

## **Patterns of prosodic prominence: their role in song perception, silent reading, and supra-lexical morphophonology**

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I will present and discuss four case studies that are concerned with the role of prosodic prominence patterns and linguistic rhythm in language processing (word segmentation and sentence comprehension) and variation (morphophonological and syntactic alternations). The synoptic view on these studies suggests that prosodic prominence is not merely epiphenomenal to syntactic or discourse structure but is in itself efficacious on various levels of linguistic processing and representation.