



Xitsonga

 Xitsonga is a Bantu language (S53, Guthrie) in Northeast South Africa and Mozambique, spoken by about 2 million people. Xitsonga in South Africa is mostly spoken in the Limpopo province.

Relevant characteristics

H tone spreading

▶ H tone and L tone



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Prosodic Structure Formation: essential components

- A theory of universal constraints governing the correspondence between syntactic constituency and prosodic constituency (faithfulness)
- A theory of universal constraints on the nature of prosodic representation, including constraints on prosodic structure and its relation to tonal representation (markedness)
- A theory of the interaction of these constraints within particular grammars (OT constraint ranking)

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Match theory of syntactic-prosodic constituency correspondence (Selkirk 2011) - the leading idea Predictions of Match correspondence constraints i. Match Clause 1. A pressure for left *and* right edges of corresponding syntactic A clause in syntactic constituent structure must be matched by and prosodic constituents to systematically both be aligned. a corresponding prosodic constituent, call it i, in phonological representation. A pressure for there to be recursive embedding of prosodic 2. ii. Match Phrase constituents corresponding to recursive embedding of A phrase in syntactic constituent structure must be matched by syntactic constituents a corresponding prosodic constituent, call it φ , in phonological representation. A pressure for there to be "level-skipping" in prosodic 3 constituents corresponding to "level-skipping" in the syntax. iii. Match Word A word in syntactic constituent structure must be matched by a corresponding prosodic constituent, call it ω , in phonological representation. **5** Tonology of Xitsonga Sentences **6** Tonology of Xitsonga Sentences





Nonisomorphism must be due to prosodic markedness	AT ISSUE: The theoretical division of labor between Match and Markedness
FACT: In some languages, syntactic XPs only correspond to prosodic φ if they contain at least two words	a. There is ample theoretical precedent for phonological constraints that call for prosodic constituent binarity, motivated in previous work on word stress, prosodic morphology, etc. E.g. BinMin (Ft, σ), BinMin (ω , σ), etc. That is, phonological theory already countenances, and leads one to expect, an appeal to the binarity of prosodic phrases:
IDEA: In some Lgs, BinMin(ϕ , ω) >> Match Phrase. MARKEDNESS >> FAITHFULNESS vs. In other Lgs, Match Phrase >> BinMin(ϕ , ω). FAITHFULNESS >> MARKEDNESS	 BinMin (φ, ω) A phonological phrase (φ) must consist of at least two prosodic words (ω) Relying on an independently motivated type of markedness constraint in this modular theory of prosodic structure formation allows the theory of syntactic-prosodic constituency correspondence constraints to be accordingly restricted, in this case, removing a potential need for S-P correspondence constraints that appeal to syntactic branchingness, and leaving Match theory with the simple Match Clause, Match Phrase, Match Word formulation. c. The question is whether a maximally simple theory of Match and a maximal theory of Markedness provide a promising foundation for a satisfying typology
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TODAY

- To review the arguments for Match Theory from Xitsonga (Selkirk 2011) and deal with outstanding issues concerning φ -structure
- ▶ To show the role for
- ▶ The Strong-Start constraint (Selkirk 2011, Elfner 2012)
- MatchLexP and Match XP
- To show variations in domain sensitivity between two dialects of Xitsonga (Kisseberth 1994 and ours)
 - Phonological phrasing
 - Intonational phrasing

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Xitsonga data

- Xitsonga data reported in Kisseberth 1994 provides evidence for,
 - ▶ 1–domains: Penultimate lengthening
 - φ-domains: H tone spreading
- Additional data of a Xitsonga dialect reported here comes from a South African Xitsonga speaker in her 20's.

