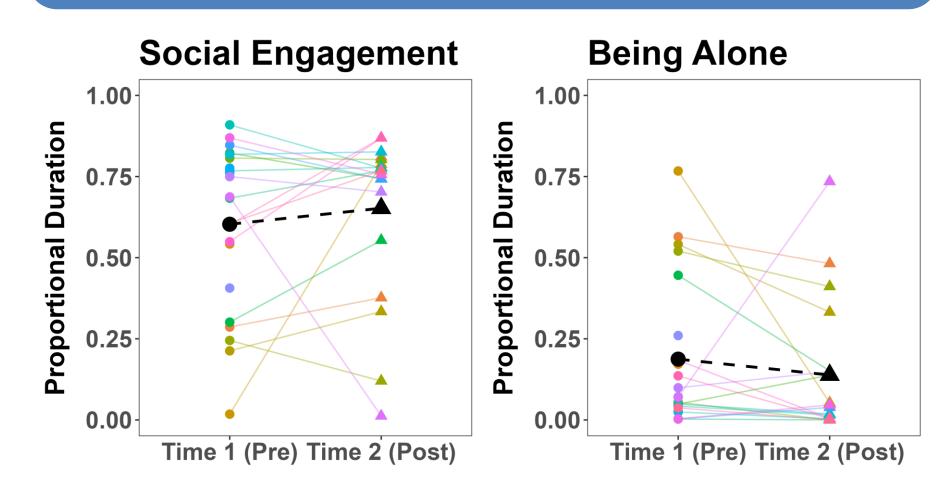
LMM : choir b = 1.45, SE = 0.42, 95% CI [0.61, 2.29], p = .001; control b = 0.01, SE = 0.26, p = .96)

### Group-level coding: Only choir group showed an omnibus shift



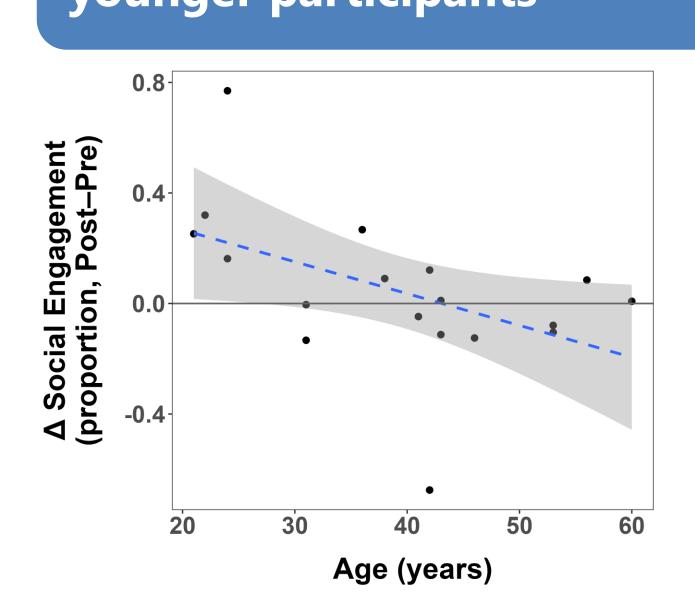
Homogeneity test : choir  $\chi^2(2, N=1982)=7.52$ , p=.023, Cramér's V=0.62; control  $\chi^2(2, N=2872)=3.94$ , p=.140, Cramér's V=0.37.

### Individual-level coding: no pre-post main effects emerged in the choir



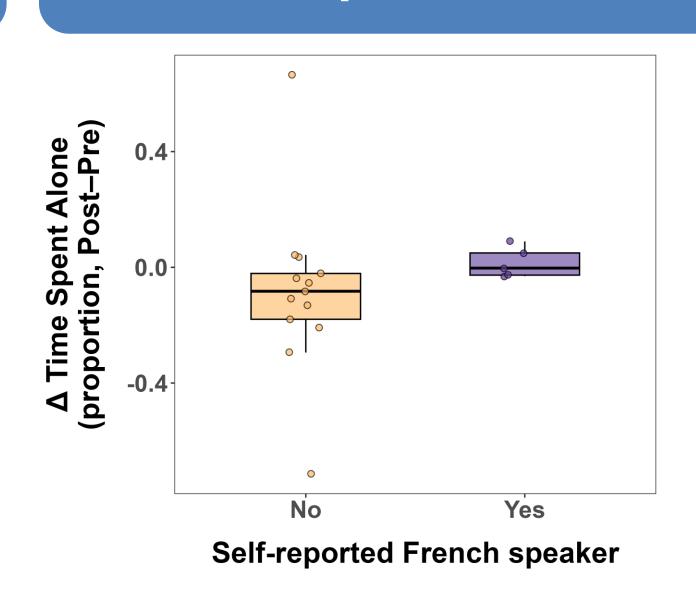
LMM of choir : social engagement b = 0.048, SE = 0.063, t(20.79) = 0.76, p = .454; being alone b = -0.051, SE = 0.056, t(21.35) = -0.92, p = .368.

### Age: larger engagement gains amongst younger participants



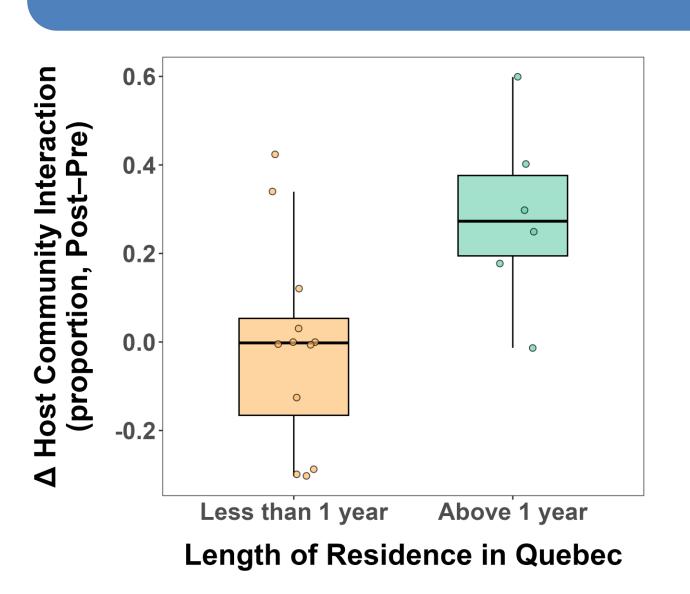
LMM of choir (time  $\times$  age, cleaned): b = -0.011, SE = 0.005, 95% CI [-0.021, -0.001], p = .046.

### Self-reported French speakers (baseline): spent less time alone



LMM of choir (time + French, cleaned): b = 0.083, SE = 0.039, 95% CI [0.006, 0.159], p = .034. (effect-coded; positive b = less alone for French)

### Longer time in Québec: increased interaction with host community



LMM of choir (time  $\times$  length of residence in Quebec): b = -0.13, SE = 0.05, 95% CI [-0.23, -0.03], p = .018.

**Discussion:** Results appeared method-dependent, suggesting that inferences about change vary with operationalization and coding choices, as well as participant characteristics.







