

# The Traces of Inner Life

Lecture 06b (Analysis III)

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# Outline

- A Probabilistic interpretation
- Biomarkers Revisited
- Conclusions

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# Cliff's Delta (I)

$$\delta = \frac{|n(x_i > y_j) - n(y_j > x_i)|}{N_x N_y}$$

- A set of values  $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_{N_x}\}$  and a set of values  $\mathcal{Y} = \{y_1, \dots, y_{N_y}\}$ ;
- $n(x_i > y_j)$  is the number of times a value in  $\mathcal{X}$  is greater than a value in  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

# Cliff's Delta (II)

$$p(x_i > y_j) = \frac{\delta + 1}{2}$$

- When  $n(x_i > y_j) > n(y_j > x_i)$ .

$$p(y_j > x_i) = \frac{\delta + 1}{2}$$

- When  $n(x_i > y_j) < n(y_j > x_i)$ .

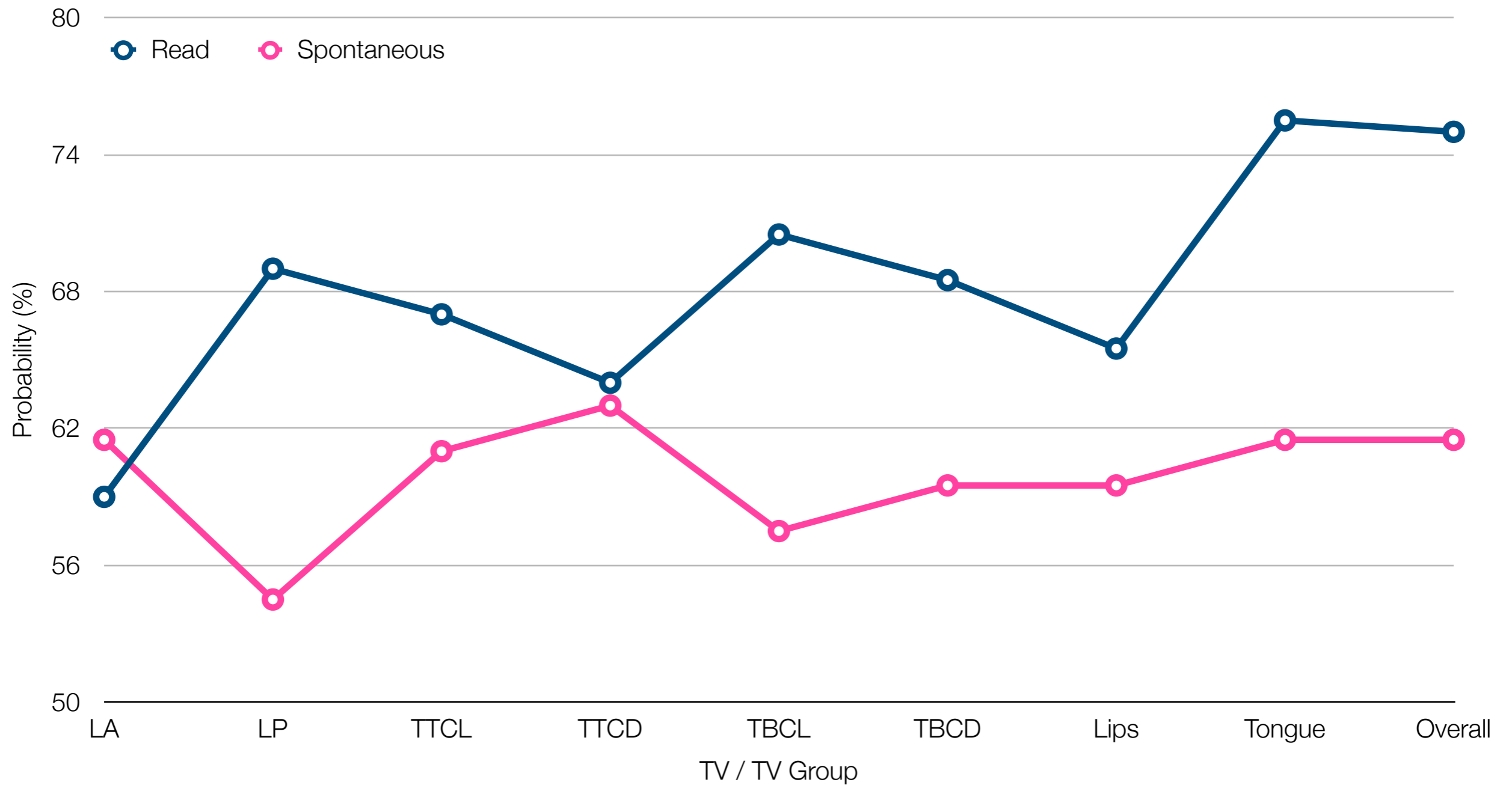
# A Probabilistic Interpretation

- The Cliff's  $\delta$  provides us with the **probability** that, if we take one depressed and one non-depressed speaker, the **comparison between two bio-markers will have a certain direction**;
- The closer the probability to 100%, the more the bio-marker helps one to discriminate between depressed and non-depressed speakers;
- Unfortunately, no **bio-marker is known that separates clearly depressed and non-depressed speakers** or, more generally, people affected by a pathology and others.

