

## Prosodic phrasing of short left-dislocated adverbial adjuncts in Brazilian Portuguese

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We explore the prosodic configuration of short left-dislocated adverbial adjuncts in Brazilian Portuguese (BP), as “*Amanhã*” in “*Amanhã, nosso juiz decidirá o caso*” – for the English “*Tomorrow* our judge will adjudicate the case”. Specifically, we discuss how the prosodic configuration of these constituents changes depending on whether they represent neutral or topicalized adverbial adjuncts. Our hypothesis is that the short left-dislocated adverbial adjuncts induces an intonational phrase (IP) boundary when it is topicalized, but not when it occurs after a neutral adjunct. We analyzed speech recordings from thirteen BP speakers (all female, native speakers of São Paulo State variety of BP), and measured a set of phonetic cues that have previously been associated with IP boundaries: pause, duration and F0 variation. Our speakers were asked to read (three times) a set of utterances with left-dislocated adverbial adjuncts. Adverbial adjuncts utterances were included in broader contexts that were semantically manipulated to favor both neutral and topicalized readings. The contexts were randomized and mixed with distractors. The results confirm that the prosodic phrasings of the short adverbial adjuncts depended on the context. Topicalized dislocated adverbs appear to differ from neutral ones in that: (i) they are more frequently marked by the occurrence of final boundary tones (H% and L%); (ii) the pauses post adjunct are more frequent in topicalized contexts, and also appear to be longer on average than in neutral contexts (topicalized: 95 ms; neutral ones: 39ms) and (iii) preboundary lengthening occurs more consistently in topicalized adverbial adjuncts.

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