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(1) a. INPUT:	$_{CP}[V_{V/TP}[V_{V} va^{H}-a-tlomutela]_{V}]_{V/TP}]_{CP}$
	they-presfish 'They are fishing.'
b. OUTPUT	$= _{1} (_{\varphi} (_{\omega} (v- a^{H}-tlomute e^{-H} la)_{\omega})_{\varphi})_{1}$
(2) a. INPUT:	$_{CP}[V,_{TP}[v[va^{H}-a-tisa]_{V}NP[N[xi-hontlovila]_{N}]_{NP}]_{V,TP}]_{CP}$ 'They are bringing a giant'
b. OUTPUT	${}_{\iota}({}_{\phi}({}_{\omega}({}_{v-\acute{a}^{H-}}t\acute{1}s\acute{a})_{\omega}{}_{\phi}({}_{\omega}(x\acute{\iota}-h\acute{o}ntl\acute{o}v\acute{1}t^{-H}la{})_{\omega}{})_{\phi}{}_{\phi}{}_{\iota})_{\iota}$
(3) a. _{CP} [_{V/TP} [$[va^{H}-a-xavela]_{V \ vP}[_{NP}[_{N}[xi-phukuphuku] _{NP}[_{N}[fole]_{N}]_{NP}]_{vP}]_{V/TP}]_{C}$ (they are buying tobacco for a fool)
b. ι(φ(ω	$v \overset{\text{d}^{\text{H}}}{a} \overset{\text{d}}{a} \overset{\text{d}}{b}_{\omega} \ \ _{\phi} (\ _{\phi} (\ x \overset{\text{f}}{} - p h \overset{\text{d}}{u} \overset{\text{h}}{u} \overset{\text{H}}{p} \overset{\text{H}}{u})_{\omega})_{\phi} \ _{\phi} \ _{\phi} (\ \text{foole} \)_{\omega})_{\phi} \ _{\phi})_{\phi} \ _{\iota} $
basis of th will be me	uctures seen in (b) are those predicted by Match Phrase alone on the e XP structures in (a). Though the analysis of Xitsonga φ -structure odified below, the positions of right edge of φ , which are responsible ect of NONFINALITY(φ , H) on H spreading, will remain.]
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only if it	1994 observation: H spreads into a noun phrase consists of a single word, as in (2); it's blocked reading into multi-word phrases like (4).
Selkirk 201	1 analysis:
· · ·	read blocked at left edge of φ in Xitsonga high-ranked CRISPEDGEL(φ ,H) (Ito and Mester
(ii) Ranl Xitsong	ting of BINMIN($φ$, $ω$) over MATCH PHRASe in a



Xitsonga: Interim Summary

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- The R and L φ -edge-sensitivity exhibited by H tone spread in Xitsonga provides evidence for the Match theory of S-P constituency correspondence.
- This φ-edge-sensitivity is embodied in phonological constraints on tone in prosodic representations --CRISPEDGEL(ϕ ,H) and NONFINALITY(ϕ ,H)-- which outrank H SPREAD.
- The prosodic structure markedness constraint BINMIN(ϕ , ω) outranks MATCH PHRASE.



What prosodic markedness constraint would provide the pressure to choose the S-P nonisomorphism of (3'c) over (3'b), which respects MATCH PHRASE?

- a. S: $_{V/TP}[_{V}[verb]_{V VP}[_{NP}[_{N}[noun]_{N}]_{NP NP}[_{N}[noun]_{N}]_{NP}]_{VP}]_{V/TP}$
- b. P1: $*_{\varphi}((\operatorname{werb})_{\omega})_{\varphi}((\operatorname{noun})_{\omega})_{\omega}((\operatorname{noun})_{\omega})_{\varphi})_{\varphi}$
- c. P2: $_{\varphi}(_{\varphi}(_{\omega}(verb)_{\omega},_{\omega}(noun)_{\omega})_{\varphi},_{\omega}(noun)_{\omega})_{\varphi}$

'they are buying tobacco for a fool'

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Strong Start provides the pressure

Strong Start (Selkirk 2011, sec 3.1.2, Elfner 2012)

* ($\pi_n \pi_{n+1} \dots$

A prosodic constituent optimally begins with a leftmost daughter constituent which is not lower in the prosodic hierarchy than the constituent that immediately follows.





