



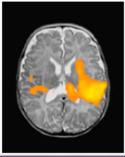
http://RIFFIT.com

# Harnessing the Power of song Using Al

Lex Van der Ploeg (lex@RIFFITnow.com) Shashi Shashidhar (shashi@RIFFITnow.com) Music has the power to bring people together. It inspires, heals, evokes emotion and enriches our lives in countless ways

> Music 'lights up' the right brain Hemisphere

Music and song have historically been used for communication and learning. RIFFIT aims to revolutionize the way we communicate, learn, and entertain through music and song.



Melodic activated brain fMRI image

PNAS,2010, 107, 10-4758-4762 Neuroimage, 2022, 257, 119310



## Music and song help language processing

Melodic methods help in language processing for diverse neurological conditions – prominent scientific studies



Main language areas in the brain are in the left hemisphere; **Music and song** integrate processes in the right and left hemisphere.



## **Example: Data in support of RIFFIT - Aphasia**

J Commun Disord. 2018 Sep - Oct;75:72-86. doi: 10.1016/j.jcomdis.2018.06.005. Epub 2018 Jun 22.

# Please don't stop the music: Song completion in patients with aphasia.

<u>Kasdan A<sup>1</sup>, Kiran S<sup>2</sup>.</u>

**Author information** 

#### Abstract

Aphasia, an acquired language disorder resulting from brain damage, affects over one million individuals in the United States alone. Many persons with aphasia (PWA), particularly those with non-fluent aphasia, have been observed to be able to sing the lyrics of songs more easily than they can speak the same words. Remarkably, even humming a melody can facilitate speech output in PWA, and this has been capitalized on in therapies such as Melodic Intonation Therapy. The



## **Example: Data in support of RIFFIT - Autism**

Johnston et al., *Cogent Psychology* (2018), 5: 1554773 https://doi.org/10.1080/23311908.2018.1554773 \* cogent psychology



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Reviewing editor:

#### APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY | REVIEW ARTICLE

Innovative computer technology in music-based interventions for individuals with autism moving beyond traditional interactive music therapy techniques

Daniel Johnston<sup>1\*</sup>, Hauke Egermann<sup>2</sup> and Gavin Kearney<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** Individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), who exhibit developmental limitations in social-emotional interaction and communication, are widely reported to respond positively to music therapy interventions that incorporate active and improvisational techniques. The fundamental elements of music have



## **Example: Data in support of RIFFIT - Dyslexia**



#### **Beating Dyslexia Through Music**

#### November 29, 2011 TAGS: CHILD DEVELOPMENT COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION LEARNING DISABILITIES MUSIC

Musical skills may translate into reading skills particularly for children with dyslexia. Research published by Martina Huss, Usha Goswami, and colleagues in *Cortex* indicates that musical games may be useful in treating dyslexia in young children because an inability to distinguish between strong and weak "beats" is dosely related to dyslexia.



Huss and Goswami asked 10-year-old children to listen to pairs of simple songs in which certain notes were accented. To make the songs different, the scientists changed the length

#### Related

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#### **Research Briefs**

Research highlights from APS journals, including work on mirror neurons, social connection, and substance use. **More** 

#### Lila Gleitman (1929–2021), Renowned for Innovative Research on Language and Learning

Gleitman's empirical work helped to unravel the mysteries of how children learn language. More

#### Growing Places

Science examines how physical surroundings affect children's development. **More** 



#### The Road to **RIFFIT**



Lex's daughter had reading and comprehension issues.

But she could very well understand materials presented through song and music. Lex researched solutions to help his daughter but found none suitable.

He came across a wealth of scientific literature explaining how song and music therapy enable dyslexia, ASD and aphasia. Lex made it his mission in life to build a digital product to help people with learning difficulties. Lex starts RIFFIT, inc. to build digital products that incorporate music and song into the learning, communication and enjoyment experience.