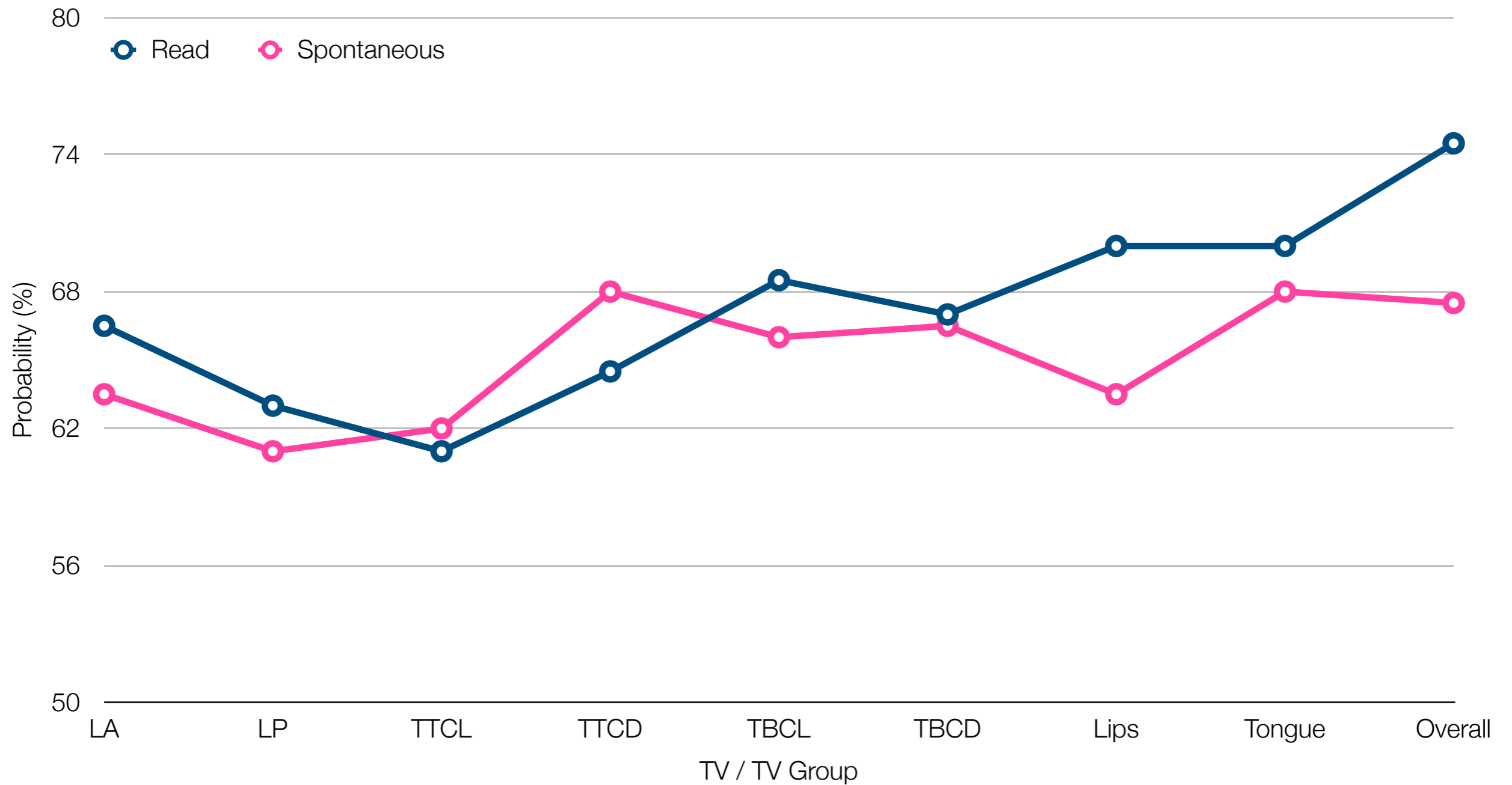
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