

Eugenio Martínez Celdrán, Ana Ma. Fernández Planas, Josefina Carrera Sabaté and Carlos van Oosterzee Universitat de Barcelona

INTRODUCTION

The study of Catalan prosody, less developed than the study of segmental aspects, has focused traditionally in the intonation of *barceloní*. Dialectal varieties have not been taken into account, even though they are quite obvious in some cases, except for the works by Mascaró (1986), Prieto (2001, 2002), Pradilla and Prieto (2002), Rigau and Prieto (2005) and Martínez Celdrán et al. (2005b).

Away from pragmatic matters, we can state that Catalan presents two main modalities of speech – declarative and interrogative, the latter realized in two different ways depending on whether it is headed by the conjunction *que*, implying sentence-final dislocation of the subject, or not. The present study focuses on the comparison of Catalan dialects regarding F0 in interrogative sentences headed by the conjunction *que*.

METHODOLOGY

The study focuses on naturally read absolute interrogative sentences headed by the conjunction *que*. The sentences are formed by three lexical stresses bearing the requirements established in the AMPER framework. (Contini, 2005; Romano, 2001; Fernández-Planas, in press).

Corpus

Que no porta la caputxa, el capità / el copista / la crítica?
Que no porta el passaport, el capità / el copista / la crítica?
Que no ocupa la càtedra, el capità / el copista / la crítica?

Informants

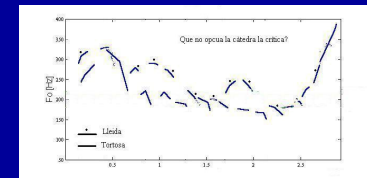
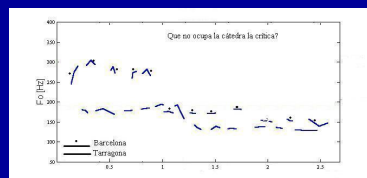
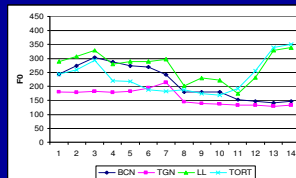
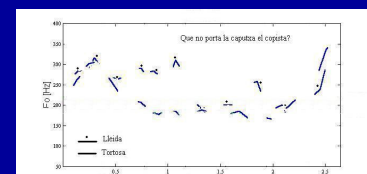
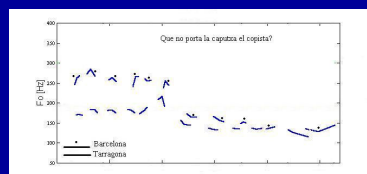
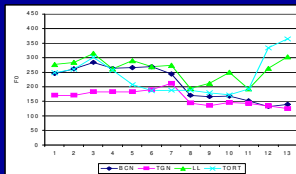
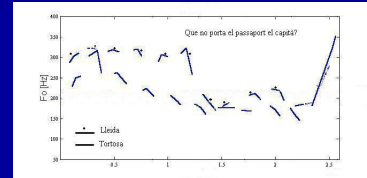
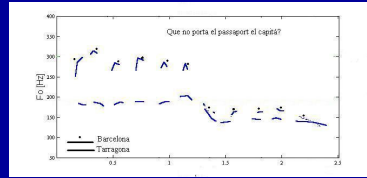
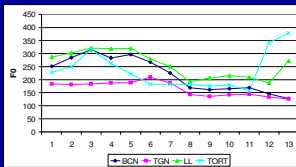
-Women aged 25 to 50
 with no university qualifications

Localities

-Barcelona (BCN) Tarragona (TGN)
 -Lleida (LL) Tortosa (TORT)

RESULTS

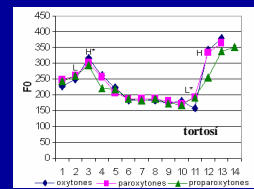
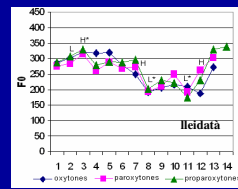
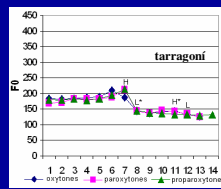
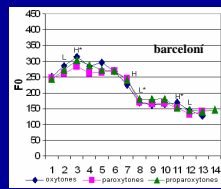
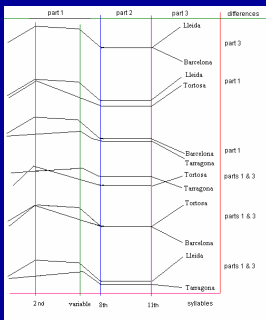
1) Descriptive and comparative study of F0 results



F0 values of interrogative sentences headed by *que* in the four localities studied according to the type of word: oxytone (left), paroxytone (centre), preparoxytone (right).

Mean value obtained from three real sentences with Matlab software in the four sub-dialects studied dialectally grouped.

• Phonological interpretation of the acoustical results in the AM theory (Pierrehumbert, 1980; Ladd, 1996)



Left: F0 diagrams of the four dialects compared in pairs in the interrogative modality studied.

dialects	1st peak	2nd peak	Final accent	Boundary tone
<i>barceloní</i>	L+H*	H+L*	H*+L	L% / H%
<i>tarragoní</i>	---	H+L*	H*+L	L%
<i>lleidatà</i>	L+H*	H+L*	L*+H	H%
<i>tortosí</i>	L+H*	---	L*+H	H%

CONCLUSION

The results obtained clearly show that the interrogative modality headed by the conjunction *que* is a way of distinguishing, without any doubt, the dialects of the four localities studied.

Certainly, both sub-dialects of the Catalan eastern group, *barceloní* and *tarragoní*, are more alike – mainly in the nucleus – than those of the western group, *lleidatà* and *tortosí*, which also share nuclear rise. But even between the sub-dialects of each group several differences have been noted, mainly in the pre-nucleus. The phonologic structure provided by the AM analysis clearly supports this.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study has benefited from funds of the SGIPI of the MCYT, ref. BFF2003-08487 and Carlos van Oosterzee appears with the support of the Departament d'Universitats, Recerca i Societat de la Informació de la Generalitat de Catalunya.

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