## Learning disabilities impact millions globally!

#### Over <u>66 Million</u> (1 in 5) people in the US and <u>700 Million</u> people in the World have **learning disabilities**\*

- People with learning impairments can find it difficult to read, speak or comprehend written or spoken text
  - Includes neurological disorders like Autism, Dyslexia and Aphasia
- These impairments pose numerous social and educational challenges
  - Stigmatized in schools resulting in increased drop out rates for students
  - Increased incidence of incarceration (~50% of Texas prison pop is dyslexic)

Current solutions **partially** help people with learning and communication difficulties, and many are left without support



\* 2019 LDA report

## **700M with Learning Disabilities in the World**

85% of Boston parents think their kids read at grade level. (**30%)** of **kids** actually do.) Find summer programs at GoBeyondGrades.org/BOS F

Growing public awareness of a global problem



## **Introducing RIFFIT:**

#### Enhancing Communication and Learning with the Power of Song

| Our Missions   | Our Methods  |
|--|--|
| Bringing the Language of song to the World             | Let users create fully custom<br>songs from anywhere. If they can<br>access the internet, you can<br>access RIFFIT |
| Providing song for learning, therapy and communication | Apply technology to diverse<br>student and patient populations<br>and develop<br>applied protocols                 |
| Providing song for communication and entertainment     | Enable song for general communication and use by anyone  |

#### **Our Platform**

#### Generative AI powered RIFFIT Text-to-Song Platform

For communication, enjoyment, entertainment, enhanced learning, therapy and treatment for selected CNS indications.

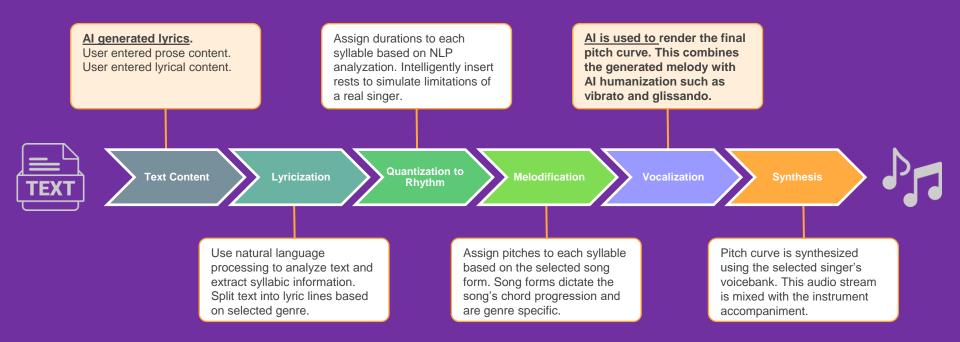
RIFFIT improves Comprehension and students report enhanced Concentration and Engagement.\*



\* Based on a double crossover study on students with dyslexia

#### How does it work?

#### Revolutionary AI powered platform that converts any text into a personalized song in real-time





\* Steps highlighted in bold indicate the use of AI

#### Real-time Text-to-Song App for Music Therapy

Enabling people with neurological conditions to comprehend text in a melodic manner.

Automatically converts text into a song of user's chosen genre and voice.

Built on Al-powered RIFFIT text-to-song platform (patented methodology).







https://app.RiffitNow.com

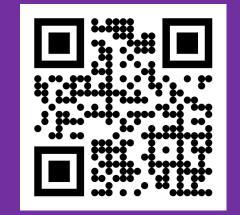
#### Real-time Lyrics & Song Generation App

Enabling everyone to create unique, personalized songs in real-time with just a few keywords!

Automatically creates lyrics, accompaniment and mixes them into a fully produced song.

Built using the Generative AI in GPT.

