

# IMPLEMENTING FINITE STATE GRAMMARS FOR UNDERSTANDING PROSODIC MANIPULATIONS IN INFANT-DIRECTED SPEECH

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# RESEARCH QUESTION

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*Many **subphonemic and gradient** aspects of speech, whether segmental or suprasegmental, which were once considered to be beyond the speaker's control, are now understood as **part of the linguistic system stipulated by the grammar** of a given language.*

**What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?**

# CHALLENGES

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- ▶ **evolving hypotheses** about proposed intonational grammars

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- ▶ **evolving hypotheses** about proposed intonational grammars
- ▶ the **generalizability** of proposed grammars to a wider range of speech styles and contexts



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- ▶ the **generalizability** of proposed grammars to a wider range of speech styles and contexts
- ▶ the **contextual dependence** of individual tonal elements on one another



# CHALLENGES

What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?

- ▶ the entanglement of **extra-linguistic factors** in conditioning fo

- ▶ **evolving** **proposed overall strategy:**

- ▶ **To implement finite state intonational grammars**

- ▶ the **applicability** of proposed grammars to a wider range of speech styles and contexts

- ▶ the **contextual dependence** of individual tonal elements on one another



Case study of a *particular speech style/variety*

# Infant directed speech (IDS)

# **CHALLENGE 1: ENTANGLEMENT OF EXTRA-LINGUISTIC AND LINGUISTIC FACTORS**

# CHALLENGE: EXTRA-LINGUISTIC/LINGUISTIC

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What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?

- ▶ the entanglement of **extra-linguistic and linguistic factors** in conditioning f0 variation

**Proposed strategy:**  
**Analyze f0 contours using**  
**intonational phonology**

# PROPERTIES OF (CANONICAL) INFANT-DIRECTED SPEECH

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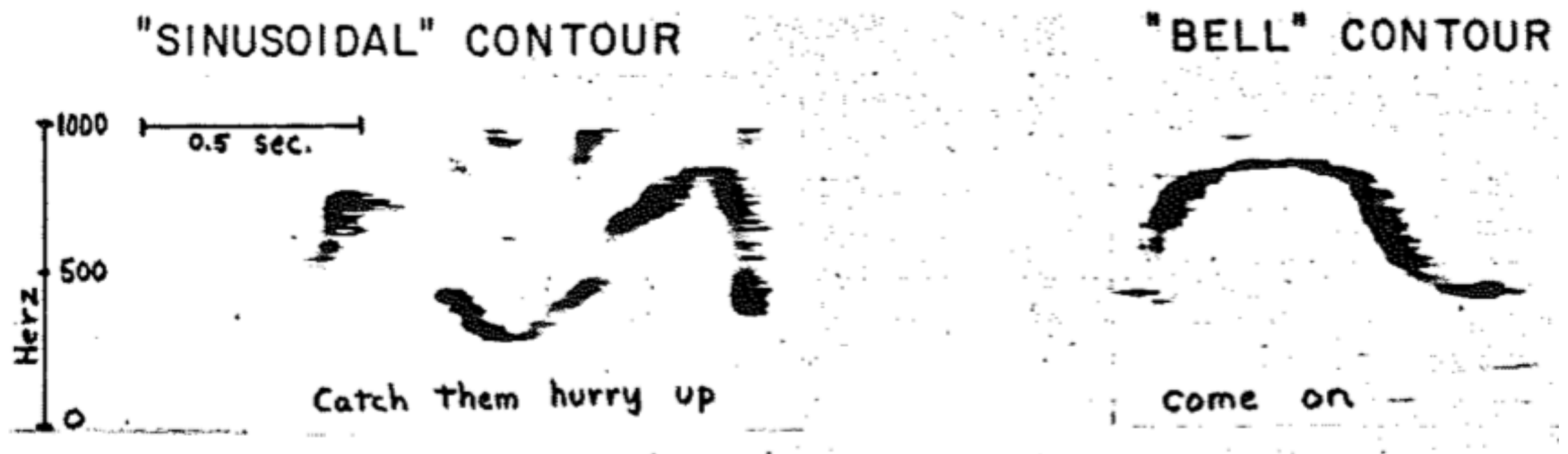
- ▶ Higher and wider fundamental frequency ( $f_0$ ) range
- ▶ Slower speech rate; more/longer pauses



# IDS AS A SOCIO-AFFECTIVE SIGNAL

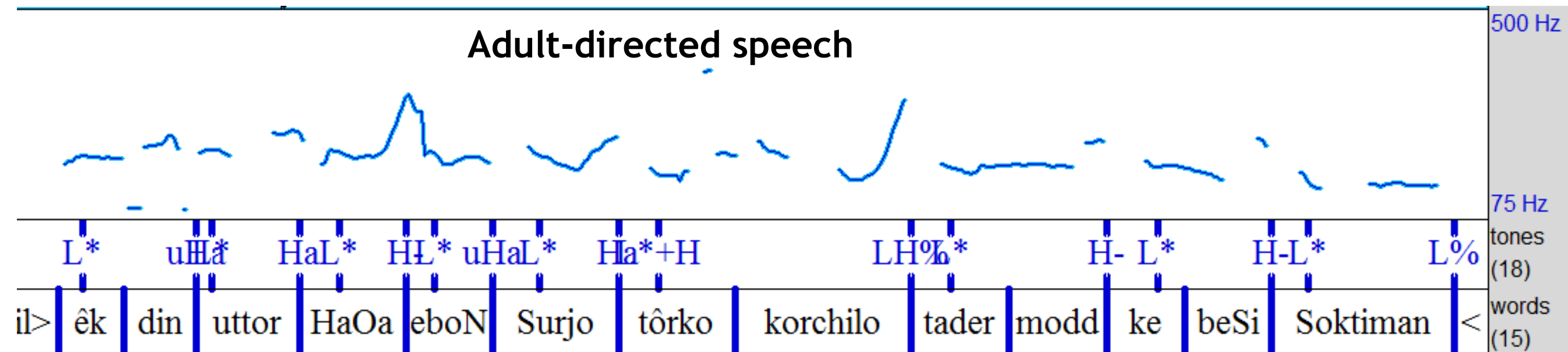
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- ▶ Rising pitch contours for **eliciting attention**
- ▶ Sinusoidal and bell-shaped pitch contours used for **maintaining attention** and **positive rapport**

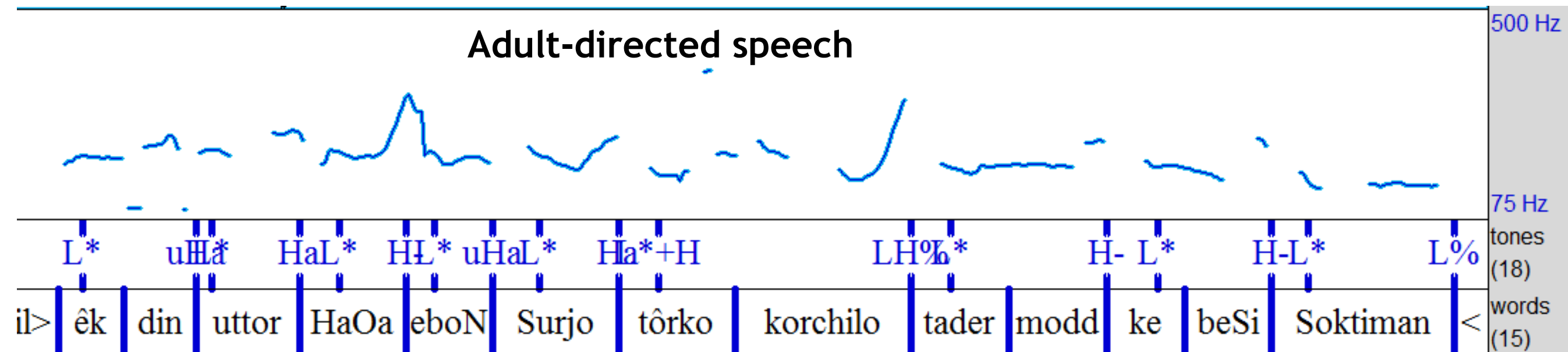


(Stern et al. 1982)

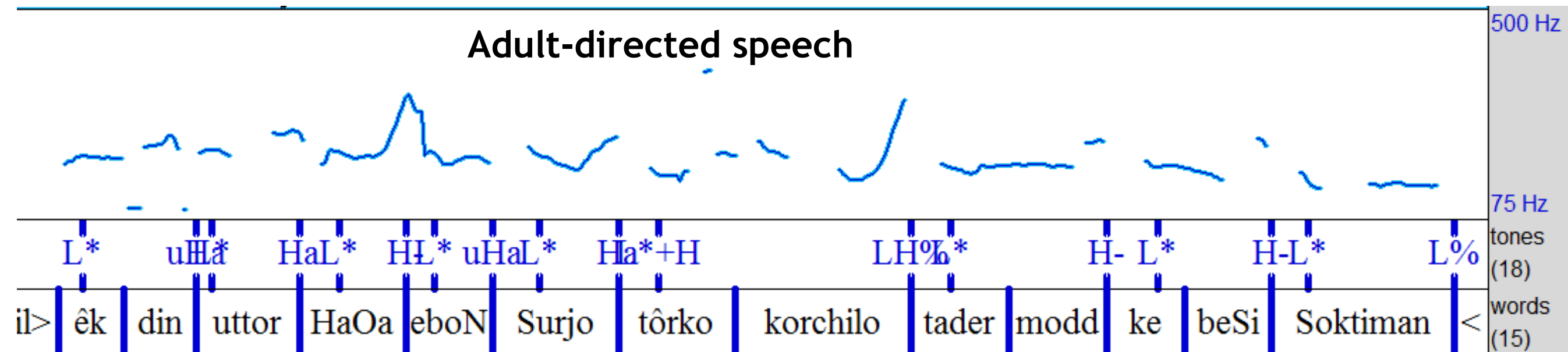
# BENGALI INFANT-DIRECTED SPEECH



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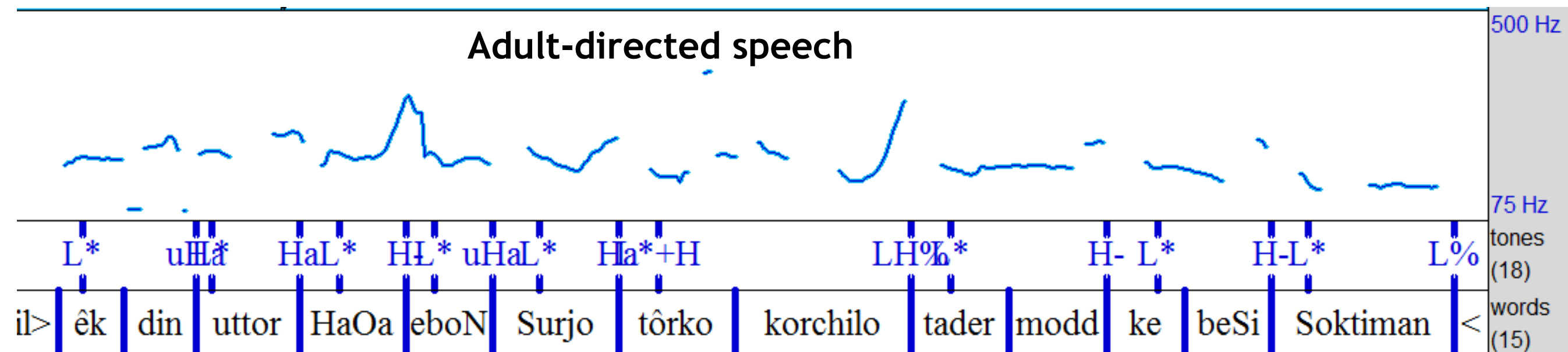


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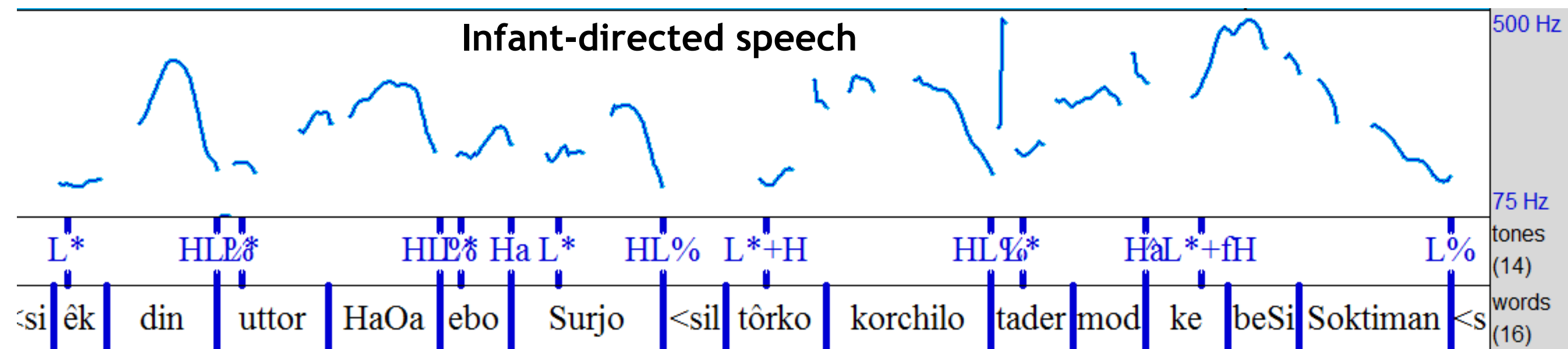


