

A unifying understanding of rise-fall-rise, topics and non-at-issue meaning

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Outline

1. Aims of this talk
2. Intonational Compliance Marking (Westera 2017)
3. Application to rise-fall-rise
4. Conclusion

1.1. The various uses of rise-fall-rise

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- ▶ to explain how it accounts for the above range of uses.

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 - ▶ e.g., Quality suspension implies *speaker bias* (Gunlogson, 2008);
- ▶ the essence of this proposal aligns with much previous work (e.g., Pierrehumbert & Hirschberg 1990).

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From Gussenhoven 2004, simplified:

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(Gussenhoven 1983, 2002: delay conveys extra significance.)

2.3. Generalization to rising/falling accents

Generalizing Westera 2013 (following Hobbs 1990):

- ▶ like boundary tones ($H\%/L\%$), also trailing tones (L^*H , H^*L) convey (non-)compliance with the maxims.

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$$\text{Quantity}(\mathcal{Q}, p) = \forall q \left(\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Quality}(q) \wedge \\ \text{Relation}(\mathcal{Q}, q) \end{array} \right) \rightarrow (p \subseteq q) \right)$$

$$\text{Manner}(p) = \Box(p \in \text{Intents}) \quad (\Box = \text{common knowledge})$$

$$\text{Maxims}(\mathcal{Q}) = \exists p \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Quality}(p) \wedge \\ \text{Relation}(\mathcal{Q}, p) \wedge \\ \text{Quantity}(\mathcal{Q}, p) \wedge \\ \text{Manner}(p) \end{array} \right)$$

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- ▶ Q_0 and Q_i can be identical.

Outline

1. Aims of this talk
2. Intonational Compliance Marking (Westera 2017)
3. Application to rise-fall-rise
4. Conclusion

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Remarks:

- ▶ in the absence of a precise, general theory of QUDs...
- ▶ ...RFR is best regarded as a *new empirical window* on QUDs.
- ▶ The ICM theory generates many predictions even without a precise understanding of the QUDs.

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Prediction 2: in utterances that end with L%, prefinal RFR marks material that conveys a secondary intent (non-at-issue meaning).

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Prediction 3:

Pre-final RFR can mark the *topic* of the utterance.

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Indeed (Wagner 2012; Meyer, Fedorenko & Gibson 2011):

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a. B: No! Mary, insulted John.

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- (15) A: Did John insult Mary?
a. B: No! Mary, insulted John.
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- (16) A: Do you accept credit cards?
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But the contributions are metalinguistic

(and the shift in main QUD this imposes is annoying).

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Prediction 6: On utterances with a single explicated intent, RFR commits the speaker to the truth of that intent (Quality).

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Outline

1. Aims of this talk
2. Intonational Compliance Marking (Westera 2017)
3. Application to rise-fall-rise
4. Conclusion

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The ICM theory (Westera 2017):

- ▶ L%: $\Box \text{Maxims}(Q_0)$ (Q_0 is the main QUD)
- ▶ H%: $\neg\Box \text{Maxims}(Q_0)$
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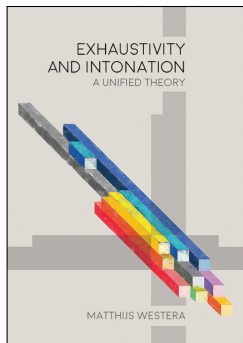
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