P_ToBI: tools for the transcription of Portuguese prosody

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P_ToBI: tools for the transcription of Portuguese prosody is one of the outputs of the *Interactive Atlas of the Prosody of Portuguese Project.* The P_ToBI website offers a set of tools with three main goals. The first goal is the detailed description of the P_ToBI system for the transcription of the intonational and prosodic grammar of Portuguese. The system was developed within the autosegmental-metrical model of intonational phonology, using a large empirical database comprising several European and Brazilian varieties (and also a few data on African varieties). It thus aims to cover language-specific and variety-specific patterns that are part of the phonology of the language/variety. The present P_ToBI represents the current state of our knowledge of the intonational and prosodic grammar of Portuguese, which is continuously challenged as the intonational structure of the language is further understood due to the analysis of new data or more insightful analysis of old data.

The second goal of the P_ToBI set of tools is to offer a brief introductory course on prosody as part of the grammar of a given language or language variety, together with training materials that guide the user in the learning and testing of his/her knowledge of Portuguese prosody and his/her transcription skills. The course covers the main functions of prosody in language, focusing primarily on intonation, but necessarily also including phrase structure, stress, rhythm, and prosodic variation. The training section is designed to lead the user in the transcription as an analysis of the intonation system of the language under study, where the primary goal is to discover what the distinctive intonation categories of the target language or variety are. Perception plays a crucial role in this task, because sound-meaning relations are mainly structured through the perception of the ambient language. Thus the training includes identification and discrimination tasks, designed to train the user's ears to the sounds of Portuguese prosody. Along the training, users get feedback and scores that allow them to monitor and improve their performance.

The third goal of the P_ToBI website is to offer a list of resources on prosodic variation in Portuguese (atlases, databases, webpages, publications), links to other ToBI systems and references to seminal work on prosody and intonation in language.

It is thus expected that *P_ToBI: tools for the transcription of Portuguese prosody* could be used as a valuable resource for research,

language learning and teaching (Portuguese as L1 or L2), speech technology applications, or applications in speech processing and language assessment. The website was designed to be accessible to users from various backgrounds, from the student, teacher or researcher in the field of language, to professionals in the areas of speech technology, speech pathology, forensics, or speech communication in general.

http://labfon.letras.ulisboa.pt/InAPoP/P-ToBI