# BENGALI INFANT-DIRECTED SPEECH

## Adult-directed speech

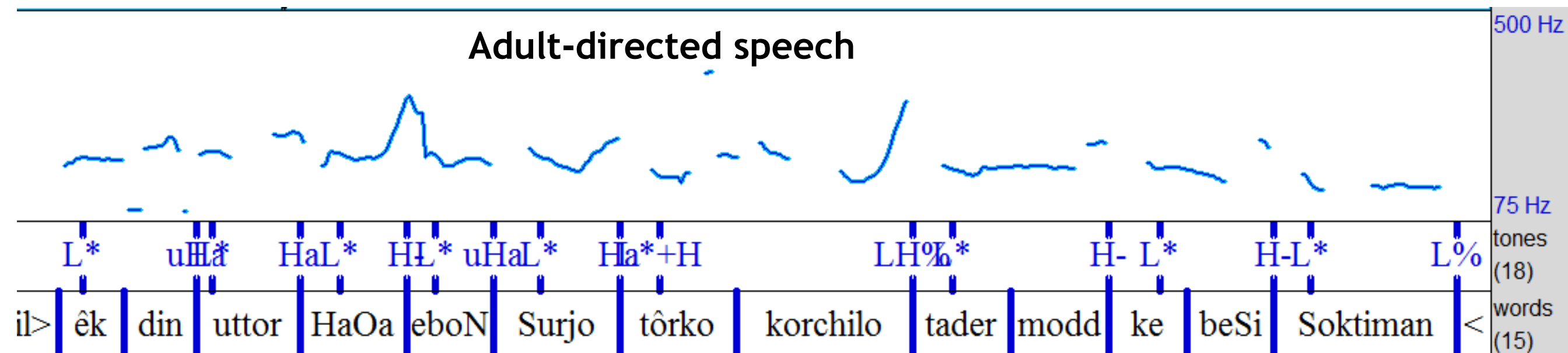


## Infant-directed speech

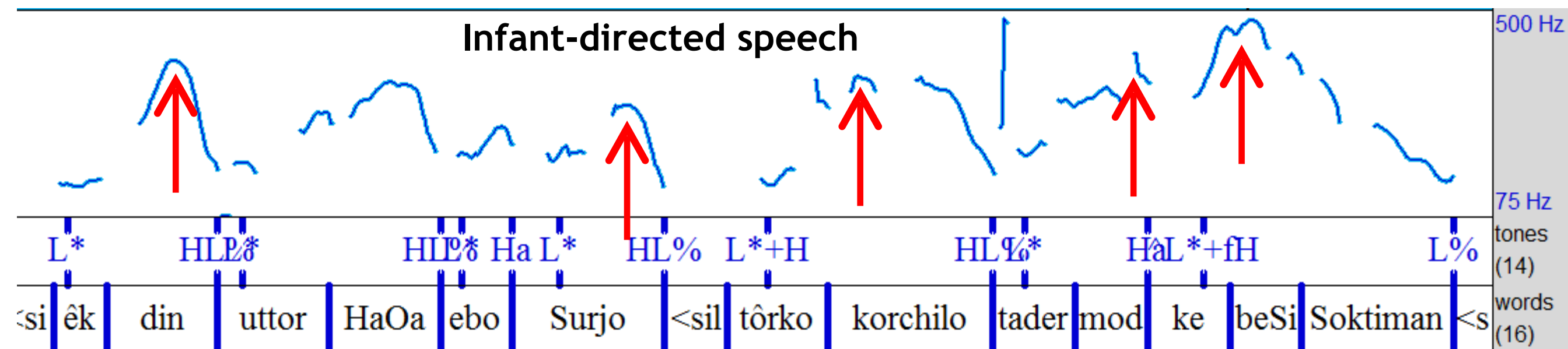


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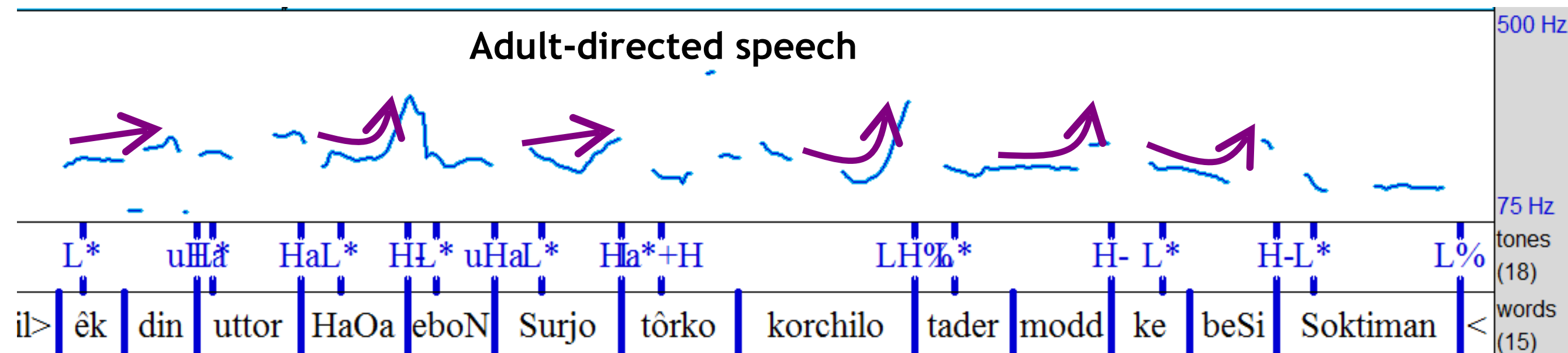
## Infant-directed speech



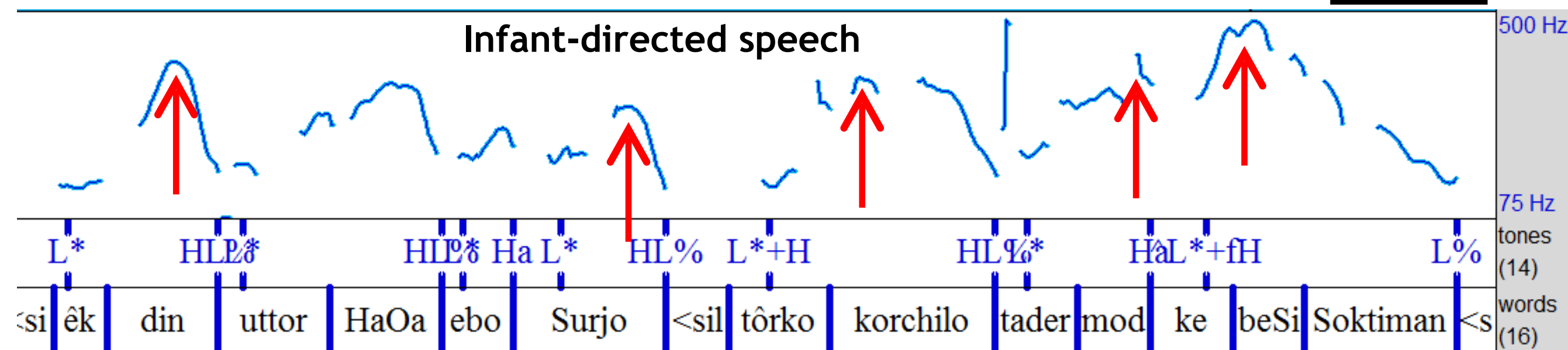
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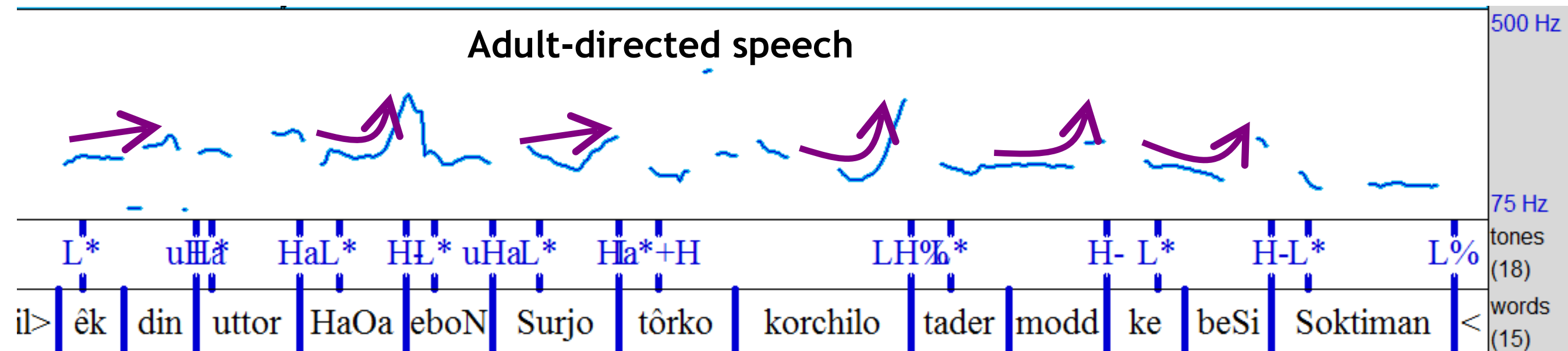
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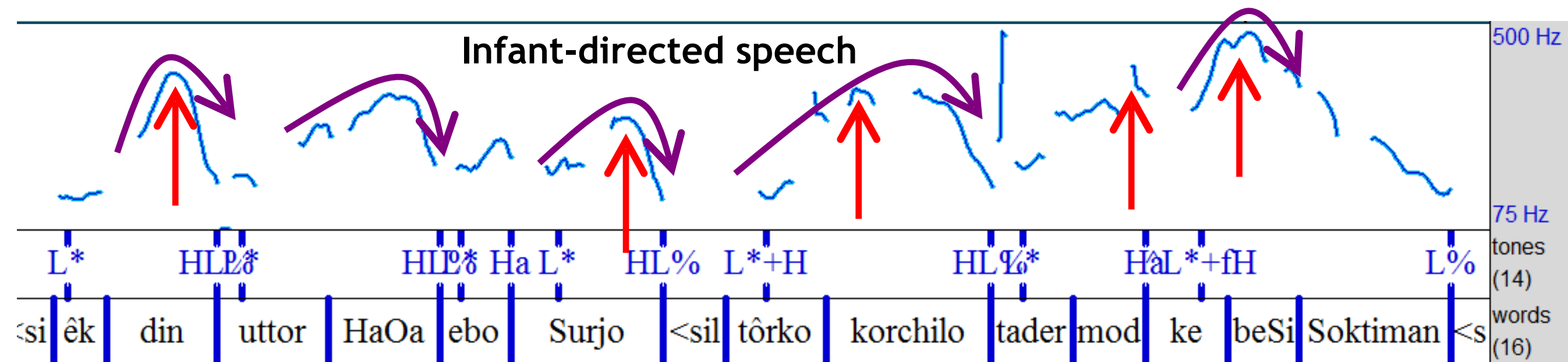


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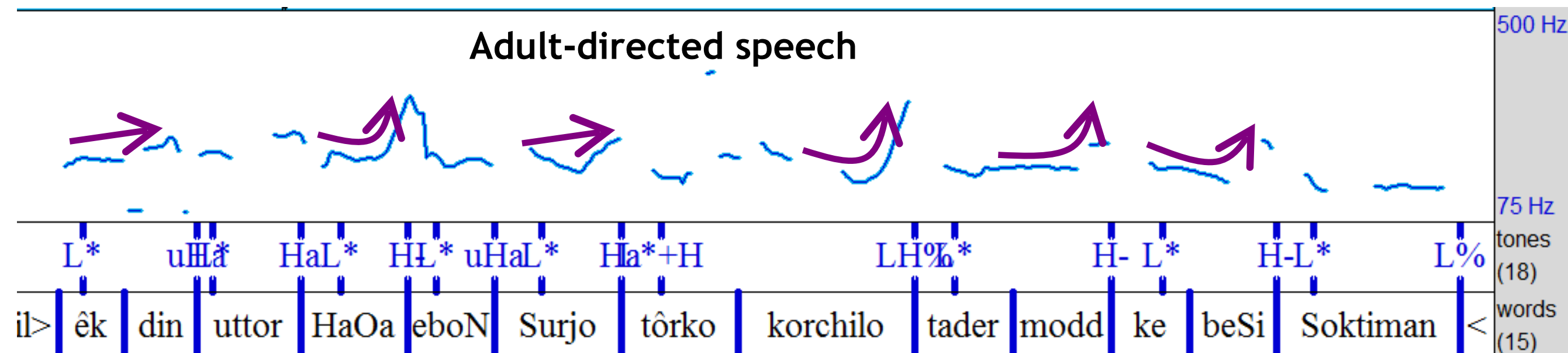


Infant-directed speech

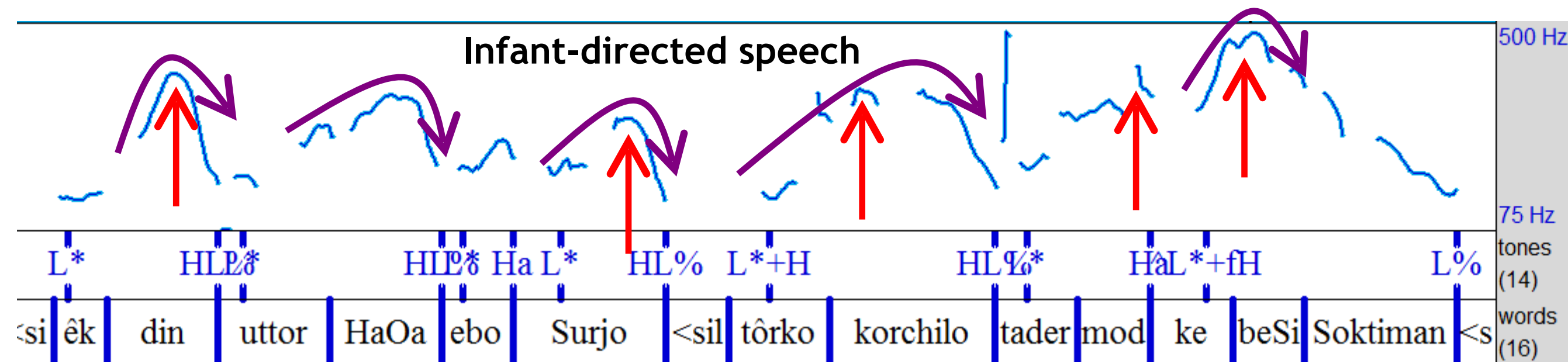


# BENGALI INFANT-DIRECTED SPEECH

Adult-directed speech



Infant-directed speech



Not just wider f0 range, but different *kinds* of tones

# STRATEGY: INTONATIONAL PHONOLOGY

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- ▶ Analyze f0 contours as well-formed sequences of tonal elements (sequences derived from a **finite state tonotactic intonational grammar**)



