A theoretical account of the auditory recognition process is given in terms of the information in a preperceptual image and the time it is available for perceptual processing. Necessary distinctions are drawn between auditory detection, recognition, and short-term memory. [The Science Citation Index® (SCI®) and the Social Sciences Citation Index® (SSCI®) indicate that this paper has been cited in over 140 publications since 1972.]

Dominic W. Massaro
Program in Experimental Psychology
University of California
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

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When I was notified that a publication of mine was identified as one of the most-cited items in its field, my first terrifying thought was that I was citing my own work too frequently. This is not the case for the paper in question, however, since most of my research areas after the cited paper have been "something completely different," to steal a phrase from Monty Python.

As a graduate student and a postdoctoral fellow, I was impressed with the information-processing framework as a heuristic for psychological inquiry. Performance in any domain could be conceptualized as involving a set of processing stages, and it is important to isolate and define the nature of the information and the operations performed on it at each stage of processing. This paradigm has major implications for experiment and theory. The primary one in my mind was that it served as an organizational framework to relate disparate areas of investigation previously believed to be concerned with fundamentally different psychological questions.

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5 Kallman H J & Massaro D W. Backward masking, the suffix effect and preperceptual storage.
6 Wasson C S & Kelly W J. The role of stimulus uncertainty in the discrimination of auditory patterns
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