Introduction
Nouns and verbs are distinct word classes, yet not always formally distinguished. In some sign languages, nouns and verbs might differ in movement or spatial characteristics.

Methods
Participants:
21 deaf ASL signers (M\text{AGE} = 31, SD = 6, 12F, 13 native)
Stimuli (from CRL-IPNP) [5]

Results

Questions
Are nouns and verbs formationally distinguished through spatial and temporal properties in ASL? If so, do these patterns generalize to a lexicon-wide comparison of unrelated verbs and nouns?

Do spatial and temporal properties of ASL nouns and verbs vary as function of lexical frequency?

Discussion and conclusions

Verbs were larger and longer (both in time & distance) to accommodate the spatial-temporal modulations that frequently occur with verbs; pattern generalizes to unrelated ASL verbs & nouns

Phonological typicality: spatial-temporal typicality patterns can distinguish lexical class in ASL; Phonological cues to lexical categories may be a universal property of language [6]

Frequent signs are optimized for size and length [7]

Further question:
Variation in spatial-temporal patterns as function of verb morphology (e.g., plain vs. directional verbs)?

Supported by NSF funding BCS 1625954 to KE; TISLR13, Hamburg, Germany, Sep 26-29, 2019; Contact: zsevcikova@sdsu.edu