# STRATEGY: INTONATIONAL PHONOLOGY

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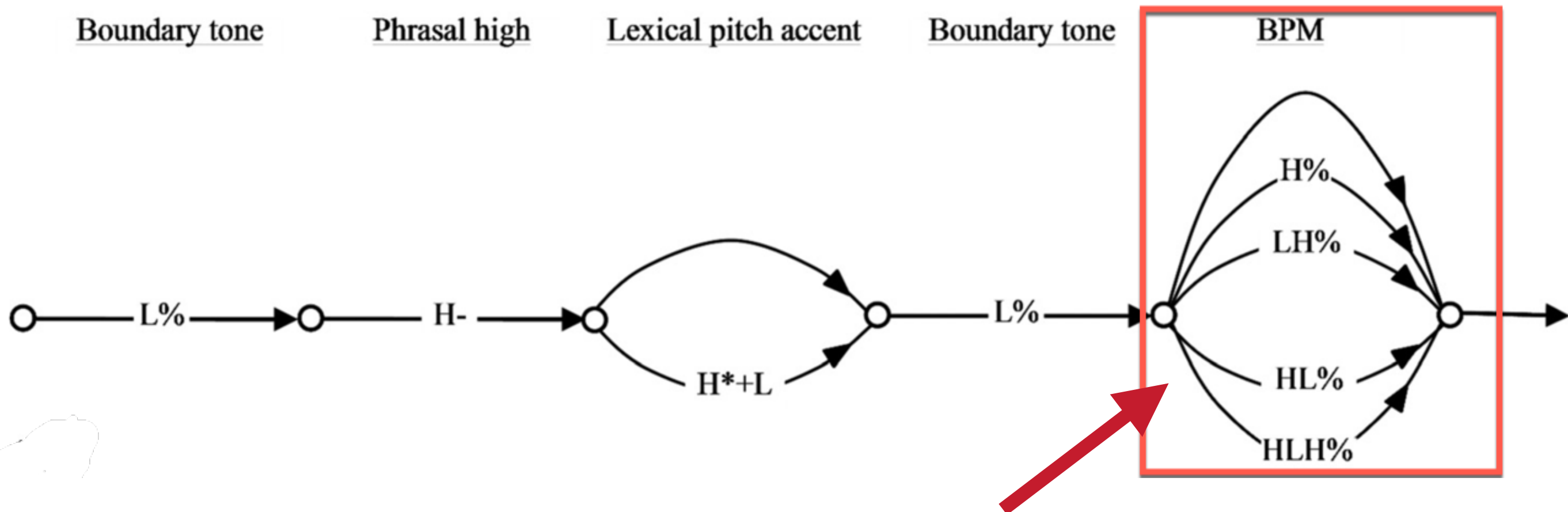
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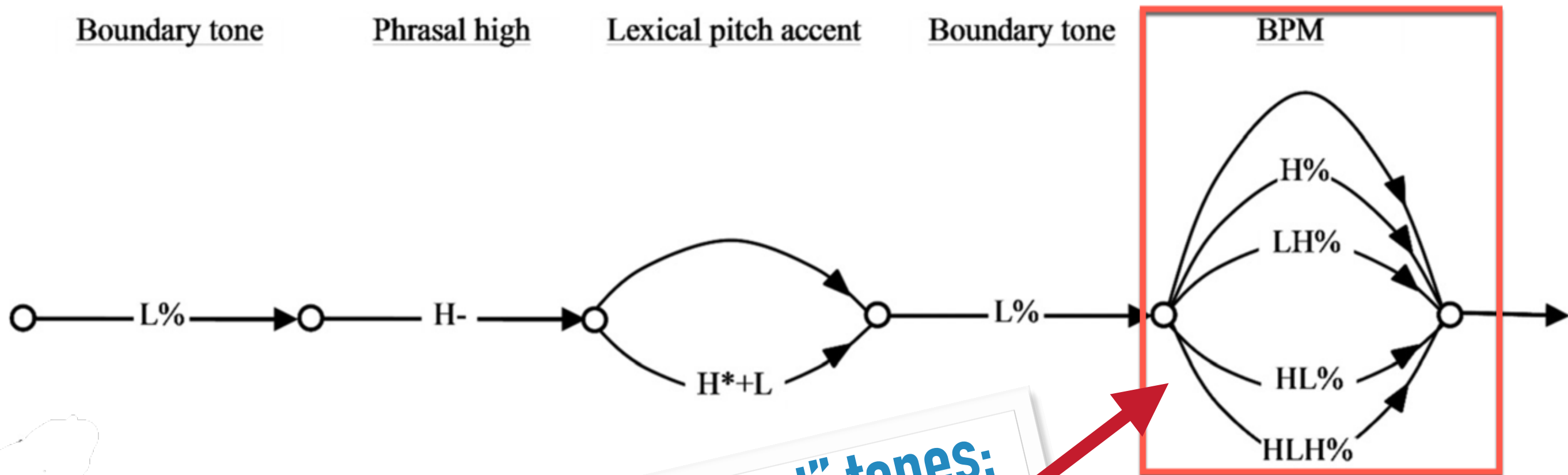
- ▶ Analyze f0 contours as well-formed sequences of tonal elements (sequences derived from a **finite state tonotactic intonational grammar**)
- ▶ Igarashi et al. (2013): Tokyo Japanese IDS only *apparently* not a wider f0 range; wider f0 range if looking just at boundary tones

# TONOTACTIC GRAMMARS: TOKYO JAPANESE



(Pierrehumbert and Beckman, 1988; Maekawa et al., 2002; Venditti, 2005; Igarashi et al. 2013)

# TONOTACTIC GRAMMARS: TOKYO JAPANESE

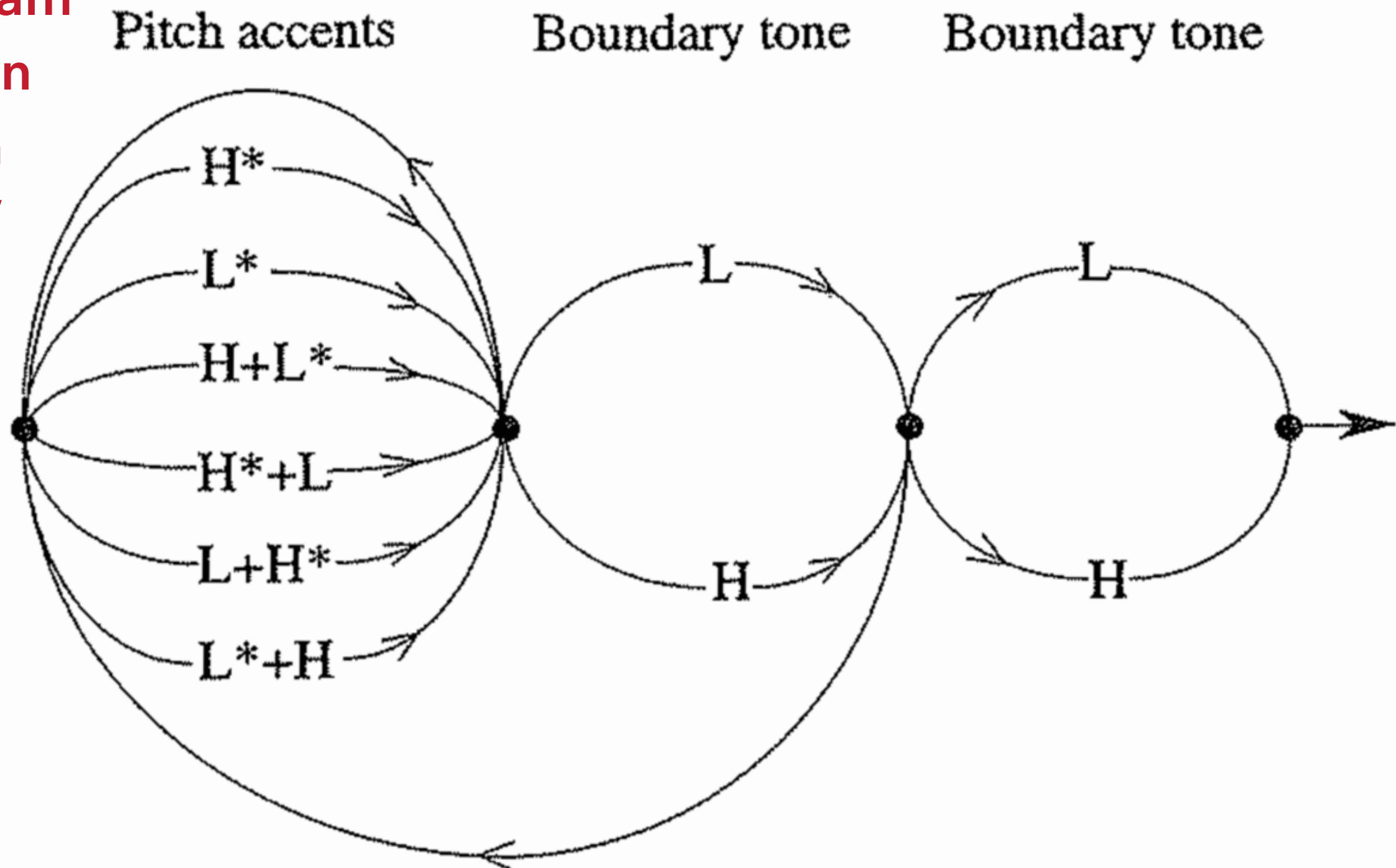


**“Boundary pitch movement” tones:  
locus of f0 range expansion**

(Pierrehumbert and Beckman, 1988; Maekawa et al., 2002; Venditti, 2005; Igarashi et al. 2013)

# TONOTACTIC GRAMMARS: ENGLISH

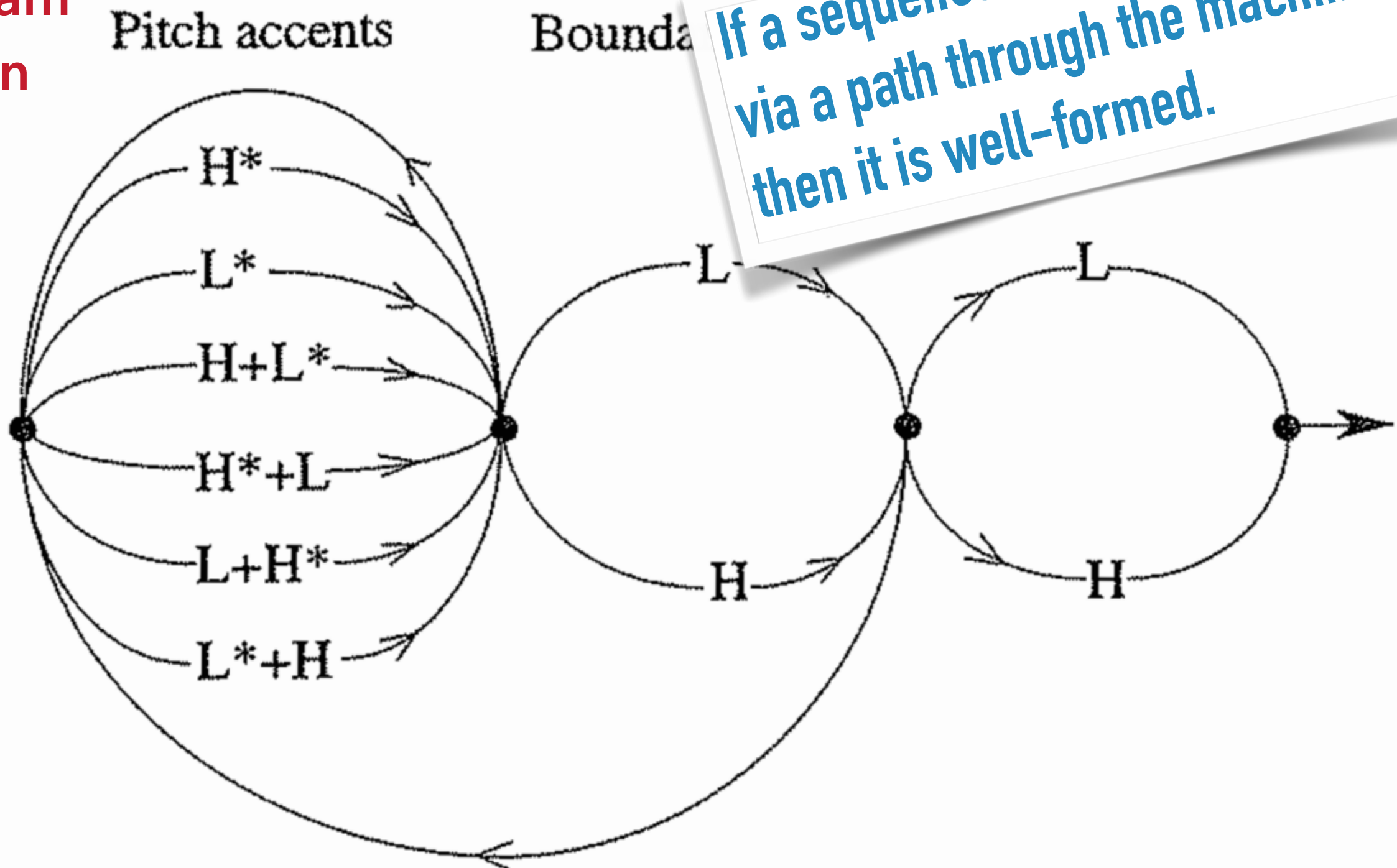
“Mainstream  
American  
English  
(MAE)”



Pierrehumbert (1980), Pierrehumbert & Beckman (1986),  
Pierrehumbert (2000), Beckman et al. (2005), i.a.

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# STRATEGY: INTONATIONAL PHONOLOGY

What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?

Challenge:

- ▶ the entanglement of extralinguistic **factors** in conditioning f0 variation

*Why finite state grammar?*

Strategy:

- ▶ Analyze f0 contours as well-formed sequences of tonal elements (sequences derived from a **finite state tonotactic intonational grammar**)
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# LEXICON AND FINITE/FINITE STATE GRAMMARS

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- ▶ A grammar derives the set of well-formed tonal sequences over a **lexicon** of tonal elements, i.e., a **tonal inventory**

Common for intonational grammars to be expressed/summarized as a **lexicon**

# CHICKASAW INTONATIONAL LEXICON

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## APPENDIX: SUMMARY OF CHICKASAW INTONATIONAL LABELS

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H*	<i>Nuclear pitch accent</i> : falls on a syllable in the rightmost word of the IP.
H <sup>λ</sup>	<i>Morpholexical pitch accent</i> : lexically marked pitch accent in certain words.
!H*	<i>Downstepped pitch accent</i> : pitch accent with lowered fo peak relative to an earlier pitch accent within the same IP.
<	<i>Late Fo event</i> : marked on the actual Fo peak when it occurs after the syllable bearing the phonological pitch accent.

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H%	<i>Boundary tone</i> : occurs at the end of statements and echo questions.
Ø%	<i>Boundary tone</i> : occurs at the end of statements.
L%	<i>Boundary tone</i> : occurs at the end of wh- and yes/no questions, non-main clauses, exclamations, and postposed nouns.
HL%	<i>Boundary tone</i> : occurs at the end of imperatives.

