

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910826662403321
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Titolo	Sentential form and prosodic structure of Catalan // by Ingo Feldhausen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam, : John Benjamins Pub. Co., 2010
ISBN	1-282-90455-8 9786612904554 90-272-8759-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (304 p.)
Collana	Linguistik aktuell/linguistics today, , 0166-0829 ; ; 168
Disciplina	449/.95
Soggetti	Catalan language - Sentences Catalan language - Syntax Catalan language - Grammar
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Sentential Form and Prosodic Structure of Catalan -- Editorial page -- Title page -- LCC data -- Table of contents -- Acknowledgements -- Conventions for Glosses and Translations -- Chapter 1. Introduction -- 1.1. Foundations and basic assumptions -- 1.1.1 Central Catalan -- 1.1.2 Clitic left- and clitic right-dislocations in Catalan -- 1.1.3 Information structure -- 1.1.4.1 Preverbal subjects are in an A-position -- 1.1.4.2 All-new contexts -- 1.1.4.3 Islandhood -- 1.1.4.4 Subjects Present for Disambiguation -- 1.1.4.5 Non-referential QPs as preverbal subjects -- 1.1.4.6 Unambiguous wide scope -- 1.1.4. Preverbal subjects are not dislocated -- 1.2. Outline of the empirical results and their theoretical analysis -- Chapter 2. Fundamental aspects of Catalan intonation -- 2.1. Foundations of the theoretical model -- 2.1.1 The autosegmental-metrical (AM) model -- 2.1.2 The tone and break indices transcription system (ToBI) -- 2.2. The tone and break indices transcription system for Catalan -- 2.2.1 Pitch accents in Catalan -- 2.2.2 Suprasegmental prosodic levels in Catalan -- 2.3. Boundary cues in Catalan -- 2.3.1 Boundary cues in romance languages -- 2.3.2 The continuation rise -- 2.3.3 The sustained pitch -- 2.3.4 Preboundary lengthening -- 2.3.5 Pauses -- 2.3.6 Complex boundary tones -- 2.3.7

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Sommario/riassunto

This monograph presents an experimental and theoretical inquiry into the role of sentential form and variation in the prosodic structure of Catalan. The empirical section examines intonational phrasing across sentence forms, including SVO structures with either nominal or sentential objects and structures involving clitic left- and right-dislocations. The results show variation in phrasing that depends on syntactic factors and non-syntactic factors such as topic-hood and prosodic binarity. The theoretical section uses Stochastic Optimality Theory to model the variation and frequency distributions associated with the observed prosodic patterns. Various syntactic and non-syntactic factors are represented by alignment constraints, which play a major role in Catalan, and by constraints that limit size and those that limit the overall amount of prosodic structure. This study represents a combined approach to prosody and syntax and is of particular

relevance for theoretical and empirical linguists interested in the relationship between these domains both in Catalan and other languages.
