Notes on Akan

(1) Downstep as (tonal) gesture overlap.

(4) a. kofi + papa → kofi papa
    Kofi father Kofi GEN father

    b. kofi + adan → kofi 1adan
    Kofi N-house Kofi GEN house

(5) obetó + atààdié → obetó látààdié
    3SG.FUT.buy garment ‘S/he will buy (a) garment.’

(2) Downdrift in Akan works differently than in K^nni.
Sequence of H also show downdrift. Amount of downdrift is the same whether or not it is a downstep environment.
Initial F0 depends on sentence length. Attractor for final pitch value.

Can initial setting for polar questions be sufficient??

(3) Final L for declarative seems to affect penultimate syllable as well. How is this not a boundary tone? Coordination with CV? No lengthening.

(4) Complementizer sentences

Complementizer is lengthened, then pause, and pitch reset.
Embedded IP
(5) Compound sentence

Pause but no pitch reset.
Single IP evidence: No reset; no IP-final tone neutralization at the and of the first conjunct.
But—some lengthening at the end of the first conjunct.

(6) left-dislocation

two IPs

show pitch reset
no lengthening at end of topic (except on topicalization marker).
No tonal neutralization at the end of topic clause

What is lengthening in 21d (below)?
(21) a. kòfì dëɛ, ṭ-à-bá hà.
Kofi top 3SG.SBJ-PFT-come here
‘As for Kofi, he has come here.’

b. wòfà kòfì, ṭ-à-bá hà.
uncle Kofi 3SG.SBJ-PFT-come here
‘Uncle Kofi, he has come here.’

c. wòfà òdò, ṭ-à-bá hà.
uncle Ado 3SG.SBJ-PFT-come here
‘Uncle Ado, he has come here.’

d. wòfà kòfì rë-bëdïï.
uncle Kofi PROG-FUT-eat
‘Uncle Kofi is about to eat.’

(22) Prosodic structure of a sentence containing a left-dislocated topic phrase (cf. (13) in section 3.1)

( kòfì dëɛ %reset( ṭ-à-bá hà ) t )
(6) polar questions

Falling f0 at end + lengthening (boundary tone) + increased intensity
Global register raising

Perceptual, the final syllable is the strongest cue.

(7) wh-questions

No boundary tone; no final lengthening (Really?)
(8) imperatives

Lexical tone changes on verb.

No final tone neutralization.

(9) focus

Pitch register is lowered on the focused constituent

Glottal stop insertion before focused phrase

Summary

where is slowing before pauses?

if during pause, what turns off phonation?
Table 2: Prosodic events in Akan and their distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prosodic event</th>
<th>Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L%</td>
<td>right edge of the i-phrase in polar questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h, l</td>
<td>high and low pitch register tone associated with the left and right edge of an i-phrase, respectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%reset</td>
<td>left edge of an embedded i-phrase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| tone neutralization | declaratives, interrogatives  
|                 | sentence-final H-tone drops to a low pitch level |
| downstep       | downtrend in all sentence types, local tonal interactions |

Temporal and other properties

Final lengthening, increased intensity in polar questions

Pauses in embedded and compound sentences—some prepausal lengthening in compound sentences (but no pitch reset).