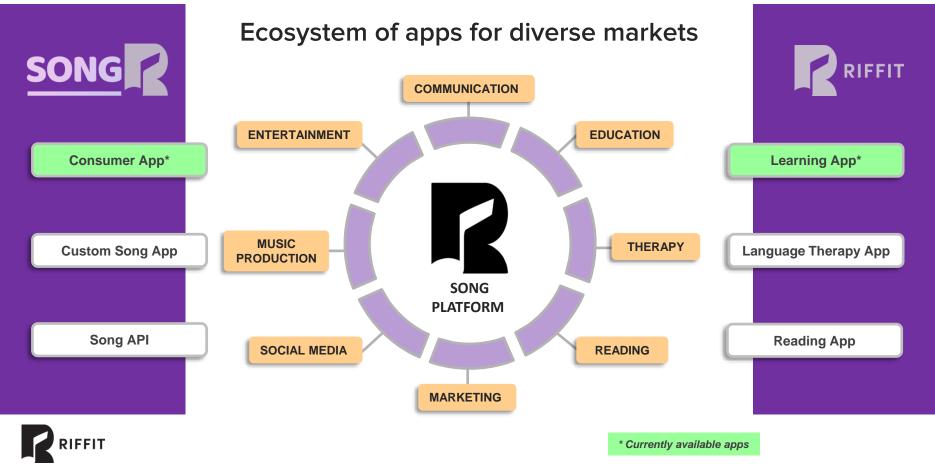






https://app.SongR.ai

## **Opportunities beyond communication & education**



## **Power of Song – Opportunities**

- Affordable on-demand song creation for communication, learning, and therapeutic applications.\*
- Unique and novel ways to create lyrical content that is more engaging and memorable to the audience.
- New ways to entertain and connect with others socially.
- Copyright free custom song creation without needing musical talent or the equipment to do so.



## **Dyslexia: What is it & Why does it matter?**

- No cure
- Difficulty with learning to read and writing language
- Difficulty with hearing and manipulating sounds in words
- Long-term educational, social, and economic consequences
- Low self-esteem, behavior problems, anxiety, aggression..
- Early intervention allows individuals to reach full potential



## **Pilot Study:**

Evaluation of Text to Song Compared to Silent Reading of Text for Children with Dyslexia

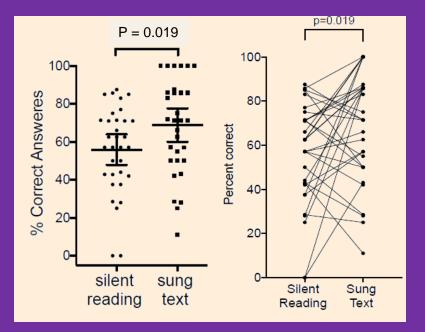
Focus: 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (N=48)





## **Results of reading comprehension**

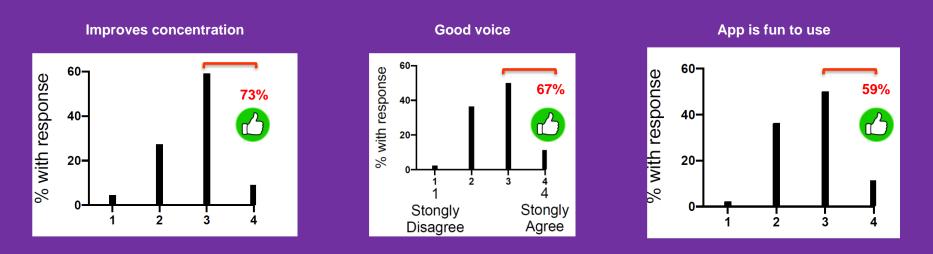
#### 60% of these students benefitted from RIFFIT App 18% of these students scored 100% when using RIFFIT App



11 Students who scored 100% on silent reading not included in this analysis. Comprehension with silent reading was 56% correct answers vs 69% correct answers with sung text (p=0.019).



## **Students feedback on RIFFIT App**

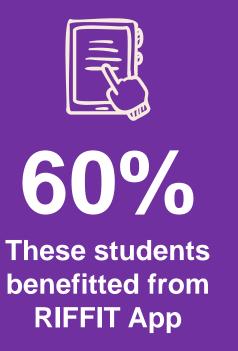


- Students who use Text to Speech report RIFFIT enabling concentration (P < 0.0001) and being fun (P=0.018)
- Males are 6.9 times more likely to strongly agree that RIFFIT improves concentration than females (p=0.033)
- For each 1-year lower grade, students are 2.3 times more likely to strongly agree that RIFFIT improves concentration (p=0.005)
- As % silent correct goes up, the proportion of students reporting that RIFFIT helps concentrate goes down