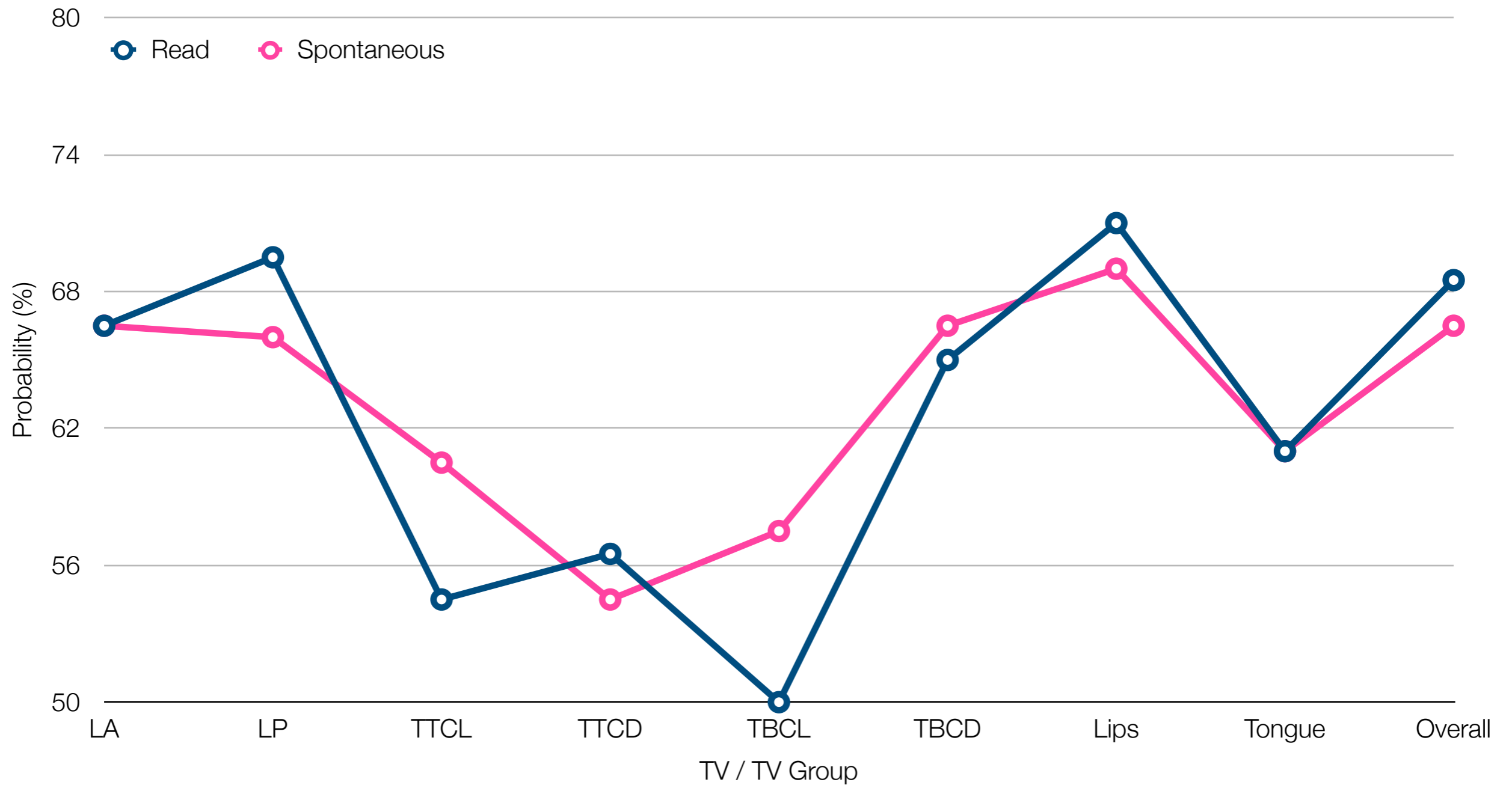
# Probability of Outcome (LLE)