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H, L	<i>Accentual Phrase tones</i> : aligned with different positions in the AP.
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# BENGALI INTONATIONAL LEXICON

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**TABLE 4.1 Full inventory of pitch accents and boundary tones used in non-focused contexts in the current intonational phonological model of Bangladeshi Standard Bengali**

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Association	Target
Pitch accents	H*, L*, L*+H
AP boundary tones	Ha, La
ip boundary tones	H-, L-, HL-, LH-
IP boundary tones	H%, L%, HL%, LH%, HLH%

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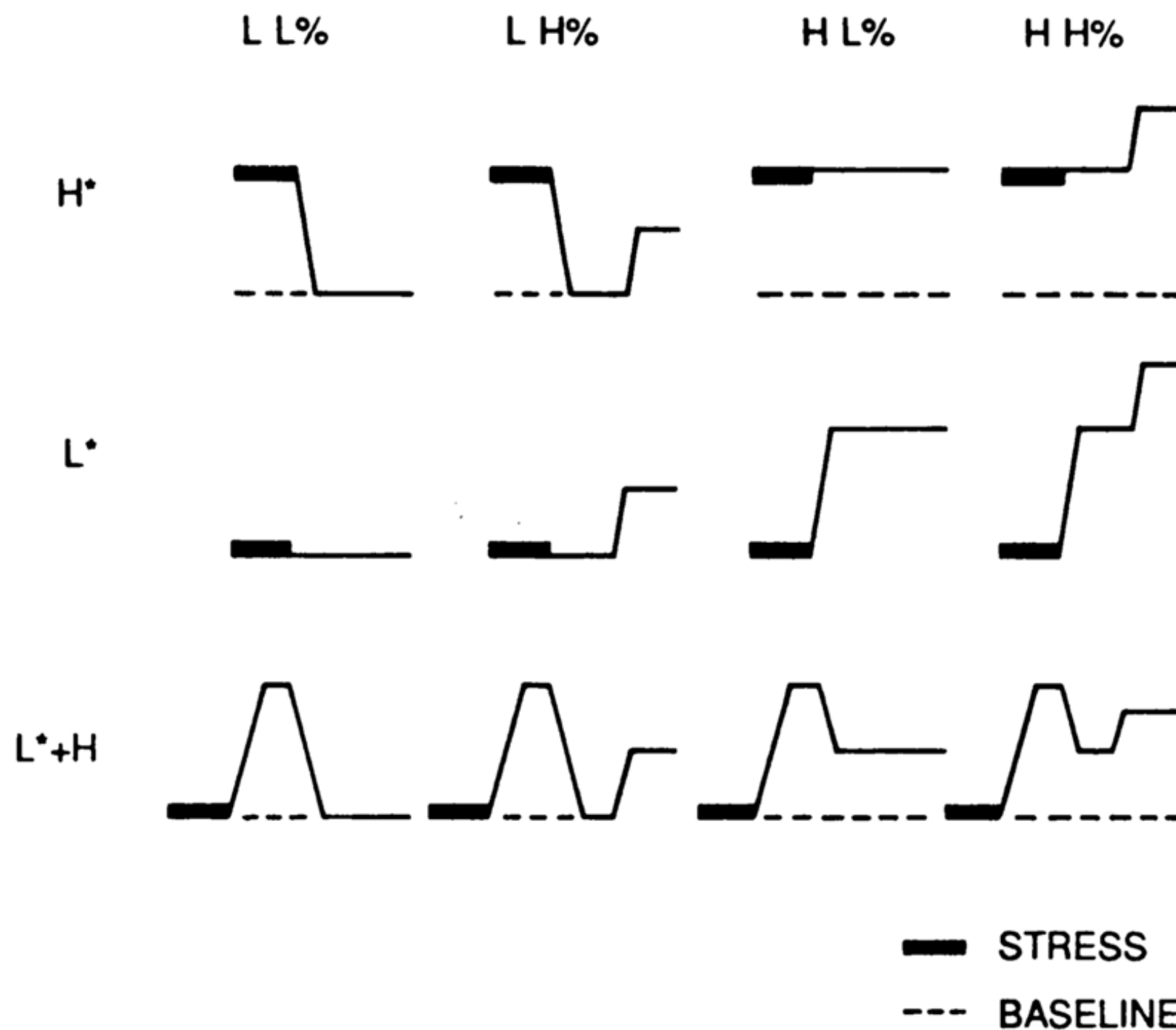
# LEXICON AND FINITE/FINITE STATE GRAMMARS

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- ▶ A grammar derives the set of well-formed tonal sequences over a **lexicon** of tonal elements
- ▶ A **finite** grammar is just a **list** of these well-formed sequences
  - ▶ No generalizations

Also common for intonational grammars to be expressed/summarized as a **finite grammar (list)**


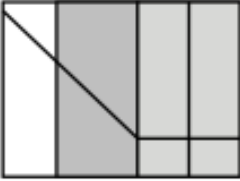
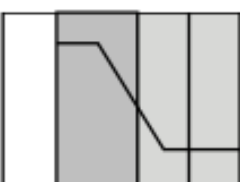
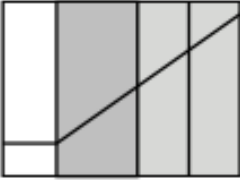

# WELL-FORMED ENGLISH TONAL SEQUENCES: LIST



**Figure 14.13**  
Schematic  $f_0$  contours.

# WELL-FORMED FRIULIAN TONAL SEQUENCES: LIST

**TABLE 4.5** Inventory of Friulian nuclear configurations, their schematic representations, and their use in sentence types

Configuration		Sentence types where it is used
	L* H%	Information-seeking yes/no questions, confirmation-seeking yes/no questions, reclamatory wh-questions, non-final elements of a declarative enumeration
	H+L* L%	Broad-focus statements, commands, imperative wh-questions, final element of an enumeration, final element of a disjunction
	H*+L L%	Epistemically biased statements, information-seeking wh-questions, subject in SVO yes-no questions
	L+H* H%	Counterexpectational wh-questions, non-final elements of a disjunction
	L+H* L%	Contrastive narrow-focus statements, exclamatives, information-seeking yes/no questions, confirmation-seeking yes/no questions, requests

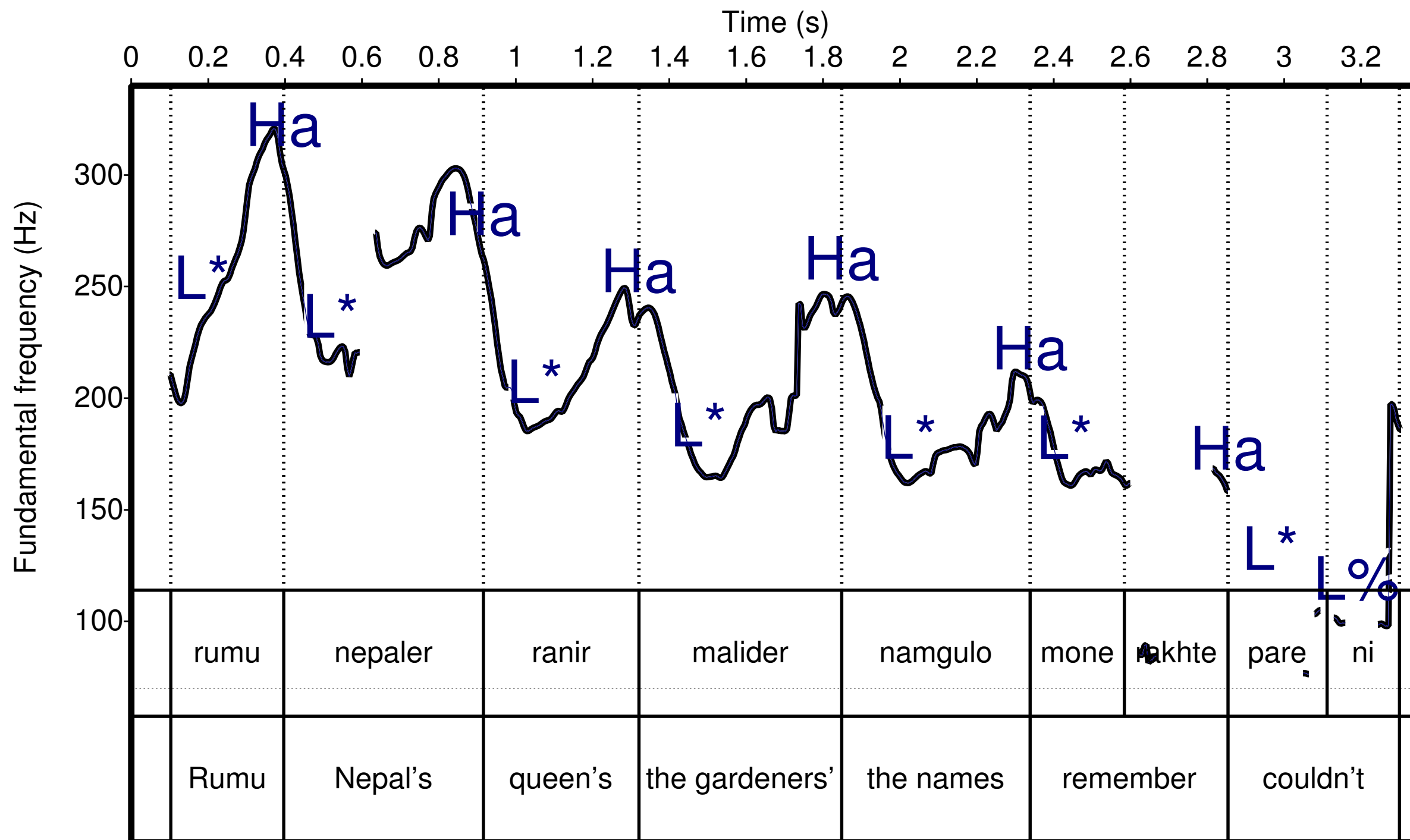
# LEXICON, FINITE, AND FINITE STATE GRAMMARS

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- ▶ A grammar derives the set of well-formed tonal sequences over a **lexicon** of tonal elements
- ▶ A **finite** grammar is just a **list** of these well-formed sequences
  - ▶ No generalizations
- ▶ A **finite state** grammar compresses the list by encoding generalizations from *shared prefixes* in well-formed sequences



# BENGALI ACCENTUAL PHRASES

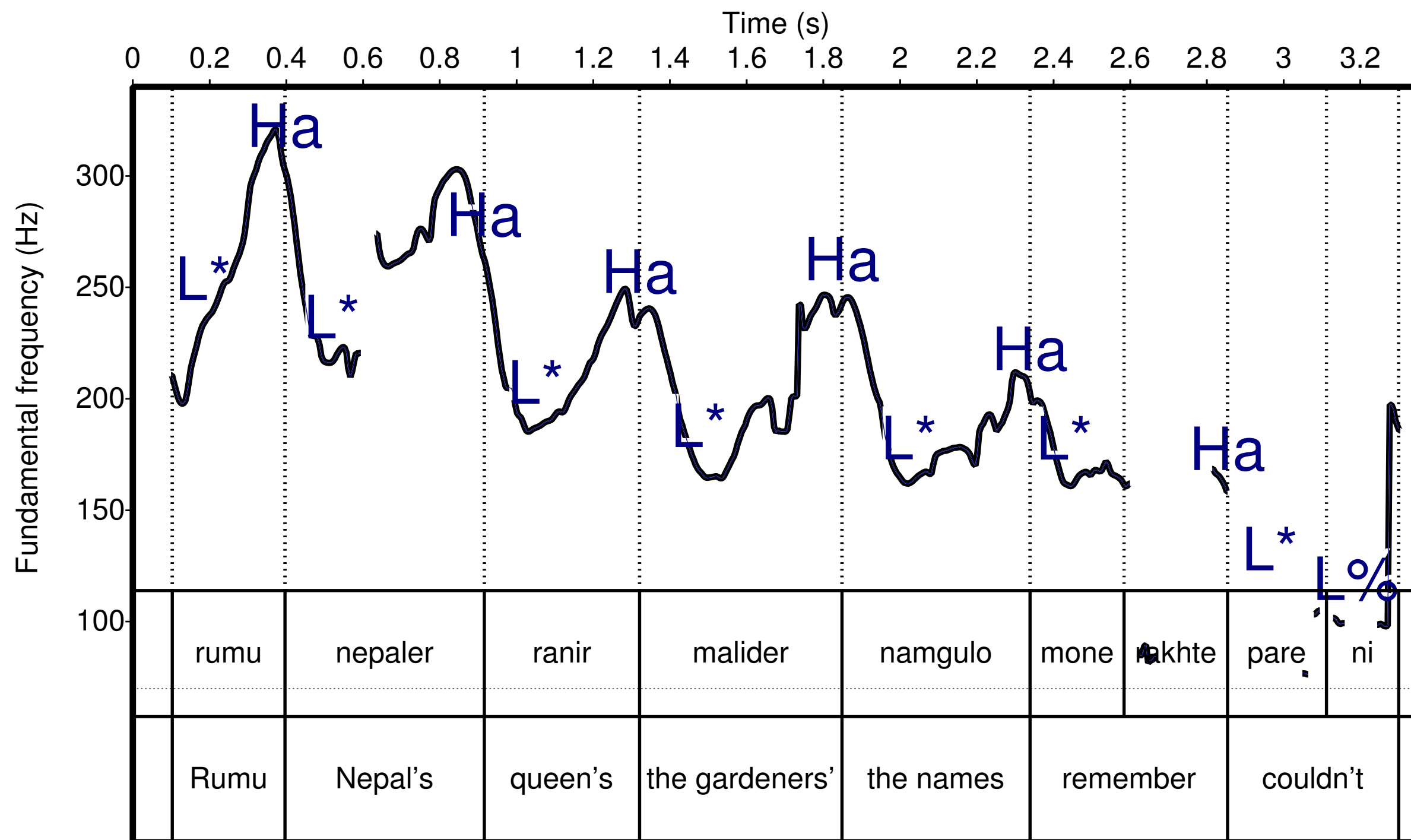


**'Rumu couldn't remember the names of the gardeners of the queen of Nepal.'**

Khan (2008)



