

Intonation of New Englishes

Carlos Gussenhoven

Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands

Queen Mary University of London, UK

Cantonese English has pitch accents, and their tones associate to syllables. Unassociated lexical tones delete, but peripheral tones are saved. This pattern was earlier found for Japanese.

Cantonese English according to C.C. Luke

Accented syllable: MH*L

Function word: M

M-deletion: M → Ø / L__

L-raising: L → H / H__ {H,M}

Luke, K.K. (2000). Phonological re-interpretation: The assignment of Cantonese tones to English words. *9th International Conference of Chinese Linguistics*. National University of Singapore.

with consider

M M H*LMH*L

Cantonese English revised

Nuclear syllable: H*L

Prenuclear syll: H*

Unaccented syll: M

Spread right

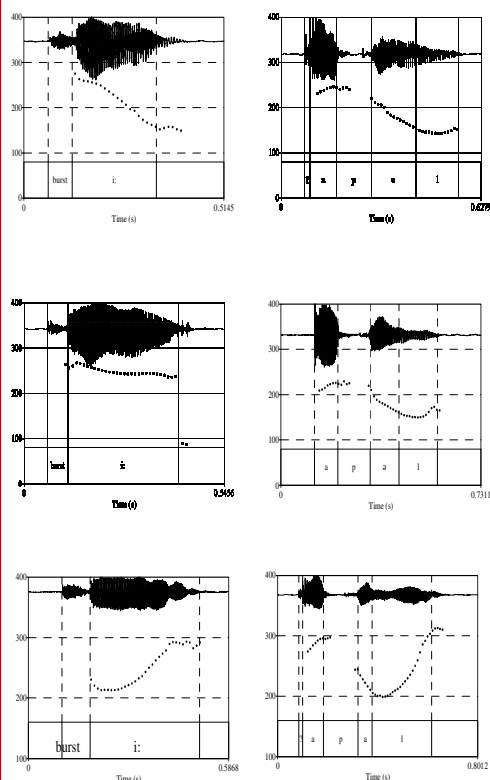
with consider

M M H* H*L

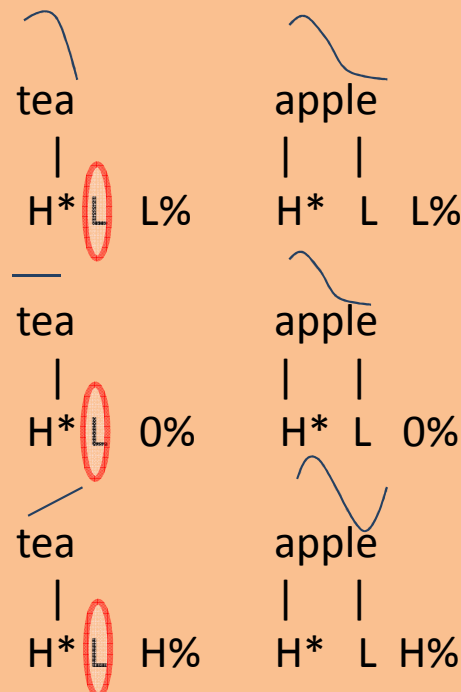
Might L be a final L%?

There are three intonations for final-accented utterances, and two elsewhere;

Question intonation is a rise on final accented utterances, but a fall-rise elsewhere.



Analysis



Solution: Save the hindmost

Nuclear H*L;
Delete floating L, but
keep peripheral T%.

Emphatic: L%
Declarative: 0%
Interrogative: H%

Lexical tones associate;
Intonational T% floats;
NoCONTOUR, to exclude

σ
H*L

Tokyo Japanese (Gussenhoven, *The Phonology of Tone and Intonation*. 2004: 204).

