

Tone and intonation processing: from ambiguous acoustic signal to linguistic representation

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Stellingen

behorend bij het proefschrift

Tone and intonation processing: From ambiguous acoustic signal to linguistic representation by Min Liu

- 1. At the attentive processing stage, native Standard Chinese listeners can distinguish between question and statement intonation when the intonation is associated with a final falling tone, but fail to do so when the intonation is associated with a final rising tone. (Chapter 2, this dissertation)
- 2. Top-down information provided by constraining semantic contexts can, to some degree, resolve the pitch processing difficulty Standard Chinese listeners encounter due to the interaction of tone and intonation. (Chapter 3, this dissertation)
- 3. Tones can be perceptually indistinguishable despite acoustically detectable differences. (Chapter 4, this dissertation)
- 4. Tonal information plays a significant role in constraining word activation in bidialectal auditory word recognition in tonal languages. (Chapter 5, this dissertation)
- 5. Speech signals are inherently noisy and ambiguous. (Mirman, 2008)
- 6. A phonetic dimension (i.e., F0) exploited for one function of the grammar (e.g., lexical tone) may limit its effectiveness to cue a different function (e.g., intonation) in the same linguistic system.
- 7. Electrophysiological measures have advantages over behavioral measures such as reaction time in reflecting cognitive processes of language processing.
- 8. Truly balanced bilinguals or bi-dialectals may never exist, because language users always have a preference for one or the other language or dialect.
- 9. Random effects in mixed-effect models provide a way to quantify individual differences in data.
- 10. A good experimental design takes time, but it will pay off eventually.