

Linguistischer
Arbeitskreis
Köln

Meets KoRoLi

WS 21/22

Di, 18.00
Online, Zoom

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Intonation between phrasing and accent. Spanish and Quechua in Huari, Peru

I present an analysis of Spanish and Quechua intonation based on fieldwork data from bilingual speakers in Huari, Ancash, Peru. For the Huari Spanish data, I find a paradigmatic tonal inventory that is reduced compared to that of European peninsular varieties. The Spanish data exhibits variation between a more word-optimizing prosody, regularly pitch accenting each word, and a more phrase-optimizing prosody in which only the most prominent word in a phrase is accented, or only boundary tones occur. It is also shown to employ tonal scaling to cue hierarchically structured contrasts between phrases in complex utterances, corresponding to information structural divisions. For the Huari Quechua data, I show that it “cares” very little about word stress, but with an option to align an H tone with the (stressed) penult of the most prominent word in a phrase. The interaction of prosodic and morphosyntactic cues to information structure is also explored. Finally, it is argued that the data from both languages exhibits prosodic variation along the same typological dimensions, with considerable overlap.

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