

## **Towards modelling the acquisition of L2 prosody. Data from Swedish learners of Japanese**

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Based on the analysis of nine Swedish students learning Japanese as a second language, this paper attempts to provide the basic process of acquisition of L2 Japanese prosody. The ToBI components as well as other prosodic components related to syntax and information structure were used as parameters for the analysis of intonation. The results suggest that (1) there is a reset phase at the very beginning of acquisition indicating that the prosodic transfer from a speaker's mother tongue appears somewhat later in acquisition. It also indicates the fundamental difference between segments and prosody in the acquisition process. (2) The size of a basic prosodic unit is larger in L2 Japanese prosody. (3) The pitch accent contrast in Japanese always appears at the left edge of the intonation phrase. (4) Intonation reflecting information structure in Japanese is the most difficult part for Swedish learners.