

# Do bilinguals have an advantage in inhibition control as measured in the Stroop task? Evidence from Chinese-English late bilinguals

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Whether bilinguals have an advantage in inhibition control, such as better incongruent trial performance on the color Stroop task than monolinguals, remains a controversial topic in the literature. We tested 40 Chinese-English late bilinguals of varying English proficiencies with a number-size Stroop task in both their L1 and L2 to examine whether the bilinguals' L2 proficiency correlates with their task performance and Stroop interference. The results revealed that L2 proficiency did not correlate with the Stroop interference in either size or numerical magnitude judgment in either L1 or L2. However, the bilinguals' English proficiency, measured by the English RAN test and MiNT, predicted their response times on averaged and incongruent trial reaction time for each task, a trend also reported in previous studies. More investigations would be needed to determine whether late bilinguals with greater variability in L2 proficiency exhibit an advantage in inhibition control. Further discussions are also needed to elucidate the reliability of Stroop effect and incongruent trial reaction time as indices of cognitive control.