# BENGALI ACCENTUAL PHRASES



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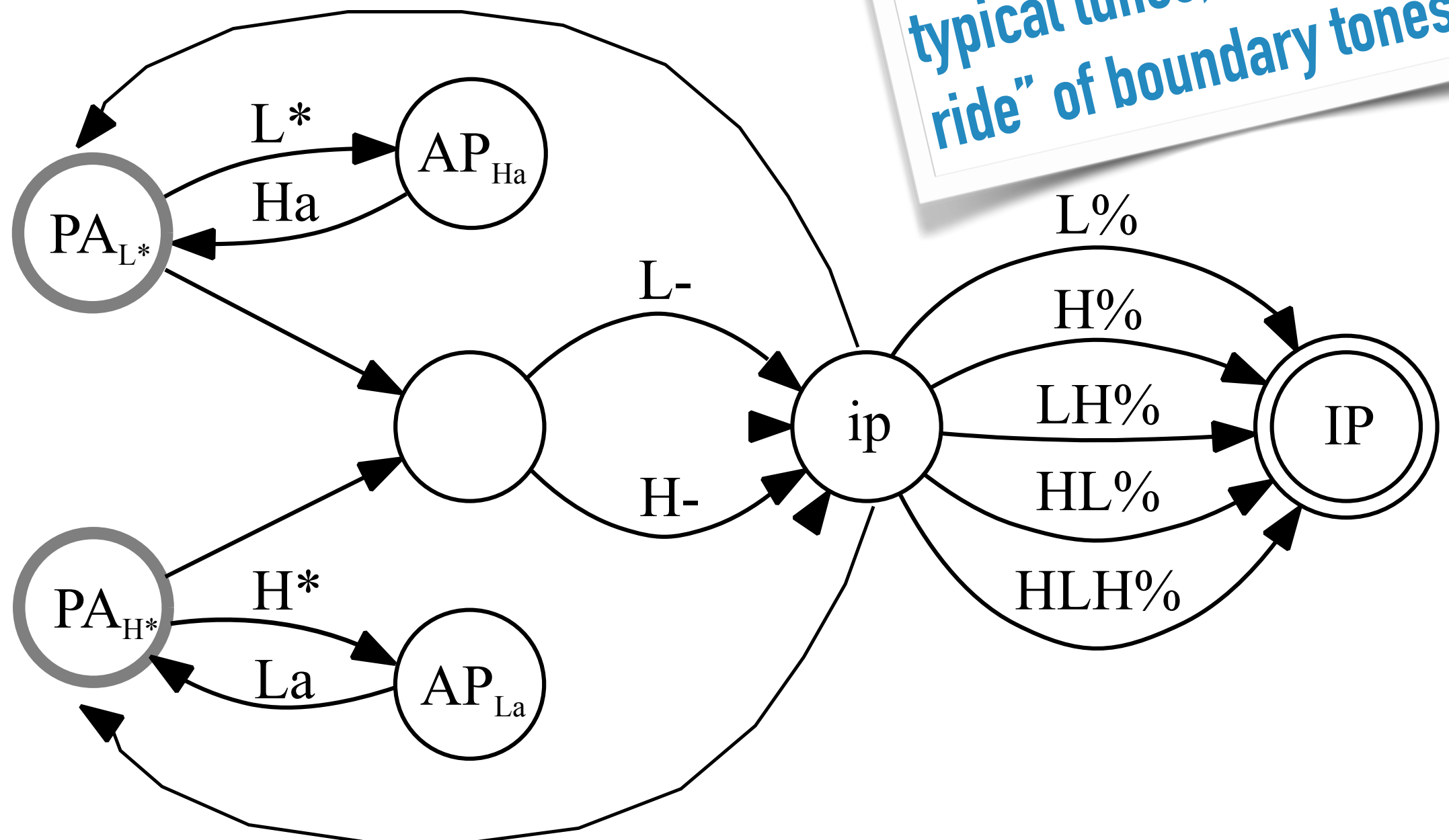
# FINITE GRAMMAR (LIST) FOR BENGALI

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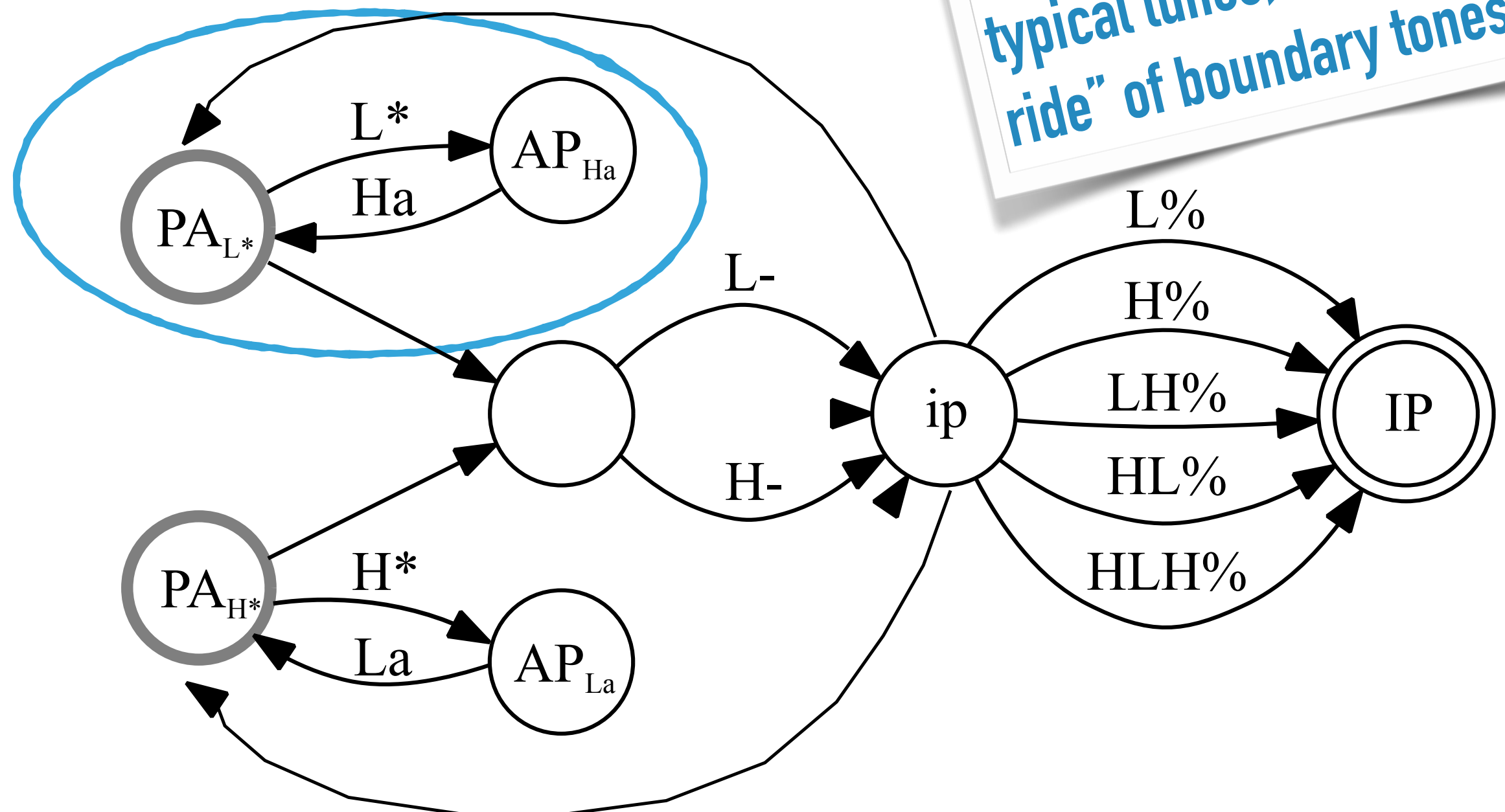
- ▶  $L^* Ha L^* L\%$
- ▶  $L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* L\%$
- ▶  $L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* L\%$
- ▶  $L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* L\%$
- ▶  $L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* L\%$
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- ▶  $L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* L\%$
- ▶  $L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* Ha L^* L\%$

Repeated  $L^* Ha$  chunk is a coincidence,  
no generalization

# FINITE STATE GRAMMAR FOR BENGALI\*



# FINITE STATE GRAMMAR FOR BENGALI\*



**CHALLENGES 2/3:  
EVOLVING HYPOTHESES,  
GENERALIZABILITY TO  
LANGUAGE VARIETIES**





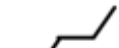







# REVISIONS OF MAE TOBI

Revision from Pierrehumbert (1980) to Beckman & Pierrehumbert (1986) to ToBI (1994)

Pierrehumbert (1980) 7 Pitch Accents	B&P (1986) 6 Pitch Accents	ToBI (1994) 5 Pitch Accents with “!”
H*	H*	H*
L*	L*	L*
H <sup>-</sup> +L*	H+L*	<b>H+!H*</b>
H*+L <sup>-</sup>	H*+L	<b>H*</b> (followed by <u>downstep</u> )
L*+H <sup>-</sup>	L*+H	L*+H
L <sup>-</sup> +H*	L+H*	L+H*
H*+H <sup>-</sup>	<b>H*</b>	
Phrase accent (H <sup>-</sup> , L <sup>-</sup> ), but no Interm. phrase level	Intermediate phrase tone (H <sup>-</sup> , L <sup>-</sup> )	Intermediate phrase tone (H <sup>-</sup> , L <sup>-</sup> , !H <sup>-</sup> )
Boundary tone (X%)	Intonation phrase tone (X%)	Inton. phrase tone (%X, X%)
Vocative tag has no pitch accent (X <sup>-</sup> X%)	Vocative tag does have a pitch accent. (X* X <sup>-</sup> X%)	

(Jun 2011)

# GUSSENHOVEN (2004, 2016): REVISION OF MAE TOBI

	MAE_ToBI		MAE_ToBI (overt tones only)	Off-ramp alternative
1	H* H- H%		H* H%	H* H%
2	H* L- H%		H* L-H%	H*L H%
3	H* H- L%		H*	H*
4	H* L- L%		H* L%	H*L L%
5	L* H- H%		L* H-H%	L*H H%
6	L* L- H%		L* H%	L* H%
7	L* H- L%		L* H-	L*H
8	L* L- L%		L*	L*
9				H*L
10				H* L%
11				L* L%
12	L*+H L- L%		L*+H L%	L*H L%

**Table 1:** Representations of nuclear contours in MAE\_ToBI (column 1) with graphic phonetic implementations, after Pierrehumbert 1980 (column 2). Column 3 repeats the representations without tones that have no overt target. Column 4 gives representations in an off-ramp analysis without phrase tones and with optional IP-boundary tones.

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- ▶ **Diagnose problems → revisions to intonational grammar**

# DEFINING BENGALI GRAMMAR IN xfst (excerpts)

---

```
#####
# Define licit AP-internal tone sequences
#####
```

```
# Generate: { L* fHa, L* Ha }
define RisingAP [ "L*" [ "Ha" | "fHa" ] ] ;
```

```
# Generate: { fH* La, H* La }
define FallingAP [ [ "fH*" | "H*" ] "La" ] ;
```

```
# Generate: { L*+fH, L*+fH La, L*+H, L*+H La };
define TrailingPeakAP [ [ "L*+fH" | "L*+H" ] ("La") ] ;
```

```
# Generate: { L+fH*, L+fH* La, L+H*, L+H* La }
define LeadingPeakAP [ [ "L+fH*" | "L+H*" ] ("La") ] ;
```



# DEFINING BENGALI GRAMMAR IN xfst (excerpts)

---

```

### Define set of licit pitch accents

# A monotonal PA must not be followed by any other pitch accents (except possibly
*)
# A bitonal PA may be followed by a bitonal or monotonal PA
# Or could just be a * tone
# * tones can intersperse everywhere, as many as you want

define MonotonalPA ["L*" | "fH*" | "H*"] ;

define BitonalPA [ "L*+H" | "L*+fH" | "L+H*" | "L+fH*" ] ;

define PASeq [ [ MonotonalPA | [ [BitonalPA] ( BitonalPA | MonotonalPA ) ] |
"*" ] / "*" ] ;

