

## **Constant tonal alignment in Swedish word accent II**

**Malin Svensson Lundmark, Lund University**

Studies on accentual tonal alignment of intonation languages suggest that L in rising (LH) pre-nuclear accents anchors with a specific point in the segmental string, while the timing of H varies. This study investigates if lexical accents, too, exhibit a constant alignment by testing the South Swedish word Accent II. When under the strain of tempo variability the L-target was found not to be anchored with syllable onset. The results were not fully conclusive regarding H, but no clear evidence was found against anchoring of H, which could mean that H is an important phonological event in Accent II, while L is not.

Index terms: tonal alignment, segmental anchoring, word accent, pre-nuclear accent, speech rate