## **Pilot Study Results: Reading Comprehension**

11 students who scored 100% on silent reading were excluded







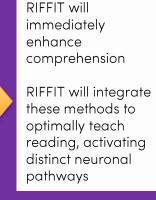
These students scored 100% when using RIFFIT App

Study conducted at Athena Academy

## **Dyslexia: Current treatment options**

#### Methods active for early intervention: Diagnosis often delayed/absent\_

- Orton Gillingham
  - Bridging the gap between sounds and letter symbols
  - Bridge the gap between sound and letter symbols, aimed at word recognition
- Davis
  - Resolving letter confusion visually
- Rhythm training
  - Using temporal effects of rhythm, music and song to teach phonological awareness, making use of right hemisphere preference in developmental dyslexia
- Text to Speech
  - Speechify
    - <u>https://speechify.com/story</u>





#### **ASD – RIFFIT Focus Areas**

#### Autism spectrum disorder (ASD): a complex neurodevelopmental condition

Visual and auditory processing differences, challenges with learning, communication and social skills, and repetitive behaviors



## **Music Training benefits to ASD**

Language delays in ASD are impacted by social attention impairments such as joint-attention and social engagement. These are characteristics of autism and can be <u>addressed through musically based</u> <u>interventions</u>. (Dawson et al., 2004; Kim,Wigram, & Gold, 2009; Loveland & Landry, 1986; Mundy, Sigman, & Kasari, 1990).

Buday (1995) investigated the imitation effects of music therapy in facilitating the memory for signed and spoken words, comparing musical and rhythmic approaches for 10 children with ASD. <u>Musical approaches</u> <u>were superior</u>.

Children with ASD <u>exhibit a preference to song over spoken words</u> (Molnar-Szakacs & Heaton, 2012).

"... move beyond traditional interactive music therapy techniques..." for ASD (Johnston et al 2018)



## **RIFFIT Approach to ASD**

#### **RIFFIT Products:**

Personalized text/voice to song solutions:

- Learn to read product
- Learn to speak product
- Joint attention behavior product
- Voice-to-Song communication product

#### **Planned RIFFIT Studies:**

- Real-time Text-to-Song (3Q 2023)
- Voice-to-Song (4Q 2023)



#### FDA's COVID-19 Enforcement Guidance

#### Enables faster time to market

#### Enforcement Policy for Digital Health Devices For Treating Psychiatric Disorders During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency

Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff

**APRIL 2020** 

Applies to conditions including Autism, Depression, ADHD, Anxiety, etc.

Considered as low risk.

No prescription needed.

Contact Physician and teachers or therapists as appropriate before use.



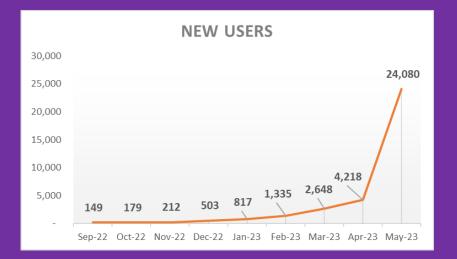
## **Our product Pipeline (near term)**

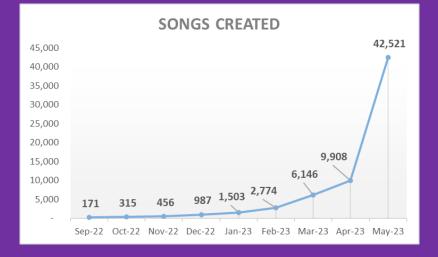
- Text to Song for education (DTC & DTX)
  - Text to Song for dyslexia, ASD
  - Text to Song for general learning
- Text to song for general communication and entertainment
- Song books released with diverse genres (not real time); for children, adults and religious communities (Chant) and meditation
- Real time song for social communication (e-mail, Twitter, etc.)
- Real time Voice to song