STRONG START >> MATCH PHRASE? INPUT $_{CP}[_{V/TP}[va^{H}-a-xavela]_{V,vP}[_{NP}[_{N}[xi-phukuphuku]_{NP}[_{N}[fole]_{N}]_{NP}]_{vP}]_{V/TP}]_{CP}$ 'they are buying tobacco for a fool' OUTPUT NEEDED $(((va^{H}-xa^{va}))_{\mu})_{\mu} = (va^{H}-xa^{va})_{\mu} = (va^{H}-xa^$ BINMIN STRONG Матсн $_{V/TP}[verb_{vP}[_{NP}[noun]_{NPNP}[noun]_{NP}]_{vP}]_{V/TP}$ START PHRASE (φ, ω) ** * $\sqrt{}$ a. $_{\emptyset}(_{\emptyset}(\text{verb})_{\emptyset} _{\emptyset}(_{\emptyset}(_{\emptyset}(\text{noun})_{\emptyset})_{\emptyset} _{\emptyset} _{\emptyset}(_{\emptyset}(\text{noun})_{\emptyset})_{\emptyset})_{\emptyset})_{\emptyset})_{\emptyset}$ W W L ** $\sqrt{}$ b. $_{\omega}((\text{verb})_{\omega} \otimes ((\text{noun})_{\omega} \otimes (\text{noun})_{\omega})))_{\omega})_{\omega}$ w L c. $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{ourb})_{\mathfrak{a}},\mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{noun})_{\mathfrak{a}})_{\mathfrak{a}},\mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{noun})_{\mathfrak{a}})_{\mathfrak{a}})$ $\sqrt{}$ *** > 24 Tonology of Xitsonga Sentences

STRONG START >> MATCH PHRASE?				
(4) a. $_{CP}[_{V/TP}[_{V}[va^{H}-a-susa]_{V NP}[_{N}[n-guluve [ta^{H}_{NP}[_{N}[vona^{H}]_{N}]_{NP}]_{NP}]_{V/TP}]_{CP}$ 'They are removing their pig (= a/the pig of theirs).' b. $_{t}(_{\phi}(_{\omega}(va^{H}-a-susa^{-H})_{\omega\phi}(_{\omega}(n-guluve)_{\omega\phi}(_{\omega}(!ta^{H}vo!na^{H})_{\omega})_{\phi})_{\phi})_{t}$				
_{V/TP} [verb _{NP} [noun _{NP} [poss-noun] _{NP}] _{NP}] _{V/TP}	BinMin (φ, ω)	Strong Start	Match Phrase	
a. $_{\phi}(_{\omega}(\text{verb})_{\omega} _{\phi}(_{\omega}(\text{noun})_{\omega} _{\phi}(_{\omega}(\text{poss-noun})_{\omega})_{\phi})_{\phi})_{\phi}$	* W	** W	$\stackrel{}{L}$	
b. $\mathscr{F}_{\varphi}((\operatorname{verb})_{\omega} \circ_{\varphi}((\operatorname{noun})_{\omega} \circ_{\varphi}(\operatorname{poss-noun})_{\omega}))_{\varphi})_{\varphi}$	\checkmark	*	sk	
c. $ \mathbf{O}_{\phi}(\mathbf{O}_{\phi}(\mathbf{O}_{\phi}(\mathbf{verb})_{\omega \ \Theta}(\mathbf{noun})_{\omega})_{\phi} \mathbf{O}_{\phi}(\mathbf{poss-noun})_{\omega})_{\phi} $	$\sqrt{\frac{1}{L}}$		** W	
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$BINMIN(\phi, \omega) >> MATCH LEXP >> STRONG START$								
INPUT								
$\label{eq:cp} $$ CP[V/TP[va^H-a-xavela]_{V vP}[_{NP}[_{N}[xi-phukuphuku]_{NP}[_{N}[fole]_{N}]_{NP}]_{V/TP}]_{CP}$$ `they are buying tobacco for a fool'$								
Output								
$_{\iota}(\ _{\varphi}(\ _{\omega}(v\acute{a}^{H}-x\acute{a}v\acute{e}l\acute{a})_{\omega}\ _{\omega}(x\acute{1}-ph\acute{u}k\acute{u}ph\acute{u}^{-H}ku\)_{\omega})_{\phi}\ _{\omega}(\ foole\)_{\omega})_{\phi}\)_{\iota}$								
_{V/TP} [verb _{vP} [_{NP} [noun] _{NP NP} [noun] _{NP}] _{vP}] _{V/TP}	ΒΙΝΜΙΝ (φ, ω)	MATCH LEXP	Strong Start					
a. $_{\phi}(_{\omega}(\text{verb})_{\omega} \ _{\phi}(_{\phi}(_{\omega}(\text{noun})_{\omega})_{\phi} \ _{\phi}(_{\omega}(\text{noun})_{\omega})_{\phi})_{\phi})_{\phi}$	** W	$\stackrel{}{L}$	* W					
b. $_{\varphi}(_{\omega}(\text{verb})_{\omega} _{\varphi}(_{\omega}(\text{noun})_{\omega} _{\omega}(\text{noun})_{\omega}) _{\varphi})_{\varphi}$	\checkmark	**	* W					
$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a} \left(\left((\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) \right) (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) \right)$	\checkmark	**	\checkmark					
$c. \ \mathfrak{T}_{\varphi}(\ _{\varphi}(\ _{\omega}(\mathrm{verb})_{\omega} \ _{\omega}(\mathrm{noun})_{\omega})_{\varphi} \ _{\omega}(\mathrm{noun})_{\omega})_{\varphi}$								