```

# DEFINING BENGALI GRAMMAR IN xfst (excerpts)

---

```
#####
# Define repeating patterns within an ip/IP
#####

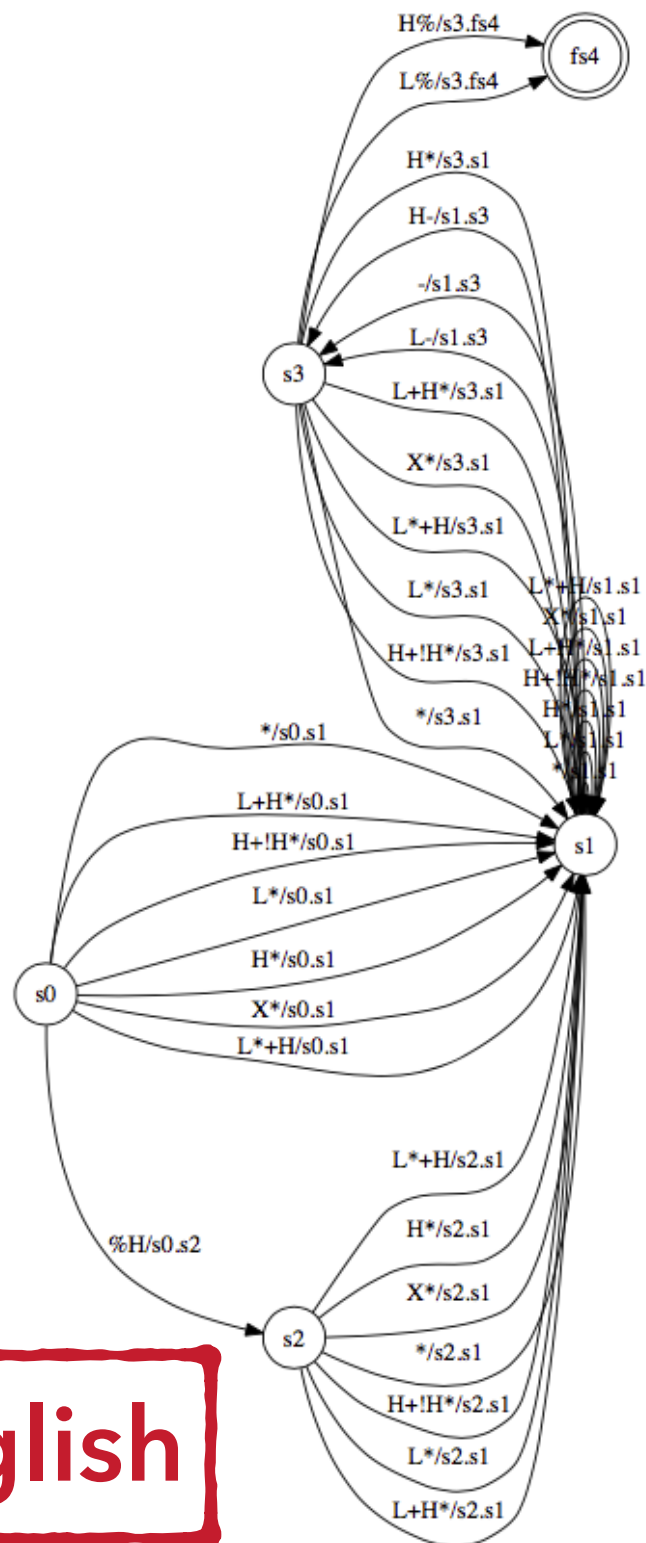
# An ip tone must be immediately preceded by a pitch accent or a lower boundary
tone (AP tone)

define ipSequence [ [ [ APSequence ]+ (PASeq) ipTone ] | ipEdge];

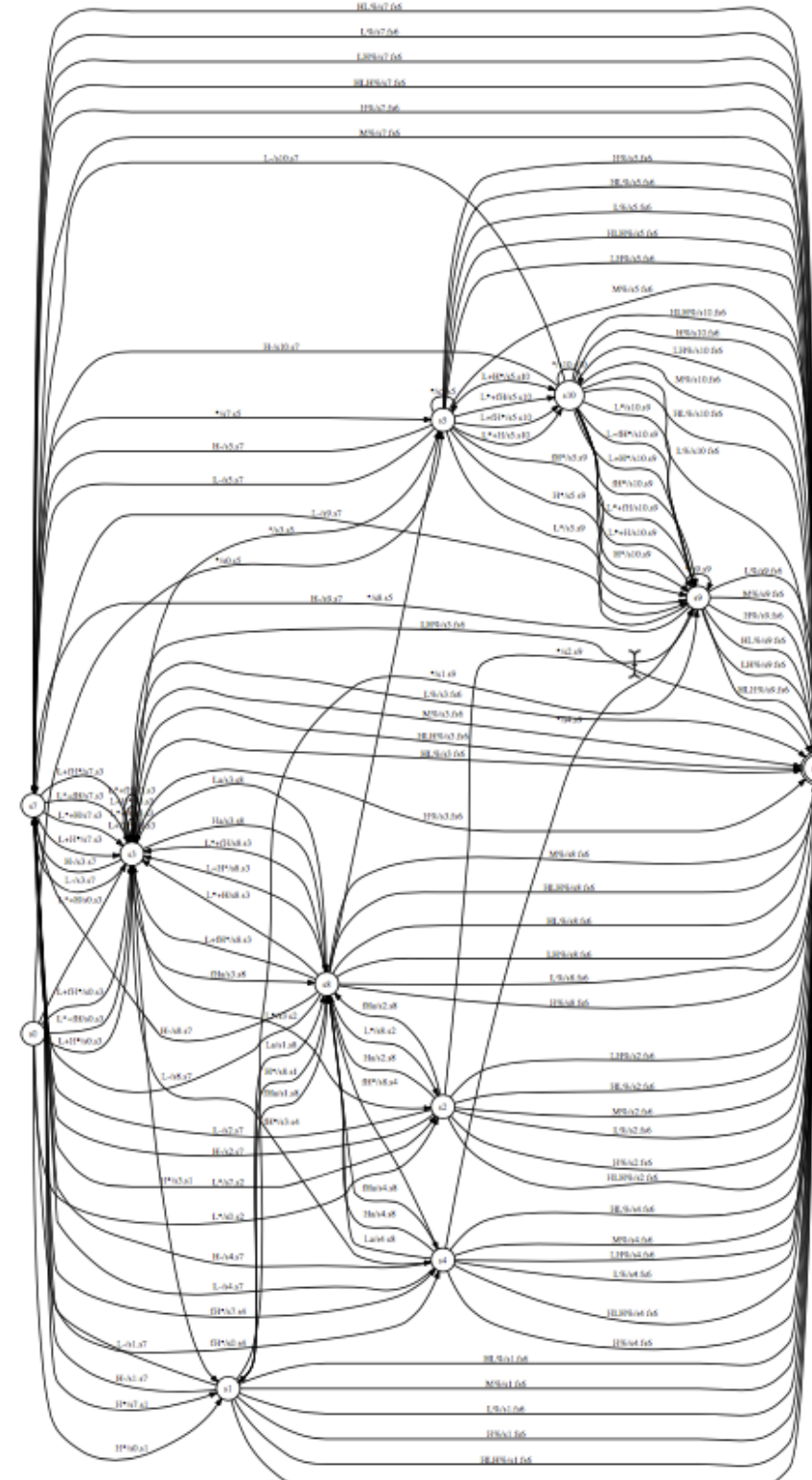
# An IP tone must be immediately preceded by a pitch accent or a lower boundary
tone (AP or ip tone)

define IPSequence [ [ [ [ ipSequence | APSequence ]+ (PASeq) IPTone ] |
IPEdge ] ];
```

# IMPLEMENTED FINITE STATE GRAMMARS



English



Bengali

# IMPLEMENTED FINITE STATE GRAMMARS

1. For each utterance in corpus, parse intonational transcription using finite state machine: accepted or not?
2. Over corpus, count up how many times each arc traversed to estimate arc weights (probability that an arc is traversed)

English

Bengali

# PARSING WITH BENGALI FINITE STATE MACHINE

---

- ▶ Failed to accept 1.5% of exemplars
  - ▶ (21/1367 total; 9/549 in non-IDS, 12/818 in IDS)
- ▶ Characteristics of the rejected exemplars were the same across speech styles
  - ▶ New 'stacked' boundary tone fHaL%
  - ▶ Unexpected sequences of pitch accents
  - ▶ Distribution of weak accents (\*), e.g.,
- ▶ **Characteristics of unaccepted tonal sequences provide direction for revisions to grammar (evolving hypotheses)**



# STRATEGY: PARSE WITH FINITE STATE GRAMMAR

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**What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?**

# STRATEGY: PARSE WITH FINITE STATE GRAMMAR

---

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*Challenges:*

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- ▶ the **generalizability** of proposed grammars to a wider range of speech styles and contexts



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What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?

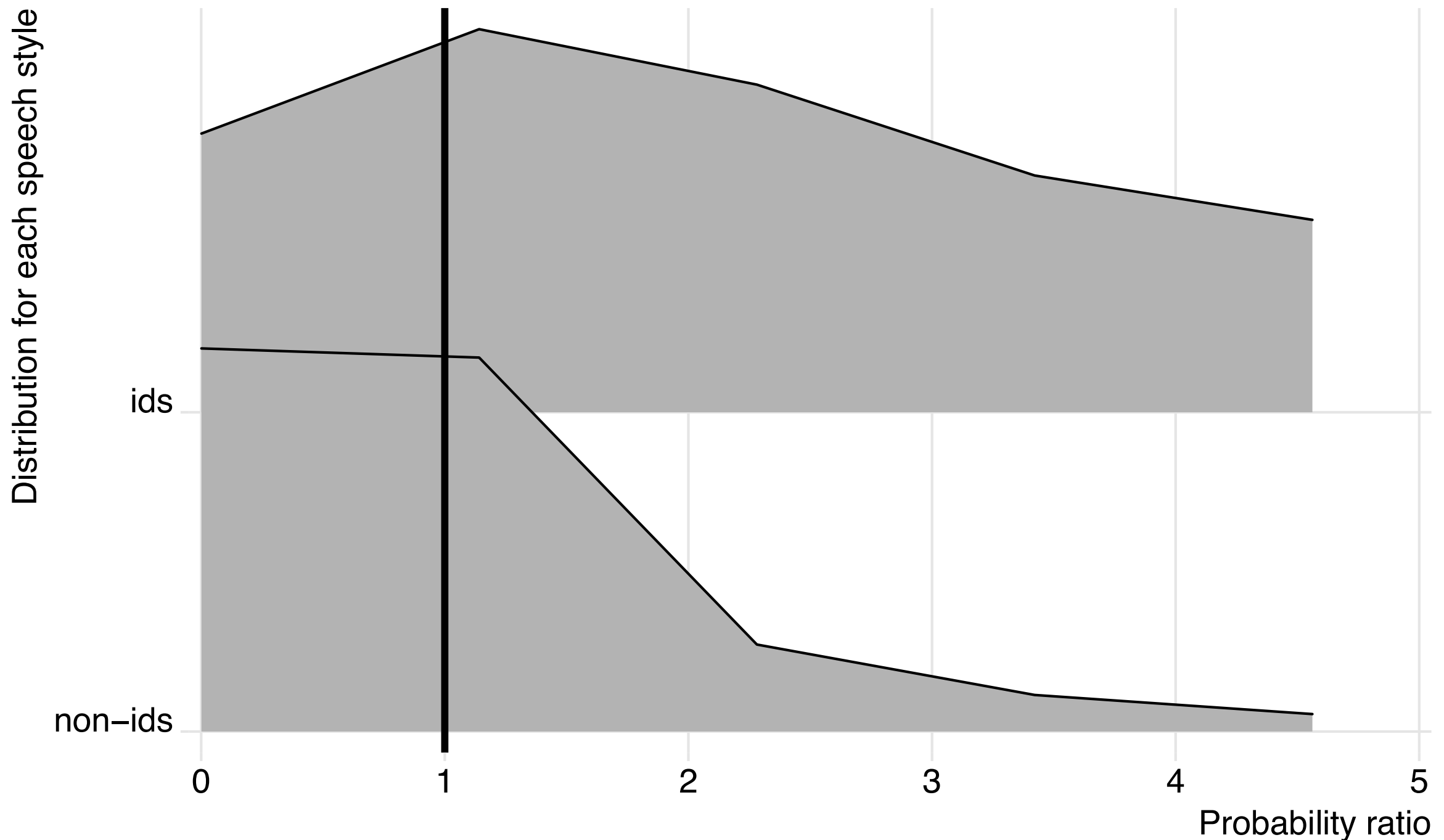
*Challenges:*

- ▶ the **generalizability** of proposed grammars to a wider range of speech styles and contexts

*Strategy:*

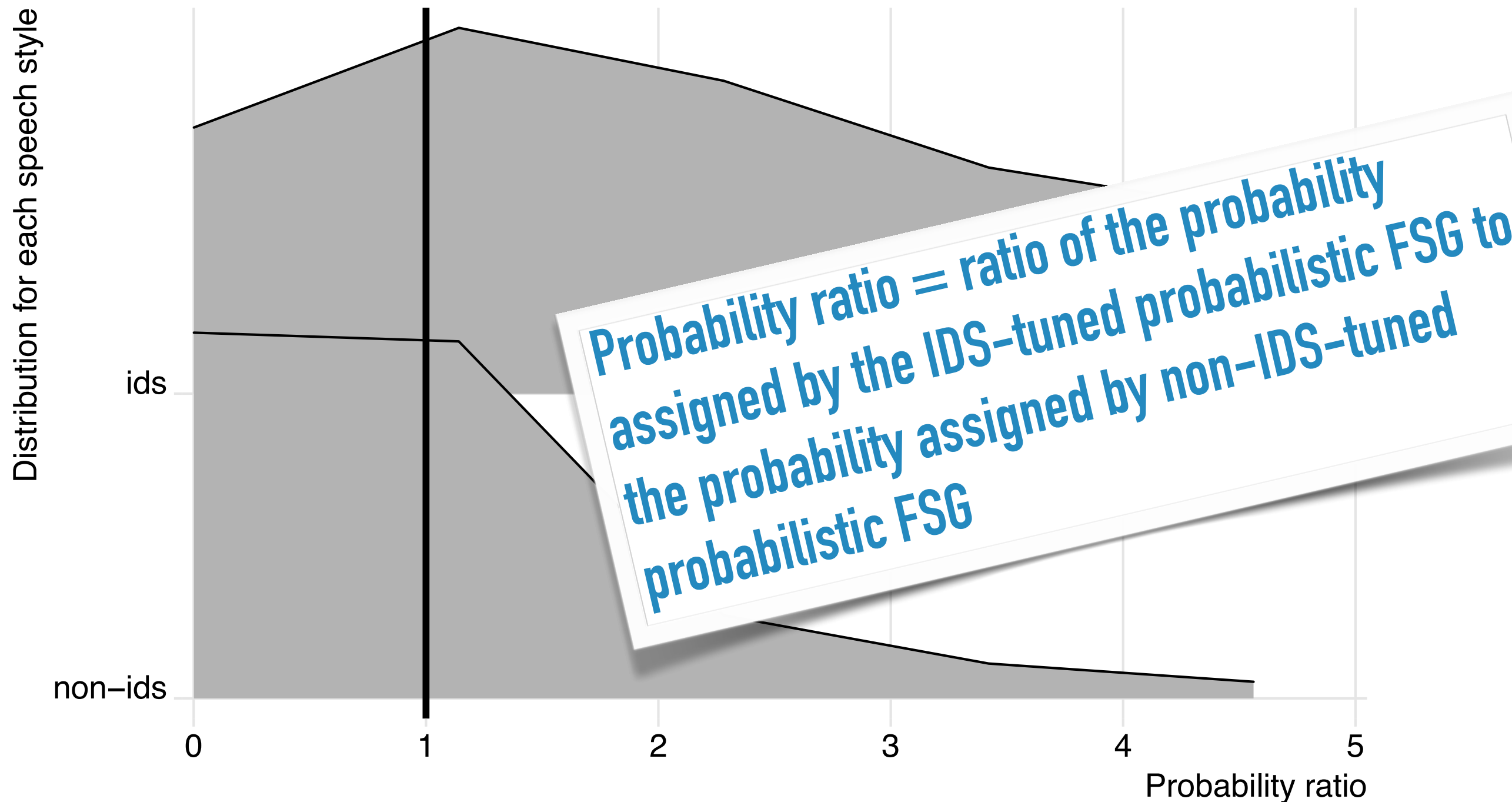
- ▶ Check if all IDS transcriptions are accepted by finite state machine
- ▶ Estimate arc weights on finite state machine using: (1) non-IDS corpus, (2) IDS corpus.
- ▶ See how probable IDS transcriptions are using non-IDS arc weights and vice versa

