Plan

This will be a working group on dynamical models of prosody. One main focus will be the interaction of boundary tones and lexical tones in African languages. We will work towards developing a typology of these interactions and modeling them with a variety of possible dynamical systems. We will also endeavor to collect new data from at least one African tone language.

Book


Required Work

- Reading
- Responsibility for presenting one article
- Responsibility for summarizing and presenting two or three of the languages in Downing and Rialland (2016) and beginning to develop dynamical models of them.
- Final paper involving dynamical modeling of some aspect of the prosodic data considered in this seminar.

Materials

Notes, reading assignments etc. are available here: https://sail.usc.edu/~lgoldste/ArtPhon/
Course Outline

Week 1 (16 Jan): Articulatory Phonology: Looking Backwards and Forward

Week 2-3 (23-30 Jan): Dynamical models of prosody


Week 4 (6 Feb): Introduction to linear and nonlinear dynamical systems; activator-inhibitor dynamics

Week 5 (13-Feb): Introduction to interaction of boundary tones and lexical tones in African languages

Weeks 6-10 (20 Feb - 26 Mar) Student reports on individual languages, possible modeling strategies, development of typology, analysis of new data

Weeks 11-13 (2-16 Apr) Distributional properties of prosodic events and alternative models (e.g., Poisson processes)

Weeks 14-15 (23-30 Apr) Student Final Reports