MEETING 3 — OVERVIEW

- Hmk #2 review
- Break indices
- Two levels of prosodic phrasing
- Phrase accent spreading and upstep
- Phrase accent & boundary tone combinations
- Initial %H boundary tone and the ‘contradiction contour’
HMK #2 — PITCH ACCENT SPOTTING

〈howto〉 I know we’ve gotta do it but I don’t know how to do it

〈anyway〉 but anyway if you can’t see that then I don’t know if I can explain it to you

〈two-million〉 I’ll buy it back from you for like two million because ya done ran it into the ground you’re having problems like you- you’re not gonna make it and you go bankrupt so I’m gonna buy it back from you for like for next to nothing
ToBI BREAK INDEX VALUES

0  Cliticization (e.g. flap in “got it”).

1  No higher-level disjuncture or cliticization.

2  Mismatch of tones and disjuncture.

3  Large disjuncture = intermediate phrase (iP) boundary.

4  Even larger disjuncture = intonation phrase (IP) boundary.
That's right at the traffic light I means insert
1 1 1 1 1 1 4 1 1 4
That's right at the traffic light I means insert
1 3 1 1 1 1 4 3 1 4
That's right at the traffic light
1 4 1 1 1 1 4

• The **nuclear accent** is defined as the last accent in the intermediate phrase.

• Intermediate phrase boundaries are marked tonally with a L- or H- phrase accent.

• Intonation phrase boundaries are marked tonally with (a phrase accent and) a L% or H% boundary tone.
Figure 1: Break index 1 vs. 3 after “I”.
Figure 2: Break index 3 vs. 4 after “I”.

RuCCS English ToBI Tutorial: Meeting 3
PHRASE ACCENT

- A phrase accent occurs at each intermediate phrase boundary.

- This L- or H- accent “spreads” inward from the phrase edge to fill the space between the nuclear accent and the phrase end.

- The high phrase accent (H-) *upsteps* an immediately following H% or L% boundary tone — that is, it makes the boundary tone higher than it would otherwise (i.e. after a L-) be.
Figure 3: Spreading of L- and H- phrase accents, respectively.
Figure 4: H- phrase accent after L* pitch accent.
Figure 5: H- phrase accent after H* pitch accent.
PHRASE ACCENT & BOUNDARY TONE COMBOS

- All four possible combinations are attested:

  L-L% common in declaratives
  L-H% common in continuation rises
  H-L% common in enumerations
  H-H% common in Y-N questions

- What is the difference between L- and L-L% or H- and H-L%??
Figure 6: L-H% vs. L-L% phrase accent & boundary tone combos.
Figure 7: H-L% vs. H-H% phrase accent & boundary tone combos.
Figure 8: H-H% vs. zL% contrast after a H* accent.