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### Contrastive study on tonal patterns between accented and standard Chinese(ABSTRACT)

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This paper depicts a contrastive study on tonal patterns of monosyllables and disyllabic words between Standard Chinese (SC) and three regional accented Chinese (RAC): Shanghai, Xiamen and Taiwan. It is found that for mid level accent speakers, tonal contours of the third tone syllable uttered in isolation or at the final position of a prosodic constituent are always different for RAC from those of SC, displaying a less concave contour or even no concave at all. Moreover, even if the third tone contours are similar in isolation, they still may be different in final positions of bi-syllabic words between RAC and SC. The tonal register and range are compared among SC, RAC and dialects, showing that the RAC tends to keep the same tonal register and range as in dialects, and tonal range is harder to change. A perceptual experiment was carried out to find the third tone perceptual patterns for 3 accented Chinese. All the results imply that third tonal production is a difficult task for some dialectal speakers. Tonal acquisition of the citation form can not completely solve all tonal acquisition problems; tonal combination pattern still needs acquisition. The tonal register and range may be harder to be acquired than tonal contours.

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