# HOW PROBABLE ARE IDS SEQUENCES?



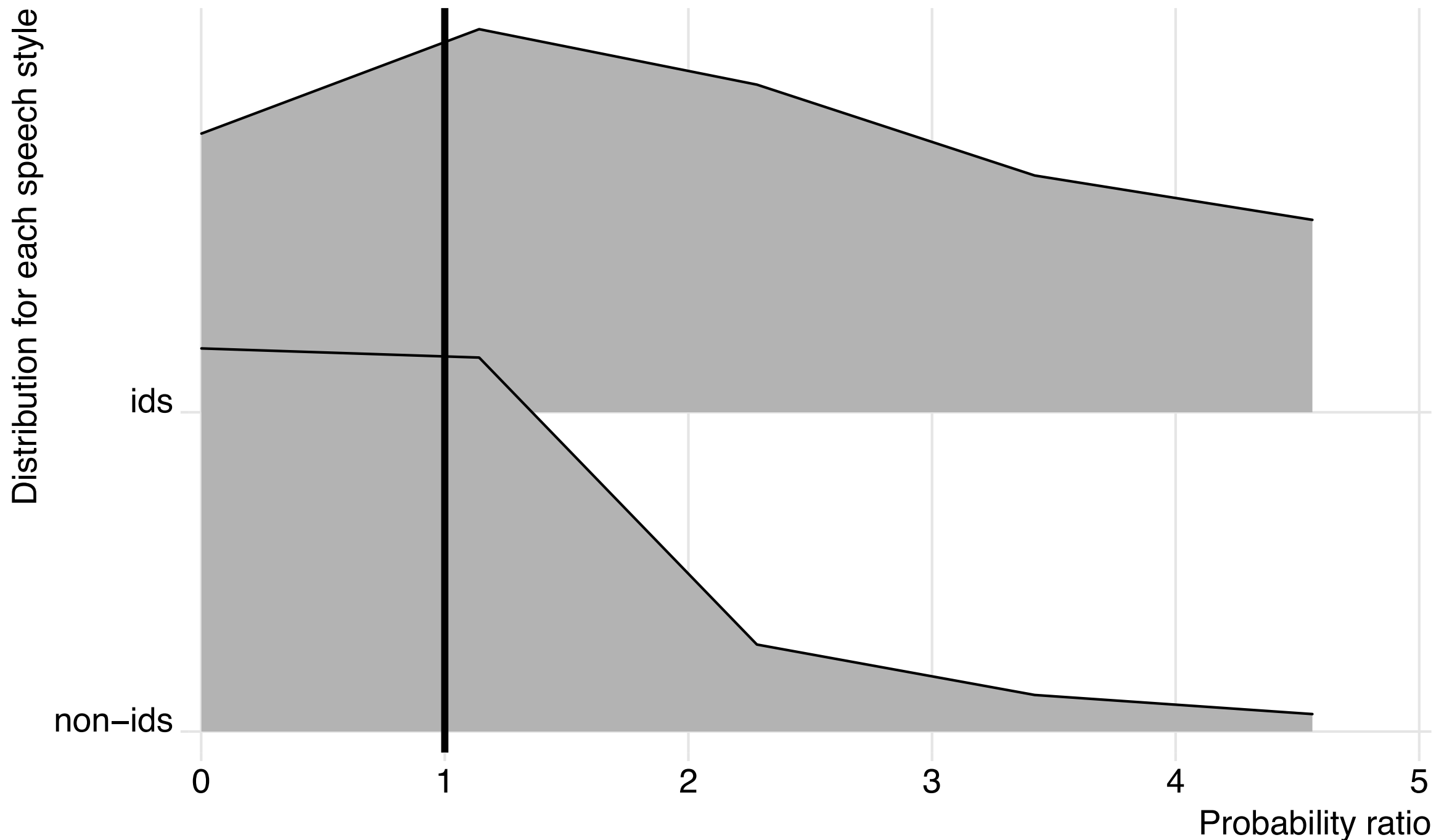
**IDS tonal sequences markedly more probable under IDS-tuned FSG than non-IDS-tuned FSG**

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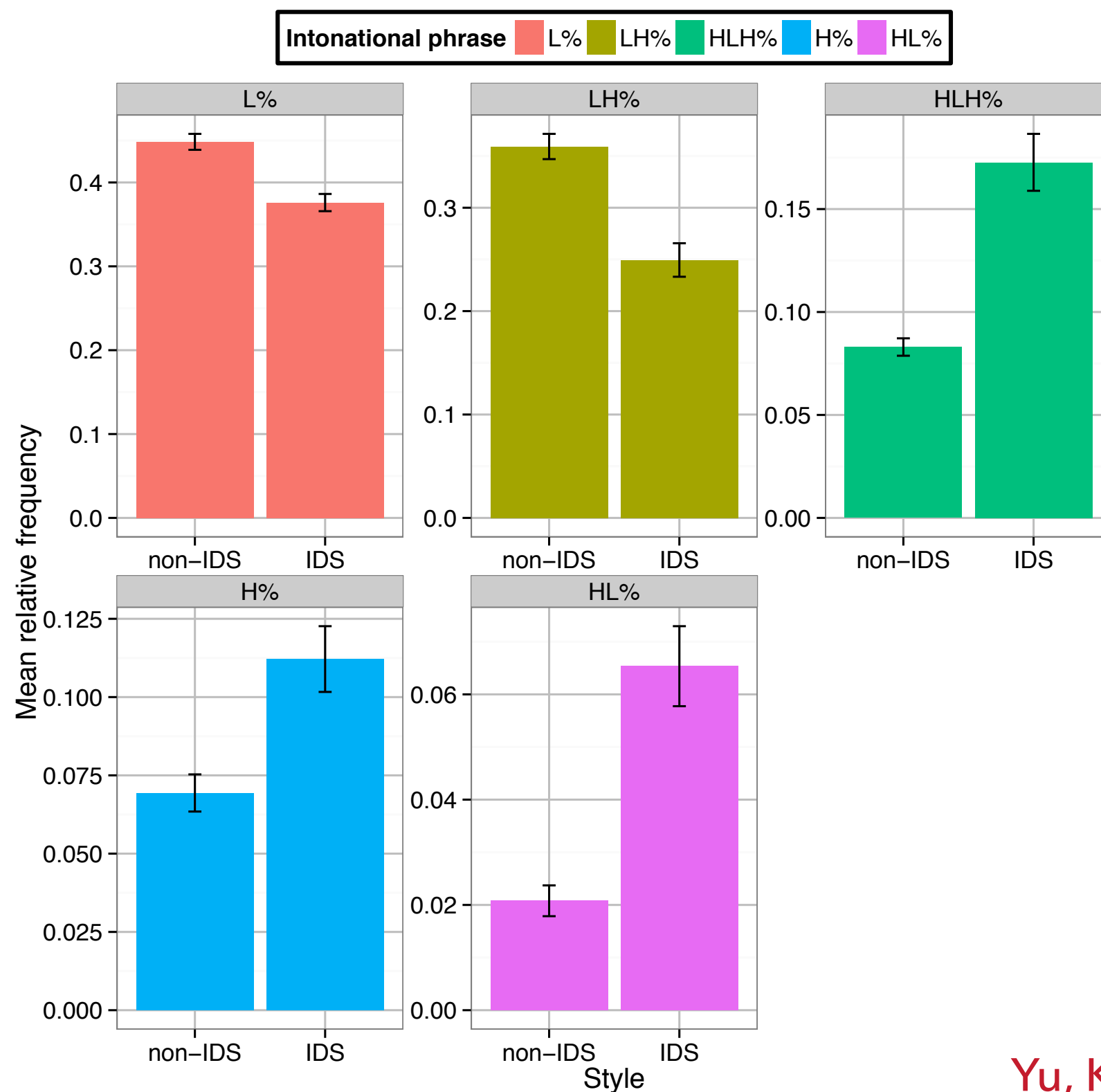


**IDS tonal sequences markedly more probable under IDS-tuned FSG than non-IDS-tuned FSG**

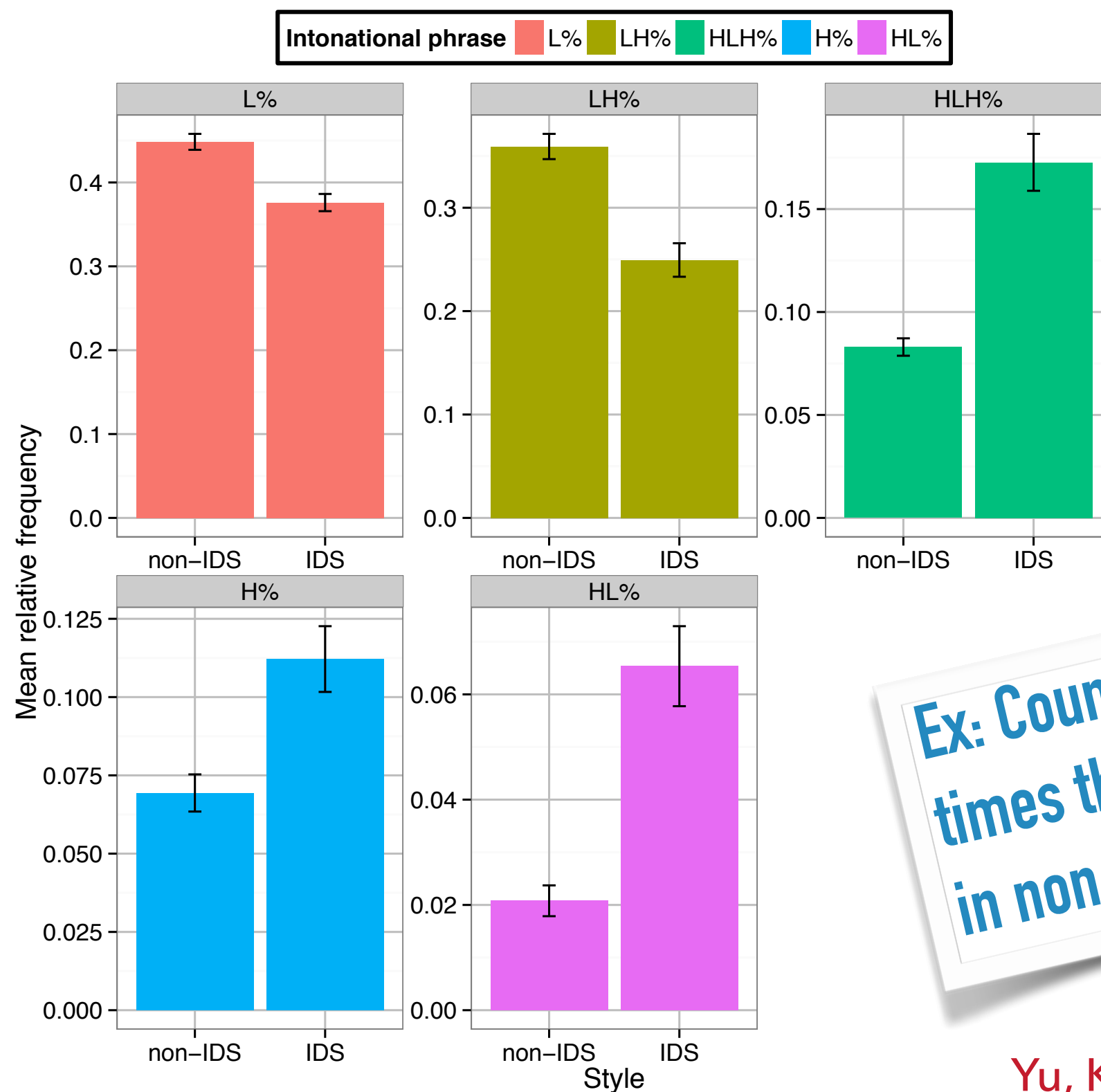
# **CHALLENGE 4: CONTEXTUAL DEPENDENCE OF TONES**



