# Disentangling and Connecting Different Perspectives on Prosodic Prominence

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## Main Perspectives

### Functional
- Linguistic AND paralinguistic functions
- Categorical vs. metrical vs. continuous models
- Complex, nonlinear form-function mappings
- **Danger**: simplistic form-function mapping

### Physical
- Continuous rather than categorical representations
- Difficult operationalisation of prominence (functional?, psychoacoustic?)
- **Danger**: missing validity, e.g. due to psychoacoustic rather than communicative operationalization

### Cognitive
- Low-level neural pathways and psychoacoustic processing mechanisms
- High-level linguistic processing
- **Danger**: failure to disentangle signal and function level, high- and low-level processing

## The Problem

**Example**: In this study, we say that a word is prosodically prominent when it is perceived as the focus exponent within a sentence by virtue of a pitch accent.

- Less generic definitions
- Cross-linguistic studies
- Annotators
- Technical models

## Connecting Perspectives

### Example
- Do continuous and categorical prominence annotations measure the same?
- What do annotations actually measure?

### Future Roadmap

1. Establish your perspective.
2. Distinguish bottom-up and top-down correlates.
3. Define your usage.
4. Clarify, if you follow a language-specific or universal approach.
5. Say how do your findings relate to other perspectives, based on annotations and examined domain of expression.

### References