A1: Incremental Specification of Focus and Givenness in a Discourse Context

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Introduction

Research Objective

- corpus phonetics
- effects of *information status* on
  - phonological parameters of prosody $\rightarrow$ accent types
  - phonetic parameters of prosody $\rightarrow$ accent shapes
Results on Pitch Accent Type

Information status influences accent preferences, e.g.:

- **new**: falling accents (H*L, !H*L, H*, !H*, HH*L, H* ..L)
- **d-given**: rising accent (L*H)
- **generally accessible**: rising accent (L*H)
- **accessible-via-description**: falling / rising (L*H, L*, L!*H) / decaccentuated
Results on Pitch Accent Shape

Information status influences pitch accent shape

- L*H accents vary in their shape according to some information status categories
- new: smaller range and earlier peak
- generally accessible: greater range
- d-given (synonymy): lower incline of the rising slope
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

Digression: Pitch Accent Variability (A1/A2-Cooperation)

- Methodology:
  - compare each token of a pitch accent type (represented as 6-dimensional vectors of PaIntE-parameters) to all other tokens of this type using cosine-similarity
  → distribution of similarity (variability) values for every type
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

Digression: Pitch Accent Variability (A1/A2-Cooperation)

- pitch accent tokens of a particular pitch accent type differ in their within type variability:
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

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- pitch accent tokens of a particular pitch accent type differ in their within type variability:
  - \( L^*H \) is more variable than \( H^*L \),
  - \( H^*L \) is more variable than \( H^*L^*H \)

the more frequent an accent, the more variable the realisation of the different tokens of this accent

Exemplar Theory: frequent tokens offer a wider selection of exemplars to choose from during production
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

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- pitch accent tokens of a particular pitch accent type differ in their within type variability:
  - L*H is more variable than H*L,
  - H*L is more variable than H*
  - L*H is more frequent than H*L,
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Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

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- pitch accent tokens of a particular pitch accent type differ in their within type variability:
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Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

Pitch Accent Variability and Information Status

H*L

- *new* tokens are more variable than *given* tokens
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

Pitch Accent Variability and Information Status

**H*L

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- *new* tokens are more frequent than *given* tokens
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

Pitch Accent Variability and Information Status

H*L

- new tokens are more variable than given tokens
- new tokens are more frequent than given tokens

→ the more frequent an information status category, the more variable the realisation of the different tokens of an accent

→ Exemplar Theory: frequent tokens offer a wider selection of exemplars to choose from during production
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

PitchAccent Variability and Information Status

L*H

- *given* and *new* tokens show no clear difference in variability
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

Pitch Accent Variability and Information Status

L*H
- *given* and *new* tokens show no clear difference in variability
- *given* and *new* tokens have a similar frequency of occurrence (114/102 tokens)
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

Pitch Accent Variability and Information Status

L*H

- *given* and *new* tokens show no clear difference in variability
- *given* and *new* tokens have a similar frequency of occurrence (114/102 tokens)

- *Exemplar Theory:*
  similar number of tokens → similar number of exemplars to choose from during production
Results on Pitch Accent Shape: Variability

Both: pitch accent frequency and IS-category frequency

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Summary Results

- Information status and pitch accent properties correlate
  - pitch accent type
  - pitch accent shape
  - pitch accent token variability
- Pitch accent shape is subject to frequency of occurrence effects
  - frequency of pitch accent type
  - frequency of information status category
  - frequency of combination of both
Ideas for the next phase

Information Status

- Information status and pitch accent variability
  - Which accent shape properties cause the variability in pitch accent realisations?
  - Other IS categories
- Information status and other prosodic parameters
  - Duration
  - Intensity
Ideas for the next phase

**Contrast**

- Prosodic properties of contrast
  - Typical Pitch accents?
  - Changes in pitch accent shape?
  - Changes in pitch accent token variability?

- better identify genuine IS-effects by ruling out contrast phenomena
Ideas for the next phase

**Intentionality**

- Information status/Contrast, Prosody and Intentionality
  - How does the mind-set of a speaker influence his production?
  - Effects on
    - Pitch accent type
    - Pitch accent shape
    - Pitch accent variability
Ideas for the next phase

Variability

- Pitch accent variability
  - other factors (prosodic context, lexical context, ...?)
  - other frequency of occurrence effects
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