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The two sides of Wh-indeterminates in Mandarin : a prosodic and processing account

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Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift
The two sides of wh-indeterminates in Mandarin:
A prosodic and processing account
by Yang Yang (woensdag 30 mei 2018, 10.00)

1. Mandarin listeners can anticipate the clause types as early as the beginning of the sentences by utilizing available prosodic cues. (This dissertation, Chapter 3)
2. *Diǎnr* 'a little' can serve as a last resort licenser of *wh*-existentials, even in veridical contexts. (This dissertation, Chapter 4)
3. The higher processing cost in reading *wh*-questions as compared with declaratives can be interpreted as empirical evidence that a covert dependency is required between the *wh*-word and the interrogative operator. (This dissertation, Chapter 5)
4. The detection of the incongruous clause type based on prosody is not the same in *wh*-questions and *wh*-declaratives. (This dissertation, Chapter 6)
5. Prosody is very informative; speakers can make use of it to express themselves; listeners can make use of it to understand speakers.
6. What the brain can tell us about language and what language can tell us about the brain are the fascinations of the neuroscience of language.
7. An interdisciplinary study can attract more readers, although it is more challenging to please all of the readers.
8. It is a good habit to write down the flying thoughts about research and stop them from flying away.
9. In the Netherlands, what hairstyle I can have and to a certain extent how much hair remains on my head largely depends on the gale and the rain.
10. 不登高山，不知天之高也；不临深溪，不知地之厚也。《荀子·劝学》
We will never know how high the sky can be till we climb up the high mountains; we will never know how deep the ground can be till we dive into the deep streams.

(Xunzi·Quanxue)