$BINMIN(\phi, \omega) >> MATCH LEXP$	>> Stro	DNG STA	RT
(4) a. $_{CP}[_{V/TP}[_{V}[va^{H}-a-susa]_{V,NP}[_{N}[n-guluve [ta] `They are removing their pig (= a/the b{1}(_{\phi}(_{\omega}(va^{H}-a-susa^{-H})_{\omega,\phi}(_{\omega}(n-guluve)_{\omega,\phi}(_{M}))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))$	pig of theirs).	,] _{V/TP}] _{CP}
_{V/TP} [verb _{NP} [noun _{NP} [poss-noun] _{NP}] _{NP}] _{V/TP}	BINMIN (φ, ω)	MATCH LEXP	Strong Start
$a. \ _{\varphi} (_{\omega} (verb)_{\omega \ \varphi} (_{\omega} (noun)_{\omega \ \varphi} (_{\omega} (poss-noun)_{\omega})_{\varphi})_{\varphi})_{\varphi}$	* W	√ L	** W
b. $\mathscr{T}_{\varphi}((\operatorname{verb})_{\omega} \circ (\operatorname{onun})_{\omega \circ \omega}(\operatorname{poss-noun})_{\omega}) \circ)_{\varphi})_{\varphi}$	\checkmark	*	*
c. $_{\phi}(_{\phi}(_{\omega}(\text{verb})_{\omega},_{\omega}(\text{noun})_{\omega})_{\phi},_{\omega}(\text{poss-noun})_{\omega})_{\phi}$	\checkmark	** _{NP} W	$\stackrel{}{L}$
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Conclusion

- > The main new discussion for Xitsonga has concerned the distinction between MATCHLEXP and MATCHPHRASE.
- The phonological phrasing of a multi-word DP retains the syntactic NP grouping [V [N Mod]], while in the phrasing in double object constructions the verb groups with the first object $[[V N_1] N_2]$.
 - The STRONG-START constraint
- Additional data from the two dialects of Xitsonga has shown how edge-sensitivities embodied differently in constraints on the distribution of tone

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