BBN-ANG-141 Foundations of phonology9. Stress, accent, & intonation

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outline

what is what?

stress and vowel quality

stress patterns

stressless "words"

multiply stressed words

accents and the tonic

intonation

parts of the tone unit types of nuclear tone

 stress is acoustic prominence, eg length, higher pitch, loudness of a vowel

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- stress is stable: a stressed vowel does not become unstressed, an unstressed vowel does not become stressed (we must assume that átom and atómic are not related phonologically; note that apart from m, they are totally different: átəm vs əthómik)

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- many dictionaries use different symbols for stressed and unstressed ə and ij: agree ə'gri: vs ugly 'Agli; Kennedy 'kenədi vs Kentucky ken'tAki (dictionaries using different symbols for other stressed-unstressed vowel pairs are rare)

- s = strong/stressed, w = weak/unstressed
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no word without 's': Stress Requirement

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- no word without 's': Stress Requirement
- no word beginning with 'ww': Early Stress Requirement

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- some monosyllabic function words do not have a weak form: off, on, my, I, they, may, might, ought

multipy stressed words

SS	campaigned	Cam reigned
SWS	contradict	Cohn's a dick
SWWS	catamaran	Pat had a plan
SWSW	Madagascar	Maddy asked her
SWWSWSW	telecommunication	Terry can fetch the children
SWSWSWW	indivisibility	Indie Vickie's billing me

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reasons for not having an accent on a stressed vowel

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- w w Ś s: It's a BLACK bird (not a white one)
- w w ś Ś: It's a blackBIRD (not a blackboard)

accent clash

s (w) ś (w) ś (w) s (w) ś ... thirtéen thírteen mén sardíne sárdine sándwich left hánd léft-hand dríve black bírd bláck bird's nést (= bláckbird's nést) kangaróo kángaroo párk Waterlóo Wáterloo Státion académic ácademic yéar fundaméntal fúndamental érror chicken-héarted chícken-hearted héroes

note: retúrn tícket, lagóon páradise (since return, lagoon are ws, not ss)

noncompounds stressed like compounds

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śs cohort, ally, decade

śws apricot, satisfy, renegade

śsw ancestor, Chewbacca, orgasm

śwsw alligator, pomegranade, Schwarzenegger

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- modalities, attitudes, (non)completeness in intonation languages (like English or Hungarian)
- lexical words in tone languages (like Mandarin) [mā] 'mother', [má] 'hemp', [mă] 'horse', [mà] 'scold'

 $\underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{Did} \ \mathsf{you} \ | \ \mathsf{'never} \ | \ \mathsf{'see} \ \mathsf{my} \ \mathsf{fan} | \ \mathsf{'tastic} \ | \ \mathsf{'blue-green} \ \mathsf{um} | \ \mathsf{'brella}, \ \mathsf{Michael?} \\ \underbrace{\phantom{\mathsf{model}}_{1} \ & \underbrace{\phantom{\mathsf{model}}_{2} \ & \underbrace{\phantom{\mathsf{model}}_{3} \ & \underbrace{\phantom{\mathsf{model}}_{4} \ & \underbrace{\phantom{\mathsf{model}}_{1} \ & \underbrace{\phantom{\mathsf{$

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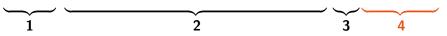
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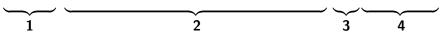
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- 4 the tail, all unaccented syllables after the tonic
- b tone-units may lack one or other of these parts: did you 'eat? (1+3); 'sar`dines (2+3), etc.; only the tonic is obligatory: ,me? (3)

types of nuclear tone: falling tone

also known as long fall

typical of completed statements, wh-questions, confirmation-seeking tag questions, exclamations, eg

- ▶ you 'always 'make such a `mess, John
- 'what can you 'see on the `blackboard
- 'that was a 'nasty `surprise | `wasn't it
- what a `disaster

types of nuclear tone: high-rising tone

also known as long rise

typical of polar (ie yes-no) questions, echo questions (tonic always on wh-word), information-seeking tag questions, eg

- ▶ is it 'you who 'made such a ´mess, John
- ▶ are you ´ready
- you're ´ready
- (uninterpretable noise) 'what did you say
- 'this is `Schubert, | 'isn't it

types of nuclear tone: low-rising tone

also known as short rise

typical of uncertainty and parentheticals, eg

- 'maybe the 'baby's a ,sleep
- $\blacktriangleright\,$ it 'looks very 'much like the $\,$,other one
- `today | says , Mary | we'll `leave
- `Richard | 'often 'called the _Lionhearted | 'returned from Je`rusalem

types of nuclear tone: falling-rising tone

also known as fall-rise

typical of incompleteness or non-finality, in subordinate clauses, main clauses followed by another main clause, lists, personal opinions, eg

- when we `get there | we'll have a good `meal
- I'd `buy you it | if I could `afford it
- ▶ I 'opened the `door | and `went in
- ► `one | `two | `three | `four
- 'John could `do it for us
- he's not `that bad

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- 3. wws
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which is an obligatory part of the tone unit?

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