

Stress in Manado Malay and Lampung Malay

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This presentation analyzes pitch contour of Indonesian speech by analyzing narrative data taken from Manado Malay speakers and Lampungish speakers. Although previous work on the stress and prosody of Indonesian including analyses using the autosegmental approach conclude there is little evidence of word-level stress in Indonesian, I argue that Indonesian varieties spoken in Lampung and North Sulawesi show features that are found in “pitch accent” languages. I try to describe pitch contours of Indonesian discourse data taken from Lampung residents and Manado Malay speakers (originally from North Sulawesi) and show that word-level “pitch accent”, at least its residue can be detected not only in the sentence-final position but also in other positions. Manado Malay has strong preference for the penultimate syllable to be high, but there are exceptions to this pattern and some researchers consider it has phonemic word-level stress. The Lampung language has ultimate stress pattern, and their speakers, even speaking Indonesian, pronounce the ultimate syllable high, and frequently with unique falling pitch contour following the high pitch. Those data, with a closer look on a pitch contour of each word in a sentence supports the view that word-level “pitch accent” exists but easily overridden by sentential intonation.