# BAG OF TONES MODEL

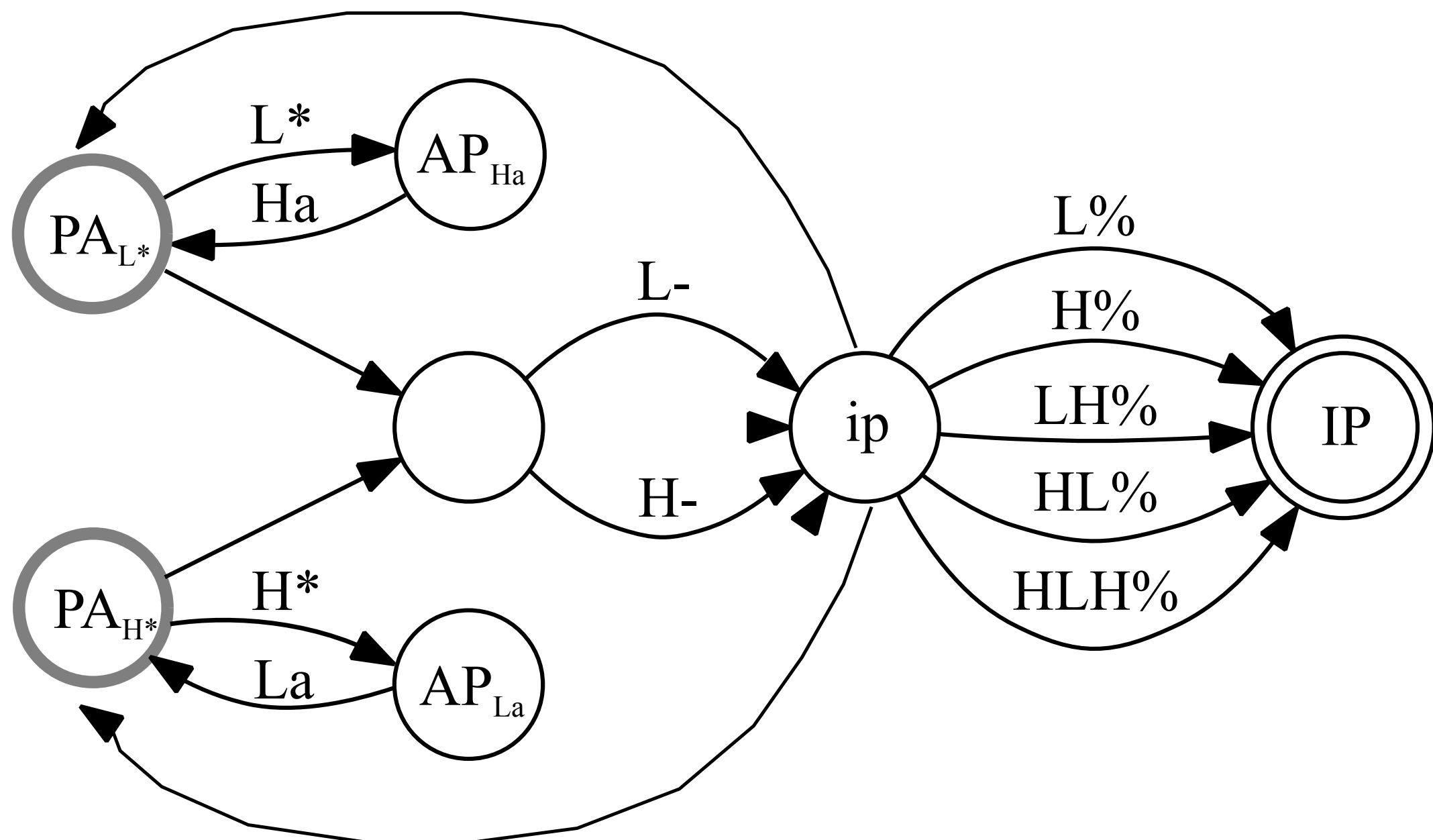


# BAG OF TONES MODEL



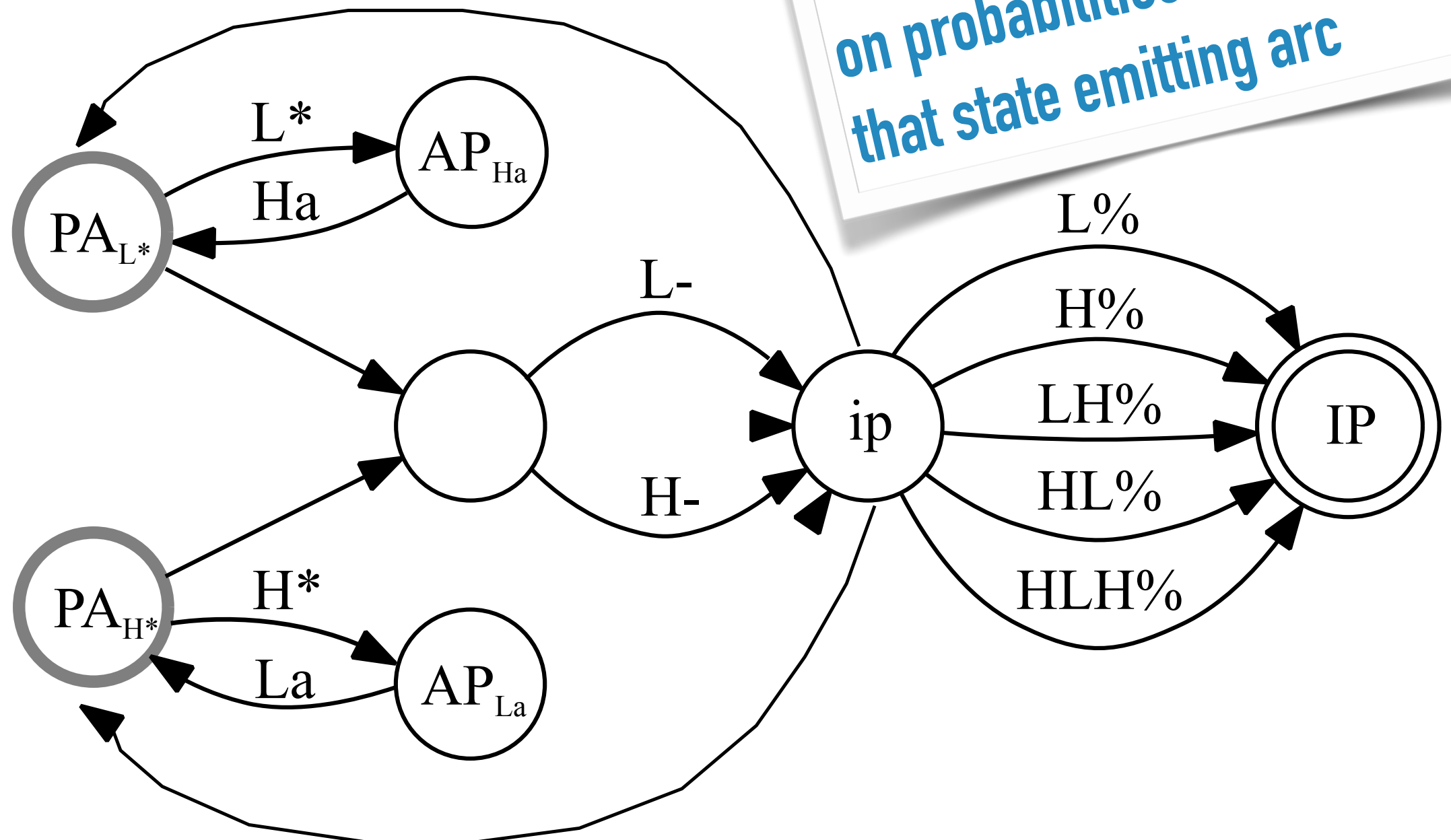
Ex: Count up how many times there was an HLH% in non-IDS vs. IDS

# FIRST-ORDER MODEL



# FIRST-ORDER MODEL

Computed probabilities of traversing an arc conditioned on probabilities of reaching that state emitting arc



# STRATEGY: INTONATIONAL PHONOLOGY

---

**What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?**

# STRATEGY: INTONATIONAL PHONOLOGY

What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?

*Challenges:*

- ▶ the **contextual dependence** of individual tonal elements on one another

*Strategy:*

- ▶ **Compute probability of an individual tonal element conditioned on probability of paths that arrive at that state**

# STRATEGY: IMPLEMENT FINITE STATE GRAMMARS

---

**What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?**

# STRATEGY: IMPLEMENT FINITE STATE GRAMMARS

---

What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?

- ▶ the entanglement of **extra-linguistic and linguistic factors** in conditioning  $f_0$  variation



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# STRATEGY: IMPLEMENT FINITE STATE GRAMMARS

What are the linguistic functions of gradient modulations in the fundamental frequency contour?

- ▶ the entanglement of **extra-linguistic factors** in conditioning fo

- ▶ **evolving**...

**Proposed overall strategy:**

**To implement finite state intonational grammars**

- ▶ the **contextual dependence** of individual tonal elements on one another

# (2ND ORDER MODEL, IF MORE DATA)

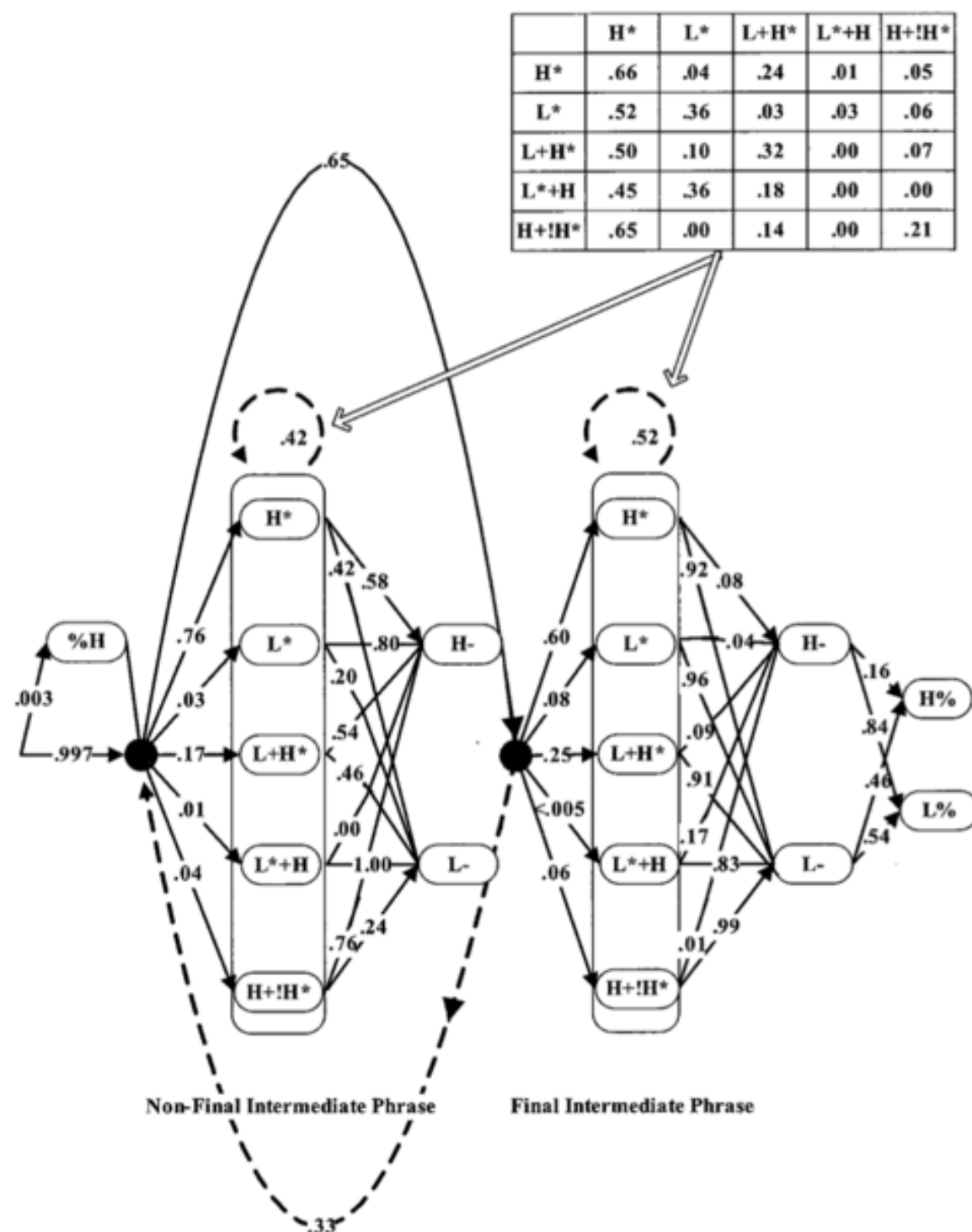


Figure 2. A probabilistic model of intonation in American English

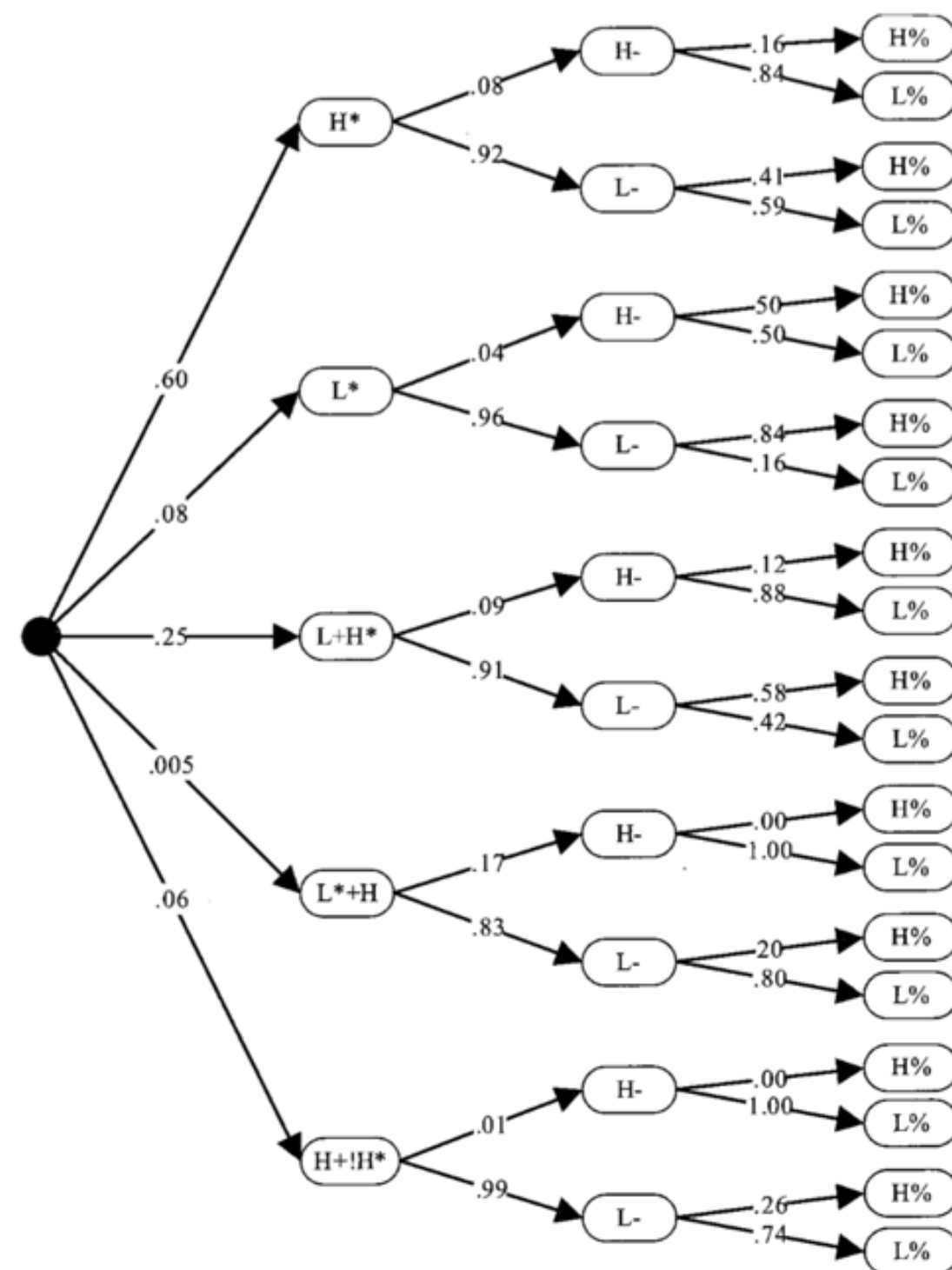


Figure 3. Second-order Markov model showing interactions between pitch accents and boundary tones

(Dainora 2006)

# FSG FOR ENGLISH INTONATION

---

$$(22) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \%H \\ \%L \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} (L^*)H^*(L(H)) \\ L^*(H) \end{array} \right\} (H) \left\{ \begin{array}{c} (L^*)H^*(L) \\ L^*(H) \\ (L^*)H^*+H \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} H\% \\ L\% \\ \emptyset \end{array} \right\}$$

- (23)
- I.
    - a. The last trailing tone of a prenuclear pitch accent aligns rightmost.
    - b. Other trailing tones align leftmost.
  - II.
    - a. Within a pitch accent, interpolations are linear.
    - b. Otherwise, unspecified speech is governed by the leftmost tone.
  - III.
    - a. Within a pitch accent, downstep of H after H is obligatory.
    - b. Otherwise, downstep of H\* is optionally triggered by a preceding H.

Gussenhoven (2004, 2016)



# COMPARING FSGS FOR FRENCH AND ENGLISH

$$(35) \text{ French tonal grammar: } \left\{ \begin{matrix} H_t \\ L_t \end{matrix} \right\} (H^*(L))_0 (H + )H^* \left\{ \begin{matrix} H_t \\ L_t \\ \emptyset \end{matrix} \right\}$$

## 15.5.5 An extended tonal grammar

If the pre-nuclear fall–rise, downstep, L-prefixations, and leading-H are added to the mini-grammar of section 15.2.3, we arrive at (43). Clearly, although we still do not have a sizeable collection of exhaustive descriptions of intonation systems to measure this by, the intonation of English must be fairly complex. A coarse impression of the difference between English and French can be obtained by just comparing (43) as a typographical object with (35) in chapter 13. And we are not done yet, as English also has a vocative chant, to be discussed in the next section.

(43)

$$([DOWNSTEP]) \left\{ \begin{matrix} H_t \\ L_t \end{matrix} \right\} (L) \left\{ \begin{matrix} H^*(L(H)) \\ L^*(H) \end{matrix} \right\}_0^n (H+)(L) \left\{ \begin{matrix} H^*(L) \\ L^*(H) \end{matrix} \right\} \left\{ \begin{matrix} H_t \\ L_t \\ \emptyset \end{matrix} \right\}$$

NoSLUMP