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**The European starling as a model for understanding mechanisms**  
**underlying auditory scene analysis**

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The European starling is a songbird that has evolved mechanisms for the analysis of acoustic scenes exhibiting a number of similarities with human perception. Segregation of signals and background noise from different sources is enhanced due to the processing of differences in modulation patterns as is evident in experiments on the comodulation detection difference and comodulation masking release. Similarly to auditory streaming in human subjects, integration of sequential signals into streams occurs in the European starling and it is affected by spectral and temporal properties of the sounds. The presentation reviews results from psychophysical experiments and compares these to observed neural response patterns of auditory forebrain neurons in starlings.