

## Using prosody predictively: The production and comprehension of contrastive pitch accents in the L1 and the L2

Anouschka Foltz

Bangor University, Bangor, UK

There is abundant evidence that listeners make predictions about upcoming sentence material during language processing (see Altmann & Kamide, 1999, for a classic study of how listeners use verb information predictively). For example, both native English and native German listeners can use contrastive pitch accents to predict upcoming referents (e.g. Ito & Speer, 2008, for English; Weber, Braun, & Crocker, 2006, for German). Contrastive pitch accents (L+H\* in the ToBI system) evoke a contrast set (cf. Ito & Speer, 2008), so that listeners will expect a lexical item that receives a pitch accent to be contrasted with a previously mentioned lexical item. For example, when hearing *Click on the blue book. Click on the **RED**...* (where CAPS indicate a contrastive L+H\* accent), adults predict a contrast in color and expect that the noun *book* will be repeated. This leads to facilitative processing if *book* is actually repeated and to a prosodic garden-path effect if another noun follows *red*. In contrast, adults are reliably less likely to make the same prediction when hearing *Click on the blue book. Click on the red...* (without a L+H\* accent), suggesting that the prediction is driven by the prosody. In this talk, I will present results from a study that extends these previous findings from monolingual German and English speakers to native German L2 learners of English and explores the role of recent exposure for predictive processing. The comprehension data from the study shows evidence for predictive prosodic processing both before and after recent exposure in the L1, but only after recent exposure in the L2. This suggests that recent exposure plays an important role in listeners' abilities to use contrastive pitch accents to predict upcoming referents in the L2. Production data before and after exposure from the same participants suggests that participants adjust their productions to the prosodic structures heard during exposure. The data will be discussed in terms implicit learning and speech accommodation.