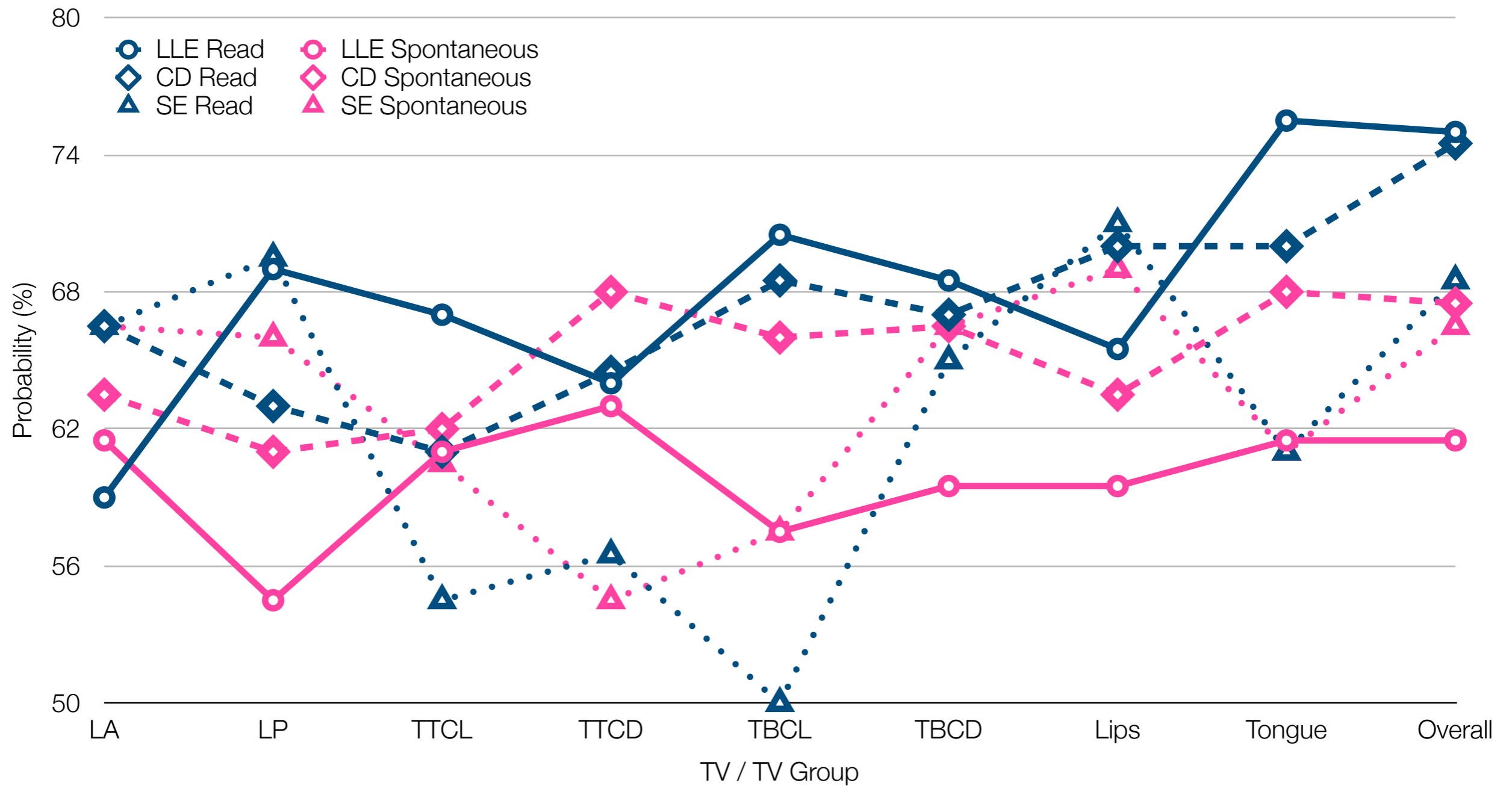
# Probability of Outcome (CD)



# Probability of Outcome (SE)



# Probability of Comparison Outcome



# Key-Findings

- Overall, **bio-markers** appear to **work better on read speech** than on spontaneous speech;
- One possible explanation is that **read speech eliminates the variance due to the content** (e.g., differences in tone, rhythm, emotions, etc.);
- Another explanation is that **reading does not involve the cognitive efforts** required to plan what to say next it is only about producing speech;
- The bio-markers capture the **population aspects** of depression, spontaneous speech is more likely to capture **individual dimensions**.

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# Conclusions

- LLE, CD and SE can be used as depression biomarkers, that is, they can be used to discriminate between depressed and non-depressed speakers;
- The Cliff's  $\delta$ , originally designed to estimate the size effect, provides a probabilistic indication of how effective the bio-markers can be;
- Read speech provides indications at the population level (what all depressed speakers have in common), while spontaneous speech conveys information about individuals (crucial for therapy);
- The complementarity above is an ideal ground for interdisciplinary collaboration.

# Thank You!