#### **Spontaneous traction to date**

# Avg. MoM new user growth ~80%

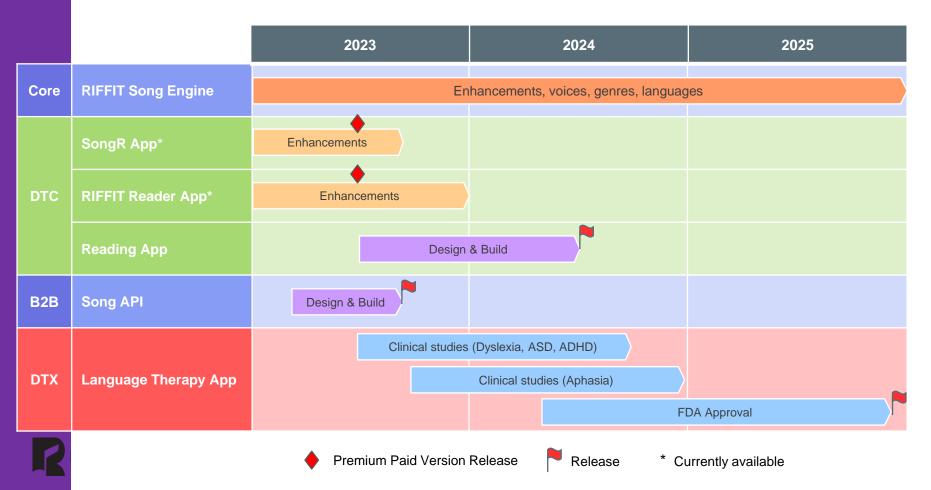
# Avg. MoM songs growth ~80%







## **Product Roadmap**



## **Barriers to Entry**

#### RIFFIT has a strong patent portfolio to protect the IP 1 issued Patent and 3 Applications Pending.

|                         | Patent No./<br>App No.      | Title   | No. of<br>Claims | Priority<br>Date |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| ERVED<br>TED<br>ESTRUER | US Patent No.<br>11,049,492 | Real time comprehensible song generation<br>algorithms for the treatment of selected CNS<br>disorders.<br>Pending in AU, CA, EP, IN and a US continuation | 33               | Mar 2019         |
|                         | 63/009,166                  | Algorithms for additional song generation methods   | 16               | Apr 2020         |
|                         | 63/076,150                  | Additional song generation methods  | 5                | Sep<br>2020      |
|                         | 63/136,698                  | Song generation methods and applications  | 22               | Oct 2020         |





#### **RIFFIT's Leaders & Advisors**

#### CEO: Lex Van der Ploeg & CSO: Shashi Shashidhar

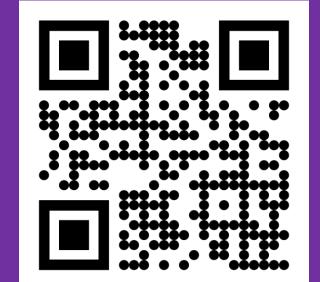
| AI & Algorithms  | Business   | Melody & Voice   | Clinical  | Regulatory  |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| Garrett Eckl<br>Head of Engineering<br>RIFFIT<br>Dr. Lawrence Hunter<br>Professor<br>Univ of Colorado<br>Dr. Bud Mishra<br>Professor<br>NYU Courant<br>Dr. Steven Yi<br>Music Composer<br>Computer Scientist | <ul> <li>Dr. Larry Gold</li> <li>Founder, SomaLogic</li> <li>Dr. Dinko Valerio</li> <li>Co-founder, Leyden Labs</li> <li>Dr. Ronald Brus</li> <li>Founder &amp; CEO</li> <li>myTomorrows</li> <li>John Hulburt</li> <li>VP, Finance</li> </ul> | Peter Jarvis<br>Director, STO<br>New England<br>Conservatory of Music<br>Michael Shapiro<br>Principal Composer<br>Mad Bard Music | Dr. Michael Weiden<br>Professor, NYU<br>Dr. John Powell<br>Author, Music & Brain<br>Lisa Hecker<br>Speech & Language<br>Therapist | Dr. Ilia Ichetovkin<br>Denovo Biopharma<br>Dr. Gail Radcliffe<br>Radcliffe Consulting |



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| sign out            | Coniferous Trees                      | 5/12/2023                              |      |
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RIFFIT

#### Create your custom song in 3 clicks



14<sup>TH</sup>ANNUAL • 2023 •



**Thank You!** 

