

# Chapter 16

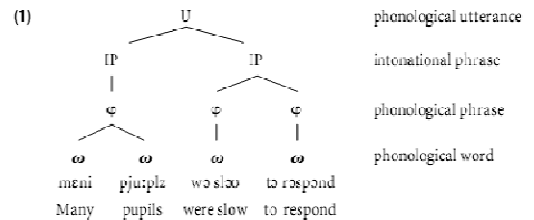
## Phonology above the word



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## Introduction

- Even higher than Feet/Phonological Words:



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## Phonological words

- Phonological words: domain for stress assignment
  - divided into one or more feet
  - Here: many, pupils, were slow, to respond (no foot=no stress; no stress=no foot)
- Function words: weak forms: no stress (*were*, *to*) (also called: clitics)
  - strong form:
    - I wonder where they were.
    - Who can I turn to?

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## Phonological phrases

- Consist of one or more phonological words
  - many pupils: close connection: 1 PP
  - no pause possible in between
- Intonational phrases: possible pause in between
  - cf.: Many pupils | were slow
- Phonological Utterance: sentence as a whole
- Prosodic units are based on syntactic units but not necessarily exactly the same

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## Recent research

- Tone sandhi in Chinese
    - Lao Li mai hao jiu
    - Where does the rule 3+3 → 2+3 apply?
    - Variable rule? Optional rule? Variable domains?
    - Mai xiao yu san
    - Etc.
- (e.g. Li 2017, Zhu 2017)

## Constituency

- → derived from syntax
- Boundaries are important
  - some processes only take place **within** a particular constituent
  - some **boundaries** are especially marked, e.g. initial/final in a sentence
    - recall %H and L%
    - helps syntactic processing
    - clear function for listener: to structure the sentence and the conversation
  - and identifies some **stressed** elements

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## Length

- Also important: length of the Phrases
- E.g. heavy NP shift:
  - He picked **it** up (compare: \*He picked up **it**)
  - He picked up **the flashlight**
- Heavy units tend to appear toward the end of the sentence
  - phonological influence on syntax

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## Phonological phrases

- What is the difference in pronunciation and in meaning between these two sentences?
  - stress in isolation : ChinESE
  - a. On Tuesdays, he gives <sub>φ</sub> (the Chinése dishes) <sub>φ</sub>
  - b. On Tuesdays, he gives <sub>φ</sub> (the Chinése) <sub>φ</sub> (dishes) <sub>φ</sub>
- Rhythm rule: thirteen vs. thirteen men. Domain: phonological phrase

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## Phonological word

- Domain for stress (also vowel harmony, syllabification, other rules)
- Compounds: one syntactic word, two phonological words
  - 'black 'board : two feet!

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## Conclusion

- Prosodic constituents
  - derived from syntax; indirect relation
  - phonology may influence syntax
- Domains for rules
- Marking boundaries
- Highlighting important elements
- Relation to processing: mark beginning/end of words, phrases, sentences
  - cooperation speaker/listener

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## Homework

- Study this final chapter very carefully
  - get engaged in tone sandhi debates
- Exercises: please do Qs 144 and 145. To be done in class.
- Thank you~~ ☺

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