

Prosodic signatures in Australian languages – intonation and beyond

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It is well accepted that theories of intonational phonology and prosodic typology in general are enhanced and advanced through exploration of prosodic phenomena in a wide range of the world's languages. In this paper, I review recent research on Intonation and prosody in a range of Indigenous Australian languages with a particular focus on the interaction between intonation, information structure, and aspects of syntactic organisation. Experimental results show that word order crucially combines with *intonational phrasing* and local and global *pitch range manipulation* to signal discourse prominence similar to many other “free word order” languages. I also review recent research exploring segmental and temporal signatures of prominence and phrasing, within the context of models of prosodic Typology (e.g. Jun 2015). Results to date suggest these languages are head-edge prominence languages with medium to strong macro rhythm which we argue is a strong reason for traditional fieldwork-based analyses of these languages as stress languages.